

# Community Consultative Committee Meeting 71 AGENDA

**Date**: Tuesday 3 December 2024

**Time**: 2:00 pm

**Location**: Moolarben Coal Complex Open Cut Main Board Room

#### **Meeting Agenda:**

- 1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
- 2. Introductions
- 3. Apologies
- 4. Declarations
- 5. Confirmation of previous minutes (attached)
- 6. Business arising
- 7. Correspondence report (attached)
- 8. Minutes and Terms of Reference
- 9. General business
- 10. Next meeting.



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### MOOLARBEN COAL OPERATIONS - COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING No. 71

**Date:** Tuesday, 3 December 2024

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Location:** Moolarben Coal Open Cut Administration Board Room, Ulan

Attendance: <u>Independent Chairperson</u>

Deborah Palmer (DP)

**Community Members** 

Mayor MWRC - Cr Des Kennedy (DK)

Dr Julia Imrie (JI) Bev Smiles (BS) Aleisha Lonsdale (AL)

**Moolarben Coal Operations** 

Brian Wesley (BW)

Ian Flood (IF)

Rebecca Shanks (RS)

Morgan Yeatman (MY) {Minute taker}

**Apologies** 

David Stokes (DS)
David Lowe (DL)
Helen Ungaro (HU)

MWRC Delegate - Cr Katie Dicker (KD)

Meeting 71 Agenda and Presentation were provided to all meeting attendees.

#### 1. Introduction and welcome

Deborah Palmer (DP) provided an Acknowledgement of Country and paid respect to Aboriginal leaders, past, present, and emerging, opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees to the Moolarben Coal Operations (MCO) Community Consultative Committee (CCC).

#### 2. Apologies

- David Stokes (DS)
- David Lowe (DL)
- Helen Ungaro (HU)
- MWRC Delegate Cr Katie Dicker (KD)

#### 3. Declarations

- DP declared her role as an Independent Chairperson, engaged by MCO and appointed by DPHI.
- JI noted a potential conflict of interest with the proposed undermining of Saddlers Creek Road on her home and business.

#### 4. Business arising from previous minutes

DP confirmed previous meeting minutes finalised and distributed on 26 August 2024.

#### Actions from Meeting 70:

- 1. Provide Triassic triggers for UG4.
- 2. How many exploration sites are planned for Exploration in the EL6288 current APO.
- 3. Complete an investigation into the Goulburn River water turbidity following rainfall events.
- 4. How many hectares are in the OC4 rehabilitation area depicted.
- 5. Provide slide depicting rehabilitation planning documents and how they feed into each other.
- 6. Terms of Reference be updated to include DP as Chairperson and meeting time to commence at 2:00pm.

Items 1-5 addressed in the presentation. Closed.

Item 6 addressed in email from Chairperson to members on 24/09/24. Closed.

#### 5. Correspondence science last meeting

- 09/09/24 Email from JI to the Chairperson request for all available monthly monitoring data of Triassic groundwater levels for monitoring bores 235A (standpipe) & PZ236A (VP - 60m)
- 11/09/24 Email from the Chairperson to members with the draft September meeting minutes for review
- 11/09/24 18/09/24 Emails from JI to the Chairperson specific changes requested to the minutes
- 18/10/24 Email from BS to the Chairperson specific changes requested to the minutes
- 22/09/24 Email from the Chairperson to members noting Subsidence Advisory NSW consultation on the draft approval procedures for coal mine subsidence claims
- 24/09/24 Email from the Chairperson to members with the final September minutes and the updated Terms of Reference

- 03/10/24 Email from Chairperson to Mid Western Council seeking confirmation of Council representation to the Moolarben Coal CCC, following the local government elections in September 2024
- 03/10/24 Email from JI to the Chairperson request for information for a copy or link to the UG4 extraction plan on groundwater
- 04/10/24 Email from Chairperson to JI with a link to the report on the Yancoal website
- 05/11/24 Email from the Chairperson to members December draft agenda for comment and any QON by 19 Nov
- 13/11/24 Email from the Chairperson to members notification that Yancoal have advised PA05\_0117 MOD16 and PA08\_0135 MOD4 have now been approved by DHPI.
- 15/11/24 Letter from Mid Western Council confirming Council representation on the CCC
- 18/11/24 Email from BS to the Chairperson with QON explanation of the changes to the coal handling and processing conditions in the new consolidated conditions under the approval of PA05\_0117 MOD16 and PA08\_0135
- 19/11/24 Email from JI to the Chairperson with QON UG4 groundwater data for the period January -November 2024 and 'TARP - Trigger levels for UG4 bore and other data request
- 20/11/24 Email from the Chairperson to members final agenda, previous minutes and correspondence report for the quarter.
- 20/11/24 Email from Chairperson to JI response to guestion from 09/09/24
- 20/11/24 Email from the Chairperson to RS follow up on JI email from 9 September
- 20/11/24 Email from Chairperson to JI follow up on email from 9 September
- 2/12/24 Email from Mid-Western Council to Chairperson Cr Kennedy to attend meeting
- 2/12/24 Email from Chairperson to members reminder of meeting on 03/12/24 and all materials.

#### 6. CCC Update Presentation

#### 6.1 2024 Community Support Program

• An update on the 2024 Community Support Program (CSP) and Community Events for the quarter was provided.

