

MT ARTHUR COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting (12)

Location: Mt Arthur Coal Boardroom
Date: Thursday 27 January 2011
Present: Jennifer Lecky (JL) Deputy Chairperson, Craig Flemming (CF) Muswellbrook Shire Council, Pathum Gunasekara (PG) Muswellbrook Shire Council, Bruce McPherson (BM) Resident, Eddie Constable (EC) Resident, Steve Perkins (SP) Mt Arthur Coal, Scott Mitchell (SM) Mt Arthur Coal, Rebecca Smith (RS) Mt Arthur Coal, Rob Hayes (RH) Mt Arthur Coal, Nicole Grant (NG) Mt Arthur Coal, Sarah Withell (SW) Mt Arthur Coal

Meeting Commenced: 4.10pm

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Jennifer Lecky welcomed everyone to the Mt Arthur Coal Community Consultative Committee January 2011 meeting.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Michael White (MW) Mt Arthur Coal and Raymond Webb (RW) Resident.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No pecuniary interests were declared.

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Moved by JL

Seconded by BM

4. HOUSEKEEPING AND SAFETY

RS provided information on general housekeeping and safety at Mt Arthur Coal, this included:

- Entry/Exit
- Voice activated alarm
- Muster Area
- Amenities
- Tea/Coffee
- Emergency Procedure

5. ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Action Item 1 - Arrange map of Mt Arthur Coal for next CCC meeting

This was completed by SM and available at the meeting.

Action Item 2 – Everyone to bring AEMR to next CCC meeting to discuss any queries in data

Discussion on AEMR was opened. No questions were raised.

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Action Item 3 - Include notes from Monitoring System slides in the agenda for the next CCC meeting.

This was completed by RS.

6. OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS TO DATE

RH presented information on the following:

- Currently active dump areas.
- Two road closures are planned for early February and none are planned for March or April.
- Production is stable and the current focus is on equipment productivity.
- New equipment is expected January 2012.
- The port is no longer a restraint on production.
- Visual bund is to be extended to Denman Road.
- A portion of Macleans Hill is planned to be mined.
- In approximately 4 weeks a campaign will begin for the further control of spontaneous combustion. The planned tailings dam will also assist with spontaneous combustion control.

7. MONITORING SYSTEMS

RS presented an overview of the Mt Arthur Coal monitoring results since the last meeting. Monitoring results were delivered to the CCC members prior to the meeting and were referred to during the course of the presentation.

Blasting

- All licensed blast monitoring stations recorded results below development consent criteria for November to December 2010 monitoring period;
- There were 3 road closures in the November – December period;
- 26 blasts in November – December 2010;
- 14 blasts were delayed due to adverse weather conditions.

JL raised concerns about the validity of the dates in the December blast results graphs (four blasts on 9/12/2010). This has since been confirmed to be correct. Three blasts were planned for 9/12/2010, one of which was fired twice due to a misfire.

HVAS

- There were no elevated results in the November to December 2010 monitoring period;
- All HVAS monitoring locations currently have annual averages below relevant development consent criteria.

Depositional Dust

- There were no depositional dust gauge results recorded in the November – December 2010 monitoring period that were above development consent conditions with the exception of DD02 and DD03 in November and DD11 in December;

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- Analysis of the predominant wind direction in November determined that due to the location of DD02 and DD03 Mt Arthur Coal's contribution was below development consent criteria;
- Analysis of the predominant wind direction in December and using DD05 as an upwind monitor, Mt Arthur Coal's contribution was determined to be below relevant development consent criteria at DD11;
- DD05 and DD16 are on Mt Arthur Coal owned land and are only used for management purposes;
- All current rolling annual averages are below relevant development consent criteria, with the exception of DD02 and DD03;
- DD02 and DD03 have not been significantly impacted by Mt Arthur Coal's operation. The predominant wind direction for each month that has recorded elevated results has shown that these gauges were upwind of Mt Arthur Coals operation, therefore other activities have impacted these elevated results;
- Results could not be determined at:
 - DD02 December (sample bottle cracked and broke during transport)
 - DD03 (sample bottle and funnel missing)
 - DD20 (compound on private property was locked)
- Contaminated Results for the period were at:
 - DD11 November (excessive bird droppings)
 - DD16 December (excessive insects)
 - DD09 December (excessive bird droppings and vegetation)
 - DD12 December (excessive insects and vegetation)
- Determination of contamination is by a NATA (National Association of Testing Authorities) accredited Laboratory. NATA is Australia's national laboratory accreditation authority.

