



GISERA | Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance

Minutes of the Queensland Research Advisory Committee Meeting No. 14 held via Webex on Thursday, 17 November 2022

OPENING

The meeting of the CSIRO GISERA Queensland Research Advisory Committee (RAC) was called to order at 9.03 am (AEST) on Thursday, 17 November 2022.

PRESENT

Damian Barrett: GISERA Director (CSIRO)
Tom Measham: Research Director (CRC for Transformations in Mining Economies, UQ)
Andrew Drysdale: Managing Director (Alsajad Natural Research Management)
Trish Leddington-Hill: Health Care Sector, Southern Rural Queensland
Sanjeev Pandey: Executive Director, Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (QLD DNRM)
Robert Hirst: HSE Manager (Australia Pacific LNG)

Other participants:

Cameron Huddlestone-Holmes: GISERA NT State Leader (CSIRO)
Jizelle Khoury: GISERA Executive Officer (CSIRO)

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The GISERA Director welcomed all members to the meeting including new member Trish Leddington-Hill.

A vote of thanks was recorded to Robert Hirst for his contribution to GISERA over 4.5 years, including on the GISERA Queensland Research Advisory Committee and prior to that on the GISERA National Research Management Committee.

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Action 20-05-22 Item 2 will remain open until the 'Cooper Creek flood modelling scenarios' project technical reference group is convened.

Action 20-05-22 Item 3 will remain open until the 'Cooper Creek flood modelling scenarios' project stakeholder workshop is conducted.

3. PROJECT PROPOSAL

Exposure assessment of identified chemicals used in CSG activities

The GISERA Director provided a summary of the project proposal.

Key points raised:

- The GISERA Director provided an overview of health projects H.1, H.2 and H.2 extension study and explained why further health proposals had been developed for consideration by the RAC.
- The number of chemicals already assessed as part of the previous H.2 project and those to be appraised in this new H.3 project will be revised, as well the number of unique chemicals that make up the flurobenzoic acid group.
- As this project looks at factors that may impact human health, it would be worthwhile considering a future proposal to establish what the environmental impacts of these chemicals are. It could look at all the research already undertaken (including this H.3 project) through an environmental health lens to establish whether there is potential harm to the environment.
- This project is not starting in isolation. The proposal should acknowledge that the causal pathways and risk assessment link back to the understanding developed via the Geological and Bioregional Assessment Program (GBA). The research proponent should include a reference to the GBA work and a statement on what the researchers will do if the findings determine that one or more compounds are persistent.
- It would be useful to include a rough schematic showing how this is linking back to projects that have been completed and what might lie ahead.
- In project impact pathway section – page 15 – remove information around environmental impacts of emissions from holding ponds.
- CSIRO's GISERA and the GBA groundwater research on impacts of hydraulic fracturing to be forwarded to Andrew Drysdale out of session.

Outcome: The QLD RAC approved this project, subject to the actions below being addressed to the satisfaction of the GISERA Director.

Action: The research proponent to revise number of chemicals assessed and number of unique chemicals that make up the flurobenzoic acid group, including Figure 1 in proposal.

Action: The GISERA Director consider the development of a future proposal to establish what the environmental impacts are of the HF chemicals.

Action: The research proponent to include acknowledgement that causal pathways and risk assessment link back to the understanding developed via the GBA. The research proponent should include a reference to the GBA work and a statement on what the researchers will do if the findings determine that one or more compounds are persistent. The research proponent to also consider inclusion of a rough schematic showing how this is linking back to projects that have been completed and what might lie ahead.

Action: The research proponent to update the impact pathway section to remove information around environmental impacts of emissions from holding ponds.

Action: The GISERA Queensland State Leader to forward Andrew Drysdale information on CSIRO's GISERA and the GBA groundwater research on impacts of HF.

4. PROJECT PROPOSAL

Analysis of Dust Near CSG Sites to Assess Potential for Respirable Crystalline

The GISERA Director provided a summary of the project proposal.

Key points raised:

- There may be a legacy opportunity for samples to be collected beyond the term of this project. The research proponent should explore possible arrangements for either:
 - sampling services beyond project completion be provided by local land care or NRM group
 - 1 or 2 dust stations to be left so that samples may be collected by community members

Outcome: The QLD RAC approved this project, subject to the actions below being addressed to the satisfaction of the GISERA Director.

Action: The research proponent to explore possible arrangements for continued sample collection beyond project term.

5. PROJECT PROPOSAL

Queensland CSG well integrity: cements, steels and microbial activity

The GISERA Director provided a summary of the project proposal.

Key points raised:

- The proposal states that ‘information will be largely gathered from well completion reports’ from the operators and those publicly available reports are 5+ years old, so it will also be important to engage with industry to understand their key learnings and advancements in knowledge in the previous 5 years to ensure information is a representative sample.
- One of the biggest drivers of trust in science is communication. The way that the communications has been structured in this proposal is mostly back ended. To be more effective, the project would benefit from engagement/workshop at beginning of project to obtain non-industry stakeholder feedback e.g., from landholders and community stakeholders to help define what questions the database should be used to answer, as well with relevant regulatory agencies and research organisations such as the Department of Resource, Mines Inspectorate, Gasfields Commission Queensland, OGIA and UQ Centre for Natural Gas. This will require the intended July/August 2023 targeted community forum to be brought forward.
- It will be a useful to not only look at past risk (in terms of barrier failure and well failure) but also future risks. This project needs to identify the history as construction practices have continually changed, then became incorporated into the Code of Practice for the construction and abandonment of petroleum wells and associated bores in Queensland. Construction practices are now very different to what they were previously, so it will be important to look at this perspective as well.
- There are many organisations that have conducted relevant technical work and may hold useful secondary datasets in this space, such as the Inspectorate and OGIA, that should be engaged throughout the project and also referenced appropriately in this proposal. Any future work should draw learnings from all the previous work. Need to develop links on work already done on well integrity with Queensland Government, The University of Queensland and other organisations.
- One of the key issues raised was lack of clarity about the outcomes of the project. The proposal reads as a collation of data, but little end focus on analysing the data and drawing conclusions to support future management of the issue. The outcomes should be adjusted to include analysis.

