


# Minutes

22 August 2023

<b>Project name</b>	Koppers Community Reference Group	<b>From</b>	Emily Strauss
<b>Subject</b>	CRG Meeting #11	<b>Tel</b>	1800 066 243
<b>Date / Time</b>	15:37–17:08 22 August 2023	<b>Project no.</b>	12554413
<b>Attendees</b>	Nick Moretti (Koppers) Shane Beasley (Koppers) Michael Ulph (GHD) Emily Strauss (GHD, minutes, online) Marie Caruana (First Chance, CRG member) Rick Banyard (Mayfield Group, CRG member) Kristie Carter (PON, CRG member) Paul Adams (Major Projects Group, CRG member, online)	<b>Apologies</b>	Chris Tola (CRG member) John Hayes (Mayfield Group, CRG member) Rodney Hood (CRG member)
<b>Guests</b>			
<b>Objective</b>	Community Reference Group	<b>Copy to</b>	All CRG

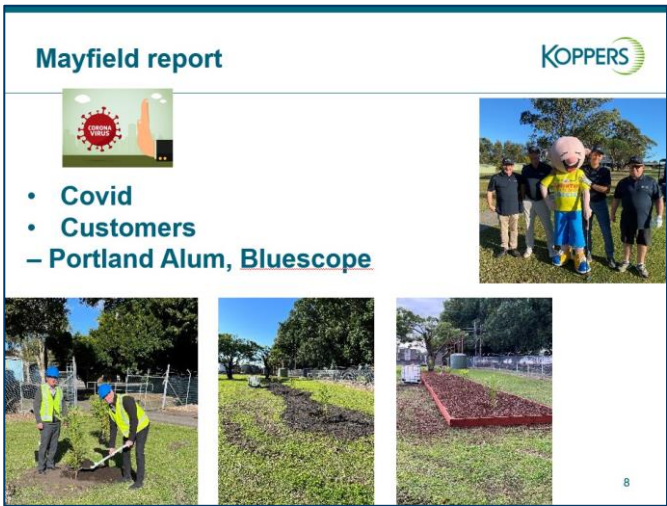
Minutes	Action
<b>Meeting officially started at 3:37</b>	– NA
<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b> MU provides an Acknowledgement of Country	– NA
<b>Introductions</b> MU introduces group attending and notes apologies.	– NA
 <p>The screenshot shows the agenda for the meeting, titled 'Agenda' with the KOPPERS logo. The items listed are: Welcome and Acknowledgement of country, Introductions / apologies, Safety moment, Past minutes – Michael, Koppers general market update – Shane, Mayfield report – Nick, Community – Michael, and Close and next meeting.</p>	
<b>Safety Moment</b> MU: provides safety moment as springtime approaches and the water gets warmer about the dangers of rip currents at sea and showed a visual which demonstrates the path of a	– NA

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<p>rip. It is futile swimming against the rip towards the beach. It is better to swim with it, or preferably sideways to escape it.</p> <div data-bbox="177 304 852 810" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>NM: Asked RB about his involvement in the NCCCE and if that group is ongoing and if RB is still a member.</p> <p>RB: Provides update about the Newcastle Community Consultative Committee for the Environment (NCCCE), which is a committee that lasts for a statutory period that is determined by the Minister. The term ceased last June, the Minister was supposed to appoint the next group of people and kick things off again but this hasn't happened. Many members are prepared to continue, including RB.</p> <p>Ex Lord Mayor John Tate was the previous chair, he isn't prepared to undertake that role again but RB has indicated that he is willing. They have tried to get industries and organisations to voice support to the Minister to restart things. Craig, a member the NCCCE, has made a presentation on behalf the group. They all still feel it's a worthwhile initiative. They have demonstrated their impact through previous involvement with how the Wool Store fire was handled. The committee has been giving a voice to key industries. They achieved better outcomes from the Wool Store fire than they would have done otherwise. They have also been doing air quality monitoring. Many monitors currently in place were established by the NCCCE.</p> <p>MU: Provides context for the NCCCE stating it was set up by then Environment Minister Robin Parker after the Orica plume of hexavalent chromium and operated until June this year. They are appealing to the Minister for the Environment.</p> <p>NM: Said meeting location was the EPA Bull Street office and asks what the EPA's enthusiasm is to revive the committee.</p> <p>RB: Says EPA is keen to continue but this enthusiasm is now a bit scattered. This is partly because Adam Gilligan was the Regional Director for the whole northern part of the state but has now been seconded to another job and there is uncertainty about who is looking after the region now. But RB can confirm that everyone is wanting the NCCCE to continue and everyone would like meetings to start up again with greater frequency. Last term, the committee met quarterly, but in earlier terms the committee met monthly, which RB says was a better frequency.</p>	
<p><b>Meeting minutes</b></p> <p>NM: moves last minutes, KC seconds last minutes.</p>	<p>– NA</p>

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<p><b>Koppers report (Shane Beasley – SB)</b></p> <p><b>General market update</b></p> <div data-bbox="175 286 877 801" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>SB: provides an update on the general market. The aluminium industry continues to be their main customer both in Australia and in the Europe market. Less so in the US where the wood business is growing while the American aluminium market continues to shrink. In Europe, the market has flipped in the last 12 months or so. There was a lot of demand for raw materials due to constraints on supply due to the ongoing Ukraine and Russia conflict as a lot of coal tar previously came from both of these places. There is difficulty in obtaining supply as Ukraine supply has been destroyed and Russian product is under sanctions.