



MT ARTHUR MINE COMPLEX
Community Consultative Committee Meeting – 20 December 2017

Attendance

Chairperson

Dr. Colin Gellatly Independent Chair MAC CCC

Company Representatives

Chris White Acting Media Specialist, Coal Corporate Affairs
Community Team
Damien Perkins Manager Production Planning
Sam Blanco Specialist Environment

Council

Cr. Mark Bowditch Muswellbrook Shire Council

Community Representatives

John Bancroft Community Representative

Minutes

Sarah Purser

1. Welcome by Chairperson & Apologies

Col welcomed members and Chris advised that despite ongoing efforts he had not been able to get in touch with Alex McDonald.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests;

Ongoing Declaration; Col advised that both he and Sarah are engaged by BHP Billiton to provide the respective roles of independent Chairperson and preparation of the meeting minutes. Mark advised that should discussions arise on any developments around Edderton Road, that due to pecuniary interest in light of his position at Muswellbrook Council, he would need to excuse himself from any discussions.

3. Approval of the previous Meeting's Minutes

Col advised that the step process that required the company to respond to any questions around technical terminology and provide staff member detail had resulted in a delay in the release of the 12 September 2017 Meeting Minutes, therefore going forward Sarah would be circulating the Minutes for Member Review to the Committee directly. Col asked for the September Meeting Minutes to be endorsed, John and Mark confirmed their approval.

4. Matters Arising from the previous Meeting – Action Items

ACTION: Chris to provide Jennifer Lecky with Col's details so that he may assist her with the application process to become a member of the MAC CCC.

Chris confirmed that this had been actioned and John noted that Jennifer is the Chairperson for the Drayton CCC, querying if it was appropriate for the Chairperson of another Mine to apply to the MAC CCC, John asked for his concern to be noted. Chris advised that Jennifer had expressed an interest to join and Col advised that as Chairperson he is the appropriate conduit for applications to be submitted through to the Department. Col advised that Jennifer may apply but it is the Department that makes the decision on any CCC Member approvals.

Chris noted that as Alex had not been in attendance for three CCC Meetings, under the Guidelines Alex's position had been relinquished. Chris noted that the Advert calling for Community interest would now be for three new members.

ACTION 1: Carried Forward; Chris to publish an Advert calling for interest for the three vacant CCC Community Member positions.

Chris advised that MAC had carried forward Action 2 : presentation on the depressurisation of coal seams, to the March 2018 Meeting as this was of specific interest to John and whilst preparing for this December Meeting, it had been understood that John would be an apology. Damien asked if there was potential for a specialist in MAC's NSW Team to present on this and Chris advised the nature of the enquiry from John had led him to seek a specialist out of Brisbane.

ACTION 2: Carried Forward; Damien and Chris to liaise regarding seeking availability of a MAC NSW Specialist Geologist to present on the depressurisation of coal seams at a future CCC Meeting.

ACTION 3: Carried Forward; Chris advised that with Sam's assistance, detail around the designing and planning of the Visual Bund Wall, particularly around water management and in relation to flow off, would be provided at the next MAC CCC.

ACTION: MAC to provide members with a represented vision / hard copy map, with dust monitoring overlaid for each quarter.

- ✓ Chris advised that at today's Joint Mt Arthur Coal & Drayton Mine Meeting there would also be a presentation on wind roses, indicating predominant directions for the period April to October 2017, and there would be opportunity for discussion at that session to ascertain how members would like to see data presented.

ACTION: In response to a follow up from John, the MAC CCC Meeting Minutes to be sent to Muswellbrook Library once they have been Endorsed by Chair.

- ✓ Chris confirmed that he would provide the September Meeting Minutes to the Library after endorsement by this Committee.

ACTION: MAC to provide some detail around the modelling for areas of Affection and Mitigation at a future Meeting.

- ✓ Chris advised that this detail can be obtained via the BHP website in the Mt Arthur Approval Document, under Regulatory information. Chris advised this assessment is done during the approvals process, and those residences in that zone are contacted whether there is mitigation or acquisition rights for their properties. This report was prepared by an Independent Specialist and Chris advised he could direct members to this modelling that can be found in the E.I.S. John advised his interest was around mitigation measures that had been completed so this may be compared to the assessment modelling, Chris confirmed that he could find out if the company could speak to this in more detail but felt there may be some difficulty with this due to privacy.

