

Actions from GISERA QLD Regional Research Advisory Committee Meeting 29 May 2017

Key

Action Open
Action Due/overdue
Action complete/in train

	Item	Action	Owner	Due	Status
1.	29-05-17 Item 2	Action 1: The Proponent to include more information on water and soil sampling methodology.	Research Proponent	05/06/2017	
2.	29-05-17 Item 2	Action 2: The Proponent to include details on simulated spill.	Research Proponent	05/06/2017	
3.	29-05-17 Item 2	Action 3: The Proponent to consider whether to include a researcher with HF expertise to contextualise these operations against other HF operations.	Research Proponent	05/06/2017	
4.	29-05-17 Item 2	Action: 4: The Proponent to consider whether additional hours should be allocated to the PL within the existing budget.	Research Proponent	05/06/2017	
5.	29-05-17 Item 2	Action 5: The Proponent to consider consultation with landholders regarding placement of sampling instruments.	Research Proponent	05/06/2017	
6.	29-05-17 Item 3	Action 6: The Proponent to consider reference to the work being undertaken by CSIRO and OGIA in the letter to landholders requesting access.	Research Proponent	30/06/2017	

Minutes
GISERA QLD Regional Research Advisory Committee Meeting No. 10
Monday 29th May 2017
Via telephone

OPENING

The meeting of the GISERA Queensland Regional Research Advisory Committee (RRAC) was called to order at 1.35pm on Monday 29 May 2017.

PARTICIPANTS

Damian Barrett:	GISERA Director (CSIRO)
Anne Bridle:	Independent (former Basin Sustainability Alliance)
David Freudenberger:	Senior Lecturer (Fenner School of Environment and Society, Australian National University)
Cameron Huddlestone-Holmes:	Geosciences Team Leader, Energy (CSIRO)
Matt Kernke:	Senior Environmental Adviser (APLNG) (<i>delegate for Robert Hirst</i>)
Nadine Marshall:	Senior Social Scientist (CSIRO)
Patrick McKelvey:	Manager, Geology and Groundwater Services (QGC)
Sanjeev Pandey:	A/General Manager (Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment)
Steve Raine:	Professor of Irrigation and Soil Science in Faculty of Engineering and Surveying (University of Southern Queensland)
Will Rifkin:	Chair in Applied Regional Economics and Director of the Hunter Research Foundation Centre, (University of Newcastle)

Other attendees:

Jizelle Khoury: GISERA Executive Officer and Secretariat (CSIRO)
Dan O'Sullivan: Onshore Gas and Sustainability Advisor (CSIRO)
Emma Scott: GISERA Administration Officer (CSIRO)

Apologies:

Robert Hirst: HSE Manager (APLNG)
Wayne Newton: Grains President (AgForce)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

ITEM 1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and Adoption of Agenda

- The GISERA Director welcomed all members to the meeting.
- It was noted that Robert Hirst, HSE Manager is APLNG's new representative on the QLD RRAC. Rob is unable to attend this meeting and has delegated to Matt Kernke.
- The GISERA Director provided an update on the National GISERA program.

ITEM 2. PROJECT PROPOSAL

Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing: Phase 2

Phase 1 was approved in November 2016 and is due for completion in June 2017.

The GISERA Director provided a summary of the project proposal. The project detail can be found in Attachment A.

Key points raised:

- It was noted that there is concern around the water and soil sampling methodology and lab experiments. The proposal includes minimal information on soil sampling depths and distances. More detail on the soil sampling protocol is required and the Phase 1 report will assist with this.
- Researchers have previously indicated that the proposal would also simulate a spill (in a lab, under controlled conditions). The proposal should include this information.
- Phase 1 will be signed off by 4 independent reviewers. Phase 2 sample design will be made available following Phase 1 peer review.
- It was noted that the proposal may benefit from including a researcher with Hydraulic Fracturing (HF) expertise to contextualise these operations against other HF operations.
- Concern raised around the amount of time the Project Leader has allocated to the project (30 days). The GISERA Director is comfortable that the lead researcher is taking on much of the project management and this will not present an issue.
- A question was raised whether there is any capacity to look at the cumulative effect of multiple fractures occurring. The GISERA Director confirmed that the research will be undertaken as part of a standard HF operation and measurements will be undertaken as the operation occurs. The intention of this research is that it is indicative and representative of the methods and technology used across the region. There will be slight variations in operations between contractors/companies but the measurements should provide a representative sample of HF. The site owner confirmed that CSIRO researchers will have unfettered access to site operation information. The research will be able to provide the community with information on the length of fractures and the pathway of any potential contaminants.
- It was noted that the wells have been drilled and suspended, but are not yet complete and HF is yet to commence. Baseline (before) measurements will be taken after the well field has been established but prior to HF commencing.
- There was concern that pre-existing seasonal variation may impact air, water and soil quality as a result of agricultural activities. The GISERA Director confirmed that the measurements are events-based and the time series provides some measure of perturbation ascribed to the events as it is happening.
- It was suggested that the researchers interact with landholders in relation to the placement of specific instruments, using local knowledge regarding wind, water direction.

Outcome: The RRAC approved this project, subject to industry funding being finalised, amendments listed above addressed to the satisfaction of the GISERA Director and the outcomes of the Phase 1 peer review.

Action 1: The Proponent to include more information on water and soil sampling methodology.

Action 2: The Proponent to include details on simulated spill.

Action 3: The Proponent to consider whether to include a researcher with HF expertise to contextualise these operations against other HF operations.

Action 4: The Proponent to consider whether additional hours should be allocated to the PL within the existing budget.

Action 5: The Proponent to consider consultation with landholders regarding placement of sampling instruments.

ITEM 3. PROJECT VARIATION

Constraining groundwater flow rates

The GISERA Director provided summary of project and variation proposal.

Key points raised:

- It was noted that the outcomes of this project will help to improve conceptualisation, which will contribute to groundwater modelling.
- Concern that the factsheet (Attachment C) doesn't reference OGIA, which could cause confusion amongst landholders. The GISERA Director confirmed that the factsheet is provided as an addendum to the letter to landholders requesting access and we should ensure that the letter includes information regarding the work being undertaken between CSIRO and OGIA.

Outcome: The RRAC approved a variation to push back milestone 2.1 to 30 October 2017, milestone 3.1 to 30 June 2017 and milestone 4.1 to 30 November 2017.

Action 6: The Proponent to consider reference to the work being undertaken by CSIRO and OGIA in the letter to landholders requesting access.

ITEM 4. OTHER BUSINESS

No items raised.

Damian Barrett adjourned the meeting at 2.55pm.

Minutes submitted by: **Emma Scott**

Minutes approved by: **Damian Barrett**