

12th April 2023
Michael Hutt
Construction Manager
mhutt@igeh2.com
via email

Letter Report

Infinite Green Energy Arrowsmith Hydrogen Project – Social Surrounds Yamatji Consultation

Sticks and Stones Cultural Resources Management (SandS CRM) has been engaged by the Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation (YSRC) under its Yamatji Proponent Standard Heritage Agreement (YPSHA) with the Infinite Green Energy (IGE) Arrowsmith Hydrogen Project to undertake a social surrounds consultation. The consultation is a response to the IGE project application pathway to:

Identify if the project negatively impacts on the relationship between the Yamatji people and culture, the biological, physical, and social surrounds,

and,

Recommend mitigative actions if possible

The selection of knowledgeable Yamatji people was delegated to the Southern Yamatji Cultural Committee (SYCC) by the YSRC, where the SYCC is a Yamatji community designated body advising on culture and heritage issues. The participants were selected by the SYCC as being suitable representation for the consultation.

The consultation was undertaken of four days with five separate groups. The group days were selected based on participant availability and were comprised of:

Group 1 – Monday 03 April 2023

Bobbi-lee Pearce (YSRC)	Rickisha Dann (YSRC)	Melanie Alone (YSRC)
Karen Bonney (YSRC)	Angelina Dann (YSRC)	Michaela Dann (YSRC)
Daniel Puletama (SandS)	Bianca Waldie (SandS)	

Group 2 – Tuesday 04 April 2023

Karen Whitby (YSRC)	Delveen Whitby (YSRC)	Wendy Callow (YSRC)
Lorelle Callow (YSRC)	Gail Eades (YSRC)	Bianca Waldie (SandS)
Daniel Puletama (SandS)	Michael Hutt (IGE)	Peter Galloway (IGE)

Group 3 – Tuesday 04 April 2023

Karen Whitby (YSRC)	Delveen Whitby (YSRC)	Russell Bandy (YSRC)
William Little (YSRC)	Daniel Puletama (SandS)	

Group 4 – Wednesday 05 April 2023

Norman Little (YSRC)	Angelique Ronan (YSRC)	Bianca Waldie (SandS)
Daniel Puletama (SandS)	Michael Hutt (IGE)	Peter Galloway (IGE)

Group 5 – Thursday 06 April 2023

David Ronan (YSRC)	Lockie Ronan (YSRC)	Noel Taylor Snr (YSRC)
Noel Taylor Jnr (YSRC)	Cleave Narkle (YSRC)	Kierran Taylor (YSRC)
Daniel Puletama (SandS)	Bianca Waldie (SandS)	



Figure 1: The group 1 site inspection team



Figure 2: The group 2 site inspection team



Figure 3: The group 4 site inspection team



Figure 4: The group 5 site inspection team

Background

IGE are proposing to build and operate the Arrowsmith Hydrogen Plant facility. The facility is planned to initially produce enough hydrogen fuel to displace 118,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions annually.

IGE, (formerly Infinite Blue Energy) had undertaken archaeological and ethnographic surveys of the project area to identify Aboriginal heritage sites in 2021 and a specific women's ethnographic consultation in 2023. The previous heritage activities identified seven sites in the project area. These sites will not be impacted by the proposed works.

Consultation

The format for all visits followed the same format. The participants were picked-up from their homes in Geraldton and assembled at a café in Geraldton. The project as well as the nature of the consultation complementing the previous heritage work was introduced to the group. The team then drove to site where a site inspection took place visiting key vantage points and stopping to discuss the heritage values at each turbine location, the solar array, and the processing plant. The YSRC participants affirmed they understood the nature of the consultation.



Figure 5: Group 1 onsite consultation



Figure 6: Group 2 onsite consultation

Outcomes

The consultation was completed with full involvement of, and cooperation from, the Yamatji Nation representatives. These Yamatji Nation representatives were involved in the consultation planning, were updated about the progress, and the results of the consultation were discussed with them. This collaborative approach should mean there is no misunderstanding about the recommendations below.

Yamatji Nation participants on the survey provided consistent messaging during the consultation. Specifically, the participants stated:

- The area is a place of desirable plant resources for the Yamatji people as foods, medicines, and decorative features.
- The previously identified heritage features are of importance to the Yamatji people and access to these areas should be restricted by physical and administrative tools.
- The works area retains general importance to the Yamatji people as a place where their ancestors camped, travelled, and gathered resources.

Through discussion between the Yamatji participants and IGE, the following requests were presented:

- Access is afforded for Yamatji people to continue to use and enjoy the area conditional of relevant health and safety conditions.
- The identified heritage sites are avoided by the project and access to the cave locations is restricted through fencing.
- The opportunity for a collaborative decorative design on the wind turbine blades and masts is continued to be pursued by both parties.

Should further information be required, please contact Daniel Puletama at daniel.puletama@sandscrm.com.

Statement by

Daniel Puletama – Senior Heritage Consultant