

Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant Project

Site Selection Committee

Terms of Reference

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1 Context

The SA Water Long Term Plan (the Plan) for the Eyre Peninsula was completed in partnership with the Natural Resource's Management (NRM) Board in 2008. The Plan outlined a framework to ensure the Eyre Peninsula had a secure water supply to meet increases in demand over the subsequent 25 years.

The Plan recommended options for maximising the efficiency of the existing potable water supply system and the future development of new water sources to augment supply, including seawater desalination. Following the endorsement of the Plan by the Eyre Peninsula Community, SA Water undertook a range of investigations to identify a suitable site to locate a desalination plant. This work has been undertaken in parallel to regular assessments of the existing groundwater resource.

In 2021, SA Water selected a site at Billy Lights Point as a preferred location for the desalination plant that met the economic constraints, network accessibility, water security and water quality objectives established for the project.

The Eyre Peninsula community however raised significant concerns about the preferred site and questions around possible alternative sites.

In response to these concerns, key stakeholders are to be engaged in a process to identify a suitable location that has the support of the Eyre Peninsula community backed by a viable business case and funding model.

Central to the engagement process is the formation of an Eyre Peninsula Desalination Project Site Selection Committee (the Committee) that will make a recommendation to SA Water and the South Australian government regarding a preferred site for the construction of the desalination plant.

The Committee will initially shortlist sites for assessment, and then consider further information provided by SA Water, data and studies from other third parties; in guiding their overall assessment and recommendation.

The Committee will comprise senior leaders, key influencers and decision-makers from key industry sectors who are able to make informed decisions and contribute to the work of the Committee on behalf of their organisations.

While favourable rainfall over the winter and spring months as well as enhanced monitoring and modelling now indicates extractions from the Basin can be sustainably managed through to the end of 2025, the need to deliver a water security solution as soon as practicable is well recognised. This being the case, the Committee will work together to determine a preferred location for a desalination plant by the end of July 2022.

2 Project Objectives

In identifying a suitable site for a desalination plant as a climate independent source of water, the Committee shall have regard to the following:

- Deliver a sustainable and secure water supply to the entire Eyre Peninsula region both now and into the future –and not compromise the ability to achieve water security into the future
- Select a site for a desalination plant that is supported by key stakeholders and the community
- Select a site for a desalination plant that does not prejudice the opportunity to respond to future demand
- Improve potable water quality to all existing SA Water customers across the Eyre Peninsula Region
- Enable future economic growth opportunities for the Eyre Peninsula region where water security has previously been a barrier
- Mitigate the risk of detrimental impacts on existing or developing industries within the Eyre Peninsula region
- Develop a sound business case and funding model that will ensure the financial viability of the project
- Account for heritage and cultural views and values of the community
- Account for local impacts, issues and opportunities

Aspirational Target (subject to confirming a climate independent source of water)

- Give consideration to the whole water cycle and existing water related assets (wastewater management, stormwater harvesting, ground water, Iron Knob to Kimba pipeline), marine science and research and broader community benefit and how the desalination project can be best leveraged to achieve added value.

3 Social License

The Eyre Peninsula Desalination Project Site Selection Committee (SSC) operating with trust and legitimacy is aiming to obtain the informal consent to a site for a desalination plant from those stakeholders impacted by the desalination project.

In order to achieve this objective, the SSC will work with impacted stakeholders to develop ideas, options and solutions to manage environmental and social risk based around acknowledged tolerances and thresholds.

This will enable the SSC to recommend to Government and SA Water a preferred site for a desalination plant with the certainty of community and stakeholder support while realising opportunity and reducing risk.

4 Project Timeline

A project timeline has been determined for the project as shown in Figure 1 below. While the Committee will be invited to continue through to project completion, the frequency of meetings and Committee membership may change.

The Committee's primary purpose is to determine a preferred site for a desalination plant to recommend to SA Water and the South Australian Government. This work needs to be completed by the end of July 2022. This will require the Committee to meet regularly throughout this initial project phase, at times weekly or twice weekly.

Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant Project Timeline

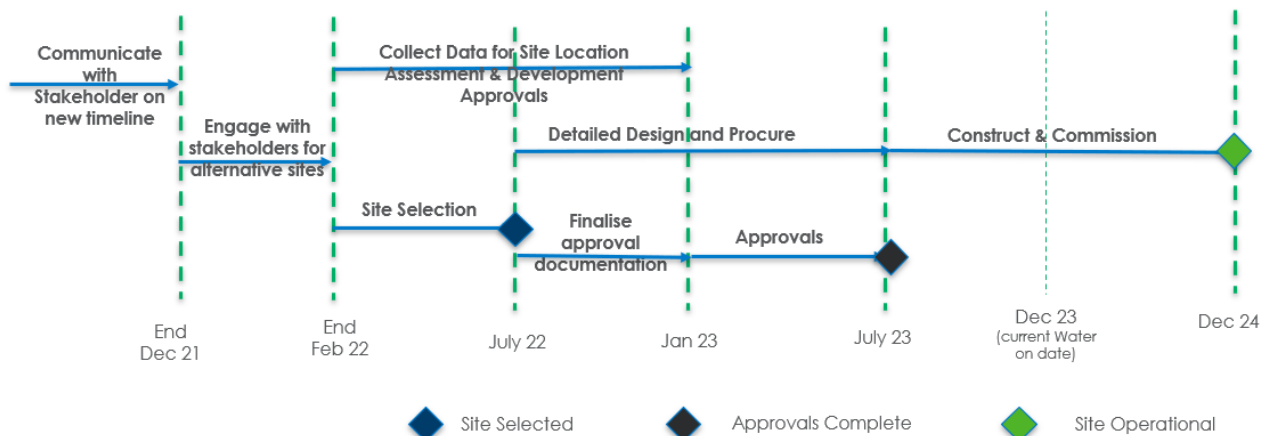


Figure 1 – Project Timeline

5 Engagement Process

The engagement process is summarised in Figure 2 below. The Committee will work through a process to recommend a preferred site for a desalination plant to SA Water and the South Australian Government.

The Committee will act as the central point for the exchange of all information required to enable Committee members to make informed decisions. Key inputs will also be sought from respective industry organisations and traditional owners.

The Committee shall also determine the points in the site selection process for broader community engagement to ensure all members understand community sentiment and can take this into account in their decision making. Community engagement methods will be discussed with the Committee but can include doorstep or online surveys, drop-in sessions, shopping centre polls, focus groups and community forums.

In making its recommendation, the Committee shall consider traditional owners and broader community support, appropriate and possible funding models, the extent to which the site meets the agreed project objectives and offers economic value for the Eyre Peninsula Community and SA Water customers, environmental impacts and potential for future growth.