#### 6.2 Open-cut operations

- Operational update
  - Operations continue in OC1, OC2, OC3, and OC4 areas.
  - o Water treatment plant (WTP) operations continue.

#### Discussion:

- BS asked about remaining activities in OC1. RS confirmed operations in the MOD9/OC1
  area and clarified that active mining activities were indicated by blue areas on the map
  and the mining lease area is the red line.
- JI inquired if WTP operations had changed. RS confirmed no changes to discharge operations.

#### Environmental incident

On 18 November 2024, sediment-laden stormwater runoff from the OC403 pit progression area breached erosion and sediment controls after a rainfall event. The runoff flowed into the Murragamba Creek Catchment and ultimately into the Murragamba Clean Water Diversion Dam (CWD01). The dam captured all sediment-laden water without manual discharge or spillway overflow. The incident has been reported to DPHI, EPA, and the Resources Regulator.

#### Discussion:

- BS noted concern with the volume of water and the water quality and asked if sediment-laden water entered clean water diversion dam. RS confirmed water had been captured in the dam and the dam did not overtop or discharge. RS added that water quality was of consistent quality to the Eastern Creek catchment historical water quality. Turbidity was noted as 325 and had raised to 330. It was noted that it was difficult to determine the total volume of water in the dam, but it was at 9% of capacity.
- JI asked if water quality data of the discharge was taken. BW confirmed the water quality results were supplied to the Regulator as required as part of the investigation. JI noted they would like to see the data.
- Action item 1: MCO to report to the CCC if there is an exceedance of water quality data because of the event on 18 November 2024.

#### 6. 3 Underground operations

- Longwall move from LW405 to LW406 is currently underway.
- Underground development continues in UG4, with progression towards UG2.
- Preparation of the Extraction Plan for LW409-414 is underway, scheduled for submission in Q4 2024.
- The blue line on the UG1 map is the first workings moving towards UG2
- It was noted underground operations had a daily average water take of approximately 10ML per day for the period since the last CCC.
- First working approval for UG4 was provided in July 2019.

#### Discussion:

- An extraction plan for UG2 is being prepared.
- UG4 groundwater monitoring (Action item 1 from Meeting 70) Provide Triassic triggers for UG. This was outlined by MCO. JI asked about new trigger development, noting these were expected as part of the Extraction Plan. There was a particular interest to understand why PZ-A is not in place. RS explained bores were awaiting Crown Lands approval, with Native Title delays impacting installation schedule.
- DP asked if there were no agreement would an alternate location for PZ-A be found. RS replied locations were investigated and not found to be representative.
- BS asked would the ground water information be available as part of the Extraction Plan for LW408-415. RS stated the existing ground water model gave an understanding of water movements for the UG4 mining area.
- JI asked for her concerns to be noted that the available groundwater monitoring data and methodology is inadequate to understand the groundwater impacts of the LWs 409-414 and it's impacts on the Goulburn River and The Drip Gorge. MCO noted they have followed the process that they are required to follow.
- BS wanted it noted that the impact of the underground mining was more than what was
  predicted in UG1 and any impact would affect residents and landholders along the Goulburn
  River. It was also noted that JI believed there should be more monitoring locations between
  the long walls and the river.
- Subsidence impacts: BS queried surface damage and asked has MCO recorded much surface damage from UG1. RS replied site has not seen any subsidence impacts beyond what was predicted in the extraction plan.

#### 6.4 Exploration

- Drilling activities are planned to continue in ML1715 and ML1605, as well as commencing and continuing in EL6288 and EL7073.
- There are 11 sites in the 2024 EL6288 (response to Action item 2 from meeting 70).
- Rehabilitation and monitoring activities are ongoing in exploration areas.

#### Discussion:

- BS inquired about cleared areas visible on Google Maps. RS clarified these were monitoring
  or historical exploration sites, all of which had been rehabilitated where necessary. No sites
  in UG4 had been relinquished at this stage.
- BS asked had all UG4 exploration sites been rehabbed. MCO confirmed this and also stated pumping infrastructure, roads, and other surface infrastructure could be seen in aerial images.
- Action item 2: DP asked MCO to provide an aerial of UG4 with identifying features.
- Action item 3: JI asked if a field trip could be undertaken to view the surface of the UG4 area.

#### 6.5 Environmental monitoring

- Licenced water discharge EPA01 all results are within compliance levels.
- It was noted the turbidity graph uses NTU as the measure.
- An update on the Turbidity monitoring conducted by MCO following rainfall events along the Goulburn River in response to Action Item 3 from meeting 70 minutes.
- An update on water quality was also provided (slides 12-14).

#### Discussion:

- JI asked if the discharge was a mix of water. IF confirmed filtrate and permeate water were mixed prior to release.
- Turbidity monitoring: JI expressed concerns about river turbidity after rainfall. RS clarified
  that Sportsman Hollow Creek appeared to contribute most of the turbidity along the river. JI
  commented at her property river flow is initially clear after rainfall events but goes turbid
  between 24-36 hours indicating a sediment source in the upper catchment. BW added that
  water discharge quality complied with required standards.
- RS stated as per JI email query, the UG had a daily average water take of approximately 10ML per day for the period since the last CCC.
- RS stated as per JI email query, first workings approval was given for UG4 in July 2019.

