

This is a high-level summary of the meeting for PDRG members to share with their networks. It provides a summary of agenda items, discussion points, and meeting actions.

Agenda Item	Discussion Points
<b>Welcome, Acknowledgment of Country, Introductions</b>	Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country provided by the Chair.
<b>Paradise Dam Improvement Project (PDIP) Update</b>	<p>Current activities include progressing the detailed business case (DBC), geotechnical investigations, design, enabling road works, and Traditional Owner engagement.</p> <p>An overview of the Technical Review Panel (TRP) purpose and expertise was provided.</p> <p>Alliance partners were introduced and gave an overview of their roles, the experience they bring to the Alliance, their approach to the project and work currently underway.</p> <p>The Alliance will bring together the best of the best including Australian experts with roller compacted concrete (RCC) experience and where there are gaps, or more experience is needed, the team is seeking international support from experts in Canada and America. It is important to make sure we are using the latest technology.</p> <p>The Alliance partners noted a big challenge for this project is managing upstream river flows and understanding downstream irrigation demands. The alliance is thinking about the legacy it leaves behind and delivering an asset that will stand the test of time.</p> <p>Project development activities are currently being undertaken by up to 100 resources including 60 designers and 40 construction and Alliance team members. Consideration of site layout, procurement, sustainability and legacy items is important now so that it can be built into project planning. Some elements remain the same as the reference project (the original project scope to repair and raise the existing structure to its original height), others need to be developed and worked through.</p> <p>Safety is a critical consideration for developing construction methods.</p> <p>The Alliance will design with construction in mind and construct with design in mind.</p> <p>PDRG members were asked to consider what information they would like to see from the Alliance moving forward.</p>
<b>Environmental update</b>	<p>Sunwater gave an update on the environmental approval requirements, noting that the inundation area or “lake” will remain the same in developing a new dam wall. The project remains relatively the same from an environmental perspective.</p> <p>Sunwater is liaising with the Queensland Government Department of State Development to request a modification to the state planning approval for the Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID).</p> <p>Because the project is planning to build a new structure, Commonwealth approvals will be required under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999</i>.</p> <p>Sunwater is pitching to do a streamlined version rather than a full environmental impact statement (EIS), given the extent of existing information and the fact that a dam has been in this location for many years.</p>
<b>Customer update</b>	<p>Sunwater reiterated that maintaining supply to customers is a key requirement of the project. Sunwater went through an extensive consultation process before changing the water-sharing rules and is not proposing permanent water sales or any change to the water-sharing rules at this time.</p> <p>Sunwater acknowledged the interest from members in timelines and spoke to the difficulty in providing details about timeframes for the new dam wall at this point. This is a complex project with many aspects. A schedule will be developed from the work being undertaken now. Given the current status of design and investigations, the work to complete the dam will need to be scheduled in phases.</p>
<b>Bundaberg Scheme Distribution Capacity Upgrade (BSDCU)</b>	<p>Sunwater provided an overview of the issue, the DBC, the scope proposed for phases 1 and 2 for the BSDCU project and the alignment this project has with the new dam wall project.</p> <p>Sunwater asked the PDRG if this group could also be a forum to discuss the Bundaberg Scheme Distribution Capacity Upgrade (BSDCU) Project. Members suggested that the Irrigator Advisory Committee (IAC) may be a more appropriate forum due to their in-depth knowledge and Sunwater could provide BSDCU updates to the PDRG. Sunwater will discuss further with the IAC.</p>

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<b>Other business</b>	<p>The Chair noted correspondence between Bree Watson and Sunwater about a proposed approach to manage any perceived or actual conflicts of interest in the lead up to the State election. Members noted acceptance of the approach.</p> <p>Information on local opportunities for traineeships and apprenticeships was requested and will be included in a future PDRG meeting.</p>

### Timeline for recent & upcoming PDIP activities:

Upcoming activity targets	Timing
Concrete mix trials	Underway
Further geotechnical investigations	Underway
Paradise Dam Road upgrade (package one of three)	Construction commenced January 2024 – package one expected to be complete by end of 2024, weather permitting
Alliance formed	January 2024
Design for new dam wall	Underway
Detailed business case for new dam wall	Underway
New Degilbo Creek Crossing Bridge	Tenders expected to go out late March via panel
Tender for upgrades at the intersection of Bruce Highway and Booyal-Dallarnil Road	Tenders closed in late February 2024; evaluations underway

### Actions noted at this meeting and pending from the previous meeting:

New actions			
Action		Responsibility	Status
#1 February 24	Alliance to ensure alliance hydrology team is aware of the Bradfield report regarding climate change information for this region	Sunwater	Open
#2 February 24	Members to provide feedback to Emma Natty on content and format of draft “How dams are designed and built” fact sheet by 8 March	Sunwater	Open
#3 February 24	Sunwater to take on board engagement opportunity feedback – including a replica model in the community; short phase videos; hosting a public hall meeting in Biggenden to share a project update and how it will impact the community	Sunwater	Open
#4 February 24	Sunwater to raise the BSDCU with the Bundaberg Irrigator Advisory Committee and consider the engagement approach	Sunwater	Open
#5 February 24	Terms of Reference to be updated to consider guests	Sunwater	Open
#6 February 24	Future presentations to include information on local traineeships and apprenticeships	Sunwater	Open
#7 February 24	PDRG to consider interest areas and topics for future meetings	Sunwater	Open
Existing actions			
Action		Responsibility	Action
June23	Sunwater to speak with Department of State Development and Infrastructure and seek information that can be shared with the PDRG	Sunwater	Pending

Action	Responsibility	Status
	about the co-ordination of major projects in the region and how opportunities for regional social benefit are maximised	
June23	Sunwater to arrange for the selected construction partner to share information about strategies around local training and apprenticeships	Pending
Feb23	Sunwater to share Bundaberg and Burnett Regional Water Assessment (BBRWA) findings with the PDRG as available	complete
June23	Sunwater to share photos and videos of the 2D and 3D new Paradise Dam wall models as they are developed.	For discussion during design phase
Jul22	Discuss public viewing opportunities and options to enable transparency during site works with the PDRG prior to works commencing on site	For discussion prior to construction phase
Nov22	Sunwater to consider recreation legacy options in consultation with North Burnett Regional Council as the project progresses	For discussion prior to construction phase