



## 7. Community Consultation

*This section provides a summary of the public consultation process implemented for the Project, incorporating the Mine and Rail aspects. The consultation process has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Terms of Reference (ToR) and a table cross-referencing these requirements is provided in Volume 4 Appendix C ToR Cross Reference Table. A detailed community consultation report is included in Volume 4 Appendix I Consultation Report.*

### 7.1 Introduction

The overall aim of the consultation program was to inform stakeholders and the broader community of the Project, actively seek their involvement in the environmental impact assessment and report back on how this input was considered in the Project's outcomes.

This aim was supported by four objectives to:

1. Establish an open two-way flow of information, designed to meet community, government and the Proponent's requirements in achieving a transparent, meaningful and appropriate consultation process
2. Communicate detailed project information, in an easy to interpret, community-friendly format
3. Enable opportunities for local and regional communities and other stakeholders to identify issues, impacts and possible mitigation measures to be documented for consideration as part of the EIS
4. Build community understanding and support of the EIS process

A Consultation Plan was developed to guide effective and timely delivery of EIS consultation activities. The Plan identified:

- The types of activities to be undertaken
- Timing of activities
- Key stakeholder and community representatives
- Integration with other EIS activities and the project development process
- Consultation responsibilities
- Communication protocols
- Reporting and feedback arrangements

### 7.2 Methodology

#### 7.2.1 Consultation Process

The public consultation process had a staged approach, coinciding with major EIS milestones:

- Stage 1: EIS commencement including release of the IAS and Draft ToR
- Stage 2: EIS development
- Stage 3: Release of EIS

► Stage 4: Evaluation and EIS finalisation

The consultation process to date has been undertaken throughout 2011 and 2012 during the EIS commencement and development phases. Table 7-1 presents the sequencing of consultation activities relevant to the EIS process. This process will be ongoing throughout 2012.

Public consultation activities have also been implemented to align with the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) component of the EIS, landholder communications (see Section 3) and Indigenous Cultural Heritage consultations (see Section 5).

**Table 7-1 EIS Consultation Stages and Timeframes**

|                                                                    | Q1 2011                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Q1 2011 – Q3 2012                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Q4 2012                                                                                                                                                                                     | Q1 2013                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| STAGE                                                              | STAGE 1<br>Commencement of EIS process                                                                                                                                                                  | STAGE 2<br>EIS Development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | STAGE 3<br>Public Exhibition of EIS                                                                                                                                                         | STAGE 4<br>Evaluation and EIS Finalisation                        |
| <b>Consultation Activities</b>                                     | Stakeholder identification<br>Conduct preliminary issue/risk assessment<br>Document review<br>Prepare Stakeholder Consultation Plan<br>Prepare information materials<br>Government Agency consultations | Community Information Sessions<br>Distribution of project information materials (newsletters and information packs)<br>Project briefings and focus group meetings<br>Manage project telephone hotline, email address, reply paid post, and stakeholder database<br>Respond to stakeholder comments in a timely manner<br>Analyse stakeholder comments to inform EIS investigations<br>SIA consultation activities | Promote Public Exhibition Period including public displays and Community Information Sessions<br>Coordinate and manage public submissions<br>Analyse public submissions and draft responses | Close out activities<br>Consultation evaluation                   |
| <b>Ongoing stakeholder consultation and monitoring of feedback</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                   |
| <b>Regulatory Deliverables</b>                                     | Stakeholder Consultation Plan aligns with Project ToR                                                                                                                                                   | Prepare Stakeholder Consultation Report for EIS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Prepare Community Feedback Report for Supplementary EIS Report                                                                                                                              | Submit Supplementary EIS Report to CG for final approval decision |



### 7.2.2 Stakeholder Identification

Key stakeholders identified for the Project included:

