

Wilpinjong Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Wollar General Store
23 June 2014

Present:

Brian McDermott (BM)
Bev Smiles (BS)
Bruce Hughes (BH)
Scott Lillis (SL)
Kieren Bennetts (KB)
John Webb (JW)
David Crust (DC)
Peter Grosvenor (PG)

Absent:

Col Bailey (CB)

Apologies:

Kim Peach (KP), Blair Jackson (BJ)

Invited Guests:

Clark Potter (CP) - Senior Environmental Advisor, Peabody Energy, Wilpinjong
Jamie Lees (JL) – Manager Project Development & Approvals, Peabody Energy, Wilpinjong
Tanietta deLauney (TdeL) – Wilpinjong Native Title Liaison Officer
Ben Harrison (BeH) – Department Planning and Environment
Tony Wellbourne (TW) – Global Acoustics

Observers:

Mick Fetch, Bruce Marshall, Susan Schneider, Colin Faulkner, Helen Barnes, Simon Nicod, Denise Williams, Theresa Audretsch, John Jakes.

Scribe:

Kellie Smith

Commenced:

2.08 pm

Chair:

Lisa Andrews (LA)

1.	Welcome: LA welcomed all to the CCC.
2.	Declarations of Interest Lisa Andrews – Chair approved by Director General of DP&E, paid by Peabody Energy John Webb – Mid Western Regional Council, two sons that work in the local mines. General interest from both sides. Bev Smiles – Resident Bruce Hughes – Resident Clark Potter – Senior Environmental Officer, Wilpinjong Coal Scott Lillis – Local Business Owner Brian McDermott – Lease country from Wilpinjong Tanietta deLauney – Native Title Liaison Officer at Wilpinjong and Resident Jamie Lees - Manager Project Development & Approvals, Wilpinjong Coal Kieren Bennetts – Environment and Community Manager, Wilpinjong Coal Peter Grosvenor – Mine Manager, Wilpinjong Coal
3.	Presentations by External Parties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation by Tony Wellbourne of Global Acoustics (Noise Consultants) in response to the CCC's request for further information on attended noise monitoring. Presentation by Ben Harrison, Investigations Lead (Compliance), Northern Region of the Department of Planning &

	Environment, explaining his role in auditing and investigating development conditions of consents issued for mining activities.
4.	<p>Confirmation of Previous Minutes – 17 March 2014</p> <p>Changes required:</p> <p>Page 7, General Business, bullet point 7, 3rd sentence: after the word “and” delete “to” and insert “will not”.</p> <p>JW moved previous minutes, BM seconded.</p>
5.	<p>Action Items:</p> <p>KB has captured all action items in presentation.</p> <p>Business Arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS action regarding feral animal control – JL has some information regarding mine’s contribution in his presentation. • JW advised that he contacted Council in relation to road maintenance and was advised that it is not appropriate to use the water from the mine as there is no consent for this activity. LA said that road maintenance will be an ongoing issue.
6.	<p>Correspondence In:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11/06/14 – Email from KP with an apology for the meeting. <p>Correspondence Out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20/04/14 – Email to CCC from KB seeking input from members regarding proposed presentations and the site inspection. • 24/04/14 – Email to CCC from KB providing details of the Annual Review & Environmental Management Report for 2013 and its availability for members’ access. • 10/06/14 – Email to CCC from KB confirming presenters for meeting. • 11/06/14 – Email to CCC from KB, changing venue to the Wollar Store, following a request from BS. • 11/06/14 – Email to the CCC members from LA, with Meeting Notice & Agenda.
7.	<p>Report Kieren Bennetts</p> <p><u>Aerial Photo - Wilpinjong Coal December 2013</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KB advised that a new aerial photograph should be available by next meeting. • KB explained the current mining sequence. <p><u>Attended Noise Monitoring</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KB displayed and explained a map with the locations of attended noise monitoring. • Attended noise monitoring was conducted on 24-26 February 2014 and 9-11 April 2014. Whilst mine noise was audible, WCPL was assessed as being compliant. <p><u>Additional Noise Monitoring</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional attended noise monitoring was conducted at White Cedar Road in the evening and night of 24/25 February, 25/26 February, 9/10 April and 10/11 April in response to a complaint. WCPL was assessed as being compliant. <p>Real time noise monitoring conducted at Mogo Road - 11 March through to 15 May 2014. The monitor record was intermittent during the recording period as a result of power supply issues, with no direct communications to observe system functionality. Despite the equipment malfunction 28 days of data was captured. WCPL are currently awaiting a report from Advitech regarding this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real time monitoring conducted at Moolarben Road from end of May 2014 to present. JW questioned how it is distinguished as to which mine the noise is coming from. KB said that a directional monitor is being utilised. <p><u>Dust Monitoring</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depositional Dust Gauges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compliant • Hi Volume Air Samplers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compliant • TEOM’s (Real Time Dust Monitors) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compliant <p><u>Ambient Air Monitoring (Spon Com)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor remains in place at Wollar. • A report will be produced on the data recorded up to and including 30 June 2014 and will be submitted to the

