

Kurnell Progress & Precinct Residents' Association (KPPRA) Minutes

INC 9875207

Date: Wednesday, 30 April 2025

Time: 7:30pm

Location: Kurnell Community Sports & Recreation Club – 160 Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell, NSW

Chair: Robert Stanley-Jones

Minutes Recorded By: Allison Casey – Full transcript available upon request & subsequent approval from KPPRA committee.

1. Welcome & Introductions

- The Chair welcomed attendees to the Extraordinary Meeting, noting it was convened to prepare for AMPOL's upcoming public information session on the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). Purpose: to inform residents, develop questions, and discuss community strategy. Acknowledgment of new attendees was made.
- Meeting was recorded for accurate minute-taking.
- Digital/manual attendance was discussed to ensure all contact details were collected.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

- Paul and Leigh Stringer,
- Noel and Gay Berry,
- Robert Russell Bryce (Gamay Rangers),
- Jessica Fox.

3. BESS Proposal Overview

Presenter: Lyn Atkin

Key points raised:

- Concerns over safety, environmental, and regulatory clarity surrounding the proposed BESS.
- Reference to the Moss Landing Fire (California, 2024) with fires, toxic gas release, and long-term health/environmental impact.
- Lack of information from AMPOL, particularly regarding:
 - Battery chemistry,
 - Emergency response planning,
 - Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) status.

4. Community Concerns

Concerns included:

- **Location Risk:** BESS adjacent to existing fuel storage facilities.
- **Environmental Impact:** Toxic runoff, threat to marine/birdlife, soil contamination, fire risk.
- **Health & Safety:** Evacuation limitations, chemical exposure, long-term health effects.
- **Process & Transparency:** Lack of thorough community consultation and unclear planning processes.

5. Questions Compiled for AMPOL

More than 30 technical and community-focused questions were prepared for submission, including:

- Battery technology used,
- Fire safety systems,
- Risk of thermal runaway,
- Contamination mitigation,
- Impact on property values,
- Connection to offshore wind projects,
- Evacuation protocols,
- National security concerns.

Attendees encouraged to email through their questions via the Save Kurnell Action Group email: savekurnell@gmail.com. Full list of questions available upon request.

6. Motion

Motion Passed:

“KPPRA opposes the proposed BESS development in its current form, based on the information provided to date.”

Motion carried **unanimously**, without objections.

7. Next Steps & Actions

Residents urged to attend AMPOL’s Community Drop-in Session:

- **Date:** Wednesday, 7 May 2025
- **Time:** 3:30 PM – 7:00 PM

- **Location:** Marton Community Hall

Other actions:

- Encouraged attendees to
 - Sign up for NSW Planning Portal alerts,
 - Prepare formal submissions during EIS public exhibition,
 - Share information with neighbouring suburbs (Greenhills, Woolooware Bay)

8. Communications & Media

Plans discussed to:

- Engage with Sky News and Andrew Bolt.
- Use signage, petitions, letterbox campaigns to increase awareness.

9. Close

Chair reiterated importance of unified advocacy and a comprehensive response strategy across environmental, legal, safety, and economic issues.

Meeting closed at approx. 8:45pm.