#### 6.6 Air Quality, noise, and complaints

- Air quality monitoring results for PM10 and PM2.5 are within criteria limits, as published in monthly monitoring reports.
- Noise monitoring indicates compliance with all criteria, with ongoing implementation of planning, engineering, and operational controls.

#### Discussion:

• Noise complaint: BS asked about noise complaints. RS confirmed one complaint was received, but no non-compliances occurred.

#### 6.7 Rehabilitation

- 33 hectares were rehabilitated in OC4 using drone seeding for improved quality and safety. An additional 18 hectares in OC3 are scheduled for rehabilitation in December 2024.
- Ongoing rehabilitation maintenance includes erosion control and weed management.
- The seed mix used in rehabilitation was the community type as listed in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.
- In response to Action Item 4 from meeting 70, RS confirmed 33 hectares in OC4 and 18 hectares in OC3 were being completed.
- In response to action Item 5 from meeting 70, a detailed slide was provided (slide 21).

#### Discussion:

• It was noted the rehabilitation of drilling sites follows the ESF2 process.

#### 6.8 Biodiversity offset areas update

- Offset maintenance works including track maintenance, erosion repairs, vertebrate pest control and weed management programs underway.
- Ground preparation works for 2025 offset tree planting program in progress for the Bobadeen and Onsite Offsets.

#### Discussion:

• JI asked if MCO have any signed off rehabilitation. RS confirmed there was no currently signed off areas at MCO, although the area had been inspected recently by the Regulator.

#### 6.9 OC3 Extension – amended project

- MCO has lodged a consolidated response to all advice received from Agencies and the Independent Expert Advisory Panel for Mining (IEAPM) in November 2024.
- DPHI now completing assessment of Amended Project with input from Agencies and IEAPM.

#### 6.10 NSW EnergyCo Transmission project

- Presentation on information on the NSW EnergyCo transmission infrastructure modification (slide 24).
- In response to BS question on notice of changes to the coal handling process RS stated the PA's were approved and other included changes were administrative to align the PA's and to make the wording clearer.

#### Discussion:

• BS asked if the EPBC process was quick. RS stated it was quick for an approval. BS wanted it noted an anomaly with the federal approval on the map compared with the state process. JI provided a hardcopy map showing the UG4 location. RS said she would investigate (Action item 4).

#### 6.11 Saddlers Creek Road intersection

- MCO has commenced preparation of concept designs for the intersection upgrade, in consideration of traffic volumes and relevant guidelines (i.e. Austroads).
- Seeking input from MWRC on design and preferred approach for the construction of the intersection upgrade.

#### Discussion

BS asked if there would be any subsidence impacts at the intersection. IF confirmed there
would be no subsidence impacts to the intersection and the works were related to access
for dewatering bores.

#### 6.12 Employment update

- 31 Trainees onsite
- 31 Apprentices onsite

#### 7. General Business

#### 7.1 Mine closure planning

- JI asked about draft closure plans and raised concerns about Moolarben Dam's risk due to its age. BW confirmed closure plans are in early stages.
- JI suggested rehabilitation of the degraded riparian ecosystem upstream of Ulan village would represent a 'net gain' for the overall catchment affected by mining.

#### 7.2 Wildlife management

• BS asked about deer populations. RS confirmed offset monitoring showed no increase and highlighted recent pig baiting activities. IF stated MCO was currently working with National Parks to assist with combining areas of MCO land and National Parks for shooting activities.

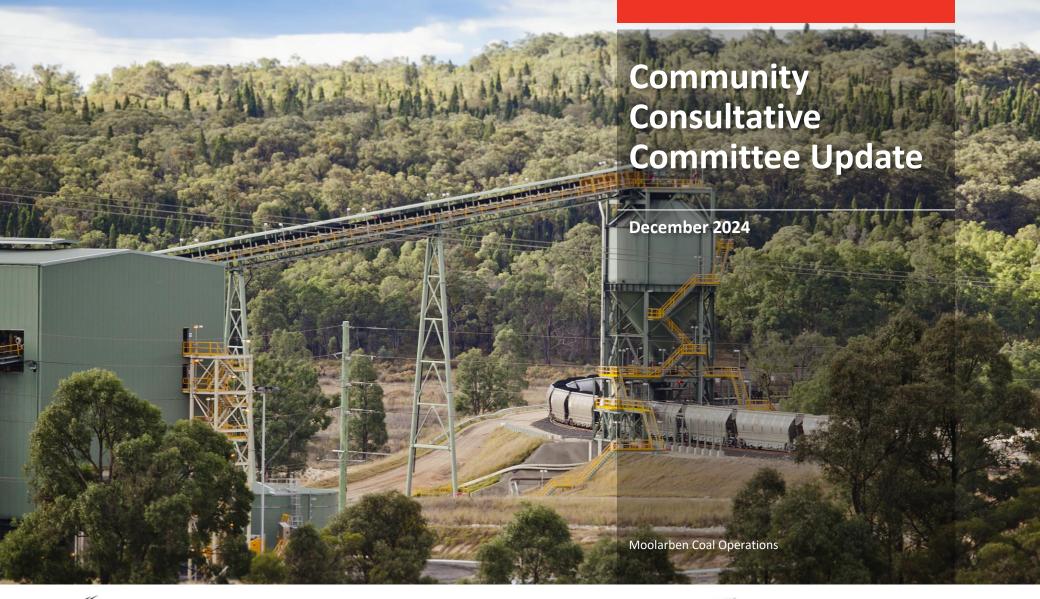
#### 7.3 Minute format and 2025 meetings

