

F.1 Regulatory requirements

Engagement has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the SSD Engagement Guidelines (2021) and the Project SEARs. Table F.1 demonstrates engagement was consistent with the community participation objectives in the SSD Engagement Guidelines.

All Sections and Tables described below relate to Chapter 6: Engagement.

 Table F.1
 Compliance with community participation objectives

Community participation objectives	Compliance	
Identify the people or groups who are interested in or are likely to be affected by the project.	Interested and affected parties for the Project are summarised in Section 6.3.	
Use appropriate engagement techniques. This is particularly important when engaging with specific groups, such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups, where engagement should be a discrete, planned activity undertaken by and with experienced Indigenous engagement specialist.	A number of different and complementary engagement techniques were adopted for the EIS consultation program as discussed in Section 6.4 and Table 6.3. Section 6.8.2 provides a summary of engagement with Aboriginal groups for the purpose of the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment.	
Ensure the community are provided with safe, respectful and inclusive opportunities to express their views.	A number of different and complementary engagement techniques were adopted for the EIS consultation program as discussed in Section 6.4 and Table 6.3.	
Involve the community, councils and government agencies early in the development of the proposal, to enable their views to be considered in project planning and design.	CGO has been building a local presence in the region since 2015 using a range of engagement mechanisms to consult with local landholders, neighbouring property owners, local councils, community groups and local service providers. Section 6.6 describes how the community and other stakeholders have been involved in the EIS engagement process with further detail provided in Section F.2 and F.3 of this Appendix.	
Be innovative in their engagement approach and tailor engagement activities to suit the context, scale and nature of the Project.	A number of different and complementary engagement techniques were adopted for the EIS consultation program as discussed in Section 6.4 and Table 6.3.	
Provide clear and concise information about what is proposed and the likely impacts for the relevant people or group they are engaging with.	The Project description is provided in Chapter 4, and a summary of impacts in Chapter 7. Community information sessions were held for the Project by CGO, in which information on the Project was provided to the community.	
Clearly outline how and when the community can be involved in the process.	As described in Section 6.4, a website, email address, and telephone hotline were established for the Project. In addition to providing regular updates on the Project and links to key Project documents, the website details opportunities for participation.	
	Section 6.6 describes the various methods CGO has adopted to keep the community informed of opportunities for participation in the EIS process. Section 6.9 describes how CGO proposes to engage with the community as the Project progresses.	
Make it easy for the community to access information and provide feedback.	Section 6.4 describes the various tools used to provide the community an opportunity to provide feedback.	
Seek to understand issues of concern for all affected people and groups and respond appropriately to those concerns.	Section 6.9.3 outlines the existing CGO enquiry management system which will be maintained for the life of the Project.	
Provide feedback about how community and stakeholder views were used to shape the Project or considered in making decisions.	Section 6.7 describes how feedback from community engagement was considered in the Project design and Project refinement process.	

 Table F.1
 Compliance with community participation objectives

Community participation objectives	Compliance
Be able to demonstrate how the demography of the area affected has been considered in how and what engagement activities have been undertaken.	The SIA social baseline (Appendix M) informed the development of the SIA field study program and targeted engagement with stakeholders (ie social housing providers, short-term accommodation providers, health care providers).

F.2 Scoping phase engagement

Early, targeted consultation was undertaken with key stakeholders as part of the Project Scoping phase. Consultation undertaken during the Scoping phase was presented in the Project's Scoping Report. Table F.2 provides a summary of Project introduction briefings and community information sessions held during the March 2022 Scoping phase.

Table F.2 Summary of Scoping Phase engagement

Stakeholder group	Methods of engagement	Timing	Purpose of engagement
NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)	CorrespondenceOnline meeting	• March 2022	Project introduction briefingDetails on key technical matters
Department of Regional NSW Wining, Exploration and Geoscience Department (MEG) Resources Regulator	CorrespondenceIn-person meeting	• March 2022	Project introduction meeting and site visit
Heritage NSW	CorrespondenceOnline meeting	• March 2022	Project introduction briefing – outline of ACHA methodology and RAP details provide
Local elected representatives MP Phil Donato, MP for Orange (includes constituents in Forbes)	Online	• March 2022	 Project introduction briefing and presentation Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
ocal Councils Bland Shire Council Forbes Shire Council Lachlan Shire Council	MeetingOnline/in person	 Bland Shire Council, 29 March 2022 (online) Forbes Shire Council, 24 March 2022 (in-person) Lachlan Shire Council, 25 March 2022 (in person) 	 Project introduction briefing and presentation Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
CEMCC	Online meeting	• 9 March 2022	 ,Project introduction briefing and presentation Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

 Table F.2
 Summary of Scoping Phase engagement

Stakeholder group	Methods of engagement	Timing	Purpose of engagement
Special interest/ community groups • Lake Cowal Conservation Centre • Lake Cowal Foundation	In person meeting	• 21-25 March 2022	 Project introduction briefing and presentation Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
Service providers Jemalong Irrigation Ltd	In person meeting	• 24 March 2022	 Project introduction briefing and presentation Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
Directly affected landowners	Online/in person meetings Phone discussions	• 21-25 March 2022	 Project introduction briefing Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
Broader community	 Community Information Sessions In person: - West Wyalong - Condobolin - Forbes 	 21 March 2022 - West Wyalong: 2 attendees 21 March 2022 - Condobolin: 0 attendees 22 March 2022 - Forbes: 3 attendees 	 Project introduction and discussion Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
Broader community	Community Information SessionOnline	• 22 March 2022 Cancelled due to NIL registrations.	 Project introduction and presentation Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

F.3 EIS phase engagement

Engagement with identified key stakeholders continued from the Scoping phase and was ongoing throughout the development of the EIS between June 2022 – March 2023. Stakeholder engagement and interactions were recorded using Simply Stakeholders, as part of storing stakeholder information in accordance with *The Privacy Act* (1988) and recording, monitoring and closing out key project issues, to be addressed in the EIS.

