

KOKATHA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC ICN 8093
Kokatha Common Law Holders Meeting
Saturday, 8 August 2026
West Augusta Football Club, Port Augusta

Chairperson: Nyani Thomas

Facilitator: Geoff Deans

Board: Nyani Thomas, Leeanne Strangways, Carly Cooper, Joyleen Thomas, Michael Turner, Paul Strangways, Glen Wingfield, Denise Thomas, Krista Dunstan

Minutes Secretary: Sarah Cassells (Office81)

Attendees: Refer attendance sign-in record.

Apologies: Noreen Turner; Donna Waters; Cynthia Sultan; Dillon Sultan; Ryan Sultan; Amber Sultan; Paul Sultan; Craig Sultan; Mairone Martin; Martira Martin; Stephen Welgraven; Shaun Tyas; Izaac Fetchen; Sophie Fetchen; Janice Wingfield; Vernon Warren Jnr; Andrew Thomas; Tjiangu Thomas; Andrew John Dingaman; Ronald Amos; Ashleigh Amos; Leonie Amos; Mackayla Harrison; Conrad Bray; Seraphine Milera; Lynne Milera; Ethan Strangways; Jake Strangways; Roger Thomas; Damien Whittle; Timothy Whittle; Barbara Amos; Anita Amos; Chereena Amos; Amelia Amos; Renee Watson; Gavin Watson; Waylon Watson; William Fraser; Liana Rehutai.

Invitees & Guests: Leonora Herweijer & Stephen Kenny (Legal Advisors, Camatta Lawyers); Anna Wiley (CopperSA); Jim McClusky & staff (BHP); ?? & staff

(Northern

Water); Jacqueline Murray & Matt Jones (Aurizon); ?? & ?? (AI Carbon), KAC staff

1. Chairperson's Welcome, Attendees and Apologies

The meeting commenced at 9.33 am, with the facilitator providing an introduction before handing over to the Chair, Nyani Thomas, who formally opened the meeting at 9.33 am.

The Chair delivered an Acknowledgement of Country, recognising Kokatha ancestors, people and Country, followed by a minute's silence.

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and introduced the new CEO (Jason Davison) to the community, noting that the focus of the day was on matters relevant to the Common Law Holders rather than Corporation business. The Chair also introduced new Independent Director, Krista Dunstan.

The facilitator resumed the floor and provided an overview of his role, together with housekeeping, security and meeting etiquette requirements. He outlined the agenda for the day and directed attendees to the hard-copy information and handouts available at the meeting.

A quorum was formally confirmed.

The facilitator advised that no matters requiring Common Law Holder consent were scheduled for the meeting, with the agenda being for information purposes only. Attendees were reminded to record apologies in the Apology Book at the registration desk and advised that registrations would close at 11.00 am.

The facilitator encouraged Common Law Holders to ask questions throughout the meeting, emphasising that the purpose of questions was to seek information and clarification where something was not understood. He reinforced that there were no inappropriate questions where clarification was genuinely required.

The facilitator also outlined arrangements for morning tea and lunch, the availability of feedback forms, and the Code of Conduct and associated process.

Clarification was provided regarding the respective purposes of a Common Law Holder Meeting and the Corporation's Annual General Meeting (AGM). Members were advised that a CLHM provides a forum for Common Law Holders to:

- hear about matters that may impact the native title area;
- hear directly from project proponents;
- consider and approve minutes of previous Common Law Holder Meetings; and
- consider and vote on native title matters where required.

The facilitator noted that the Corporation's AGM is expected to be held in November.

2. Confirm Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The facilitator advised that the draft minutes of the previous Common Law Holder Meeting, held on 23 November 2025, had been released to members on Friday, 26 June 2026.

No amendments were requested from the floor.

Motion: That the minutes of the Kokatha Common Law Holder Meeting held on 23 November 2025 be accepted.

Moved: Leeanne Strangways **Seconded:** Jacinta Amos **Outcome:** Carried

Abstained: 0 **In favour:** Majority **Against:** 0

Voting was by simple majority (50+1).

3. BHP Update

The facilitator handed the meeting to the Chair to provide context regarding the project proponents scheduled to present during the meeting.

Aurizon – Pimba Intermodal Terminal

The Chair advised that Aurizon is a rail freight company proposing to develop an intermodal terminal at Pimba, which would facilitate the transfer of freight between road and rail.

The Chair explained that the Corporation has been working with Aurizon to establish appropriate heritage protection measures for activities within the native title area.

Northern Water

The Chair noted that Northern Water had previously presented to Common Law Holders regarding the proposed Northern Water project, involving the construction of a desalination plant and pipeline to supply water to the Olympic Dam area.

Members were advised that the project remains subject to government consideration, including whether it will proceed and whether it is economically viable.

AI Carbon

The Chair provided an overview of a proposed carbon farming project involving pastoral leases, advising that the project is not expected to impact native title.

The project is intended to support regeneration of Country through measures including the removal of feral animals from pastoral stations. The Chair explained that these activities can generate carbon credits, which may then be purchased by larger companies to offset their emissions.

BHP

The Chair provided an update on recent matters involving BHP, noting that the Board had experienced a particularly busy period. The Corporation has been seeking to provide as much information as possible to the Kokatha community through its social media channels and newsletter.

The Chair advised that considerable time is currently being devoted to matters concerning amendments to the Olympic Dam Indenture Act and negotiation of a new Olympic Dam Agreement (ODA).

