

Port Botany  
CCC Minutes  
Meeting #45

12 November 2024  
5:30pm – 7:00pm  
Online via Zoom

Invitees	
<b>Community Members</b> Charles Abela (CA) Patrick Medway (PM) Paul Pickering (PP) John Burgess (JB)	<b>NSW EPA</b> Erin Barker (EB) Rajesh Mottey (RM)
<b>Local Government</b> Bronwyn Englaro – Randwick Council (BE)	<b>Port Authority of NSW</b> Nerida Green (NG)
<b>Business Representatives</b> Scott Eadie – DP World (SE) Creagh Debrabander – Elgas (CD) Damian Arnold – ACFS (DA)	<b>NSW Ports</b> Bryan Beudeker (BB) Greg Walls (GW)
	<b>Independent Community Commissioner</b> Roberta Ryan – Independent Chairperson (RR) Isa Crossland Stone – Minute taker (ICS)
	<b>Apologies</b> Jonathan Lafforgue – NSW Ports (JL) Natalie Cerda – Patrick (NC) Karen Jones – Opal (KJ) Wayne Gibson - DP World (WG) Alan Chambers – Vopak (AC)

## Agenda Items

### Commencement

1. Welcome, apologies and introductions PP and JB confirm the previous minutes.

EB introduces RM, who is increasingly doing work in the Port Botany area for the EPA.

The EPA is moving towards a model of adding more geography to the work they do, and given that RM is working in this area, he has come along today to become familiar with the CCC.

RM introduces himself to the group.

BB welcomes RM and invites him to be in touch with him if he would like a tour of NSW Ports. RM thanks BB.

### Matters arising

1. JB and NG have conferred offline about the issues of seagrass and shorebird monitoring in the vicinity of Foreshore Beach and Penrhyn estuary.  
JB says that there has been no response from the PA concerning these issues and he therefore is not in a position to report to the CCC.

NG says that the PA has received advice that there is no evidence of exposed Ausgrid cables within the shipping channel which is a no anchoring zone for recreational boats so recreational boats should not be interacting with these cables.

JB cautioned that recreational boats were not a concern but rather the risk was for large ships like the Portland Bay tanker which in 2022 came very close to dragging anchor across the Ausgrid cables in extreme weather while its engines were disabled.

JB says that if the PA totally satisfied that the Ausgrid cables are not exposed and do not constitute a shipping risk he will no longer pursue this issue via the CCC. This action is now closed for the CCC meeting.

2. NG to follow up JB's request for a commitment from the Port Authority to install another 32 trailer spaces at Foreshore Road as soon as possible.

JB says that there has been a commitment by various parties to deliver these spaces. JB will be following this delivery closely, as he sees it as greatly important.

JB is finding that more and more cars are parking in areas around the boat ramp, meaning that the boat ramp is not accessible. This is particularly of concern in the summertime.

NG confirms that the PA has spoken to Council about the additional boat trailer/car parking spaces, and the onus is on Council to fund and create these spaces. If she receives different information, she will update the group.

JB says that PF, has raised a concern on behalf of the Yarra Bay Sailing Club, wherein the groyne/ sea wall in front of the club has been seriously damaged as a consequence of erosion and wave energy bouncing off the Molineaux Point seawall. Without the groyne, large waves can and have damaged the sailing club building. JB would therefore like for NG to follow up with the PA on this issue and ascertain who is responsible for maintenance and repairs and report back to the CCC.

NG will follow this up and asks that JB to send her relevant information. ACTION.

Regarding the seagrass monitoring, NG says that PA is participating in a research program in Gamay-Botany Bay, led by UNSW. The agreement between PA and UNSW is still being formalised, but NG suggests that in future this research team could present to the group.

RR says that the team has already presented to the CCC on this project.

JB says this has limited geographic remit and does not extend to the sea grass areas in question adjacent to the port facility and Foreshore beach

JB raises a matter for the PA: the wave attenuation device that was installed in conjunction with the burial and extension of the Sydney Water stormwater drain has been damaged by bad weather and a section is missing. The device needs repair and strengthened to withstand the elements.