</p> <p>There is an ongoing energy crisis in Europe which has affected the aluminium industry as electricity supply has been curtailed. Russian metal is no longer being imported into Europe due to sanctions and is therefore being sent to China instead. China is filling the void left by Russian metal and metal from China is now going to Europe. This is affecting European operations a lot.</p> <p>Locally things are going well. A smelter that Koppers supplies in Portland has signed a 9-year energy contract which is good news, this provides certainty. The other smelters are also going well and seem well placed to continue operations. The Australian market is more tied to the Asian market, with a lot of supply going to Japan. As the Australian market is more insulated, impacts have not been experienced as severely.</p> <p>The battery space continues to be a new and developing market. Koppers is part of various consortiums, including one in Australia with about 50 companies, 6 universities and 5 projects. Koppers are involved in 2 projects, with values of about \$3-4 million which funding provided by both industries and the government. These projects focus on establishing a battery industry in Australia.</p> <p>As shown in the slides, the first image is of a pitch emulsion. Koppers developed a new pitch product in Europe a few years ago to extend the supply of pitch for aluminium. The battery industry approached them as this product can be used as a coating material. They make the graphite into nano spheres and use it to make batteries. Batteries are prone to fires. This is because they are graphite based and then get made into lithium-ion batteries. If they are not coated, then heat and friction builds due to expansion and contraction of the material.</p> <p>MU: Gives example of cheap electric scooters and bikes.</p> <p>SB: Says this new product is water based and has better environmental outcomes. Currently, lithium-ion battery coating requires the use of solvents which are bad for the environment as well as the people working with them. One such solvent is NMP, which may become banned in Europe due to environmental and safety issues. Their product being water based means it will have less severe environmental and safety impacts as it removes the need for solvents. So far, the product has been getting good results and has been improving battery performance. The product coats the graphite particles and graphite silicon particles to strengthen them and improve battery performance while also reducing the risk of fire.</p> <p>MU: Asks which part of this comes from Koppers' process.</p>	<p>– NA</p>

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<p>SB: Says the coating material comes from their process. This product has been produced via their oil stream. The pitch product is ground up and a water-based solution is added.</p> <p>MU: Says this is good for the circular economy. MU questions the security of supply, because if pitch is produced from the coal fired steel making industry, what would happen once coal fired steel is no longer being produced? Where would pitch then be sourced from?</p> <p>SB: Says that coal tar production is secure in the near future. Koppers is working on securing alternative sources and feedstocks and they have considered sourcing raw materials supply from Asia. In Asia they are producing lots of coal tar, establishing new coke ovens which seems to suggest another 20/30/40 years of supply potentially. Koppers is considering a long-term strategy over the coming decades. In the interim, as supply is changing, they are considering what alternatives for coal tar supply to invest in, and are planning for the future.</p> <p>MU: Says there are a range of future scenarios to look at and consider. It is not likely that coal fired power will cease overnight, it will be a process. There may be a mix of future outcomes.</p> <p>SB: Koppers is considering a long-term strategy to continue operations with raw materials that are available to them. The second image on the slide is the material that is being added to the graphite mix which is then put on a copper foil, which is then used to make anode material for batteries out of. The third photo shows the layer of carbon to protect graphite to stop it from degrading. Normally this is petroleum based, which doesn't enhance the battery performance other than protecting the battery and making it more stable. The new Koppers product improves the battery performance because it is carbon based. A certain percentage of the current anode material is inert and is not able to be used to make the battery perform better. 100% of the Koppers developed product would be able to be used. Testing has been very positive so far and showing improvements in battery charging and performance when using the Koppers product.</p> <p>MU: Asks if these are just lithium-ion batteries.