

## **NT Branch Meeting**

**8 November 2011, Congress 21 Gap Rd Meeting Room**

**Opened:** 1720

**Present:** Warwick Beaver, Clive Rosewarne, Peter Tait, in Alice; and Michael Fonda, by telephone.

**Apologies:** Rosalie Schultz, Pip Duncan, Hilary Tyler, Liz Moore

### **Previous Minutes**

6 September and 4 October accepted.

**President's Report:** none

**Treasurers Report:** Income \$29017.09; Expenditure \$1403.07; \$2,917.09 balance at end June. \$2,559.90 at end September.

**Correspondence:** none

### **Business arising**

#### ***Really caring for kids campaign:***

***Really caring for kids campaign IIa, Amendments to Notifiable Diseases Act, Section 10.***

Barbara Patterson received our second letter and an intra-departmental meeting was called to discuss. Vicki Krause discussed the matters with me prior to the meeting. No conclusion was reached at this meeting. The department is going to consider the matter and meet again in 3 months.

Prosecution under the Act can only occur at the discretion of the CHO. However this is only likely to occur in a politically charged situation and so the CHO might be under political pressure. The way forward may be for the group working on this to develop a guideline for the CHO to use were this occasion to arise.

**Plan:** Await outcome.

***Really caring for kids campaign IIb, Care and Protection of Children Act***

Consultation and revision of the Act proceeds.

**Plan:** Await outcome.

#### ***Socially and Ecologically Sustainable NT Population:***

No news from the ATSIG on the Aboriginal issues discussion paper.

**Arising:** Plan: PT to finalise and send around. **Done**

Question considered: how does the NT Branch proceed?

Decided NT Branch still needs to articulate an NT vision to feed into our goals statement for next year.

**Plan:** Clive to add to and amend existing document into a framework doc **for the next meeting.**

### ***Nuclear issues:***

#### NT Waste Dump –

Arising: Michael F to craft media release into an article for November / December Intouch.  
**Done**

Copies of Darwin meeting video by Kim Parrish available.

**Agreed:** Put up on internet.

Kim needs formal PHAA approval.

**Plan:** Michael to send copies around for people to look at and if OK approve.

The Muckaty Appeal is in Court; new appellants added with NLC and Fed Gov agreement.

**Plan:** Await outcome.

#### ANFA Annual Meeting

Really well attended. Several A/S reps on new committee. Also ECNT and ALEC. Clive as EHSIG. Hilary as MAPW.

Proposed to hold an NT ANFA in April or May 2012; ?Katherine or TCh. tba

#### Olympic Dam

Expansion of Olympic Dam expansion is approved. Issues for NT: trains going to Darwin and enclosed port redevelopment. *Nuclear Freeways Campaign* being launched to engage all LG area on route. Regular train blockades: *BHP off the rails*. The campaign plans to get list of rail accidents to make public (Clive to do).

Response to issues: A/S number of trains only 1/day however is long and cover two of three crossings at one time – this is a minor issue and will be solved by an overpass so is not worth spending time on as a major focus, as it can be technically remedied with an overpass.

What is important is the more risky freight, paucity of trained accident and emergency workers who in the event of an accident will have to contact BHP Billiton to send in trained staff. This might take a day or more.

2 sorts of freight: highly radioactive ore concentrate (partially refined / processed) and low radioactive copper ore. Special designed / purpose build cylindrical and covered trucks for copper ore so they can be unloaded automatically in a covered facility in Darwin. However the radioactive ore concentrate is being transported in standard 44 drums in general trucks, the same as yellow cake now is.

Foci for campaign action so far:

Aim to have emergency workers from NSW coming out to brief emergency workers in the NT.

Highlighting the opportunity costs of infrastructure for this one single mine not being spent on various things but also other mining projects not getting support.

Frame: not blocking crossings in Alice but about accidents along length of railway, particularly in remote areas.

### Other Uranium Exploration/Mines

Many explorations going ahead. NT Gov will support them.

### Adelaide River reserve land

New Minerals Titles Act now in and supersedes the previous Mining Act; so reserving land is stronger protection from mining. Two kinds of reserve: general and special. Angela Pamea -> special – i.e. no activity at all for ever because of special reasons in applications. But existing leasees need to relinquish lease or we have to wait till it expires.

**Agreed:** PHAA to consider becoming one of the reserve applicants.

### Angela Pamela

Arising: Wind direction study not yet published in the ANZJPH. Peter to arrange media release when it is out.

### Smoke alarms:

Disposal of alarms. Mick Ayre, Fire and Rescue, told by Health that advice for relocation of ionising alarms to other locations within the house gets around short term disposal problems. Advice is: don't throw out if working.

**Plan:** send letter to minister and press release and suggest a plan, immediately relocate and working toward a collection strategy in longer term e.g. bin at tip for sending back to manufacturer. Michael to draft.

***Alcohol issues:*** no report.

### ***Road safety:***

On hold; carry forward

### ***AGM:***

AGM – Still December 6<sup>th</sup>, usual phone and location details

### **New business**

### **Succession planning:**

President: Rosalie still in office for second year.

Secretary: Clive

Minute Secretary: Michael to consider

Treasurer: Warwick

Committee: Michael

**Website storage of minutes:**

Concerns with the minutes being open to public.

PHAA can't put something in the members' area.

**Plan:** Clive to raise again with National Office.

**Meeting Closed:** 1820

**Next meeting:** Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup>; 21 Gap Road and phone; at 17:15.

And going out to dinner afterwards.

**Dial in:** Rosalie will dial in as the moderator:

Others: **1800 896 323, pin 32185806#**