The Chair explained that the Indenture Act was the original legislation associated with the development of Olympic Dam and its impacts on Kokatha people and Country. He advised that KAC had not been consulted regarding recent amendments negotiated between BHP and the State Government before the matter proceeded to Parliament. Upon becoming aware of the amendments, KAC petitioned the Government regarding its concerns.

The Chair emphasised the importance of any new Olympic Dam Agreement appropriately recognising Kokatha as the Traditional Owners.

An update was also provided on negotiations for the new ODA. The Chair advised that an offer had been received from BHP but, in the Board's view, the offer was substantially below a level that could appropriately be brought to the Kokatha community for consideration and did not adequately recognise the impacts, damage and trauma experienced over approximately 50 years.

The Chair acknowledged the challenges associated with negotiating with a large global corporation and reflected on the difficulties experienced through previous negotiations with BHP. He reiterated that the Corporation continues to work towards achieving the best possible outcome for Kokatha people.

The Chair also clarified KAC's position regarding cultural heritage, emphasising that the Corporation does not approve, and has not approved, the destruction of heritage. He explained that proponents may seek approval from the relevant Minister for the destruction of heritage irrespective of KAC's position.

In anticipation of BHP's presentation, the Chair encouraged Common Law Holders to use the opportunity to ask BHP the important questions they wanted addressed.

The Chair handed the meeting back to the facilitator, who introduced the representatives from BHP. The presentation commenced at 9.56 am.

Anna Wiley, Asset President Copper SA, introduced herself and BHP representatives Jim McClusky, Rachael Siddal, Kyron Dixon and Brodie Papps. Wiley delivered an

Acknowledgement of Country and acknowledged Kokatha people and noted that the matters being discussed related to activities occurring on Kokatha Country.

Olympic Dam Indenture Act

Wiley commenced by addressing the recent Olympic Dam Indenture Act amendment process. She acknowledged that BHP had not managed its engagement with Kokatha appropriately and that the KAC Board had been transparent with BHP regarding the impact this had caused.

On behalf of BHP, Wiley apologised to the Common Law Holders for BHP's performance in relation to the process and advised that BHP had learned from the experience. She emphasised the importance of how BHP and Kokatha work together moving forward.

Wiley advised that the presentation would also provide an opportunity for the BHP team to update Common Law Holders on current activities and future work occurring on Kokatha Country. Members were encouraged to ask questions about any of the matters raised.

Working Together

Rachael Siddal provided an update on BHP's "Working Together" activities and community programs relating to culture, Country and people.

Activities undertaken or progressed since the previous CLHM included:

- cultural respect training;
- continued Carrapateena health checks and development of a scorecard intended to provide accountability for agreed outcomes;
- NAIDOC Week celebrations and cultural activities involving BHP personnel;
- a site visit to Olympic Dam;
- engagement regarding the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS);
- ongoing Olympic Dam Agreement negotiations, with two offers having been made to the KAC Board;
- a Kokatha tendering workshop providing information about opportunities to work with BHP; and
- formal and informal engagement with KAC over the preceding nine months, including monthly operational meetings and Partnership Management Committee meetings.

Siddal reported a number of outcomes relating to culture, Country and people, including 29 cultural training sessions at Carrapateena and Ankata (Oak Dam), NAIDOC Week involvement, development of facilities for Kokatha people at Ankata, and regular environmental updates through quarterly meetings.

BHP reported that approximately 207 days had been spent on Country undertaking heritage-related engagement. Ecological surveys had also been undertaken with Kokatha, including work

relating to the Plains Mouse, together with discussions regarding healthy Country and opportunities to work collaboratively across the three pastoral stations.

Siddal advised that BHP had spent approximately \$8.8 million with Kokatha businesses during the previous financial year and expressed BHP's intention to increase this expenditure. BHP had also invested in the Carrapateena education scholarship.

A 25% increase in Kokatha representation across BHP's South Australian operations was reported. Siddal acknowledged that attendance at some information sessions remained low but noted that positive outcomes were nevertheless being achieved.

Future Engagement

Jim McClusky outlined planned engagement with Kokatha over the next 12 months.

BHP anticipates formally renaming Oak Dam as **Ankata** around September 2026. BHP intends to mark the occasion with a Kokatha family day at the site, recognising its partnership with Kokatha people and that the project is located on Kokatha Country.

McClusky spoke about the importance of BHP being accountable for commitments made to Kokatha and advised that processes were in place to monitor this. He referred to the recently held Traditional Owner Forum and advised that the next forum is anticipated for mid-2027.

An update was provided on the Olympic Dam Agreement negotiation process. McClusky acknowledged that KAC had been asking BHP difficult questions and that these matters continued to be worked through. He expressed BHP's intention that the eventual agreement should be one that both BHP and Kokatha could be proud to stand behind in the future.

Copper SA Growth and Operations

McClusky provided an overview of BHP's Copper SA growth and operational plans, noting that a significant proportion of the proposed activity is located on Kokatha Country and that the broader Copper SA growth story is therefore closely connected with Kokatha.

It was explained that decisions regarding mine expansions have consequential impacts on other infrastructure and operational requirements, including processing facilities, buildings, utilities, supporting infrastructure, relationships and regulatory approvals.

Carrapateena

An update was provided on the Carrapateena Expansion Project Stage 2, which proposes to extend the life of the mine and increase concentrate production through block cave mining and development of a new concentrator.

