

MINUTES OF THE ASHTON COAL PROJECT
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
Tuesday 29 November 2016
1:00PM - ASHTON COAL PROJECT SITE OFFICE

Minutes confirmed as true and correct at the 28 March 2017 CCC Meeting

ATTENDEES:

Debbie Richards	(DR)	Community Representative
Michael Bestic	(MB)	Community Representative
Godfrey Adamthwaite	(GA)	Singleton Shire Council (SSC)
William Farnworth	(WF)	Company Rep (Operations Manager)
Digby Short	(DS)	Company Rep (Environment & Community Manager)
James Barben	(JB)	Company Rep (Environment & Community Coordinator)

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 1:08pm.

2. APOLOGIES

John McInerney (JM) Community Representative

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST BY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Nil

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the meeting held on 6th July 2016 were accepted as a true and accurate record:

Moved: James Barben

Seconded: Debbie Richards

5. ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	PROGRESS COMMENTS
Tree Screen at New England Hwy requires maintenance	DS	Highway tree screen failed due to poor soils and conditions. Planting is recommended to be redone in September 2017 with adequate watering and soil amelioration.
Poor housekeeping at two privately tenanted, Ashton owned residences, in Camberwell requires addressing	DS	Houses maintained and inspected to adequate standard during previous inspection.
Distribute copy of CCC guideline to CCC Members	JB	Complete 5-12-16 attached to email distributing minutes.
Provide copy of Ashton Coal Development Consent to GA	JB	Complete following CCC meeting 29-11-16

6. REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

6.1 ASHTON STATISTICS

WF and JB provided a summary of the statistics since the last CCC meeting. This included community donations, production, complaints, incidents and safety statistics. Production was slightly behind budget and one complaint was received and investigated.

6.3 OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS / PROJECTS / EXPLORATION

WF updated the CCC on production progress of the mine. ACOL has recently commenced extraction of Longwall 106A with development progressing in the Upper Lower Liddell (ULLD) seam.

WF provided an update on the SEOC project. There has been no movement with this project since the previous meeting.

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

6.4 APPROVALS UPDATE

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

- DA Mod 5 – CCC implications
 - o Discussion regarding the implications for the CCC of DA Modification 5 which includes:
 - Appointment of an independent chair
 - Payment of CCC members
 - Provision of additional information
 - Current members may continue their representation

- It was noted by GA that the DA is inconsistent with the Department of Planning and Environment CCC Guideline document.
- Environment Protection Licence Variation
 - Amendments to the air quality monitoring program proposed by the EPA which involve the consolidation of the monitoring network recognising the success of the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network
 - ACOL has amended the Air Quality Management Plan to align with the revised EPL
- DS gave an update on a potential SEOC Administrative Modification which involves imposing a condition that requires Ashton to formally notify the Secretary (Department of Planning and Environment) of its intention to commence development – development could only commence when the Secretary agreed that Ashton had met all its obligations under the SEOC Approval (such as satisfying condition 10A with respect to property 129) preparing management plans, etc. This modification would defer requiring fulfilment of any obligation under the conditions of approval until such time that Ashton chose to “take up” the approval
- JB provided an update on the Ausgrid Asset Management Plan (AMP) for LW106. This AMP was approved to extract under the Ausgrid power lines overlying LW106. Significant upgrades of the power poles was undertaken to ensure that they were tolerant of predicted subsidence movements.
- JB advised that the LW201-204 Extraction Plan Application was lodged on 8 November 2016.

6.5 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 since the previous CCC meeting. Of note was the slightly elevated annual rainfall and a recent declining trend in total suspended dust measured through the site HVAS air quality monitoring network.

Water Monitoring

JB presented the surface and groundwater monitoring results. No unusual monitoring results were detected at any site.

Noise Monitoring

Attended monthly noise monitoring did not detect any exceedances since the last CCC meeting.

Other Matters

JB gave an update on the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue and invited all members of the CCC to attend the Stakeholder Annual Forum.

DS gave an update on the status of residential properties in Camberwell with all properties tenanted and an audit of electrical wiring completed at all homes.

DS gave an update on the H2 2016 Community Support Program including the recent partnership between Yancoal and the Clontarf Foundation.

DS presented on the Bowmans Creek Diversion which won the 2016 NSW Minerals Council Environmental Excellence award.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

8. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: Tuesday 14th March 2017
Meeting to commence at 1pm

MEETING CLOSED 2:32pm