- DP proposed a streamlined minutes format consistent with the CCC guidelines. Members agreed, noting key questions should be captured.
- Proposed 2025 meeting dates: 12 March, 11 June, 10 September, 10 December. Members agreed. **Action item 5** DP to confirm 2025 meeting schedule.
- **8. Next Meeting:** 12 March 2025 at 1:00 pm onsite with a proposed site tour prior to the meeting.

Meeting closed at 3:15 pm with DP thanking members for their attendance and participation.

#### **Action Items:**

Item	Action	Responsibility
1	Notify the CCC if there is an exceedance of water quality data because of the	MCO (RS)
	event on 18 November 2024.	
2	Provide an aerial of UG4 with identifying features.	MCO (RS)
3	Arrange a field trip to the UG4 area.	MCO (RS)
4	Investigate the maps for the EPBC query.	MCO (RS)
5	Confirm 2025 meeting schedule.	DP







### **2024 Community Support Program (CSP)**

### Yancoal-Moolarben Coal CSP Events for the prior quarter included:

- Pink up Mudgee
- Tunes on the Turf
- Cassilis Country Music, Camping and Campfires
- Mudgee Can Assist
- 2024 Mudgee Charity Golf Day



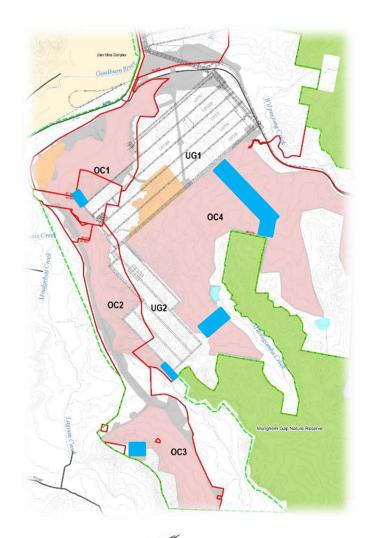






### **Operational Update - Opencut**

- Open cut operations in;
  - OC1
  - OC2
  - OC3
  - OC4.
- Water Treatment Plant operations continue.





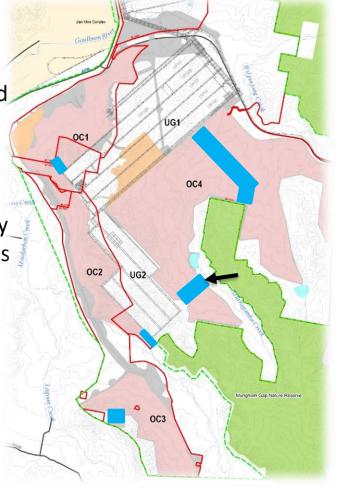
### **Operational Update - Opencut**

### Environmental Incident:

18 November 2024 - sediment laden stormwater runoff from the OC403 pit progression area breached erosion and sediment controls after a rainfall event and flowed into Murragamba Creek Catchment and ultimately into the Murragamba Clean Water Diversion Dam (CWD01).

No water within the CWD01 has been discharged manually or spilled via the spillway and all sediment laden water was captured by this dam.

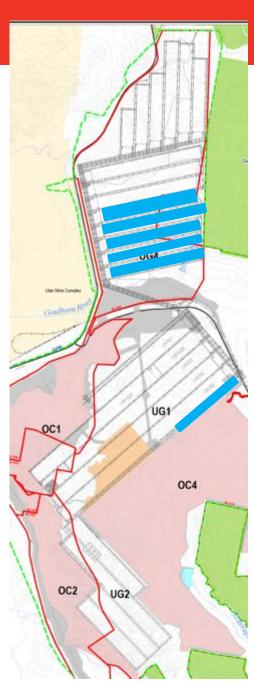
The incident has been reported to DPHI, EPA and RR.





## **Operational Update - Underground**

- Longwall move currently underway from LW405 to LW406.
- Continued underground development in UG4 and commencement towards UG2.
- MCO has commenced preparation of Extraction Plan for the next set of Longwalls, LW409-414.
- The LW409-414 Extraction Plan is currently scheduled to be lodged in Q4 2024.

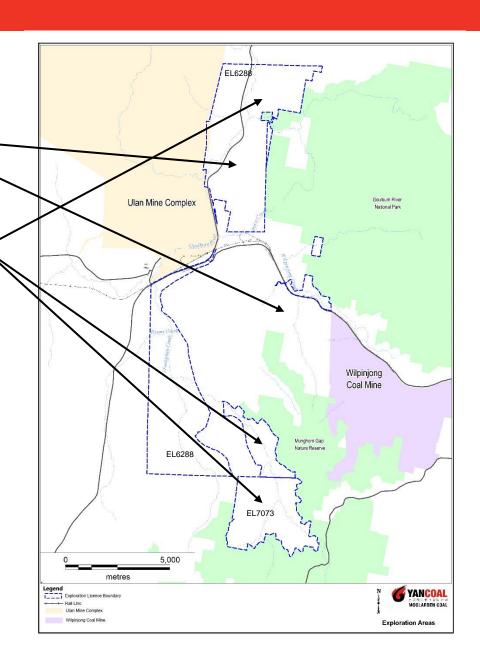


### **Exploration Update**

 Drilling – Planned to continue in ML1715 and ML1605

 Drilling is planned to commence and continue in EL6288 and EL7073

 Rehabilitation and monitoring activities have continued during the period.