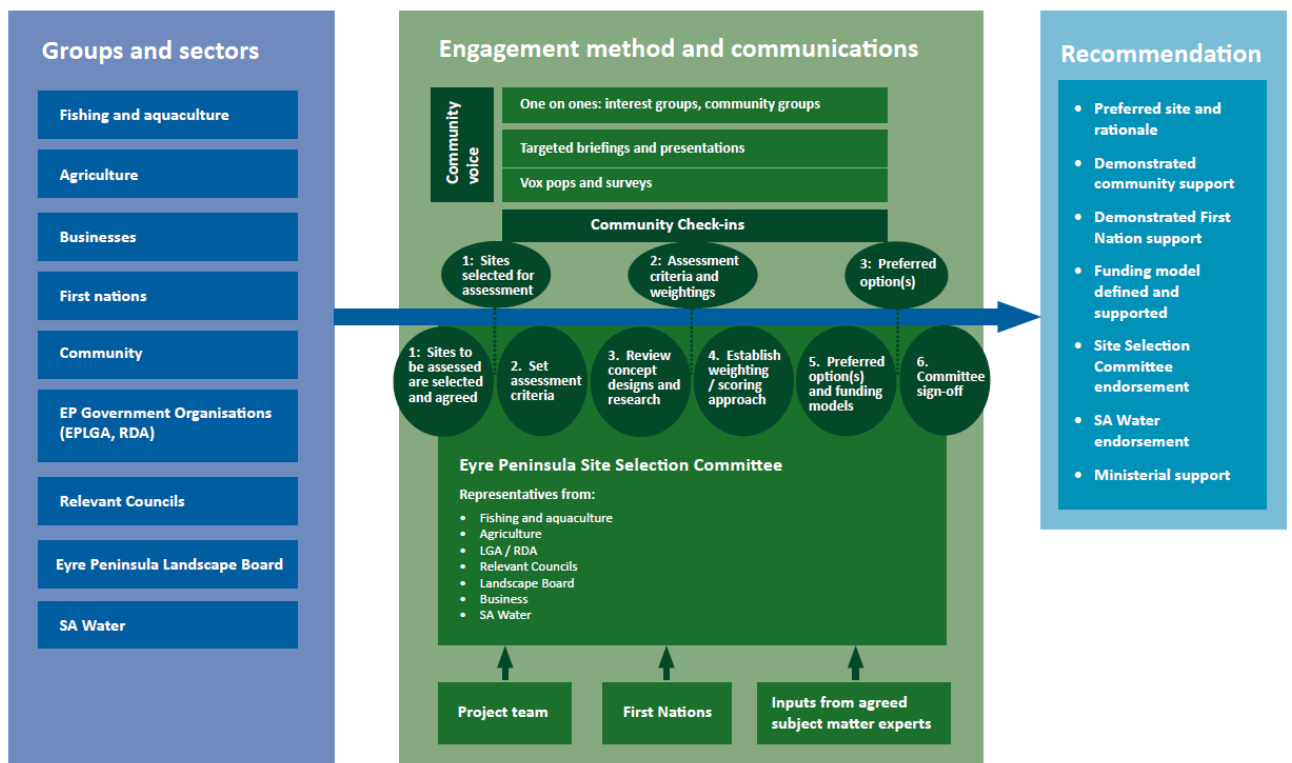


Figure 2 – Engagement Process

6 Purpose and Role of the Committee

The purpose of the Eyre Peninsula Site Selection Committee is to recommend to SA Water and the South Australian Government a preferred site for a desalination plant for the Eyre Peninsula. In this regard the Committee will:

- agree to a set of objectives to guide their deliberations
- review necessary documentation
- consider the information presented by industry experts and SA Water staff as required to gain a deeper understanding of the issues, constraints and opportunities
- agree to the criteria to be used in the final assessment stage
- consider opportunities to add value to the project to benefit SA Water customers, industry and the Eyre Peninsula Community
- give consideration to key issues and constraints including access to power, access to the network, land availability, environmental factors, community and industry impacts
- identify and validate funding options to support site selection decisions
- account for traditional owners' perspectives
- represent the issues, concerns and values of the broader Eyre Peninsula community as it relates to the selection of a preferred site
- facilitate an open, accurate, reciprocal communication channel to ask questions, and seek clarification or further information to inform the Committee's decision making
- provide guidance as to the broader community engagement process (inclusive of information sharing) and timing; and
- give consideration to technical constraints.

The preferred site must deliver against the agreed project objectives, achieve a social licence and be supported by a viable business case inclusive of a funding model.

The Committee will decide on a preferred site and present its recommendation to the South Australian Government and SA Water in a report via the Chair of the Committee for their consideration and endorsement. While SA Water will be represented on the Committee through the independent Project Director, regular check-ins with both SA Water and the South Australian Government will be required to ensure alignment.

7 Membership

Membership of the Committee shall ensure representation from key sectors including:

- Fishing and aquaculture
- Business
- Agriculture
- Local Government
- Regional Development
- Environmental Management
- SA Water

Traditional owners will be engaged throughout the site selection process and provided the opportunity to contribute to the discussions and the deliberations of the Committee in a way that best works for their respective communities.

Members will be invited to participate until the end of July 2022 when a preferred site is to be recommended to SA Water and the South Australian Government. At this point, the membership will be reviewed and the Committee invited to continue into the design and implementation phase of the project.

A number of invited observers and or industry experts/consultants will be invited to speak or observe the meetings as required. This will be determined in collaboration with the Committee and is likely to include staff from SA Water, representatives from government agencies, regulatory organisations, industry bodies and specific subject matter experts.

A list of Committee members sorted alphabetically is provided in Table 1 below.

Sector	Organisation	Member Name	Role
Fishing and Aquaculture	SA Mussel Growers Association	Andy Dyer	President
Local Government	City of Port Lincoln Council	Brad Flaherty	Mayor
Fishing and Aquaculture	Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna Industry Association Ltd	Brian Jeffriess	Chief Executive
Economic Development	Regional Development Australia	Bryan Trigg	Chair
Local Government	Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association	Clare McLaughlin	President

Fishing and Aquaculture	South Australian Sardine Industry Association Inc.	Claire Webber	Executive Officer
Local Government	District Council Lower Eyre Peninsula	Delfina Lanzilli	Chief Executive
Water Utility	TSA Management	Gary Neave	Independent Project Director
Local Government	District Council of Tumby Bay	Hannah Allen-Jordan	Acting Mayor
Local Government	District Council Lower Eyre Peninsula	Jo-Anne Quigley	Mayor
Environment	Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board	Jonathan Clark	General Manager
Environment	Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board	Mark Whitfield	Chair
Local Government	City of Port Lincoln Council	Matthew Morgan	Chief Executive
Local Government	Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association	Peter Scott	Executive Officer
Local Government	District Council of Tumby Bay	Rebecca Hayes	Chief Executive
Fishing and Aquaculture	Clean Seas Seafood Limited	Rob Gratton	Chief Executive
Economic Development	Regional Development Australia	Ryan Viney	Chief Executive
Fishing and Aquaculture	RecFish SA	Shane Hodgins	Director
Business	Port Lincoln Chamber of Commerce and Tourism	Sharni-Marie Barney	Chair
Fishing and Aquaculture	Abalone Industry Association of South Australia Inc	Thomas McNab	President
Fishing and Aquaculture	Australian Abalone Growers Association	Tom Hyde	Director
Government	Member for Parliament	TBA	Member for Flinders

