

AusNet Greenfield Developer Consultative Committee (DCC)

Minutes for Meeting #12 | Monday 29 April 2024

Attendance

Chair: Craig Velt, Program Operations Manager, AusNet	AusNet representatives: Craig Velt, Program Operations Manager Andrew Cole, Operations HSEQ Field Compliance Manager Andrew Webber, Design Compliance Specialist, AusNet Ross Morgan, Lead Design Compliance Specialist Brian Morrison, Faults Emergency Specialist Michaela Jackson, Engagement Specialist Emma Ferrie, Engagement Officer
Attendees: Roger Cooper, HIA Daniel Owen, GPEHV Glenn Shallard, Winslow John Forbes, UDIA (& Dennis Family Corp) Manoj Panel, SMEC Matt Coyne, Beveridge Williams Narelle Hahn, Peracon Nathan Dennis, Peracon Brendan Munari, Association of Consulting Surveyors Victoria Tony Ilijoski, Association of Land Development Engineers & UGMT Zeb Roberts, Stockland Steve Martin, Nordcon Sam Nettlebeck, Plan B Services	Apologies: David Sowerby, Land Gippsland Matt Coyne, Beveridge Williams Tim Harris, Plan B Services David Brand, Electrical Audits Geoff Reynolds, Civil Contractors Federation Jake Talbot, Association of Land Development Engineers Matt Shiberras, GPEHV Andrew Bishop, Balpara Anthony Ward, GPEHV Bernice Mwenye, Stockland

Agenda

	Time	Topic	For	Presenter
	2.00pm	Welcome Actions from past meetings	Information	Craig Velt
1	2.05pm	Safety moment Fatigue	Information	Craig Velt
2	2.10pm	Metrics Quarterly performance	Information & discussion	Ross Morgan
3	2:15pm	Construction compliance Field audit & build quality trends	Information & discussion	Brian Morrison
4	2:25pm	Design criteria for new estates Reminder	Information & discussion	Craig Velt & Andrew Webber
5	2:35pm	HV schedule rebates Update	Information & Discussion	Andrew Webber
6	2:45pm	Open floor with DCC members	Discussion	Craig Velt
7	3:25pm	Next steps & close	Information	Craig Velt & Michaela Jackson

Welcome

Craig Velt, Program Operations Manager at AusNet, welcomed participants to the meeting and provided an Acknowledgement of Country. Craig shared an overview of the meeting agenda and provided an update on actions from previous meetings including:

- AusNet shared the Terms of Reference with DCC members to review in February. AusNet did not receive any requests for changes, so has now finalised the Terms of Reference for the DCC for 2024.
- AusNet will continue sharing further updates on all electric estates when available.
- AusNet is currently investigating allegations of REFCLs making a humming noise, and will provide an update on this investigation in the DCC meeting #13.

Item 1 | Safety moment – overhead and underground auditing

Craig Velt shared a recent example whereby one of AusNet's contractors had a microsleep while driving and very nearly escaping a serious accident. This highlighted the importance of taking regular breaks to reduce the risk of fatigue and ensuring the lane departure mode is turned on when available in vehicles.

Discussion

- No questions arose from the safety moment.

Item 2 | Metrics – quarterly performance January – March 2024

Lead Design Compliance Specialist at AusNet, Ross Morgan, provided an overview of AusNet's quarterly performance in developer connections from January to March 2024. This included:

- 534 drawing reviews, with a rejection rate of 19%, which is the average rejection rate.
- 647 'as built' drawing reviews were conducted, with a rejection rate of 42%. This was slightly lower compared to last month but is still a high rejection rate.
- 108 pre-commission network audits were conducted, with a failure rate of 22%.
- 132 final network audits were conducted, with a failure rate of 27%.

Ross provided an overview of the company score card which rates how different organisations are performing in a number of metrics.

