



METROPOLITAN COAL

METROPOLITAN COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES

Date: 13/2/2013

Time: Commenced – 5.10pm

Location: Metropolitan Coal Community Consultative Centre, Walker St, Helensburgh

Attendees:

- Kerrie Belter (KB) - CCC Member
- Amanda Reilly (AR) - CCC Member
- Robert Scullion (RS) - CCC Member
- Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH) - Independent Chairperson
- E. Jason Davis (EJD) – Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Ryan Pascoe (RP) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Josh Daniel (JD) – Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Suzanne Cryle (SC) - Peabody Energy Australia
- Melody Innes (MI) - CCC Member
- Patricia Gauci (PG) - CCC Member
- Allan House (AH) - CCC Member
- Lorraine Rodden (LR) - CCC Member
- Michelle Durant Chambers (MDC) - CCC Member
- Peter Turner (PT) – CCC Member
- John Collins (JC) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal / CFMEU
- Anthony Barnes (AB) – CCC Member / Wollongong City Council

Apologies:

- Brad Staggs - Wollondilly Shire Council

Welcome and Introductions:

MMH: Welcome everyone.

EJD: Introduction as GM of Metropolitan Coal, and overview of personal and professional background.

Declarations of Interest:

MMH declared her position as Independent Chair for the CCC approved by the Director General of DP&I, member of the Mine Subsidence Board and Ministers' Arbitration Panel.

Confirmation of Previous Minutes:

Previous minutes confirmed by AH and seconded by RS.

Business Arising:*Sponsorship Guidelines:*

- **AR:** Request for hard copy of sponsorship guidelines.
**Action* – RP to provide hard copy to AR as above.
- **RS:** Suggestion that sponsorship groups be questioned as to whether they are registered with relevant administrators to cover liabilities/insurances.
- **SC:** Valid point, although wants to ensure that excessive requirements are not placed on small organisations/individuals seeking assistance.
- **AH:** It would depend on the nature of the project - each would need to be judged on merits as to potential damage to person or property.
- **RP:** Internal assistance is offered to smaller groups/individuals to guide them through the application process.

Helensburgh Pool Heating:

- **AB:** Council's recreation division is happy to open dialogue for heating of the town pool if funding is provided.
**Action* – AB to email contact details to RP.

Action items from previous meeting:

- RP to arrange watering of grass north of Centennial Hotel on Parkes Street – *Complete*.
- RP to make enquiries regarding reversing alarm/beeping noise sources – *Complete*. *Noise associated with slope equipment working on bank stabilisation project. Equipment reversing alarm muffled. Site policy is that all equipment is to have broad spectrum alarms where practicable to minimise potential noise impacts.*
- JD to request Angela Fagerstrom to include additional groups on list of community groups for website (Hburgh & District Probus, Neighbourhood Forum No. 1 and WAVES) – *Complete*.
- RP to request Angela Fagerstrom to publish list of community clubs and groups on website and to provide links to their respective websites – *Complete*. *Angela provided recent website update to JD.*
**Action* – JD to provide website update to MMH for communication to CCC.

Correspondence Tabled:

In: 23/11/12 & 26/11/12 – PT emails to RP cc to CCC members(questions addressed in presentation).

Out: 30/11/12 – RP email reply to PT cc to CCC members
8/2/13 – MMH to DP&I, letter summation of CCC meetings in 2012.

RP Presentation: Metropolitan Coal Update

- *Intersection Safety Upgrade*
 - *Design / Approvals / Timing*

KB: Will there be fencing and/or signage on northern side of Colliery Road for pedestrian safety?

RP: Believe there will be measures on this side of the road and will look into detail.

***Action** – RP to further investigate pedestrian safety measures as above.

- *Surface Facilities Water Management*
 - *Sediment Ponds Project*
- *Air Quality Management*
 - *Community Contact / Further Action*

MDC: Did sediment dam works contribute to air quality impacts?

RP: Minimal dust generated from work area due to small project footprint and moist nature of material being handled not giving rise to dust.

RP: Weather in December and early January contributed to the potential for dust generation from a range of sources in the area, given very hot, dry and windy conditions. At the mine dust management practices are continually implemented, but the challenging conditions required further measures be implemented. This included the application of dust suppressants and commissioning newly installed dust control sprays at the run of mine stockpile. Two dust deposition gauges recorded levels above the yearly averaged compliance criteria, however with the implementation of these new measures levels going forward are expected to decrease dramatically, yielding on-going compliance as per previous years.

EJD: The coal volumes were also low at this time contributing to the potential for wind to mobilise dust from the stockpile base. Stockpiles will be increasing in the near future upon recommencement of production after the longwall relocation.