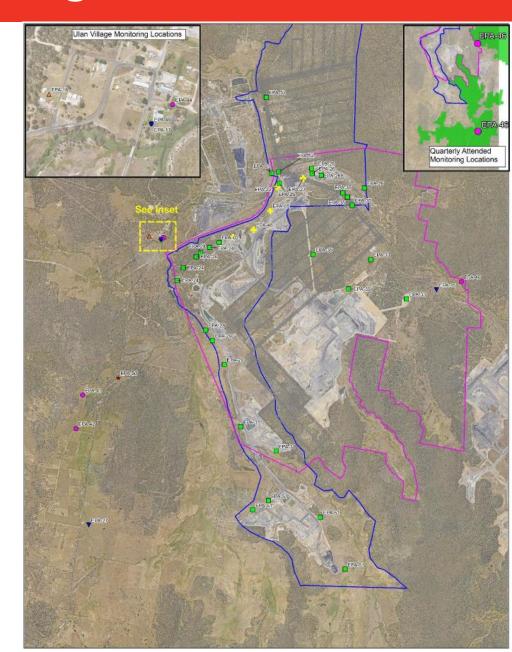


### **Environmental Monitoring**

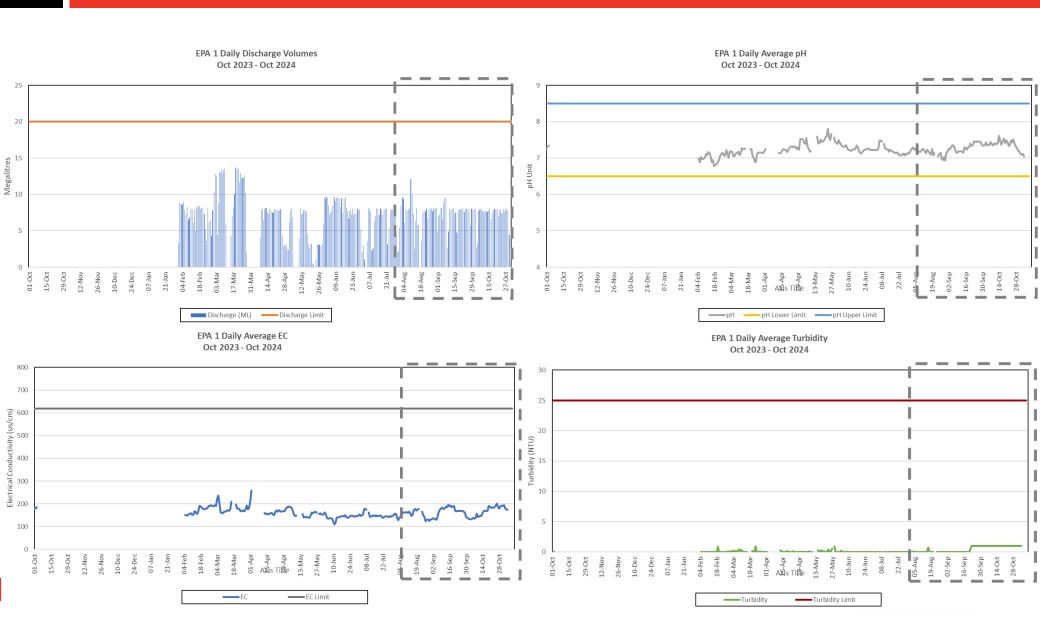
### **Monitoring network**

- Water;
- Air Quality;
- Blasting;
- Noise; and
- Meteorology.

