

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Council Chambers on **Tuesday, 2 February 2021 at 4.00pm.**

Agenda

1. Commencement of recording
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest

At this juncture, Councillors should indicate any items in which they have an interest and therefore will not be participating in discussion or voting.


4. Listing of matters to be considered in Closed Council

The following matters are listed to be considered in Closed Council in line with the confidentiality policy of Council and Clause 10A (2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, relating to:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - I. prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - II. confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - III. reveal a trade secret
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of the law
- (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.

- Procedural Motion to close Council to Press and Public
- Reports from Servants to Closed Council Meeting
 - Tender – Supply of Quarry Products (c)
- Procedural Motion to re-open meeting to Press and Public

5. Reports

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Neeves', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Neeves
General Manager

Procedural Motion – to exclude Press and Public

“That by reason of the confidential nature of the matters to be considered in line with the confidentiality policy of Council and Clause 10(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, relating to financial matters, staff matters, industrial matters, acceptance of tenders, personal affairs of private individuals, possible or pending litigation and such other matters considered appropriate – the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting.

**PRESENTATION OF SUBMISSION IN RESPONSE TO THE INLAND RAIL
NARROMINE TO NARRABRI ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

SUMMARY

To present the Draft submission to the Inland Rail Narromine to Narrabri Environmental Impact Statement for comment and adoption.

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Appointed contractor Projence, with input and involvement of staff, has completed a review of the Inland Rail Narromine to Narrabri Environmental Impact Statement. A first draft version of the document is an attachment to the business paper and Councillors are encouraged to provide feedback. The submission must be lodged by 7 February 2021.

It has been a significant undertaking to develop Council's submission in approximately 40 working days considering Council's shutdown and other public holidays. Time is of the essence and work will continue to fine tune the submission prior to 7 February.

Over the course of the next week additions will be made to the draft document and, where deemed necessary, modified to reflect some of the broader issues that have been previously raised through formal correspondence to ARTC, the Federal Government and through the SEARS submission to the NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment.

The purpose of presenting the document to Council is to allow Councillors to review the draft and add comment to the document prior to submission. The community will also be able to access the first draft (by virtue of being in open council) for at least seven days prior to submission to understand and possibly assist with their own individual submissions. The completed submission will be publically available on Council's website.

What has become evident in the review process is the EIS public exhibition process is just the start of reviewing many other documents. The EIS is lacking significant detail which makes it difficult to make a full assessment of the potential impacts. It is intended that such detail will be clarified in subsequent plans of management, referred to frequently throughout the EIS, which will still require Council to make further feedback.

State Significant Infrastructure projects have a unique planning approval process whereby the project proponent has the opportunity to essentially develop more detailed plans ongoing as the project progresses. The impact of this approval process is likely to result in significant ongoing work for council staff in reviewing and making comments of these plans.

Council has taken a three stage approach to the submission, being:

- Identify the issues or gap
- Briefly outline why it is an issue
- State how we would like the proponent to address the issue

The EIS process requires the proponent (Inland Rail) to respond to all submissions in a public report. In this report they should detail:

- How they propose to address our issues raised
- Why they cannot or do not have to address the issues
- Where they feel the issue has already been addressed in the EIS or support documentation

The submission aims to articulate Council's concerns and ensure the NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment are presented with Council's views and expectations as they carry out their assessment.

Local Government is identified as a referral body or agency for the EIS. Council's response reflects this.

I wish to acknowledge the significant contribution staff have made in a short period of time to assist the contractors in completing the review of this significant EIS.

It is unfortunate that costs of undertaking the review of the EIS is not recoverable from Inland Rail. This was not anticipated.

It is recommended that Council list any further key points for inclusion in the submission or otherwise Council notes and endorses the content of the submission.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Strategic Leadership
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	\$41,700 for the EIS review excluding staff time is unbudgeted and not recoverable from Inland Rail
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	4.1.1.1 Support Councillors in their role by providing information regularly and training as required

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL'S DETERMINATION

David Neeves
General Manager

SUBMISSION TO NSW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
INQUIRY – INLAND RAIL PROJECT AND REGIONAL NSW

SUMMARY

To present the submission to the NSW Legislative Assembly committee on investment, industry and regional development inquiry – Inland Rail Project and Regional NSW.

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Staff have prepared a submission to the NSW Legislative Assembly committee on investment, industry and regional development inquiry – Inland Rail Project and Regional NSW and are seeking Council's endorsement of the submission.

The focus of this Inquiry is different to the Senate Enquiry and seeks to look at the opportunities and requirements for NSW to benefit from the project.

The submission has attempted to raise a number of topics in a proactive way that could influence policy and programs of the NSW State Government as Inland Rail is built over the coming years.

In addition, a summary of local issues that have been raised through both the NSW Planning process for Inland Rail and formal correspondence to ARTC and NSW and Federal Governments.

Terms of Reference: Inland Rail Project and Regional NSW

The Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development inquire into and report on the Inland Rail project and regional New South Wales, with particular reference to:

- a) *economic development opportunities arising from the project*
- b) *infrastructure required to ensure regional communities benefit from the project*
- c) *engagement with regional communities to identify opportunities*
- d) *alignment of the project with the NSW Freight and Ports Plan 2018-2023 and State Infrastructure Strategy 2018-2038*
- e) *any other related matters.*

Noting the terms of reference outlined above, the key issues to be outlined in the submission include:

- Connectivity at Curban between the CRN and Inland Rail. This will include the current Interface Improvement Program (IPP) project. This will also examine some freight issues that relate to the *NSW Freight and Ports Plan 2018-2023*

- Road Rail Interfaces, specifically the Castlereagh and Oxley Highway interfaces and Council's position that these must be grade separated
- The GrainCorp Industrial Precinct and the urgency to be inland rail ready - this will cover the Biodiversity Offset Scheme challenges Council has faced
- Highlighting the benefits of the Water Bore Project
- Gilgandra as an Inland Rail Construction Hub ie:
 - Concrete Batching and Precasting
 - Temporary Worker Accommodation Facility
 - Castlereagh River Restoration and Beautification Project
- Berakee Quarry Development and its value as a supplier of quarry products for inland rail construction and ongoing maintenance
- Workforce and Business Participation Plan:
 - Skilled 2 Qualified
 - Local Business Preparation and Readiness
 - Local Participation Plans
- Project Impact Issues in the context of the NSW State Government
 - This area will cover off on things mentioned in the SEARS Submission
- Support to address any potential socio-economic impacts
- Upgrading the key freight route of Hargraves Lane
- Opportunities for long term rail infrastructure maintenance provisioning
- Ongoing training for rail construction and maintenance specific skills and the opportunities to be based locally

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Strategic Leadership
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	\$41,700 for the EIS review excluding staff time is unbudgeted and not recoverable from Inland Rail
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	4.1.1.1 Support Councillors in their role by providing information regularly and training as required

That the keys issues, as outlined in the report, be endorsed for inclusion in the submission.

David Neeves
General Manager
