

## Community Consultation Summary

Hydrogen Renewables Australia (HRA) recently visited Kalbarri, kicking off conversations about the 5000 MW Murchison Renewable Hydrogen Project – a large scale combined solar and wind farm to produce low-cost renewable hydrogen or ‘green hydrogen’.

Over 170 people attended across the two sessions where founders, Terry Kallis and Peter Sgardelis, talked about the project and many of the benefits that may follow with a project of this size.

The sessions were very interactive with a wide range of questions asked - many of which have been summarised below.

HRA wishes to thank all attendees for coming along, and their considerable and valuable feedback. Terry and Peter look forward to visiting again in February 2020.

A copy of the presentation, along with other materials, are available on the HRA website [hydrogenrenewablesaustralia.com](http://hydrogenrenewablesaustralia.com)

### Questions and Answers

#### **Where will access to the site be from?**

Access will be from the main highway with a new dedicated haul road to be built. Heavy haulage trucks will not access the site via the township.

#### **Will discharging highly saline water back to the ocean be a problem?**

We will conduct an environmental study, however with current and turbulence we don't believe it will be a problem.

#### **How many jobs will be created?**

It's anticipated that construction will create 2,000 to 3,000 jobs with 250-300 jobs created for

24/7 production and operation. These numbers are indicative only and will be detailed during the development application process.

#### **How can you guarantee the safety of handling hydrogen?**

We will comply with guidelines and regulations to be put in place through Australia's National Hydrogen Strategy.

#### **Have you considered green aluminium production?**

We haven't at this time, nor have we considered green steel production. However, we are open to these opportunities as they evolve.

#### **Have you considered the effects of the salt from desalination?**

We will conduct a study on the best and most environmental ways to release salt back to the ocean or any interim collection in ponds if required. We will also examine other opportunities to collect/process salt residues.

#### **Will an export terminal effect the fishing industry and what maritime exclusion zones will be in place?**

As part of our development process we will undertake environmental assessments and consult with the fishing industry.

#### **Will the export terminal be connected to the coast or be a mono pod offshore? If so, how far off the coast?**

We are undecided at this stage but we will conduct a study into this.

*continued overleaf..*



## Questions and Answers *continued...*

### **How many wind turbines and how big is the footprint of the whole project?**

At full capacity we plan on up to 700 turbines and solar panels covering 3000-4000 hectares - all on Murchison House Station.

### **Have you considered the noise pollution of the wind turbines?**

Yes, we have, and we will undertake detailed noise studies and comply with noise regulations. Typically, wind turbines are sited within 1-2km of dwellings, however, wind turbines for the Murchison project will be located at least 15km from the township of Kalbarri.

### **Have you considered what bringing 3000 workers to town will do in terms of congestion, housing, local amenities etc?**

Yes, we have, and we will be conducting studies to understand and mitigate the effects. We will be conducting 25 or more separate environmental and permitting studies over the next two years.

### **How close will the wind turbines be to town?**

The closest wind turbine will be 15kms away from town.

### **Have you considered the flora and fauna?**

We will be conducting a full flora and fauna surveys in accordance with regulations.

### **Are you here in Kalbarri seeking a licence to operate?**

We are and this is the earliest opportunity we've had to meet with the community since receiving a Section 91 licence (which allows us to access the site to undertake feasibility assessments). We are seeking community input to ensure the best mutual outcomes for the project, Kalbarri and its surrounding area.

### **Have you considered Oakajee for export of H2?**

We have and we will continue to explore options however at first look, it appears to be too far from site.

### **What will the production rate be of H2? How much electricity will be required?**

At full operation up to 5000MW will be produced. Our current estimation is approximately 350,000 tons per annum.

### **Will you provide power to the local town?**

Our main focus is export, however, we will consider supply to Kalbarri in the longer term.

### **Where will the workers be housed during construction and into production stages?**

We will conduct a study however preferably no further than one hour from site.

### **Where will the offload terminal be located?**

We will conduct a study, however, our current thought is halfway up the Murchison House Station coast so around 30 - 40kms from Kalbarri.

### **Are Siemens investing in the project?**

At this stage they are a technology partner and HRA has an exclusivity agreement with them covering a geographical area.

### **After 25-35 years of operation what happens to the equipment?**

We can replace and upgrade equipment or we'll return the site back to environment and remove all equipment that is above the ground.

### **What will be the total cost to get to full production?**

We are estimating \$10 billion in investment to get to full capacity.

### **Is Hydrogen competitive with LNG?**

Currently Hydrogen made from renewable energy is around 30% more expensive. However, with the cost of solar and wind decreasing, we expect price parity in the next five years.



## Key Themes:

Overall, there was a positive and supportive response to the very early stages of the proposal for Green Hydrogen to be developed in the Kalbarri region

Interest in what the project can do for the region was high, with many keen to understand what this means for jobs, investment and economic benefits

Concerns about the impact on the environment featured heavily, particularly how the project will maintain the existing Kalbarri lifestyle

Interest in HRA's involvement with the Nanda Aboriginal Corporation, the Indigenous Land Use Agreement and the protection and handling of culturally significant sites

Project timelines were also topical with locals keen to understand project deliverables and how they can continue to be involved and engaged in the process