



# MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LIMITED

Established 1907 A.C.N. 000 009 521

**REGISTERED OFFICE**  
Level 11 King George Tower  
79 Adelaide Street  
Brisbane, QLD 4000

**POSTAL ADDRESS**  
P.O. Box 123  
Muswellbrook, NSW 2333

**TELEPHONE:** 02 6543 2799  
**FACSIMILE:** 02 6542 5010

## MINUTES Muswellbrook Coal Company Community Consultative Committee 1 March 2011 At Muswellbrook Coal Company Offices

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mr Malcom Ogg ( <i>Chairman</i> )	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mrs Christine Phelps ( <i>Deputy Chairman</i> )	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mr Chris Gidney ( <i>Council Liaison Officer</i> )	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mr Chris Knight ( <i>Coal &amp; Environmental Mgr</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Mr John Furner ( <i>General Manager</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Mr Colin Davies ( <i>Environmental Consultant</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Ms Lori Dennen-King ( <i>Environmental Assistant</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company

### 1. *Open Meeting*

The meeting was opened at 12:10pm by Chairman Mr Malcom Ogg.

### 2. *Apologies*

Mrs Glenda Watts and Mr Noel Downs (Community Representatives)

### 3. *Public Participation*

Nil

### 4. *Confirmation of Minutes from the Previous Meeting*

Minutes from the previous meeting were confirmed as true and reliable.

Moved – Mrs Christine Phelps

Seconded – Mr Colin Davies

### 5. *Business arising from the Minutes*

Nil

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

Nil

### 7. *Correspondence*

Nil

## 8. Reports

A. *Environmental Monitoring Data* – Mr Chris Knight gave a brief overview and history of Muswellbrook Coal followed by Mr Colin Davies who presented a Powerpoint presentation to the committee. The presentation contained results of the environmental monitoring data for weather, dust, water, and blasting for the previous three months (*October-December 2010*) at the mine site.

B. *Report Discussion* –

### Weather

- i. *Windroses*: prevailing winds during the reporting period were generally from the south-east which is typical during the summer months.
- ii. *Rain*: precipitation overall was generally average during the reporting period.

### Dust

- iii. *Dust Deposition*: Gauge DM10, located adjacent to the entry road and near current mining operations, is on MCC owned land and continues to have elevated levels as expected. All sites at residential areas remain below the  $4\text{g}/\text{m}^2\cdot\text{month}$  criteria.

*Discussion: Mr Gidney asked what the dust deposition gauge number was at Queen Street (Site 1). Mr Davies confirmed the gauge number was D7. Mrs Phelps inquired about the monitoring unit she noticed on Muscle Creek Road near the Coal road bridge. Mr. Knight explained that the unit was a PM<sub>10</sub> high volume air sampler (HVAS) being used to collect background dust data under MCC's Authorisation License for the Eastern Extension project.*

- iv. *TSP (Total Suspended Particulates)*: Current year-to-date averages still remain below NHMRC criteria of  $90\text{ug}/\text{m}^3$ . TSP HVAS units run for 24 hours every 6 days.
- v. *PM<sub>10</sub>*: During the reporting period (October-December 2010), annual average levels remained below the Long Term DECCW Criteria of  $30\text{ug}/\text{m}^3$ . Mr Knight presented a graph to the committee comparing PM<sub>10</sub> levels between MCC's Site 1 TEOM and DECCW Bowman Park PM<sub>10</sub> monitor. Both monitors had similar results with evident wind trends. Analysis of DECCW monitoring results is expected in the future from DECCW.

*Discussion: Mr Gidney commented that you can't currently footprint where the dust is coming from (mining or agriculture) with these monitors.*

### Water

- vi. Quality of surface water was similar to those reported in the previous quarter.

*Discussion: Mrs Phelps asked what the critical water level was in the old underground workings storage. Mr Knight explained that MCC tries to maintain a water level of below 155RL and that water is continually being recycled. Uses include dust suppression and spontaneous combustion control (water infusion).*

### Blasting

- vii. 32 blasts at MCC Open Cut Operations (October - December 2010) which included 8 blast events in No.2 Open Cut). There was no exceedence of blast criteria.

### Complaints

- viii. There was one complaint recorded regarding blast vibration during the reporting period. Results from the blast were below the Consent Conditions criteria.

### Rehabilitation

- ix. Current rehabilitation activities include topsoiling in both the No.1 and No.2 Open Cut with planting planned for the end of March following gypsum and organic mulch spreading operations. Mulching of vegetation behind tree clearing operations are expected to commence over the next 2-3 weeks.

*Discussion: Mr Gidney asked what type of rehabilitation was going to be done. Mr Davies commented the rehabilitated areas would be planted in both trees and pasture. Mr Furner added MCC's aim is to plant 50% trees and 50% pasture as per discussions with Mayor Rush. This ratio was added to the new MOP amendment. Mr Knight explained there would be a total of 16 hectares in No.1 and 7 hectares in No.2 rehabilitated this autumn. These areas would include habitat tree corridors.*

### Mining Update – Mr Chris Knight

- x. Area C approval granted 23 December 2010.  
xi. MOP Amendment submitted to DII, currently waiting for approval.  
xii. Coal extraction continues to the Muswellbrook/St Heliers Seam in Strip 14 and Lewis Seam in Strip 13.  
xiii. Coal has been reached in the cutback on the eastern end of No.2 Open Cut.  
xiv. No need to shut down diggers due to noise over the last 3 months.

*Discussion: Mr Gidney asked if there were still underground workings on site and Mr Knight confirmed there are remaining workings on site.*

### **9. Submissions**

Nil

### **10. General Business**

- *Discussion: Mrs Phelps inquired about the planned relocation of the workshop and administrative offices? Mr Furner explained with the approval of Area C, current mining operations have been extended an additional 3 years, so construction of the new infrastructure area will be delayed for possibly another 2.5 years.*

### **11. Announcements**

Mr Gidney announced he would be retiring from Muswellbrook Shire Council at the end of the week and thanked everyone on the CCC board. The committee also thanked Mr Gidney for all his help over the years and the integral part he played in establishing the CCC structure within the mining industry.

### **12. Adjourn Meeting**

Meeting closed at 12:47 pm.

### ***Date of Next Meeting***

7 June 2011

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. A site inspection will be held dependent on the weather.

### **2011 Future Meetings:**

*6 September 2011*

*6 December 2011*