

**Underground Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project
Stakeholder Engagement & Consultation Plan
Prepared for ARENA and NSW EEP**

March 2021



About Banpu Energy Australia (BEN)

Banpu Energy Australia is the newest member of the Banpu family. Banpu (Banpu Public Company Limited) is a leading international versatile energy provider with 3 core groups of businesses; Energy Resources, Energy Generation and Energy Technology in 10 countries: Thailand, Indonesia, China, Australia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Singapore, Japan, the United States of America and Vietnam.

As an integrated energy solutions company, Banpu continues to explore new business opportunities through its **Greener & Smarter** strategy and the 3Ds of energy; **Decentralization**, **Decarbonization**, and **Digitalization**.

Whilst coal mining is Banpu's primary business in Australia, looking towards the future and assessing what the changing needs of customers and markets are, it is clear that there is an energy transition towards lower carbon energy sources, and Banpu must be part of that transition in Australia. To that end, Banpu has established a sister company to the long-established coal mining company Centennial Coal; Banpu Energy Australia (Banpu Energy or BEN).

The vision of Banpu Energy is to create a sustainable energy business, that is innovative, synergistic and technologically advanced. Using broad thinking Banpu Energy will develop energy assets and deliver in an agile way.

Banpu Energy's work will initially focus on upcycling and recycling existing Centennial assets into renewable energy sources with Pumped Hydro Energy Storage research being a key cornerstone.

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1. BACKGROUND: RENEWABLE ENERGY OPPORTUNITIES

For decades, NSW has relied upon coal fired power stations to provide cost effective and reliable electricity. However, in the next 15 years 4 out of the 5 existing coal fired power stations in NSW are scheduled to retire. Consequently, significant new electricity sources and infrastructure are needed to ensure NSW continues to access affordable and reliable electricity, that also respects the change towards lower carbon electricity. To achieve this, the NSW Government has published its Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap (2020; a coordinated framework to deliver a modern electricity system for NSW). The Roadmap is a ‘whole of system’ approach to deliver new generation, transmission, long duration storage and firming.

Reliable electricity will come from being able to deliver electricity when the market demands it, which is not always aligned with when the sun is shining, or the wind is blowing. Batteries are a key enabler in providing reliable or “firm” power. In its simplest form, pumped hydro energy storage (PHES) is a battery, and consequently can deliver the power that a reliable, clean electricity market requires.

According to the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap, the NSW government estimates it will achieve around \$32 billion in private investment to 2030 and support an estimated 6,300 construction jobs and 2,800 ongoing jobs, mostly in regional NSW in 2030.

1.1 Overview of Pumped Hydro Energy Storage (PHES)

Pumped hydro energy storage (PHES) is a key element of an affordable, secure and reliable power network driven by renewable power.

While renewables are the cheapest and cleanest form of new generation, they rely on environmental factors—like sun and wind—to produce electricity. Sometimes, like when the sun is shining and the wind is blowing, these natural resources are abundant. Other times, less so. This means renewables need to be backed up by long duration storage, to ensure power is available at all times when it is needed.

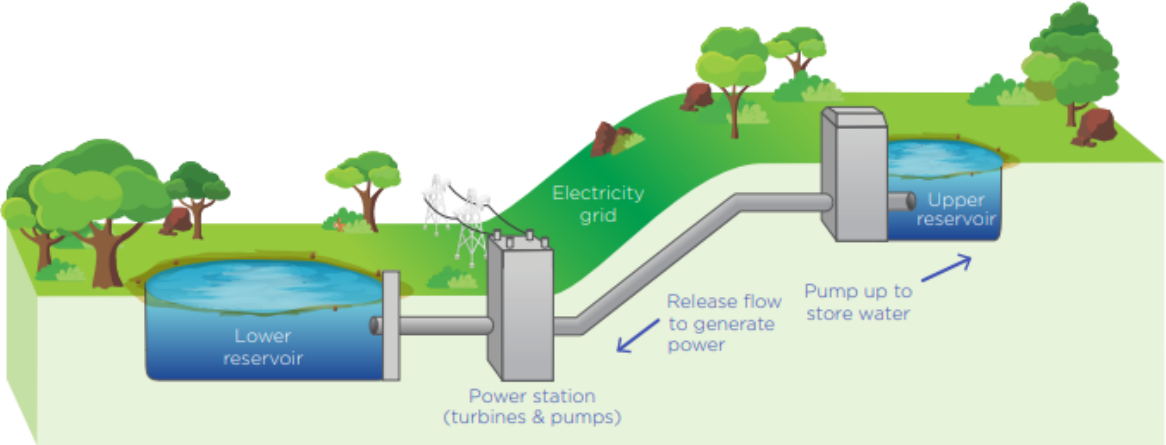
PHES is the most abundant and mature form of long-term energy storage in the world. It involves storing energy in the form of water at a high altitude, and when energy is needed, allows the water to move to a lower reservoir. The water is passed through a turbine that can generate electricity. When electricity is abundant, the turbines can spin in reverse and pump the water from a lower reservoir back up to the higher reservoir whereby storing the energy in the water again. This repeatable process is termed PHES.

