

**DRAYTON MINE & MT ARTHUR COAL  
Joint Rail Loading Facility  
Community Consultative Committee**

**Minutes for the Meeting held 13 June 2017 – Drayton Mine Meeting Room**

**ATTENDANCE**

Dr. Colin Gellatly  
Chris White  
Rob Harris  
Kris Sheehan  
John Bancroft  
Cr. Mark Bowditch

**ATTENDANCE**

Darren Pisters  
Matt Lord  
Jason Martin  
Gerrit de Boer  
Peter Horder  
Robert Halloran  
Ron Baxter  
Sarah Purser

**MT. ARTHUR COAL**

Chair - Mt Arthur Coal CCC  
Lead Corporate Affairs  
Mid Term Planning  
HSC Superintendent  
Community Representative  
Muswellbrook Shire Council

**DRAYTON MINE**

Mine Manager  
Environmental Superintendent  
Environmental Officer  
Community Representative  
Community Representative  
Community Representative  
Community Representative  
Meeting Minutes

**1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES**

Col welcomed members to the joint Drayton & Mt Arthur Coal CCC, Robert Halloran and Ron Baxter were introduced as being in attendance as new community representatives at this forum.

**2. HOUSEKEEPING & SAFETY**

Matt provided an overview of evacuation procedures and the location of amenities.

**3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

**Ongoing;** Col advised that both he and Sarah are engaged by BHP to provide the respective roles of Chairperson and preparation of the Meeting Minutes.

**4. CONFIRM MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

Col asked for confirmation that the Minutes for the last Meeting, held on 13 December 2016, had been circulated. In addition, Drayton provided a hard copy for members to review at this meeting and it was confirmed there were no pending action items.

***ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE; Presented by Matt Lord - Drayton & Chris White - Mt Arthur Coal  
Reporting Period: November 2016 to April 2017***

Rail Movements	Total Tonnes	Maximum Train movements per day
Drayton Annual Limits	7 Mtpa	12
Drayton Actual	0.012 Mt	2
Mt Arthur Coal Annual Limits	27 Mtpa	24
Mt Arthur Coal Actual	8.177 Mt	Total number of trains for the period = 967

Drayton only had two trains for a total of 12,200t in this period following cessation of operations and the last coal from Drayton was railed on 9 November 2016.

## **Complaints (Drayton & Mt Arthur Coal)**

No rail related complaints were received by Drayton or Mt Arthur Coal for this period.

## **Location of Monitoring Sites**

*For slide referencing; Red is Railway, Yellow is privately held residences, Blue squares are monitoring locations for both MAC & Drayton, Green also indicates monitoring locations.*

These TEOM's and Depositional Dust Gauges are predominantly utilised for monitoring.

Matt explained that monitoring had not changed since rail movements have been ceased and that noise and depositional dust continue to be monitored.

## **PM<sub>10</sub> Continuous Real Time Monitoring (Drayton)**

All recordings for this reporting period were under the daily limit of 50 ug/m<sup>3</sup>.

There were no exceedances of the 24 hour average limit.

Matt noted there had been a spike in February which could be attributable to very hot weather conditions and the likelihood of ash associated with bush fires at that time.

## **PM<sub>10</sub> Continuous Real Time Monitoring (Drayton)**

Presentation of the same data aligned with the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network data.

*For slide referencing; UHAQMN data is the Green line.*

The trend in data correlates with UHAQMN dust monitoring, however this was difficult to match with any activity on site as there had been very little since October/November of last year, therefore again it is likely to reflect a more regional than localised effect.

## **Suspended Dust: Lot 22 Antiene HVAS (Drayton)**

Lot 22 Antiene is a high volume air sampler that runs every six days.

Matt noted levels were a bit lower in February and March, however again there was no real trend with the end of production and he felt these were background levels associated with the region.

Jason added the Annual Average was well below criteria with no exceedances and that dust had dropped away over the last several months.

Gerrit asked for an explanation of the readings that went above the Annual TSP Mean Limit of 90 and Drayton explained the total suspended particulate matter is all the dust that goes into a monitor, individual readings can go above the criteria of 90 because the limit applies only to the annual average of samples. Therefore Drayton remains well below the limit of 90.

Mark asked if there was any off site testing and Jason advised this monitoring is on site, with monitors calibrated every three months. Mark felt if there was testing conducted off site; both mine, dust and smoke could be investigated. Jason explained this analysis would not go to that level, monitoring and recording TSP from total dust in the area is where the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network comes into effect. Drayton's TEOM is very similar to that and their results indicated similar trends to the UHAQMN, so with or without operations, the results are similar suggesting they are regionally based.

