



Community scoping workshops

May 2021

Introduction

A series of community workshops was held to help inform Jerrara Power's Scoping Report for an energy from waste facility at 974 Jerrara Road, Bungonia.

The Scoping Report is the first step in the environmental assessment and planning process required for state significant development.

A Scoping Report sets out the scope of the proposal, the possible impacts and mitigations of the proposal during construction and operation and the technical investigations and studies that the proponent proposes to undertake as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Scoping Report is the trigger for the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to issue SEARs (Secretary Environmental Assessment Requirements). The SEARs detail the technical investigations and studies the proponent must undertake for the EIS.

An important component of both the Scoping phase and the EIS phase is community consultation. During the Scoping phase, the proponent must identify issues and concerns of the community and other stakeholders in order to ensure those issues are addressed in the EIS.

Purpose

The purpose of the community workshops¹ was to obtain feedback on:

- any community and stakeholder concerns about the environmental, economic and social matters and the nature of those concerns
- any other relevant matters or local knowledge that the community and other stakeholders believe should be considered in the EIS
- community and other stakeholder preference for how they want to participate during the EIS preparation and exhibition phases
- benefits of the project identified by the community and other stakeholders.

Objectives

The objectives of the community workshops were to collate:

¹ A workshop is a structured method to explore specific, complex issues and where participants work in small groups (IAP2, 2014).

1. a list of community concerns and issues about the proposal for an energy from waste facility at 974 Jerrara Road, Bungonia
2. suggestions for communication and engagement tools to be used during development of the EIS
3. input into the draft Terms of Reference for the Jerrara Power Community Reference Group (CRG).

Participant involvement

Initially, four community workshops were scheduled and advertised to the community. After stakeholder feedback, a further two Saturday workshops were added to the schedule.

The workshops were advertised in the Goulburn Post, Discover Marulan newsletter, Windellama News, on the Jerrara Power Facebook page, the Jerrara Power website and via email to Jerrara Power's stakeholder database.

Registration was via the website, email or phone to the free-call 1800 number.

Participation

Workshop	Number of participants registered	Number of participants who attended
Workshop 1 Tuesday 11 May 2021 - Bungonia Hall from 3pm until 5pm	31	32
Workshop 2 Tuesday 11 May 2021 – Bungonia Hall from and 6pm until 8pm	35	34
Workshop 3 Wednesday 12 May 2021 – Marulan Memorial Hall from 10am until	22	19
Workshop 4 Wednesday 12 May 2021 – Marulan Memorial Hall from 4pm until 6pm	22	18
Workshop 5 Saturday 15 May 2021 – Bungonia Hall from 10am until 12pm	41	51
Workshop 6 Saturday 22 May 2021 – Bungonia Hall from 1pm until 3pm	19	15
TOTAL	170	169

Facilitators

Angela Felton – Spectrum Comms Director

Alysia Norris – Jerrara Power Community Relations Manager

Melissa Maurer – Spectrum Comms Director

Chris Berkefeld – Jerrara Power Managing Director

Original workshop agenda

- Introduction and housekeeping
- Issues wall
- Proposal overview presentation
- Questions
- Issues discussion
- Break
- Report back
- Communication and engagement tools – group discussion
- Community Reference Group - table discussion
- Closing remarks
- Workshop close - evaluation

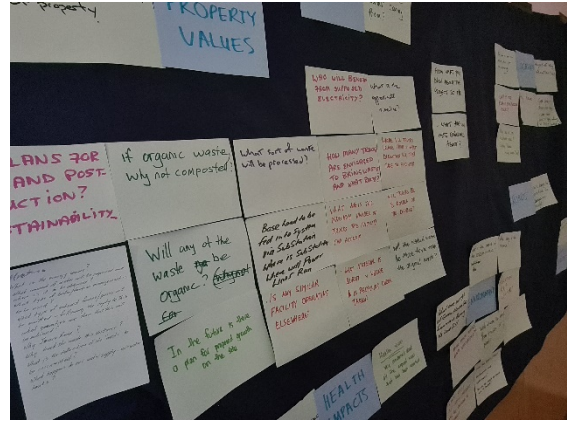
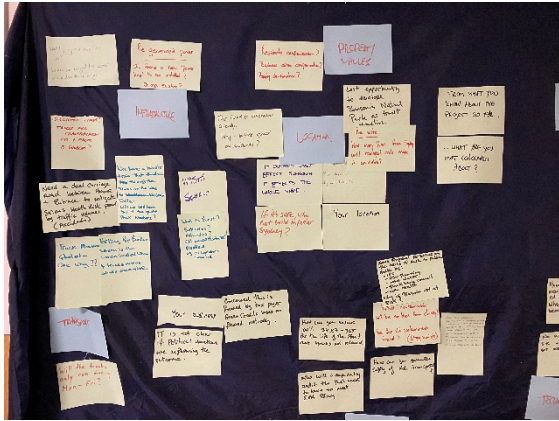
Amended workshop agenda

