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**Northern Water Supply Project
Stakeholder Reference Group Meeting
1.00pm – 2.30pm Wednesday 5 July 2023
Via MS Teams**

Meeting Presentation – Appendix A

Attendees – Appendix B

1. Welcome and introductions – Josephine Telfer

Josephine Telfer welcomed all attendees to the meeting and gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

2. Review of meeting notes from previous meeting

The minutes of the SRG meeting held on 4 May 2023 have been uploaded to [YourSay](#).

3. Review actions from previous meeting

1. *Provide feedback on the draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan to Josephine Telfer.*
No feedback received.

4. Project Update

Project - Mike Morgan

- The Business Case has been submitted to Cabinet and we are currently awaiting a decision to proceed until the next phase. While there is no indication yet of the timeframe for a decision, the recent State Budget did include a funding allocation to progress the Northern Water project.
- Discussions with the Commonwealth Government and other water users regarding funding are ongoing.
- A number of water users (in addition to those previously identified) have expressed interest in becoming involved in the project including two in the hydrogen sector and one junior mining company.
- The project team has been working with SA Water on the options at Port Lincoln. The primary issue is that Port Lincoln require water in 2025 while the final investment decision around whether the project will proceed or not for the Northern Water project is not due until early 2025 with first water in 2027 (but full supply not anticipated until early 2028).
- Subject to Cabinet approval, Expression of Interest documentation will be released around August for procurement of the project's major components of design, construction, operation and maintenance. A number of businesses and companies have already expressed interest in being involved with the project and establishing a presence in South Australia which is a positive early sign for jobs and employment in the State.

Environmental Studies - Antony Lockyer

- Studies and investigations have commenced at Cape Hardy including water quality sampling, underwater and shoreline mapping, and the establishment of recording and monitoring equipment.

Land and Property Access – Alecia Wright

- The first round of consultation with land holders from Mullaquana to Roxby Downs has largely been completed. Consultation with landholders south of Mullaquana to Cape Hardy is due to commence in the next 2-3 weeks.
- New properties include cropping land, Crown Land and unmade road reserves. The key objective is to avoid and/or be able to rehabilitate native vegetation as much as possible.
- Discussions are progressing with both Barngarla and Kokatha representatives.

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Stakeholder Engagement – Josephine Telfer

- The Stakeholder Engagement Summary report has been released and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be finalised shortly.
- A multi-criteria analysis workshop will be held for the Cape Hardy site as per the MCA workshop to score the other three sites. For consistency, the same participants have been invited to attend.

Questions

What preferred location(s) was presented in the Business Case?

- Both Mullaquana and Cape Hardy were presented as options in the Business Case and highlighted the opportunities and risks of both locations, while also acknowledging that the assessment of the Cape Hardy site and stakeholder engagement is not as advanced as Mullaquana.

How would a delay with the Cabinet decision impact the timeline for project completion?

- At this stage, there would be no significant impact on the timeline. First water is still expected towards the end of 2027 and practical completion in early 2028.

Will the two sites, Cape Hardy and Mullaquana, work in conjunction for desalination?

- It is likely that one or the other will be selected as the main site.
- If Cape Hardy is selected, some of the pipeline and minor works may cut in towards Mullaquana.

What type of land is being acquired, how is it valued and will there be compulsory acquisition?

- There is a mix of freehold and pastoral lease land under consideration.
- There is no standard acquisition rate. An independent valuation of each parcel of land will be undertaken with full consultation and negotiation with land holders.
- Compulsory acquisition is not the preferred approach at this stage, with the initial approach for all properties being to negotiate a fair settlement with land holders. Compulsory acquisition will only be considered if absolutely necessary and will require State Government approval.

Will the pipeline be completely underground?

- The current plan for pipeline construction is that the pipeline will be underground wherever possible, , with the exception of topography, rock, cultural heritage or other constraints which may require sections above ground.
- Ongoing cultural heritage, topography and geotechnic surveys and reports will provide further information on other locations where it may not be feasible to retain the pipeline underground.
- It was suggested that an overview of the proposed pipeline and route be presented to the SRG at a future meeting.

What is the estimated cost of the pipeline?

- The pipeline will cost approximately \$2m per kilometre.
- There may also be some above ground transmission lines required at additional cost.

