

Mount Bold Dam Safety Upgrade Reference Group

Project Name	Mount Bold Dam Safety Upgrade					
Date	25/06/2020		Time	6:30pm-8:00pm		
Location.	Webex online meeting		Meeting no.	2		
Facilitator	Amelia Laoratana		Note taker	Selene Seet		
Attendance Ab = Absent Ap = Apologies P = Present	Peter Watton, Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park (FSCCP)	P	Luke Price, Natural Resources Management Board (NRM)	Ap	Adam Schutz, Native Vegetation Council (NVC)	P
	Shaun Thomas, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	P	Pru Fowles, Clarendon Community Association (CCA)	P	Amelia Hurren, Bush for Life/Trees for Life (BFL/TFL)	Ap
	Morgan Ellingham, City of Onkaparinga (CoO)	P	Wayne Henkel, Old Noarlunga Resident Association (ONCRA)	Ap	Tim Jury, Nature Conservation Society of SA/Threatened Plant Action Group (NCSSA/TPAG)	Ap
	Michael Field, Aboriginal Partnerships Co-ordinator (DEW)	Ap	Merle Simpson, Kaurna Representative	Ap	Selene Seet, SA Water (SAW)	P
	Eric Von Wielligh, SA Water (SAW)	P	Peter Doumouras, SA Water (SAW)	P	Amelia Laoratana, SA Water (SAW)	P
	Darrell Hamlyn, SA Water (SAW)	P				

1 Welcome and introductions

Meeting opened with introductions from attendees and apologies as noted above.

2 Notes and actions from last meeting

SA Water provided a brief summary of the first meeting held 28 May 2020. The meeting summary circulated on 11 June was accepted with no amendments or additions to the record.

There was a review of the open action items register and updates recorded against the status of each at the end of this meeting record.

SA Water provided an update on Aboriginal engagement advising that two representatives have been invited to join the Reference Group. Discussions were continuing on how best to engage Kaurna representatives which could involve a knowledge sharing workshop and input into interpretative signage for the Reservoir Reserve depending on scope and the level of interest for involvement with the project.

With no further comment, the Reference Group Terms of Reference (ToR) was formally accepted.

3 Dam safety upgrade presentation

SA Water Project Manager presented a PowerPoint presentation on design and construction aspects of the Mount Bold Dam Safety Upgrade project, including technical drivers and design details.

It was agreed a copy of the presentation slides would be provided with the meeting summary.

Discussion

A summary of key points and discussions followed, including questions and responses:

SA Water outlined that upgrades are required to the 1930s built dam at Mount Bold to meet guidelines of the Australian National Committee on Large Dams (ANCOLD) for flood and earthquake capacity. The current dam spillway capacity is only designed for 10% of the probable maximum flood (PMF) and large flood events would mean water would flow over the dam crest and fall over the side abutments which create erosion of the dam structure. Additionally, increasing the strength of the dam by adding concrete buttressing or post tensioned anchors will allow water to safely pass downstream without compromising the foundations.

It was advised that the current design option would provide an increased flood protection level downstream to Old Noarlunga, of up to 1:100 Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) if the reservoir is drawn down, or up to 1:18 AEP if the reservoir is at Full Supply Level (FSL).

A participant asked if the new design option would still be able to offer pre-releases prior to major flood events if accurate forecasting is available. SA Water advised it would not, however the dam would have the ability to (temporarily) store water above the permanent pool level which would result in a better level of protection. SA Water further added that forecasting is not an exact science and pre-releases have time and capacity limitations and discharging too much water too early can also cause flooding ahead of the rainfall event, whereas the new design limits outflows and provides a better level of protection.

A participant enquired whether Mount Bold dam has experienced a situation where water flowed over the top of the crest and over the sides as per the second diagram shown on slide three under design flood scenario. SA Water advised this has not occurred so far and that the spillway can pass water at a rate of 900 cubic metres per second (m³/s). The highest inflow measured in 1992 (432m³/s) was approximately half the current spillway capacity.

A participant queried whether there would be public access across the top of the dam wall after construction is complete. SA Water advised there would be a viewing platform available during construction and opportunities for alternative access along with recreational facilities on site once construction is complete. As the dam operation will be changed, it would not be possible to walk across the dam wall but access to parts of the left and right abutments will be made available.

4 Project planning presentation

SA Water Stakeholder Engagement Advisor presented a snapshot of the project timeline, including outlining key approvals required, an overview of planned stakeholder engagement activities and a recap of key interest areas identified at the first reference group meeting.

A participant asked whether local council has the opportunity to put forward a submission to the ESCOSA determination and influence the level of funding provided for the project. SA Water explained that the Mount Bold Dam Safety Upgrade project already has approved funding from ESCOSA for this regulatory period (RBP 2020-2024) and public consultation was open for several months from February to April this year. There is no longer an option to present a submission at this time, however the project will go through similar approvals and consultation process for the next regulatory period (RBP 2024-2028).

A participant noted their interest in understanding more details around the native vegetation that will likely be impacted, as well as species of conservation significance identified and offsets that will be considered. SA Water's environmental advisor responded that early assessment work has been undertaken for the flood mitigation and there will be opportunity in a future meeting to discuss these findings, as well as how the project will work to minimise the construction footprint associated with the upgrade. A summary report of the initial flora and fauna findings for the dam wall upgrade area was provided following the first reference group meeting.

It was proposed that the next meeting be focused on environmental information including initial flora and fauna assessment findings and the impacts on native vegetation, which the group agreed to.

5 Next meeting

SA Water asked if the group had any additional comments or queries. A participant mentioned that there was a lot of history in the area - such as the underground tunnel that was built leading up to Happy Valley Water Treatment Plant, Clarendon Weir, the bridge and the Reservoir. They would like to see more information being made available about Mount Bold's history and for the project to think about information sharing with the community, including through interactive mediums such as QR codes. SA Water responded that they would take this on board and agreed the project presents opportunities for greater community involvement and education around many historical, cultural and environmental aspects of area, such as Aboriginal heritage and endangered species and communities that reside within the Reservoir Reserve.

SA Water proposed the next meeting for the end of July, to be held at Clarendon Community Hall in light of COVID restrictions being lifted. This was agreed by the group and participants were keen for a face to face meeting with a date to be advised.

With no further business, SA Water thanked participants for their time and closed the meeting at 7:45pm.

Open Action Items Register

No.	Action	By Whom	Date Raised	Date Due	Status
1.	Circulate meeting summary along with presentation slides and link to ABC news story	SAW	28/05/20	11/06/20	complete
2.	Provide final Terms of Reference (ToR) to group members	SAW	28/05/20	11/06/20	complete
3.	Provide copy of <i>Mount Bold Dam Safety Upgrade – Preliminary Flora and Fauna Findings</i>	SAW	28/05/20	11/06/20	complete
4.	SA Water to follow up on Aboriginal engagement and representation for reference group	SAW	28/05/20	25/06/20	complete
5.	Acceptance of ToR by group members at next reference group meeting	SAW	28/05/20	25/06/20	complete
6.	Circulate 25/6 meeting summary and design and construction project presentation slides	SAW	25/06/20	09/07/20	