- *125 Year Celebrations*
 - *CCC Ideas*

RP: Example might be a display in consultative centre shopfront displaying historic items related to Metropolitan, such as a coal skip, safety improvements over the years, etc.

MDC: Street parade.

AH: Photographic display in chronological order.

AH: Memorial garden for historical miners who lost their lives at the colliery to be created at the Old Mine Surgery. Council has in trust \$15,000 for such a memorial. Department of Water granted permission for a native garden adjacent to watercourse. Series of plaques proposed to personalise the lives of miners. Proposed name 'Historic Helensburgh Memorial Garden'. Plants to be indigenous to Helensburgh and within a fenced plot. The area could potentially display historic mining equipment. Timing of the garden planned for 2013 and the launch could coincide with the Helensburgh Fair.

RP: Supportive of AH suggestion.

RP: Seeking any other suggestions within next couple of weeks.

JC: Suggest looking at other mines commemorations of similar occasions.

***Action** – RP to consider other mines commemorations as above.

- *Media – Helensburgh 'Cancer Cluster'*

RP: Discussion of Illawarra Mercury articles in late 2012 and Metropolitan Coal's assistance with sampling of local air quality, which was deemed 'very good' based on EPA criteria.
- *2012 Annual Review*
 - *Overview / Key findings / Accessing Annual Reviews*

PT: What is the SCA involvement/awareness of the Annual Review?

RP: The SCA is informed through quarterly Technical Working Group meetings and by the Annual Review. SCA provided feedback concerning the quality of the Annual Review and its comprehensive nature.

PT: Question regarding how the Independent Environmental Auditors are chosen and funded?

RP: The audit and its terms are dictated by conditions of the Project Approval set by DP&I, which requires the audit to be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts endorsed by DP&I, and the audit cost to be paid for by the proponent.

PT: Noted that in Bulli Seam Operations report, the PAC expressed concerns arising from proponents selecting and funding consultants approved by Planning (DP&I) to conduct Independent Environmental Audits.

- *Catchment Surface Inspections Update*

PT: Are Metropolitan aware of the SCA developed catchment water model showing variations to Metropolitan's water balance model? SCA catchment water model suggested between 1.7 and 5.4 megalitres were being lost from the catchment per day.

RP: The SCA have not approached Metropolitan with this model. We are not aware of this new SCA catchment water model.

- *Swamps Water Assessment*

- *Swamps Assessment / Performance Measures / Conclusions*

PT: Future updates regarding swamps sought given impacts may be longer term. Question regarding whether Swamp 20 or other swamps in the mining area had been surveyed and identified as being of 'special significance'?

RP: All swamps in the mining area have been surveyed. Swamp 20 has unique characteristics. Not aware of a 'special significance' classification beyond the EEC listing of upland swamps.

PT: MSEC photographs from Annual Review (Appendix) sought.

***Action** – RP to seek above information for feedback.

PT: Request of raw water monitoring data for personal review and longwall plan updates.

RP: With respect to electronic data, Metropolitan Coal adheres to the reporting requirements prescribed by the Project Approval. The data is subject to QA & QC prior to publication in the prescribed reports. Updates regarding relevant data will be provided at CCC meetings.

Interpretation of the data in ways other than required by the management plans would not be instructive in terms of understanding Metropolitan Coal's compliance performance.

MMH: Important to understand the role of the consultative committee which is not intended as a group of technical experts in specific fields and regulatory body, but a consultative / advisory committee.

EJD: There are limitations to the information that can be provided, especially in terms of production information, which could have commercial implications. Concerns that data may be misrepresented. Furthermore, it should be noted that there are a range of stakeholders that seek information from the mine and that the operation must be careful to ensure that it does not overly burden itself in the service of any one stakeholder at the expense of all others. Quarterly longwall updates can be provided.

RP: Metropolitan has on numerous occasions provided data to universities in the interest of research projects.

- *CCC Member Requests and Agenda Items for 2013*

***Action** – RP to forward agenda items to CCC for input/suggestions – nominating priorities.



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PT: Request for Swamp 25 piezometer levels and copy of CCC presentation.

***Action** – RP to address above requests.

General Business:

MDC: Announced forthcoming move out of the Helensburgh area to southern Sydney and asked CCC whether any objections for her to remain on committee given ongoing ties to the town.

MMH: No objections.

All: No objections.

JC: Interested and excited at possible 125th year anniversary commemorations, particularly given Peabody recently commemorated a similar anniversary.

Meeting closed:

7:40pm, 13/2/13

Next meeting:

5:00pm, 8/5/13 (Metropolitan Coal Community Consultative Centre, Walker Street, Helensburgh)