

DRAFT

meeting minutes

Meeting	NorthConnex Air Quality Community Consultative Committee (AQCCC)	Meeting No.	18
Location	Online meeting	Time & Date	Monday 29 November 2021 5:00pm – 5:40pm
Independent Chair / minutes	Abigail Goldberg		
Attendees:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AQCCC community representative: Edward Caruana AQCCC community representative: Patricia Macloud AQCCC community representative: Graham Strauss The Hills Shire Council representative: Daniel Giffney (Environmental Health Coordinator) Hornsby Shire Council representative: Nichola Clarke (Environment Protection Manager) 		
Committee members			
In attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport for NSW Operations Manager – NorthConnex and M7: Sonja Shand NorthWestern Roads Safety, Environment and Stakeholder Manager: Daniel Lovett NorthConnex Project Co. Environment Manager: Scott Tinsley NorthWestern Roads Community and Stakeholder Specialist: Tracey Baker 		
Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AQCCC community representative: Frank Hutchinson Ku-ring-gai Council representative: Anne Seaton (Manager, Compliance & Regulation) Parramatta City Council representative: Stuart Pike (Team Leader, Health) Transurban Community Engagement Advisor (Operations): Raj Barot 		

Item	Subject	Action
1.0	<p>Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country</p> <p>The meeting was opened at 5:05pm, when the Chair welcomed participants. Apologies were recorded.</p> <p>Minutes of previous meeting and action items</p> <p>As no comments had been received regarding the Draft Minutes from the previous meeting, it was agreed that these could be finalised.</p> <p>The following action item will be addressed at this meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Update to be provided for Members once real time ventilation outlet air quality data becomes available.</i></p> <p>Declaration of interests</p> <p>The Chair invited any declarations of interest. No declarations were put forward.</p>	<p>Chair to issue final Minutes from preceding meeting.</p>

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2.0	<p>Project progress update</p> <p>Extension of ambient air quality monitoring stations leases:</p> <p>Ms Shand advised that the leases for the ambient air quality monitoring stations, which are located within The Hills and Hornsby local government areas, have been renewed for a year, with the option of further renewal if needed.</p> <p><i>Key points of discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members requested advice on how long the ambient air quality monitoring stations were expected to remain operational. Ms Shand advised that the ambient air quality monitoring stations were required to be in place for at least two years after the tunnel opening, which is why the leases have been renewed for a further year. Prior to the two year period expiring, discussion with the AQCCC, and subsequent liaison with the EPA, would be required. It was agreed that a preliminary review of data trends and emerging issues, if any, would be presented to the AQCCC for discussion at the next meeting, which is scheduled for 28 February 2022. The EPA may be invited as an observer to a subsequent meeting to hear the views of the AQCCC. <p>First year of operations:</p> <p>Mr Lovett noted that the first year of operations had been commemorated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A newsletter sent to the community Media reporting, in particular Channel 9 Attendance of Federal MP (Julian Lesser) on-site for the event, including a cake cutting ceremony. 	<p>Preliminary review of ambient air quality monitoring stations data trends to be presented at the February meeting.</p> <p>This meeting to also consider whether EPA are to be invited as an observer to a subsequent meeting to hear the views of the AQCCC.</p> <p>The newsletter is included with the Minutes. The PDF will be posted imminently, and will then be available at https://www.northconnex.com.au/</p>
3.0	<p>Environment Protection Licence (EPL) update</p> <p>Mr Tinsley reported that the Annual Report regarding the EPL had been submitted to the EPA. No feedback has yet been received.</p>	
4.0	<p>Air quality – operational performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceedance events: <p>Mr Tinsley advised that exceedances of NO₂ had been recorded on 5 and 8 November at the ventilation outlet (not within the tunnel). The exceedances were reviewed by the independent air quality expert and found to be the result of an instrument fault. The instrument at fault has since been replaced.</p> <p>Mr Lovett advised that the report that analyses and assesses the root cause of the air quality exceedances will be placed on the NorthConnex website in due course.</p> <p>Monitoring concerns:</p> <p>Mr Lovett noted that the difficulties with <u>real-time</u> reporting for the ventilation outlet air quality remain ongoing. He confirmed that air quality data is being captured but remains unavailable on the project website on a live basis. The underlying concern</p>	<p>Update to be provided for Members once real time ventilation outlet air quality data becomes available.</p>

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	<p>continues to relate to a project defect, resolution of which continues to be negotiated with the contractor.</p> <p><i>Key points of discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The characteristics of data peaks was discussed. 	
<p>5.0</p>	<p>Other business</p> <p>Members requested feedback as to whether the number of heavy vehicles using the Pacific Highway and Pennant Hills Road has decreased.</p> <p>Ms Shand advised that a 'traffic viewer' was in place on the Pacific Highway which indicated no increase in heavy vehicles using the road. The data did however reflect a decrease in light vehicles during the period of Covid shutdowns, which may lead to the perception of there being more heavy vehicles. The link to this viewer is public and can be accessed at (Traffic Volume Viewer (nsw.gov.au)).</p> <p>In relation to Pennant Hills Road, fines are being actively issued to heavy vehicles using the road, which appears to be effective as a deterrent. Noted however that oversize trucks and heavy vehicles carrying dangerous goods are not allowed to use the tunnels so remain on surface roads.</p> <p>The meeting schedule for 2022 was agreed as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28 February 2022 23 May 2022 29 August 2022 28 November 2022 <p>Members requested a return to site visits when the situation permitted.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 5:40pm. The Chair thanked Members for their participation.</p>	<p>Members to diarise meeting dates.</p> <p>Request for a return to site visits noted.</p>