Table 1: Committee Membership

Membership of the Committee will be confirmed at the first meeting of the group. Members will demonstrate an understanding of, or significant interest in, issues relevant to the community, industry or group they represent.

Members will have the delegated authority of their organisation to make decisions at meetings of the Committee.

Membership will be by invitation only. Member numbers will be limited to ensure the Committee is able to function effectively and efficiently as a Committee while ensuring all key sectors are adequately represented.

7.1 Proxies

In the event that a Committee member cannot attend a meeting of the Committee, that Committee member may appoint a proxy to attend in their stead. Notification must be given to the independent chair and executive officer of the inability of the member to attend and the name of the proxy to attend in their stead no later than two working days before the date of the meeting. This will enable apologies to be tabled at the meeting and any proxy introduced to the Committee.

It is the responsibility of the Committee member who cannot attend to brief their nominated proxy on the previous meeting's deliberations and ensure they are able to actively contribute with all necessary delegated authority.

7.2 Quorum

Members will be required to RSVP to meeting invitations within two working days of the Committee meeting. If a quorum of 50% of the membership (inclusive of proxies) is not able to be achieved, the meeting shall not proceed.

7.3 Independent Chair

An independent chair, Mr Peter Treloar, retiring Member for Parliament for the seat of Flinders, has been appointed by the Minister for Environment and Water to preside over the Committee. The role of the chair will be to:

- chair all meetings of the Committee
- provide leadership to enable the Committee to work as a cohesive team building unity, consensus and solidarity
- facilitate decision making of the Committee including Committee voting if required
- ensure the Committee remains focused on the project objectives and operates in accordance with its terms of reference
- demonstrate integrity and ethical leadership by encouraging a climate of trust and openness
- assess the adequacy of timelines and information provided to enable the Committee to perform its role and make informed decisions
- work closely with the Project Director and engagement facilitator to determine Committee meeting agendas and influence the steps necessary to achieve the required outcomes
- adopt procedures to enable the Committee to conduct its discussions and deliberations effectively and efficiently, including Committee scheduling, and management of meetings and workshop sessions
- act as the spokesperson for the Committee when required, including for any media enquiries

- act as a liaison between the Committee and the SA Water Chief Executive and the Minister as required to ensure that relationships are well maintained; and
- represent the Committee to external groups as required including industry, local government and community.

SA Water will provide executive officer support to the Committee chair to manage documentation of minutes, agendas and administrative tasks associated with the smooth functioning of the Committee.

An independent engagement practitioner will be appointed to work with the chair and the Project Director to assist in the management and facilitation of Committee meetings and workshops.

7.4 Member Responsibilities

All Committee members will:

- work within the framework of the endorsed Terms of Reference
- create a positive environment for members to present their views and ideas
- respect each member's rights to express a differing opinion to their own
- commit to attending and participating in all meetings and providing advance notice of non-attendance at meetings where possible
- represent their respective organisation with the necessary delegated authority to influence Committee decisions
- identify, communicate and consider the broad range of needs and interests of the local community as they relate to the selection of a preferred site for a desalination plant.

7.5 Privacy

All members will have access to member email addresses. Members will not forward other member email addresses to other stakeholders or members of the community without the express permission of the relevant member.

All members are requested to treat member contact details with respect and in accordance with privacy laws. If individual members wish to make contact with other members outside of Committee meetings, this is to be done so in the spirit of collaboration and in the best interests of the Committee objectives.

Minutes will summarise meeting discussions/debates but will not record member names against specific comments unless expressly requested by the member.

Committee member names (as attendees or apologies) will be published with each set of minutes. Committee member names only will be provided to the media at the agreement of the Committee.

8 Conduct

Members will act with integrity, objectivity, openness and honesty.

Members shall respect the context within which issues are raised and discussed.

Members shall represent discussions to the respective organisations they represent as accurately as possible.

Members shall be 'forward looking' and work to find solutions to issues to enable a suitable site for a desalination plant to be selected that delivers on the project objectives and achieves a social licence.

Members shall work together in a consultative way that promotes the collective sharing of ideas and opportunities.