- Commonwealth Government agencies including Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Department of Infrastructure and Transport, and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- Relevant State Government Departments
- Local Government Authorities (including elected representatives and officers of Isaac, Whitsunday and Charters Towers Regional Councils)
- Relevant elected representatives of State and Commonwealth Governments
- Directly affected landholders
- Community, business and industry groups
- Indigenous groups and traditional owners
- Environmental groups
- Emergency and health services
- Utility service providers
- Media
- General community

### 7.2.3 EIS Consultation Activities

Communication materials were developed to help facilitate the two-way flow of information between the project team and stakeholders and to record all feedback. These materials included:

- Stakeholder database
- Project newsletters
- 1800 free call telephone information line
- Reply paid post address
- Project email address
- Community feedback forms
- Project website
- Paid advertising/public notices

Table 7-2 summarises the principal consultation events undertaken to date. Adani representatives participated in key consultation meetings, forums and briefings. This gave Adani valuable insight to stakeholder perceptions, concerns and interests and an opportunity to discuss Project proposals.

**Table 7-2 Summary of Principal EIS Consultation Events**

| Activity                                                                                                                  | Details                                                                            | Timing of Activities                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Project Briefings to Queensland Coordinator General's office (with invited delegates from other departments as necessary) | ► Brisbane                                                                         | Fortnightly                                                                                    |
| Project Briefings to Government Agencies (Commonwealth, State and Local)                                                  | ► Mackay<br>► Brisbane<br>► Moranbah                                               | March 2011                                                                                     |
| Project briefing to DSEWPaC                                                                                               | ► Canberra                                                                         | July 2011                                                                                      |
| Council Briefings *                                                                                                       | ► Isaac Regional Council<br><br>► Whitsunday Regional Council<br>► Charters Towers | August 2011, February 2012 and July 2012<br><br>March 2011<br>September 2011 and February 2012 |
| Community Information Sessions (Stage 1 – EIS Commencement and Project Introduction)                                      | ► Moranbah (1 session)<br>► Collinsville (1 session)                               | March 2011                                                                                     |
| Community Information Sessions (Stage 2 – EIS Development)                                                                | ► Moranbah (2 sessions)<br>► Clermont (2 sessions)                                 | August 2011                                                                                    |
| Progress meetings to inform SIA and SIMP (management and monitoring)                                                      | ► Townsville, Emerald, Clermont, Moranbah, Mackay, Charters Towers and Brisbane    | July 2012                                                                                      |

\* Council representatives were also invited to attend Agency Briefing Sessions in March 2011 and SIA consultation workshops, and received project updates at EIS milestones.

### 7.3 Results of Consultation to Date

Consultation participants identified a range of potential social, environmental and economic impacts and benefits of the Project. Although feedback has differed between localities and stakeholder groups, a number of consistent themes emerged. These are summarised below as expressed by stakeholders:

- **Local Business and Employment Benefits:** Substantial interest in benefits for local business and employment in the Isaac Region, notably:
  - Support for local business and industry
  - Capacity building and skills development in the local labour force
  - Potential for long term career pathways, particularly for young people
- **Housing and Accommodation:** Potential to exacerbate shortages in housing and accommodation, together with escalation of local property and rental prices (particularly in



Moranbah). There was also considerable interest in Adani's workforce accommodation strategy for the Project, notably:

