

Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project Name:	NorthConnex Air Quality Community Consultative Committee	Reporting Period:	August 2017 – December 2018
Independent Chairperson:	Abigail Goldberg	Proponent Contact:	Sonja Shand

1. Executive Summary

NorthConnex established the Air Quality Community Consultative Committee (AQCCC), which meets four times a year. The AQCCC was established in mid-2017, in accordance with the Project's Conditions of Approval, and will operate for two years from the opening of NorthConnex. The tunnel is scheduled to open in 2020.

The AQCCC includes four local community representatives, and representatives from Hills Shire Council, Parramatta City Council, Hornsby Shire Council and Ku-ring-gai Council, Roads and Maritime Services and NorthConnex Company Pty Ltd.

Abigail Goldberg was appointed in August 2017 as the independent chairperson for the AQCCC in consultation with the Department of Planning and Environment. The selection process to appoint committee members was carried out in accordance with the project's Conditions of Approval, the Department of Planning and Environment's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines and the project community representative application pack (included in Appendix 1). A probity consultant, and the independent chair were involved in the selection of community members.

There have been six AQCCC meetings to date. This first report covers the first 18 months of meetings. Subsequent reports will be for 12 month periods.

Most committee members have been actively engaged by the process and have made constructive contributions to the AQCCC. This was particularly apparent following a site visit to the Lane Cove tunnel after which members provided positive feedback stating that it had provided them with a greater understanding of how air quality matters in relation to road tunnels are managed.

2. CCC activities over last 18 months

The AQCCC was established in August 2017. Six meetings have been held in the 18 months since establishment. Appendix 2 includes the dates, attendance (also in Appendix 3) and minutes of each meeting.

The following key issues have been discussed at meetings:

- Role of the group
- Project updates
- Understanding air quality, including more detailed information about NorthConnex air quality monitoring and its regulation

- Location of the ambient air quality monitoring stations and the appointment of the operator of the stations
- The distribution of air quality monitoring results to the wider community, including the website
- The draft protocol for the evaluation of a potential measurement that exceeds the criteria.

The AQCCC have also been provided with several briefings, including:

- General air quality briefing (Andrew Mattes, Senior Environment Specialist (Air Quality), RMS)
- Overview of work to identify locations for air quality monitoring stations. Related approval processes (Alex Todoroski, Air Quality Specialist, Todoroski Air Sciences)

In October 2018, the AQCCC were in addition taken on a tour of the Lane Cove Tunnel and provided with information regarding how the tunnel is managed and maintained. The tour had a particular focus on air quality monitoring using a 'live' example.

Minutes of all meetings are made publicly available at northconnex.com.au

3. Key issues

The tunnel is yet to open to the public, consequently the first eighteen months have focused on providing information / education for the AQCCC, as well as obtaining their input regarding the establishment of air quality monitoring stations, as required by the project conditions.


Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Selection of location of ambient air quality monitoring stations	Locations of the six air quality monitoring stations selected in consultation with AQCCC	Arrange a site visit to an established air quality monitoring station in 2019 for the AQCCC
The distribution of air quality monitoring results to the wider community, including the website	Discussion held on how air quality monitoring results will be made publicly available	Web page under development for the display and communication of air quality monitoring results online
The draft protocol for the evaluation of a potential measurement that exceeds the criteria	Draft protocol discussed with AQCCC	Submit draft protocol to the EPA and Ministry of Health for review and submit to DPE for approval.

4. Focus for next 12 months

The next twelve months will focus on preparing for the opening of the NorthConnex tunnel. Over the period the group will:

- Visit the newly established air quality monitoring stations
- Finalise the protocol for the evaluation of a potential measurement that exceeds the criteria
- Provide input regarding communicating ambient air quality monitoring results online.

Additional activities will be identified as the project nears completion. Committee members are encouraged to nominate discussion points and/or site visits that may be of assistance to the AQCCC.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	21 January 2019