

Tarong Power Stations and Meandu Mine neighbourhood news

Stay in touch ...

Would you like more information?

Please contact our onsite community relations team:

Kirstie Schumacher

phone: 4160 9233 or email:

kirstie.schumacher@stanwell.com

Kathy Cope

phone: 4160 9251 or email:

kathy.cope@stanwell.com

Should you not receive a call back promptly or your enquiry is outside business hours, please contact the gatehouse. In most circumstances, they can direct your enquiry.

Meandu Mine Gatehouse

phone: 4160 7211

Tarong Power Stations Gatehouse

phone: 4160 9260



Above: Greg and Meandu Site Manager, Dan Redman meeting with community representatives at the Nanango Showgrounds.

Meet Tarong Site Manager Greg McIntyre

Greg moved to the South Burnett in August from his home in the Flinders Ranges. He grew up in South Australia, where he and his wife have raised four daughters, one son and now enjoy four grandchildren.

Greg likes to play guitar and has enjoyed getting to know some of the locals.

Prior to taking up the Site Manager's role, he was the Operations and Maintenance Manager at Sundrop Farms, in Port Augusta. Greg said, "We grew fresh tomatoes in some of Australia's most barren landscapes with solar power and seawater".

Before then, Greg was the Manager of Northern Power Station at Port Augusta for several years.



Above: Tarong apprentices and trainees on their first day of work.

Tarong Site Manager's message

Welcome to the neighbourhood newsletter which aims to provide you with an update on our operations and provide our contact information should you have any questions.

I'm pleased to report Tarong Power Stations are two of the most reliable power stations in the country, currently achieving world-class availability. During the summer period the site generated at higher levels to keep the lights, and the air conditioners on for Queenslanders.

The heatwaves experienced in February saw new records for electricity demand set in Queensland. During this time, the Tarong team worked to ensure reliability and security of supply, reducing volatility and placing downward pressure on wholesale electricity prices.

Our site is now busy preparing to complete a mini overhaul of the 443 megawatt unit at Tarong North. The unit will be out of service from 12 May until 28 May and we expect up to an additional 150 workers onsite during this time.

In other news, Tarong has recently increased its workforce, welcoming 16 mechanical tradespeople and electricians to the team. Some of these roles were previously performed by Stanwell's contracting partner UGL and were a direct result of Stanwell's decision to bring these roles inhouse and provide jobs for the local community.

On a personal note, I've enjoyed the country hospitality of the South Burnett and especially getting to know my team and being a part of the local community. If you would like any information about our operations please don't hesitate to contact our Community Relations team.

Bright new recruits onsite

The Tarong team has recently recruited eight local young apprentices and trainees as part of its annual intake. These young people must live in the South Burnett to be eligible to apply and will achieve nationally recognised qualifications in trade and administrative fields. The recruits have enjoyed settling into site and gaining hands-on experience under the guidance of their mentors.

Meandu has recently welcomed five Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainee operators to the site.

All vacant positions available onsite are advertised on Stanwell, Downer or UGL's website.

FAQs

Why do I feel some blasts and not others?

Meandu ensures the safety of its people and the protection of the community with the careful control and management of its blasting practices onsite.

When planning a blast, the Blast Engineer models the predicted level of overpressure and ground vibration and uses this information to design the blast in a way that minimises any potential impact.

The meteorological conditions, along with the wind speed and direction or cloud cover on the day of firing can change the way you may notice a blast.

The blast crew conduct a comprehensive risk assessment that considers our closest neighbours and carefully monitors the weather conditions on the day of firing. This process enables the crew to delay a blast if the conditions are not suitable.

Although blasting can cause some noise and vibration, the stringent limits set by Meandu's Environmental Authority are purposely put in place to protect near neighbours and their amenity. These limits are considerably lower than the known levels required to damage competent structures. Meandu carefully monitors every blast at five locations around the site and film the firing with a drone. Please contact the Community Relations team if you would like to receive regular blast notifications.

What air quality monitoring does the site have?

Tarong Power Stations and Meandu Mine operates in accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* and the air quality objectives conducive to human health and wellbeing.

In 2016/17, Stanwell invested \$25.7 million at the Tarong Power Stations to maintain the plant and ensure the site operated as efficiently as possible. Tarong has continued to meet all statutory and environmental compliance requirements.

Tarong and Meandu's monitoring network measures the ambient air conditions, including fine particulate matter, every 15 minutes at five locations around the site.

Ongoing monitoring and regular studies ensure ground level concentrations of the major air emissions released by Tarong Power Stations are within national and state air quality standards for human health.



Our rehabilitation practices are working

Progressive rehabilitation at Meandu Mine commences quickly behind the active mining operations. During 2016/17 Meandu rehabilitated 43.2 hectares (106.7 acres) with native vegetation. Another 22 hectares (54.3 acres) is scheduled for next financial year. Monitoring to ensure the quality of the completed mine rehabilitation has indicated the site is achieving its targets for species diversity and abundance.

Over the coming years, you may notice some of the higher dumps that can be seen from around our neighbourhood will be rehabilitated.

Progressive rehabilitation, along with the management practices listed below, help to reduce dust lift at Meandu Mine:

- » Site wide speed limits of 60 km/hour
- » Continuous watering of active haul roads and other unsealed roads during peak usage
- » Sprinklers on coal conveyors and at the coal handling plant
- » Avoidance of topsoil stripping and blasting during adverse windy conditions.

Environmental sustainability

Sustainability is already part of our values, but now we are working to make it an intrinsic part of our DNA. At Stanwell, just complying with regulations is not enough.

In every decision we make, we carefully consider the well-being of our environment and our communities, and balance this with the need to keep energy affordable.

We are facing up to the challenges of a new energy world and look forward to sharing with you how we are putting environmental sustainability into action at Tarong and Meandu.

For more information about Stanwell or our operations at Tarong Power Stations and Meandu Mine visit www.stanwell.com or phone 4160 9233.

Have you visited Heritage House lately?

The Tarong Community Partnership Fund has supported the Yarraman and District Historical Society to ensure the long-term sustainability of its activities.

Built in 1945, the former Sisters of Mercy Convent is now known as Heritage House and has been brought back to its former glory following a fresh coat of paint.

Heritage House showcases an extensive collection of local history and provides the facilities for many community activities. Visitors are welcome, phone 4163 8111 or stop in at 18 Millar Street, Yarraman for more details.