- Construction camp locations, proximity to towns and potential for anti-social behaviour impacts (primarily associated with the consumption of alcohol)
- Details of the village proposed at the mine, including some support for development of a new permanent township given the Project's 90 year lifespan.
- ▶ **Workforce Supply:** Regional workforce and skills shortages were highlighted as key considerations for new mining projects in the Galilee and Bowen Basins. Stakeholders identified a need for:
  - Workforce training programs to commence immediately in readiness for the Project
  - Measures to limit the drain from other local industries to source the Project's large workforce
- ▶ **Adani to provide more information to the public on any international recruitment **Fly-In/Fly-Out out (FIFO) Operations:**** Two distinct points of view emerged amongst stakeholders:
  - Opposition to a FIFO workforce due to the limited benefits it affords the local economy and social fabric, as well as workforce burnout and retention problems observed elsewhere in the mining sector.
  - Acceptance of a FIFO workforce given the remote location of the Carmichael mine.
- ▶ **Environment:** The key concerns raised were project-related impacts on air quality from coal trains and flooding, together with local sightings of the black throated finch on or near Mine site.
- ▶ **Shared Use Rail Corridors:** Support for Adani's greenfield rail line to link into a shared third party railway for access to Abbot Point and/or Hay Point. Some stakeholders demonstrated a high level of sensitivity in response to existing rail and mining operations near Collinsville.
- ▶ **Life in Mining Towns:** Concerns about the cumulative impacts of mining projects on local towns, notably high living costs, declining housing affordability and impacts on family life from FIFO and shift work.
- ▶ **Roads and Safety:** Concerns about the cumulative impacts of mining projects on the region's roads, including mine-related traffic and public safety concerns, road deterioration, new rail crossings and wait times, driver fatigue risks associated with a drive-in/drive-out (DIDO) workforce, and emergency service response times.
- ▶ **Community Investment:** Support for Adani to have a long-term presence in the Isaac Region through investment in local towns, business and community life. There was also support for Adani to work in collaboration with Isaac Regional Council and local business through the Clermont Preferred Futures Group.

The identification of these issues, impacts and benefits have informed the SIA and were incorporated into other technical studies as part of the EIS process.

## 7.4 Future Consultation Activities

### 7.4.1 Consultation on the EIS

Following acceptance by the Queensland Coordinator-General of the EIS, the document will be placed on public exhibition for a period of six weeks (or as determined by the Coordinator-General). Following completion of the public exhibition, all stakeholder and community feedback will be reviewed and addressed in the Supplementary EIS (if required).

A decision by the Coordinator-General about a future development of the Project will be made public via DSDIP's and Adani's websites. It is envisaged that Adani will provide future updates about the progress and status of the Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project through its website.

### 7.4.2 Ongoing Consultation Activities

Plans for consultation as part of the Project's construction and operational phases will be included in the EMP and SIMP. Ongoing consultation will continue throughout the life of the Project to ensure due consideration of all project-related opportunities and concerns. This ongoing program will involve:

- ▶ Maintaining the current good relationships between Adani, landholders, Traditional Owners and government (at all levels)
- ▶ Establishing contact with other key stakeholders as new issues arise
- ▶ Disseminating information to, and having discussions with, stakeholders on key issues raised during the EIS assessment
- ▶ Identifying and responding to key issues and concerns of all stakeholders
- ▶ Preparing relevant documents for review by government agencies and other stakeholders
- ▶ Addressing specific concerns of various stakeholders on an ongoing basis
- ▶ Routine reporting
- ▶ SIMP related consultation and monitoring activities.

## 7.5 Summary

Consultation has been an important part of this EIS. Stakeholders involved in the consultation process have included Commonwealth, State and Local Government representatives, potentially affected landowners, local business and residents, community interest groups, industry representatives, environmental and cultural heritage groups, media and surrounding communities.

The aim of the consultation process was to inform stakeholders and the broader community of the Project, actively seek their involvement in the environmental impact assessment and report back on how this input was considered in the Project's outcomes.

A Consultation Plan was developed for the Project. Major activities conducted during the consultation process included:

- ▶ Community information sessions
- ▶ Project briefings to Queensland Coordinator-General's office



- ▶ Project briefings to DSEWPaC
- ▶ Government agency briefings and meetings
- ▶ Council briefings and meetings
- ▶ Landholder communications
- ▶ Consultation with Traditional Owners
- ▶ Distribution of Project information and updates at milestones
- ▶ Responding to stakeholder enquiries via Project contact channels (website, freecall phone line, email, reply-paid post and feedback forms).



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