5. Northern Water ESG Framework Discussion – Stephanie Hensgen

With sustainability such a key factor and focus for the project, an ESG Framework is critical to demonstrating commitment to ESG and embedding ESG principles in the project in the following areas:

- Strategic direction
- Clear targets - short, medium and long term
- Reputation

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- Transparent reporting

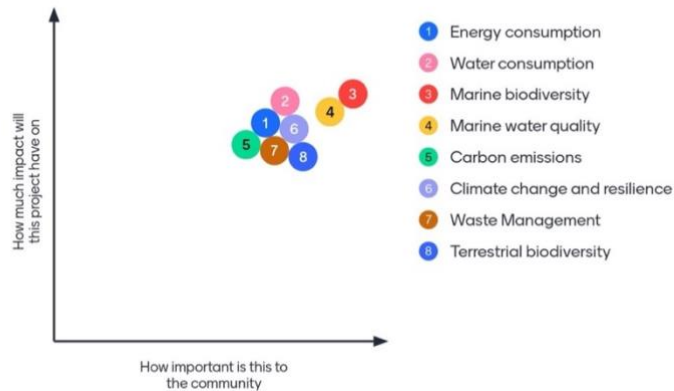
The SRG were asked to consider a range of potential elements of an ESG Framework and to provide feedback in the form of a 1-10 ranking to the two questions below in relation to these elements. Mentimeter was used to collate this feedback and the results are shown below.

Questions

How important is this to the community?

How much impact will this project have on ...?

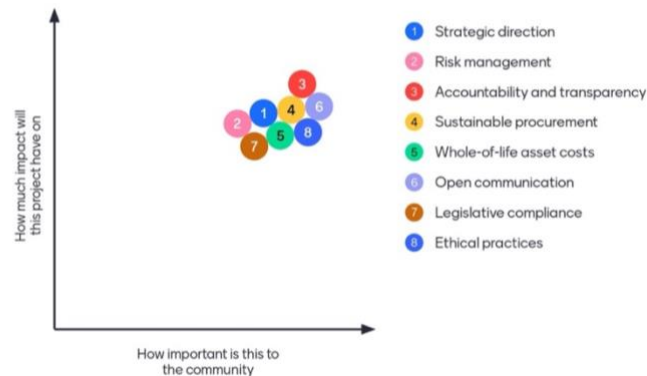
Environment



Social



Governance



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The SRG discussed the results and noted that it will be important to obtain feedback from the broader community on these matters to understand their priorities as well. When engaging with the community it will also be important to differentiate between the importance of these matters generally and the importance of these matters specifically in relation to the project.

The information gathered will now be analysed by the project team and used to inform the development of baseline and stretch ESG targets and strategies to guide the project through planning and assessment, design and construction. It was suggested that the project team consult with SRG members regarding the rationale for the ranking of the ESG elements if there are any surprising results or further information required.

Questions

How will the EOI procurement documentation speak to the ESG opportunities and/or expectations regarding brine discharge and management?

- While the EOI documentation will reference that the project has ESG targets and strategies, the primary purpose with this stage of the procurement documentation is to establish the overarching principles and objectives of the project and to gather information regarding the major project deliverables and financial capabilities of potential contractors and companies.

6. Community Engagement Activities – Josephine Telfer

Josephine Telfer provided an overview of the project timeframe and upcoming community engagement opportunities.

The project is now in the Planning and Assessment phase (2023-2024) which involves, firstly, conducting the EIA Studies and investigating and assessing items raised by stakeholders and the community, and secondly, the analysis of the EIA Findings and how these will be used to inform and manage construction and operation.

There are a number of community events and activities throughout 2023-24 that present the opportunity for community engagement and to raise awareness of the project. There are also a number of potential community drop in locations at which project information can be displayed. These are in addition to the permanent presence that will be set up at the Office of Hydrogen Projects in Whyalla.

During the second half of 2023, there will also be presentations offered to community groups and local agencies, as well as the membership groups of the SRG.

7. Other Business

Nil

MEETING ACTIONS

1. Pipeline overview to be presented at a future SRG meeting.
2. SRG members to advise the project team of any other potential events, activities or community drop in locations.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the **Adelaide Desalination Plant (date TBC)** and will include a tour of the site.