NG will follow this up once JB has provided more details offline. ACTION.

3. BB to contact TfNSW to enquire as to whether they are responsible for the maintenance of Foreshore Road (which has been experiencing flooding on its southern side due to dumping of bush material and improper drainage). BB will seek TfNSW's input about maintenance of the road in the case that it is their responsibility.

BB says that he has reached out to the contact in mind but has not yet received a response. He will continue to pursue this issue. ACTION.

## Presentations

### 1. ACFS presentation on the EV truck initiative at the ports – DA

DA introduces himself; he has worked at ACFS in various roles since 2013. His current role is General Manager Strategy and Developments, which includes a few key tasks surrounding the management and organization of the ACFS EV fleet.

DA presents on the ACFS' role in the EV initiative at NSW Ports.

BB thanks DA for his presentation, and his time at the meeting.

BB congratulates ACFS on their application of EV technology.

Since PF is an apology, BB requests that the slides be made available.

BB asks about any driver feedback received on these new EVs.

DA says that overall, feedback has been very positive. The vehicles are quiet and comfortable, and the quiet engine has a safety implication in terms of being able to catch the driver's attention on the road.

BE congratulates ACFS on their 5-star Green Star rating. This minimum specification is a wonderful achievement.

RM asks if ACFS would ever consider installing battery.

DA says that yes, definitely. Unfortunately, the 1000-KW battery system (needed for a large EV truck) would be cost-prohibitive at this stage and is therefore not viable for ACFS currently. They are currently focused on maximizing the amount of TEU that can be carried by EV vehicles.

## Environment Update

### 1. Summary of complaints and incidents – BB

BB says that there were only 2 complaints in September and 1 in October.

There have been 89 single complaints since 1 June in 2024, and 49 of these were connected to 2 specific vessels (as discussed in previous meetings).

In general, based on community feedback, concerns associated with the Port and post-Covid ship noise have decreased significantly.

BB says that there have been no major incidents at the Ports in the last 3 months.

Replacement dock lines are going in for Quantum and Vopak, and this work seems to be progressing well.

CA says that he has heard that there is a company that does air testing at and around the Port. He asks if BB knows anything about this, or if there is a laboratory at the ports.

BB says no, there is no laboratory at the ports.

## Other Business

BB updates the group that the planned tour of the Enfield terminal site has been postponed from next week on Monday until February 2025, as the terminal is especially busy currently in the leadup to Christmas.

JB asks EB about the perspective of the EPA on recent findings of tar balls containing human waste, pharmaceutical chemicals and illicit drug traces being washed up on Sydney beaches. JB believes it is possibly, given the chemical composition of the tar balls and the need for concentrations of people, that the source of the waste is cruise ships discharging their bilges close to shore

EB says that the EPA and Randwick Council have both been working on this, but the Council has been taking the lead. As far as she is aware, no source of the contamination/sewerage leak has been identified.

BE says that a similar incident occurred in about 2010. At that time, the theory was that that discharge had come from a large ship.

BE says that some of the local universities have been testing the discharged material.

RR notes that there has not yet been any response from Bayside Council to requests for representation on the CCC. She will continue to pursue this item. ACTION.

BB will arrange to have a general presentation from the NSW Ports Biosecurity Group at the next meeting. ACTION.

Risk Management Plan. JB noted there was no discussion on this topic raised at the previous meeting

Sewerage Discharge at Mill Stream. JB says that Sydney Water has acknowledged it had failed to properly consult with the community re the recent application for a 3 year extension of its licence to discharge raw sewerage into Botany Bay at the Mill Stream. Sydney Water has undertaken to improve its community communication and will conduct annual public updates and meetings in advance of the next review for extension of the discharge licence

#### Next Meeting

Date: 11 February, 2025

Time: 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Location: Online, Zoom