5. Matters Arising / Correspondence

15 November 2017; Link for the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network webpage.

Chris on-forwarded the below link for the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network webpage that he had received from Michael at the EPA. Michael advised that if community members or BHP staff have any questions to please contact the EPA on their general office number (02) 4908 6800 or email to hunter.region@epa.nsw.gov.au <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/agms/uhunteraqmap.htm>

20 November 2017; Mt Arthur Coal MOP amendment for feedback.

Chris confirmed that members had been asked for feedback on the MAC MOP Amendment and explained the process involves a lot of consultation with Government Departments and also the CCC around areas such as noise and visual amenity, prior to MAC formally submitting this to the Division of Resources and Geoscience (DRG) at the end of November 2017.

John was concerned about the shortness of the consultation period for the CCC as he felt if there were questions raised in the seven day review period there would not have been time for the company to respond. Chris advised that is why he had provided Luke Neil's (Principal Environment Analysis and Improvement - BHP Minerals Australia) direct contact for feedback or queries, as he had been leading this consultation process. It was noted that the general rule for notifications is seven days plus one i.e. eight days and Chris acknowledged John's point of view.

6. Update from BHP Billiton;

OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS; Presented by Damien Perkins

	Last 3 months	Previous 3 months	Previous Year 3 months		
Production Information	Sept-Nov FY 18	June-Aug FY 17/18	Sept-Nov FY 17	Q-on-Q Difference	Year-on-Year Difference
OB Movement (Mbcm)	28.5	28.9	25.9	-1%	10%
Coal Mined (Mt)	5.4	5.6	4.9	-3%	10%
Coal Uncovered (Mt)	5.4	5.6	4.4	-4%	22%
Product Coal (Mt)	4.4	4.8	3.6	-7%	24%

- ✚ **Overburden Movement;** The last 3 months; September to November 2017, had been fairly consistent with the previous 3 months and a 10% step up for year-on-year.
- ✚ **Coal Mined;** A similar outcome for the 3 month periods and again a 10% step up year-on-year.
- ✚ **Coal Uncovered;** An increase of 22% year-on-year.

Heat Map; Actuals - 3 Months

Actuals - 3 months : September-November 2017

For Map referencing; Blue indicates dumping and Green/Red is mining.

Damien indicated on this mapping where mining activity was currently occurring and where it was progressing to. Mark asked if MAC will be doing the Geofluv on the back end of MacLean's and Damien advised the company hopes to mirror this design depending on constraints. Mark queried if this would also be the case to the north-eastern side and Damien responded that there were some water constraints there and works to be done on the surrounding flat wall. Damien was uncertain if MAC would go back to dump over this area, or correct and build up from it. Release of that block unlocks that area for MAC so Damien anticipated a lot of work in that particular space. In addition, MAC would like to close off any work that is required before the main pit and operations get too far away e.g. fixing any issues with the visual side of the mine facing Muswellbrook, also in relation to air flow on that side of the hill.

John asked if MAC would need to go on top of the bentonite wall that is fairly close to Denman and Damien responded that the company will need to maintain that wall and envisaged this extending so that MAC can continue mining behind it.

Chris confirmed that detail around the Mt Arthur Coal Mine Operations Plan FY18 & FY19 Amendment had been provided in correspondence to the CCC from Luke Neil and that Chris had provided members with the following summary on this MOP Amendment.

MAC had identified three ways to optimise their operations, these are to:-

- Extend active mining in Saddlers Pit
- Bring forward overburden emplacement dumping in the conveyor corridor.
- Ayredale Pit infrastructure scheduled for construction during the MOP term.

The benefits of this amendment include shorter haul distances reducing dust from trucks, and if weather conditions were to affect the northern area of the pit on any given day, southern areas (Saddlers) can continue operations such as blasting or dozing. Whilst this proposed change increases the disturbance area during this financial year, progressive rehabilitation would likewise be increased in FY19 and FY20 as emplacements areas become available.

Conveyor Corridor; In response to a query from John, Chris advised that for MAC to get coal to AGL at Liddell it will be railed into Bayswater, so they will receive coal via rail rather than by conveyor. This would be within the company's own rail loop, there is capacity for a double loop, but that had not been proceeded with for this approval.

John asked where the approval for underground was located and Damien responded the underground reserve / potential was around the bottom left hand side of the operation in Saddlers North and that he would update mapping to add in that area. At the time, the company could not advise on if it would come down to underground or not underground. John queried the progression to Edderton Road and Damien felt that the same type of face arrangement would continue to the south-west.

ACTION 4: Damien to update Mapping to include the progression of Saddlers Pit.

Mine Progress FY 18 to 22; Damien provided an overview on the general progress plan for MAC.



Slide Reference #5 - MAC CCC - 20 December 2017

ENVIRONMENT; Presentation by Sam
Environmental Management

Rehabilitation Update

- ✚ FY18 Rehabilitation; MAC's focus had been on continuing the Geofluv natural landform design from FY17. This will include higher dump lifts seen from Denman Road being rehabilitated and CD1 dump areas.
- ✚ Rehabilitation Improvement on VD1 is continuing via further tree seeding (Summer 2017) and tree planting (Autumn 2018).