PHES is not typically associated with underground coal mines, being more commonly linked to river based upper and lower elevation dams. However, PHES in underground coal mines (termed CMPHES) is potentially feasible given that underground water storage and movement of water between storage areas provides an opportunity to generate electricity. Disused underground mine voids can possibly be used in a manner that is similar to more traditional pumped hydro systems where two surface dams are used. Figure 1 shows “traditional” PHES.

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How a pumped-storage hydroelectric power station works

- 1.**
Water is pumped into the upper reservoir using cheaper energy when demand is low or there is an excess of renewable energy because the sun is shining and the wind is blowing.
- 2.**
When there is a spike in demand, or a drop off in wind or solar generation—even for a short time—energy is called for and the water is released.
- 3.**
The water flows quickly down the pipes which turns the turbines to generate power.



NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment | NSW Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap Overview **19**

Figure 1 – A typical Pumped Hydro Scheme Layout

2. THE PROJECT

The potential use of underground coal mines in PHES (CMPHES) provides a hypothesis that can be tested through a series of research studies, which may then lead to a pilot trial of the concept and then potentially a full feasibility assessment. This hypothesis is being tested by Banpu Energy Australia using assets of and financial contributions from Centennial Coal in a two-phase Project (Part A and Part B), with the support of both State and Federal Government funding.

2.1 Project Funding

The Project is being funded by three parties;

- Banpu Energy Australia Pty Ltd (BEN), with Centennial Coal. Centennial Coal (Centennial) owns the Newstan Colliery, the location for the research Project. Centennial is also providing site access and support to the BEN team as it leads and manages the research Project;
- Federal Government via Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA); and
- NSW State Government Emerging Energy Program (EEP is a program within Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and is also referenced as ‘the Department’ in Appendix 1).

2.2 Project Objectives

The objectives for the Project are:

- a) Improved understanding of the technical viability, opportunities and risks of underground PHES, including determining whether a coal mining goaf is viable as a lower reservoir option for PHES facilities; and
- b) Improved understanding of the key materials and designs of turbines and maintenance requirements for PHES facilities utilising coal mining goafs as lower reservoirs.

2.3 Project Structure

The project will be delivered in two parts, A and B, with B being reliant upon certain milestones and successes in Part A.

Part A comprises three core components being the technical studies, pilot trial and scheme optimization. Together these components form the technical feasibility assessment of the Project which, if successful, will lead to Part B. Part B will involve a detailed engineering design and financial feasibility study, including a full environmental assessment in order to obtain relevant planning approvals.

