



## Former Jennings Arsenic Processing Plant Remediation Project Community Engagement Plan

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### Project background

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The former Jennings Arsenic Processing Plant Remediation Project exists within the broader Contaminated Land Management Program for Department of Industry, Crown Lands. The site is located between Duke, Manor, Robinson and Ballandean Streets, in Jennings NSW. It is formally identified as Lot 114 in DP751490 and Lots 4-10 DP758540.

Lot 114 was originally held under Special Lease 1923/5 Inverell for Business Purposes (Chemical Factory) by O C Roberts Ltd. The lease was forfeited in 1945 after being abandoned in the late 1920's. The Prickly Pear Poison made at the plant produced arsenic that caused contamination of the site and adjoining lands. Whilst there has been no further development of lot 114 or several adjoining blocks of land, there are residential dwellings in close proximity to the contaminated area.

Remediation has been undertaken in the past; however, due to a water pipe on site the sediment basin was not as extensive as designed. It was constructed at only 50% of the design to contain a one in ten year storm event.

As a part of the current Project, there are deliverables that involve the dissemination of communications to stakeholders impacted by site remediation. This community engagement plan will provide the framework for which this engagement is to be undertaken.

## Goal & Objectives

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### Goal

The goal of this Community Engagement Plan is to ensure that stakeholder needs for engagement and communications are appropriately catered for in the implementation of the Jennings Contaminated Site Remediation Project under the approved Voluntary Management Proposal dated April 2018.

### Objectives

Objective	Supports Corporate Plan:
Deliver communications to key stakeholders	Engage and collaborate, facilitating mutually beneficial relationships
Communicate information regarding the remediation and on ground works of the project to neighbouring landowners and the broader community.	Engage and collaborate, facilitating mutually beneficial relationships
Ensure all stakeholders are informed of project actions, responsibilities and outcomes where required	Engage and collaborate, facilitating mutually beneficial relationships

### Strategy

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- Project Steering Committee (PSC) formed including agency representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Tenterfield Shire Council (Council), Department of Industry – Crown Lands, as well as consultants and contractors by invitation.
- Communications will be targeted to Council which will then assist in disseminating the information to the local community.
- District Crown Land Staff will contact neighbouring residents by way of door knock to distribute information.
- Communications will highlight the process of remediating the site, the nature of the works and benefits resulting from the project, as well as the need for road closures within the area.
- Community consultation is to be undertaken during development of the Detailed Site Investigation (DSI) and Remedial Action Plan (RAP) to present information and receive questions and feedback.
- Provision of contact details to the community of the relevant project staff for liaison during project implementation through on-site signage and electronic communication.

## Target audiences and stakeholders

<b>Audience</b>	<b>Issues &amp; messages</b>	<b>Communication channels</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	- Regulator of site – CLMP Act	Email, telephone and meetings	PSC Member
Tenterfield Shire Council	- Local Government Authority	On site meetings and correspondence (phone/email)	PSC Member
Jennings Community	- Adjoining landholders and local residents – directly affected by project & long term management	Letter box drop, community liaison sessions, media releases, website, departmental contacts	
New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council	- Aboriginal Land Claim (ALC) lodgement over site	Through DoI – ALC Unit	Claimants have been advised of the contamination issue on site
Remediation contractor	- Remediation implementation	Contract agreements	PSC Invitee
Remediation consultant	- Specialist expertise and guidance	Contract agreements, scoping documentation	PSC Invitee
Department of Industry, Crown Lands	- Land owner/manager – responsible for site and project management		PSC Member & Chair

## Key messages

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The key messages to stakeholders are:

- The Department is working with specialist remediation consultants and contractors to ensure containment of any contamination (eg. sediment) associated with the former arsenic processing site.
- The public roads within the site will need to be closed following EPA notification and to minimise contamination exposure risk to the community.
- The Voluntary Management Proposal (VMP) is available to the public at no cost and can be found on the EPA website.
- All documentation related to this plan will be made available to the public via the EPA and DoI – Crown Lands websites (subject to commercial-in-confidence or private third party restrictions).
- The community is welcome to contact any of the project staff as contact details will be readily available.
- A Detailed Site Investigation (DSI) will be undertaken prior to on ground works commencing including the development of a Remedial Action Plan (RAP).
- All the activities at the site will be carried out in a manner that prevents or minimises the emission of dust, odour and noise from the site.
- Monitoring Record Keeping and Reporting will continue to be undertaken until such time as EPA no longer considers that the contamination is significant enough to warrant regulation under the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997*.
- The site will remain under a long term management plan which will ensure continued risk mitigation to the community.

## Risks and contingencies

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<b>RISK</b>	<b>CONTINGENCY</b>
Timeframes of outcomes (documents and works) not being met	PSC to hold stakeholder accountable for responsibilities
Inconsistent information being disseminated by multiple stakeholders	PSC to review information prior to communications being released.
Community members remain dis-engaged from the project	Make contact details available for individuals to gain further information if required.

## EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION ACTION PLAN

Action	Description	Audience	Deadline	Responsibility	Indicator
Engage agencies in project	Include agencies in PSC to facilitate engagement	EPA, Council	Ongoing	Dol CL	EPA and Council engaged in PSC
Engage potentially affected community	Undertake letter box drop and door-knock.	Adjoining and immediately affected landholders	27/8/2018	Dol CL (Rodney O'Brien) and Council (Jessica Gibbins)	Adjoining and immediately affected landholders aware of project and need to close public roads within the area
Engage general community	Undertake community liaison sessions. Signage to be put up in Wallangarra Shop & Wallangarra Post Office	Community of Jennings and Wallangarra	27/8/2018	Dol CL (Rodney O'Brien) and Council (Mayor Petty, Councillor Verri and Jessica Gibbins)	Jennings and Wallangarra community engaged in project and need to close public roads within the area
Inform media	Issue media releases at key stages of project, specifically to Tenterfield Star, Stanthorpe Border Post and Your Local News newspapers.	Communities of Tenterfield Shire and Southern Downs Region	Ongoing	Dol CL	Communities of Tenterfield Shire and Southern Downs Region are aware of project and progress

Update website	Upload relevant documentation or links to DoI Crown Lands website	General community	Ongoing	DoI CL	General community able to access information relating to the project
Issue contacts	Issue list of contacts for information on project	General community	Ongoing	DoI CL	General community able to liaise with project staff to gain information regarding the project
Record community engagement	Establish and maintain a community engagement GoogleSheet to record enquiries	Agencies	Ongoing	DoI CL, Council, EPA	Phone calls etc. recorded to enable reporting to agencies

## History and approval

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<b>Start date:</b>	30 June 2018
<b>Project contact:</b>	Richard Chewings – Manager, Natural Resource Services
<b>Approved by:</b>	Glenn Bunny – Director Infrastructure and Land Management
<b>Revision date:</b>	
<b>Copy to:</b>	

## Evaluation

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Was the goal achieved?

Analyse actions and indicators to assess delivery of objectives.

How will the outcomes be shared with others?

When will a report on campaign be available?