

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting**  
**Duralie Mine Site and via video/teleconferencing**  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**Attendees:**

Ms Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	John Cullen	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Mike Plain	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd	Ryan Fenning	MidCoast Council
Thomas Kirkwood	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd	Brian Eastoe	CCC Member

**Guests:**

Drew Morris                      MidCoast Council Catchment Officer

**1. Site Tour**

A site inspection was undertaken following the meeting. Areas inspected included the Weismantel mining operations and the rehabilitation area.

**2. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair opened the meeting at 12:35pm.

Apologies: Cr Karen Hutchinson, Mr Rod Williams, Mr Noel Smith.

**3. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared that she is the Independent Chair, approved by the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment.

The declarations of the Duralie CCC members remain current.

**4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were confirmed.

Moved: Brian Eastoe; Seconded: Ryan Fenning.

**5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting**

1. Karuah River Catchment Management Plan Update

Mr Morris gave a presentation on the progress of the Karuah-Borland Landcare Project which is partially funded by the Duralie catchment contributions to MidCoast Council. Mr Morris provided an update on each of the projects which have followed on from the original Karuah River Catchment Management Plan. These include the Branch/Karuah Catchment Management Grants, Beyond the Shed Project and a Major Demonstration Project. In response to an enquiry Mr Morris indicated that following the current work being undertaken at The Branch, areas upstream from

Booral are to be a focus for future Catchment management projects. Mr Morris' presentation is attached to these minutes.

2. **Ongoing Action Item:** DCPL to include updates and progress on the potential final land use options and mine closure and rehabilitation plans in the reports to the CCC.

Information included in the CCC presentation. Mr Plain presented section 3e. of the Duralie Coal CCC meeting presentation.

3. **Ongoing Action Item:** The CCC's print media to be drafted following each CCC meeting and provided to the committee for comment prior to finalising and submission by DCPL.

A print media was published following the February 2021 meeting. The next print media will be published after the August meeting.

## **6. Correspondence**

Correspondence was listed in the CCC meeting agenda.

## **7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities**

DCPL presented the Company Reports and Overview of Activities.

1. Progress at the Mine: Mr Cullen provided a progress update on the mining operations at Duralie Coal. Mr Cullen advised mining had recommenced in February and the first ROM coal had been mined during April. Railing of ROM coal to the Stratford mine site was proposed to commence in July 2021.
2. Environment & community activities including monitoring and community programs: (*refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail*). Items discussed by exception.

## **8. General Business**

1. Duralie Community Fund

The Chair advised MidCoast Council had provided information on the next Duralie Community Funding round which is currently open for applications. Further information is available on the Council's website.

2. March 2021 Flood Event

Mr Plain outlined the impact of the March 2021 flood event on the Duralie water balance and impact to mining operations. Mr Plain advised minimal mining delays had been experienced. Mr Plain outlined an environmental incident that had occurred during the March 2021 flood event, which related to an overflow from the rehabilitation runoff dam VC1.

3. Recent media relating to Rehabilitation Security Bonds.

Mr Eastoe raised the topic of a recent media article relating the rehabilitation security bonds for mining operations. The media article suggested insufficient bonds were held by the Government to rehabilitate the full disturbance from mining operations including final voids.

Mr Plain advised the article had referred to the cost associated with backfilling 23 mining voids, which was in the range of \$11-25 billion. Mr Plain informed the Committee this is not consistent with the purpose of the Rehabilitation Cost Estimate (RCE) which calculates the cost to rehabilitate the approved post-mining landforms. In this instance the final voids are a component of the approved landform and not required to be backfilled, hence the RCE calculation does not account for this.

Next Meeting date: Proposed 12:30pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

Meeting closed at 2:15pm.

### **Summary of Action Items from this meeting**

1. **Ongoing Action Item:** DCPL to include updates and progress on the potential final land use options and mine closure and rehabilitation plans in the reports to the CCC.
2. **Ongoing Action Item:** The CCC's print media to be drafted following each CCC meeting and provided to the committee for comment prior to finalising and submission by DCPL.
3. **Annual Action Item:** MidCoast Council to provide an annual financial report each November on the spending of the Gloucester and Great Lakes components of the Duralie contributions made to Council.