



# MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LIMITED

Established 1907 A.C.N. 000 009 521

## SITE OFFICE

Administration Centre  
Muscle Creek Road  
Muswellbrook NSW 2333

## POSTAL ADDRESS

P.O. Box 123  
Muswellbrook NSW 2333

## MINUTES

### Muswellbrook Coal Company Community Consultative Committee

1st December 2015

### At Muswellbrook Coal Company's Administrative Office

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mr Malcolm Ogg	Muswellbrook Shire Council (Chair)
Mr Raymond Butchard	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mr John Madden	Community Representative
Mr Noel Downs	Wanaruah LALC
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 12:15pm by the Chairman, Mr Malcolm Ogg.

#### 2. **Apologies**

Mrs Glenda Watts (*Community Representative*)

Mr Grant Clouten (*Senior Operations Manager*)

*Accepted – Mr Ray Butchard*

*Seconded – Mr John Madden*

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

Nil

#### 4. **Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes from the previous meeting held on 2nd June 2015 were confirmed as true and reliable

*Moved – Mr Ray Butchard*

*Seconded – Mr John Madden*

#### 5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

No Environmental Officer for Muswellbrook Council has been appointed to date but interviews are presently being held

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

The environmental position within the Council has been advertised and the person elected will attend the CCC Meetings. Mr Peter Veneris is the primary contact point for Planning and Environmental matters at MSC.

## 7. Correspondence

Copies of the Independent Environmental Compliance Audit and the Environmental Management Strategy have been sent to the CCC for review and comment.

## 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).

B. *Report Discussion* –

### Mining Update

- i. Mining activities continued in Open cut 1 with some dumping activities in Open cut 2.
- ii. 82,400 tonnes of coal was mined and 1.83 million cubic metres of waste was removed during the reporting period.
- iii. 216 hours was lost due to environmental conditions.

### W. Muswellbrook Project

No update

### Sandy Creek Project

No update

### Continuation Project

A presentation was provided on the continuation project that MCC are discussing with MSC. This project will extend the footprint of OC1 towards OC2.

- i. The preliminary modelling on the new pitshell indicates there is approximately 4.1mt of coal and 31Mbcm of waste in the area.
- ii. At the current rate of mining, this will extend the mine production life from 2018 to 2022 with the final closure work completed in 2025.
- iii. Positive outcomes include –
  - Removal of coal seams that are prone to spontaneous combustion – reducing the visual and odour impact potential in the future.
  - Ongoing employment for workers at MCC in a time of industry downturn and major job losses impacting the Muswellbrook community.

Noel asked what the area of the increased footprint is – Julie to check and respond in minutes: Response – Maximum of 57ha (final footprint still to be confirmed)

### Management Plans and environmental Audit

- i. 5 yearly review of management plans is continuing – these include –
  - Site Water Management Plan, Surface & Groundwater Monitoring Plan, Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, Visual Amenity and Landscape Management Plan, Waste Management Plan, Dust Management Plan, Blast-Vibration Management Plan, Noise

- Management Plan, Lighting Management Plan – all updated and commenced implementation 1 December 2015
- Environmental Management strategy, spontaneous combustion Management Plan, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Management Plan, soil Stripping Management Plan, Final Void Management Plan, Bushfire Management Plan, Land Management Plan – being reviewed
  - Environmental Management Strategy sent to CCC members for comment – comment due back by 4 December
- ii. 3 yearly independent compliance audit finalised in November 2015
  - Reviews compliance with Development Consent, Mining Leases, environmental Protection Licence, Water Licence and Environmental Management Plan
  - 654 conditions were assessed
  - Some findings applied to more than one condition
  - Audit report sent out to regulators and CCC members – comments due back by 11 December

Malcolm asked about what Class 4 Land Capability is suitable for and whether soil testing is undertaken. Julie responded that the Class 4 is suitable for grazing and occasional cultivation. Soil testing is undertaken as part of the rehabilitation monitoring process.

#### Weather

- i. *Windroses*: Primarily north-westerly wind directions during July and August with a shift to south-easterly in September and October. This is consistent with seasonal expectations.
- ii. *Rain*: Below average precipitation in July, September and October with above average in August.

#### Dust

- i. *Dust Deposition*: Average levels at all non-mine owned properties were within the compliance levels.
- ii. *TSP (Total Suspended Particulates)*: All sites below criteria.
- iii. *PM<sub>10</sub>*: All below criteria.

#### Water

- i. Quality of surface water remained generally consistent with previous results during the reporting period. Ground water has an increase in pH & EC over the last couple of months. Underground water levels also consistent and stable.

#### Blasting

- i. All results for the reporting period were below criteria.

#### Complaints

- i. The complaint history until 29 October 2015 was presented to the CCC. There was a general discussion around the types of complaints and where the complaints were coming from. Malcolm commented that the road haulage trucks in wet weather have a lot of mud falling off them onto the public roads.

Noel asked if MCC would consider installing a washbay to wash underneath the trucks. MCC to take this request on notice.

**9. Submissions**

Nil

**10. Announcements**

Nil

**11. Items arising from General Business**

Malcolm Ogg raised that he is on the board of the UHCC Weeds Authority and is encouraging a process where minesite environmental officers to meet with representatives of the UHCC Weeds Authority to discuss general weed management matters. MCC said that they supported this idea.

**12. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, 8 March 2016

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.

Future meetings –

Tuesday 7th June 2016

Tuesday 6th September 2016

Tuesday 6th December 2016

**13. Adjourn Meeting**

Meeting closed at 1.05pm.