



MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LIMITED

Established 1907 A.C.N. 000 009 521

SITE OFFICE

Administration Centre
Muscle Creek Road
Muswellbrook NSW 2333

POSTAL ADDRESS

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MINUTES

Muswellbrook Coal Company Community Consultative Committee

2nd June 2015

At Muswellbrook Coal Company's Administrative Office

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mr Raymond Butchard	Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC)
Mr John Madden	Community Representative
Ms Julie Thomas (<i>Environmental Coordinator</i>)	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Mrs Kim Reilly (<i>Administration Officer</i>)	Muswellbrook Coal Company

1. **Open Meeting**

The meeting was opened at 12:12pm by the Chairman, Mr Raymond Butchard.

2. **Apologies**

Mr Grant Clouten (*Senior Operations Manager, MCC*) and Mrs Glenda Watts (*Community Representative*)

3. **Declaration of pecuniary or other interests**

Nil

4. **Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes from the previous meeting held on 3rd March 2015 were confirmed as true and reliable

Moved – Mr John Madden

Seconded – Mr Ray Butchard

5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Nil

6. **Notification of Items of General Business Proposed to be Raised**

Muswellbrook Shire Council General Manager to agree to have Council representation at these CCC meetings. After the departure of Craig Flemming MCC have not been advised who the contact at MSC is to discuss compliance matters with.

Mr Madden raised ongoing odour issues and asked if this will be an ongoing matter. Ms Thomas responded that spontaneous combustion is unfortunately is an issue with mining at this site. Mr Butchard asked about what happens with spontaneous combustion after

the mine is closed. Ms Thomas explained that a condition with closure of this mine site is that there is no spontaneous combustions. With closure of mine, MCC will need to meet the criteria set out in the Mining Operations Plan. The land use then will be able to be used for grazing and will be sold.

7. Correspondence

The Annual Environmental Management Report has been submitted.

8. Reports

A. *Environmental Monitoring Data & Operations* – Ms Julie Thomas presented a PowerPoint presentation to the committee. The presentation contained an update on approvals, mine operations, rehabilitation, complaints and the results of the environmental monitoring data (weather, dust, water, blasting and noise), for the previous quarter (*January - March 2015*) at the mine site.

B. *Report Discussion* –

Mining Update

- i. Dumping of waste continued the No.2 Open Cut as part of mining strategy.
- ii. 485,167 tonnes of coal was mined and 1.99 million cubic metres of waste was removed during the reporting period.
- iii. 115 hours was lost due to environmental conditions

Rehabilitation

- iv. Contour development and topsoil spread on Dam Wall Dump (6.4ha).

Approvals

- v. Approval for the Closure Mining Operations Plan was received on 31 March 2015.

W. Muswellbrook Project

- vi. Gateway certificate for the project was issued on 25th May 2015. Panel issued a conditional certificate containing a number of recommendations for future work. Recommendations will be reviewed and included in the scope of future EIS studies. Ongoing environmental monitoring and data collection continues. West Muswellbrook project webpage is in the process of being updated to include Gateway application and newsletters.

Sandy Creek Project

- i. No update on this project.

Weather

- i. *Windroses*: Primarily south-easterly wind directions during the reporting period which is consistent with seasonal expectations.
- ii. *Rain*: Above average precipitation in January and April with February and March mainly dry.

Dust

- i. *Dust Deposition*: Average levels at all non-mine owned properties were within the compliance levels. Gauge DM10 is located on MCC mine owned land adjacent to mining operations.
- ii. *TSP (Total Suspended Particulates)*: All sites below predictions and criteria.
- iii. *PM₁₀*: All below criteria.

Water

- i. Quality of surface and ground water remained generally consistent with previous results during the reporting period. Underground water levels also consistent and stable.

Discussion: Mr Butchard asked if the dams on site will be left in place. Ms Thomas explained that as a requirement of closure they would be cleaned of sediment and the water would be tested for livestock quality.

Blasting

- i. There were 35 blast events conducted at MCC Open Cut Operations between 1 January and 31 March 2015. All blasts were conducted in the No.1 Open Cut. Monitors are tested daily by an independent consultant to check that they are operational. All results for the reporting period were below EPA criteria.

Complaints

- i. 22 complaints were recorded between 1 January 2015 and 29 May 2015. No complaints received in February. Complaints were in regards to blasting (3), odour (17) and dust and haulage (1 each).

Discussion: Mr Madden discussed the odour problem at his property as very high.

9. Submissions

Nil

10. Announcements

Nil

11. Next Meeting

Tuesday, 8 September 2015

Meeting will be held at 12:00pm in the Board Room at Muswellbrook Coal Company Administrative Office. A sandwich lunch and refreshments shall be provided.

A site inspection will be held dependent on the weather and availability of committee members.

2015 Future Meeting(s):

1 December 2015

12. Adjourn Meeting

Meeting closed at 1:10pm.