5 July 2023

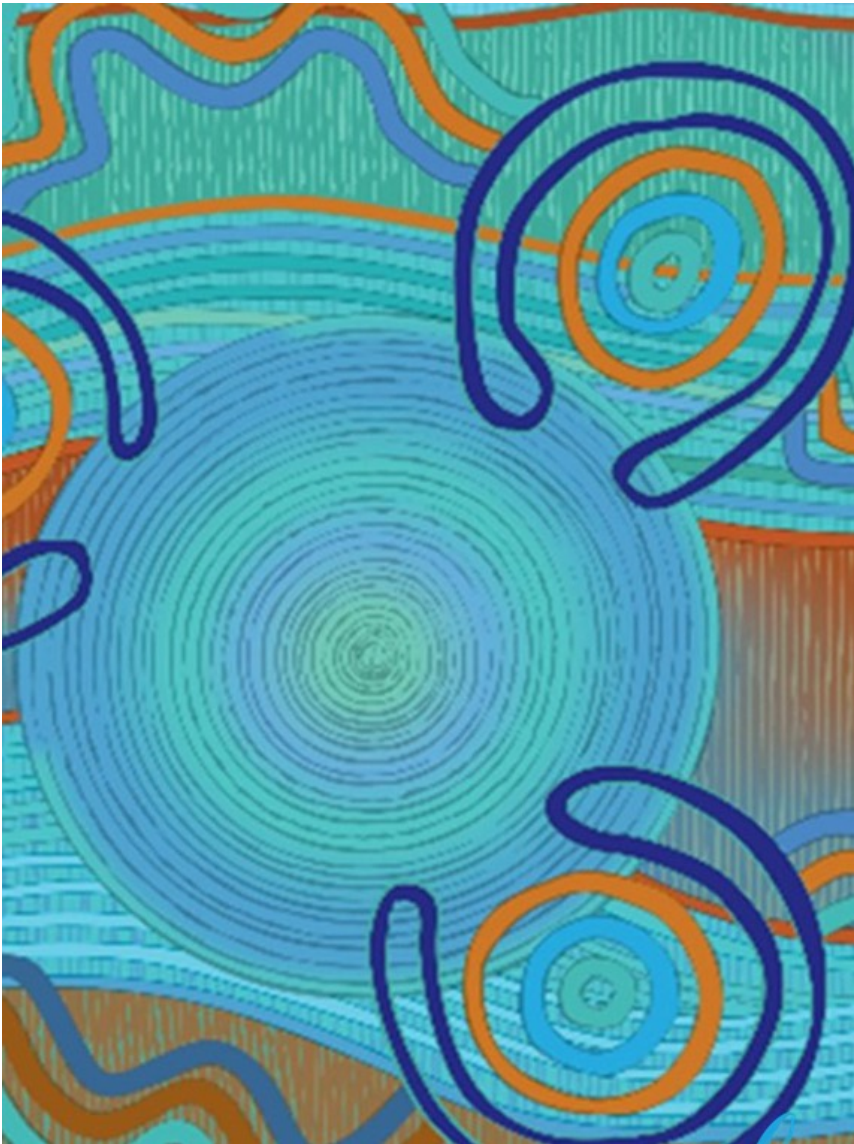
Stakeholder Reference Group



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Acknowledgement of Country

We pay our respects to Community and to Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise the unique place held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original custodians of Australia's lands and waterways, with histories of continuous connection dating back to the beginning of the Dreaming.



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Agenda

Topic	Presenter
Welcome and introductions	Josephine
Review of meeting notes from previous meeting	Josephine
Review actions from last meeting	Josephine
Project Update	Mike
Northern Water ESG framework discussion	Stephanie
Community Engagement Activities	Lauren/Jo
Other Business	All
Next Meeting	

Project update

Mike Morgan





ESG

Environment Social Governance



Environment

Sustainability, resilience and resource efficiency



Social

Social responsibility, respect and workforce management



Governance

Ethical and responsible management and decision making



Why does Northern Water need an ESG framework?

An ESG framework drives a long-term sustainable future

A sustainable water supply for northern South Australia is a key objective of the Northern Water project. To achieve this, sustainability must be integrated into the project for the long term.

Strategic direction

An ESG framework sets clear sustainability directions for an organisation

Clear targets

An ESG framework will have set targets for the project to achieve for the short, medium and long term

Reputation

An ESG framework can attract ethical investors and increase an organisation's reputation

Transparent reporting

An ESG framework will include regular public reporting against targets to ensure accountability