Outcome: The QLD RAC would like the research proponent to revise the proposal taking to account all the points raised and submit a revised proposal via email to the RAC for consideration.

Action: The research proponent to engage with the operators to better understand evolving learnings and advancements and to also acknowledge in the proposal that these learnings exist.

Action: The research proponent to conduct the targeted stakeholder forum at project commencement to help refine questions and then go back to same group with evolving results during the project.

Action: The research proponent to consider past and future risks and identify the history as construction practices are continually changing.

Action: The research proponent to consult with OGIA and UQ (prior to seeking RAC approval on revised proposal) to ensure the references are updated to include all relevant work that has been done.

Action: The research proponent to engage (at commencement of project) with OGIA, UQ and other organisations to develop links between this project and relevant work already undertaken.

6. PROJECT PROPOSAL

Evaluating medium-term socio-economic impacts of onshore gas activity in Southern Queensland

The GISERA Director provided a summary of the project proposal.

Key points raised:

- It will be important that the project delivers a balanced perspective that includes both the positive and negative economic impacts of industry and this should be conveyed in the proposal.
- This project should feed into a discussion about community resilience which will be assessed as part of recently approved project 'CWB4: Trends in community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG development – Comparisons across industry phases from 2014 to 2024'. The research proponent should incorporate in this study where they will together (in terms of community and stakeholder forums) to present economic impacts and community resilience results. Together these should provide a powerful set of points and information around how building community resilience can occur.

Outcome: The QLD RAC approved this project, subject to the actions below being addressed to the satisfaction of the GISERA Director.

Action: The research proponent to update the proposal to convey that both positive and negative economic impacts will be considered in project.

Action: The research proponent to update the proposal on how the economic impacts (this study) and community resilience results (CWB4 study) will be presented to community and stakeholders.

ITEMS FOR NOTING OR DISCUSSION BY EXCEPTION

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Interaction with stakeholders in Western Queensland

- It will be worthwhile to interact with stakeholders in Western Queensland around the potential development in the Cooper/Adavale and further explore their views and issues of concern. CSIRO can also provide some learnings from the work done elsewhere. This might be done through the Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee and community stakeholders.

Action: The GISERA Director and GISERA State Leader to work with Andrew Drysdale to determine best method of interaction with stakeholders in Western Queensland around possible future gas development and associated concerns.

NEXT MEETING

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

MEETING CLOSE

The meeting closed at 12.55 pm (AEST).

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM GISERA QLD RAC MEETING #14 – 17 NOVEMBER 2022

Agenda Item	Action
17-11-22 Item 3	The research proponent to revise number of chemicals assessed and number of unique chemicals that make up the flurobenzoic acid group, including Figure 1 in proposal.
17-11-22 Item 3	The GISERA Director consider the development of a future proposal to establish what the environmental impacts are of the HF chemicals.
17-11-22 Item 3	The research proponent to include acknowledgement that causal pathways and risk assessment link back to the understanding developed via the GBA. The research proponent should include a reference to the GBA work and a statement on what the researchers will do if the findings determine that one or more compounds are persistent. The research proponent to also consider inclusion of a rough schematic showing how this is linking back to projects that have been completed and what might lie ahead.

Agenda Item	Action
17-11-22 Item 3	The research proponent to update the impact pathway section to remove information around environmental impacts of emissions from holding ponds.
17-11-22 Item 3	The GISERA Queensland State Leader to forward Andrew Drysdale information on CSIRO's GISERA and the GBA groundwater research on impacts of HF.
17-11-22 Item 4	The research proponent to explore possible arrangements for continued sample collection beyond project term.
17-11-22 Item 5	The research proponent to engage with the operators to better understand evolving learnings and advancements and to also acknowledge in the proposal that these learnings exist.
17-11-22 Item 5	The research proponent to conduct the targeted stakeholder forum at project commencement to help refine questions and then go back to same group with evolving results during the project.
17-11-22 Item 5	The research proponent to consider past and future risks and identify the history as construction practices are continually changing.
17-11-22 Item 5	The research proponent to consult with OGIA and UQ (prior to seeking RAC approval on revised proposal) to ensure the references are updated to include all relevant work that has been done.
17-11-22 Item 5	The research proponent to engage (at commencement of project) with OGIA, UQ and other organisations to develop links between this project and relevant work already undertaken.
17-11-22 Item 6	The research proponent to update the proposal to convey that both positive and negative economic impacts will be considered in project.
17-11-22 Item 6	The research proponent to update the proposal on how the economic impacts (this study) and community resilience results (CWB4 study) will be presented to community and stakeholders.
17-11-22 Item 7	The GISERA Director and GISERA State Leader to work with Andrew Drysdale to determine best method of interaction with stakeholders in Western Queensland around possible future gas development and associated concerns.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Agenda Item	Action
20-05-22 Item 2	The research proponent to invite a representative from Arrow, UQ's Centre for Natural Gas and OGIA to participate in the project's Technical Reference Group.
20-05-22 Item 3	The research proponent to include the GISERA's Communication and Engagement Manager in the design and implementation of the stakeholder workshops.