Heritage surveys associated with the proposed wellfield expansion were discussed. BHP advised that it deliberately seeks to design proposed disturbance to avoid heritage impacts and was optimistic that this could be achieved for the additional water infrastructure required.

Construction associated with the expansion is currently anticipated to commence in 2028.

Olympic Dam – Smelter and Refinery Expansion

BHP outlined the proposed Smelter and Refinery Expansion (SRE), which is intended to increase Olympic Dam copper output and enable concentrate from Carrapateena and Prominent Hill to be processed at Olympic Dam.

Work on the draft EIS and associated technical studies has progressed, with an on-Country KAC workshop regarding the EIS and technical studies having been held on 20 July 2026.

Cultural heritage continues to be managed under the existing Olympic Dam Agreement heritage protocol and Native Title Parties' Review Committee arrangements. BHP advised that project design seeks to avoid heritage impacts wherever possible.

Olympic Dam – Mine and Concentrator Growth

Planning also continues for growth of the Olympic Dam mining and concentrator operations, together with supporting infrastructure including processing and tailings facilities. Construction is not anticipated to commence before 2029.

EIS planning and surveys are underway, including consideration of proposed tailings cell locations. BHP is also considering when engagement with KAC regarding procurement opportunities associated with the proposed work can commence.

McClusky emphasised BHP's intention to communicate with Kokatha before all project details and answers are finalised and to continue sharing information as planning progresses.

Upcoming Public Communications

Wiley resumed the presentation and provided an overview of anticipated BHP announcements and public communications between August and November 2026.

She acknowledged that South Australia is attracting increasing attention as copper becomes a greater strategic focus for BHP and that media reporting has, at times, resulted in Kokatha people learning of developments unexpectedly. BHP therefore wanted to provide advance visibility of matters likely to attract public attention.

Anticipated activities include BHP's full-year results and annual reporting suite in August; engagement with the Federal Government regarding Northern Water; Copper to the World activities and an Adelaide panel discussion in September; BHP's first-quarter operational review and AGM in October; and an investor and media tour in November.

Wiley explained that the investor and media engagement would focus on BHP's growth ambitions and securing investor support for that growth, and advised that BHP would continue engaging with KAC regarding relevant developments.

Wiley concluded the presentation by acknowledging the importance of the relationship between BHP and Kokatha and the need to continue working together on agreement-making and opportunities relating to employment, business, culture, health and community.

Questions and Discussion

Indenture Act amendments

A Common Law Holder sought clarification regarding the next steps following the amendments to the Olympic Dam Indenture Act.

Wiley confirmed that the amendments had passed Parliament and advised that BHP was now actively engaging directly with KAC as part of the Olympic Dam Agreement negotiation process.

Cultural heritage and authority on Country

A Common Law Holder raised significant concerns regarding cultural heritage within areas affected by proposed expansion activities. Concern was expressed about heritage surveys involving multiple native title groups and whether people without appropriate cultural knowledge or authority for Kokatha Country should be undertaking surveys and making assessments regarding heritage.

It was emphasised that, from a cultural perspective, people without appropriate authority for Country should not undertake cultural heritage work as though they hold that authority. The member acknowledged the position BHP was operating within but expressed particular concern regarding the legislative and government framework under which this occurs.

McClusky clarified that BHP has an ILUA with Kokatha in relation to Ankata, recognising Kokatha as the native title holders, and does not have equivalent agreements with other groups for that project.

He explained that some future activities remain subject to the existing Olympic Dam Agreement heritage protocol, which requires engagement with three groups. The relevant statutory consultation process for Ankata was also continuing.

McClusky acknowledged the issue raised and advised that BHP viewed negotiation of a new Olympic Dam Agreement, incorporating a new heritage process, as the pathway to resolving the issue. Wiley confirmed that the new agreement is being negotiated with Kokatha.

Ankata family day and access to Country

Clarification was sought regarding community invitations to the proposed Ankata naming celebration.

BHP and KAC confirmed that the event is intended to be a family day providing community access to the site.

Further discussion occurred regarding the desire of Kokatha people to return to Country, including to visit and check family and burial sites. A member expressed the view that additional practical support, including assistance with vehicles and accommodation, was required to enable families to access Country.

A KAC Director confirmed that Kokatha people are entitled to access Country and encouraged members to explore available support through KAC's Community Assistance Programs. The Director undertook to follow up the particular concerns raised to better understand what assistance may be available.

Wiley acknowledged the broader message that Kokatha people want greater opportunities to visit Country and advised that BHP would be willing to consider requests from the KAC Board regarding how BHP might assist.

Rehabilitation and closure planning

Questions were raised regarding the impacts of mining infrastructure, including tailings facilities and impacts on natural waterways and culturally significant trees, and BHP's intentions for rehabilitation.

Wiley explained that closure planning commences from the beginning of a mining project. While mining inevitably results in changes to landforms, closure planning considers what the area should look like at the end of mining and how rehabilitation can be incorporated into project design.

She emphasised BHP's desire to work with Kokatha on closure planning.

McClusky added that engagement regarding rehabilitation, both now and into the future, is critical because decisions made during project design influence future rehabilitation outcomes.

Wiley noted that progressive closure and rehabilitation activities can also occur during operations, including seed and rehabilitation trials, and referred to experience gained through BHP operations elsewhere in Australia.

