



## **WAMBO COAL PTY LTD**

### **COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

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Location:	Wambo Coal - CH&PP Training Room
Date:	12 April 2016

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#### **ATTENDEES:**

Lisa Andrews	Chairperson
Stephen Schmidt	Community member
Ron Fenwick	Community member
Janet Fenwick	Community member
David Thelander	Community member
Shane Gee	Community member
Suzanne Cryle	Peabody Energy Community Relations Manager
Steve Peart	Wambo Coal – Environment and Community Manager
Trish Searle	Wambo Coal – Assistant to GM

Prior to the meeting the CCC Members undertook a Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CH&PP) tour with CH&PP Manager Glen Pitt

#### **OPENING:**

The formal part of the meeting commenced at 10:14am

Lisa welcomed committee Members and Peabody representatives to the first meeting for 2016 then she thanked Glen for a very informative tour of the CH&PP.

Lisa declared that she has been engaged by Peabody Energy to chair the meeting.

An attendance sheet was provided and Lisa asked the CCC Members to sign and mark any changes to contact details.

#### **APOLOGIES:**

Bob Keown

### **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

The previous minutes were moved by Dave Thelander and seconded by Steve Schmidt.

### **BUSINESS ARISING:**

Lisa asked Steve P for an update on requirements for the intersection of Wallaby Scrub Road and the Golden Highway. SP commented that the closure of Wallaby Scrub Road is still being formulated following the Mt Thorley-Warkworth approval. Since the last CCC meeting RMS has done some work to improve safety at the intersection.

Lisa provided a draft copy of the Community Board which includes contact details for all CCC Members. Lisa asked Members to check the details and confirm the information is correct.

Lisa then provided a copy of the new Declaration of Interest form for completion by all CCC Members who have a pecuniary interest to declare. Lisa advised the reason for the form is to ensure transparency - potential conflict questions can be addressed more easily if all interests are declared.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 15.1.16 Email to CCC members with the minutes of the December 2015 meeting which included the Community Board Information sheet.
- 15.1.16 Email from Suzanne Cryle from Peabody with a memo regarding an environmental incident for distribution to the CCC members
- 17.1.16 Email to CCC members enclosing the memo explaining the recent dam wall breach during the rain event in January.
- 17.3.16 Email to CCC members regarding the proposed CH&PP tour to be included at the next CCC meeting and a request for boot sizes for PPE
- 17.3.16 Email from Suzanne Cryle from Peabody with information for distribution to CCC members concerning an article in the Australian Financial Review on 17/3/16
- 18.3.16 Email from Chair to CCC members forwarding information on behalf of Peabody concerning an article in the Australian Financial Review on 17/3/16
- 29.3.16 Email from Chair to CCC with Meeting Notice and Agenda for this meeting
- 2.4.16 Reminder email to CCC members about the opportunity to provide a submission on the draft Community Consultative Committee guidelines, and advising the closing date was extended to Monday 18 April 2016).

## **PRESENTATION**

Steve Peart presented a general update on

- Current operations
- January rainfall report
- Environmental incident update
  - Montrose Sediment Dam
  - HRSTS flow meter
- Regulatory approvals and development
  - South Wambo Underground Mine Mod 12 that will be on public exhibition before the end of April. Steve P will provide an electronic copy of the document once it is on public exhibition.
- Annual Review summary
- Exploration activities

## **FURTHER BUSINESS**

Dave T sought clarification on Wambo's blasting procedures with regards to blasting on weekends following a recent Saturday when blasting was proposed. Steve P responded that Wambo has approval to blast on Saturdays; however blasting is usually planned to occur on week days. Due to a number of reasons including unfavourable weather conditions, Wambo proposed to take advantage of a window of opportunity to blast on a Saturday. However, the blast was subsequently cancelled due to unfavourable weather conditions.

Dave T also mentioned that some Jerrys Plains residents have complained to him about mining noise. Steve P showed the Members a plan showing the current location of mining at the northern extent of the mine. This area is near the ridge and close to the surface. Steve P commented that dewatering of the Montrose Pit has commenced, and that once dewatering is complete, parts of the mining fleet will relocate to a lower level; therefore reducing noise impacts. Steve P said that he is planning some further community communications regarding proposed Open Cut mining operations to the northern extent of the mine.

Ron Fenwick asked whether the Bushfire Management Plan that was discussed at the December meeting has been updated. Steve P confirmed that the document is current. He also followed up on whether a National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPSW) fire trail inspection has occurred. Steve P was unsure but advised that he will check with Peter Jaeger and confirm next meeting.

Shane Gee mentioned that the Montrose property owned by Wambo has a noticeable cover of thistles and weeds. Steve P will talk to the leasee regarding weed control.

Ron F enquired about monitoring of South Wambo Creek. Steve P responded that the Environmental team are currently working on installation of monitoring equipment.

Suzanne followed up on an emailed update provided to the CCC on 18 March. On 15 March Peabody exercised its option of a 30-day grace period on interest payments that were due. This 30 day period was due to expire on Friday 15 April. One of the options available once this 30 day period expires is to file for bankruptcy protection under what's known as 'Chapter 11' in the US.

Peabody is listed on the NYSE and the US process is more business-friendly than the Australian process. It provides an avenue of protection for companies with high levels of debt but sound underlying businesses to restructure, with the protection of the court, and continue to trade (Chapter 11). Suzanne went on to explain that if St Louis does elect to take this action, and file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection it would not impact on day-to-day business for its Australian operations. Whatever the outcome the community might see some media articles which may misrepresent, but Suzanne reassured the CCC that a Chapter 11 filing would mean business as usual for Wambo.

The EPA has asked to attend the next CCC meeting. They are interested talking to CCC Members about the Hunter Air Quality Optimisation Project. Steve P outlined the project that is designed to determine individual impacts on regional air quality. The proposal is to relocate air monitors to points closer to mine boundaries to allow for more accurate measurement of the dust contribution from each site. Four monitors will be moved to Wambo's boundaries. Steve has confidence the four sites will accurately gauge Wambo's dust contribution.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting has been changed to Tuesday 30 August.

The meeting closed at 11:40am

## **ACTIONS**

- Steve P will provide an electronic copy of the Modification 12 document once it is on public exhibition.
- Steve P to confirm that NPWS has undertaken a fire trail inspection on Wambo owned property.
- Trish to contact Ron and Janet to confirm they receive a hardcopy of CCC meeting minutes.
- CCC Members to check the details on the draft Community Board and confirm the information is correct.
- CCC Members are asked to complete and return the Declaration of Interest form to Lisa.