2.4 Project Part A – Technical Viability

Part A comprises three core components being:

- **Technical studies**, which include:

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- Coal Mining Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) - to assess that risks and hazards that can be adequately managed for the installation, operation and maintenance (including de-commissioning of the power generation components), and that they can safely co-exist with an operating coal mine;
- Coal Mining legislation - to address mining lease and land tenure and Planning Approval pathways, including project element permissibility including overlap of coal mine and power generation facilities;
- Coal Mining regulation - to address Coal Mine Regulation prescribed matters and design requirements for installation and operation of components in an underground coal mine non-hazardous zone;
- Coal Mining geotech - to address key design questions of mine subsidence, pillar stability, roadway excavation support and lining requirements, goaf characterisation, and bulkhead design (note: a goaf is the area where coal has been extracted in underground mining);
- Goaf consolidation - to analyse the consolidation and behaviour of goaf rocks when loaded and saturated;
- Goaf permeability - to determine the hydraulic conductivity of the goaf rock matrix; and
- Goaf leachate - to analyse the geochemistry and change of water chemical properties as it cycles through the goaf rocks.
- **Pilot project** - the closed loop scaled up cycling of large volumes of water through an actual underground goaf at Newstan Colliery at velocities representative of the envisaged scheme design. This trial will be constrained to one coal seam and will not produce electricity; and
- **Scheme optimization** – a high level exercise that will consider different configuration options available within the Centennial Lake Macquarie assets.

2.5 Project Part B – Financial Feasibility; Environmental Assessment And Grid Connection Studies

If technically feasible, Part B involves conducting a detailed engineering design and financial feasibility study for a preferred arrangement at one of its Lake Macquarie assets (Newstan, Myuna or Mandalong).

- The Financial Feasibility Assessment will entail:
 - Site selection;
 - Design basis;
 - Capital cost;
 - Operating cost;
 - Revenue model; and
 - Land access, High Voltage electricity transmission grid connection and environmental considerations.

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The progressive research will:

Part A

- (a) perform viability studies into the use of underground coal mine goafs as the lower reservoir of a PHES;
- (b) undertake pilot trials of simulated systems in an underground longwall goaf; then

Part B

- (c) if viability is indicated, identify and undertake detailed engineering and bankable feasibility of the most prospective Project site; and
- (d) as far as possible, allow Banpu to make a final investment decision in respect of the development of the Project.

The research is being performed to prove the viability of using extensive underground coal mining voids as the lower reservoir of a PHES in order to provide energy storage for peak demand management with a view to constructing a nominal 600MW pumped hydro energy storage system.

2.6 Outcomes

If the concept proves viable and feasible, it will be a first-of-kind underground coal mine PHES deployment.

Potential sites for CMPHES may offer lower environmental consequence than alternate PHES sites, generate significant employment and investment in the Hunter Region Renewable Energy Zone and ultimately provide lower electricity prices to consumers.

The renewable energy sector has been identified by the NSW Government as a key plank of the State’s post-COVID economic recovery plan. The identification of utility scale CMPHES opportunities have the potential to attract co-located complementary investment and diversify economic opportunities in the region, particularly in the State’s Central West Region, which has historically been dependent on coal mining for employment generation.

2.7 CMPHES Concept Layout

The concept diagram (represented below) shows how the underground mine voids can be utilized in the same manner as more conventional PHES infrastructure. The diagram is representing the Newstan Colliery underground workings suggesting that water stored in the Great Northern and Fassifern Seams can be transferred to the Lower Young Wallsend Seam some 250 metres below the surface. The transfer of water to the lower seam will theoretically generate the required force to turn the turbine and generate power.

