



# MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LIMITED

Established 1907 A.C.N. 000 009 521

## SITE OFFICE

Administration Centre  
No. 2 Open Cut  
Coal Road  
Muswellbrook NSW 2333

## POSTAL ADDRESS

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## MINUTES

### Muswellbrook Coal Company Community Consultative Committee

5 June 2012

### At Muswellbrook Coal Company Offices

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mrs Christine Phelps	Deputy Chairman
Mr Craig Flemming	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mr John Furner ( <i>General Manager</i> )	Muswellbrook Coal Company
Mr Chris Knight ( <i>Coal &amp; Environmental Mgr</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 12:17pm by Deputy Chairman Mrs Christine Phelps.

#### 2. ***Apologies***

Mr Malcolm Ogg (*Chairman*), Mrs Glenda Watts (*Community Representative*) and Mr Noel Downs (*Community Representative*)

#### 3. ***Public Participation***

Nil

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

Minutes from the previous meeting held on 6 March 2012 were confirmed as true and reliable.

Moved – Mrs Christine Phelps

Seconded – Mr Chris Knight

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

Deferred to General Business

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

Nil

#### 7. ***Correspondence***

Nil

#### 8. ***Reports***

A. *Environmental Monitoring Data* – Mr Colin Davies and Mr Chris Knight 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 (*January-March 2012*) at the mine site.

B. *Report Discussion* –

Weather

- i. *Windroses*: Prevailing winds during the reporting period were generally from the south-east.
- ii. *Rain*: Precipitation was above average in February and March  
*Discussion: Mr Flemming suggested using historical rainfall information from an existing site already established in Muswellbrook. Refer to the BOM website for a specific location. ACTION*

Dust

- iii. *Dust Deposition*: Elevated levels recorded at DM19 could possibly have been caused by recent construction activities in the area. South-easterly wind conditions over the reporting period indicate that MCC was not the main contributor to dust levels at this site during this time. Results at other non-mine owned sites were below EIS predicted levels.
- iv. *TSP (Total Suspended Particulates)*: Results were low at all sites and well below EIS predictions.
- v. *PM<sub>10</sub>*: Below EIS predictions.
  1. *OEH vs MCC Dust Level*: MCC presented a chart comparing MCC PM<sub>10</sub> dust levels to those collected from the OEH Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network (UHAQMN) monitor at Bowman Park (Muswellbrook). Results over a 3-month period indicated the OEH monitor averaged 2.9µg/m<sup>3</sup> higher than the MCC monitor at Queen Street.  
*Discussion: Mr Flemming commented that MSC was currently running the figures comparing the Bowman park monitor to the NW Muswellbrook monitor. So far the PM<sub>10</sub> levels appear to be consistent. Mrs Phelps asked Mr Flemming if much modelling had been done on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and he replied that he did not know if any of this type of modelling had been done.*

Water

- vi. Quality of surface and ground water very stable. No changes. Ground water levels will vary slightly due to infusion activities, rainfall and some ground water recharge (coal seam aquifers).  
*Discussion: Mr Flemming asked how deep the water levels were in the underground workings. Mr Knight replied that in the No.1 Open Cut the water levels are approximately 150m from the surface and 200m in the No.2 Open Cut.*

Blasting

- vii. There were 20 blasts at MCC Open Cut Operations (January-March 2012) which included 3 blast events in No.2 Open Cut. No exceedences of maximum overpressure or ground vibration were recorded.

Complaints

- viii. There were 2 complaints recorded during the reporting period (1-Blast, 1-Other). Mr Knight summarised each of the complaints recorded between January-March 2012 as well as those received up until 31 May. Mr Knight also noted that MCC is currently developing an SOP for the use of a hand held noise monitor to assess noise levels.

### Rehabilitation

- ix. Rehabilitation activities included general weed control around topsoil stockpiles. Emerged trees seedlings beginning to grow in both the No.1 and No.2 open cut. Rabbit damage to young trees in No.2 rehab was noted. No planting or land preparation was conducted due to wet ground conditions. Planting of a winter cover crop is planned for areas awaiting rehabilitation to minimize erosion and moisture loss. A soil organics rehab trial will be conducted over the next 6 months to evaluate the benefits in establishing a sustainable ecosystem on overburden dumps.

*Discussion: Mr Flemming commented that the perennial grass species, vetiver grass, has a large root system which has been good for stabilizing banks.*

### Mining Update – Mr Chris Knight

- x. All main coal mining operations are now complete in the No.2 Open Cut. Some minor activities will continue.  
Mr Knight presented details on the Fly Ash Program in response to a suggestion made at the previous CCC meeting.

## **9. Submissions**

Nil

## **10. General Business**

A suggestion was made by Mr Flemming that all CCC groups should standardize their presentations/meetings to maintain consistency. Guidelines can be found on the Department of Planning website for review. **ACTION**  
MCC will include an information section in the presentation at the next CCC and the topic will be the control of spontaneous combustion. **ACTION**

## **11. Announcements**

Mr Flemming announced that Council had received a membership application from Mr John Madden for MCC's CCC.

## **12. Adjourn Meeting**

Meeting closed at 1:30 pm.

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

Tuesday, 4 September 2012

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 and interest by committee members.

## **2012 Future Meeting(s):**

*4 December 2012*