Gerrit's point was that there is a maximum limit, however it is accepted that readings go over this occasionally, he felt that recordings should never go over the maximum line and could not see how the high recordings were not impacting on community. Darren explained this is an average criteria relating to the annual average limit, not daily. Gerrit felt that this still causes a problem for the community and John added that he felt this does contribute to the cumulative impact.

**Community representatives provided the following examples of issues they had been experiencing as a result of dust concerns:-**

- Having to shovel dirt out of house gutters and that this had taken three men to lift the buckets of material from the roof.
- Engaging a plumber to fix drainage where the water had blocked up from red dust, that had created a substance like a cement block.
- Noticing a black goo like substance in house gutters.
- Getting 48 kilos of dust out of gutters that had been cleaned 12 months prior.
- Concern that material captured in gutters is then being transferred and captured in water tanks.
- Fine mesh gutter guard getting covered in what is similar to talcum powder, that is required to be washed off fortnightly.
- Water filters blocked with dust at the intake, that dust then travels into the water line.
- Regular requirement for pool cleaning to remove a black substance.

Mark acknowledged that really fine dust can travel long distances but was also concerned about readings that are above or close to the limit. Mark felt it would be a good idea to find out what was happening in the region at that time, as that may answer some community questions as to where it had come from. Mark felt also that the community need to know what they are breathing in. Gerrit agreed that if dust was not coming from mine sites then it would be worth knowing what was going on in the Hunter Valley.

Matt suggested that type of data may be best obtained by logging onto the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network (UHAQMN) as that does indicate Muswellbrook and Singleton monitoring spiking at different times, depending on wind and significant peaks, for example; when bush fires were going on.

Mark felt it would be helpful to also know the wind direction where there were high peaks and Jason advised that detail would be hard to get as wind tends to swirl around quite a bit, he felt the 24 hour results correlated with the UHAQMN and therefore saw that as a valid representation of the region. Darren added where results indicate high areas, this tends to be due to hot windy conditions in general, as opposed to a particular activity and noted that the environment can bring results up on a regional basis.

Community reps confirmed that they were not blaming either mine for the concerns raised today and it was understood that Drayton were not operating, but rather trying to put forward other avenues that could be looked at to help find an answer to what is causing these issues for the community. It was generally felt that there seemed to be a tendency for mines to blame each other and that no one party takes responsibility or some blame and that responses to concerns tended to be; that's not our dust due to the wind direction, or with trains that's not our noise.

Mark noted that if you look from the north of Muswellbrook to the south, an inversion line in the skyline can be seen. Mark felt it would be helpful if the group could get a next level of comparison, noting another Mining Company had gone to Ecovise and had monitors testing samples for AU1 dust, mining dust and other dust, a breakdown of this monitoring had also provided a picture on how much dust was coal fired dust.

Mark advised he is not seeking to blame any individuals but rather would like it acknowledged that there is a dust problem causing the community heartache, such as dust in gutters which then ends up in water tanks.

Community reps indicated they would like to see a collective effort for all to work together to find what sources are contributing to these community concerns by looking at what was happening at the time and any other resources that may assist members to do this.

John would like to see the same type of data from MAC, so he could make some sort of comparison of this data from Drayton, along with comparing data from the UHAQMN. John asked if MAC could provide that data at the next MAC CCC to allow comparisons of the same period; November 2016 to April 2017 for the high volume air sampler and 24 hour monitoring, where the monitor is in a similar location to Drayton's. Members were referred to the map indicating monitoring locations indicating that those monitors are not much of a distance apart and it was advised that more action may potentially come through the UHAQMN.

Kris felt that TEOM data would be better than high volume data and he would look into that for John. John was interested in wind directions at the time and Kris confirmed he had that detail for the TEOM but high quality data would not work for one day.

**ACTION 1: For the MAC CCC - Kris to investigate if MAC's TEOM data is available, that would also indicate wind directions, for the period November 2016 to April 2017 to enable comparison with Drayton Suspending Dust: Lot 22 Antiene HVAS and UHAQMN data.**

Col asked who conducts monitoring if Drayton closes and Darren responded that if it related to off-sets this may transfer ownership and management, until that time Drayton are still required to conduct monitoring.

#### **Dust Fallout Gauge 2157 (Drayton) & Dust Fallout Gauge 2247 (Drayton)**

Limit is set at 4 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month.

Readings were below limit across each of the months in the reporting period. It was noted that March readings were low which correlated with that being the wettest month recorded since 1982.

