
**MINUTES OF THE ASHTON COAL PROJECT
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER 2006
1.00PM - ASHTON COAL PROJECT SITE OFFICE**

ATTENDEES:

Cr Fred Harvison	(FH)	Singleton Council (Chairman)
Brian Thomas	(BT)	Singleton Council
Thelma DeJong	(TD)	Community Representative
Deidre Olofsson	(DO)	Community Representative
John McInerney	(JM)	Community Representative
Paul Ashford	(PA)	Community Representative
Peter Barton	(PB)	Company Rep (Development Manager)
Lisa Richards	(LR)	Company Rep (Environmental Co-ordinator)
Brian Wesley	(BW)	Company Observer (U/G Mine Manager)
Adam Spargo	(AS)	Company Observer (Graduate Engineer)
Sally Mayberry	(SM)	Observer
Sherry Russell		Minute Taker

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE CHAIRPERSON

Meeting was opened by the Chairman at 1.05pm.

Peter Barton tabled a letter from Ashton advising that Peter Barton and Lisa Richards have been appointed as the Company Representatives.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the following members:

Monique Meyer, Department of Primary Industries
Peter Dundon, P Dundon & Associates

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST BY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Nil declared.

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the meeting held on 5 September 2006 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: John McInerney

Seconded: Thelma DeJong

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

DO asked what compliances Ashton have complied with from the audit undertaken. PB advised Ashton will attach a copy of the action register to these minutes. PA raised the issue of the website not being updated in relation to dust, blasting records. LR and AS to look into this issue. PA asked if a line could be added to the graphs to show the criteria in a more "user friendly" manner.

6. REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

6.1 PROJECT MANAGEMENT – KEY ISSUES

Underground / CHPP Construction

PB provided a presentation and overview on current construction activity being undertaken on site with respect to underground and CHPP Upgrade works. JMc raised the question of noise emanating from the rotary breaker and if Ashton have put in place any sound suppression measures. PB advised that Ashton will construct a noise mitigation building around the breaker.

MacGen Tailings Disposal Project

PB gave an update on the MacGen tailings dam pipeline project. PB went through the approval processing currently being undertaken with the relevant Government agencies. Transportation of tailings to MacGen are scheduled to commence in March 2007.

Glennies Creek Road

PB gave a presentation on the status of Glennies Creek Road. PB advised road designs are currently with Council. BT mentioned that approval should be issued within the coming week. Daracon is the contractor who has been appointed to construct the new road – completion is expected around March 2007. In response to a question from TD, PB advised that 0.6Ha of the Common would be compulsorily acquired for the permanent road diversion.

Subsidence Management Plan

Lisa Richards introduced Brian Wesley to the meeting. BW provided a presentation on the Subsidence Management Plan. BW advised that longwall extraction will commence early February 2007. The SMP will cover longwalls 1 to 4.

6.2 ENVIRONMENTAL

LR provided an overview of environmental issues. Information and statistics dust. Blasting, water monitoring, etc, were reported for the period from September 2005 to August 2006 as per the AEMR. Copies of the AEMR were provided to each CCC Community Member. DO asked if the depths of the bore holes could be noted on the Groundwater monitoring graphs. LR also provided an overview of the complaints procedure and how it is addressed by Ashton. LR also mentioned that ACOL are currently reviewing the complaints process and how it can be best managed. LR advised that complaints made in an abusive and intimidating manner are not acceptable. JM advised he would be strongly opposed to a call centre being introduced on a 24/7 basis. Comments were received from other members that they were also opposed to the operation of a call centre being introduced on a 24 hours basis.

PA raised the issue of the first flush systems for households within the village. LR advised that she is currently reviewing this position and the offer will be made to community members again.

6.3 SECTION 94 – LIST OF PRIORITISED WORKS

PB apologised to the meeting as this issue has not been progressed. He did advise that he had received plans from JM with regard to the erection of the gazebo and barbecue area near St Clements Church. Key issue is whether gazebo can be built on road reserve.

6.4 ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No issues to be raised.

7. GUEST SPEAKER – PETER DUNDON, Bsc, MSc

Peter Dundon was unable to attend the meeting due to a commitment at an independent review panel. A presentation by Peter Dundon will be arranged for another meeting date in early 2007.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

JM raised the issue of rehabilitation works. LR advised rehabilitation will be completed by the end of April 2007 – an area of approximately 23 hectares.

9. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 6 March 2007 at 1.00pm.

10. SITE INSPECTION OF THE OPERATIONS

No site inspection was undertaken.

MEETING CLOSED AT 3.40PM

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY
Copy of the action items from the audit to be attached to the minutes. <i>(Note: will be attached to the final minutes – not the draft minutes).</i>	LR
Review complaints process	LR
Progress gazebo / BBQ area	PB / BT
Review website to ensure that dust and blasting information is kept up-to-date.	LR