

## Actions from GISERA SA Regional Research Advisory Committee Meeting 21 August 2018

Key

Action Open
Action Due/overdue
Action complete/in train

	Item	Action	Owner	Due	Status
1.	21-08-18 Item 2	<u>Action 1</u> : The Research Proponent to contact Beach Energy to confirm if their drilling fluids are oil or water based and to determine the full scope drilling compounds and incorporate into table 1.	Research Proponent	31 August 2018	Haselgrove 3 well - categorially based on specifications supplied by Beach Energy, diesel is not used as a drilling fluid. Full scope of drilling compounds now incorporated into table 1.
2.	21-08-18 Item 2	<u>Action 2</u> : Amend Project title to "Microbial degradation of chemical compounds used in onshore gas production in the SE of South Australia".	Research Proponent	31 August 2018	Project title has been revised as suggested by the SA RRAC.

**Minutes**  
**GISERA SA Regional Research Advisory Committee Meeting No. 2**  
**Tuesday, 21 August 2018**  
**via teleconference**

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**OPENING**

The meeting of the GISERA South Australian Regional Research Advisory Committee (RRAC) was called to order at 10:06 am on Tuesday, 21 August 2018.

**PARTICIPANTS**

Damian Barrett: Director - Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA) and Research Director - Onshore Gas, Energy Business Unit (CSIRO)

Andrew Curtis: CEO (Livestock SA) and CEO (South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association)

Tony Hill: Deputy Director, Geoscience & Exploration Branch, Energy Resources Division (Department of the Premier and Cabinet)

Stuart Sharman: Viticulturist & Grazer, and Chair (Limestone Coast Grape and Wine Council Inc.)

Darren Shelden: Chairperson (Green Triangle Regional Plantation Committee)

Anne Jensen: Environmental Consultant (Healthy Rivers Ambassador for Murray-Darling Basin & Honorary Research Associate, Nature Foundation SA)

***Other attendees:***

Dan O'Sullivan: GISERA Deputy Director (CSIRO)

Jizelle Khoury: GISERA Executive Officer (CSIRO)

Liz Tearall: GISERA Administration Officer (CSIRO)

***Apologies:***

Lynne Cobiac: Deputy Director and Science Director, Health & Biosecurity (CSIRO)

Peter Gandolfi: Mayor (Wattle Range Council) and Chair, Regional Development Australia – Limestone Coast

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**ITEM 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

- The GISERA Director welcomed all members to the meeting.
- It was noted that Lynne Cobiac and Peter Gandolfi were unable to attend.
- Peter Gandolfi confirmed his support for this proposal out of session.

## **ITEM 2. PROJECT PROPOSAL**

### **Microbial degradation of chemical compounds used in onshore gas production**

The GISERA Director provided a summary of the project proposal.

Key points raised:

- Hydraulic fracturing is not being proposed as part of gas exploration in the South East region, only conventional drilling.
- This is the first time the process of microbial breakdown of drilling compounds will be investigated for local SE soils.
- Soil depth to be measured in this project will be the top 50 cm.
- Soil samples are being taken from locations proximal to putative production locations (including Penola Trough).
- Bacteria are being taken from groundwater in local bores.
- Table 1 'Onshore gas production chemical compounds of interest' in the project proposal should be amended to include only onshore gas drilling fluids within the SE of South Australia. This requires the removal of fracturing compounds and the inclusion of drilling compounds that are representative across the range of methods being used in the region.
- It will be important to confirm whether Beach Energy's drilling fluids are oil based or water based to update Table 1 with the relevant chemical constituents of drilling muds used in the region.
- Project will also look at production spills.
- The emphasis of this project is to look at drilling muds used in gas wells, but there may be an overlap with drilling fluids used to drill water bores.
- Project title to clearly state the 'SE of South Australia'.
- The findings from this project will be combined with findings from project W13, which is examining passive compound transport.
- The findings from this project will be important in the context of community concerns about risks, especially spills and contamination of groundwater.
- Key findings from this project will be used to develop further proposals as part of the next tranche of projects within the SE of South Australia.

Outcome: The RRAC approves this project, subject to the actions below being addressed to the satisfaction of the GISERA Director.

Action 1: The Research Proponent to contact Beach Energy to confirm if their drilling fluids are oil or water based and to determine the full scope drilling compounds and incorporate into table 1.

Action 2: Amend Project title to "Microbial degradation of chemical compounds used in onshore gas production in the SE of South Australia".

**ITEM 3. OTHER BUSINESS**

No items raised.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the SA Regional Research Advisory Committee is yet to be scheduled. It is anticipated that a meeting will occur once further proposals are established.

Damian Barrett adjourned the meeting at 11:07 am.

Minutes submitted by: **Jizelle Khoury**

Minutes approved by: **Damian Barrett**