

Austar Coal Mine

Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: LTCC Meeting Room, Austar CHPP
 Time: 9:40am – 10:40am
 Date: 23 August 2016

Name	Representative
Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH)	Independent Chairperson
David Holmes (DH)	Community Representative
Alan Smith (AS)	Community Representative
Peter Sturrock (PS)	Community Representative
Gary Mulhearn (GM)	Austar Coal Mine
Josh Chadwick (JC)	Austar Coal Mine
Apologies	
Councillor Cordelia Troy (CT)	Cessnock City Council Representative
Brian Wesley (BW)	Austar Coal Mine
Copy of minutes	
Councillor Bob Pynsent	Mayor of Cessnock City Council
Mr Joel Fitzgibbon MP	Federal Member for Hunter
Mr Clayton Barr	State Member for Cessnock
Mr Howard Reed	NSW Department of Planning & Environment
Ms Valerie Phillips	Librarian, Cessnock City Council

Item	Issue	Action	Date
1	Welcome		
	MMH – Welcomed the Committee and opened the meeting.		
2	Declaration of Interests		
	MMH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of the Mine Subsidence Board • Independent Chair of numerous Community Consultative Committee's 		
3	Confirmation of Previous Minutes		
	The minutes of the previous meeting were considered representative of that meeting. DH moved, AS seconded.		
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes		
	GM has been sent a quote from Council for the guardrail on Quorrobolong Road from Council and this is being reviewed. MMH reported that Community Consultative Committee (CCC) guidelines are still under review Discussed Bellbird South extension approval (further details in Item 6)		
5	Correspondence		
	19/7/16 email from Gary Mulhearn regarding the details of Austar's Community Support Program and applications process		
6	Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints		
	GM – provided an update on current and proposed underground operations. <u>CURRENT OPERATIONS</u> UNDERGROUND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development mining operations continued in the Bellbird South area. ▪ The Extraction Plan for LWB1-B3 was approved by the Department of Planning and Environment on 4 July 2016. ▪ Residents within the LWB1-B3 Extraction Plan and government stakeholder agencies area were advised of the 		

	<p>approval of Extraction Plan, the longwall commencement date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The workforce was increased to support the combined longwall and development mining operations. ▪ Extraction of LWB2 commenced on 6 July 2016. ▪ Longwall B2 has retreated approximately 260 m since commencing extraction to 22 August 2016. <p>LWB1-B3 EXTRACTION PLAN – BUILT FEATURES MANAGEMENT PLANS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Built Features Management Plans have been developed and agreed in consultation with infrastructure owners ▪ Ausgrid and Telstra Built Features Management Plans have been agreed. ▪ Cessnock City Council – Built Features Management Plan has been drafted and distributed to Council and Mine Subsidence Board. ▪ Built Features Management Plan for first two private landholders has been prepared. Pre-mining inspection has occurred for first landholder with built features within the LWB2 subsidence area. <p>GM summarised Built Features Management Plan process under the Extraction Plan approval versus the former Subsidence Management Plan approval process.</p> <p>Formerly Austar would prepare a Property Subsidence Management Plan for each landholder, or an Infrastructure Management Plan for infrastructure owners (Ausgrid, Telstra, Road owners). These are now prepared as property specific Built Features Management Plans for each landholder which detail management strategies for built features and land; and Built Features Management Plans for each infrastructure owner.</p> <p>BELLBIRD SOUTH AREA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Austar is working on the mine plan for the coal resource to the northwest of the LWB1-B3 panels (LWB4-B7) ▪ Austar will need to lodge a further modification application prior to extracting any additional panels. ▪ Environmental Assessment to support additional panels will be undertaken in 2016 		
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	<p>GM presented a plan showing proposed location of the additional longwall panels BW-B7.</p> <p>CHPP</p> <p>The CHPP workforce was increased to support normal production levels prior to longwall recommencing in July 2016.</p> <p>Normal operations occurring since longwall recommenced operation.</p> <p>EXPLORATION</p> <p>Nil exploration undertaken since previous meeting.</p> <p>An application to renew Exploration Licence 6598 was submitted in July 2016.</p> <p>Exploration program is planned to continue in 2016 and in future years. Austar has been consulting with landholders regarding access for exploration, and will continue this as the exploration program continues.</p> <p>The exploration program includes both exploratory drilling and seismic programs.</p> <p>The Division of Resources and Energy have approved exploration at 2 locations. Further applications will be submitted for the exploration program as required.</p> <p><u>ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS (26 April 2016 – 22 August 2016)</u></p> <p>24 June 2016 – Hunter Water Discharge to Land from 0.5 ML tank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spill to land of Hunter Water from 0.5ML tank which overflowed due to failure of an inlet valve to close when the tank reached high level. The tank overflow pipe discharges to ground adjacent to the tank. ▪ Water in 0.5ML tank was supplied by Hunter Water therefore no environmental impact. ▪ ACTIONS: Add inspection of valve on surface tanks and provide further detail on pilot line valve position. Toolbox talk to Control Room Operators regarding the high alarm must be acknowledged and promptly investigated. An opportunity to divert the 0.5ML tank overflow to Kalingo Dam rather than to ground has been identified. 		