EPA. Report will be provided once complete.

- BL questioned the monitor being removed from Wollar. JL asked if there was a smell. SL said yes.

Environmental Operational Delays

- Reporting period 19 March to 16 June 2014.
- 69.35 Digger/loader & dozer hours lost to noise.
- BS questioned whether the majority of the noise was from the CHPP, and stated it would be useful to know when and where. KB said most operational downtime occurred in Pits 3 & 7 - will attempt to provide a break down on lost hours from pit in following CCC presentations.

Complaints

- Reporting period 18 March 2014 to 19 June 2014.
- 33 mine related complaints received from 8 different locations.
- Majority of complaints are noise related.
- Majority of complaints from Barigan Street, Wollar.

Incidents

- 31 December 2014 – WCPL mined 15.068Mt ROM Coal in 2013 calendar year. Project Approval limit of 15Mt for calendar year
- 31 December 2014 – WCPL processed 9.166Mt through the preparation plant against Project Approval Limit of 8.5Mt
- 26 March 2014 - Water observed spilling over a sediment fence in Pit 3, adjacent to light vehicle road water diversion. Reported to EPA and DoPE. Water testing and visual inspection indicated no sediment impacts to in stream flora/fauna. Expert was engaged from NSW Soil Conservation Service to review and provide advice to WCPL on erosion control.

Environmental Management Plan Status

Noise Management Plan

- Updated and currently awaiting approval by the DoPE.
- A plan with revised monitoring sites was shown and discussed.
- A new attended monitoring point has been established near the Wollar School. TW will be in contact with SL prior to conducting monitoring.

Blast Management Plan & Air Quality Management Plan

- Updated and currently awaiting approval by the DoPE.
- A plan with revised monitoring sites regarding blasting and Air Quality (Dust) was shown and discussed.
- Monitors have been installed at Wollar, and Moolarben near Ridge Road.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan

- Awaiting on comments from OEH before approval from DoPE.

Water Management Plans

- All on schedule for departmental approval by 30 June 2014.
- A plan with the revised groundwater monitoring sites was shown and discussed. There will be an expanded flow monitoring network within the mine.
- A plan with the revised surface water monitoring sites was shown and discussed. BM questioned what flows were present at the Upstream Wilpinjong Creek Gauging station. KB said at present there is no flow at the Upstream Wilpinjong Creek Gauging Station.

Waste Management Plan

- On schedule for submission to the department for approval by 31 July 2014.

Biodiversity Management Plan

- On schedule for submission to the department for approval by end of September 2014.

Mine Operations Plan

- Approval received on 7 June 2014.
- USB drive handed out to CCC members containing an electronic copy of the recently approved WCPL MOP & 2013 AEMR.

