

MT ARTHUR COAL

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR MEETING 40

- Location:** Mt Arthur Coal Boardroom
- Date:** Wednesday 8 October 2014
- Present:** Christine Phelps (CP) Muswellbrook Shire Council and Chairperson, John Bancroft (JB) Resident, Raymond Webb (RW) Resident, Graham Guest (GG) Resident, Scott Brooks (SB) DPE, Craig Flemming (CF) Muswellbrook Shire Council, Deirdra McCracken-Tindale (DMT) Mt Arthur Coal, John Hamson (JH) Mt Arthur Coal, Sarah Withell (SW) Mt Arthur Coal and Keith Simkin (KS) Mt Arthur Coal.
- Apologies:** Andrew Garratt (AG) Mt Arthur Coal
- Absent (no apologies received):**
Martin Rush (MR) Muswellbrook Shire Council, Eddie Constable (EC) Resident.
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Meeting Commenced: 2.00pm

1. HOUSEKEEPING AND SAFETY

Overview provided.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No pecuniary interests were declared.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES from August 2014

JB wanted the record corrected that he did not move the minutes from the April meeting, as was stated in the August 2014 CCC meeting minutes. CP to verify her notes from the previous meeting held in August 2014.

JB questioned whether any slides were missing from previous minutes. The last CCC meeting's presentations was reviewed and it was confirmed that there were no additional slides, but the slides in question may have been from the Joint CCC meeting held in August.

Minutes moved by GG; seconded by RW.

ACTION 1: Meeting number to be added to agenda going forward.

ACTION 2: Mt Arthur Coal to reformat the maps in its reports in order to assist committee members in distinguishing locations on the map.

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4. ACTION POINTS FROM MEETING 39 IN AUGUST 2014

ACTION ITEM NO.	ITEM	ACTIONED BY
1	Discuss whether pollution gear on heavy vehicles can be discussed at the next Mine Managers Forum with MSC Mayor	CP advised that the meeting has not yet taken place this year. MSC advised that it has formally written to Department of Planning and Environment requesting information reflective of the resolution of MSC meeting held on 8 September 2014.
2	Mt Arthur Coal will endeavour to provide correlation between DF06 results and Bengalla Mine's closest monitor	CP to follow up. MSC advised that it has formally written to Department of Planning and Environment requesting information reflective of the resolution of MSC meeting held on 8 September 2014.
3	Mt Arthur Coal to request the attendance of a Department of Planning representative at the next meeting to discuss the issue of an Independent Chairperson	Completed. Scott Brooks from the DPE attended Meeting number 40 held on 8 October 2014.
4	Mt Arthur Coal to confirm source of material for the visual bund along Denman Road	Completed. Response provided in section 5 of the minutes for Meeting number 39. CF indicated that he was unhappy with the information provided.
5	Mt Arthur Coal to provide additional information about rehabilitation planning	Completed. Response provided in section 5 of the minutes for Meeting number 39.
6	Mt Arthur Coal to confirm whether a camera is used to monitor dust	Completed. Response provided in section 5 of the minutes for Meeting number 39.
7	AG to discuss BM's resignation with him prior to the next committee meeting where the resignation will be discussed	Completed. AG called BM who advised that he was not interested in re-joining the CCC and that his resignation stood.

5. OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

JH provided an overview of Mt Arthur Coal's operations. No land was rehabilitated during July and August 2014 and JH advised that Mt Arthur Coal is waiting on the visual bund to complete some rehabilitation works. Overburden was slightly below budget due to increased weather delays. Dust Management Training was conducted by the Department of Planning and Environment as part of the journey to improve how we operate. Dust-A-Side, a bitumen-style product applied by water carts which prevents dust from being generated on pit road, was also presented. The trial has had some good results to date, however the trial will

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continue for a period of time. Question about how often the product needs to be applied to the roads. The product is continually applied in a controlled manner. It was confirmed that the product is not environmentally offensive.

6. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED MINING OPERATIONS PLAN (MOP) 2015-19

Overview of the proposed MOP was provided by Michael Gale and Darren Stacey (*please see attached slides for reference*).

Question about whether the conveyor belt and power lines were going to be moved. Mt Arthur Coal advised that although our consent conditions would allow it, there are no operational plans to do so at this time.

Discussion about the old Bayswater contamination assessment and whether there was consultation with Muswellbrook Shire Council. Mt Arthur Coal advised that a report has been completed by an independent consultant who determined that any contamination was contained or shallow. The area will be dumped over and will be included in the Mine Rehabilitation Plan.