F.3.1 Community stakeholders

Table F.3 provides a summary of the consultation activities undertaken with directly and indirectly affected landowners, other key stakeholders, local business, local Councils and the broader community using the engagement tools described in Chapter 6: Engagement.

Table F.3 EIS engagement overview – Community

Stakeholder/group	Methods of engagement	Timing	Purpose of engagement
Directly affected landowners Buttenshaw Dent Duff Lee Low Mattiske Trojel West	 Direct phone calls and correspondence Individual and grouped project update briefings Project comms channels Project newsletter Project website 	Comms and Engagement Oct 2022, March 2023 Comms only July 2022, Dec 2022	 Ongoing project updates. Provision of OPC property specific information. Overview of environmental studies and assessment outcomes. Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
Registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs') including: • Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation (WCC) • West Wyalong LALC	 Direct phone calls and correspondence Group consultation /workshop/focus group meetings Collaborative field work Group project update briefings Project comms channels Project newsletter Project website 	March 2022 – April 2023	 Update about Project progress. Notification of Project proposal and registration of interest. Presentation of information about the Project. Gathering information about cultural significance and values Review of draft cultural heritage assessment report. Provide an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
Special interest/community groups including: CEMCC Lake Cowal Conservation Centre Bland Creek Paleo Channel Group Lake Cowal Foundation	 Direct phone calls and correspondence Group project update briefings Project comms channels Project newsletter Project website 	Comms and Engagement Oct 2022, March 2023 Comms July 2022, Dec 2022	 Project update presentations. Overview of environmental studies and assessment outcomes. Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
Service provider/business groups including: • Jemalong Irrigation Pty Ltd	 Direct phone calls and correspondence Group project update briefings Project comms channels Project newsletter 	Comms and Engagement Oct 2022 March 2023 Comms only July 2022	 Project update presentations. Overview of environmental studies and assessment outcomes. Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

Table F.3 EIS engagement overview – Community

Stakeholder/group	Methods of engagement	Timing	Purpose of engagement
Business West Wyalong	Project website	Dec 2022	
Indirectly affected landowners/regional business	Project comms channelsProject newsletterProject webpage	Comms July 2022 Oct 2022Dec 2022March 2023	 Ongoing project updates. Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions via comms channels.
Broader community	Community Information SessionIn person	29 March 2023 – West Wyalong (2 attendees)	 Overview of environmental studies and assessment outcomes. Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.
Broader community	Community Information SessionOnline	Thursday 6 April 2023 (3 attendees)	 Overview of environmental studies and assessment outcomes. Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

F.3.2 Government agencies and regulators

Table F.4 provides a summary of the consultation activities undertaken with regulators and government agencies using the engagement tools described in Chapter 6: Engagement.

Table F.4 EIS engagement overview – Government agencies and regulators

Stakeholder/group	Method of engagement	Timing	Purpose of engagement
NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)	Correspondence Meetings	EIS Phase	Scoping meeting SEARs agency briefing Project updates and briefings on key technical matters Project refinements (i.e E46 backfill design)
Commonwealth Department Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Correspondence Meeting Site visit	EIS Phase	EPBC pre referral meeting Site visit during referral determination
NSW DPE Water	Correspondence Meeting	EIS Phase	SEARs agency briefing Water licensing Approach to groundwater impact assessment
Department of Regional NSW Mining, Exploration and Geoscience Department (MEG) Resources Regulator	Correspondence Meeting	EIS Phase	SEARs agency briefing Project refinements (E46 Backfill design) Resources and economic assessment meeting.
Environment Protection Authority (EPA)	Meeting	EIS Phase	SEARs agency briefing
NSW Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)	Correspondence Meetings	EIS Phase	SEARs agency briefing Approach to BDAR due to inundation of Lake Cowal.
Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries (DPI Fisheries)	Meeting	EIS Phase	SEARs agency briefing
Local Land Services	Correspondence Meeting	EIS Phase	Project introduction briefing.
Heritage NSW	Correspondence Meetings	EIS Phase	Project update briefing Notification of Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment test excavations Overview of Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report consultation and study outcomes.
Transport for NSW	Meeting Correspondence	EIS Phase	SEARs agency briefing Correspondence regarding disused rail corridor.

Table F.4 EIS engagement overview – Government agencies and regulators

Stakeholder/group	Method of engagement	Timing	Purpose of engagement
NSW Biodiversity Credit Supply Taskforce	Correspondence Meetings	EIS Phase	Establishment of stewardship sites.
NSW Dam Safety	Correspondence	EIS Phase	IWL and LPB design
Elected representatives including: MP Steph Cooke	Correspondence Online Project update briefings	<u>Comms only</u> July 2022Oct 2022Dec 2022 March 2023	Project introduction and update briefings Discussion re: project benefits and concerns.
Local Government including GM/Mayor/Councillors of: Bland Shire Council Forbes Shire Council Lachlan Shire Council	Correspondence In-person and online Project update briefings	Comms and Engagement Oct 2022 March 2023 Comms July 2022 Dec 2022	Project introduction and update briefings SIA engagement Discussion re: Project benefits and concerns.