

**MINUTES OF THE ASHTON COAL PROJECT
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 29 JUNE 2004
1.00PM - ASHTON COAL PROJECT SITE OFFICE**

ATTENDEES:

Cr Lyn MacBain	Singleton Council (Chairman)	LMB
Fiona Scanes	Singleton Council	FS
Deidre Oloffson	Community Representative	DO
Thelma DeJong	Community Representative	TD
John McInerney	Community Representative	JM
Monique McDonald	Department of Mineral Resources	MM
Ian Callow	Company Representative (Project Manager)	IC
Colin Davies	Company Representative (Environmental Officer)	CD
Sherry Russell	Minute Taker	SR
John Janetzki	HWE Representative (Observer)	
Phil Holz	(Observer)	

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE CHAIRPERSON

Meeting was opened by the Chairman at 1.20pm.

2. APOLOGIES

Cr Fred Harvison

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST BY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

No pecuniary interests were declared.

3.1 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: *Fiona Scanes* **Seconded:** *Ian Callow*

3.2 BUSINESS ARISING

JM raised the issue of road safety with regard to Glennies Creek Road. JM asked the question if ACOL can do anything about the speed limit on the corner of Glennies Creek Road north west of Paul Richards' residence.

LMB suggested the CCC write to Council's Traffic Committee requesting action be taken. Also suggested ACOL write to Council with the same request.

JM also raised the question of dust monitor locations. JM believes dust monitors are in wrong place and requested dust gauge and air sampler be placed in the north-west corner of Camberwell village. IC advised locations were debated with EPA under the EPA Licence. EPA had final say.

DO queried the location of monitor on Richards' property – should be placed on property not owned by ACOL. JM would like to see correspondence with EPA with regard to location of dust monitors.

4. REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

4.1 FROM PROJECT MANAGEMENT (EG. PROJECT OVERVIEW, STATUS, CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE)

IC provided overview on the current status of the project, commissioning of the CHPP and construction activities.

Open Cut Mine

The Committee left the meeting to witness the blast scheduled at 2.15pm – Committee members went to JM's property to observe.

Facilities

100,000 tonne performance test to commence next week at the CHPP.

4.2 FROM ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER (EG. RECENT MONITORING DATA, PROCESS FOR RESPONSES TO COMPLAINTS)

CD tabled report entitled "Ambient Air Quality Report – September 2003 to March 2004" showing the dust results since commencement of operations. IC explained the data / information contained within the report to the Committee. Chairperson explained to JM the PM10 requirements of companies monitoring fine dust particles. Under Australian Standards, PM10 is run every six days, ACOL proposed real time monitoring in the D/A. IC suggested a manual monitoring station be placed on JM property, if the Committee was in agreement.

Chairperson suggested ACOL liaise with the Committee to resolve appropriate location. This monitor is outside EPA requirements and is provided for community information.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 SECTION 94 CONTRIBUTIONS

Approximately 20-30 people attended a separate community organised meeting. Expenditure priorities for Section 94 contributions to be provided at next CCC meeting. JM raised question of ACOL using signage for the village ie. Ashton Coal a joint community initiative. ACOL taking more of an ownership role within the village. DO raised the issue of ACOL maintaining their properties and placing good tenants. DO tabled a list of issues – discussion took place as follows:

- 5.2 Need to advertise for another CCC member must be handled through Singleton Council. Tracey Clarke put letter in to join committee. ACOL to make reference regarding 2 vacancies in the next Newsletter after determining when Singleton Council will advertise the positions.
- 5.3 DO raised the issue that follow up from environmental officer is too slow. IC explained the process with regard to complaints. CD said the dust levels have not exceeded our criteria as stated in the management plans.
- 5.4 DO said monitoring data is not accessible on web site. ACOL will review position. CD advised there was information on website and will organise a training session for residents. DO to advise number of people interested.
- 5.5 JM raised the question of 1800 free toll number. MD asked what other mines do – JM said most mines do have toll free numbers. ACOL to look into.
- 5.6 Glennies Creek environmental bund. CD asked if the community would put up with additional visual impact – noting that ACOL have to stay within dust criteria. Chairperson asked when bund could be finished? ACOL to advise at next meeting.
- 5.7 Hours of operation. IC advised mining operations cease at 10.00pm. Maintenance work is not classed as mining – water cart can operate 24 hours.
- 5.8 Four people have not received structural surveys reports. Sandra Turner / Neville Smiles have not received. CCC members to provide names to CD and copies will be provided.
- 5.9 ACOL advised filters for tanks have arrived and ACOL will be installing in the near future. ACOL to fit to every house. ACOL to put in newsletter and residents will be contacted to arrange installation.
- 5.10 Section 94 Contributions – CCC members to provide. Tidy Towns project proposed. IC slashing along roads need to speak with Council ie. public liability.
- 5.11 Horn blasting – does it have to happen every time. Transmitters being fitted to every truck – horn blasting noise will cease in the near future ie. 2 or 3 weeks.
- 5.12 DO raised issue of crown roads in the village. If ACOL upgrade the roads to Council standard – do Council take over the maintenance of those roads? IC presentation to council could ask for more Section 94 funding for this issue.

6. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 31 August 2004 at 1.00pm.

Meetings to be held approximately every 2 months for the interim period. Once operations settle down meetings will be held less frequently.

7. SITE INSPECTION OF THE OPERATIONS

Monitored blast at McInerney property.

MEETING CLOSED AT 3.28PM

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY
ACOL review the position of placing signage in the village.	ACOL
ACOL to liaise with members to resolve location of additional PM10 monitor in the village.	ACOL / CCC
ACOL to advertise in next newsletter for 2 vacancies on community consultative committee. One to be a committee member and a delegate.	ACOL
ACOL to look into providing training for local residents on the web site.	DO (to advise community interest in participation)
ACOL to look into setting up toll free number.	ACOL
ACOL to put in newsletter information on Glennies Creek Road environmental bund.	ACOL
ACOL to place in newsletter about installation of filtering systems.	ACOL