JB requested that it be minuted that the CCC would appreciate having the opportunity to view and discuss the proposed Rehabilitation Strategy before it is finalised (due by September 2015). That view was seconded by representatives from MSC.

ACTION 3: Mt Arthur Coal to provide copies of the MOP to CCC members.

7. OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING DATA

This information contained in the Mt Arthur Coal October 2014 CCC report was presented. There was general discussion about dust monitors. Scott Brooks informed the CCC that all mines were advised in July 2014 that they were required to provide their monitoring data to the Department of Planning and Environment.

With respect to the dust monitor located at Sheppard Avenue, he explained that it is not ideally located when the wind blows from the West or NorthWest, however it is ideally located when the wind is blowing in the right direction (i.e. South or SouthWest). He did clarify that exceedances are not acceptable when the wind is blowing from the South or SouthWest. SB also confirmed that activity at the race course (Muswellbrook Race Club) does, indeed, impact the dust monitor. He explained that dust could be coming off the road and a monitor could miss some of the dust blowing towards it. SB advised that a decision has been made by the DPE not to move the monitor located at Sheppard Avenue.

DPE noted that if the wind is not blowing from a mine direction, a mine cannot be blamed for the dust.

ACTION 4: Mt Arthur Coal to ask consultants to consider variance between the two dust monitors in question (one belonging to Mt Arthur Coal and the other belonging to Bengalla Mining Company).

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8. PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Scott Brooks advised that the current Department guidelines for CCCs (last approved in 2007) are being reviewed. A new or revised Consent received by a mining company is the trigger for the use of newer guidelines. DPE advised that, as a result of its mining operations moving further west, Mt Arthur Coal may wish to make changes to its CCC. With its latest Project Approval, Mt Arthur Coal is now in a position to review and refresh its CCC membership, which does not prevent current members from applying, including for the position of independent chair. Existing CCC members can apply to return to the committee, but their reappointment is not guaranteed. DPE advised CCC members to consider re-election and the appointment of an independent chair and independent minute-taker and confirmed that the DPE makes the final decision on any appointments.

Mt Arthur Coal advised of its intention to advertise all positions on its CCC as being vacant. CP advised that should Mt Arthur Coal decide to have an independent chair appointed, it is the wish of MSC that their Environment Manager remain on the committee. A discussion about the status of observer ensued.

Committee members were asked to provide their views on the current format of the meeting minutes. RW indicated that he is happy with the current format, while GG would prefer an independent minute taker. All agreed that this should be a point of discussion for a new committee make-up.

SB confirmed with DPE in Sydney that the mine is responsible for advertising CCC positions, receiving all applications and forwarding these on to DPE. It will then be the mine's responsibility to advise those selected by DPE that they have been selected to be part of the committee.

9. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

An overview of community support was provided in the Mt Arthur Coal October 2014 CCC report. Mt Arthur Coal confirmed that its support to the Muswellbrook community is unwavering and the CCC indicated they were pleased with the level of support discussed.

10. COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS

An overview of community complaint activities was provided in the Mt Arthur Coal October 2014 CCC report. There was a discussion around lighting and the manner in which DPE determines whether a source of light is offensive. It was clarified that the glow from lights is not considered offensive.

MSC received an email from residents living on Ironbark Road who called Mt Arthur Coal's Community Response Line and were advised by an Environmental Officer that ground sensors would be installed to identify vibration levels. Mt Arthur Coal confirmed that a monitor is currently located approximately 100 metres from the residence in question.

ACTION 5: Mt Arthur Coal to investigate and provide a response to the Chair.

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11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Details of Bruce MacPherson's resignation letter were discussed.

CP noted, for the mining industry in general, that in the case of mitigation, it is the requirement of the law that the contract for mitigation works must be between the licensed builder and the homeowner and not the mine, as it is considered residential work.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Mt Arthur Coal Community Consultative Committee meeting is proposed for **Wednesday 3 December at 2 pm** at Mt Arthur Coal.

13. MEETING CLOSE

Meeting declared closed: 4:46pm

ACTION ITEM NO.	ITEM	ACTIONED BY
1	Meeting number to be added to agenda going forward	CP
2	Mt Arthur Coal to reformat the maps in its reports in order to assist committee members in distinguishing locations on the map	CP
3	Mt Arthur Coal to provide copies of the MOP to CCC members	CP
4	Mt Arthur Coal to ask consultants to consider variance between the two dust monitors in question (one belonging to Mt Arthur Coal and the other belonging to Bengalla Mining Company)	CP
5	Mt Arthur Coal to investigate MSC's suggestion that a resident requested ground vibration monitors be installed at their place of residence and provide a response to the Chair	CP