

Meeting summary

Central-West Orana REZ Steering Committee No. 9

Monday, 29 July 2024
2pm to 3.25pm
Microsoft Teams

Attendance

Name	Organisation	Position	Attendance
Steering committee members: Local Government			
Murray Wood	Dubbo Regional Council (DRC)	Chief Executive Officer (Co-Chair SteerCo)	Present
Brad Cam	Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC)	General Manager	Present
Roger Bailey	Warrumbungle Shire Council (WSC)	General Manager	Present
Greg McDonald	Upper Hunter Shire Council (UHSC)	General Manager	Present
Steering committee members: NSW Government			
Ash Albury	EnergyCo	Executive Director Planning and Communities (Co-Chair SteerCo)	Present
Gerard Reiter	EnergyCo	Project Director, CWO REZ	Present
David Gainsford	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI)	Deputy Secretary Development Assessment	Apology
Christopher Ritchie	DPHI	A/Executive Director Energy & Resource Assessments, Planning (Attending on behalf of David Gainsford)	Present
Ian Smith	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)	Executive Director, Office of Regional Economic Development	Apology
Angela Shepherd	DPIRD	Deputy Director Regional Development, Office of Regional Economic Development (Attending on behalf of Ian Smith)	Present

Other			
Melinda Sukhla	Premier's Department (PD)	Executive Director, Delivery and Assurance	Present
Gerry Collins	PD	Director Western, Regional Coordination	Present
Dena Jacobs	Infrastructure NSW (INSW)	Executive Director, Strategy Planning and Innovation	Present
Erica Friesz	INSW	Director	Present
Damien Pfeiffer	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)	Director, Development Service	Present
Jessica Brown	DRC	Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement	Present
Lisa Grisinger	DRC	Executive Assistant	Present
Cara Inia	EnergyCo	Director, Project Interface and Strategic Coordination	Present
Amer Hussein	EnergyCo	Director, Community and Place CWO	Present
Matthew Gygi	EnergyCo	Lead, REZ Coordination CWO	Present
Omair Ali	EnergyCo	Project Manager, REZ Coordination CWO	Present
Natalia Tubb	EnergyCo	Manager, Project Interface and Strategic Coordination	Apology
Yvette Lloyd	EnergyCo	Director Regional Coordination (CWO and SW REZ)	Present
Justin Woodhouse	DPHI	Acting Director, Energy and Resources Policy	Present

Agenda items

Item	Details	Responsibility
1	Acknowledgement of Country and Introductions	Co-Chair
2	Update from Co-Chairs	Co-Chair
3	Whole of Government Update	PD, INSW, DPHI
4	CWO Update following Planning Approval	EnergyCo
5	New Items	All
6	Previous Meeting's Actions	All
7	Other Business	Co-Chair
8	Meeting Close	Co-Chair

Meeting minutes

Item.	Description	Lead	Updates
1	Acknowledgement of Country and Introductions	Co-Chair	
2	Update from Co-Chairs	Co-Chair	
3	Whole of Government (WofG) Update	PD INSW DPHI	<p><u>PD & INSW</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with Councils occurred regarding WofG Implementation Plan • WofG Implementation Plan has been approved • WofG sub-committees will hold their inaugural meetings regarding Cumulative Impacts (CI) • TfNSW is developing a local and state roads impacts study and developing a strategy for CWO REZ, in consultation with Councils. <p>Action: TfNSW to continue to coordinate and consult with Councils for input into the roads strategy</p> <p><u>DPHI</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWO REZ Housing and Accommodation Strategy is under development by DPHI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Population, water and waste are key focus areas ○ Attractiveness and quality of the workers accommodation camps is a key priority. Social, medical and mental health will be considered in assessing the suitability of the camps • Cumulative Impacts (CI) studies – Water/wastewater, and waste <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DPHI is undertaking a CI analysis study on water and wastewater in the LGAs, and is engaging directly with Councils to best understand the CI on an LGA-by-LGA basis for assessment ○ CI study on waste is also being developed by DPHI in consultation with Councils
4	CWO Update following Planning Approval	EnergyCo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW Planning Approval has been received for CWO REZ in June 2024 • The Commonwealth approval process for the project is in progress • EnergyCo held industry forums in partnership with the Network Operator (NO) in the CWO REZ LGAs (Dubbo, Upper Hunter, Mid-Western, and Warrumbungle Shire)

Item.	Description	Lead	Updates
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The focus of the forums was to encourage and support local business and Aboriginal business participate in procurement and employment opportunities • EnergyCo and the NO will continue to liaise with Councils regarding CI related to Water, Wastewater and Waste <p>Action: EnergyCo to discuss with the NO regarding the logistics surrounding the workers accommodation camps in the CWO REZ</p>
5	New Items	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWO REZ Project Groups development and structuring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project Groups need to be aligned with the WofG SteerCo sub-committees for effective management of CI <p>Action: Councils to discuss CWO REZ SteerCo project groups to identify priorities for establishment Action: PD to provide a copy of the WofG SteerCo Terms of Reference (ToR) to Councils for consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRC, funded by proponent, delivering advanced wastewater treatment to create new source of water for construction. • Community Employment Benefits Program (CEBP) has been announced in the regions as of July <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EnergyCo will support Councils through the application process. <p>Action: EnergyCo to meet with Councils to seek feedback on CEBP application process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits Sharing guidelines are being developed by DPHI to formalise funding allocation across LGAs for works that span multiple LGAs <p>Action: DPHI to continue to engage with Councils regarding the Benefits Sharing guidelines and provide update to SteerCo when available</p>
6	Previous Meeting's Actions	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarry material supply shortage noted as a concern in the regions • Skilled labour for the CWO REZ works is being analysed by PD/INSW <p>Action: PD to investigate further into the issue of skilled labour shortages and provide update to SteerCo</p>
7	Other Business	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mechanism for transfer of information between WofG and CWO REZ SteerCo must be decided upon and formalised <p>Action: Councils to meet and discuss the most effective approach to transfer of information between WofG SteerCo and sub-committees, and CWO REZ SteerCo and project groups Action: EnergyCo CWO REZ Project Team to create a visual WofG/CWO REZ Interface Flowchart mapping the coordination between Local and State Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRC will undertake a Regional Capability Study to assess infrastructure within the LGAs impacted by CWO REZ
8	Meeting Close	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting closed at 3.25pm

Acronym Reference List

Term	Definition
CEBP	Community Employment Benefits Program
CI	Cumulative Impacts
CWO	Central-West Orana
DPHI	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
DRC	Dubbo Regional Council
EPA	NSW Environment Protection Authority
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
INSW	Infrastructure NSW
GM	General Manager
LGA	Local Government Area
MWRC	Mid-Western Regional Council
NO	Network Operator
PD	NSW Premier's Department
REACT	Renewable Energy Awareness and Career Training
REZ	Renewable Energy Zone
SteerCo	Steering Committee
TfNSW	Transport for New South Wales
ToR	Terms of Reference
TWA	Temporary Workers Accommodation
UHSC	Upper Hunter Shire Council
WofG	Whole of Government
WSC	Warrumbungle Shire Council