Traditional Owner recognition and historical impacts

A Common Law Holder spoke about the historical effects of the Olympic Dam Indenture arrangements on the original owners of Country and concerns regarding the identification and recognition of Aboriginal groups associated with the area. The member emphasised the importance of preserving recognition of her family's history and connection to Country.

A KAC Director acknowledged the comments and expressed a desire for KAC to sit with individuals and families to ensure important knowledge, histories and stories are recorded and not lost.

Water requirements

A question was raised regarding water requirements associated with BHP's proposed expansion projects.

Wiley acknowledged BHP's current reliance on groundwater resources, including the Great Artesian Basin and wellfields. She advised that BHP's growth plans in South Australia are reliant upon access to desalinated water, recognising that existing local water resources are not sustainable for continued expansion.

BHP expects to pay for desalinated water required to support increased copper production.

Demand for copper

A Common Law Holder asked BHP to explain why increased copper production is required.

Wiley explained that copper is an important component of modern technologies and infrastructure, including electric vehicles, wind turbines and data centres supporting artificial intelligence. Global demand for copper is therefore expected to remain high.

She noted that Kokatha Country contains significant copper resources, but that the complexity and cost of extracting those resources means development is dependent upon copper prices making projects economically viable.

Business opportunities

A question was raised regarding BHP's approximately \$60 million commercial arrangement with an Aboriginal corporation at Prominent Hill and whether BHP wanted to achieve a similar outcome with Kokatha businesses.

Wiley confirmed that BHP did and expressed an ambition for commercial opportunities with Kokatha businesses to ultimately exceed that level. Discussion occurred regarding the pathway required to build Kokatha business capability and achieve the best possible commercial outcomes for Kokatha people.

Wiley thanked Common Law Holders for the opportunity to attend, present and respond to questions. She reiterated BHP's willingness to work with Kokatha across employment, business, culture, healthy Country and community opportunities and encouraged members to raise potential opportunities through KAC where appropriate.

The facilitator made a final call for meeting registrations.

The Chair closed the BHP agenda item, acknowledging that the relationship between KAC and BHP can at times be strained and challenging and expressing hope that the remainder of the year would see more positive progress and improved outcomes for Kokatha people.

The Chair thanked the BHP representatives for attending the meeting and for responding directly to the difficult questions raised by Common Law Holders.

4. Northern Water Project Update

Representatives from Northern Water commenced their presentation at 11.03 am and thanked Kokatha Common Law Holders for the invitation to attend.

Project Overview

Northern Water provided an overview of the proposed project, including the desalination plant at Mullaquana Station and associated marine intake and outfall infrastructure.

It was explained that a significant component of the project is the transfer of desalinated water more than 400 kilometres into northern South Australia. The project will require extensive pipeline infrastructure, together with powerlines and high-voltage infrastructure.

Most of the pipeline is proposed to be trenched and buried, with alternative engineering solutions to be considered where required to avoid nominated cultural heritage sites and accommodate service crossings.

Northern Water thanked Kokatha for its extensive involvement in the cultural heritage survey process.

An update was provided on procurement, with the project currently evaluating two tender proponents. This process is expected to conclude by the end of 2026, and KAC has been involved in the process.

Cultural Heritage

Kath Grey from Northern Water provided an update on cultural heritage aspects of the project and introduced Huw Gerner and his involvement in the work.

Grey emphasised that cultural heritage is fundamental to the design and operation of the project and that the project has been designed with the objective of avoiding heritage impacts.

Twelve cultural heritage surveys have been completed, with further surveys still to occur. A comprehensive Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be developed, and cultural heritage monitors will be present whenever ground-disturbing activities are undertaken.

Cultural respect training will also form part of the project's management systems and is intended to be co-designed with Kokatha.

Environmental Impact Statement

An overview was provided of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. Planning authorities have released the assessment requirements, and the draft EIS has recently been submitted to the relevant government department for an adequacy assessment before being released for public consultation.

The public consultation process is expected to include targeted community information sessions and briefings.

Given the desalination component of the project, significant investigation has been undertaken over a number of years into potential impacts on the marine environment. This work has included modelling existing marine conditions and potential future conditions if the desalination plant proceeds, with particular attention given to the cuttlefish population.

Terrestrial and other environmental investigations have considered matters including:

- threatened species and biodiversity, including the Plains Mouse, Western Grasswren and other bird species;
- dust, noise and vibration;
- social impacts;
- greenhouse gas emissions and climate change risks; and
- weeds and invasive species, including buffel grass management.

Northern Water explained that the design process begins by considering the potential extent of impacts and then seeks to progressively reduce those impacts through avoidance and mitigation measures. Some infrastructure, including permanent access tracks, will remain necessary and appropriate environmental offsets will therefore also be required.

Community and Social Impacts

Northern Water outlined both the potential positive and negative social impacts associated with construction.

Construction impacts are expected to include increased traffic, dust and pressure on housing and other local resources. While many of these impacts will be temporary and localised, Northern Water acknowledged their potential effect on communities.

Approximately 1,500 full-time workers are expected to be required during the major construction period, across activities including pipeline construction, tunnelling, pump stations and marine works.

Northern Water emphasised that the project is intended to provide a secure and sustainable water resource while also creating potential employment and business opportunities.

An Aboriginal employment plan will establish workforce objectives, with much of the employment and subcontracting activity ultimately to be delivered through the successful project contractor. Northern Water and the tender proponents have been engaging with KAC regarding potential opportunities for Kokatha people and businesses.

