

**METROPOLITAN COAL
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES**

Date: 28/05/2014

Time: Commenced – 5.10pm

Location: Metropolitan Coal Mine Meeting Room, Upper Administration, Helensburgh

Attendees:

- Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH) - Independent Chairperson
- Ernest Johnson (EJ) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Ryan Pascoe (RP) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Stephen Love (SL) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- John Collins (JC) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal / CFMEU
- Jock Laurie (JL) - NSW Land and Water Commissioner
- Allan House (AH) - CCC Member
- Kerrie Belter (KB) - CCC Member
- Robert Scullion (RS) - CCC Member
- Patricia Gauci (PG) - CCC Member

Apologies:

- Suzanne Cryle - Peabody Energy Australia
- Amanda Reilly (AR) - CCC Member
- Brad Staggs (BS) - Wollondilly Shire Council
- Peter Turner (PT) - CCC Member
- Lorraine Rodden (LR) - CCC Member
- Melody Innes (MI) - CCC Member
- Anthony Barnes (AB) - CCC Member / Wollongong City Council
- Michelle Durant Chambers (MDC) - CCC Member

Welcome and Introductions:

MMH: Welcomed everyone to the meeting, including guest speaker Jock Laurie – NSW Land and Water Commissioner

Declarations of Interest:

MMH: Declared position as Independent Chair for the CCC approved by the Director General of DP&E, member of the Mine Subsidence Board and Ministers' Arbitration Panel. MMH spoke briefly about recent media regarding herself and the CCC system. MMH asked if she had the CCC's confidence in her impartiality, if that was not the case she was willing to stand down. CCC members expressed confidence in MMH and there were no issues requiring her to stand down.

Land and Water Commission Discussion – Jock Laurie, NSW Land and Water Commissioner

JL outlined his position as Land and Water Commissioner to promote communication between industry, resource companies, farmers, community and government around competing land uses. A general discussion took place between JL and the members of the CCC regarding trust in the political process and science, and how to promote better communication between various parties. JL explained that resource companies need to demonstrate success to concerned communities they work with to allay their concerns.

MMH thanked JL for attending the CCC and taking time to understand the community's concerns.

Confirmation of Amended February 2014 Minutes:

- MMH sent PT's amendments to AH and BS prior to CCC as they applied to statements made by AH and BS. AH accepted amendment 1. AH and BS did not accept amendments 2 and 3 respectively as they referred to their own statements. They believed the minutes accurately reflected their statements.
- Page 2 amended to include *PT commented that approximately 80% of the Upland Swamps are located on the Woronora Plateau*
- Page 3 amended to include *MMH commented that PT had a right to speak as an individual*
- Amended minutes confirmed by KB, seconded by BS.
- MMH will communicate to all CCC members the need to provide any amendments to the CCC meeting minutes ASAP after they have been distributed as has been previously requested.

Business Arising:

- AH would like to submit a paper to the CCC in the next meeting which discusses the interaction of climate and chemical concentrations in water, and appropriate use of statistics. Interpretation of results must consider all relevant data. Discussed need to bring science to forefront of discussion in CCC.
- MMH suggested that AH present at next CCC. AH accepted
- PG, on behalf of PT enquired why the CCC was not notified about the drying of Pool N in the February meeting. RP outlined approach as described in the Rehabilitation Management Plan – any pool on the rivulet which ceases to flow over the relevant rock bar is immediately triggered for remediation using the PUR process. Pool N was originally triggered in 2012 and its water level varies depending on climactic conditions. Pool N rock bar will be remediated after upstream bars have been repaired. An improved remediation process has now been approved and mobilisation to recommence remediation efforts has begun. AH observed that there had been very little rain in late 2013 and that the catchment has received rainfall far below average in FY2013/2014.

Action items from previous meeting:

- No actions

Correspondence Tabled:

In: None

Out: None

Metropolitan Coal Activities Presentation – Ryan Pascoe, Manager Safety & Environmental Services

- **AH:** Do you think that you'll get to a stage where you can demonstrate complete remediation of rock bars?
- **RP:** Demonstration of successful remediation of rock bar will be made through a number of measures including water levels, permeability testing and climactic data presented to SCA. Peabody is committed to rehabilitating all rock bars which have been identified for remediation.

General Business:

- KB enquired regarding Metropolitan Coal Wash Reject (CWR) use in rehabilitation of old Helensburgh Landfill. RP outlined Peabody tender application to Wollongong City Council as part of process. RP believes that Metropolitan has made a compelling case for CWR use on both environmental and community ground, but it is by no means guaranteed that Metropolitan's tender will be successful.
- KB enquired regarding Metropolitan Colliery intersection upgrade. RP explained that intersection upgrade works are contingent on a change in easement ownership at the strip of land the intersection is located on. Until WCC grants easement rights to Peabody, Metropolitan is unable to proceed with the works.
- AH has collated a list of names of Helensburgh residents who fought in WWI. Commemorations begin in August and a local ceremony will be held in Helensburgh on 11/11/14. AH sought assistance from Metropolitan in providing this list of names in a leaflet for the ceremony. RP and EJ confirmed that Metropolitan will assist.
- PG thanked RP for collecting plants from School Fair.

Meeting closed:

7:10pm

Next meeting:

20 August 2014, 17:00, (Metropolitan Coal Meeting Room, Upper Admin Building, Helensburgh)