

<b>OVERVIEW</b>			
Meeting	Community Consultative Committee		
Date	17/05/2018	Time	9.00am
Venue	Boggabri Golf Club		
Chairperson	David Ross		
Presenter	Hamish Russell		
Attendees	Richard Gillham (RG), Peter Forbes (PF), David Ross (DR), Ron Campbell (RC), Anna Christie (AC), Catherine Collyer (CC), Mitchum Neave (MN), Libby Laird (LL), Geoff Eather (GE), Hamish Russell (HR), Sarah Torrance (ST)		
Observer			
Guests			
Apologies	Ros Druce (RD), Kerrie Clarke (KC), Daniel Martin (DM), Ray Balks (RB), Greg Griffiths (GG)		
Next Meeting	Thursday 16 August 2018, 9am at the Boggabri Coal Boardroom		
ITEM	AGENDA		
1	Apologies		
2	Declaration of Pecuniary or other Interests		
3	Confirmation of previous minutes		
4	Business arising from previous minutes		
5	Correspondence		
6	Company reports and overview		
7	General business/questions		
8	Next Meeting		
Discussion Items			
<p><b>1. Apologies:</b></p> <p>See above</p>			
<p><b>2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interests:</b></p> <p>(RG) declared that his property is located in the zone of affectation.            (RC) declared that he owns a company; Namoi Waste that deals with Boggabri Coal.            (DR) declared that he is paid a fee for his chairing services.</p>			
<p><b>3. Acceptance of previous minutes:</b></p> <p>Moved by (MN) that the previous minutes be accepted. (CC) Minutes moved and endorsed.</p>			
<p><b>4. Business from previous minutes:</b></p> <p>GPS points for the area to the north west of Boggabri Mine that was cleared in 1992 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NW corner - E 225410 N 6611875</li> <li>▪ NE corner - E225995 N 6612215</li> <li>▪ SE corner - E 226205 N 6611825</li> <li>▪ SW corner - E 225680 N 6611520</li> </ul> <p>(MN) were there any archaeological assessments completed on the area in question?</p>			

(HR) does not believe there was. The area was cleared by the previous mine owner. Through the major approval process in Idemitsu's time, arch surveys have been completed and more through the tree clearing processes.

(PF) We have had a look at for any information regarding this but nothing has turned up yet. We will have another look.

(HR) Copies of all the approved Boggabri Coal Management Plans, BTM strategies and monitoring data can be found online at the below link.

<https://www.idemitsu.com.au/operations/boggabri-coal/approvals-plans-reports/>

(PF) Comments for the Southern Rehabilitation Strategy were received and will be considered in the next phase of the process.

(AC) asked if the comments were also passed on to the biodiversity offset auditor?

(PF) document has not been reviewed by the auditor but was provided to the regulatory agencies for information.

#### Boggabri Coal Employee Statistics:

As of 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018

- 72 BCOP employees
- 423 BGC personnel (includes One Key Resources)
  - 26 of which are trainees
  - 60 of which are female
    - Approximately 14%
  - 48 of which identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
    - Approximately 11%
- 174 Misc. Contractors

(PF) Action to improve the information here to include the breakdown of the BCOP employees, for next meeting

(AC) the bush tucker species list has been created which include botanical names, common names, uses and photos. The process has been held up and Dan Yates has been trying to progress it with Dolly Talbot.

(AC) asked that (MN) could help progress this and suggested that the holdup may be with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs).

(MN) stated that there are some RAPs that aren't from this area and protocols are failing.

#### 5. Correspondence:

##### NSW Department of Planning & Environment

- DoPE requested additional information to findings in the Independent Environment Audit, this was in the form of a Show Cause letter BCOP responded to the show cause and two formal warnings have been received, sound power level monitoring and riparian stream health monitoring (macroinvertebrates).

(LL) Asked what equipment does the sound power level monitoring refer to?

(PF) Explained that BCOP have a program in place to work towards meeting required levels for each piece of plant. Some of the plant in question was older and has left site. All new plant to site is tested and meets required sound levels before being used. The warning relates mainly to trucks. Some plant went over individual plant levels but cumulative Boggabri Mine results are under the noise goal.

(PF) to provide a summary of the site Sound Power level scenario and plant levels at the next CCC.

(AC) What stream was the warning letter regarding?

(HR) the ephemeral Nagero Creek. We have conducted riparian stream health surveys for other areas within the approval. The Department did not think this was enough and one element was not consistent with the site Management Plan. It is difficult to survey a stream for macroinvertebrates when it is dry.

- Annual Review was submitted to regulatory authorities for their acceptance.

(LL) asked when will this be approved and will the committee receive a copy?

(HR) stated that BCOP are unsure when it will be approved and BCOP will notify CCC when approved and provide a link to find it on the website.

- Biodiversity Audit has been completed. To be provided to the DoPE this week.

