

**Keepit Dam Upgrade Project
Community Construction Liaison Group (CCLG) Meeting**

***Thursday, 4 February 2010
State Water Conference Room
Keepit Dam***

FINAL MINUTES

Attendees:

State Water (Chairperson)	-	Jacinta Holmick (Acting)
Keepit State Park	-	Scott Taylor
Keepit State Park Trust	-	Neville Lemon
Lake Keepit Kiosk	-	Allan Dow
Lake Keepit Sailing Club	-	Ian Pine
Landowner	-	John Clarke
Lake Keepit Sport & Rec Centre	-	George Gardiner
Landowner	-	Marie Lyne
Landowner	-	Justin Flannery
John Holland	-	Ivan Karaban
	-	Phil Mouton
	-	James Barraclough
	-	Sunny Singh
NSW Public Works	-	Geoff Chenhall
	-	Ray Sayad
	-	Nathan Thillainathan
Soil Conservation Service	-	Brett Hanly
Department of Lands	-	Scott Stanton
State Water	-	Roy Bergseng
	-	Russell Sainsbury
	-	Jennifer Liebenberg (Secretary)
	-	Jane Urquart

Apologies:

State Water	-	Frank Kinnas
Tamworth Regional Council	-	Clr Phil Betts
Gunnedah Shire Council	-	Clr Tim Duddy
DECCW North West	-	Stephen O' Donoghue
Lake Keepit Family Fishing Club	-	Robert Steel
Lake Keepit Sport & Rec Centre	-	John White
Lake Keepit Soaring Club	-	Wendy Medlicott
Landowner	-	Geoffrey Sim

Meeting opened 10:30am

1. Welcome, introductions, apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the 2nd CCLG meeting, introduced the new attendees and read out the apologies.

As there were quite a few new attendees the chair suggested that we do a quick round the table introductions.

The Chair went through the process for today's meetings

2. Acceptance of the previous minutes & review of actions

Changes: (1) Richard Bieman attended the meeting instead of Neville Lemon and (2) the name of the group was changed from CLCG to CCLG.

The minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the previous meeting.

Actions 2 – 5 completed satisfactorily and action 1 was not complete and will be included in this meetings actions (see action 6).

3. Project Manager Project Summary Status

Roy gave a presentation to the group giving some background for those who were not at the previous meeting. Noted that Option B1 has been adopted by State Water and this consists of:

- 3.4m raising of the main dam wall, the gates will remain unchanged
- raising the concrete decking to allow additional surcharge during storm events, however will not be increasing the full supply level.
- raising the left hand abutment 3.4m
- new 200m fuseplug spillway at the right hand abutment (extreme storm events)
- Subwall ends raising by 3.4m
- 400m fuseplugs Spillway in the middle of the subwall with a concrete apron in the front. 1/10,000 AEP event for 1st bay to trigger and 1/500,00 AEP for last bay.
- Peninsula shaping was allowed for in the concepts but is no longer required.
- Program for Work Package 2 – Mar 2011 to Mar 2013

Split Rock will have a parapet wall build onto the spillway similar to that which was done at the Chaffey Dam, which will avoid cascading water in the event of a flood that could fail Keepit Dam. These works will be done parallel with Keepit Dam construction and the contracts will be awarded shortly.

4. Construction Status and Work Summary

a) Main Work Packages

The works are broken up into two main work packages to facilitate construction.

Work Package 1 involving constructing the two spillways and caravan park saddle dam has recently been awarded to John Holland P/L (appx \$40M)

Work package 2 – detailed design to commence shortly. This package consists of the main dam wall raising, post tensioning, and will also include the multi level offtake. The Multi Level Offtake will address cold water pollution and minimise downstream impacts.

An additional environmental requirement is fishways at three downstream weirs. Fishways at Mollee, Gunidgera, and Weeta Weirs are estimated at \$18m with 50/50 cost sharing by customer and the New South Wales Government as per IPART ruling.

b) Minor Contracts

- Boom Lines with lights – completed
- 2 minor roads and saddle dams – Soil Conservation Services appointed, work underway
- Safety Fencing of Works – Disher's Fencing appointed, work due to be complete Feb 2010
- Site Offices and Meeting Room– erected by State Water, complete Nov 2009
- Caravan Park relocation – due for completion Sept 2010
- Other State Park Works – due for completion by end 2010

c) Discussion on blasting

Low probability of fly rock. There will be an exclusion zone of approx 1km radius, with safety protocols and pre-warning system in place. State Water will be appointing an independent blasting specialist to review John Holland's blasting plan.

Blasting area has been secured by

- Boom lines – these are to ensure safety so that boats can not get into the areas affected by construction and in particular the blasting area. The 1st boom line encloses the bay area in front of the main dam wall, from the north headland to a point just west of the existing boat ramp the 2nd boom line runs from headland to headland across the small Bay area just to the north of the dam wall.
- Fencing – Manproof fencing to secure the construction areas including the Dam and the headland immediately to the north.

d) Discussion on haul road

Soil Conservation has constructed a temporary haul road on State Park land to minimise use of Keepit Dam Rd. The group members expressed concern about heavy traffic on Keepit Dam Rd and suggested that John Holland adopt a similar approach. John Holland will investigate this option and provide an update at the next meeting.

e) Minor Work Package 1 Contract Status

Brett Hanly reported that Soil Conservation has commenced the Minor Work 1 contract. Survey and services relocation have been undertaken with work on the connector roads due to commence on 8 Feb. An ecologist will visit the site on 15 Feb, their role is to ensure that no unauthorised clearing takes place.