</p> <p>SB: Says yes. In future, this product may facilitate production of other kinds of new batteries like sodium batteries. SB says meetings are very technical, he isn't an expert on the battery industry. He doesn't always know exactly what is being discussed, particularly as they're moving from 1 hour to 2-hour meetings.</p> <p>KC: Asks if this is an Australian first.</p> <p>SB: Confirms that it is. It is based on a commercial scaled plant that they're developing in Denmark right now. That should be commissioned this month and should be fully operational by November. The design of which will be replicated in Australia in order to develop a battery industry in Australia. There has been a lot of interest.</p> <p>MU: Asks if there is a company setting up in Tomago also trying to establish a battery industry in Australia (Energy Renaissance).</p> <p>SB: Says they were setting up and then moved premises.</p> <p>MU: Says there were multiple states looking to lure various battery companies to them.</p> <p>SB: Says some of these companies are looking to source material overseas and then build batteries here, whereas Koppers is looking to actually make material here and generate the supplies in Australia. They have also been approached regarding development of future batteries. There has been discussion around producing cathodes for batteries from biomass to improve circular economy outcomes.</p> <p>NM: Says there are two elements to the plant in Denmark. The plant in Denmark would be making enhanced carbon pitch. Pitch is half of the material for tar. It then gets distilled, the top half becomes creosote oils. The creosote oil would then be used to produce more pitch. This means that they would be making more pitch from the same amount of tar. This oil is currently sold to an industry that makes carbon black. They combust the oil to make soot, they capture the soot which then becomes the carbon black. This product is used in car tyres and rubber. Car tyres are 20% carbon black. Koppers will displace this because if they can transform it into pitch, they can make a higher return. This particular pitch from the oil will be cleaner, as it will have less particulate matter and can be used for these specialty products.</p> <p>RB: Asked about the vessel that they use to transport product. He asks if it's a new vessel from a new source.</p> <p>SB: Says it's a third party vessel which is used to ship materials from their supplier in Taiwan. They couldn't use their own vessel logistically for the time they needed it, so therefore they engaged a third party. This vessel is currently working in the Middle East and Asia and Koppers got the third party company to make the vessel available for a one off. Down the track, they may engage it fulltime, however, it is working with another</p>	


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<p>company for another year. The vessels required for these operations are quite specialised, meaning there aren't many around. In 5 to 10 years they will look at vessels again and may get a new vessel built for them. The age of the fleet is getting older, no one has built a new vessel in a while because they're so specialised. A new vessel would probably require construction in 2025 or 2026. They're intending to get another transporter vessel that can do tar and carbon black for next year.</p> <p>One of their customers operates a vessel but Koppers is looking to take that vessel over in about a year. They have one vessel (Asphalt Transporter) In the next few years, they could potentially be operating three vessels. The customer with the vessel has realised that operating a vessel is not in their best interest so they will be transitioning that vessel to Koppers in the next year or two.</p> <p>RB: asks if this could increase the potential for problems as Koppers has had past hassles with vessels. He has concerns about using a foreign vessel.</p> <p>SB: says most of these vessels are fairly specialised. This won't be new work for them. For example, one vessel has been working with a company called High Heat, transporting pitch from China to the Middle East. It has also been transporting bitumen. The transport of this material is similar to transporting pitch and could also be used for this purpose. Koppers don't see it as a risk using these other vessels. In future, Koppers want more vessel security and control. As the raw material base in Australia is shrinking, Koppers needs to look to Asia and part of this is having logistics in place to do so.</p> <p>RB: asks if they are still doing works in other parts of Australia.</p> <p>SB: says yes. They work with the coal tar coming out of Whyalla and Port Kembla. These are their two main suppliers. Whyalla has advised it will cease operations on their coke ovens this year as they don't want to replace their infrastructure. This was only a small part of their raw material supply. Koppers still receives coal from Port Kembla which looks likely to be around for longer. Now they are looking instead to Asia for raw materials to safeguard their future supply of raw materials. This is why they're intending to get more shipping organised.