(MN) had voice mail on the 20/3/2018 from Belinda Howe and asked who she was as he did not follow up her phone call.

(AC) explained that she worked with the biodiversity auditors and contacted the community for opinion on the biodiversity audit.

(AC) commends the quality of consultation process.

Note; Belinda Howe was conducting the site Biodiversity Audit.

**NSW Department Industry and Investment – Resources and Geosciences**

- Approval received from the DRG on the ‘New’ Mine Operations Plan.
- Correspondence received on Rehabilitation Calculation Estimate has been finalised. Approximately \$69 million.

**Department of the Environment and Energy**

- Condition 28 compliance report submitted for acceptance.

**6. Company Reports & Reviews:**

**Presentation**

**Noise Monitoring:**

(LL) asked who are your current neighbours having issues with noise?

(HR) explained with the aid of the Attended Noise Monitoring map, which Mine owns which neighbouring properties. He pointed out the nearest noise sensitive receptors (Malee and Picton) Due to the ridge that lies between the mine site and these properties, the noise is negligible. If Boggabri Coal sees spikes in the data, audio of that time period will be downloaded and listened to, to find the source of the noise and determine if it is mine related or not.

(LL) asked how close are people who can hear Boggabri mine?

(HR) pointed out that there are monitoring locations along the rail line to determine decibel readings of the trains and along the highway to determine the noise levels of traffic. These are not to measure the mine itself.

(PF) stated that he lives at Victoria Park which is very near to the mine entrance and he can barely hear it from there.

(RG) stated he can only hear the mine during the right conditions like inversions.

(CC) stated she can hear the mine at her house during inversions but would find it difficult to determine which mine it would be coming from. Suggests it is more of a cumulative noise of the three mines.

(AC) asked when the first attended noise monitoring occurs, does the contractor call dispatch and notify them of the exceedance?

(HR) stated that this is not the process at all if the noise contractor was to get an exceedance. BCM process is to not utilise the high dump areas at night and in other high-risk conditions.

**Air Quality Monitoring:**

(HR) explained to the CCC the process of depositional dust from gauge collection to the lab.

(AC) questioned why ash was measured when there is very low ash coal in the area.

(PF) clarified that sediment is the main thing needing measurement.

(HR) explained PM10 monitoring processes and the Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance (TEOM) monitors that are currently being used by Boggabri Coal.

(MN) asked if the dust monitor (TEOM) was on Tarrawonga owned property and if the information is shared by both companies?

(HR) clarified that it was on jointly owned land and is used by both mines.

The question was asked why isn't there a monitor in the town of Boggabri.

(PF) informed the CCC that this will be looked at as part of the Namoi Valley Air Quality Committee process that is about to start, community members of Boggabri and BCM will be a party to that.

(CC) stated that she has been trying to make this happen for years and has started a petition in the past and has been looking at different avenues for finance.

(MN) put it to BCM as to why they cannot pay for one and show the community they care and lead by example.

(LL) stated that there were higher rates of asthma during the summer months which need to be considered. The train system and what body the train line and the trains themselves fall under was discussed.

(AC) suggested that ARTC needs to talk to the committee about the dust and noise coming of the trains and would like an update of the EPA crack down on the trains.

(RC) suggested this be brought up in the joint CCC meeting 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018. (it was discussed in the joint CCC that maybe ARTC is not the correct body to talk to and it might be Pacific National and Aurizon).

It was requested by the CCC that (DR) try and organise for someone from the ARTC to attend the November Boggabri Coal CCC.

The CCC members are to provide questions to (DR) prior to this meeting so the ARTC representative can prepare.

The CCC members also requested that (DR) speak with the EPA to connect the Namoi and Hunter Valley Region Air Quality Advisory Committees.

(AC) asked why BCM still uses old technologies like TEOMs when there are better technologies out there such as Beta Attenuation Monitoring (BAM) and suggest BCM move forward from PM10 also.

(HR) BCM monitors in accordance with the project approval and EPL 12407.

(HR) explained the PM10 results for March 2018 and the circumstances surrounding any exceedences.

(AC) asked that BCM look into the standard for depositional dust sampling results and provide an answer at the August CCC.

**Ground Water Monitoring:**

(HR) explained the water aquifers that surround the BCM area.

**Water Storage:**

(HR) explained the water storage troughs and peaks and how it is related to the time of year, what water is being imported to the pit and the water usage by the mine. The upturn shown on the map that has occurred recently was due to a reduction in the amount of water needed on roads in the pit and the commissioning of the borefield.

(HR) went through the process of how the mine is making good with a neighbour regarding groundwater and how BCM is adhering to conditions of MOD 5. BCM is in the process of organising for some monitors for bores in the area to get data of Standing Water Level (SWL) of bores in the area.