Mark noted that results of monitoring conducted by another Mining company indicated that when there were exceedances, a lot of the time this was not due to coal bound dust but other sources such as ash, and specifically to monitoring over on the Golden Highway there was a reading on traffic dust, noting that road side dust had a lot of diesel in it. Mark advised the UHAQMN also has a focus on PM<sub>2.5</sub> associated with internal combustion engines and wood fires.

It was confirmed that Government sets the criteria limits in relation to monitoring and the general feeling amongst a few community members was that those limits may be set too high. John felt that the limits were out of date and Gerrit raised that he felt this was the case for blasting limits as well, having seen cracks in windows and lines in structures.

#### **PM<sub>10</sub> Antiene (Mt Arthur Coal & Drayton)**

No results throughout the period had exceeded the 24 hour or rolling 12 month criteria.

MAC and Drayton results were similar.

Spikes will be seen over the 12 month average, however averages were well below limit.

#### **Depositional Dust Gauge DD04 (Mt Arthur Coal)**

Chris confirmed similar results for MAC for this monitoring that is not high volume but rather utilises dust bottles. Total insoluble and ash content were on average quite well below the annual average limit of 4 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month (red line)

There had been a contaminated sample recorded in August and this had contained animal by-products.

#### **Predominant Winds (Mt Arthur Coal)**

**July August September 2016;** NW predominant winds (winter period)

**October November December 2016;** November transitional month from NW (winter) to SE (summer period)

**January February March 2017;** Dominant from SE (summer period)

### **Attended Noise Monitoring (Drayton)**

#### **Periodic noise monitoring results $L_{Aeq}$ (15minute)**

Reference map of attended noise locations in close proximity to Drayton / MAC

For the period there had been no exceedences of the noise criteria.

Mark asked if it was possible for future meetings to water wash an overlay of wind direction, as per the wind rose on slide 15, for example the March average, just for any periods where readings were a concern for dust, as that would assist people to look at where they are located and the direction the wind was travelling. Darren took that as an action noting that typically weather is one or the other i.e. north west or south east and felt easy enough to do.

**ACTION 2: For the Drayton & MAC Joint CCC - For any notable peak periods for dust, Drayton to overlay a watermark of the wind rose indicating wind direction for that month.**

### **Attended Noise Monitoring (Drayton)**

#### **Periodic noise monitoring results $L_{Aeq}$ (15 minute) and $L_{A1}$ (1 minute)**

No incidents were detected by attended persons, there was no mine noise as not operating.

Recordings were typically birds, trucks north east on the highway and aircraft.

### **Attended Noise Monitoring (MAC)**

#### **Periodic noise monitoring results $L_{Aeq}$ (15 minute) and $L_{A1}$ (1 minute)**

No exceedances via individual consultants and/or audible alarm.

Background noise was associated with frogs, insects, local traffic noise, similar to Drayton.

## **5. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### ***Community Feedback***

#### ***Di Gee***

Col advised that Di is on the MAC CCC and had raised a concern in relation to feral pigs causing a lot of issues for her local community.

**ACTION 3: Matt to phone Di in relation to concerns around feral pigs.**

Matt advised there had been some roo culling, pigs had not been spotted but more spotlighting was to be conducted by Drayton for foxes and pigs. Drayton utilise a licensed shooter for the removal of commercial kangaroo meat that is then processed for human consumption. Drayton will continue to look to target feral species and noted the eastern grey roo had become quite prolific.

Mark advised that; Devils Arc at Barrington will take roo carcasses for feeding the Devils. Devils Arc will drop a container to site and when loaded also collect this. Mark felt that way the kangaroo management process could then go on to assist with the conservation of an endangered Australian animal.

#### ***Peter Horder***

Peter noted there had been talk around town about Drayton's Coal Loading Plant and asked if MAC would bring trucks across to use that Plant. Chris was unable to advise on this.

Darren confirmed that it was still a condition of Drayton's consent to continue the Mt Arthur Coal and Drayton Mine Joint Rail Loading Facility CCC Meetings and these are to be held every six months.

## 6. NEXT JOINT CCC MEETING

12 December 2017

**Meeting has since been rescheduled to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 3:30pm**

At Mount Arthur Coal Mine

### **ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING**

**ACTION 1:** For the MAC CCC - Kris to investigate if MAC's TEOM data is available, that would also indicate wind directions, for the period November 2016 to April 2017 to enable comparison with Drayton Suspending Dust: Lot 22 Antiene HAVA and UHAQMN data.

**ACTION 2:** For the Drayton & MAC Joint CCC - For any notable peak periods for dust, Drayton to overlay a watermark of the wind rose indicating wind direction for that month.

**ACTION 3:** Matt to phone Di in relation to concerns around feral pigs.

Draft For Member Review