- Opening remarks
- Introduction and housekeeping
- Issues wall
- Proposal overview presentation
- Issues discussion
- Communication and engagement tools – group discussion
- Workshop close

Activities

Issues wall

The purpose of the issues wall was to facilitate participation from participants who may not feel comfortable speaking in a public forum. Participants were asked to write down on A5 cards their issues or questions based on their knowledge of the project to date.



Figures 1 and 2 Participants wrote down their concerns or questions on A5 cards.

The A5 cards were grouped by theme by a facilitator on the wall for all participants to see. The original intent was for table groups to discuss each theme in a world café² style and record their concerns on butcher’s paper. The themes were rotated every 3-5 minutes depending on how the workshop was timing.

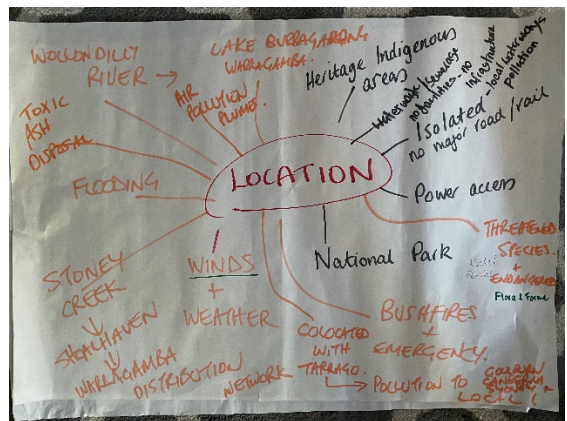
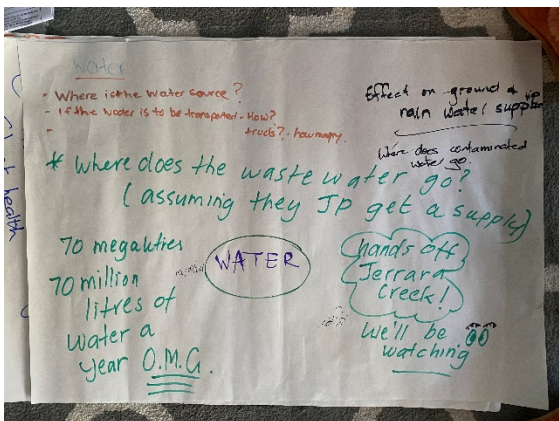


Figure 3 and 4 Participants worked in table groups to discuss themes and issues identified on the issues wall in world café style.

In workshops 3 and 4, with a smaller group, the format was modified so that the themes and questions on the cards formed the basis of a question-and-answer style session between participants and Jerrara Power’s Managing Director.

Workshop 5 commenced using this modified format but participants began to move away from the issues wall and ask questions from the floor. The facilitator asked the group to vote on whether they would like to proceed with the issues

² World Café is an engagement method where participants discuss questions or themes in small groups. Each table of participants builds on the ideas and discussion on the questions or themes held previously and record it on paper (IAP2, 2014).

wall or move to a question-and-answer format. The group voted to proceed with the issues wall but some participants continued to disrupt the session with questions from the floor. Some participants left the workshop.

In workshop 6, participants voted to skip the issues cards and proceed directly with a question-and-answer format. Not all participants agreed with this format and this precluded some people from the discussion. Some participants left the workshop.



Figures 5 and 6 A question and answer style format was used during the later workshops.

Communication and engagement tools group discussion

The purpose of this activity was to present Jerrara Power's proposed communication tools and engagement activities during development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The activity was run as a whole group discussion and participants encouraged to suggest alternatives, changes and new ideas. This activity was not conducted in workshops 5 and 6 due to time constraints.

Community Reference Group (CRG)

The purpose of this activity was to seek input into the composition, structure and meeting protocols for Jerrara Power's Community Reference Group³. The activity was to run as a table group discussion with table participants to discuss what the CRG's objectives should be, the membership of the CRG and the meeting protocols. In all but two workshops, this activity was not offered due to time

³ A Community Reference Group is a structured group of community or stakeholder representatives that meet regularly and operate under a Terms of Reference. It can vary from members providing their own feedback and ideas to members acting as a conduit between the broader community and organisation (IAP2, 2014).

constraints. A draft Terms of Reference will instead be prepared and placed on exhibition for community input.