Once operational, the project is expected to require approximately 45 permanent workers for ongoing operations and maintenance.

Northern Water advised that its immediate focus over the coming months would include the public exhibition process, information sessions and community briefings.

Relationship to BHP Growth

The facilitator clarified for Common Law Holders that Northern Water is the water infrastructure project referred to during BHP's earlier presentation.

The Chair then provided further context regarding KAC's engagement with Northern Water and the work of the negotiation team. He advised that the project has gone to market but that the final commercial and economic position is not yet known.

The Chair confirmed that the Board's position is that negotiations will not be finalised until there is greater certainty that the project will proceed.

Questions and Discussion

Employment and Kokatha participation

Concern was raised regarding Kokatha representation within organisations associated with the project and the need to create meaningful employment opportunities for Kokatha people.

Northern Water acknowledged that the employment framework for a State Government infrastructure project differs from that applying to BHP's operations. The project is expected to involve a substantial construction and commissioning phase, with employment and participation requirements ultimately forming part of the obligations placed on the successful contractor.

Northern Water advised that discussions with KAC include appropriate training and apprenticeship pathways. Participation targets are expected to include financial commitments relating to Kokatha employment and participation rather than being expressed solely as workforce percentages.

Once the tender process has progressed and commercial arrangements regarding the supply and price of water have been resolved, greater certainty will be available regarding the onboarding of Kokatha people for project-related work.

Broader benefits and access to water

A Common Law Holder sought clarification about whether the project would provide benefits beyond BHP.

Northern Water advised that the proposed water supply is intended primarily for industrial rather than public use. However, the project's capacity is intended to allow other industrial users to access water.

Pastoralists may also be able to access the water supply, although the volumes required for pastoral use would be relatively small compared with those required by mining and industrial users.

A KAC Director referred to Northern Water funding for a Business Development Manager position intended to assist Kokatha businesses to develop the capability and readiness required to tender for project opportunities.

Northern Water clarified that funding for the position is project-specific rather than ongoing and is being provided to KAC to enable the Corporation to recruit and manage an appropriate person for the role.

Further discussion occurred regarding the project timeline. Northern Water advised that commercial work is continuing to bridge the gap between the price at which water can be supplied and the price industrial customers, including BHP, are prepared to pay. The pipeline itself is not expected to be operational until approximately 2032.

Fairness and administration of employment opportunities

A concern was raised regarding why project-funded positions and opportunities were being administered through KAC rather than directly through the relevant government department. The member questioned whether KAC currently had sufficiently developed policies and procedures to ensure a fair process, particularly given family and interpersonal relationships within the community.

Northern Water advised that it was confident KAC could provide an appropriate working environment. It reiterated that funding for the Business Development Manager position was project funding provided to KAC to enable the Corporation to manage recruitment and identify the appropriate person for the role.

Project longevity and pipeline design

Further information was sought regarding the longevity and design of the project.

Northern Water noted that South Australia has previous experience with desalination infrastructure, but that the scale of the proposed water transfer over more than 400 kilometres makes this project distinctive.

Comparison was made with the Morgan–Whyalla pipeline. Northern Water explained that the proposed Northern Water pipeline would predominantly be underground, which assists in managing the effects of extreme temperatures.

Where cultural heritage constraints are identified, surveys and engineering investigations are considering whether sections of pipeline may need to pass above sensitive areas or whether other design solutions can avoid impacts.

Training and workforce readiness

Further questions were raised about ensuring Kokatha people receive the training necessary to participate in project employment.

Northern Water advised that workforce development and training requirements would form part of the contractor's obligations, with training opportunities anticipated in locations including Port Augusta and Whyalla.

The facilitator noted that this was Northern Water's third presentation to a Common Law Holder Meeting and that considerable work was continuing in the background regarding the proposed land use agreement.

Pipeline route and desalination process

Clarification was sought regarding the location and route of the proposed pipeline.

Northern Water advised that the desalination plant would be located on Mullaquana Station, approximately one kilometre inland from the coast. Underground tunnels would extend from the plant to marine intake and outfall infrastructure.

It was explained that the intake infrastructure would be located below sea level and designed so that the tunnel is flooded, avoiding direct suction within the marine environment.

The pipeline would extend north to Olympic Dam, where it would connect with BHP's water infrastructure, with a further connection servicing Carrapateena.

A further question was asked regarding the disposal of salt and brine generated through desalination.

Northern Water explained that the return water would contain increased salinity but would not comprise concentrated salt alone. The outfall system is designed to disperse the brine after its return to the Gulf so that salinity levels rapidly return towards surrounding natural marine conditions.

The facilitator thanked Northern Water for its presentation, provided a brief update on the remaining agenda and adjourned the meeting for lunch at 11.40 am.

5. Aurizon Intermodal Terminal Project Information

The meeting resumed at 12.23 pm.

Jacqueline Murray and Matt Jones from Aurizon commenced their presentation at 12.24 pm with an Acknowledgement of Country and recognition that the proposed project and associated activities are located on Kokatha Country.

Aurizon Overview

Aurizon provided an overview of its operations, advising that it is Australia's largest rail freight company and operates both above-rail and below-rail infrastructure across Australia.

Its operations include the Central Queensland Coal Network, the South Australia–Northern Territory rail network and services operating across third-party rail networks. Aurizon noted that it is an Australian company with approximately 140 years of operational history, having developed from Queensland Rail.