</p> <p>RB: asks if this will increase transport costs.</p> <p>SB: says they already go to Asia as they also supply carbon black feedstock to Japan. They could backload materials, this means that if they get more vessels they need to utilise them as best as possible. If they get raw materials from Asia, they could supply 100% of the Australian customer base which they don't currently do because they don't have enough raw materials. During covid, customers struggled to get materials from China. For this reason, Koppers are looking at how they can increase local manufacturing, meaning they need to get materials from Asia but not necessarily China.</p> <p>RB: asks if carbon black is exported as a solid or a liquid.</p> <p>NM: says they sell the oil, which is the feedstock for carbon black.</p> <p>SB: says it goes to Japan to be made into carbon black. Japan is reducing their carbon footprint and is reducing their feedstock locally. This means Koppers can produce as much carbon feedstock here as possible and sell it to Japan.</p> <p>RB: says it is interesting how transport is changing around the world due to conflicts overseas. RB asks about NCIG and why they are they not handling coal in containers. There are a number of issues to think about. There is no reason why containers full of coal should not be exported. There is an NCIG meeting on this coming Thursday. They have suggested that the unloading could be done under a license separate to the license for bulk handling that they have now. It could be as much as 10% of their throughput. It could conceivably go by container. The main reason is to remove the need to put it on trucks, then a train, then transport overseas. The costs could be very feasible to reduce cost of packing it at one end just to unpack on the other end. The freight costs are much the same as doing a container. The community is able to contribute to this process and not just get things out of it. The community makes worthwhile suggestions, it can be helpful both ways.</p>	

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<p><b>Mayfield report</b></p>  <p><b>Covid</b></p> <p>No covid cases have been reported onsite recently. They still have a stock of RATs onsite for employees to use. They realised that the previous RATs batch had expired and needed to be replaced. This is a good reminder as people may not realise that RATs have a use-by date. Very few are being used at this point, but it's important to note that some settings, like rest homes with vulnerable people, still require tests to be done by visitors.</p> <p><b>Suppliers</b></p> <p>As already stated, Whyalla will be stopping their production of tar. Whyalla, in South Australia, was a long-term supplier. At one time they were getting 30,000 tonnes of tar from them, but this has been steadily declining. This is because their equipment has been run down and has not been maintained. It would be too expensive to undertake the necessary repairs and upgrades. They will no longer be making metallurgical coke on site, instead they will buy it externally because they still need it for the blast furnace. The by-product of the metallurgical coke manufacturing was the tar, which is what Koppers requires as a raw material.</p> <p>Koppers therefore needs to consider alternative suppliers such as in Asia. BlueScope Steel in Port Kembla will continue to be suppliers. They have been successful and had a good financial year.</p> <p>A few years ago, BlueScope Steel retired one of their two blast furnaces. The current blast furnace will come to the end of its useful life in 2-3 years. They are therefore commencing a relining of the retired blast furnace which will cost \$1.15 billion. This project has been approved by their board to go ahead. This is good news for Koppers because if they continue to make steel, they will continue to make coke which means they will continue to make the byproduct which can be used by Koppers. Koppers relies on the continuation of two industries. The pitch is a key raw material for the aluminium industry which requires electricity, alumina, pitch and petroleum coke. If those raw materials weren't available, the smelters would stop. Smelters are hot and cannot be switched off so supply of those key raw materials needs to be maintained. This means that if the aluminium smelter industry fell over or the steel making industry fell over, then Koppers would be in a lot of trouble.