

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

Date: 6/10/10

Time: 17:05 Commenced

Location: Metropolitan Colliery Top Administration Office (Boardroom)

Attendees:

- Peter Baker (HCPL)
- Kerrie Belter
- Jon Degotardi (HCPL)
- Patricia Gauci
- Ian Gray (HCPL)
- Adam Hatfield (HCPL)
- Allan House
- Adrian Kedwell (Planelec)
- Margaret MacDonald-Hill (Independent Chairperson)
- Ryan Pascoe (HCPL)
- Russell Peluchette (HCPL)
- Amanda Reilly
- Lorraine Rodden
- Robert Scullion
- David Whitfield (Wollongong City Council)

Apologies:

- John Collins (CFMEU)
- Michelle Durant Chambers
- Gary Eastment
- Sophie Perry (Wollondilly Shire Council)
- Robert Young

Welcome and introduction of committee members

Margaret MacDonald-Hill welcomed all to the CCC meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Margaret MacDonald-Hill declared her position as independent chair for the CCC, member of the Mine Subsidence Board and Minister's Arbitration Panel.

Confirmation of Previous Minutes:

The previous minutes were moved as a true record of the meeting by *Bob Scullion* and seconded by *Trish Gauci*.

Business Arising

- Margaret MacDonald-Hill – Noted inspection of Waratah Rivulet postponement due to weather conditions
- Underground tour is still on the agenda and dates will be confirmed with the CCC
- The draft Traffic Management Plan was sent to all CCC members for their consideration
- Bob Scullion asked for timelines of implementation of various projects
- Patricia Gauci had requested further information concerning Air Quality
- Margaret MacDonald-Hill – was required to check suitability of CCC meeting times and this was completed

Correspondence Tabled

Out:

- 2/8/10 – confirmation of next meeting date and inspection
- 10/8/10 – draft Traffic Management Plan emailed to all
- 24/9/10 – email reply to Bob Scullion
- 5/10/10 – email notice of postponement of Waratah Rivulet inspection

In:

- 10/8/10 – draft Traffic Management Plan from Ryan
- 26/ 8/10 – email comment on plan from Sophie Perry - Wollondilly Council
- 4/10/10 – email from Michelle Durant Chambers on plan
- 23/9/10 – email from Bob Scullion agenda item Darkes Forest
- 5/10/10 – email from Ryan forwarding notice of SCA wet weather closure

Overview of the mining operation

Key speakers:

- **Jon Degotardi** – *Update on the mine electrical upgrade project*
 - **Action** – Jon Degotardi offered to make the REF study for the Integral Energy power supply upgrade available to CCC members once complete. CCC members accepted this offer.
 - **Action** - A copy of the timeline for the various project expansion activities is to be sent to all CCC members.
- **Adrian Kedwell** - *Power Supply Upgrade*
 - Planelec are the contractors that will be upgrading the power supply system on behalf of Peabody Energy and Integral Energy
 - Adrian provided an overview and timeline of the works
- **Ian Gray** – *Clarity on the Apex and Peabody Coal Seam Gas Operation*
 - Peabody Energy Australia clarified its position;

- Peabody is in the coal mining business and has no involvement with coal seam gas activities.
- There are a range of complex issues associated with overlapping tenures, where companies (such as Apex) who wish to conduct coal seam gas activities apply to government for access to coal seams already held under licence by a coal mining company.
- Under these circumstances, of necessity, formal agreements between gas producers and coal miners are common and are designed to govern the safe interaction between the two operations. Peabody is currently in discussions with Apex for these reasons.
- Peabody has no operational involvement in any coal seam gas activity and our focus in the Illawarra region continues to be the safe and effective management of our coal mining operations.
- **Action** – The CCC requested regular updates concerning the Apex Coal Seam Gas proposal.
- **Ryan Pascoe – Overview of the mining operation**
 - Summary of the Mine's air quality performance was delivered. Allan House noted that the reason for one of the possible high readings for the Depositional Dust Gauge at Old Station Road could be as a result of council undertaking road works at Junction Street.
 - A summary of the draft Traffic Management Plan was delivered.
 - The draft findings of the Road Safety Audit were delivered, followed by a working discussion on the recommendations of the plan. The Road Safety Audit delivered 10 key recommendations. The CCC reviewed each of these and made the following judgements:
 - Item 1 – agreed
 - Item 2 – agreed
 - Item 3 – agreed
 - Item 4 – agreed & mine information sign to be relocated away from junction
 - Item 5 – agreed, with the modification of the exclusion of the trucks use low gear sign & rumble strips
 - Item 6 – agreed
 - Item 7 – agreed
 - Item 8 – agreed
 - Item 9 – delete
 - Item 10 – agreed
 - The CCC also suggested that a junction ahead sign be added to the northern approach to the intersection.
 - It was noted that the option of traffic lights was strongly opposed by the CCC.

Handouts

- Ryan Pascoe
 - Handed out the inaugural Metropolitan Colliery Newsletter to CCC members. A copy will be distributed to all residents of the 2508 postcode in coming weeks.

General Business:

- Amanda Reilly:
 - **Action** - Noted that photos and profile of the CCC members should be included in the next community newsletter hand-out.
- Mine Tours:
 - It was agreed that if surface tours could be run on the same day as the Helensburgh Fair it would be graciously accepted by the community
 - Proposed visit to the Sydney Catchment is earmarked for the **27/10/10**.
- Allan House:
 - Discussed the establishment of the old Helensburgh Rail Station as heritage listing with the care and ownership of the reserve being handed over to Helensburgh Landcare. Allan discussed the need for the mine to pump additional water from their end to reduce water levels in the tunnel to preserve the glow-worms and prevent flooding across the road.
 - **Action** – a meeting will be held between Allan and HCPL to further discuss these matters.

Meeting closed: 19:45 6/10/2010

Next meeting: 17:00 15/12/2010