John asked with regard to Mitchell Drive would rehabilitation be the same Geofluc as on Denman Road and Sam responded that MAC use Geofluc where they can and that Damien's team do factor that in, he could not say what it was going to look like at this stage. Sam acknowledged that areas look better when lifts are added, in some areas MAC has the ability to build those in as they cannot be shaped and MAC will continue the tactical dumping and dump from the bottom up.

Environmental Performance

Elevated Environmental Monitoring Results

All of the below events had been reported to the Department of Planning.

- ✚ Eight days within the reporting period MAC experienced elevated PM₁₀ real-time particulate monitoring results over 24 hour averaging periods. Elevated monitoring results were investigated with six samples identified as containing contributions from MAC.
- ✚ Three days within the reporting period MAC experienced elevated PM₁₀ high volume air sampler monitoring results over 24 hour averaging periods. Elevated monitoring results were investigated with two samples identified as containing contributions from MAC.
- ✚ There had been three events where groundwater levels fell below trigger levels. Trigger events were investigated with no significant findings identified.
- ✚ There had been one occurrence whereby a surface water sampling point had returned an elevated electrical conductivity result. This event is under investigation and had been reported to the Department. Sam advised that this one surface measurement was saltier than what MAC's Planning Approval permits, the cut off is 7,000 ec and it came in at 7,500 ec. For context Sam explained that salt water is 50,000 ec and that as water evaporates it keeps the same amount of salt, therefore the salt ratio increases in this case.

Environmental Incidents

- ✚ A letter was sent by the EPA to MAC on 17 November in relation to dust moving off site and across Denman Road. MAC provided a response to the EPA outlining what relevant proactive and reactive operational dust management controls were deployed in relation to the event in question. MAC was awaiting feedback from the EPA.

ACTION 5: Damien to keep the CCC informed of any feedback from the EPA regarding MAC's response to their letter of 17 November 2017 in relation to dust, including if the case gets closed.

Mark noted the PM₁₀ dust exceedances and asked if MAC could provide mapping to indicate where monitor readings are taken in relation to around the pit and surrounds. Mark felt that PM₁₀ readings had been getting elevated, so he would like to see the corresponding wind directions at the time these had occurred. Sam asked Mark for confirmation that his request was for up and down wind detail and Mark advised yes, as from those results there would be the ability for the community to see where dust was potentially coming from.

Mark explained to Sam that he had previously asked if MAC could provide mapping that indicated where the companies monitoring stations were located and if there are exceedances for MAC to provide an overlay over the top indicating wind direction at that time.

Mark said by knowing where the elevated readings are taken, and also wind direction, this would give him an understanding where dust may travel from an environmental point of view. For example; if monitors were not exceeding on the north-west but they were on the south-east and the wind was south-east, it may be there was potential dust from MAC.

Mark noted that this data may not be all bad for MAC as if an exceedance was on the north-west and measurements were lower on the south-east then Mark would like to be able to say the Geofluc is working to bring dust back to where it should be and confirm that MAC is doing something about their potential dust contribution. John agrees that it would be helpful for the CCC representatives to be provided with more monitoring data to be able to feed back that information to the community and Mark asked that this be presented in a more visual way to enable understanding by the general public.

ACTION 6: In response to a request by Col, Sam to investigate if MAC could provide a more visual means of presenting information around elevated dust levels and wind conditions at those times for John and Mark to be able to take this data back to community.

Sam noted the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network data would indicate potential contribution from each mine. John's biggest concern was that the dust can be seen but no individual Mine takes responsibility and that their response tends to be that the wind was travelling in the other direction. John was also concerned about the difference in readings for the MAC and Bengalla monitors located at Sheppard Avenue, as these monitors are only 100 meters apart. John was disappointed to see elevated readings at Sheppard Avenue after MAC's efforts to reduce dust concerns by attending to the road surface there.

Environmental Improvements

✚ MAC is currently undertaking weed management activities around site, this includes a focus on box thorn removal. Topsoil stockpiles are also currently being stabilised via seeding to reduce wind and rain erosion.

Mark asked how MAC is dealing with the lack of rain and Sam noted that some areas of the Geofluc had been coming along slowly due to this being a dry year and that seed on top soil was water dependent.

ACTION 7: Sam to look into detail on strike rate for tree planting for Mark.

