

NARROMINE TO NARRABRI INLAND RAIL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

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17 September 2018

Mr D. Neeves
General Manager
Gilgandra Shire Council
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Dear Sir,

I have been recently appointed by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment as the Independent Chair of the Narromine to Narrabri Inland Rail Community Consultative Committee (CCC) to support community engagement and interaction with the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed construction and operation by ARTC of an approximately 300km of railway line in a new rail corridor between Narromine and Narrabri.

The CCC has been established in accordance with the Department's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines. The Department has however agreed to expand the representation on the CCC relative to that provided in the guidelines, by permitting up to eight community members and two representatives from each Council. Accordingly, I extend an invitation to your Council to appoint two representatives to become members of the CCC. The only qualification in respect of Council's representatives is that one of the appointees must have technical skills relevant to the matters that will be considered by the proponent in developing the project EIS. Your advice of Council's representatives by Friday 19 October 2018 would be appreciated.

The number of meetings that the CCC will hold is yet to be determined, however the proponent has indicated that the EIS is scheduled for competition by July 2019. I would anticipate the initial meeting of the CCC will be in mid-November.

It is proposed that the CCC will comprise three separate groups due to the length of the proposed railway line and to ensure a broad and effective representation of community interests. One CCC group will be based on the northern section of the proposal in the Narrabri region, a central group will be established around Gilgandra whilst the southern group will be focused on the Narromine area. The following structure will apply to the CCC:

Narrabri CCC Group: 8 x Community Members; Local Government - 2 x Narrabri SC Members.

Gilgandra CCC Group: 8 x Community Members; Local Government - 2 x Gilgandra SC Members; 2 x Warrumbungle SC Members; 2 x Coonamble SC Members.

Narromine CCC Group: 8 x Community Members; Local Government - 2 x Narromine SC Members.

In respect of the community membership component of the CCC, for compliance reasons, it is now proposed to invite fresh nominations, closing with the Independent Chair of the N2NCCC. It is anticipated that advertisements for the fresh call for community nominations will appear shortly and close mid-October. All community membership nominations, including those lodged earlier in 2018 through ARTC, will then be assessed by the Independent Chair prior to being forwarded to the DPE for determination and appointment of the Community Members to the CCC.

The following link regarding the Community Consultative Committee processes may assist Council in appointing its representatives to the CCC.

Community Consultative Committee Guidelines:

<http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/~media/Files/DPE/Factsheets-and-fags/community-consultative-committee-guidelines-state-significant-projects-2016-10.ashx>

Thank you for your assistance with the establishment of this CCC. Please call me should you require further information. I look forward to receiving your advice of Council's representatives.

Yours faithfully,



Michael J. Silver OAM
Independent Chair