Community Complaints:

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2018** - The EPA received a community complaint in regard to the amount of dust that was allegedly coming from Boggabri Mine. No details provided to BCM by the EPA by the complainant. Information provided to the EPA, no specific site source/event identified.

Currently investigating feedback from local landholders regarding impact to water supply as a result of the operation of the BCM groundwater bores.

NSW EPA inspection occurred this week. No material issues were raised.

**7. General Business**

(CC) asked BCM for the results of the traffic report?

(HR) BCM can provide the results.

(CC) asked are there still jobs available at BCM?

(HR) explained that there are and that he has been a part of the assessment process.

(MN) asked how much water are getting trucked out to BCM?

(HR) explained a 15000L truck goes out to BCM neighbour every 10days to two weeks and the truck also services the crib hut in pit at the mine.

(LL) asked if this impact on your neighbour continues, what will happen?

(PF) replied that BCM needs to investigate the matter further moving forward.

(DR) asked the committee to prepare a list of questions for the hydrogeologist that is being organised for the August CCC meeting and to return all questions to (DR) in 4 weeks time (15<sup>th</sup> June).

(CC) moved to have the Regional Water Strategy put on the Nov Joint CCC meeting agenda.

More discussion was had to try and move forward with the bush tucker project.

(MN) expressed his concerns that it is a struggle to engage the RAPs and get funding for advertisement and venue hire which may help push the bush tucker project in the right direction and for (MN) to communicate with the community regarding the mines.

(AC) suggested the forming of a subcommittee to come up with a plan to move the bush tucker project forward.

(HR) to coordinate the setup of this committee.

More discussion occurred around water and usage

(HR) to provide the CCC with a balance of BCM water accounts.

(HR) explained what water is stored in the pit and how it is moved throughout the pit and used.

(LL) asked if BCM has seen the loss of inflow at Elfin Crossing and if Elfin Crossing was considered in the modelling for MOD 5?

(HR) replied that it is believed that it sits in a different aquifer to the MOD 5 bores and it therefore would not have been considered.

(LL) asked if BCM was aware of the Namoi Catchment Water Study (NCWS) that showed a cumulative risk of up to a 5m drawdown in bores from mining?

(HR) (PF) said that they will need to look at the NCWS.

Drought factors were discussed amongst the group as a contributor to the fall in SWL in surrounding bores. Some members believe that the fall in SWLs was too rapid for it to be accounted to lack of rainfall.

(AC) asked for an update on discussions with National Park and Wildlife Service (NPWS) in regards to biodiversity offset areas.

(PF) suggested that Dan Martin and Alex Cockrell are the best points of contact regarding this.

(BCM) to provide a date for a visit to the biodiversity offset and rehabilitation areas and to look at the koala strategy. This date will be organised to be before this next CCC. (CC, MN, RC, RD and AC) showed interest in attending the site visit.

(CC) asked about issues with tree spacing and distances from neighbouring properties for rehab.

(PF) explained the that tree planting includes varied spacing and BCM is looking at the locations of plantings in regard to fence lines with neighbouring properties.

(PF) to provide a breakdown of Idemitsu employee statistics. See previous comment.

Discussion was had regarding the sponsorship processes and they work and how best for the community to get in contact with the mine.

(MN) asked BCM what they do to determine the droughts impact, the amount of rainfall required and how BCM has prepared for the drought.

(HR) explained that BCMs measures are to reschedule the planting of tube stock to when good rain is predicted and BCM have invested a large amount of money into other measures to reduce water usage.

### **8. Next Meeting**

Thursday 16/08/2018 at 9am at Boggabri Coal Boardroom.

Meeting Closed at 11.50am.

<b>Actioned against</b>	<b>Action to be done</b>
Peter Forbes	Have another look for any archaeological surveys/reports in the cleared area to the north west of the site.
Peter Forbes	To provide at the next CCC an overview of SPL monitoring and equipment noise levels
BCOP	Notify the CCC when the Annual Review is approved and provide a link to the report on the website.
David Ross	To organise a representative from ARTC to attend the November Boggabri Coal CCC meeting.
Committee Members	Provide DR questions that you would like to ask the ARTC representative.

DR	Ask the EPA for a connection between the Namoi and Hunter Valley Region Air Quality Advisory Committees.
BCM	Look into the depositional dust sampling standard and discuss at the August CCC.
Committee Members	Prepare a list of questions for the hydrogeologist and provide to DR by the 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2018.
David Ross	Put the Regional Water Strategy on the agenda for the Nov Joint CCC meeting.
Hamish Russell	Coordinate the setup of a subcommittee to plan how best to push forward the bush tucker project.
Hamish Russell	Provide the CCC with a balance of BCM water accounts at the August CCC meeting.
BCM	Provide a date for a visit to the biodiversity offset and rehabilitation areas and to look at the koala strategy.
Peter Forbes	Provide a breakdown of Idemitsu employee statistics.