John was concerned about the reported ground water level falls and MAC advised that groundwater levels in an aquifer typically do not stay steady and may fluctuate if opened to the atmosphere or in a wet season may jump back up. John could not understand if there were occurrences at Bores GW2, GW3 and GW39P why there would not have been changes at other bores. Sam advised that data from other bores may have fluctuated but not to the point that this triggered consideration, historical data shows that there are changes over time and that the water tables can be brought down by drought as well as potentially from perforating a coal seam and there was some expectation for when bores would drop down. MAC explained that modelling is required to be completed for the company to get approvals and then the company monitors to validate.

John was concerned about the potential impact of mining on water tables, the river and also salt issues and Col acknowledged this was of importance to John and due to the complexity and technical detail around this subject he asked that MAC co-ordinate a meeting with John to further discuss this subject and respond to his questions in more detail.

ACTION 8: Chris to facilitate an out of session for Sam to meet with John and Mark to discuss modelling around Groundwater and Electrical Conductivity.

Environmental Reporting

MAC reported that they had completed, and therefore complied with, all annual reporting requirements under their Licence Conditions. These are available to view on the BHP website under; Environment → Regulatory Information.

COMPLAINTS; *Presentation by Chris*

Blasting = 1 at Wybong Road

Lighting = 2 at Roxburgh Road (2)

Dust = 4 at Roxburgh Road, Wybong Road and Denman Road (2)

Mark acknowledged that MAC had been dealing with any lighting issues again, so was pleased with that.

Community Support

- ✚ Sponsored and participated in Singleton Show; September 22 - 24
- ✚ Launched "Benefiting My Community" Small Grants Program – two committee meetings held – funding applications assessed
- ✚ Mining Charity Rugby League Knockout competition: Singleton in October
- ✚ Speaking engagements at the Business Chamber AGMs with update on Local Buying Program
- ✚ Local Buying Foundation Advisory Committee Meeting #3
- ✚ Conducted mine site tours - support for Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue program
- ✚ Successfully launched renewal of the Partnership with Upper Hunter Community Services
- ✚ Company Sponsorship and General Manager's attendance at the Muswellbrook Race Club Gold Cup on December 8

Coming up

Next funding rounds for:-

- ✚ Benefiting My Community Program
- ✚ Local Buying Foundation

7. Snapshot on BHP Local Buying Program : Shaelie Howe - Business Engagement Advisor, C-Res; Deferred

8. GENERAL BUSINESS; *Community & Company Feedback*

Mark Bowditch

Site access for Emergency Services; From the community side of things, Mark understood the mine itself was working with Emergency Services to develop an Emergency Plan. As Emergency spokesperson for Muswellbrook Council, Mark asked how MAC is going to enable access should the Fire Brigade or Ambulance need to come into the mine from outside.

Mark gave the example of a potential emergency up on a coal stack and asked how would MAC communicate with Emergency Services. Mark's concern was that some responders would not have for example; working at height tickets, and felt this situation ay put them at risk.

Mark asked if MAC should look into this and start working with Ambulance services to ascertain if they need to be trained for these special types of situations or if that work would be the responsibility of the Coal Board. Chris responded that MAC has coverage for parameters and he could provide Mark with the Engagement Plan that MAC has in place to respond to incident or emergency. In addition, there is a whole team formed to manage incidents or emergency and Chris could make Muswellbrook Council aware of that group.

ACTION 8: Chris to liaise with Mark out of session regarding MAC's Engagement Plan that is in place to respond to incident or emergency and the MAC Team that are involved.

John Bancroft

Monitoring Data; John advised that he was seeking additional monitoring data and Chris asked for clarification on which locations were of interest.

ACTION 9: Sam to present monitoring data for Muswellbrook and Sheppard Avenue for the reporting period at the March CCC Meeting.

Mitigation; John advised that he would like to know how many properties have mitigation rights and Chris confirmed this was referred to at the start of session where he had advised how to find detail around the assessment and modelling for Affectation and Mitigation Agreements. John said he gets asked by community why one resident may get these but not another and Chris felt the best response in that case would be to ask the community member to contact the Mine.

9. Date & Times for next MAC Meetings

THURSDAY 22 MARCH 2018

MAC CCC at Mt Arthur Coal : 9.00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE 2018

MAC CCC at Drayton Mine : 9.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

Mt Arthur Coal & Drayton Mine Joint CCC at Drayton Mine : 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Actions Arising from this Meeting

ACTION 1: *Carried Forward;* Chris to publish an Advert calling for interest for the three vacant CCC Community Member positions.

ACTION 2: *Carried Forward;* Damien and Chris to liaise regarding seeking availability of a MAC NSW Specialist Geologist to present on the depressurisation of coal seams at a future CCC Meeting.

ACTION 3: *Carried Forward;* Chris advised that with Sam's assistance, detail around the designing and planning of the Visual Bund Wall, particularly around water management and in relation to flow off, would be provided at the next MAC CCC.

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