

Delta CARE Forum Meeting Notes

Thursday 7 May 2026

Attendees

Community	
██████████	Mannering Park Tidy Towns
██████	Chain Valley Bay Progress Association
██████████	Gwandalan and Summerland Point Peninsula Improvement Group
██████████	Summerland Point Tidy Towns Group
██████████	Mannering Park Progress Association
██████████	Mannering Park Progress Association
Delta	
██████████	Executive Manager Business improvement (Chairperson)
██████████	People and Culture Coordinator
██████████	Business Development Manager
██████████	Power Station Manager
██████████	Environmental Advisor
██████████	Head of Communications and Engagement
██████████	Administration Team Leader
Apologies	
██████████	Manager Health, Safety and Environment

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

All community members welcomed by the Chair, apologies noted and the meeting opened at 2pm. The Chair acknowledged the Darkinjung people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting is held and Vales Point Power Station operates, paying respects to Elders past and present.

Delta workforce presentation – ██████████

- Overview of Vales Point Power Station's workforce profile and representation, diversity and inclusion programs, early career development pathways including apprenticeship and graduate programs, and employee attraction and retention programs.



Vales Point Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) update – [REDACTED]

- The project's Environmental Impact Study (EIS) is almost complete. All technical studies have been completed, with hydrology/water management and noise assessment reports nearing completion.
- Technical studies did not identify any impacts requiring material changes to the concept design publicly exhibited in November 2025. There is a small change to the project's layout to move BESS equipment further away from existing buildings at the south-west corner of the project site.
- Technical studies found that the project's potential environmental impacts are manageable with the application of proposed management and mitigation measures that are detailed in the EIS.
- The State Significant Development (SSD) application and EIS are expected to be lodged later this month with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) for assessment.
- DPHI will publicly exhibit the EIS – timing is dependent on DPHI's processes but anticipate the exhibition will be in June/July. Delta will undertake further community engagement to support the exhibition, including letterbox drops and pop-up displays.

Business and industry update – [REDACTED]

- Delta welcomed Sally Rayner as Chief Operating Officer in April. Sally will lead Delta's power station and mining operations, as well as the safety, health and environment team.
- Chain Valley Colliery Consolidation Project was approved by the NSW Independent Planning Commission on 9 April 2026. Thank you to CARE Forum members, stakeholders and community members for taking part in the assessment and consultation process.
- Sentencing hearing for the 2022 Fish Kill court proceedings has been scheduled for August. Delta is unable to comment further while the matter is before the Court.
- In March there was a leak in a pipe transporting ash from the power station to the ash dam. Delta is working closely with NSW EPA as investigations continue.
- Industry and regulatory update, noting:
 - Fuel and energy markets remain volatile, with ongoing Middle East conflict driving uncertainty in global oil, LNG and diesel supply and prices. No issues for Vales Point currently.
 - 2026-27 Federal Budget will be handed down on 12 May 2026. Expected to be shaped by global instability, inflation pressure, energy affordability and cost-of-living challenges.
 - Regulated network charges for consumers will increase from 1 July 2026, mainly due to transmission expansion and the cost of integrating more renewables into the system.
 - Australia is still seeing strong capital investment into renewables and energy storage but with a sharper focus on project deliverability, grid connection and firming capacity.

Health, safety and environment update – [REDACTED]

- Vales Point will host a multidisciplinary emergency management exercise later this year with several organisations participating, including Central Coast Local Health District.
- Four community enquiries received in the period 1 February to 30 April 2026 relating to noise, property boundary encroachment, illegally dumped rubbish by a member of public, and dirt bikes trespassing on Delta land.
- NO_x and SO₂ emissions data and air quality reporting shared. Emissions continue to comply within regulatory limits. Data is available on Delta's website.

Operations update – [REDACTED]

- Update on annual maintenance outage – planning well underway for a minor outage of Unit 6. Delta is currently reviewing the timing of the outage (historically undertaken in October).
- An ash pipe leak occurred on 6 March 2026. Delta is working with NSW EPA and investigations into the incident are ongoing.
- Annual Dam Safety Standards Reports for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025 are now available on Delta's website.
- Further detail shared about new welder training simulator at Vales Point, which Delta is using to support training and career development of its workforce. Simulator enables real-world training on complex, hard to access boiler tubes and confined spaces. Open to wider industry to use.

Community update – [REDACTED]

- Update on community support and engagement initiatives over the past three months.
- Community engagement undertaken in January and February to support the NSW Independent Planning Commission's public hearing and submissions process for the Chain Valley Colliery Consolidation Project.
- Supported annual Lions Club Family Fun Day at The Entrance on 29 March 2026.
- Sponsorship agreements established with Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club's Junior and Youth Sailing Development Program, and Wyee Point Piranhas Swim Club's Youth Support and Coaching Excellence Program.
- Vales Point BESS – preparing further community and stakeholder engagement to support the EIS submission and public exhibition in the coming months.

Feedback from Community Members – General Business

- Question regarding Vales Point Power Station closure date and slowing energy transition timeline. It was noted that Delta has advised AEMO that Vales Point Power Station should operate reliably until at least 2033, based on detailed maintenance and asset assessments, and subject to market conditions. The 2033 date could change depending on market dynamics, regulatory settings, asset condition, and commercial viability.
- Members shared updates on the activities of their respective community groups.
- The Chair thanked members for their participation and contributions to the meeting.

Next Meeting

Thursday 6 August 2026.

Meeting notes taken by [REDACTED], Administration Team Leader.