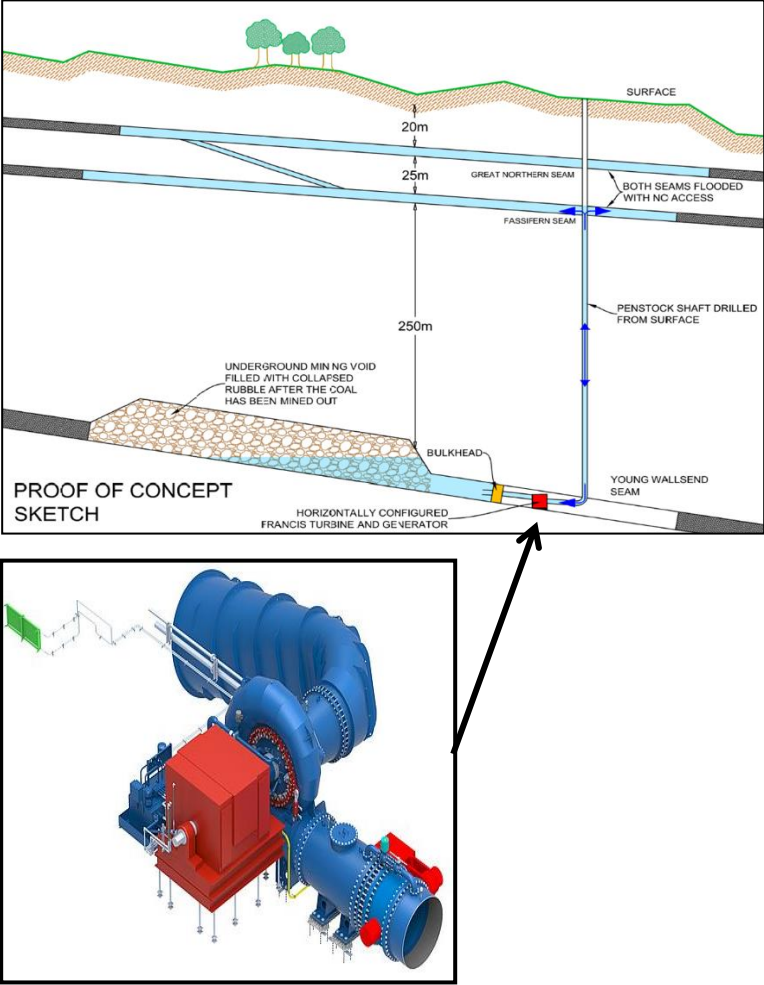


Figure 2: Underground PHEs Concept Diagram

2.8 Project Staging and Timing

The staging and timing of the Project as described above is outlined in Table 1. As stated above, Part A comprises three core components being the technical studies, pilot trial and scheme optimisation. Together the stages form the feasibility assessment of the project which, if successful, will lead to Part B. Part B will involve a detailed feasibility study, including a full environmental assessment in order to obtain relevant planning approvals.

Table 1: Project Staging and Timing

Program		2021				2022			
Part A	Activity	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Stage 1 – Technical Studies									
1.1	UoN research program								
1.1	Geotechnical and mine subsidence assessment								
1.1	Legal, regulatory and planning assessments								
1.1	STAGE GATE: Outcome - viability of UG voids as a lower PHES reservoir					1			
Stage 2 – Pilot Trial at Newstan Colliery									
2.1	Design and procure trial components								
2.2	Build and commence trials - confirm viability at utility scale								
2.3	Complete trials - outcomes for turbine design and velocity optimisation								
2.4	STAGE GATE: UoN outcomes confirmed								2
Stage 3 –Scheme optimisation									
3.1	Options screening and scoping studies								
3.2	STAGE GATE: Permission to commence Full Feasibility								2

Legend



Compiling milestones deliverables and reports



Milestone

3. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION PLAN (CCP)

3.1 CCP Outline and Requirements

The Government funding requirements provide a guide for the community consultation plan (CCP) for the duration of the Project. These requirements are included at Appendix 1 for reference purposes.

The CCP is proposed to be developed in two parts corresponding to the project structure. The initial focus will be on Part A of the Project (research and technical assessment). Should the work in Part A show that the hypothesis is technically feasible, work will progress to Part B. An update of the CCP will be required for this next part of the Project.

The focus of the CCP is to engage with appropriate stakeholders who have an interest in the Project and are willing to receive and review information relating to Part A technical feasibility. Part B of the project (if approved) will entail a more detailed consultation and engagement process as determined by the Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines (anticipated to commence Q4 2022).

3.2 CCP Strategy

In order to meet the CCP requirements set out by Government , it is proposed to develop a consultation strategy for Part A which is appropriate to the technical feasibility stage of the project, while building a foundation of community resources which will be the basis for consultation in Part B, should the project proceed.

To this end, a tailored consultation model has been developed that is based on the NSW Government's **Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Guideline** (January 2019). The CCC model is both current and has proven effective as a consultation strategy across multiple complex state significant projects in NSW. It is in addition a model already successfully tried-and-tested by Centennial in both its Western Region (Charbon/Inglenook; Airly; Western Combined; Clarence) and Northern Region (Newstan/Awaba; Mandalong; Myuna).