In South Australia, Aurizon's principal business is Bulk Central, together with containerised freight operations. Aurizon runs trains on the South Australian network and pays the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) for access to the rail infrastructure.

Freight transported by Aurizon in South Australia includes iron ore, gypsum, grain, copper and general containerised freight.

BHP Contract and Pimba Terminal

Aurizon outlined its 10-year contract with BHP to transition freight associated with BHP's South Australian mining operations from road to rail.

This requires development of an intermodal terminal at Pimba to facilitate the transfer of freight between truck and rail.

Aurizon acknowledged Kokatha member Tim Clifton and his involvement in securing the BHP contract.

The proposed terminal is located on Kokatha Country. Aurizon currently operates an interim terminal at Pimba, which is meeting current operational requirements. However, BHP's planned expansion means a larger intermodal terminal is required, proposed to be located directly opposite the existing facility.

Aurizon advised that the project is expected to eliminate approximately 11,000 truck trips per year, significantly reducing road freight movements, carbon emissions and road wear, while supporting the sustainability and environmental objectives of both BHP and Aurizon.

The project is also expected to create employment and business opportunities associated with the development and ongoing operation of the terminal.

Proposed Terminal Development

Aurizon presented a map showing the existing interim terminal and the proposed intermodal terminal.

Stage 2A represents the immediate proposed development, while Stage 2B would provide the additional infrastructure required to accommodate BHP's future expansion.

Stage 2B includes extending the rail loop from approximately 900 metres to 1.8 kilometres, enabling operation of the maximum train length permitted on the Australian rail network.

Part of the proposed terminal site is located within the boundaries of Arcoona Station.

Aurizon explained how freight is transferred between trucks and trains at the terminal. The current interim terminal operates relatively simply, with cement used by BHP for underground mine backfill representing the largest volume of inbound material.

Copper concentrate would be transported by rail from Pimba to Port Adelaide, where it would then be transferred for export by ship.

Operations and Employment

The Pimba terminal operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Current operations involve approximately 24 truck movements per day and five trains per week. Under Stage 2, this is expected to increase to approximately 36 truck movements per day and seven trains per week.

The terminal currently employs eight full-time operational staff, with this expected to increase to approximately 11 operational staff under Stage 2, together with supporting and leadership roles.

Engagement with Kokatha

Aurizon outlined what it is seeking from Kokatha in relation to the proposed development.

The proposed terminal extends into an area of Arcoona Station subject to native title. Aurizon is therefore seeking to work with KAC regarding a Cultural Heritage Management Plan and a land use agreement.

Aurizon advised that it first approached KAC approximately seven months ago and has continued engagement with the KAC Board and Negotiations Committee.

Cultural heritage survey work was undertaken in April 2025 and March 2026.

Aurizon also outlined areas in which it is already working with Kokatha, including:

- water supply arrangements associated with the current Pimba terminal;
- labour hire through Kokatha Mining Services, with up to four Kokatha employees engaged to date;
- support for Elevated Work Platform training;
- contribution towards renovations to kitchen facilities at the KAC Press Road Community Arts Hub in Port Augusta; and
- opportunities to provide additional training to Kokatha Mining Services personnel so they can operate further terminal equipment.

Aurizon advised that it offers community grants of \$20,000 every six months and referred to recent support provided to the Roxby Scouts Group and the Press Road kitchen project.

Next Steps

Aurizon advised that its next steps include:

- continuing regular meetings with the KAC Negotiations Committee regarding the proposed ILUA and associated benefits;
- participation by KAC Rangers in spring environmental surveys;
- identifying opportunities for Kokatha-owned businesses;
- progressing employment and training opportunities; and
- developing cultural heritage management arrangements to ensure activities are undertaken appropriately.

Questions and Discussion

Employment and career pathways

A Common Law Holder questioned whether four Kokatha employees represented sufficient participation and emphasised the importance of creating stable employment opportunities for Kokatha people living in regional and remote areas.

The member also raised the importance of on-the-job training and clear career pathways enabling Kokatha employees to progress into more skilled and senior roles.

Aurizon acknowledged the concern and advised that it intends for the agreement with KAC to include employment and training opportunities for Kokatha people.

Aurizon advised that it is keen to increase Kokatha employment and referred to its Indigenous Future Leaders Program, which is designed to support employees to build capability and progress into leadership positions.

Aurizon further advised that a significant proportion of its current workforce is fly-in fly-out, but that its employment philosophy is to recruit locally wherever possible, with a particular focus on employing local Aboriginal people.

Water use

A question was raised regarding the source of water used at the terminal and broader concerns about water use associated with major projects on Kokatha Country.

The Common Law Holder emphasised the cultural importance of water, including its relationship to Country, Dreaming and lore, and raised concerns about the potential cumulative impacts of industrial activity on water resources.

Aurizon advised that water used at the Pimba site is currently transported by truck from Port Augusta and that overall water use at the terminal is minimal.

Worker accommodation

A question was raised regarding whether Aurizon would need to provide alternative accommodation for workers if existing accommodation at Woomera became unavailable due to increased Defence requirements.

Aurizon advised that appropriate accommodation arrangements would be made if required.

Kokatha representation and management roles

A Common Law Holder questioned the use of broader terms such as "Indigenous management" and emphasised that employment and leadership commitments associated with the project should specifically refer to Kokatha people where that is the intended outcome.

