

Burdekin Haughton Customer Advisory Committee

Date: Wednesday 2 August 2023

Time: 9:00am - 11:00am

Location: Burdekin Theatre, 161 Queen Street, Ayr

Members: Peter Hall, Lyn McLaughlin, Evan Shannon, David Satori, Sharon McIntosh, Lisa Balter, Steve Pilla (Canegrowers proxy), Andrew Cross (GBA proxy), Russ McNee (BRIA proxy), Narell Bradsell (Kalamia Cane Growers and Kalagro proxy)

Department representatives: Ariane Leyden (DRDMW), Patrick Levings (DRDMW), Jason Williams (DRDMW)

Sunwater representatives: William Weaver (General Manager North), Sheridan Ward (Stakeholder Relations Advisor), Fiona Salter (Project Manager), David Hayes (Operations Manager North), Simon Thomas (Project Director), Keelie O'Sullivan (Stakeholder Relations Advisor), Trent Jordan (Program Manager and Project Development), Anita Steele (Senior Water Industry Advisor Water Resources), Ally Timms (Customer Engagement Coordinator), Carolyn Gibbs (Customer Engagement Advisor)

Apologies: Greg Watson (Canegrowers), Robert Stockham (GBA), Mario Barbagello (BRIA), Alan Parker (Kalamia Cane and Grower and Kalagro)

Minutes:

Agenda items		
Item no.	Item	Presenter
1	Meeting open	William Weaver
2	Lower Burdekin Groundwater	Fiona Salter
3	BHWSS shutdown	David Hayes
4	BFD project update	Simon Thomas
5	BHWSS Modernisation Detailed Business Case	Trent Jordan
6	General business	William Weaver
7	Meeting close	William Weaver

1. Meeting open

- Sunwater gave an overview of the agenda.
- Attendees introduced.
- Sunwater confirmed that the meeting minutes were published on the Sunwater website.
- The CAC confirmed the previous meeting minutes are correct.

2. Lower Burdekin Groundwater (LBG)

2.1 Overview

- Sunwater presented from slide pack, including project status, options considered, and project budget.

2.3 Questions and feedback

- CAC members noted Code of Practice consultant working on the project should have background knowledge of the Burdekin region and take advantage of available local knowledge.
- Members enquired if the Code of Practice will include farm disposal. Sunwater noted recent discussions with DES indicated the Code of Practice would likely be very site-specific regarding disposal.
- Members requested a breakdown of the budget for the Definition Phase of the project.

3. Burdekin Haughton Water Supply Scheme (BHWSS) shutdown

3.1 Overview

- Sunwater presented from slide pack, including the work completed during the recent shutdown.

Questions and feedback

- Some irrigators expressed concern as the shutdown is held during the commencement of crushing. Sunwater will consult with customers to determine if the beginning of June is the best time for future planned shutdowns. Customers can expect a consultation invite soon.
- Members asked if there are leakages from the channel. Sunwater confirmed there are leakages, but they are not significant.
- Members suggested shutdown to start from the top of the channel so that everyone is not shutdown at the same time.

4. Burdekin Falls Dam (BFD) project update

4.1 Update

- Sunwater presented from slide pack with key highlights being:
- Sunwater is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) based on a proposed two-metre raising of Burdekin Falls Dam.
- Sunwater expects to submit the draft EIS to the Queensland Coordinator-General (CG) in late 2023.

4.2 Questions and feedback

- Members enquired when the business case would be released. Sunwater advised that the upon completion of the EIS (if approved), the DBC will be revisited before the Queensland Government considers an investment decision on the project. The EIS is complex and may present impacts and/or

conditions that materially change the DBC, which will need to be considered by government. Following a Queensland Government investment decision for the project, it is expected that the DBC will be publicly released.

5. Burdekin Haughton Water Supply Scheme (BHWSS) Modernisation detailed business case

5.1 Update

- Sunwater presented from slide pack, including project need, background, and next steps.

5.2 Questions and feedback

- Members enquired as to the total cost of project. Sunwater advised the project cost \$170 M.

6. General business

6.1 Sunwater actions

- Sunwater will come back to the CAC about whether raising the dam would have any impact on irrigation pricing or the WASO (water security).

6.2 Next Meeting

- Next meeting date confirmed 6 December 2023.

7. Meeting close

- Meeting closed at 10:36am.

8. Approval and review

Chair:	William Weaver
Minutes:	Ally Timms
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