By applying the CCC model at the feasibility stage, the project team will be:

- Disseminating community-wide information on PHES
- Educating community members on the technical aspects of PHES
- Building a network of interested community members
- Establishing consultation groups of interested community members
- Putting in place engagement frameworks and trialling engagement strategies to ascertain which is most effective for this novel infrastructure.

The CCP strategy is built around a number of key activities, each of which corresponds to Government's requirements:

- Identification of stakeholder groups
- Formation of stakeholder reference group (SRG)
- Formalisation of SRG meeting processes

- Presentation to public forums and technical sessions
- Development of log for publicly initiated contact, complaints and enquiries
- Monitoring and updating
- Annual Review process
- Establishment of channels for making CCP and related materials publicly available.

These activities are further explained below.

3.2.1 Identification Of Stakeholder Groups

As Centennial has been active in the region for some time, the company is highly engaged with stakeholder groups and has readily accessible stakeholder networks. These networks are kept current through ongoing mining activities as well as operational planning applications, most of which required the company to have undertaken consultation prior to submission, as well as during the exhibition phase. In addition, the company is required to analyse all submissions and summarise key issues in report format, resulting in a thorough understanding of stakeholders, their concerns, and how both interest groups and their interests evolve.

This knowledge will be applied to the identification of stakeholder groups by project stage. For Part A of the project, the following **preliminary** list identifies key stakeholders, noting that the company will be open to the inclusion of other interested parties should these become apparent as feasibility work progresses:

Community stakeholder groups

- Newstan / Awaba CCC: an established Committee with members representing the local community, stakeholder groups and local government. The Newstan/Awaba site is the location of the Stage 1 pilot of this project.
- Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance Inc: the alliance represents 14 active groups across the Lake Macquarie LGA who have a focus on environment and community-based projects. The Alliance also reaches out to other stakeholder groups across the LGA.
- Awaba community: Awaba is the residential area proximate to the project area and has residents represented on the CCC.
- Fassifern / Wakefield community: this residential area is within proximity of the project area and has residents represented on the CCC.
- Myuna/Mandalong communities: Centennial has a broad stakeholder base through its CCC networks that have an interest in Centennial and BEN generally. Therefore, the existing CCCs at Centennial's other mines may be considered interested stakeholders.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Committee

The Centennial Northern Holdings Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Committee is facilitated by Centennial and meets twice a year to discuss matters relating to cultural heritage including a review of any heritage related works carried out over the previous six months and any works proposed over the coming six months (including field surveys and site recording). A representative(s) will be sought from one (or more) of the following groups:

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- Awabakal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation;
- Awabakal Descendants Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation;
- Bahtabah Local Aboriginal Land Council;
- Biraban Local Aboriginal Land Council;
- Cacatua Culture Consultants
- Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council;
- Guringai Tribal Link;
- Kauwul (trading as Wonn 1);
- Wonnanura Nation Aboriginal Corporation, and
- Yula-Punnal Aboriginal Education and Healing Centre.

Government stakeholders

Government agencies identified as stakeholders may include:

- Lake Macquarie City Council: local government authority who has an interest in sustainability across the LGA;
- Environment Protection Authority: a stakeholder in the area of environmental management and performance;
- Natural Resources Regulator; a government body responsible for the water management. In NSW;
- Division of Resources and Geosciences: NSW Government body who has an interest in the transition to a low carbon environment.
- The Department of Planning Industry and Environment will also be a critical stakeholder due to their role in the planning approvals process, as well as in relation to environmental objectives and controls.

3.2.2 Community Consultation Processes

Stakeholder Reference Group

As aforementioned, the community engagement model will be based on the NSW CCC model. As a CCC is typically formed following approval of a Major Project Application, the CCC model is interpreted for this Project by the introduction of a Stakeholder Reference Group (SRG) as the core consultation construct. This group will be the principal forum in which BEN will consult and engage with identified stakeholders at the feasibility stage of the project. The group will be foundational should the project proceed to the next stages, with the potential to evolve into a CCC should the project become operational.

