



# MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LIMITED

Established 1907 A.C.N. 000 009 521

## SITE OFFICE

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## MINUTES

### Muswellbrook Coal Company Community Consultative Committee

6<sup>th</sup> June 2017

### At Muswellbrook Coal Company's Administrative Office

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. Rod Scholes ( <i>Chairman</i> )	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mr. Scott Brooks	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mr. John Madden	Community Representative
Ms Jennifer Lecky	Community Representative
Mr. Garry Chapman	Community Representative
Mr. Grant Clouten ( <i>Senior Operations Manager</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Ms. Julie Thomas ( <i>Environmental Superintendent</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Mrs. Kim Reilly ( <i>Minute taker</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company

#### 1. **Open Meeting**

The meeting was opened at 12:00pm by Mr Rod Scholes, Chairman.

#### 2. **Apologies**

Mr. Noel Downs Community Representative

#### 3. **Introduction of Committee Members**

As this was the first meeting of the revised committee, each person introduced themselves with a brief introduction.

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

Nil.

#### 5. **Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes from the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were confirmed as true and reliable  
Moved – Mr. Scott Brooks

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

Nil

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

Nil.

#### 8. **Correspondence**

Nil.

## 9. 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, project, rehabilitation, complaints and the results of the environmental monitoring data (weather, dust, water, blasting and noise), for the previous quarter (*January – March 2017*) 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 in Open Cut 1 and Open Cut 2 continued
- iii. 429,627 tonnes of coal was mined and 1.975 million cubic metres of waste was removed during the reporting period.
- iv. 307 hours was lost due to rain. 11 hours lost due to adverse weather conditions and impacts on dust generation.

### West Muswellbrook Project

- No updates

### Sandy Creek Project

- No updates

### Management Plan Update

- Mining Operations Plan/Rehabilitation Plan was approved by Division of Resources and Geoscience in March 2017
- Noise Management Plan and Blast Management Plan were approved by Muswellbrook Shire Council in May 2017
- Environmental Management Strategy, Spontaneous Combustion Management Plan, Air Quality Management Plan, and Visual Amenity, Landscaping and Lighting Management Plan very close to being approved by MSC.
- Comments on Rehabilitation Strategy and Water Management Plan have been received from MSC and are being addressed by MCC.
- Bushfire Management Plan and Mine closure Plan are due to be submitted to MSC by 26 October 2017.
- All available on our website following approval.

### Monitoring Program Changes

- No changes to blast monitoring program
  - 4 sites monitored for every blast
- Noise monitoring program has been updated
  - Relocation of sites and monitoring frequency
  - 5 sites monitored monthly during the night period

- Air quality monitoring program has been updated
  - Real-time PM10 monitors are being relocated
  - Dust deposition gauges and high volume air samplers will be decommissioned
  - Installation of 2 gas monitors (SO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>S) to the NW and SE of the operation – final methodology still to be confirmed by EPA
  - Monitoring data and reports are available on our website

*Question by John Madden:* On a calm night there are no readings – monitors should be operating 24hrs/day. What is the reason for the new location?

*Response by Julie Thomas:* The monitors are operating 24hrs per day. The reason for the change in locations was explained. The EPA are comfortable that the regional air quality monitoring network is adequately monitoring the regional dust effects. The revised monitoring locations are to determine the amount of dust coming from the individual operations

### Weather

- i. *Windroses:* Primarily south easterly wind directions for January to May with a mixture of north westerly and south easterly wind directions in May.
- ii. *Rain:* Below average precipitation in January and February and above average precipitation in March. Close to average for April and May.

### Dust

- i. *Dust Deposition:* Average levels at all sites were within the compliance levels.
- ii. *TSP (Total Suspended Particulates):* All sites below criteria.
- iii. *PM<sub>10</sub>:* All sites below yearly criteria. Site 3 had some high daily readings in February, which were attributable to bushfires in the area.

### Water

- i. Quality of surface water is influenced by natural conditions. Ground water has decreased in pH & EC due to the increased rainfall. Underground water levels also consistent with some minor variation in water levels.  
Apologies from Julie re the latest slides not available for the Monthly Ground Water monitoring

*Request from Rod Scholes that a location plan be supplied to show the monitors. Julie Thomas advised that there is usually a plan in the presentation but due to the changing locations it still needs to be updated and added to the presentation.*

### Blasting

- i. All sites below criteria.

### Noise Monitoring

- i. Noise monitoring conducted in May 2017 were compliant with the revised noise criteria. This was the first round of monitoring in accordance with the revised consent conditions.

### Complaints

- i. The complaint history until May 2017 was presented to the CCC. There was a general discussion around the types of complaints. These were mainly odour complaints. There has been a reduction in odour complaints compared to 2016.

### **10. Submissions**

Nil

### **11. Announcements**

Nil

### **12. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017

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.

### **13. Adjourn Meeting**

Mr. Rod Scholes thanked MCC for being made welcome to the CCC

Meeting closed at 1:08pm.

Following the meeting Rod Scholes, Garry Chapman and Scott Brooks were accompanied by Julie Thomas on a tour of the mine. The invitation was extended to John Madden and Jennifer Lecky who both declined the invitation.