Discussion

- A committee member asked if there are any clear trends in regard to the 'as built' drawing review failures. AusNet responded by saying there are a number of reasons which varies broadly between customers. AusNet noted that companies should review their own failures and identify areas where they can improve their processes and performance. The committee member furthered by raising that the percentage of failings in the final network audits have tripled compared to the previous quarter, and asked why that has occurred. AusNet responding by saying reasons for these re-occurring problems include labelling and reinstatement issues.
- A committee member raised that there are some contractors that aren't producing acceptable results in the score card. The committee member asked if there is anything in the industry to help contractors improve their track record. AusNet noted that a failure could be one simple item that has been missed, and doesn't necessarily mean that there are big, catastrophic things wrong. However, AusNet reminded members that contractors need to fix defect items and that their projects are being impacted by subsequent delays.
- A committee member asked if they could get a copy of the data presented, so they can talk directly with their civil contractors, civil designers, electrical designers and project managers. AusNet responded by saying that they can only share the information to each respective company due to privacy reasons, however, developers can request to see the information from companies that are their clients. AusNet

stated that this data is only given when companies ask for it. There was discussion around the importance of companies being aware of these metrics as it would help those companies improve their process, become more efficient and reduce the rework for themselves, developers and AusNet.

Item 3 | Construction compliance – Field audit & build quality trends

Brian Morrison, Fault Emergency Specialist at AusNet, provided an overview of the audit field trends for January – March 2024. Brian emphasised the importance of contractors and developers working safely, reiterating AusNet's duty of care around live cables. Brian provided an update that all pits will not be commissioned until developers have completed their 4 paths in order to prevent situations where contractors might wipe out pits with live cables. Brian shared that over the last quarter there has been a total of 257 findings from network audits. This is broken down into:

- 15 Major non-conformances
- 235 Minor non-conformances
- 7 Major safety non-conformances. Brian noted that these are the types of conformances AusNet don't want to see, as they represent significant issues.
- 0 Minor non-conformances

Discussion points

- There were no questions on field audit and build quality trends.

Item 4 | Design criteria for new estates – Reminder

Craig Velt provided a reminder of the design criteria for new electric estates. This included an overview on how estates are currently serviced now regarding gas and electricity, what will need to change with the move to all electric estates, and AusNet's design approach to cater for this.

Discussion

- A committee member asked how AusNet defines an 'estate in progress'. AusNet responded by saying that projects that commenced construction before January 2024 are considered an estate in progress and will not have their criteria change. However, for future stages that have not begun construction, developers will need to undertake design adjustments to comply with the transition to electric estates.
- A committee member asked for AusNet's thoughts on getting kiosk approval in open space on council reserves and cul-de-sacs. AusNet responded by saying they tend to avoid putting kiosks on council reserves or cul-de-sacs as there is no guarantee what assets may be planned or existing beneath the kiosk site. There is also potential for added complexity of other services trying to fit into the estate. AusNet stated that it is up to developers if they would prefer to sacrifice housing lots to locate kiosks, or if they would prefer to negotiate with the council to allow them to put kiosks on public open space.
- A committee member asked if there is an opportunity to get designers to install kiosks on the same side of the road as open trenches. The committee member furthered by sharing that having kiosks on the opposite side of the road can create issues with gas, water separations, drainage, which is problematic when installing cables. AusNet responding by saying that they don't have control over the location of the kiosk and the offsets for cables, as it's determined by the civil engineers.

Item 5 | Open floor with DCC members

AusNet opened the floor to any questions or topics DCC members wanted to raise.

Michaela Jackson, Senior Engagement Specialist at AusNet, thanked committee members who completed AusNet's recent survey on the future mix of fuels in new homes in Victoria. Michaela updated the group that AusNet is analysing the results and will share the high-level findings with those who indicated they would like to receive a copy and DCC members shortly.

Discussion

- A committee member raised that they would have concerns about AusNet implementing complete conduits for runs that are over 200 meters. The committee member furthered by stating that having complete conduits for longer runs could present other hazards such as rope burning conduits. The committee member raised that their preference would be to have an opportunity to collaborate with the responsible AusNet officer and request a combination of open and closed points. AusNet responded by saying that this would be difficult to implement practically both logically and financially, however, wouldn't rule it out.
- A committee member asked if AusNet will be putting earthing requirements onto developers. AusNet responded by saying that there hasn't been any discussion or plans to put those requirements on developers.

Action items

Action	Assigned to	Status	Due date
AusNet to share further updates with developers on all electric estates and EVs as a standard feature of estates, once finalised	AusNet	Open	As available
AusNet to share high level findings from the recent energy transition survey they undertook with developers	AusNet	Open	24 May 2024
AusNet to report back on findings from their investigation into allegations of REFCLs making a humming noise.	AusNet (Customer Works Team)	Open	DCC Meeting #13