The SRG will be a consultative forum whereby the various phases of the Project can be reported on and information exchanged in relation to its feasibility. The SRG will:

- Receive information about the Project and the inputs and outputs of the feasibility assessment;

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- Provide a forum for stakeholders to seek information about the project and provide feedback;
- Provide a structure for gathering input into the design of the Project, specifically if the Project moves to Part B;
- Discuss and suggest ways to manage community stakeholder concerns and complaints;
- Assist in the development of progress reporting;
- Contribute to overseeing consultation requirements, and providing advice to the Project regarding stakeholders.

The SRG will not be a decision making or regulatory body. While operated in a structured format, it will be sufficiently flexible to enable engagement with other forums and to facilitate interested parties engaging with the group at various stages of the Project.

Membership will encompass the representatives of the key stakeholder groups identified at 4.2.1 above as well as an independent Chair, who will be responsible for governance of the group. As such, invitees to the Group are anticipated to include:

- an independent chairperson;
- a representative from Newstan Awaba Mine Community Consultative Committee (CCC);
- a representative from Myuna Colliery CCC and Mandalong Mine CCC;
- community and stakeholder representatives from Fassifern/Wakefield and Awaba communities and the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance Inc;
- representatives from Lake Macquarie City Council (staff and elected councillors);
- Government Agency representatives;
- Centennial Northern Holdings Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Committee members; and
- representatives of BEN.

3.2.3 SRG Meeting Processes

Meeting Schedule and Format

A meeting schedule is outlined at section 5. A related calendar of meetings for the SRG, corresponding to the Project staging, will be developed when the project commences. The calendar will outline the anticipated objectives and topics for each meeting, based on the project evolution.

The first meeting to introduce the CCP and the proposed SRG will be held at the first Newstand/Awaba CCC scheduled for March 2021. At this meeting, an outline will be provided for stakeholders on how they will be able to access the latest information in respect of community consultation matters via the BEN website.

A meeting agenda for each SRG will be formalised prior to each meeting. The agenda is expected to include the items in Table 2 below, adapted and amended as needed based on project development as well as emerging issues and opportunities. The agenda will be provided to SRG

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members at least two weeks prior to each scheduled meeting, and opportunity provided for participants to provide input.

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Table 2: DRAFT Agenda Structure

Item	Topic	Timing	Responsibility
1	Welcome and apologies	5 minutes	Chairperson
2	Minutes of the previous meeting		
	Business arising		
3	Community feedback: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Issues and opportunities concerning the feasibility activities ▪ Summary of log regarding publicly initiated contact, complaints and enquiries 	10 minutes	Community representatives
3	Project update		
	• General update	10 minutes	BEN Representatives
	• Activity / feasibility report	10 minutes	
	• Activities planned	10 minutes	
	• Discussion on feasibility outcomes and milestones achieved	10 minutes	
4	Other business		
	• TBD	10 minutes	As needed
5	General business	10 minutes	All
6	Next meeting and meeting close	5 minutes	Chairperson

Records of Meetings: Minutes

Meetings will be documented, with the independent chairperson preparing and distributing minutes for each meeting. The minutes will be:

- A record of participants and key issues
- An outline of the meeting including discussion, concerns and enquiries
- A forum to note dissenting views
- A record of actions to be undertaken, by whom and when.

Draft minutes will be circulated no later than 7 working days after the meeting to all SRG members for comment. SRG members will have one week to provide feedback to the chairperson to finalise (in consultation with SRG members).

Once finalised, minutes will be provided to SRG members and published on the BEN website for the benefit of interested community members and stakeholders, as well as a means of providing a public record of meetings.

Meeting Frequency

The SRG will meet at the commencement of each quarter as a minimum. Additional meetings shall be able to be called at the discretion of the independent chair if requested by the project team, SRG members or the community.

3.2.4 Supplementary Engagement Processes

The following stakeholder communication and engagement processes will also be applied:

1. Public Forums and Technical Sessions:

A public forum / technical session(s) at the end of the pilot project and prior to the detailed pre-feasibility (i.e. at the completion of Stage 1 and prior to Stage 2).

The session(s) would involve a detailed presentation of the assessments that have been undertaken, methodology and findings. The session(s) would also include an introduction to Stage 2 (if Stage 2 is to be implemented).

