

**ABEL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC) Meeting #43
14th September, 2020
Abel Underground Mine Administration Building
DRAFT**

1. OPENING & WELCOME

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared the meeting open at 3.07 pm.

2. PRESENT

Ms Margaret MacDonald-Hill (Chairperson), Mr Terry Lewin, Mr Alan Brown, Mr Allan Jennings, Mr Brad Ure (arrived 3.20pm), Mr Greg Lamb (Bloomfield Group), Mr William Farnworth (Donaldson Operations), Mr Phillip Brown (Abel Mine Environment & Community Relations Superintendent) and Mr James Benson (Abel Mine Environment & Community Coordinator) (minutes).

APOLOGIES

Nil

3. PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no changes to the previously declared pecuniary interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Abel CCC on 16th March 2020 were confirmed by Mr A. Brown and seconded by Mr Lewin.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Black Hill Road repairs and speed limit

Mr P. Brown advised that there was no update from Subsidence Advisory on road repairs. The subsidence signage on Black Hill Rd was recently removed.

5.2 Controlled RFS burn

Mr Benson advised that no controlled burns have occurred since the previous meeting. There are plans in the next month for the Rural Fire Service (RFS) to conduct a hazard reduction burn, weather dependent, on a portion of Donaldson land adjacent to Avalon Estate at Thornton. Fire trails around this hazard reduction burn are being cleaned up in the next two weeks.

Mr P. Brown also advised that drilling works were proposed at the Abel upcast shaft to facilitate the installation of a hydrant at this location. Water for the hydrant will come up via the underground's potable water line.

5.3 Tara Dever membership

There has been no communication with Ms Tara Dever this year. The Chairperson has previously forwarded a CCC membership form to Ms Dever for completion. Meeting minutes will continue to be provided to Ms Dever.

5.4 Mine Closure Strategy and MOP

Mr P. Brown provided an update on the Mine Closure Strategy and MOP. The Abel and Donaldson Mining Operation Plans (MOP) were recently amended and provided to the Resources Regulator for review. A Closure Strategy within both documents outlines future remediation of the West and Square Pits. The strategy covers remediation of the site using two scenarios; 1. Abel recommences operations and further develops the west and square pits, and 2. Abel does not recommence operations.

Mr P. Brown explained that the recommencement of the Abel operations was not in the 5 year plan.

The MOP's are yet to be approved by the Resource Regulator and will be publicly available once approved.

Mr A. Brown asked if there is any further exploration planned. Mr P. Brown outlined that other than the borehole for the upcast shaft water hydrant, no drilling is proposed.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

as per Agenda

Mr A. Brown queried attachments to minutes not being found on the company website. A number of attachments referred to in minutes since the commencement of the Abel CCC could not be found.

Revision History					
Edition	Revision	Comment	Author	Date	Authorised by:
1	0	Draft Minutes	J Benson	17/9/2020	

The minutes and presentations of the CCC meetings are provided on the Donaldson Coal website.

7. COMPANY REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

7.1 Abel Mine Update

Refer to presentation

Mr Farnworth provided an update to the Abel operations. The site remains in Care and Maintenance with a small team onsite to focus on keeping the site secure and infrastructure maintained.

7.2 Environmental Update

Refer to presentation.

Mr Benson provided an update to the environmental operations at the mine.

The elevated dust levels seen over the summer period have reduced to average levels. The reduced dust levels coincided with rainfall starting in February.

Donaldson Coal continues to deal with illegal access to land. Lately, illegal access to land has been by people taking firewood.

The rehabilitated Tasman site has also seen a spate of illegal access events by cars conducting burnouts.

8. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Nil

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

10. NEXT MEETING

Meeting dates proposed for 2021 are;

15th March 2021 at 3.00pm

13th September 2021 at 3:00pm.

As this was the last meeting for the year Mrs MacDonald-Hill thanked all members for their involvement throughout the year and wished everyone an early Merry Christmas.

The meeting was declared closed at 3.32 pm by the Chair.