Data analysis

Objective 1 – Collate a list of community concerns and issues about the proposal

Feedback was collected using cards from the issues wall, world café discussions on butcher’s paper (where used) and by an observer. Questions from the floor were recorded on butcher’s paper on an easel at the front of the workshop.

This feedback has been collated and analysed to identify common themes and issues. They have been ranked in order of their prevalence (frequency of mention) during the workshops. This does not suggest those themes listed lower are less important, only that they were mentioned less frequently.

- Water (including wastewater)
- Environment (air quality, odour, biodiversity, noise, visual amenity, greenhouse gas emissions)
- Waste
- Location (including site selection process)
- Transport/Traffic/Roads (safety, maintenance, upgrades, funding)
- Health (human, domestic animals and wildlife)
- Technology (including reference facilities)
- Property values
- Company (structure and governance)
- Infrastructure (water, power, telecommunications and internet)
- Approvals process
- Engagement (communication and consultation)
- Safety (hazards and risks, bushfires)
- Operations (including regulation and monitoring)
- Community benefits

Theme	Concerns and questions
<i>Water</i>	How much does the facility use and where will it come from?
	What is the proposal’s impact on surface and groundwater?
	How much wastewater run off and where will it go?
	If the water is to be transported, how and how many trucks?

Theme	Concerns and questions
	<p>Is bore water to be used?</p> <p>How much water is to be used daily?</p> <p>Will Jerrara Power provide filtration systems?</p> <p>How can you protect our tank water?</p> <p>Will ponds be lined, fenced or covered?</p> <p>Why is the waste processing area built over a water way?</p> <p>Are you going to use an existing bore to pipe water to proposed Jerrara site?</p>
<i>Environment</i>	<p>What type of exhaust fumes/gases will be emitted – following the reply to this what guarantees are there that this will be achieved?</p> <p>What is the environmental impact?</p> <p>What is the composition of the air emissions and the quality (ppm)?</p> <p>Where will the steam land/fall? Will it reach as far as Goulburn?</p> <p>What contaminants will be emitted from chimney and how far will contaminants travel (strong wind etc)?</p> <p>How much air pollution will be created by the incinerator?</p> <p>What is the ecological impact? Do you know if there are threatened species/ ecological endangered communities on site?</p> <p>What guarantees can be provided that there will be no smells coming from the tip?</p> <p>What will happen to all of our native birds and animals? Long term effects</p> <p>Will there be noise from plant? What noise mitigation measures will be included in planning?</p> <p>What is the impact of the CO2 emissions?</p> <p>What are the savings of greenhouse gas emissions burning v landfill?</p> <p>What protections are in place for Jerrara Creek?</p> <p>How can you ensure 100%, 24/7, 365 days a year for the life of the plan that toxins not released?</p> <p>Will there be flooding assessment of the creek?</p> <p>What about the 1% or more that isn't trapped as flue gas?</p>

Theme	Concerns and questions
	The policy statement you say you are aligning to do not mention Jerrara toxic waste but promote recycling and green energy. Is this renewable green energy?
	Is this the new PFAS?
	How does this meet zero CO2 emissions targets? Do emissions include transport CO2?
	How does it work differently to prevent odour to the Bingo site at Minchinbury which does produce odour?
	Will you have a wind/air monitor on site?
	Do you need seven years' worth of wind analysis?
	What kind of research will you do that proves what you emit doesn't impact water, water catchment and stock?
	Will you get special permission for native vegetation clearance?
	No leaching through concrete?
	What is the timetable for technical reports?
<i>Waste</i>	What type of waste is being incinerated? What is the definition of the waste to be incinerated? Batteries? Asbestos? Oil-based products? Plastics?
	What is being processed?
	Why are we taking rubbish from Sydney?
	Will the residual waste be more toxic than the original waste?
	How will the rubbish be stored until its processed?
	What material is burnt and where is recycling undertaken?
	Will any of the waste be organic? If organic waste, why not composted?
	Does any waste come from major waste companies or any other waste groups?
	What percentage is power and what percentage is waste?
	What quality control guarantees the type of waste that ends up in the facility?
	Will you take waste from landfills – locally or in Sydney?
	Bottom ash – what % of waste going in and comes out as bottom ash?

