

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

Date: 04/07/2012

Time: Commenced – 4.45pm

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

Attendees:

- Amanda Reilly (AR) - CCC Member
- Robert Scullion (RS) - CCC Member
- Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH) - Independent Chairperson
- Ryan Pascoe (RP) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Josh Daniel (JD) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Greg Tarrant (GT) [*Presentation only*] – Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Suzanne Cryle (SC) - Peabody Energy Australia
- Melody Innes (MI) - CCC Member
- Allan House (AH) - CCC Member
- Peter Turner (PT) - CCC Member
- Anthony Barnes (AB) - CCC Member (Wollongong City Council)

Apologies:

- Kerrie Belter (KB) - CCC Member
- Brad Staggs (BS) - Wollondilly Shire Council
- Lorraine Rodden (LR) - CCC Member
- Michelle Durant Chambers (MDC) - CCC Member
- John Collins (JC) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal (CFMEU)
- Patricia Gauci (PG) - CCC Member

Welcome and Introductions:

MMH: Welcome everyone and new CCC Member, Peter Turner.

All: Introductions to each attendant's role in CCC.

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 AR and seconded by RS.

Correspondence Tabled:

In: 3 May 2012 – DP&I letter stating approval of PT for membership of CCC.

Out: 21 May 2012 – Request for CCC members to nominate local groups for representation on community website.

Business Arising:

AB: Noticed road works in Parkes Street - suggested an update might be covered in presentation.

RP: Confirmed an update would be given in the meeting presentation.

Actioned items from previous meeting:

- MMH emailed CCC members requesting that they email through the names and contact details of local groups that should be represented on the website.
- MMH to ensure that a website content brainstorming session is added to the CCC agenda going forward.
- RP displayed the opening days/hours of the Community Drop-In Centre on the door.
- RP reinforced with contractors importance of traffic controllers staying alert on the job and that safety interactions are being undertaken.
- Peabody Metropolitan continuing to develop sponsorship guideline (update from SC in meeting).
- JD distributed email with proposed 2nd CCC underground tour dates. Tour took place on 18 June 2012.

RP Presentation: Metropolitan Coal Project Update

- Cable Trenching and Underboring:
 - Less than 430m trenching remains to be completed
 - Works are now past all major residential properties along the route
 - Following completion of trenching and underboring works, road to be resurfaced along trenching route
 - Underboring progressing slower than expected, however works at roundabout of Parkes and Walker Streets nearing completion. Following final drilling works (estimated 2 weeks), cables to be connected and pulled through conduit (further 2 weeks estimate).

PT: Will the quality of re-surfacing be ensured – as a bike rider this may be a concern, will council check this?

RP: There is temporary reinstatement currently however the whole road along the trenching route will be resurfaced to council satisfaction. Powerserve have a bond in place with council to this effect.

RS: Will there be trenching works within the road in cemetery road?

RP: Yes, I believe the exact location within the road is dependent on where the available easement is having regard to other existing services/infrastructure within the road.

AH: Is cable continuous or will there be connection points?

RP: The road plates are where the connection points are. Once the whole run is completed the surface will be sealed.

RP Presentation: Installation of MCC for Washery Upgrade

- Erection of structural steel work at the CHP Motor Control Centre is complete in preparation to install cable and switch rooms above the transformer bunkers.

MI: What works are taking place in the upper carpark area?

RP: Trenching/cabling in the upper carpark area between Parkes Street and the substation, and from the substation down to the mine surface facilities area.

GT Multimedia Presentations: Subsidence and Rock Bar Remediation Works

- **GT Introduction**
- **DVD No. 1 – Subsidence and the Environment**

PT: Question regarding permeability of Stanwell Park Claystone and water loss through cracks.

GT: Narrow longwalls and the depth of cover at Metropolitan Coal prevent connective cracking and any significant water loss (doesn't rely on Stanwell Park Claystone being an aquitard).

PT: Despite the narrow longwall width there is obvious damage to the Rivulet.