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	<p>22 July 2016 – Exceedance of noise limits at CHPP due to low frequency modifying factor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noise levels measured from Astar’s CHPP were at EPL noise limits or 1dB over the noise limit at one location which does not class as a non-compliance. ▪ The nature of measured noise, per EPA’s Industrial Noise Policy methods, indicated that noise at NMC2 and NMC5 was classified as low frequency noise and attracted a 5dB modifying factor. ▪ When the 5dB modifying factor was applied the resultant noise level at NMC2 (LA90 48dB) , and NMC5 (LA90 44dB), was 5dB and 6dB greater than the relevant EPL LA90 and the adopted Noise and Vibration Management Plan noise limit respectively. ▪ No atypical operations were occurring at the CHPP. A review of meteorological data completed on 22 July 2016 indicated the noise limits were applicable at the time of monitoring. ▪ No complaints recorded during this period. ▪ Immediate Actions: EPA & DPE were notified once it was confirmed that the noise limits were exceeded on 22/7/16. ▪ Follow up Actions: Follow up monitoring arranged to occur when CHPP operating and weather conditions suitable; Review of previous reports on CHPP site for potential noise control options and potential low frequency sources (to be subject to reasonable/feasible test); an incident report was submitted to EPA & DPE on 29/7/16. ▪ Note: An exceedance during follow up monitoring was recorded on 3/8/16 and 9/8/16. Each of these was reported to the EPA and DPE, and an incident report provided to these agencies on 10/8/16 and 18/8/16. Astar proposes to continue with the actions proposed from the first recorded exceedance and continue the monitoring program. 		

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING UPDATE

Subsidence

- Subsidence surveys have occurred over the centerline of LWB2, and pre subsidence survey of the LWB1-B3 crossline.
- Maximum surface level movement is 30mm on 15 August 2016.

Monitoring Results General

Graphs showing results for the period on subsidence, air quality, water, groundwater, noise and vibration monitoring shown.

Noise Monitoring

- Measured noise was compliant with noise limits at all locations except 2 locations near the CHPP (NMC2 and NMC5) in July 2016.
- Exceedance was caused by application of low frequency modifying factor where a 5 dB penalty is added to measured noise levels, in most instances.
- Follow up monitoring in August 2016 at these locations has also showed exceedance of noise limits (refer incident section for details).
- No complaints have been recorded in relation to noise from the CHPP since longwall production and CHPP throughput recommenced in July 2016.
- Exceedances have been reported to EPA and DPE. Noise source investigation and noise control options being assessed with CHPP operating more frequently than in past year.

Vibration

Since last CCC meeting (26 April 2016 to 19 August 2016)

- **Monitor V7 – 345 Quorrobolong Road**
 - Nil triggers.
- **Monitor V8 – 159 Coney Creek Lane**
 - Nil triggers.
 - Monitor relocated to Bellbird South area to measure longwall extraction
- **Monitor V9a – Barraba Lane**
 - Monitoring commenced on 25 July 2016 after securing access for vibration monitoring.
 - 21 events >1mm/sec
 - 2 events over British Standard 7385 curve which notes a “minimal risk of cosmetic

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	<p>damage may occur". (17.4mm/sec, 25.2mm/sec)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All other readings are below the British Standard screening threshold of 15mm/sec. ▪ Residents are noting the vibration events and information about vibration events is being provided to residents. <p>Community Complaints</p> <p>Since last CCC meeting (26 April to 23 August)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nil 		
7	General Business		
	<p>Community Sponsorships –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Austar advertised the Community Support Program in 2016 and applications are closed on 5 August 2016. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local community groups were invited to submit applications as advertised on the Austar website as well as in The Cessnock Advertiser. • 41 applications for funding were received and are currently under assessment by Austar personnel as well as local community representative, David Clark. • Applications are assessed against a set of criteria by the assessment team. Funding allocations will be announced as soon as practical. <p>Drilling Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General discussion regarding upcoming exploration and access to property during/post wet weather with soft paddocks ▪ GM - Access to Kauter property exploration borehole will also to be communicated with adjacent landholder Peter Sturrock as existing track is adjacent to boundary. ▪ PS noted that particular attention should be paid to existing track where it passes a dam overflow area on Kauter property during wet periods to minimise potential for impact to PS property downstream of the crossing. 		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
8	Next Meetings		
	Next Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 16 November 2016 – 9:30am Location TBA 		
10	Meeting Closed		
	MMH – Declared the meeting closed at 10:40am and thanked all for attending.		

Recorded: Josh Chadwick 23/8/2016

Minutes Confirmed: To be confirmed at next meeting

Chairperson – Margaret MacDonald-Hill