



# MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LIMITED

Established 1907 A.C.N. 000 009 521

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**MINUTES**  
**Muswellbrook Coal Company Community Consultative Committee**  
**7<sup>th</sup> April 2022**  
**Muswellbrook Coal Company's Administration Offices**

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. Garry Chapman	Community Representative
Mrs. Jennifer Lecky	Community Representative
Mr. Malcolm Ogg	Community Representative
Mr. John Madden	Community Representative
Ms. Theresa Folpp	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mr. Grant Clouten ( <i>General Manager</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Mrs. Brooke York ( <i>Environmental Advisor</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Ms. Julie Thomas ( <i>Environmental Superintendent</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company

**1. Open Meeting**

The extraordinary meeting was opened at 12:09pm by Mrs Brooke York.

**2. Apologies**

Mr Rod Scholes Muswellbrook Shire Council

**3. Correspondence**

Out – December meeting minutes sent out to CCC members on 13 December 2021  
March Presentation sent out to CCC members on 17 March 2022  
AEMR sent to CCC 31 March 2022 (Hard copies provided at this meeting)

In - Nil

**4. Reports**

*Environmental Monitoring Data & Operations* – Brooke York 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.

Mining Update

- Mining activities continued in Open Cut 1. Open Cut 2 is being shaped for rehabilitation.
- Spontaneous combustion management continued.
- 351,315 tonnes of coal were mined, and 1.335 million cubic metres of waste was removed during the reporting period.

- 539.6 hours was lost due to adverse weather. 534.7 hours of rain, 1.1 hours to dust, 3.8 hours to fog.

#### Proposed DA Amendment

- MCC has commenced consultation with MSC regarding minor amendments to the development consent.
- Minor amendments to assist in the transition from mining into a closure execution phase and ultimately lease relinquishment.
- Alignment of the existing consent approval with the expectations of the NSW Resources Regulator rehabilitation reforms package.
- Any changes are minor in nature and there are no associated environmental impacts.
- As the site moves to closure there is expected to be a reduction in impacts given the reduced activity at the site.

Mr Malcolm Ogg asked what consultation has been undertaken with MSC. Mr Grant Clouten replied that meetings had been held between MCC, MSC and Resources Regulator to determine the required amendments. Mr Malcolm Ogg asked if the amendment would delay closure work and Mr Grant Clouten replied that it would not. Work is continuing, as required.

#### Environmental Management Plan Update and Independent Environmental Audit

- MCC has a requirement to update the Environmental Management Plans every three years.
- The Water Management Plan was due for review in 2021 and is now overdue.
- The approved Environmental Management Plans are available on the MCC website.
- The IEA is required by the DA to be conducted every 3 years by and independent auditor approved by MSC.
- An Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) was conducted by Umwelt in 2021. The final report was mailed to the CCC 31 January 2022.

#### Exploration licence A176 Update

- No update

#### West Muswellbrook Project

- No update

#### Bells Mountain Pumped Hydro Project

- No update

#### MCC Mine Closure

- Currently scheduled to complete coal mining activities ~ July 2022. There are no further coal reserves to be mined.
- An evaluation is currently being undertaken on the coal mine land relinquishment requirements as outlined in the MCC approved consent documents.

- A plan of works/studies is being developed that will be required to be undertaken whilst mining operations are being completed and once operations cease. These studies have commenced.
- In parallel with this work, MCC is undertaking a post mining land use study to identify future opportunities that the MCC mining and buffer land could be used for.
- The last coal mined and processed is planned for completion during July 2022. Coal transported off site is currently planned for completion in September 2022.

#### Workforce Transition (Mr Grant Clouten presented)

- Focus on mental health for employees
- Focus on skills and training based on individual employee needs and interests
- June 2019 - EA approved with improved redundancy provisions for EA employees
- Mar 2021 – Isimplify - Upgrade Your Trade Program Commenced
- Mar 2021 – Forsythes Financial - Wealth Creation & Management Information sessions
- Apr 2021 – Long Service Leave Information sessions
- Jun 2021 – Mines Super Information sessions
- Oct 2021 – Forsythes - Job Application & Resume Preparation (Full-day) Workshop
- Nov 2021 – Forsythes - Building resilience in the face of change sessions
- Nov 2021 - Mental Health First Aid Training for Staff (+Refresher training)
- Dec 2021 – Bullying & Harassment - Working at IAR refresher training
- Early redundancies offered & farewell lunches held with gifts presented to exiting employees and contractors.
- Apr 2022 – Forsythes - Networking, LinkedIn & Applying for Jobs
- May 2022 – Partnered with CS Health to conduct pre-placement medicals onsite for smooth transition with new employers

#### Old Pit Top Remediation

- MCC is preparing to undertake remediation of asbestos contamination of soil at the site of the Old Pit Top located on the corner of Victoria St and Coal Road Muswellbrook.
- An EIS is being completed and is expected to be finalised during by Q2 2022. The EIS was originally expected to be completed in Q4 2021 but was delayed by an independent audit required to be conducted by an EPA accredited auditor. The audit and an updated Remediation Action Plan are now complete.
- The EIS will outline how the works will be undertaken and managed. Once complete, the EIS will be submitted to the NSW Planning Portal for MSC approval.
- The process will include a period of public exhibition to enable community comment. Near neighbours of the site have been notified of the project via a letterbox drop.
- Anyone with questions or concerns is encouraged to contact MCC for more information.