Theme	Concerns and questions
	<p>Who will process the waste between council contractor picking it up and it coming to Jerrara facility – will it be Cleanaway?</p> <p>What is your estimation of heavy metals + batteries that will be processed?</p> <p>What will the industrial waste consist of?</p> <p>Does toxic waste have to be sealed in containers forever?</p> <p>Where is the toxic waste being trucked out to?</p> <p>Who will independently audit the fuel used to burn to meet EPA policy?</p> <p>How does MSW + Commercial + Industrial waste meet EFW policy statement?</p> <p>Wouldn't it be better building methane capture at Lucas Heights?</p> <p>In 25 years, if there isn't enough non-recyclable waste that is cheap enough, what fuel source will you use?</p> <p>How can burning something eliminate the waste if toxic stuff comes out?</p>
<p><i>Location/Site selection</i></p>	<p>Can you tell us the locations you have looked at? List of sites?</p> <p>Why this site?</p> <p>Why not locate it on the Hume?</p> <p>Why not find land that isn't RU2? The current land RU2 zoning specifically prohibits waste and resource management facilities. Why should the community accept a prohibited facility?</p> <p>Why not find rail connection? Why is it not being built on a train line?</p> <p>Why not use an old power station that has infrastructure?</p> <p>Why not use Brickpit in Sydney at Olympic Park?</p> <p>Is there a plan to sell the land you are not using – what is the plan for the excess?</p> <p>Why so far off the freeway?</p> <p>How many of the three plants under construction are in a rural area?</p> <p>Given waste is driven from Sydney and some taken back to Sydney, why not stay in Sydney?</p> <p>Why not have waste to energy plant adjacent to where the toxic flue ash will end up?</p>

Theme	Concerns and questions
	<p>Why have you already purchased the land?</p> <p>Why did you purchase the land before it was agreed by residents?</p> <p>If this proposal doesn't get approved, where is your next site?</p> <p>What are you going to do with the land if you don't get the consent?</p> <p>What percentage of land is being taken up by the proposal? What percentage of land remaining?</p> <p>How many kilometres from Sydney until transport costs make it unviable?</p> <p>Why here and not an industrial zone?</p> <p>How can this development fall into RU2 rating?</p>
<i>Transport/Traffic/Roads</i>	<p>Are you going to lower the speed limit? Will it be kept to 60km/hr permanently?</p> <p>Is the road to be upgraded for the life of the facility?</p> <p>How much of the road will be maintained?</p> <p>Toxic flue ash being moved back to Sydney – safety of drivers?</p> <p>How do we get out of our driveways safely?</p> <p>Will trucks be B double or tri double?</p> <p>Where will trucks leave from and what direction will they take to facility?</p> <p>What is the maximum number of trucks the facility can accept?</p> <p>Why truck the waste this distance?</p> <p>Will the trucks only run during Monday to Friday?</p> <p>Will heavy vehicles operate during night-time hours?</p> <p>Is waste accepted in a 24-hour operation?</p> <p>How can you guarantee safety of ash transport?</p> <p>What is planned around back loads for trucks? Are there any plans to link with the quarry for backloads?</p> <p>How many waste trucks in and out? Ash trucks in and out?</p> <p>Will dangerous goods vehicles go past residences?</p> <p>Will the truck be sealed?</p> <p>Has there been any discussion to redesigning the overpass or having Jerrara Road widened?</p> <p>Who is responsible for Jerrara Road – Council or Multiquip?</p>

Theme	Concerns and questions
<i>Health</i>	Will all the trucks be running with GPS?
	How many people will die on Jerrara Road?
	Do you have scientific proof that this is not toxic to us?
	Does human health include mental health?
	On your website, you say the impacts on human health are “none”. What research have you done to prove this?
	Why does our health matter less than the residents of western Sydney?
<i>Technology</i>	Same proposal rejected on the basis of risk to public health by IPC, NSW Planning, NSW Water, Blacktown Council, NSW Health – why is Bungonia not at risk?
	How do truck engines run when the delivery hall is in a vacuum?
	Is the furnace gas fired from what source?
	What happens to the waste in the main furnace?
	Is there a contingency plan for breakdown, leaks, maintenance (including preventative maintenance)?
	The technology proposed for use is experimental so how can you give us figures on success?
	What type of boiler/turbine arrangement is to be used?
	How high is the stack going to be?
	Will there be a peer review of the technology?
	Will it be an open or closed loop system?
	How do you ignite the energy source so it burns?
	Why build a waste to energy plant when Europe is moving away from them?
	Is any similar facility operating elsewhere?
	How is this proposal actually transitional technology?
<i>Property values</i>	If this goes ahead, will there be compensation for the loss in land value?
	Compensation for wool contamination from emissions for loss of my organic status?
	If I test my wool fibre before the plant status-base line data - if after there is evidence, will there be compensation?
<i>Company</i>	Who are the owners of Jerrara Power? Are they Australian citizens and located in Australia?
	How is the project being financed? Who are the investors?