Potential elements of an ESG Framework

Environment

Energy consumption

Water consumption

Marine biodiversity

Marine water quality

Carbon emissions

Climate change and hazard resilience

Waste management

Terrestrial biodiversity





Potential elements of an ESG Framework

Social

Native Title and Traditional Ownership

Heritage and culture

Sense of place and belonging

Local employment

Local investment/spend

Health and safety

Liveable communities

Water supply quality and affordability



Potential elements of an ESG Framework

Governance

Strategic direction

Risk management

Accountability and transparency

Sustainable procurement

Whole-of-life asset costs

Open communication

Legislative compliance

Ethical practices



Aligning ESG targets to community expectations

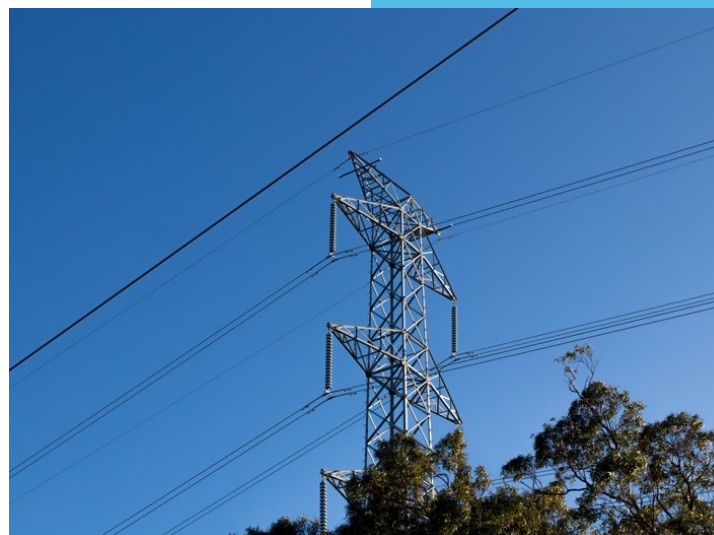
Community-focused ESG targets ensures that an organisation invests in (and reports against) the targets that matter most to the community

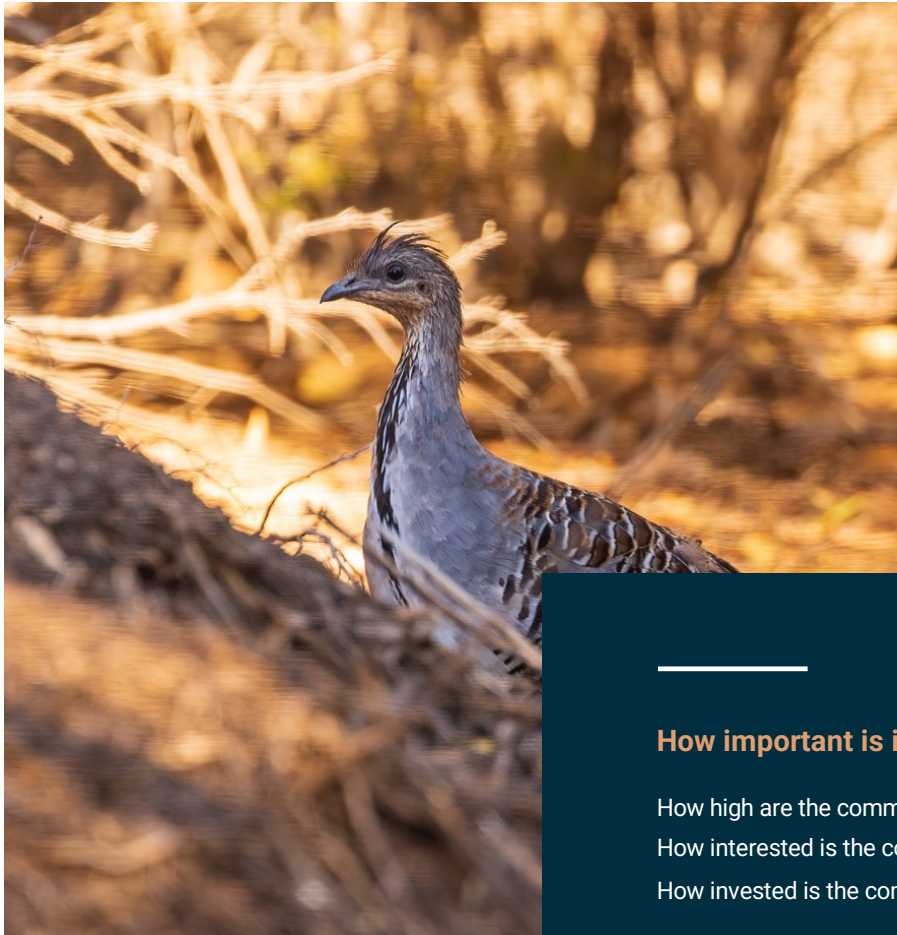
Prioritisation

Which issues are most important to the community
AND
which issues is the Northern Water most able to influence?

Potential targets

For high-priority issues, what are some of the minimum and stretch targets that the project could consider?





Discussion #1

Priorities for an ESG framework

Investing in issues that are of greatest importance to the community AND are areas where the project can have the greatest influence will help drive sustainable outcomes

How important is it to the community?

How high are the community's expectations?
How interested is the community in regular reporting?
How invested is the community?

HIGH – MEDIUM – LOW

How much influence can the project have?

How much difference can the project make?
How much impact does the project have?
How important is it to the project's goals?