</p> <p><b>Employees</b></p> <p>They have increased to 58 employees as they have added new shift operators. Two of their employees are on long service leave but they are still on the books. This is a phenomenon that all companies experience because long term employees accrue so much annual leave and long service leave and then they reach the end of their careers and decide to use it all. Both have served over 35 years, one over 40 years. Now they are essentially paying four people to do two jobs. Once these two long service employees are no longer on the books and their long service leave has elapsed, they will return to having 56 employees.</p> <p>The nominal expiry date of their Enterprise Agreement is 28 April 2024. They will start negotiating with the unions. They have two unions, the Australian Workers Union (AWU), which has about 24 members and the Electrical Trade Union (ETU) which has about 3 members. The only time they talk to the unions is around this negotiation time. Typically, the agreements are three years long. They will start negotiating in December or January</p>	<p>– NA</p>

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<p>because of a clause that says they will start negotiations three months ahead of time. This is always a long and protracted process and they typically will have signed off in October and November.</p> <p>KC adds that PON have also just had this same process. They only have one union, the Maritime Union. Not all staff are in this union because they have a mixture of people involved, including corporate staff as well as retired marine staff. Therefore, the process was about 7 months long. They used an external, industrial relations specialist, who was not a lawyer, but instead an impartial third-party negotiator.</p> <p>NM says they have several delegates in their ranks, such as AWU delegates who are their employees. The previous organiser has retired, there is now a woman that they are using who used to work at Tomago Aluminium.</p> <p><b>Safety and complaints</b></p> <p>There have been no major safety incidents recently. They prioritise safety through safety programs. They have had someone off injured, but he hurt his leg at home, not at work.</p> <p>They did get an odour complaint from a resident in Swan Street, Mayfield, which was received last week. They were not actually operational during the time period of the complaint. Everything was in negative pressure at the time. The complaint was received via the EPA. Koppers did a full investigation of this complaint and drafted a lengthy response to the EPA with outcomes of their investigation. The EPA have acknowledged the response. They hope the EPA would have passed the outcomes of the investigation onto the person who complained.</p> <p>They also received a complaint from a resident overnight about noise. They are not sure what the location of this resident is yet. The resident claimed the noise sounded like steel being dragged over steel at 3 am. The resident was quite irate. As they are only pumping liquids, this noise is unlikely to be from their facility. They will follow up to see if anything unusual was happening overnight.</p> <p>Previously, grinding noise could be heard from Molycop.</p> <p>SB: thinks it was potentially noise from car carriers which do operate overnight and have been transporting cars damaged by hail. There are about 400 cars and about 30 caravan.</p> <p>RB: says they have been taking sizable loads and farm equipment out of M4, including transformers. He says this must have made a lot of noise the other night because a large piece of bitumen is missing opposite McDonalds. This would have made a lot of noise.</p> <p><b>Charity</b></p> <p>They sponsored a hole for Camp Quality at the Maitland Golf Day. They sponsored 4 players, including SB, and Camp Quality raised \$60,000.</p> <p>For Earth Day, they also gave two plants to each employee and planted five trees onsite on a paddock, which is land also owned by Koppers. Richard Lyons, the vice president, and Christian Nielson, senior vice president based in Denmark, attended the tree planting.</p> <p><b>Customers</b></p> <p>Their customer base is still the same. They serve a very mature customer base in the aluminium industry - such as the aluminium smelter in Glasson owned by Rio Tinto, Tomago which is Rio Tinto's major shareholder, a smelter in Portland Victoria and a Rio Tinto smelter in Bell Bay, Launceston, Tasmania. They supply pitch to all of those smelters.</p> <p>They are aiming to make enough pitch to supply all of Rio Tinto in the region. Rio Tinto has another smelter in southern New Zealand. Koppers is aiming to have enough raw materials as well as having the transport arranged to provide a full service and have a competitive advantage. They don't have monopoly, Asian pitch is also sold in Australia and the price is an Asian price benchmark.</p> <p>SB: says Rio continues to get some supply from Asia to avoid having all their eggs in one basket. But this thinking has changed as a result of Covid. Many businesses have decided that getting supplies locally is safer and easier. This has presented Koppers with an opportunity to expand their business. Koppers had to shrink their plant when BHP closed down because raw materials were in lower supply, now they have the chance to produce the amount that the plant was designed to produce because they have been running the plant at 60% for probably the last 20 or so years.</p> <p>RB: asks how the pitch is getting to Bell Bay and New Zealand and if Koppers is shipping it.</p> <p>NM: says that Rio Tinto uses their own chartered vessel for New Zealand.</p> <p>SB: says Koppers does the transport for Bell Bay.</p> <p>RB: asks what state the material is transported in.</p>	