Theme	Concerns and questions
	Who are the company directors?
	Has anyone from Jerrara Power made political donations – local, state, federal?
	Has anyone in your company had to come before the EPA?
	What are the major elements of Jerrara Power’s revenue stream?
	Are any of the Jerrara Power team locals?
	Why didn’t “Jerrara Power” purchase the land instead of posing as an ag company? Seems suspicious
	What dollar amount per tonne does JP receive for receiving waste?
	What dollar amount for disposing of flue gas residue?
	Is Jerrara Power connected in anyway to Veolia Woodlawn? To Cleanaway? To Eastern Creek?
	Quarry industry pays per tonne for use of the road, will Jerrara Power do the same?
	How are you going to make money from the project?
	Does Jerrara Power intend to return back profits to the advancement of other technologies so we can phase (out) this archaic practice from around the world?
	Would you live near an incinerator? Would you put it in your backyard?
<i>Infrastructure</i>	Transmission line – who pays for easements and devaluation as to ‘high voltage?
	Where are the powerlines going and who will be affected? How many properties will be affected?
	Where is the substation?
	Is the substation on your property?
	How do you secure your power – ensure no power shortage that impacts automation + monitoring?
	Where does our power comes from now and where are you sending the electricity you produce?
<i>Approvals process</i>	Who is the consent authority?
	Why was energy from waste not approved in Sydney in 2018?
	Will Jerrara Power apply for a Part 3A type request to increase capacity after approval as did Multiquip?
	When was the proposal discussed in State or Federal parliaments?

Theme	Concerns and questions	
	How long has the community got to reject this?	
	Does Goulburn Mulwaree Council support the Jerrara Power proposal? What was Council's response?	
	Does the NSW Government support the Jerrara Power proposal?	
	Does the Minister for Energy support the Jerrara Power proposal?	
	Is Jerrara willing to fund the community response to EIS submissions?	
	At what points can the community provide feedback to Jerrara Power and government?	
	Who are the consultants?	
	Will the community be able to make comment on the SEARs before they are finalised?	
	Does the proposal preclude future expansion of the facility?	
	In the future, is there a plan for proposed growth on the site?	
	What is the rehabilitation plan at the end of its life?	
	If Woodlawn and Jerrara Power go ahead, does this area become a waste dump for Sydney?	
	What is the approximate timeline?	
	<i>Engagement</i>	Why was the survey done on 18-50-year-olds or not?
		How were the survey participants selected? Need to survey relevant people and not people in Marulan
		Is it just Bungonia and Marulan being consulted or all communities in the plume?
		How will Jerrara Power get back to the community with information?
		When (approx.) will the EIS be released for community comment?
		What radius from the site did you letterbox drop? Why?
		<i>Safety</i>
Can you guarantee that I'm not in the explosion zone?		
What happens if a bullet is fired at the facility? Will it explode?		
If there is an emergency or issue on site, what is the fall out from how that can impact the community?		
Security parameters for the plant -have you got a vision for security?		

Theme	Concerns and questions
<i>Operations</i>	Is there a contingency plan for breakdown, leaks, maintenance (including preventative maintenance).
	What measures will Jerrara plan conform to earthquake safety measures?
	What is the bushfire plan for the site?
	Who is maintaining the system?
	Will there be (site) illumination all night long?
	What happens in the event of a breakdown to the queues of trucks with putrescible waste?
	What happens to the waste in the main furnace?
	When will it start?
	When will it finish?
	Explain what happens to the toxic and other chemicals you mentioned. Explain the 'scrubbing of toxic waste. Where does the waste go?
	Where is the waste located when trucks arrive at the same time?
	How will 24/7 monitoring by the EPA work? Do they have SLAs on them with response times?
	How do you secure your power – ensure no power shortage that impacts automation + monitoring?
	<i>Community benefits</i>
How can Jerrara Power guarantee safety of community from day 1 and after decommission plus 10 years?	
How do you plan to demonstrate social licence?	
Are you adding to the community? Anything positive?	
What tourism will Jerrara Power provide?	
The ambulance – will based at Marulan? Why? No ambulance at Marulan?	
What temporary and permanent jobs are available for locals from within 20km?	