GT: The Part 3A Project Environmental Assessment predicted the subsidence impacts of rock bar cracking. The Subsidence Management Plan process also predicted the impacts associated with Longwalls 13, 14, 15, etc) and was approved by DPI and SCA. The future Longwalls 22-27 have a sterilised area (environmental pillar) under the Waratah Rivulet to protect it from subsidence impacts.

PT: Impacts may not be regarded as negligible impacts.

GT: The negligible impact performance measures relate to negligible reduction to the quality and quantity of water of water reaching the Woronora Reservoir. Negligible also relates to impacts at the Waratah Rivulet over the environmental pillar. Contingency measures would be implemented if performance measures are exceeded.

PT: What about stowing rejects underground to reduce subsidence impacts?

GT: Presently rejects are being stowed in the old (previously mined) areas where bord and pillar mining left significant voids that can be filled. Before these voids can be filled significant support works are required to make the areas safe for pipe installation ahead of rejects emplacement.

- **DVD No. 2 – Waratah Rivulet Remediation**

GT: WRS4 rock bar still in an active subsidence area and requires a phased approach. WRS3 remediation now completed.

PT: Have the SCA performance measures been met to demonstrate success?

GT: We believe they have been met, however, additional data from low flow periods would assist with this determination. Pre & post remediation permeability tests, caliper tests, and pool level monitoring show successful results.

PT: How is permeability testing conducted and what is the distance of spacings between holes?

GT: Permeability testing is conducted once polyurethane has been injected to assess hydraulic conductivity and holes are spaced 20 metres apart. A caliper is inserted into the holes and the flex pattern of the caliper fingers shows where remaining cracks and fishers are located. Testing conducted after the remediation process shows that the cracks had been filled with PUR grout.

AR: Is the PUR inert?

GT: Leach tests carried out with Rivulet water have shown no leaching and SCA was satisfied with results. Total Organic Carbon & Dissolved Oxygen is sampled at rivulet sites upstream & downstream of remediation sites before and during works.

RP: PUR is also widely used in other water storage applications such as filling cracks in dam walls.

PT: Is it a challenge that PUR is mechanically weak?

GT: Flexibility presents an advantage in relation to movement created by new subsidence impacts. New fractures are expected which is why Metropolitan have committed to new phases of injection as required into the future.

PT: Do you expect to get to other upstream sites for remediation?

GT: WRS3 is the hydraulic control for the pools upstream. Remediation at this location restores holding capacity for the pools above

RP: The Rehabilitation Management Plan contains information regarding the rock bar remediation process. It is located on the company's website and has been approved by the relevant government agency.

We would like to schedule a date for inspection of the rivulet for CCC. Aesthetic works have also been undertaken to rock bars to restore visual amenity. Proposed visit Monday 16 July, 11am.

PT: Question regarding water loss from catchment during low flows.

GT: There are four separate scientific disciplines coming to conclusion that there is less than negligible water loss from the catchment due to Metropolitan Coal's mining activities. These conclusions are presented in the Annual Review which is available from the company's website.

PT: To what extent is water being lost to the wider regional catchment?

GT: Study conducted by SCA showed no significant water loss attributable to mining.

PT: Recommendation from PAC that SCA & Metropolitan work together in this regard.

RP: Metropolitan consult with SCA on works and management plans, and hold regular Technical Working Group meetings to achieve the intent of the PAC recommendation.

*** Action – MMH to email CCC members to confirm proposed date and time for Waratah Rivulet visit.**

SC Presentation: Peabody Energy Australia Sponsorship Guidelines – Overview and Examples

- Guidelines developed by Peabody Energy Australia to show how community sponsorship applications are processed. This will assist applicants in developing their applications.
- Peabody is also interested in joint sponsorships within the industry, such as a road safety education campaign.
- Guidelines cover a range of interests including health, education, arts, community,.

*** Action – SC to circulate guidelines to CCC members via email once finalised.**

Discussions

CCC Funding Ideas:

RP: Historically up to \$150,000 of funding has been provided by Metropolitan Coal to NGOs each year in Helensburgh and its surrounds. Metropolitan Coal believes the CCC is well placed to understand the needs of the community and it therefore should be an active participant in the process of funding key community projects. Each year up to \$50,000 will be earmarked for allocation to significant community projects at the recommendation of the CCC.

