

Project Update 2 - March 2022

Our growing Community team

In late January, our Community and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor, Vesna Rendulic commenced work in Kerang to deliver VHM's 2022 community engagement program. Vesna will be visible at local events and markets running the Goschen project information stand and greeting you at drop-in information sessions which will be held across the Gannawarra Shire area in weeks and months to come.



Vesna Rendulic - Community and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor

Also part of our site team is Environment and Approvals Specialist, Kurtis Noyce. Kurtis is supporting the Goschen project approval process and working with the various State government regulators and agencies to ensure the Goschen project meets all the requirements of the Environment Effects Statement (EES).

Please do say hello to Vesna and Kurtis as you see them in the community. They will be collecting your feedback about the project, documenting any concerns and issues raised,



Kurtis Noyce - Environment and Approvals Specialist

and answering any questions you may have about the project and the government approval process.

Community engagement

In line with pandemic restrictions easing in Victoria in recent months, we recommenced work on the Environment Effects Statement (EES) approval process in February. A key part of this work is our community engagement program to share project information and gather feedback from community and stakeholders about the Goschen project. As a member of the community, your feedback will inform the impact assessments for the EES technical studies now being prepared.

Part of the engagement program will be to re-activate the Stakeholder and Community Reference Group (SCRG) in coming weeks. The group will play an important role by providing feedback that will help guide VHM with project planning - issues and concerns raised by the group inform the EES technical studies and ensure that project design addresses and mitigates community concerns.

Where are we in the Environment Effects Statement process?

The timeline below illustrates the steps in the EES process and where we currently stand in the overall approval process.



How we will engage with you

VHM Limited

Throughout 2022 we will be proactive in gathering your feedback and visible on a regular and frequent basis. Some of the different ways that we will be seeking your feedback include:

Drop-in information sessions & open houses

To be held at local public venues across the region. VHM representatives and technical experts will be available to chat about the project and discuss the EES technical studies. We will advertise these sessions in local newspapers, on radio and the Goschen project website: vhmltd.com.au

Technical information sessions

From time to time these sessions will be held to brief interested stakeholders on technical studies assessments and will allow VHM to gather local knowledge and views relevant to technical studies.

Goschen Project website

The website contains all project information including answers to Frequently Asked Questions, links to relevant government websites and a feedback form and enquiry service to enable us to gather your feedback on the project.

Advertising

We will advertise in local newspapers and on radio to advise when we will be attending local events and markets, providing updates on the project and related issues, and notifying the broad community at key milestones in the EES process.

Pop-up information stalls

We will attend local markets and key community events across the region, including shows and field days – keep an eye out for VHM at Kerang, Swan Hill, Murrabit and Cohuna markets.

Personal meetings

On request we will conduct one-on-one meetings to maintain close and direct communication. These meetings provide informal opportunities for stakeholders to express their views directly and openly to VHM.

Fact sheets/ Information Sheets

Factual information about the project to explain technical information and the EES process. These will be available at drop-information sessions and pop-up information stalls, and can also be downloaded from the Goschen project website. If community members cannot access a digital copy we will post upon request.

Stakeholder and Community Reference Group (SCRG)

This forum is more formal and an independent facilitator will chair meetings with a view to gaining an understanding of social and environmental priorities that will inform project design.

Stakeholder briefings

We will provide direct and regular face-to-face briefings with key stakeholders, answer questions and seek direct feedback.

Surveys

We will conduct surveys from time to time to gauge stakeholder and community attitudes and perceptions of the project and identify areas of concern that require action.

Project Update bulletins

We will email a regular update on project progress and publicising activities being undertaken by VHM. These bulletins will also be uploaded on the Goschen project website. Please let us know: vhmltd.com.au/registration if you wish to be included on the email distribution list.

Goschen Project office

We are currently planning to establish an office in Tate St, Kerang where community members can drop in on allocated days to chat with a VHM representative and learn more about the project.

Contact us

We encourage you to provide feedback and direct any enquiries to:

Email: community@vhmltd.com.au Telephone: 0429 462 524 Website: vhmltd.com.au/contact-us