Objective 2 - suggestions for communication and engagement tools to be used during development of the EIS

Suggestions for improved or different communication and engagement tools were limited and time did not permit for this activity to be conducted at workshops 5 and 6.

The list of suggestions were:

- Independent statistically valid survey organised by community, using a trusted provider
- More technical content in communications
- Publication of a timetable of when technical data will be made available
- Meeting locations should be held across a wider area
- Letterbox drop to include Windellama, Mountain Ash through to Goulburn
- Posters/flyers at Bundanoon shops
- Workshops should be attended by experts including the EPA, HZI and waste and water specialists
- Every community covered by the plume from the facility needs to be represented on the CRG
- Need for regular feedback via email to stakeholders

Some participants questioned the transparency of the workshop process and asked how the notes from the workshop would be shared, would they be provided to DPIE in the Scoping Report and whether Jerrara Power could call the workshops “consultation”.

Objective 3 - input into the draft Terms of Reference for the Jerrara Power Community Reference Group (CRG)

There was limited input into the draft Terms of Reference due to time constraints. Of the suggestions received, they can be split into Objectives, Membership and Meeting Protocols. Some suggestions were received post-workshop via Facebook and email. Some suggestions conflict, for example, minutes should be recorded in point form and verbatim.

Objectives

- A channel for input for issues but not the only channel.
- 100% transparent
- Making recommendations but not decisions
- Needs to be consensus not majority approach
- No way of acknowledging different views
- Determine if Jerrara has social licence to operate in the community
- Determine if Jerrara can provide a representative site so that the community can visit, explore and understand the short/medium/long term management issues and associated risks

- Determine if Jerrara can guarantee the safety of the community and the environment from day 1 of operation until after all post closure activities have been completed
- Determine who will be independently audit the incoming waste to the facility and who will be independently auditing the emissions and outputs especially contaminated water and ash
- Determine where the proposal will be sourcing its water from and where the contaminated waste water from the site will be going
- Determine how Jerrara will manage accidents and fires with contaminated wastes at the site and on the transport routes
- Determine the expected economically viable lifespan for a proposal which claims to be a 'transition' step while technology and the market addresses waste as has happened in the USA and Europe

Membership

- CRG should be formed by invitation and expression of interest.
- Membership by expression of interest.
- Should not represent particular organisations
- Selection of members should include some for and against the proposal
- Number of members should not be limited
- A representative member from each of the towns under the plume of the site should be a minimum composition for the reference group to ensure representation of all communities to be impacted

Meeting protocols

- Meet once a month.
- Meetings held face to face and online
- Minutes should be recorded in point form
- Meetings should be live streamed
- Minutes published on the Jerrara Power website
- Meeting length and timing should be based on the requirements of the agenda and not a time limit imposed by Jerrara
- Minutes should be verbatim
- Meetings should be held in all of the towns under the plume of the site in rotation to ensure representation and access
- Meetings should be open to the community to observe and listen
- Minutes should be published on the Jerrara website and by local council
- Any community member of any of the towns under the plume can address the meeting and they can invite experienced professional and technical

representatives from outside the community to address specific concerns also.

Conclusion

The workshops met Objective 1 and allowed Jerrara Power to identify a list of community concerns and issues associated with the proposal. It was evident the community had been expecting more technical details and information than what was presented to the workshops.

The workshops also met Objective 2 and a list of suggestions for communication and engagement tools to be used during development of the EIS was collected. This will enable Jerrara Power to refine the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the next phase of the proposal.

Due to time constraints, Objective 3 - input into the draft Terms of Reference for the Jerrara Power CRG - was unable to be adequately collected. There was a suggestion from participants that this activity was too complex to address given the time allowed in the workshops where it was completed.

While sentiment across all workshops was predominantly negative, and many opposed the proposal, there was a minority that were neutral or supportive subject to Jerrara Power addressing their various issues and concerns during future phases of the proposal.

It is anticipated that the further information that will become available during the development of the EIS will address and alleviate some community issues and concerns.

It is recommended that a broader community education campaign to address misinformation and rumour complement the supply of technical information and that a timetable for the release of technical information be provided to stakeholders.

References

IAP2. (2014). *Engagement Methods*: International Association for Public Participation Australasia.



Jerrara Power

Safety | People | Environment | Community
Delivering sustainable energy solutions