The member also raised the importance of equitable and consistent wages and employment conditions.

Aurizon confirmed that its intention is to employ Kokatha people at the site and support Kokatha employees to develop the skills and experience necessary to progress into management and leadership positions within the organisation.

Business opportunities beyond mining

A question was raised regarding whether business opportunities associated with the project would extend beyond mining-related activities, including opportunities in areas such as education and training.

The member noted that Kokatha businesses and individuals have skills and capabilities extending well beyond the mining sector and sought assurance that opportunities would not be unnecessarily narrow.

Aurizon confirmed that its intention is to consider a broader range of business opportunities.

Aurizon encouraged Kokatha businesses and individuals with business ideas to raise them through KAC so that these opportunities can be considered as part of the ongoing negotiations and future participation planning.

The facilitator thanked the Aurizon representatives for their presentation.

Aurizon advised that information flyers had been made available to Common Law Holders and indicated that it would seek to provide further detail and respond to additional questions at future engagements.

6. AI Carbon - Carbon Farming Project Information

The facilitator handed the meeting to representatives from AI Carbon, who commenced their presentation at 1.02 pm.

AI Carbon introduced its representatives and provided an overview of its operations before explaining the proposed carbon farming project at Yudnapinna Station.

Carbon Farming Overview

AI Carbon advised that Yudnapinna Station is currently the location of its largest carbon farming project.

The purpose of the presentation was to provide Common Law Holders with information about carbon farming and how it can support regeneration and improved management of Country. AI Carbon emphasised that it is not a mining company and that its activities are focused on restoring and improving Country rather than extracting resources.

It was explained that carbon farming can provide an income stream through the Australian Carbon Credit Unit (ACCU) Scheme while encouraging land management practices that allow native vegetation and ecosystems to regenerate.

AI Carbon referred to a recent KAC Board visit to Yudnapinna Station to view the proposed project area and discussed the significant impact of feral goats on the property.

Kokatha holds native title rights over a substantial portion of Yudnapinna Station, and AI Carbon advised that discussions with KAC are continuing accordingly.

AI Carbon also reflected on the history of pastoral activities on Country and the opportunity for carbon farming projects to create new pathways for Kokatha people to spend time on Country, participate in station activities and share cultural knowledge.

The project was described as bringing together different perspectives, including AI Carbon's scientific expertise, the pastoralists' operational and business knowledge, and Kokatha cultural knowledge and connection to Country.

The proposed project has a duration of 25 years, requiring a long-term relationship between the parties.

How Carbon Farming Works

AI Carbon explained that carbon farming seeks to encourage land managers to change management practices so that native vegetation can regenerate and the landscape can move towards a healthier condition.

This can include reducing grazing pressure by decreasing livestock numbers, improving water management and managing feral animals.

Each year, evidence of land regeneration is submitted to the Clean Energy Regulator. Where the required outcomes are demonstrated, Australian Carbon Credit Units may be issued and subsequently sold.

AI Carbon explained that this creates a financial incentive for pastoralists to reduce grazing pressure and manage Country in a way that supports regeneration.

Carbon Estimation Areas

AI Carbon explained how different parts of a pastoral property are assessed to identify areas with the greatest potential for regeneration and carbon capture.

Some areas may already be at their natural capacity, while others may be unsuitable for meaningful regeneration due to factors such as rocky terrain. The project therefore focuses on areas where changed land management practices can produce the greatest environmental benefit.

AI Carbon advised that Yudnapinna has particularly strong potential as a carbon farming project because of the large area assessed as suitable for regeneration.

Proposed Management Changes at Yudnapinna

Feral goats were identified as a significant issue affecting Yudnapinna Station.

The proposed management approach includes removing sheep for a period to enable more effective control and removal of feral goats.

Other management considerations include water infrastructure and fencing, with significant fencing work expected to be required.

Project Risks

AI Carbon outlined a number of risks associated with long-term carbon farming projects, including:

- long-term contractual obligations;
- coexistence with pastoral operations;
- carbon market volatility;
- maintaining strong relationships and trust;
- managing community expectations;
- changing environmental conditions; and
- public perception.

AI Carbon acknowledged that carbon credit prices fluctuate in the same way as other commodities but expressed confidence that demand for carbon credits would continue, particularly from large emitters seeking to offset emissions.

AI Carbon emphasised that a key objective of its approach is to ensure different perspectives are heard while creating opportunities for Country to regenerate over the long term.

It was also explained that the carbon farming project does not extinguish native title rights and is intended to provide greater opportunities for Kokatha people to access and engage with Country.

Yudnapinna Project Modelling

AI Carbon presented current modelling for the proposed Yudnapinna project.

The total Carbon Estimation Area is approximately 100,000 hectares, with forecast generation of approximately 2.5 million ACCUs over the life of the project.

Approximately 78,000 hectares of the Carbon Estimation Area falls within the Kokatha native title determination area, representing an estimated 1.9 million ACCUs.

AI Carbon also referred to areas associated with Barngarla interests within the broader Yudnapinna property.

It was confirmed that Kokatha consent is required for the project to proceed over the relevant native title area.

AI Carbon emphasised that the potential benefits extend beyond carbon revenue and may include cultural, social, economic, environmental and carbon literacy outcomes.