Members shall create an environment that supports collaborative decision-making focusing on what is best for the Eyre Peninsula community.

Members will be encouraged to think innovatively to meet challenges.

Members will be respectful and considerate of different views and opinions when contributing to discussions and debates actively working to resolve differences and find common ground.

Members will remain focused on the task entrusted to the Committee and take accountability for their decisions and recommendations.

Members will give priority to the interests and water security needs of the Eyre Peninsula community in decision-making.

Members will respect any confidential information that is tabled to aid in the Committee decision-making process and not disclose such information without agreement of the author or the custodian of that information.

Members shall review meeting minutes, agendas, documents and reports as required before Committee meetings and come prepared to actively contribute and make decisions.

9 Conflict of Interest

Members shall declare to the Chair any apparent or perceived conflict of interest. This may include but not be limited to:

- property ownership either at or adjacent to a proposed site
- business interests or business ventures at or near to a proposed site
- decision making responsibility for other proposals, issues or developments that may be advantaged or disadvantaged by a proposed site
- other matters where the member may determine either an actual or perceived conflict.

Upon disclosing an actual or perceived conflict of interest the Chair shall determine what action if any is required to manage the actual or perceived conflict. Actions may include but not be limited to:

- noting the declaration in the minutes
- request that the member does not participate in discussions related to the actual or perceived conflict
- request that the member is replaced by a suitable proxy.

10 Conflict Resolution

It is acknowledged that parties will at times differ in their views and may agree to disagree. While every attempt will be made to reach a common ground agreement, this may not always be possible. In such cases, individual member views will be documented subject to the approval of the relevant member(s).

Where a decision is required and it is not possible to reach a unanimous agreement, the chair shall call for a vote. It shall be at the Chair's discretion as to whether the vote shall be taken in public or by private ballot.

If a vote is required a 75% majority must be achieved in order for a decision to be carried.

If a decision is passed by a 75% majority, all members will be required to support the decision determined by a majority vote.

It shall be at the Chair's discretion as to the time given for members to consult their respective organisations before a vote is called. The Chair shall take into account the sensitivity of the decision to be made, the consequence of the decision and the general mood and feel of the respective members.

11 Meetings

The Committee via the Chair and in consultation with the Project Director or engagement facilitator will determine the following:

- optimal time of day and duration of each meeting
- meeting frequency: as required to meet the site selection timeline
- meeting outcomes.

Relevant COVID-19 protocols will apply as necessary to all meetings. While not preferred, this may require some meetings to be held online, in which case TSA will host the online meeting from its office in Adelaide.

Meetings are only open to members of the Committee.

Observers and special guests will be at the discretion of the Chair.

12 Agendas, Minutes and Documents

Agendas will be prepared by the independent engagement practitioner in consultation with the Chair and the Project Director. Agendas will be circulated no less than 2 working days from the meeting date.

Minutes of meetings will be recorded by the executive officer. Minutes will include a summary of key discussions and clearly articulate meeting outcomes, actions and next steps.

A draft copy of the minutes will be distributed to members within five (5) business days following each meeting. Draft minutes will be ratified at the next meeting and distributed to members as agreed.

All draft minutes will be treated as confidential until ratified by the members. Once ratified minutes will be made public via the SA Water Talks website and distributed to member organisations and key stakeholders.

Plans, drawings, concepts and other documentation will be treated as a draft by all members and sharing of its content is subject to IP protection and confidentiality. There may be occasions where the Committee considers it appropriate to share information with key stakeholders and/or the community. The Project Director will determine what is able to be shared or how it can be shared in such a way that IP protection and confidentiality is not compromised.

13 Media

The media is an important means of communicating to the broader community of Eyre Peninsula.

The media will seek updates to the project including the role, function and purpose of the Committee.

The Chair will be the spokesperson for the Committee and will work with the Project Director or engagement practitioner and the respective Minister to manage the media interest in the Committee and the project. The Chair will use discretion when speaking with the media to ensure matters of confidentiality are appropriately managed and the views of the

Committee are accurately represented. The Chair will respect the media protocols in place for SA Water and ensure the SA Water executive and the Minister are adequately informed of media requests.

The Committee may at times choose to proactively utilise the media. Any such decision will be managed at the discretion of the Chair and have regard for the media protocols of SA Water.

Each Committee member is able to speak to the media to express their own opinion or that of the organisation they represent. However, members are not permitted to speak on behalf of the Committee.

As a general rule, the media will not be invited to meetings of the Committee. However, should the media request attendance members shall be consulted, and the request managed at the discretion of the Chair in consultation with the Project Director and having regard for SA Water media protocols.