
**MINUTES OF THE ASHTON COAL PROJECT
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
Tuesday 16 December 2014
2:00PM - ASHTON COAL PROJECT SITE OFFICE**

These minutes confirmed as true and correct at 24 March 2015 CCC Meeting

ATTENDEES:

John McInerney	(JMcl)	Community Representative
Steve Ernst	(SE)	Community Representative
Michael Bestic	(MB)	Community Representative
Debbie Richards	(DR)	Community Representative
Godfrey Adamthwaite	(GA)	Singleton Shire Council (SSC)
Digby Short	(DS)	Company Rep (Environment & Community Manager)
James Barben	(JB)	Company Rep (Environment & Community Coordinator)

An inspection of Bowmans Creek Diversion was conducted from approximately 2pm-3pm.

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 3:10pm.

2. APOLOGIES

Brian Wesley

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST BY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Nil

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the meeting held on 14th September 2014 were accepted as a true and accurate record:

Moved: John McInerney **Seconded:** Steve Ernst

5. ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	PROGRESS COMMENTS
Tree Screen at New England Hwy – Optic fibre has been located and the area archeologically cleared to allow for the tree screens to commence.	JB	SEOC Project start date delayed. Planting plan prepared. Advised to delay planting until after Summer. Infill planting of existing tree screen also to be completed at the same time.
Newsletter to be drafted, published and distributed to community – including donations summary, SEOC appeal, UG infrastructure projects and rehabilitation photos	JB	Articles being prepared for the newsletter. A brief bio/profile is required for each CCC Member if possible. Draft to be prepared for next CCC.
Send letter to DoP&I asking for the endorsed CCC applicant to be approved.	JB	Complete awaiting response from DP&E
Underground visit options to be circulated to CCC members.	JB	Complete

Discussion the progress on the tree screen planting. A planting plan has been prepared and it advised to wait until Summer has passed to commence planting. Infill planting will also take place in the existing tree screen as requested by JMcl.

6. REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

6.1 ASHTON STATISTICS

JB provided a summary of the statistics for the previous three months (June 2014 to Aug 2014). This included community donations, production, and safety statistics.

6.2 OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS / PROJECTS / EXPLORATION

JB updated the CCC on production progress for the previous quarter. Good production occurred during October with a record weekly production of approximately 128,000 tonnes produced. LW103 had recently experienced slower production due to geological issues.

South East Open Cut (SEOC): Judge has noted that the SEOC is capable of approval subject to final conditions. A hearing was completed on the 28th October 2014 regarding conditions. No further progress on the SEOC court case was reported.

JB provided update on Upper Lower Liddell (ULLD) Drifts. Drifts are approximately 50% complete with nil incidents to date. The drift project is due for completion in approximately May 2015.

JB advised that there had been no surface exploration conducted on EL5860 or EL4918 in the period August – December 2014.

6.3 APPROVALS UPDATE

JB advised that no approvals determinations had occurred in the period.

Development of the LW105-108 Extraction Plan/Subsidence Management Plan is continuing.

6.4 MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

JB provided an update on the key ACOL and SEOC management plans that are currently being prepared or reviewed.

6.5 ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

Dust Monitoring

JB provided an overview of the dust monitoring sites and results for depositional dust gauges, High Volume Air Samplers and real time TEOM PM₁₀ monitors, showing the Rolling Readings for the past 12 months. Of note, the HVAS at Site 1 is continuing to track high, however it has recently trended downwards in line with other monitors. This site is located in the North West corner of Camberwell Village.

Water Monitoring

JB presented the annual trends for the water monitoring sites. Both surface and groundwater sites did not record any unusual results.

Noise Monitoring

Attended monthly noise monitoring did not detect any exceedences for the reporting period.

Complaints

There was one noise complaints received during this quarter. The complaint was investigated and the noise files were assessed. Noise sources were dominated by livestock and noise from the New England Highway. Attended noise monitoring was conducted soon after the complaint and ACOL was found to be inaudible.

Other Matters

DS discussed the Wonnaruah Mining Rehabilitation Nursery which is planned for the property located in Camberwell.

DS and JB discussed the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Workshop that occurred in Muswellbrook on 3 December 2014.

The preliminary outcomes of the Summer Fauna monitoring, Bowmans Creek Diversion Geomorphic and Flora Monitoring and recent weed management activities were discussed.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Discussion about the Wonnaruah Mining Rehabilitation Nursery and their proposed operations.

8. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: Tuesday 24th March 2015 at 2pm

MEETING CLOSED 4:10pm