

Consultation Summary

Consultation to date

Inland Rail Programme

Inland Rail engagement activities have been undertaken since 2014 across all levels of government, peak bodies, potential customers, end users and industry. The consultation activities include:

- Meetings in regional areas from June 2014 including Ipswich, Toowoomba, Narrabri, Dubbo, Parkes, Wagga Wagga and Wodonga to brief local government leaders, stakeholders and industry representatives on Inland Rail, and to seek local insight and feedback.
- Industry information sessions were held in Sydney and Brisbane in September 2014 to inform potential suppliers about upcoming opportunities, including how and when they can potentially get involved with Inland Rail. These sessions were attended by more than 400 representatives from Australian and international construction, engineering and rail companies.
- Extensive one-on-one meetings with local government representatives, peak bodies, potential customers and key state and federal government agencies.
- Attendance at industry forums including Heavy Haul (Newcastle), Rail Freight Futures (Melbourne), the Australian Logistics Council Annual Forum (Melbourne), and Murray Now (Albury).
- Inviting key local councils and businesses to contribute their views in terms of the potential benefits of Inland Rail through a submission process that has been complementary but separate from the Programme Business Case.

The Proposal - informing and scoping investigations

Consultation and engagement activities have focused on engaging with the local community including landowners, Councils and regional community groups. Consultation activities have included providing information and gathering feedback from stakeholders and the local community allowing us to gain an understanding of the issues and opportunities across the proposal site. Engagement has focused on building awareness, understanding and supporting customers, stakeholders, and the community. Engagement activities have involved tools such as newsletters, community information sessions, factsheets, and updates to the Inland Rail website. Engagement with local councils, Federal and State Members of Parliament for the proposal has also been undertaken during this time.

The following table outlines the stakeholder and community engagement carried out with identified stakeholders in 2016 which provided community members and key stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal.

Consultation summary

Stakeholders	Activity
Katrina Hogkinson MP Michael McCormack MP	Proposal briefings have been carried out with individual representatives since 2015.
Gundagai Regional Council (previously Cootamundra Shire Council) Junee Shire Council	Briefings were held in February, March, April and October 2016 with each of the Council's.
NSW Farmers Federation Rural Fire Service Business Groups GrainCorp (and other ARTC customers)	Meetings and updates have been carried out with these groups at both regional and local levels since 2015.
Gundagai Regional Council Junee Shire Council Junee and Illabo Farmers Federation Wagga Wagga Local Land Services Rural Fire Services Illabo community group	Stakeholder workshop in May 2016. 12 people attended the workshop.
Landowners	One-on-one meetings with landowners with 55 individual meetings held ongoing since 2016.
Broader community (including Illabo, Cootamundra, Dirnaseer, Junee, Junee Reefs and Stockinbingal)	<p>Mail out in November 2016 promoting community information sessions in November to the suburbs of Stockinbingal, Cootamundra, Bethungra, Illabo, Junee, and Junee Reefs.</p> <p>Advertising throughout 2016, prior to community information sessions in the following local papers: Cootamundra Herald, Junee Southern Cross, and Riverina Leader.</p> <p>Two Community information sessions were held in May 2016 and three sessions in November 2016 at Illabo, Cootamundra and Junee.</p> <p>Community information Sessions in November 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 November 2016, Illabo Showground Illabo, 2-7pm • 8 November 2016, Cootamundra Civic Hall, Cootamundra 2-7pm • 9 November 2016, Junee Public Library, Junee 2-7pm <p>There were 108 attendees at the sessions held in November 2016.</p> <p>Community information Sessions in May 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 May 2016, Illabo Showground Illabo, 2-7pm.

Stakeholders	Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31 May 2016, Cootamundra Civic Hall, Cootamundra 2-7pm. <p>There were 105 attendees at the sessions in May 2016.</p>
Roads and Maritime Services Wagga Wagga Local Land Services	Meetings were held in November 2016.
Young Local Aboriginal Land Council Wagga Wagga Local Aboriginal Land Council	Letter correspondence was sent in June 2016 providing awareness of the proposal and opportunity to meet face to face.

Consultation outcomes

During the proposal investigation and scoping phase and through the engagement activities, stakeholders and the community have had the opportunity to view project material, make an enquiry, or put forward feedback. Suggested alignment refinements made by stakeholders and community have been investigated during the investigation and scoping phase.

The table below outlines a summary of the key feedback received to date and how this will be considered in defining the scope of the environmental impact statement.

Consultation feedback

Topic	Key issue	EIS
Property impacts	Concern about impacts upon agricultural land uses and existing farming operations.	The environmental impact statement will assess the social and economic impacts of the proposal.
Environment	Concern about flooding impacts.	The environmental impact statement will assess and model the impacts on flood behaviour during construction and operation.
	Concern about impacts upon Travelling Stock Routes.	The environmental impact statement will assess temporary and permanent impacts upon land use.
	Concern about impacts upon the local road network.	The environmental impact statement will assess impacts upon the road network during construction and operation.
	Concern about impacts to water quality during construction.	The environmental impact statement will include an assessment of watercourses impacted by the proposal and how impacts will be managed

Topic	Key issue	EIS
		during construction and operation of the proposal.
	Concerns about the impacts related to vegetation removal and fauna habitat.	The environmental impact statement will assess the biodiversity impacts of the proposal and consider and identify where the design can implement measures to avoid and minimise impacts.

Consultation during preparation of the environmental impact statement

ARTC and the project team will continue to consult with stakeholders and the community during the preparation of the EIS. This consultation will be in accordance with formal requirements and in alignment with the proposals community engagement plan.

Inland Rail communications

Inland Rail communications will continue throughout the preparation of the EIS and would include a community information line, email address and website updates.

Proposal Community Engagement Lead

The Community Engagement Lead dedicated to the proposal will continue their role as a vital link in maintaining close and ongoing contact with local communities and stakeholders during preparation of the EIS. The Community Engagement Lead is the key 'on the ground' project representative and will continue to seek to understand local issues and provide this feedback to the project team.

Stakeholder and community engagement

ARTC will continue to provide project updates and written notification to the councils, state and federal MPs, stakeholder groups, landowners and the local community during the preparation of the EIS and the design phase.

Community updates and an information line will continue to be run by ARTC to allow stakeholders and members of the community to keep up to date with the progress of Inland Rail.

Community contact and information

The community contact details outlined in the table below will remain in place for the preparation of the EIS and the planning and approval process.

Community contact and information points available during the planning and approval process

Activity	Detail
Community information line (Toll free)	1800 732 761
Community email address	inlandrailenquires@artc.com.au
Inland Rail website	http://inlandrail.artc.com.au
Postal address	Inland Rail Australian Rail Track Corporation

	GPO Box 2462, Queen Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000
Community Engagement Lead	A Community Engagement Lead is dedicated to this project.