



SITE OFFICE
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MINUTES
Muswellbrook Coal Company Community Consultative Committee
3rd December 2019
At Muswellbrook Coal Company's Administrative Office

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. Hamish McTaggart	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mrs. Jennifer Lecky	Community Representative
Mr. John Madden	Community Representative
Mr. Malcolm Ogg	Community Representative
Mr. Grant Clouten (<i>General Manager</i>)	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Ms. Julie Thomas (<i>Environmental Superintendent</i>)	Muswellbrook Coal Company

1. Open Meeting

The meeting was opened at 12:12pm by Mr Hamish McTaggart, acting Chairman.

2. Apologies

Mr. Garry Chapman Community Representative

3. Correspondence

Out – June meeting minutes sent out to CCC members on 4 June 2019
September presentation sent out to CCC members on 4 September 2019
Email to CCC members on 17 October 2019 regarding the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Annual Forum
In - Nil

4. Declaration of pecuniary or other interests

Nil.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting held on 4th June 2019 were confirmed as true and reliable
Moved – Mr Hamish McTaggart and Mr Grant Clouten.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil

7. Notification of Items of General Business Proposed to be Raised

Nil

8. Reports

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

B. *Report Discussion* –

Mining Update

- i. Mining activities continued in Open Cut 1 with some material being dumped in Open Cut 2.
- ii. Spontaneous combustion management continued.
- iii. 347,875 tonnes of coal were mined, and 1.99 million cubic metres of waste was removed during the reporting period.
- iv. 197 hours was lost due to rain. 2 hours lost due to adverse weather conditions and impacts on dust generation. 3 hours lost to fog.

West Muswellbrook Project

- There will be a drilling program at West Muswellbrook during 2020/2021. The review is looking at t underground mining operation so more data is required.

Sandy Creek Project

- No updates

Pumped Hydro Project

- The tender documents have gone out to potential interested parties to undertake the feasibility study.
- These documents have been received and are currently being reviewed by the owner project team.
- Awarding of the contract for the feasibility study is expected during the fourth quarter this year.

Operational Changes

- Nil

Approvals Update

- Nil

Weather

- i. *Windroses*: Primarily strong south easterly wind directions for September and October and north westerly winds for November.
- ii. *Rain*: Low rainfall for this period. Below average for August, October and November and slightly above average for September.

Dust

- i. *PM₁₀*: All sites below yearly criteria. High results in recent months attributable to regional dust events or smoke haze from bushfires.

Gas Monitoring

- i. Gas monitor results from Muscle Creek, were presented to the CCC. All results were below criteria. Full results are available on the company website.

Water

- i. The ongoing dry conditions are affecting the water quality results. Electrical conductivity is increasing, and pH is increasing at one site due to presence of algae in the water.

Hamish McTaggart asked about why there is no water quality data from the underground workings since May 2019. Julie Thomas responded that the pump from this bore has not been operational in this time. Actions have been put in place to collect samples in the future from the underground workings.

Blasting

- i. Blast monitoring results up until October 2019 were presented and were compliant with the blasting criteria.

Noise Monitoring

- ii. Noise monitoring results up until November 2019 were presented and were compliant with the noise criteria.

Complaints

- i. The complaint history until November 2019 was presented to the CCC.

9. General Business

Question by Malcolm Ogg: Malcolm asked if there are changes in the proposal to close the mine?

Answer: Grant Clouten advised there are no changes in the proposal to close the mine. Current mine plan is to stop coal mining in 2022. MCC are working on transitioning the workforce to other jobs internally or at other mining operations.

10. Submissions

Nil

11. Announcements

Nil

12. Next Meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, 2nd June 2020.

Meeting will be held at 12:00pm in the Board Room at Muswellbrook Coal Company Administrative Office. Refreshments shall be provided.

13. Adjourn Meeting

Meeting closed at 12:35pm.

14. Site Inspection

Julie Thomas took Jennifer Lecky on a tour of the operation.