Cumbo Creek Alignment

- Update provided.
- WCPL are assessing three options.
 - Full realignment;
 - No realignment; and
 - Mining in proximity to the existing creek alignment – distance yet to be determined.
- BS questioned the difference between point 2 and point 3. KB said point 2 means that the assessment is running a scenario of not mining within a nominal 100m from the low flow channel, but this is still being assessed. KB committed to providing an update at the next CCC meeting.

Wilpinjong Exploration

- A plan displaying the current exploration was shown.
 - New seams (Goulburn and Turill) intersected
 - Location of Moolarben seam trial in Pit 5 North
 - Location of dyke in Pit 4
 - New Seam (Turill) intersected
 - Palaeochannel in Pit 5 South – drilling investigations are continuing

Coal Quality Drilling Results - Seams

- 2 new seams intersected (Goulburn & Turill) NW of Wilpinjong and in Slate Gully.
- 5 seams present at certain areas of Wilpinjong Tenements:
 - **Goulburn Seam** (bottom 1.5m potentially could be washed to a mid-high ash export product (~18-22%) at a good yield.
 - **Turill Seam** (high raw ash. Thinning of coal plies and thickening of parting towards the east, so it is unlikely to be mined).
 - **Moolarben Seam** (currently being trialed in Pit 5 north. Washing to a mid ash export product (~17%). Successful trial so far).
 - **MLC Seam** (not mined due to thickness <0.3m)
 - **Ulan Seam** (main seam mined at Wilpinjong).

Igneous Intrusion Drilling

- A dyke has been located.
- BS questioned if it was in Pit 4? KB advised that it was.
- BH asked how high it was, JL clarified that it was a lava intrusion from below coal seam level that intruded up into the seam.

Palaeochannel Exploration Results

- A ground geophysical survey to be confirmed with an auger drilling program later this month.

Exploration Drilling

- 2014 drilling expected to be completed around beginning of July.
- Site rehab will continue throughout July.
- 6 monthly rehab inspections are currently underway for the 2013 drilling.