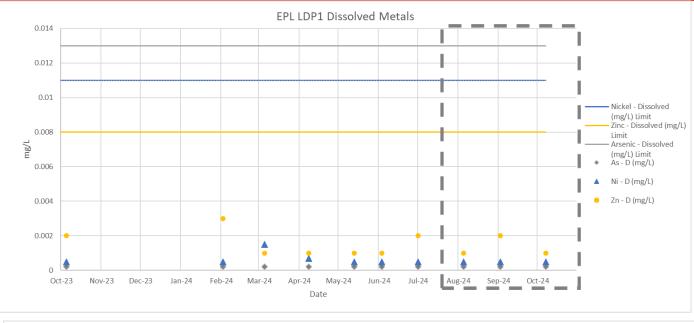


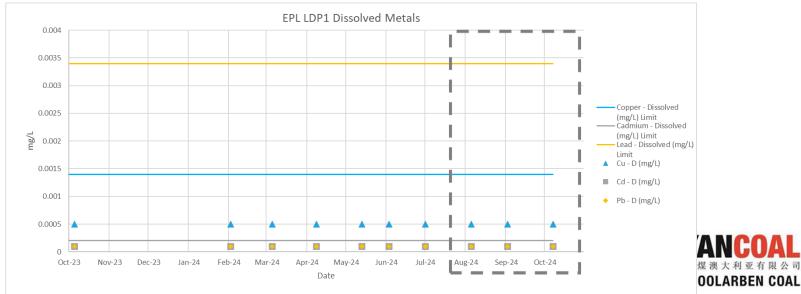


### Water Release - EPA01



### Water Release – EPA01

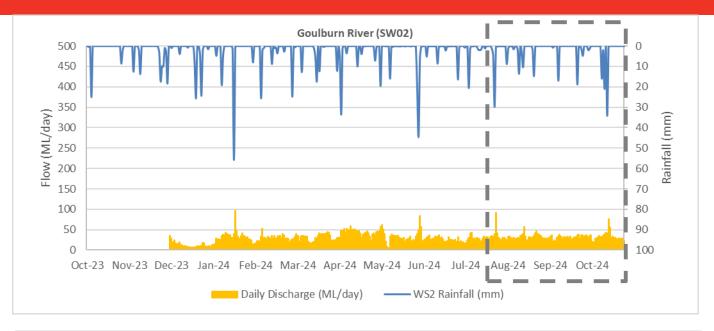


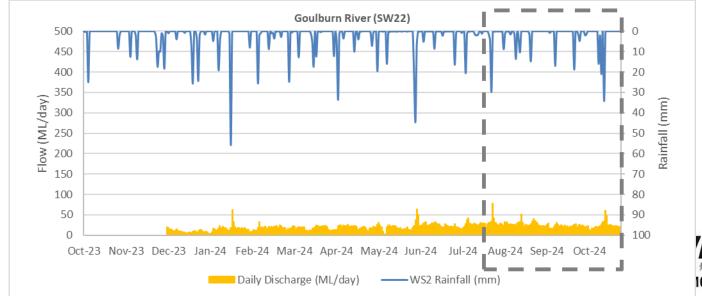


### Water Release – EPA01

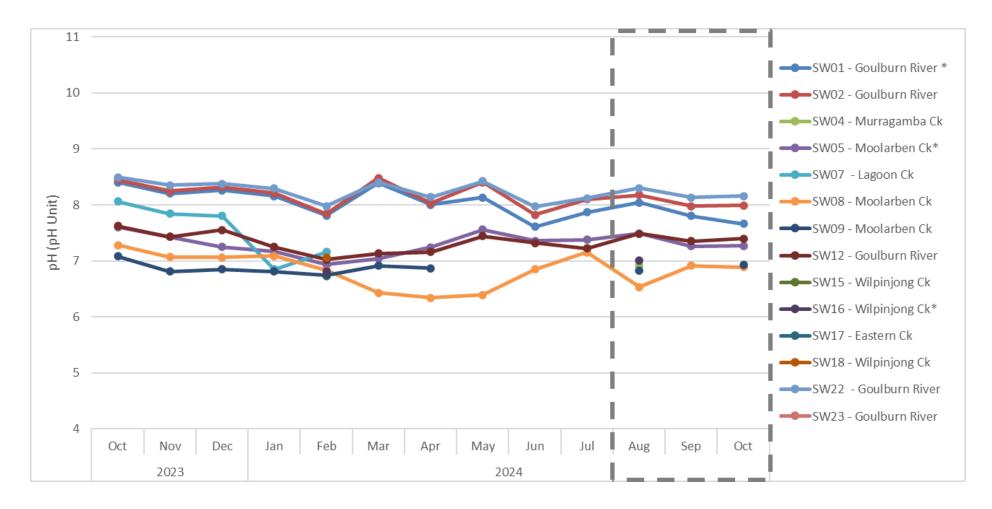


### **Stream Flow – Goulburn River**





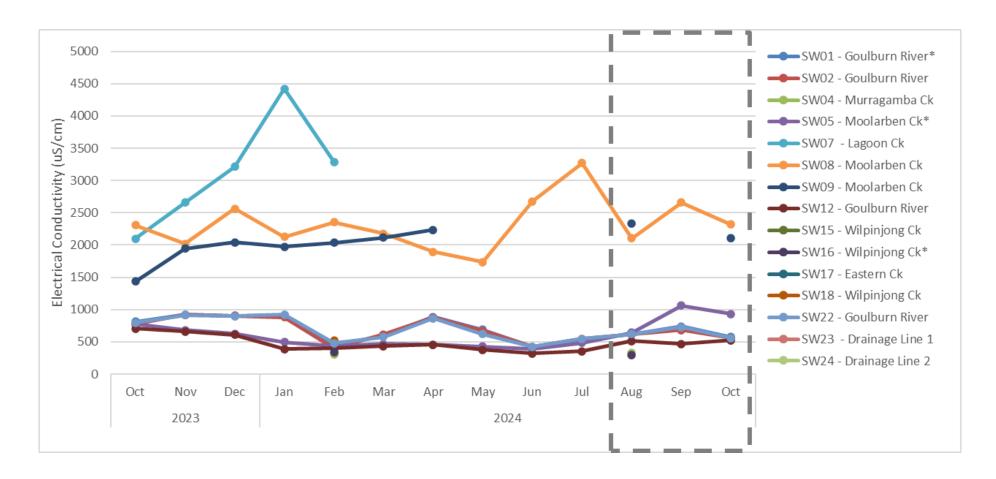
### Water Quality - pH



<sup>\*</sup> Monitoring Locations with associated trigger investigation levels as per the Surface Water Management Plan



