
MINUTES OF THE ASHTON COAL PROJECT
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
Tuesday 24 March 2015
2:00PM - ASHTON COAL PROJECT SITE OFFICE

Minutes confirmed true and correct at the 28 July 2015 CCC Meeting

ATTENDEES:

Steve Ernst	(SE)	Community Representative
Michael Bestic	(MB)	Community Representative
Debbie Richards	(DR)	Community Representative
Godfrey Adamthwaite	(GA)	Singleton Shire Council (SSC)
Digby Short	(DS)	Company Rep (Environment & Community Manager)
James Barben	(JB)	Company Rep (Environment & Community Coordinator)
Scott Fittler	(SF)	Company Rep (Yancoal Community Relations Coordinator)

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 2:07pm.

2. APOLOGIES

Brian Wesley (Company Rep) and John McInerney (Community Rep)

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST BY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Nil

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the meeting held on 16th December 2014 were accepted as a true and accurate record:

Moved: Steve Ernst **Seconded:** Debbie Richards

5. ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	PROGRESS COMMENTS
Tree Screen at New England Hwy	DS	SEOC Project start date delayed. Planting plan prepared. Advised to delay planting until after Spring.
Newsletter to be drafted, published and distributed to community – including donations summary, SEOC appeal, UG infrastructure projects and rehabilitation photos	DS	Articles being prepared for the newsletter. Newsletter to be issued in Q2.
Send letter to DPE asking for the endorsed CCC applicant to be approved.	JB	Complete – Approval granted by DPE
Notify the Upper Hunter Weeds Authority of the Green Cestrum issues upstream of ACOL land holdings	JB	

6. REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

6.1 ASHTON STATISTICS AND INTRODUCTIONS

SF has recently joined the Yancoal Corporate team in the position of Community Relations Coordinator and attended the ACOL CCC Meeting. The CCC Members and SF were introduced and gave a brief background on themselves.

JB and DS provided a summary of the statistics since the last CCC meeting. This included community donations, production, and safety statistics. Changes to the community support program were outlined.

6.2 OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS / PROJECTS / EXPLORATION

JB updated the CCC on production progress for the previous quarter. Poor production occurred during February with only 31,000 tonnes being produced. Stone intrusions into the seam caused the issues.

South East Open Cut (SEOC): Judge has noted that the SEOC is capable of approval subject to final conditions. No significant progress on the SEOC court case was reported, although it was noted that Yancoal would be appealing the December 2014 ruling by Justice Pain on legal grounds. Yancoal had provided a notice of appeal, but site representatives are not directly involved in this process and are unaware the status of this appeal (DS).

JB provided update on Upper Lower Liddell (ULLD) Drifts. The actual drifts are approximately complete with work continuing on the pit bottom first workings. The drift project is due for completion in approximately May 2015.

JB advised that there had been no surface exploration conducted on EL5860 or EL4918 in the period since the previous CCC meeting.

6.3 APPROVALS UPDATE

JB gave an update on the approvals determined since the previous meeting including:

- First Workings Long Term Stable for ULD 105-107 (DRE)
- Dams Safety Committee First Workings Approval to mine within Void 5 Notification Area

JB also gave a detailed update on the development of the LW105-108 Extraction Plan including the proposed mine layout, infrastructure within the application area, subsidence impacts and some of the proposed controls.

6.4 ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

Dust Monitoring

JB provided an overview of the dust monitoring sites and results for depositional dust gauges, High Volume Air Samplers and real time TEOM PM₁₀ monitors, showing the Rolling Readings for the past 12 months. Of note, the HVAS at Site 1 is continuing to track high, however it has recently trended downwards in line with other monitors. This site is located in the North West corner of Camberwell Village. A general declining trend in Total Suspended Particulates has been observed since approximately August 2014.

Water Monitoring

JB presented the annual trends for the water monitoring sites. The Glennies Creek upstream monitoring point for February presented an unusually high salinity. The point will continue to be monitored but is not of significant concern.

Noise Monitoring

Attended monthly noise monitoring did not detect any exceedences for the reporting period.

Complaints

There have been no complaints since the previous CCC Meeting.

Other Matters

DS discussed the option of changing the CCC frequency to triannually (3 times per year). This was agreed by the CCC members and the change will be implemented for the next meeting.

DS discussed the preparation and lodgment of the Annual Environmental Management Report (AEMR). The AEMR will be provided to CCC members in the format they nominated during the CCC meeting.

DS discussed the Wonnaruah Mining Rehabilitation Nursery which is establishing operations in Camberwell.

JB discussed the weed management works completed during Q1 along Glennies Creek. The creek line had been treated for weeds along the stretch for which ACOL has responsibility. It was noted that the control Green Cestrum is an ongoing challenge due to upstream sources. MB suggested that ACOL notify LLS of the upstream Green Cestrum problem. It was also noted that Coolatai Grass has presented issues particularly with regards to spreading via road verge slashing. ACOL will endeavor to treat any Coolatai Grass on its land holdings prior to it going to seed.

The preliminary outcomes of the Summer Fauna monitoring, Bowmans Creek Diversion Geomorphic and Flora Monitoring and recent weed management activities were discussed.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

8. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: Tuesday 28th July 2015 (Tuesday 21 considered, but it has subsequently been found that ACOL have a clash on this date).

Site tour to commence at 1pm

Meeting to commence at 2pm

MEETING CLOSED 3:44pm