

Section 6

Stakeholder Consultation

As part of the due diligence process relative to the purchase of the site, a Steering Committee was established to ensure all issues were fully understood, and to ensure agencies were kept informed of the progress of the development proposal. The Committee met generally on a monthly basis, over a period of approximately a year. The Steering Committee included the following representatives:

- Regional Land Management Council;
- Department of State & Regional Development;
- Department of Planning;
- Port Stephens Council;
- Energy Australia;
- Hunter Water Corporation;
- Department of Environment & Conservation; and
- Roads and Traffic Authority.

In addition to the above, consultation has also taken place with the LALC, Newcastle Ports Authority, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries Department, Mine Subsidence Board, Department of Primary Industry and National Parks & Wildlife Service.

Further, we note that the Department has written to the relevant agencies, providing a copy of the Preliminary Environmental Assessment.

The comments provided to the Department of Planning by the relevant authorities and forwarded with the Director General Requirements are consistent with the comments made by those authorities as part of the Steering Committee meetings. These will not be included again here.

The opportunity for the community to participate in such consultation will of course be available through the usual public exhibition process.