It will not be possible to provide safe public access through to the boat ramp whilst the Sailing Club saddle dam is being constructed. Therefore the boat ramp will be closed for around three weeks. Access to the boat ramp will be maintained during construction of the boat ramp saddle dam.

State Water to organise signage at the State Park boom gate advising the closure of the boat ramp. State Park and State Water to consider issuing a mailout to regular users of the Park regarding the impacts of construction.

It was discussed that access to the "Chalet" will also be restricted during the period of the Sailing Club saddle dam construction and State Water will arrange to book it for this period. State Park will move any existing bookings to alternative accommodation.

There was much discussion from the group members around the closure of the road down to the boat ramp. State Water as previously stated will provide a tractor for launching and pulling out of boats at available locations, as required. The group suggested the provision of an alternative gravelled temporary boat launching area. State Water agreed to provide this area, location to be agreed with the Sailing Club.

Key Dates:

- Saddle Dam 1 (at boat ramp) to be constructed 15 Feb to 9 March (detour in place to allow public access to the boat ramp)
- Saddle Dam 2 (sailing club) to be constructed 1 March to 22 March (no public access to boat ramp, temporary boat ramp to be in place)

State Water to immediately advise State Park if the above dates change due to poor weather or poor ground conditions.

f) Work Package 1 Contract Status

Phil Mouton from John Holland gave a presentation on the progress of Works Package 1 showing a map of the area. The JHG main office and compound area has been set up just to the right of the State park boom gates, and JHG are in the process of producing up their management plans. Works are expected to commence end of Feb pending provision of all permits / licenses and approvals. The first element of works will be clearing at the right abutment. John Holland will provide an outline programme of works for the next meeting.

Phil mentioned that John Holland may seek an extension to the working hours from the Dept of Planning. They may seek approval to allow Saturday operation for construction and deliveries and extended working hours during summer to allow concrete pours to avoid the hottest part of the day.

Program – Jan 2010 to July 2011

g) Biodiversity Offset

Roy Bergsens displayed a map showing the Biodiversity package. He indicated the footprint area being disturbed and the areas that have been set aside for the offset – 30 hectares which was purchased from Justin Flannery will be used for the preservation of the White Box as well as 28ha of the State Park East Land and 65ha of State Park West land. This will require some fencing to prevent cattle grazing. A Management Plan is currently being prepared by consultant Parsons Brinckerhoff to address ongoing management of the protected areas. Talks with State Park are progressing regarding the responsibility for ongoing maintenance.

h) Works in the State Park

Roy Bergsens explained the Master Plan for the State Park, explaining the works which will be done in compensation for construction impacts. In summary, the works area:

- Financial contribution towards an evacuation centre at the rear end of the existing tennis court. Building, toilets, kitchen and entertainment for teenagers, this will be a multi function centre pegged to dollar value. This replaces consideration of a water feature.
- Maintaining the existing toilet/laundry block at the caravan park
- Providing 2 smaller amenities blocks.
- Financial contribution towards a new cottage 3 (required because of caravan relocations)
- Retention of the golf course irrigation system

An overall agreement for the offsets to be offered will be issued to Lake Keepit State Park shortly for consideration.

The relocation of the caravans was discussed. State Water is proposing to provide some temporary shared storage on site to facilitate the relocation of the vans and contents. State Park will organise a meeting with the caravan park owners to discuss the relocation. The architect for the caravan park (appointed by State Water) will meet with Scott Taylor (State Park Trust) and Russell Sainsbury (State Water) shortly to discuss the works.

5. Media Release

Prime filmed some of the meeting, interviewed Scott Taylor, Neville Lemon from State Park as well as Russell Sainsbury and Jane Urquart from State Water. Jane also provided a media release to local newspapers to let the public know that the day to day operations of the State Park and Keepit Dam water levels will not be affected.

6. Other business

Nil

7. Next Meeting

Proposed date: Thursday 4th March 2010, 10:30am-12:30pm, meeting invites to follow.

Close Meeting 2:00pm

ACTIONS:

Action 1	John Holland to consider construction of a haul road to minimise use of Keepit Dam Rd.	John Holland
Action 2	State Water to provide temporary boat launching area, location to be agreed with the Sailing Club.	State Water
Action 3	Notice to be erected at the State Park entry regarding temporary closure of the boat ramp.	State Water
Action 4	Booking of "Chalet" during construction period closure	State Water and State Park
Action 5	State Park / State Water to coordinate mailout for regular users of the State Park advising upcoming works including closure of boat ramp.	State Park and State Water
Action 6	State Water to seek approval from Dept of Planning to allow weekend work during March to expedite construction of Saddle Dam 2 (at the sailing club)	State Water
Action 7	John Holland to provide outline programme of works including key milestones	John Holland