



Mr David Neeves
General Manager
Gilgandra Shire Council
PO Box 23
Gilgandra NSW 2827

Our ref: SSI 9487

CC via email: Randall Medd

Dear Mr Neeves

Community Consultative Committee - Council Representation - Narromine to Narrabri Inland Rail

As you are aware, the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) recently held Planning Focus Meetings in both Narrabri and Narromine to inform the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements for the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) Narromine to Narrabri Inland Rail project.

Through this process ARTC identified the requirement for a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) specifically for this section of the Inland Rail project. The CCC is an established method for state significant projects to provide a forum for discussion between the proponent and community representatives, stakeholder groups and local council on project related issues.

The Department endorses this approach, and notes that ARTC will undertake this process with regard to the Department's *Community Consultative Committee Guidelines (2016)*. The Department has reminded ARTC that the CCCs should not be the main source of community consultation and we suggest that other locally - based opportunities are developed.

Due to the scale of the project, it is proposed to operate three separate CCC's throughout the alignment, based in each of Narromine, Gilgandra and Narrabri. At this stage, it is proposed that the Gilgandra CCC will consist of eight community representatives, plus two Council representatives each from Gilgandra, Warrumbungle and Coonamble Shire Councils.

We request that Gilgandra Shire Council nominate two representatives to the CCC who can commit long term, and that at least one of the nominees has technical experience in the areas of environment, planning and/or design.

The Department has appointed Mr Michael Silver to the role of Independent Chair of all three of the CCC's. Mr Silver will contact you soon to discuss the process and structure of the CCC, and to request advice on Council's representation.

If you have any further enquiries on this matter please contact me on (02) 8217 2083 or via email at mick.fallon@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



28/8/18

Mick Fallon
A/Team Leader
Transport Assessments