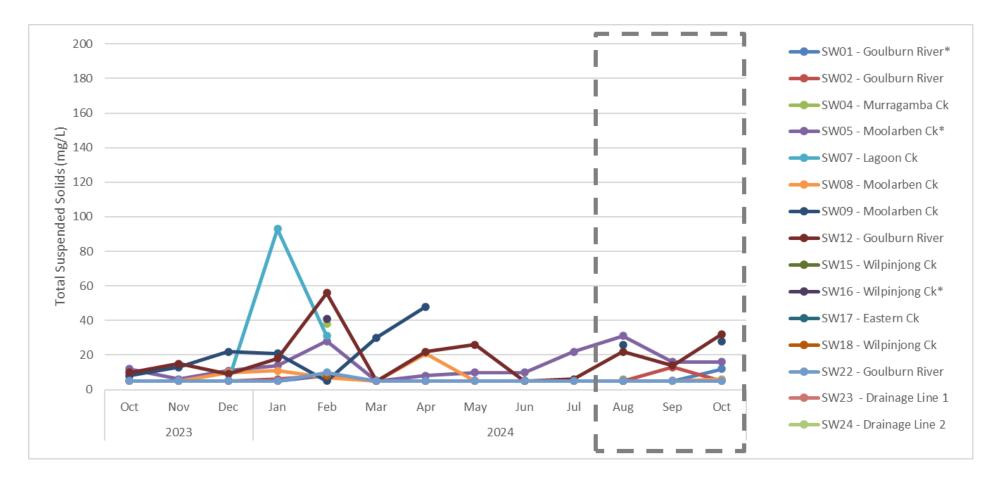
### **Water Quality - EC**



<sup>\*</sup> Monitoring Locations with associated trigger investigation levels as per the Surface Water Management Plan



### **Water Quality - TSS**



<sup>\*</sup> Monitoring Locations with associated trigger investigation levels as per the Surface Water Management Plan



### **Air Quality**

Site	October 2023 PM10 Annual Average (μg/m³)	October 2024 PM10 Annual Average (μg/m³)	Air Quality PM10 Annual Average Criteria (μg/m³)
TEOM 01	15.3	16.6	25.0
TEOM 04	13.4	14.0	25.0
TEOM 07	9.9	9.5	25.0
Site	October 2023 PM2.5 Annual Average (μg/m³)	October 2024 PM2.5 Annual Average (μg/m³)	Air Quality PM2.5 Annual Average Criteria (μg/m³)
TEOM 07	4.6	4.0	8.0

Monthly monitoring reports are available on our website:

www.moolarbencoal.com.au/page/environment/environmental-monitoring/



## Blasting

Site	Aug 2024 Blast Overpressure (dBL)		Sept 2024 Blast Overpressure (dBL)		Oct 2024 Blast Overpressure (dBL)		Limit (dBL)
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
BM1 Ulan School	84.3	112.6	81.8	107	85.2	104.1	115/120
BM5 Ridge Rd	81.4	107.7	89.3	108.8	85.5	112.2	115/120
BM8 Moolarben Rd	81.4	108.7	92.9	109.3	89.9	115.0	115/120

Site	Aug 2024 Ground Vibration (mm/s)		Sept 2024 Ground Vibration (mm/s)		Oct 2024 Ground Vibration (mm/s)		Limit (mm/s)
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
BM1 Ulan School	0.03	0.45	0.03	1.07	0.06	0.35	5/10
BM5 Ridge Rd	0.07	0.78	0.05	0.58	0.06	0.63	5/10
BM8 Moolarben Rd	0.04	0.43	0.02	0.26	0.03	0.35	5/10

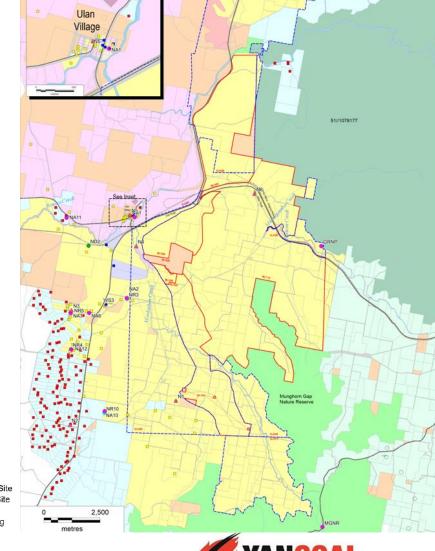
Monthly monitoring reports are available on our website:

www.moolarbencoal.com.au/page/environment/environmental-monitoring/



### **Noise Monitoring**

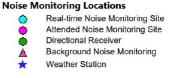
- All monthly & quarterly attended noise monitoring within criteria.
- Continued implementation of:
  - Planning controls scheduling
  - Engineering controls attenuation
  - Operational controls bunds/screens
  - Real-time monitoring triggers
  - Real-time response protocols