RP: As discussed at our last CCC meeting, at this and subsequent meetings, would like the CCC to start discussing opportunities for 'big picture' community support opportunities.

AH: Suggestion regarding assistance with building of historic society archive centre. Existing premises in the former mine surgery is subject to arson and safety issues. Pre-Development Application discussions held with Council for preliminary design and confirmed proposed use is acceptable with planning regulations. Other considerations included disabled access, flood zone, bushfire risk. It has been identified that a vegetation survey is required for the DA to proceed.

Estimated \$10,000-\$15,000 funds short of what is needed to progress. Benefits to Helensburgh as a visitation place, active heritage information and protection centre. Issues with mould in homes where a lot of information is currently stored.

RP: This is a great idea. Metropolitan Coal can discuss further with you opportunities for direct and in-kind assistance. Suggest that the residence at 59 Parkes Street may be used as a space for the historic society in the interim while planning and building works take place.

AH: Plan was hoping for major sponsorship from Metropolitan. Already have one major sponsor and looking for one other. Sponsorship would be acknowledged. Construction is not expected to occur next calendar year.

MMH: If everyone agrees there could possibly be a contribution for this year and then next year.

RP: We will table the idea. Some action can be done immediately such as a range of services being offered, builders, etc.

AH: One other matter as required is provision of a riparian zone for Helensburgh creek, including removal of willows and privet, which also occurs on mine site downstream (important to restore both).

RP: A Vegetation Management Plan is progressing for the site. The number one priority currently is the riparian zone near the new substation.

RS: Comment on the lack of CCTV in area in relation to security/vandalism in Helensburgh.

AB: Have you spoken to a councillor?

RS: Yes, but nothing progressed as yet.

RP: What is the police staffing in Helensburgh?

RS: Two policemen but the area covered is down to Thirroul (possible lag of response time).

*** Action – RP to talk to police and mine security about potentially observing Walker Street in their usual patrols. Would advise that if they observe anything untoward that security contact police.**

MMH: Extend funding ideas/opportunities to other CCC members – new or not present in recent CCC meetings.

AR: The football/cricket field is not fully fenced and damaged has been caused to the playing surface by vandals driving on it/spinning wheels. This has meant kids have been unable to play due to the damaged surface, and could cause possible injuries etc. Suggest completing the fence to prevent vehicle access.

SC: How much of the oval is not fenced?

AR: Approximately half is not fenced.

AH: 2014 will be the 100th anniversary from the start of 1st World War. Metropolitan might sponsor activities of sub branch of RSL for a consolidated list of Anzacs to be displayed in Helensburgh.

RP: Great idea. Will need to review appropriate approvals required.

*** Action – JD to send email to AB regarding a proposed memorial at Charles Harper Park and approval requirements.**

RP: In the coming meetings we will seek to come to resolution on these funding suggestions and any further suggestions from other CCC members.

AR: One more suggestion – a heated town pool so that it can be used year round?

RS: This would require additional life guards through Council.

*** Action – AB to investigate possibility of heated pool within Council.**

Input to Community Website:

All agreed to consider input ideas for website.

General Business:

AH: Did the recent mine stockpile washout/slump affect Camp Creek?

RP: There was no coal released to Camp Creek gully (discussed incident details). The site containment mechanism is rigorous. Additional drainage to stockpiles and environmental monitoring equipment has been installed to look at the standing water level (piezometers).

PT: How many multi-level groundwater piezometers are above the future mining area?

RP: I'll have to research this. Questions that are very specific or technical in nature should be relayed to MMH prior to the CCC meetings so that the necessary information can be sourced ahead of the meeting. This means we can get you the information you are seeking in a timely fashion.

RS: An associate is involved in historic tug boats running in the harbour that rely on coal – enquiry as to whether it could be obtained from Metropolitan.



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RP: We have contacted the group and are investigating whether our coal is suitable for use in the boats. If it is, we will pursue providing it to the boat's operators.

Meeting closed:

6:40pm, 04/07/2012

Next meeting:

5:00pm, 5 September 2012 (Metropolitan Coal Community Consultative Centre, Walker Street, Helensburgh).