### Quarry Remediation

- MCC has completed remediation of asbestos contamination of soil at the Muswellbrook Quarry.
- The site is located on Sandy Creek Road Muswellbrook.
- MCC has engaged a consultant to manage the works.
- MSC were notified 30 days prior to the commencement of works in accordance with requirements.
- SafeWork NSW has also been notified of the works and have issued a permit.
- The asbestos found is contained in a single stockpile and is believed to be demolition waste placed there over 20 years ago (estimated).
- No friable asbestos has been found at the site.
- Near neighbours of the site were notified of the project via a letterbox drop. Anyone with questions or concerns is encouraged to contact MCC for more information.
- A validation report on the remediation work has been completed and sent to MSC for their records.
- The remediation work included reshaping of the stockpile and covering with a geotextile layer to prevent accidental disturbance of the bonded asbestos within the stockpile.
- The geotextile layer was then covered with a minimum of 500mm of clear fill imported to site for the purpose.
- The stockpile was revegetated using hydro-mulch to stabilise the capping layer and minimise erosion of the surface.

### Weather

- Wind Roses: for October, November and December were presented.
- Rainfall: Wettest November for Muswellbrook in history.

### Dust

- *PM<sub>10</sub>*: All sites below criteria.

### Gas Monitoring

- Gas monitor results were below criteria.

### Water

- Water monitoring results and trends are discussed in the AEMR.

### Blasting

- Blast monitoring results up until December 2021 were presented and were compliant with the blasting criteria.

### Noise Monitoring

- Noise monitoring results up until December 2021, were presented and were compliant with the noise criteria.

### Complaints

- The complaint history until December 2021 was presented to the CCC. No complaints have been received since September 2021.

## 5. **Announcements**

MCC will be holding a Community Open Day on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2022. All are welcome and more information will be provided closer to the date.

## 6. **Next Meeting**

Next CCC meeting: Tuesday, 7 June 2022.

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

## 7. **General Business**

Grant Clouten presented a PowerPoint presentation to the committee. The presentation contained the information the CCC requested at the December 2021 meeting. The vision for MCC post mining land use on mining and buffer land was presented to the CCC. The approval process for the pumped hydro and solar projects was discussed.

### Idemitsu Renewable Developments Australia (IRDA), Bringing Idemitsu's Renewable Energy Expertise to Australia

- We have operated successful mines in Australia, but these are coming to the end of their productive lives.
- IRDA was established to introduce Idemitsu's renewable energy expertise to Australia and grow our global renewables business.
- We are diversifying our operations to ensure a continued future for our company and the communities in which we work.
- Several opportunities have been advanced to Feasibility and Development phase in Solar PV and Pumped Hydro.
- We have built a Biomass Planting trial in Queensland in cooperation with the Queensland Government.
- We are now progressing a number of Hydrogen and Ammonia projects across Queensland and New South Wales.
- After 114 years Muswellbrook represents a once in a generation opportunity to stimulate economic growth following exhaustion of a Coal mine.
- Muswellbrook is a unique combination of:
  - An exhausted Coal Mine;
  - A well-positioned renewable energy asset with potential for large scale Solar, Battery, PHES and Hydrogen; and
  - Tier One international Partners with expertise and willingness to develop renewable energy projects.
- Idemitsu and partners have already spent more than \$4m on developing opportunities at the site.
- Projections of over 2300 construction jobs to build the energy projects we are developing.
- Unlocking the full potential of the site by attracting industrial, manufacturing and training is projected to create over 4700 operational jobs.

Projects Under Study	Stage	Partner
Pumped Hydro (250MW/8 Hour)	Preliminary Feasibility	AGL
Large Scale Solar and Battery (150MW plus)	Development	Shell
Hydrogen	Concept	Energy Estate
Training and Industrial Precinct	Concept	Under Review

#### Bell's Mountain Pumped Hydro

- Project Partner: AGL
- 250 MW, 8-hour supply
- Est. \$600m construction cost
- Engineering Preliminary Feasibility Assessment completed:
  - Geotechnical drilling
  - Scheme design
  - Energy studies
  - Class 3 cost estimate
- Approximate 4-year construction period from 2023
- Idemitsu's exhausted Muswellbrook Mine void as lower reservoir
- A NSW Pumped Hydro Recoverable Grants Program application has been submitted jointly by Idemitsu and AGL

#### Green Hydrogen and Ammonia - New South Wales

- Idemitsu has joined the Port of Newcastle Green Hydrogen Hub project to develop a facility for multiple uses of green hydrogen and ammonia.
- Idemitsu brings its international supply chain expertise and deep market and customer knowledge to help make the project truly globally competitive.
- The green hydrogen and ammonia produced by the Port of Newcastle Hydrogen Hub will be generated using renewable energy supported by the NSW REZ's (including Idemitsu's Muswellbrook projects).
- We see green hydrogen and ammonia projects representing the next generation of industrial growth and exports for the Hunter Valley and Australia.

#### **8. Adjourn Meeting**

Meeting closed at 1:15pm.

#### **9. Site Inspection**

Site inspection was not conducted.