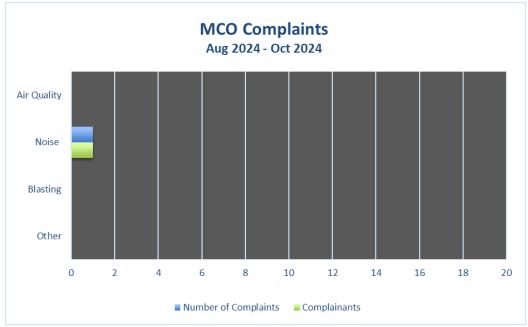
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### **Community Complaints**





- All complaints investigated
- no non-compliances identified



## **Rehabilitation Update**

- 33ha completed in OC4 during September and 18ha in OC3 scheduled for December
- OC4 areas were seeded using drone to improve quality and safety
- Landform establishment continuing in OC2, OC3 and OC4.
- Rehabilitation maintenance works are continuing for erosion and weeds







## Rehabilitation update — OC4 stag trees and drone seeding











### **Rehabilitation Update**

- Project Approval and standard
   Mining Lease conditions require
   rehabilitation to be completed.
- The Forward Program and Rehabilitation Management Plan commitments and strategies are approved by DPHI and the Resource Regulator and available to the public on MCO website.
- The proposed rehabilitation objectives and rehabilitation completion criteria are included in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.
- Once rehabilitation is established, the relinquishment process is undertaken via the ESF2 form governed by the Resource Regulator.



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## **Biodiversity Offset Areas Update**

- Offset maintenance works including track maintenance, erosion repairs, vertebrate pest control and weed management programs underway.
- Ground preparation works for 2025 offset tree planting program in progress for the Bobadeen and Onsite Offsets







### OC3 Extension – Amended Project

Current

**Status** 

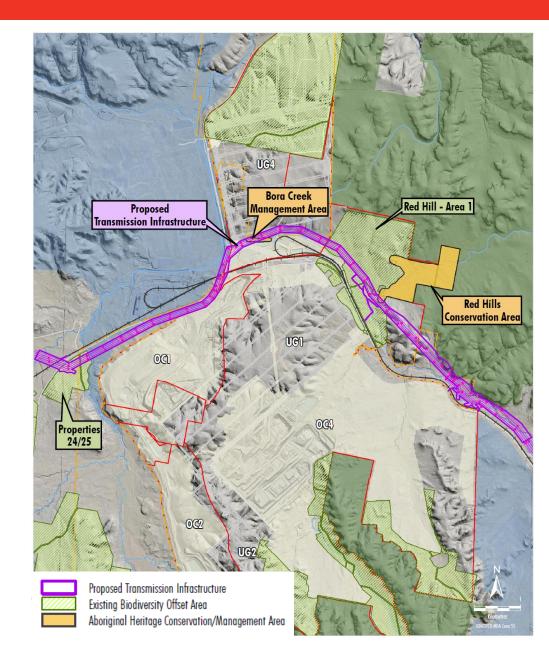
- MCO has lodged a consolidated response to all advice received from Agencies and the Independent Expert Advisory Panel for Mining (IEAPM) in November 2024.
- DPHI now completing assessment of Amended Project with input from Agencies and IEAPM.

Request for SEARs **DPHI** issues **SEARs** Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Lodgement of Development Application and EIS with DPHI DPHI places EIS on Public Exhibition Public and Agencies review and provide submissions to DPE Preparation of Amendment and Submissions Report **DPHI** Assessment Determination

Preparation and lodgement of Scoping Report and

### **NSW EnergyCo Transmission Project**

- Proposed NSW EnergyCo transmission infrastructure intersects:
  - Two approved biodiversity offset properties (one is EPBC offset).
  - Two Aboriginal heritage management areas.
  - Mining infrastructure areas.
- Modification to Stage 1 and Stage 2
   Project Approvals to facilitate
   interactions with EnergyCo's
   Transmission Project has been
   approved 17 Oct 2024
- A variation to EPBC 2007/3297 to accommodate the proposed infrastructure has also been approved
   19 Nov 2024



### **Saddlers Creek Rd intersection**

#### **Upgrade of Saddlers Creek Road – Ulan Road Intersection**

Condition 55A, Schedule 3 of PA 05\_0117 requires:

Prior to the commencement of construction works associated with the northern dewatering sites (described in MOD 15), the Proponent must upgrade the intersection of Ulan Road and Saddlers Creek Road to the satisfaction of the appropriate roads authority and in consultation with DPIE Crown Lands. The intersection upgrade is to be designed and constructed in accordance with the Guide to Road Design (Austroads) and any relevant TfNSW supplements.

- Construction of the northern dewatering bores currently scheduled for 2025.
- MCO has commenced preparation of concept designs for the intersection upgrade, in consideration of traffic volumes and relevant guidelines (i.e. Austroads).
- Seeking input from MWRC on design and preferred approach for the construction of the intersection upgrade.





## **Employment Update**

### **Current Traineeships**

- 31 Trainees currently onsite
  - 14 Underground Trainees
  - 17 Open Cut Trainees

### **Apprentices**

- 31 Apprentices currently onsite
  - 10 Underground Apprentices
  - 13 Open Cut Apprentices
  - 8 Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP) Apprentices