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<p>SB: says they transport materials in liquid form using a 200° C boiler.</p> <p>RB: clarifies process for when the asphalt transporter goes to Bell Bay and how pitch is taken to Bell Bay.</p> <p>SB: says it delivers raw materials and then transports finished products around Australia, then heads back to Asia again.</p> <p>RB: asks if it's then trucked back up to Tomago.</p> <p>NM: says they load pitch here, then it goes to Bell Bay, where pitch is partially discharged and then the vessel goes to Portland Victoria where the balance of the pitch will be discharged. The load is split and the same material is discharged at both places as their customers have the same specifications. Then typically the vessel would sail to Whyalla and pick up tar. No wash out or flushing is required as the material is all the same. Some cooling is needed.</p> <p>MU: asks what temperature the pitch is stored at onboard.</p> <p>NM: says 200° C.</p> <p>SB: says they don't make anything here; they're just splitting the tar into constituent components. It's all able to be intermingled, but they need to account for the temperature differences.</p> <p>MU: asks for any further questions and clarifies that although the slide says no complaints, there has been one odour complaint which has been investigated.</p> <p>NM: says they have installed five air monitoring points which have been strategically placed according to the prevailing wind. One has been placed on every boundary. These monitoring points record VOCs and PAHs. The public monitoring points record similar compounds. They also have windsocks to determine wind direction and air monitors which are powered by solar panels. The data is available in 5 minute increments. Data can be requested and reports are able to be generated upon request. This can be used as a defence.</p> <p>RB: asks if there is any exchange of data with the EPA's monitors.</p> <p>NM: says not yet as the air monitors have only been recently installed.</p> <p>RB: says this is a question from the NCCCE as they're due for another air quality report. They know that the monitoring is occurring, they question how the community can access the reports. Previously, the NCCCE was presenting this data to the community. Without the NCCCE, who is presenting this information to the community? Lots of companies do this kind of monitoring. The Port does air monitoring in the Mayfield area because this is part of their conditions of consent.</p> <p>KC: says you cannot discuss odour and air impacts without having the monitoring data to back it up because otherwise the information is just anecdotal.</p> <p>NM: says they recently got the bill for their share of the public monitoring as all license holders share in the cost of the monitoring.</p> <p>MU: says Koppers are a client of this service and therefore could ask the question of where the data is.</p> <p>NM: says you can look up the hourly data on the website and you can ask for 5-minute data to be generated if you call up.</p> <p>MU: also added that the newsletter hasn't come out since March, it will be put out 6 monthly with the next one coming out soon.</p>	



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<p><b>MU invites any further questions or comments from the community</b></p> <div data-bbox="177 248 880 591" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <span data-bbox="213 293 363 322">Community</span>  </div> <hr/> <p data-bbox="225 439 459 468">Around the room</p> </div> <p>MC: provides an update about First Chance. They are always busy and have had some staff changes recently as some staff have left but they've also put more staff on. They're also running a student program and have had a number of university students do placements with them during their final semester. They come from a range of different degrees. Lots have also come back to them after graduation asking to stay on and work. First Chance are also working with Awabakal Children Services, which they have been doing for a long time. MC has been apart of that for 10 years and it has been going for even longer than that. They are also doing fundraising. They have to do fundraising as they don't receive funding for the work they do with younger children. They run groups for younger children out of Hamilton and the Terrace and need to fundraise to keep these groups going.