Notification of the technical session(s) would be via social media, dissemination via SRG membership, project website and print media and other channels as appropriate at least 2 weeks prior to the planned event/s.

The venue for the event/s would be within proximity of the project area, accessible and with the capacity to hold numbers registered, taking into account COVID-19 precautions.

Attendees would be required to register for the event and, as per SRG meetings, the forum would be independently chaired, and include an agenda and minutes, which would be made publicly available.

Log of Publicly Initiated Contact, Complaints and Enquiries:

A log will be developed to record publicly initiated contact, with a summary of activity to be reported at each SRG meeting. The log will include:

- date
- matter discussed / raised
- response / actions
- status
- timing when matter closed.

Personal details will only be recorded if needed / appropriate, and not be made public.

Monitoring and Updating - Annual Review Process:

As part of a monitoring process, the SRG and consultation plan will be reviewed within one month of the first anniversary of the commencement of the Group, and annually thereafter.

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The Department and ARENA, as well as BEN internal management, Board and other key groups will be provided with a copy of the Annual Review, along with documents associated with the operation of the SRG.

The CCP will be updated following the Annual Review if needed in order to evolve activities if required, as well as to ensure the approach is consistent with relevant industry standards and practice for this type of Project.

3.2.5 Availability of the CCP

The CCP will be published on the BEN website as well as being provided to each member of the SRG and to any interested party on request.

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4. COMPLIANCE AGAINST ARENA AND EEP GUIDELINES

Table 3: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy Compliance

Community Consultation Plan Requirements	Where found in the Report	Comments
<p>a) For the duration of the Agreement, the Recipient must develop, implement and update a Community Consultation Plan (Part A) for the Project which includes the following features:</p>	This document	This document is relevant for Part A of the Project and will be updated as needed.
<p>i. identification of all key stakeholder groups by Project Stage, including local communities that are potentially affected by the Pre-investment Activity ;</p>	3.2.1	As Centennial has been active in the region for some time, the company is highly engaged with stakeholder groups and has readily accessible stakeholder networks. Groups relevant to the project are described in this section.
<p>ii. an outline of the proposed community consultation processes to be undertaken that includes the processes for public notification of meetings, itinerary of meetings to be conducted, groups involved and agenda for meetings, provision of information at meetings and local information sites; documentation of attendees, questions and answers and follow-up issues required arising from meetings, and an outline for stakeholders on how to access the latest information in respect of community consultation matters;</p>	This document, and 3.2.3 in particular	This document is relevant for Stage 1 of the Project and will be updated as needed.
<p>iii. an outline of how community consultation activities align with Milestones;</p>	2.8, 3.2.3 & 5	The first meeting to announce the CCP and the proposed SRG will be held at the first Newstan / Awaba CCC scheduled for 21 March 2021
<p>iv. a process for maintaining an up-to-date record of complaints and questions arising from community consultations and the responses</p>	3.2.4	An outline of the log for publicly initiated contact, complaints and enquiries is provided in this section. A

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provided to these complaints and questions; and		summary of the log will be provided to the Stakeholder Reference Group at each meeting.
v. a process for regularly monitoring and updating the Community Consultation Plan and the community consultations undertaken and reporting to the Recipient's internal management, board, Pre-investment Activity Participants, and other key groups (whether government or non-government) as required by the Department to ensure the on-going improvement of community engagement, and is consistent with relevant industry standards and practice for this type of Project and the types of community consultation to be undertaken.	3.2.4	An annual review process will ensure that internal and external stakeholder groups are updated via a formal document, and that the CCP is kept current and relevant.
b) The Recipient must make the Community Consultation Plan available to any person on request. The Recipient may make the Community Consultation Plan available by publishing it on its website.	3.2.5	The CCP will be published on the BEN website as well as being provided to each member of the SRG and to any interested party on request.
c) By the Conditions Precedent submission date, the Recipient must provide to ARENA evidence that the Recipient has engaged in initial community consultation in relation to the Project (Part A) to ARENA's satisfaction.	3.2.4 and 5	Minutes from SRG meetings will be provided to ARENA and EEP, as well as the Annual Report.
d) Within Q1 2021, the Recipient must provide to the Department evidence that the Recipient has engaged in initial community consultation in relation to the Pre-investment Activity to the Department's satisfaction, including evidence that the Recipient has:	3.2.4 and 5	The first meeting to announce the CCP and the proposed SRG will be held at the first Newstan / Awaba CCC scheduled for 21 March 2021. Minutes of the meeting will be provided to ARENA and EEP.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. provided attendees with the opportunity to raise any issues concerning the Pre-investment Activity; ii. responded in writing to any submissions made to it; and iii. provided to the Department notification of any adverse community reaction to the Pre-investment Activity to date. 	3.2.4	<p>SRG participants will be provided with the opportunity for input to meeting agendas, and encouraged also to raise issues and opportunities at meetings.</p> <p>An outline of the log for publicly initiated contact, complaints and enquiries is provided in 3.2.4. A summary of the log will be provided to the Stakeholder Reference Group at each meeting.</p>