HIGH – MEDIUM – LOW

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 Mentimeter

Instructions

Go to

www.menti.com

Enter the code

5871 1862



Or use QR code



Importance and impact



Low importance
High impact

High importance
High impact

Low importance
Low impact

High importance
Low impact



Area of greatest focus:

- *Of highest importance to the community*
- AND**
- *Where the project has the greatest impact*



What will we do with this information?

Next steps

Potential ESG targets and strategies will be developed to guide Northern Water through planning and assessment, design, and construction.



Base targets

What are the baseline acceptable minimums?



Stretch targets

What stretch targets could we investigate to meet or exceed community expectations?

Engagement activities



Project phases

WE ARE HERE

OVERALL PROJECT
TIMEFRAME PHASES

2022-2023
BUSINESS CASE

2023-2024
PLANNING & ASSESSMENT

2024-2028
DETAILED DESIGN &
CONSTRUCTION
(subject to approvals)

2028 ONWARDS
OPERATION &
MAINTENANCE

Business Case

EIA Studies
(Pre-EIS* engagement)

EIA Findings
(Post-EIS* engagement)

Construction

Operation &
Maintenance



COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION
TOPICS

"What needs to be
considered when
assessing the project"

"How we are investigating
items raised so we can
understand and assess
them"

"What our studies have
found and how we plan
to manage construction
and operation"

"What is being built and
how does construction
interact with community
and the environment"

"Ongoing engagement,
monitoring and reporting"



Planning and Assessment

Pre-EIS engagement – August to December 2023

Community Road Show

Community briefings

Online engagement

Stakeholder Reference Group

Technical Working Group

SRG ADP Tour

EIA Studies (Pre-EIS* engagement)



“How we are investigating
items raised so we can
understand and assess
them”





Potential engagement events

August-December 2023

August 2023

GMUSG Conference, Port Augusta
Whyalla Show

October 2023

Roxby World Food and Music Festival
Cleve Show

December 2023

September 2023

Royal Adelaide Show
Yorke Peninsula Field Days

November 2023

Roxby Twilight Market

2024 onwards

Under the Pines Twilight Market
Yallunda Flat Show
Colour Tumby Festival
Cummins Shor and Ag Fair
Port Lincoln Show
EP Field Days, Cleve
Arno Bay Community Auction



Potential community drop in locations

Tumby Bay Football and Netball Clubrooms

Port Neil Community Sports Association

Tumby Bay Library

Eldo Hotel Woomera

Whyalla Lions BBQ

Others to be identified



Potential community presentations

During the second half of 2023, Northern Water will be engaging and offering presentations to community groups



Community groups

Progress Associations
Resident and Ratepayer Associations
Coastcare groups
Landcare groups
Resident Groups
Marine environment groups
Friends of groups
Business and Tourism Associations

Local agencies and boards

Local Councils
RDAs
Landscape Boards
Traditional Owners

ADP Tour

Stakeholder Reference Group



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Thank You



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APPENDIX B

Northern Water Supply Project

SRG Meeting Attendees

5 July 2023

Stakeholders

Allan Hall	RecFish SA
Shane Hodgens	RecFish SA
Andrew Padgett	Regional Development Australia Far North
Barry Fryar	Department for Environment and Water (DEW) - Crown Lands SA
Craig Wilkins	Conservation Council of South Australia
Joe Calvert	Outback Communities Authority
John Banks	Port Augusta City Council
Justin Commons	Whyalla City Council
Jade Ballantine	Whyalla City Council
Sean Kelly	Whyalla City Council
Katrina Pobke	DEW - Eyre Far & West/National Parks and Wildlife Services
Kelly Pyke-Tape	Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association
Mick Cresshull	PIRSA - Fisheries and Aquaculture/Whyalla Business and Tourism
Pat Tripodi	Marine Fishers Association of South Australia
Peter Scott	Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association
Roy Blight	Roxby Council
Shane Roberts	PIRSA
Steve Reynolds	Marine Life Society of South Australia
Damian Windsor	Tumby Bay Council
Louise Foote	Global Maintenance USG
Tim Breuer	Landscape SA (Eyre Peninsula)

Project Team

Josephine Telfer	InfrastructureSA	Facilitator and Stakeholder Engagement Lead, NWS
Alecia Wright	InfrastructureSA	Manager Land Approvals and Land Access, NWS
Mike Morgan	InfrastructureSA	Project Director, NWS
Lauren Gardener	InfrastructureSA	
Antony Lockyer	InfrastructureSA	
Steph Hensgen	InfrastructureSA	Stakeholder Engagement Advisor
Sarah-Jane Arnold	Rise & Scribe	Records Management