</p> <p>KC: provides an update about PON and their Clean Energy Precinct. They are about to launch two scoping reports. There has been a lot of media and activity around the development. They are early in the process of developing plans. They are not required to do any community consultation until the EIS stage of the development. However, they are interested in hearing from the community early in the process. They have done a lot of research to determine if the precinct will be viable, which they believe that it will be. The Commonwealth Government also believes that it will be viable, hence the \$100 million government commitment that has been given. For this reason, they are kicking off the community consultation period. They are currently undertaking a survey (until 20 September) and running community drop-in sessions, run by WSP, starting next week. The precinct and engineering teams will be there to answer any questions from the community. The two scoping reports are expected to be lodged later this month, they have been working on finalising them. This is a new development and they have been looking globally at other examples and other places who have developed similar projects such as in Rotterdam, Japan and in Korea. They have formed 30 partnerships so far. They are also dropping off 23,000 letterbox flyers between Merewether and Williamtown to advertise the drop-in sessions, the online survey and ask if community members have any questions.</p> <p>This precinct is on Kooragang Island, past Tourle Street Bridge on the KIWES site (Kooragang Island Waste Emplacement Facility). This site has required 11 years of remediation as it has been used as an industrial wasteland.</p> <p>NM: asks if this is where the Hunter River sediment went.</p> <p>KC: says yes, this is where lots of waste has been dumped, including waste from BHP. In addition to the Clean Energy Precinct, consideration of environmental issues has been ongoing. This includes consideration of various species of shorebirds and the Golden Bell Frog. They have been working closely with the Hunter Central Coast Development Corporation (HCCDC) and the University to ensure that habitat for these species is being conserved. Risks to this habitat as well as consideration of other hazards and risks will be assessed as part of the project.</p> <p>In terms of what can be seen from the road, the site is quite hilly and drops into a basin, meaning that only the taller infrastructure would be seen. They are looking forward to hearing community feedback as energy storage can have risks and there are a lot of safety considerations given they are a city port.</p> <p>Other than the Clean Energy Precinct, they are waiting for their container terminal approval to come through. This is expected later this year or next year. They are currently forming relationships with container companies. Trade volumes have continued on the trajectory from last year although they have seen an increase in export trade volumes as they have re-entered Chinese markets.</p> <p>MU: asks if this is primarily grains as there has been a lifting of tariffs into Bali.</p>	<p>— .</p>

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<p>KC: says yes and they have been focussed on environmental issue such as the railway, they have their GRESB application in for the next advantage stage based on what they have delivered in the last 12 months from an ESG point of view.</p> <p>MU: asks if GRESB has to do with port sustainability.</p> <p>KC: says it's a ranking of how you perform in terms of environmental and social governance and tangible project outcomes. They have, in a short period of time, obtained silver advantage status, which is the second tier. They are the port with the most progress towards proactive ESG in the southern oceanic region.</p> <p>PA: provides update about Modular Containers. He thanks NM and SB for their updates, in particular the information about the Whyalla coke ovens closing and the blast furnace relining. As their most direct neighbour, with 120 people onsite, he's happy to report that there have been no issues from their side. He recalls last year there being a few issues but is pleased that for the last year or so there haven't been any issue.</p> <p>Their demolition business is going well, they have been involved in closing a Muswellbrook coal facility as well as a facility in the Barrington which they also cleaned up.</p> <p>In terms of their container business, Modular Buildings, they have been successfully selling their extra wide containers. They also recently gave Koppers a 12m by 3.5m office space. PA says this is a great product that they're happy to be pumping out Their business is growing exponentially.