BM requested that it be clearly shown on all graphs presented if a depositional dust gauge is used for management purposes only and not for compliance purposes (Action Item 1).

CF raised concerns about the validity of the methodology used to estimate Mt Arthur Coal contribution to depositional dust results for DD11 in December. SW confirmed that this methodology will be reviewed as a part of the update to the Air Quality Management Plan currently underway.

BM queried whether additional monitoring sites would be implemented due to the extended zone of affectation. SW confirmed that this would also be reviewed as a part of the update to the Air Quality Management Plan

CF requested certificates of analysis for contaminated results (Action Item 2).

Surface Water

- There are no significant variations in pH or EC in the sampling period.

BM raised discussion about the proposed real time surface water monitoring station. SW confirmed that a suitable site is currently being determined for this.

8. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Sponsorship Events

- Muswellbrook Women's and Children's Refuge
 - Home establishment assistance program

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- Edinglassie Rural Fire Brigade
 - Thermal imaging camera
- C.W.A Merriwa Branch
 - Coffee Making Facility
- Denman Multi Purpose Service
 - Visiting Medical Officer (VMO) recruitment
- Wybong Public Hall
 - Solar panels for the hall

Community Participation

- Employees volunteered their time to wrap, pack and deliver food and toy hampers for the Muswellbrook PCYC Christmas Appeal

Site Tour

- Presentation delivered to Uni NSW students on 12 January 2011

Community Contributions

- 34% Community Development
- 7% Education and Training
- 16% Health
- 1% Art/Culture
- 29% Sport/Recreation
- 13% Environment

Sustainable Communities Project

- The consultation component of the Sustainable Communities Project was completed December 2010.
 - Mt Arthur Coal received an excellent response to the project, with around 650 people from the Muswellbrook, Denman, Aberdeen and surrounding areas contributing through personal interviews, online surveys, workshops or other activities.
 - Around 300 people also attended the whole of community barbecue at the Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre in early December to see and hear the feedback from the rest of the community.
- Draft reports including Social Economic Impacts and Opportunities Assessment (SEIOA), Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration Plan (SECP) and Communication Tools have been received from consultants and are currently being reviewed internally.
- Next steps:
 - Develop a five-year plan for investment through Community Development Fund;
 - Share outcomes with miners, council other community groups for stronger decision making.

JL queried whether a summary report would be produced and distributed to the community. SW acknowledged that feedback would be given but the format and timing had not yet been established.

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Complaints

- 3 Dust
 - 2 Vibration
 - 2 Noise
 - 1 Other
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- Three operational dust complaints, two from Roxburgh Rd plus one from South Muswellbrook.
 - Two blast complaints from Denman Rd and Racecourse Rd, both vibration-related from a single blast in Windmill Pit.
 - Two noise complaints from Castle Rock Road and Roxburgh Road related to operational noise on the evening of November 27th.
 - One complaint was received from Thomas Mitchell Drive related to the presence of the weed species, St Johns Wort.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

BM highlighted that the current CCC composition might not meet the requirement that local land owners are adequately represented.

EC raised concern about a reduction in the role of the CCC with reference to past and current development consents. The role of the CCC was discussed and SW confirmed that no major changes to the role of the CCC are planned under the MAC Consolidation Project Approval.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, March 23rd 2011.

Meeting Closed: 6:00pm

ACTION ITEM NO.	ITEM	ACTIONED BY
1	Clearly display on all graphs presented in the CCC agenda if a depositional dust gauge is used for management purposes only and not for compliance purposes.	RS
2	Provide CF with certificates of analysis for contaminated depositional dust results for November and December 2010.	RS