



MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LIMITED

Established 1907 A.C.N. 000 009 521

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MINUTES
Muswellbrook Coal Company Community Consultative Committee
9th June 2020
Via Phone Conference Due to COVID-19 Restrictions

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. Hamish McTaggart	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mr. Malcolm Ogg	Community Representative
Mr. Garry Chapman	Community Representative
Ms. Julie Thomas (<i>Environmental Superintendent</i>)	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Mrs. Erin Muffett (<i>Minute Taker</i>)	Muswellbrook Coal Company

1. Open Meeting

The meeting was opened at 12:08pm by Ms Julie Thomas.

It was noted by Mr. Malcolm Ogg that there was not a quorum. Ms. Julie Thomas advised that as this was a decision-making committee that we didn't necessarily need a quorum to proceed. The committee were asked if they wished to continue with the meeting to which all attendees agreed.

2. Apologies

Mr. John Madden	Community Representative
Mr. Grant Clouten (<i>General Manager</i>)	Muswellbrook Coal Company

3. Correspondence

Out – December meeting minutes sent out to CCC members on 5 December 2020
March Presentation sent out to CCC members on 19 March 2020
Environmental Management Strategy sent out to CCC member for review on 1 May 2020.

In - Nil

4. Declaration of pecuniary or other interests

Nil.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting held on 3rd December 2019 were confirmed as true and reliable. Moved – Mr Malcolm Ogg and Mr Hamish McTaggart.

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. 318,255 tonnes of coal were mined, and 2.263 million cubic metres of waste was removed during the reporting period.
- iv. 486.3 hours was lost due to rain. 2 hours lost due to adverse weather conditions and impacts on dust generation. 3.4 hours lost to fog.

Environmental Management Plan Update

- The MCC Environmental Management Plans are required to be updated every three (3) years.
- Blast Management Plan has recently been approved by MSC.
- Air Quality Management Plan is currently with MSC for approval.
- Environmental Management Strategy, Spontaneous Combustion Management Plan & Visual Amenity, Lighting & Landscape Management Plan are due to be submitted to MSC in June 2020.
- There are other Management Plans which will be updated throughout 2020.

West Muswellbrook Project

- A drilling contractor has been appointed to carry out the exploration drilling program which is planned for the remainder of 2020.
- Consultation with landowners will commence shortly.
- MCC will be commencing a drilling program in 2020 consisting of up to 18 boreholes. Most of which are located on land owned by MCC however some will be located on private property.

Question by Garry Chapman: Garry asked if the West Muswellbrook Drilling was in the same mining area or in a separate location?

Answer: Julie Thomas advised that West Muswellbrook is a separate location but is owned by Idemitsu.

Sandy Creek Project

- No updates

Pumped Hydro Project

- The feasibility study has commenced for this project.
- Groundworks were completed during the 1st quarter which included a desktop study/evaluation as well as seismic exploration works.
- The study has now moved to the drilling phase with a number of exploration boreholes being drilled.
- It is expected the results of the feasibility study will be completed in quarter 1 of 2021.

Operational Changes

- Nil

Approvals Update

- Nil

Weather

- Windroses*: Primarily strong south easterly wind directions for January to March and north and north westerly winds for April and May.
- Rain*: Above average rainfall for February and April with a few months below average. By the end of May we had surpassed last years rainfall for this period.

Dust

- PM₁₀*: All sites below yearly criteria. High results in January attributable to regional dust events or smoke haze from bushfires. Rainfall in February saw a decrease in dust levels.

Gas Monitoring

- Gas monitor results from Muscle Creek, were presented to the CCC. A few results were significantly high. This is due to having to replace a monitor recently which cannot read as low as the other monitors. All results were below criteria. Full results are available on the company website.

Water

End of April saw the salt levels drop due to rainfall which can give an increase in total suspend solids but is still within acceptable levels.

Blasting

- Blast monitoring results up until May 2020 were presented and were compliant with the blasting criteria.

Noise Monitoring

- Noise monitoring results up until May 2020 were presented and were compliant with the noise criteria.

Complaints

- The complaint history until May 2020 was presented to the CCC.

9. General Business

Question by Malcolm Ogg: Malcolm asked how MCC intended to present the mine closure plan to the community as MCC has been an integral part of the community for a long period of time?

Answer: Julie Thomas advised that MCC was developing a stakeholder engagement strategy and a lot of work is currently being undertaken behind the scenes. MCC has a historical book documenting the mines history from 1907 to 1997. MCC is currently working with the Muswellbrook Historical Society on the continuation of this book.

Malcolm asked for a presentation at the next CCC meeting on the plans for closing MCC, which was agreed to.

Action: MCC to provide a presentation to the CCC on the plans for closing MCC.

Question by Garry Chapman: Garry asked if there was a concern regarding the current cost of coal?

Answer: Julie Thomas advised that MCC is still producing coal as per the mine plan, which showed MCC producing a reduced amount of coal in 2020 regardless of the coal price.

Question by Malcolm Ogg: Malcolm stated that he had noticed a lack of attendance of a council delegate at the CCC meetings and Hamish McTaggart if he could take this back to council to seek a resolution given the MCC Chairman is a councillor and that MSC is MCC's consent authority.

Answer: Hamish McTaggart advised that he can take this information back to council.

Action: Hamish McTaggart to provide feedback to the CCC on council representation on the CCC.

10. Submissions

Nil

11. Announcements

Nil

12. Next Meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, 1 December 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 12:37pm.

14. Site Inspection

Due to the meeting being conducted via teleconference and COVID-19 restrictions a site visit was not conducted.