

Meeting Minutes

Meeting:	Minutes of the 1st Community Reference Group (CRG) Meeting
Date:	27 February 2025
Venue:	Port of Hastings Corporation 1d Stony Point Road Crib Point, VIC 3919
Present:	<p>Project team:</p> <p>Chantel Steele (Environment Manager) Liam Morkham (Senior Engagement Advisor) Lyndel McLennan (Engagement Manager) Mitchell Wynd (Communications Officer) Natasha Reifschneider (Environment Director) Peter Watt (Project Director)</p> <p>CRG members:</p> <p>Aled Roberts (Somerville Business Group) Axel Leonhardt (Self-representative) Richard Cox (Rotary Club of Somerville Tyabb) David Wright (Wellbeing & Health Organisation) Greg Johnson (Phillip Island Conservation Society) Ian Hales (Self-representative) Ian Coffey (Mornington Peninsula Labor Environment Action Network) Ian Stevenson (Western Port Seagrass Partnership) Jane Carnegie (Save Westernport) Jeff Weir (Dolphin Research Institute) Joshua Sinclair (Committee for Frankston and Mornington Peninsula) Julia Stockigt (Westernport and Peninsula Protection Council) Mel Barker (UNESCO Western Port Biosphere Foundation) Rod Kerley (Self-representative) Shannon Hurley (Victorian National Parks Association) Terence Nott (Preserve Western Port Action Group)</p>
Absent:	Kim Storey (Destination Phillip Island Regional Tourism)
Chair:	Louisa McPhee
Commenced:	1:04PM

1. Introductions

- 1.1 The Chair set out the Terms of Reference.
- 1.2 PoHC noted the recent media coverage of the Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal.
- 1.3 Members introduced themselves to the rest of the group.

2. CRG Terms of Reference

- 2.1 The Chair set out the Terms of Reference, the function of the CRG, and the Code of Conduct that members are expected to adhere to.
- 2.2 Highlighted general protocols of the CRG.

3. Project introduction

- 3.1 PoHC provided a general overview of the Port of Hastings.
- 3.2 PoHC provided an outline of the Victorian Renewable Energy Terminals' role in supporting offshore wind in Victoria.
- 3.3 PoHC provided an introduction presentation to the Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal project.

4. Environmental Assessment

- 4.1 PoHC provided an overview of the project approvals process.
- 4.2 PoHC provided an overview of the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) process and listed EES technical studies for the project.
- 4.3 PoHC provided an overview of Commonwealth approval requirements for the project.

5. Field Studies

- 5.1 PoHC provided an update on field investigations, as well as project findings to date.
- 5.2 PoHC presented a series of case studies contextualising project findings to date.
- 5.3 PoHC provided an outline of the existing conditions studies being undertaken.
- 5.4 Overview of key documents and reports underway.

6. Next steps

- 6.1 The Chair confirmed that project team would circulate minutes, including responses to questions raised in meeting, as well as submitted via email. In addition, the chair invited CRG members to submit questions through to the project team following the CRG meeting.
- 6.2 The Chair noted the intended next meeting date in late May, as well as inviting the CRG membership to a project site tour in early May.

FINISH

This meeting concluded at 3:30PM