e) If required by the Department, the Recipient must provide to the Department notification of responses by the Recipient to adverse community reaction to the Pre-investment Activity.	3.2.4	The log for publicly initiated contact, complaints and enquiries will detail complaints and how these have been actioned.
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5. SRG MEETING SCHEDULE

The meeting schedule for the SRG is outlined in Table 4.

Table 4: SRG Meeting Schedule

Timeline / Year	2021				2022			
Quarter	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
SRG scheduled meeting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Milestone & presentation of findings					X			X

6. CONCLUSION

This CCP is a framework to guide the community and stakeholder consultation as outlined by both ARENA and EEP, and as per engagement best practice for major projects. The CCP guides Part A of the Project and will be updated at the completion of Part A to reflect Part B of the Project, should it proceed.

An SRG is recommended as being the most appropriate means of consultation as it allows for a formal, structured process of consultation based on the NSW Community Consultative Committee (CCC model, and if the Project moves to Part B, the SRG can evolve to a CCC if required.

In addition to the SRG, a number of supporting engagement strategies are proposed, including:

- Public forums and technical sessions
- Log of publicly initiated contact, complaints and enquiries
- Monitoring and updating: Annual Review process
- Channels for making the CCP publicly available.

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Appendix 1 - CCP Minimum Requirements (EEP)

- (a) For the duration of the Agreement, the Recipient must develop, implement and update a Community Consultation Plan (Part A) for the Pre-investment Activity which includes the following features:
- (i) identification of all key stakeholder groups by Milestone, including local communities that are potentially affected by the Pre-investment Activity;
 - (ii) an outline of the proposed community consultation processes to be undertaken that includes the processes for public notification of meetings, itinerary of meetings to be conducted, groups involved and agenda for meetings, provision of information at meetings and local information sites; documentation of attendees, questions and answers and follow-up issues required arising from meetings, and an outline for stakeholders on how to access the latest information in respect of community consultation matters;
 - (iii) an outline of how community consultation activities align with Milestones;
 - (iv) a process for maintaining an up-to-date record of complaints and questions arising from community consultations and the responses provided to these complaints and questions; and
 - (v) a process for regularly monitoring and updating the Community Consultation Plan and the community consultations undertaken and reporting to the Recipient's internal management, board, Pre-investment Activity Participants, and other key groups (whether government or non-government) as required by the Department to ensure the on-going improvement of community engagement,
- and is consistent with relevant industry standards and practice for this type of Project and the types of community consultation to be undertaken.
- (b) The Recipient must make the Community Consultation Plan available to any person on request. The Recipient may make the Community Consultation Plan available by publishing it on its website.
- (d) Within Q1 2021, the Recipient must provide to the Department evidence that the Recipient has engaged in initial community consultation in relation to the Pre-investment Activity to the Department's satisfaction, including evidence that the Recipient has:
- (i) provided attendees with the opportunity to raise any issues concerning the Project;
 - (ii) responded in writing to any submissions made to it; and
 - (iii) provided to the Department notification of any adverse community reaction to the Pre-investment Activity to date.
- (e) If required by the Department, the Recipient must provide to the Department notification of responses by the Recipient to adverse community reaction to the Pre-investment Activity.

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