

NAMOI REGION AIR QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NRAQAC)**DATE:** 12 March 2020**TIME:** 2PM**LOCATION:** BOGGABRI GOLF CLUB**MINUTES**

PRESENT	David Ross, Chair	
	Lindsay Fulloon, Manager Regional Operations Armidale, EPA	Daniel Boyce, Executive Manager Planning & Environment, Narrabri Shire Council
	Rebecca Scrivener, Head Regional Operations Unit Armidale, EPA	Mare Harris, Team Leader of Environment, Narrabri Shire Council
	Leanne Graham, Senior Scientist, Quality Systems & Reporting, EES	Lynden Cini, Group Superintendent – Environment, Whitehaven Coal
	Scott Thompson, Senior Regional Air Quality Monitoring Officer, EES	Catherine Collyer – Community Representative Narrabri LGA
	Andrew Hope, Community Representative Liverpool Plains LGA	Dawn Lewis, Intern Armidale, EPA
	Peter Forbes, Health Safety and Environment Manager, Idemitsu Australia Resources	Andrea Jackes, Regional Admin Officer Armidale, EPA
	Mitchum Neave, Aboriginal Community Representative, Gunnedah	
APOLOGIES	Craig Dalton, Public Health Physician, Hunter New England Health	Heidi Watters, Team Leader Compliance, DPIE
	John Trotter, Environment Manager, Shenhua Watermark	Colleen Fuller, Community Representative Gunnedah LGA
	Donna Ausling, Director Environmental and Economic Development Services, Liverpool Plains Shire Council	Bileen Nel, Waste Manager, Narrabri Shire Council
	Kirsten Gollogly, General Manager, Health, Safety, Environment & Communities, Whitehaven Coal	Wade Hudson, A/Manager Development & Planning, Gunnedah Shire Council

	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
1.	Welcome, introductions and acknowledgement that it is the last meeting for some representatives. Previous minutes accepted	
2.	Catherine Collyer advised the meeting that she is resigning from the committee. For consideration with upcoming Committee nominations, Catherine said that there are not enough community representatives on the committee. Catherine will continue to push for an air quality monitor for Boggabri with real-time monitoring. Catherine said that there should be an air quality monitoring system in Manilla as well.	

	Catherine advised that the information provided to the committee was excellent and provided in a way she could understand.	
3.	<p>Presentations</p> <p>Leanne Graham, EES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Namoi Air Quality Index – Spring 2019 	
4.	<p>Future Planning/Discussion – Future Directions for the Committee</p> <p>Rebecca Scrivener summarised the UHAQAC Presentation that was shown at the joint committee meeting (Upper Hunter and Namoi Region AQACs) held in Singleton in November 2019.</p> <p>David Ross then asked the Committee to consider four focus questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will the Committee look like five years’ time? • What challenges is the Committee facing or has overcome (looking back in 5 years’ time)? • What has the Committee achieved in 2020 – 2022? • What does it (the achievements?) look like? – don’t remember what this question was <p>Following discussions, the committee identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) There will be significant growth in the region. 2) Community reps continue to hold high level of trust and respect within community (more targeted criteria to ensure broad range of community represented). Suggested recruitment for community reps could be sought from community groups, e.g. Lions/Rotary as well as general advertisement. More indigenous reps. 3) Committee will educate community on what air quality is and is, how it will impact their lives, air quality monitors capture ambient air quality. 4) Committee links with council days, going to local shows, Agquip, working closer with councils, council websites showing data, working closer with councils. 5) Education – ensure information available open and freely with information being easy to understand to drive more informed discussion, e.g. Are monitors in the right place? Is it what the community wants? 6) Use technology to provide better information and show other sources impacting on air quality not just mining, e.g., agriculture. 7) Get data into Council columns/newsletters/papers e.g. air quality indexes reported with weather. 8) Target younger generation. School campaigns. 9) Have camera’s linked to website so people can look at sites themselves. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan is for the new committee to decide on the way forward after seeing this future planning. • Once a year to hold a joint air quality advisory committee meeting.

	<p>10) In five years' time there may still be issues around accumulative impacts – mining growth.</p> <p>11) Forecasting for high risk days is carried out.</p> <p>12) Educating agriculture industry, e.g., retain stubble to reduce erosion. Changing perception – strategic review of monitoring stations to confirm the outcomes they were put there for – e.g., five-year review (are they still meeting goals). Industry monitors up on EES website and consideration of additional background monitoring.</p>	
5.	<p>General Business</p> <p>David advised this was the final time that this iteration of the committee would meet.</p> <p>The committee was informed that David would not be filling the Chair role in the next committee.</p> <p>Lindsay thanked David for his commitment and the skills he has brought to the committee.</p>	

The presentations will be posted to this link to the EPA website: [Namoi Committee page](#)

Close: 4pm

Next meeting: TBA

Location: TBA