</p> <p>Their foundation, which focuses on removing oil from sunken World War Two crafts, is also going well. Currently, they have about 30 scientists and divers at a nuclear test site in Bikini Atoll documenting the 'ghost fleet'. An atom bomb was dropped on this fleet. These ships were filled with oil prior to being bombed, so they know the quantity of oil in each ship there. They have done back-to-back expeditions over 4 months with 30 people up there.</p> <p>SB: says he saw on the news that they found a US aircraft carrier that was sunk off of Indonesia which has been missing for 75-80 years and an Australian dive team found it.</p> <p>PA: says they recently found an aircraft carrier and two landing ships which hadn't been previously documented. This will be public news soon, it's a very big project. It was a \$9 million expedition, funded by a US philanthropist. They will be back in Chuuk Lagoon in Micronesia this November, and in February, May and November next year.</p> <p>MU: says this is a great piece of environmental conservation work. He provides an update about GHD. GHD is striving to achieve scope 1 and 2 net zero emissions by the end of 2023 and scope 3 by the end of 2025. GHD is currently working on the Hunter Valley Hydrogen Hub with Origin Energy. The EIS is currently on exhibition for this project. This hydrogen hub will be positioned on Kooragang Island and will include a pipeline to Orica who will be the primary consumer of the hydrogen produced. This would offset some of the hydrogen that they already produce from natural gas. This would help to decarbonise Orica's use of this fossil fuel to then make ammonia. The hydrogen will potentially be used to refuel hydrogen fuel cells which would then be distributed. It won't be a large storage facility, the aim is to make hydrogen, pipe it to Orica and potentially make some available for refuelling. It will be primarily renewable energy based and water would be sourced from Kooragang Island's recycled water. The waste product from burning hydrogen is water, which is much better for the environment than carbon dioxide.</p> <p>NM: adds that they have been in contact with the Worimi Land Council and they have tried to contact its CEO Andrew Smith to ask if they would like to have a representative attend these CRG meetings. It has been difficult to make contact as the CEO is busy. They are looking to broaden the demographic of the CRG. They are also intending to invite some local school captains to attend to broaden the group and perspectives offered. NM says school captains would likely be interested in community work for their CVs. They will try to launch this next year and see if there is any interest.</p> <p>KC: says they have done a similar initiative and tried to involve some school pupils. She notes it may be challenging for the year 11s and 12s because of their HSC, but they have had interest from younger students in year 9 and 10. They have also approached university students. They had similar challenges in contacting the Land Council but they have gone through the university which has helped them find some contacts and given them names of some Indigenous people who would be happy to participate. She can share the details.</p> <p>NM: says they will see how they go with current approach.</p> <p>MU: says there is the Awabakal Land Council and also the Awabakal Corporation, a separate organisation, which is getting a lot of funding for their work in the health space and related services. MU sits on a committee within GHD focused on Indigenous engagement. There are challenges with getting Indigenous representatives to join groups</p>	

Minutes	Action
<p>such as this one. Sometimes this is because they may question how directly a project impacts their community. Land Councils only have a small team and are stretched for time. Although it can be difficult to make contact, MU says that once a CEO or Elder has committed to a meeting they will give 100% of their time and MU always learns something new. He comments on how worthwhile he has personally found Indigenous consultation in his role.</p> <p>MC says that when working with Indigenous Elders or community representatives, it is important to form a relationship first through correspondence or some meetings.</p> <p>MU asks for final questions and closes the meeting. The next meeting will be in three months' time and Koppers will send out the invite.</p> <p>NM says that the start time being 3:30 prevented CT from attending but asks if this time suits everyone else.</p> <p>MU asks if starting at 4 is too late as meeting would be over an hour.</p> <p>NM says we will try 3:30 again next time. CT may be able to attend at 3:30 next time as he has just changed roles recently.</p>	
<p><b>MU invites closing comments from the group.</b> Next meeting will be in three months.</p>	<p>– NA</p>
<p><b>MU closed meeting at 5:08pm</b></p>	<p>– NA</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b> Will reconvene in three months</p>	<p>– NM to send out invite for next CRG</p>