The project was described as an opportunity to improve pastoral land management rather than cease pastoral activities altogether. AI Carbon noted that pastoral activities would otherwise continue and that carbon farming provides a mechanism for operating within the existing pastoral framework while improving the condition of Country.

Future Opportunities and Next Steps

AI Carbon advised that negotiations between KAC, AI Carbon and the McBride family would continue with the objective of reaching an agreement that provides an appropriate outcome for all parties.

Discussion also occurred regarding broader opportunities that could form part of the relationship, including camping on Country, engagement with schools, art activities, education about caring for Country and opportunities for Traditional Owners to spend time on Yudnapinna.

Questions and Discussion

Future stocking levels

A Common Law Holder asked whether livestock would return to the property following the initial destocking period.

AI Carbon advised that livestock may return, but at substantially reduced numbers and under a different grazing management approach intended to place much less pressure on Country.

Protection against overstocking

A further question was raised regarding whether there were safeguards to prevent future overstocking.

AI Carbon explained that maintaining reduced stocking pressure is fundamental to the project's success over its 25-year duration. Overstocking would compromise the project's ability to generate carbon credits.

The project is voluntary for the pastoralists, but once entered into, legally binding agreements and management plans establish obligations regarding stocking levels and other land management practices.

AI Carbon referred to Buckleboo Station as an example of an established project where ACCUs have already been issued and advised that publicly available information can be reviewed through the Clean Energy Regulator and other independent sources.

AI Carbon name

Clarification was sought regarding the organisation's name.

AI Carbon explained that "AI Carbon" stands for **Australian Integrated Carbon**.

Positive comment was made about the opportunity to consider a project focused on restoring Country rather than extractive activity.

AI Carbon concluded its presentation and left the meeting at 1.33 pm.

KAC and Legal Overview of Proposed Agreement

Following the presentation, the facilitator handed the meeting to the Chair and representatives from Camatta Lawyers to provide further context regarding the proposed carbon farming agreement.

The Chair spoke about KAC's engagement with AI Carbon to date and described the project positively, noting its potential to improve Country, support native title interests and provide an additional income stream for the Kokatha community.

The Chair also referred to engagement with the McBride family and their expressed interest in establishing a respectful and positive long-term relationship with Kokatha.

The Chair encouraged Common Law Holders to provide feedback regarding the proposal.

Camatta Lawyers then outlined the legal framework applying to the proposed project and explained that it differs from the process generally associated with mining agreements.

It was explained that AI Carbon must obtain **Eligible Interest Holder Consent** from Kokatha before the project can proceed across the relevant native title area. Kokatha therefore has the ability to consent or decline consent to the proposal.

As part of obtaining consent, the proposed agreement would provide Kokatha with a percentage share of project revenue.

The agreement is also expected to address:

- cultural heritage processes;
- contracting opportunities;
- employment opportunities, including potential work for the KAC Ranger Program; and
- the management activities required to implement the carbon farming project.

It was noted that the activities involved are largely pastoral land management activities, including feral animal control, fencing and water management.

Camatta Lempens explained that, unlike some mining agreements requiring broader Common Law Holder authorisation, the carbon farming agreement is negotiated and approved by the KAC Board under the applicable process.

Further updates and information will continue to be provided to Common Law Holders as negotiations progress, and members were encouraged to direct feedback, comments and questions to KAC.

Further Discussion

A KAC Director reflected on the recent visit to Yudnapinna Station and described the experience positively.

It was noted that the pastoralists intend to destock the property for approximately five years to allow Country to regenerate naturally. The Director expressed confidence in the pastoralists' approach and emphasised that the project is focused on restoration rather than extractive development.

A further light-hearted comment was made regarding reducing human impacts on Country as well as feral goat numbers.

No further questions were raised.

7. Close

The facilitator advised that the formal agenda had concluded and provided a brief recap of the matters covered during the meeting, including:

- confirmation of the minutes of the previous Common Law Holder Meeting;
- an update from BHP on its engagement with Kokatha, the Olympic Dam Agreement negotiations, Copper SA growth and proposed activities on Kokatha Country;
- an update from Northern Water on the proposed desalination and water infrastructure project, including cultural heritage, environmental assessment, employment and business opportunities;
- an overview from Aurizon of the proposed Pimba Intermodal Terminal and ongoing negotiations with KAC regarding cultural heritage, land use and Kokatha participation; and
- an introduction to AI Carbon's proposed carbon farming project at Yudnapinna Station, including its potential environmental, cultural, economic and on-Country benefits and the agreement process currently being progressed with KAC.

The facilitator congratulated those in attendance on a positive and constructive Common Law Holder Meeting and reminded members that information and materials from the day's presentations were available to take with them.

He acknowledged and thanked those who had contributed to organising and supporting the meeting behind the scenes. Common Law Holders were encouraged to ensure their contact details were current and to complete the feedback forms provided.

Chair's Closing Remarks

The facilitator handed the meeting to the Chair for closing remarks.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Common Law Holders for attending and expressed appreciation for their questions, discussion and contributions throughout the meeting.

The Chair advised that the Corporation's AGM is currently anticipated to be held in November. He noted that identifying a suitable venue remains a challenge due to the size of the membership and that arrangements would need to be finalised before members could be formally notified.

The Chair reiterated the Board's commitment to improving communication with Kokatha people and encouraged members who had further questions, concerns or feedback arising from the meeting to speak with the Board or provide their comments through the feedback process.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 1.44 pm.