Donations

- Update on donations for the period March – June 2014
 - Can Assist – Mudgee and District
 - Local Lands Services
 - Mudgee Readers Festival
 - Cooyal Bushfire Brigade
 - Cooyal Parents Association
 - Clock Awards
 - Mudgee Relay for Life
 - Cudgegong Learning Committee
 - Local Schools
 - Mudgee PCYC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ University of Wollongong ○ Mudgee Scouts ○ Gulgong Folk Club ○ Rylstone Street Feast ○ Lifeskills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total donations amount \$88,538.00 • JW asked what the donation to the Local Land Services was for. JL explained it is to subsidise baits for wild dog control, and available for rate payers within the Local Land Services area. JW thanked Wilpinjong for that donation. • TdeL asked what the donation to the University of Wollongong was for. KB explained it is in relation to a program that promotes intern doctors practicing in the country (Mudgee region) by providing a house to reside in. With the aim of attracting these doctors back to the region once qualified. <p><u>Have a Chat</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Thursday of the month between 1:30 pm and 4:30 pm. • Please make a booking with Kim at the Wollar Store.
	<p>Report Jamie Lees</p> <p><u>Modification 6</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will increase ROM coal from 15mtpa to 16mtpa. • On public exhibition from 27 June for 3 weeks. • JW questioned how long the increase in ROM coal would be happening for. JL said for 1-3 years; from 2018 production will start to decline. • BS asked if 2 hard copies of the document could be put on public exhibition at the shop. JL said he would do that, and also email or make electronic versions available. • BS asked if the modification would be conducted under the MOP? JL said no, any changes to the mine plan and sequence will be updated in the MOP. • BM asked if there were any plans to reduce staff like the other mine sites. JL said there is pressure on finding ways to cut costs, but at this stage there are no expected staff changes. He said the coal industry is going through a “drought”, similar to the farmers. • KB said that as Wilpinjong are meeting their targets, night shift hours are being reduced. BM asked if that was only night shift, with KB replying yes. • BH asked if the 550 workforce included contractors. JL said yes, those that are classed as full time equivalent (FTE). <p><u>Wilpinjong Extension Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-feasibility study continuing – August 2014 completion • Site environmental surveys continue i.e. Ecology • Soil Surveys concluded that no significant sites of BSAL occur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preparing Gateway Certificate documentation • Aboriginal Heritage surveys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ March – June 2014 • Survey areas have been modified slightly due to pre-feasibility studies. With minor changes to ETL and conveyor / haul road alignments • BS asked if there is still a plan to have a Planning Focus Meeting. JL replied that it is a decision for the Department of Planning & Environment. BS asked when that would happen. JL said after the lodgement of the Preliminary Environmental Assessment but potentially quarter 4, but it is up to the DP&E. <p><u>Groundwater monitoring network</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed data download of all newly installed piezometers in June 2014. The data will be used to update the WCPL groundwater model, managed by HydroSimulations. • Final piezometer installations will be done in July 2014. • There is a proposal to install a piezometer 3.3 kilometres to the south of Wollar. <p><u>Feral Animal Control</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An “Invasive Animal Strategy” is being developed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As per the donations list, financial support (\$5000.00) has been given to Goulbourn River and Rylstone District Wild Dog Associations (GRRDWDA) allowing delivery of free baited material to producers participating in cooperative dog control programs. ○ 5500 baits were distributed in the Autumn strategic baiting program. ○ Annual aerial baiting program will allow bait placement within vacant Crown Land in the Wollar, Bara and Bylong districts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual aerial baiting program in conjunction with NPWS and GRRDWDA - 24 km of western boundary. • Ground baiting program over a 9 week period for foxes and wild dogs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 40 bait stations monitored weekly along the entire length of Wilpinjong Creek and Pine Park ECA. (approx 20km of baited trail). Program to be finalised 28/6/14. • BH asked about pigs. JL said the program covers pigs also, but there will be more baiting specifically for pigs. • BS asked if there can be baiting on Peabody land in the village due to foxes being in the village. JL said there are restrictions on how close 1080 can be used in proximity to houses. Therefore there will be no baiting in the village, however the strategy will detail how this will occur. • DC asked BS if the foxes are worse now the baiting has started. BH said no, but they have moved into the village since all the people left. • JL and DC will meet to discuss a plan to bait closer to the village. <p><u>Waste Management</u></p> <p>Asbestos Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHD engaged to perform risk based Asbestos Audit on Peabody owned properties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Field work: June – Sept 2014 ○ Involves over 110 structures • WorkCover investigated WCPL management of asbestos as a result of a complaint from a Wollar Resident <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identified no issues and stated that all relevant processes / approvals were in place ○ It is a Local Government matter and not WorkCover for residential properties • Waste Management Plan currently being developed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ July 2014 – Submission to DP&E ○ October 2014 – EPL Modification ○ Q4 2014 – Targeted asbestos removal based on risk priority
8.	<p>General Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPE for site tour to be provided by WCPL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ hats; ○ gloves; ○ glasses; ○ metatarsal boots; and ○ high vis vest • Attendees to wear to site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ long-sleeve shirt; and ○ long trousers. • KB said to let him know in advance if there were any issues with PPE and he would see if he could arrange some. • PG said he would run the group through a group induction prior to the tour.
9.	<p>2014 Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 22 September – 2pm, Mine, Site Tour BS requested field trip be undertaken first. • Monday 8 December- TBA
10.	<p>Meeting Closed: 4.21 pm</p>

Action Items List

Agreed Action Items/Outcome	Who	When
BS to provide Wilpinjong alternative options to feral animal control and evidence of increase.	BS	Prior to next meeting
Waste Management to be addressed at every CCC meeting	JL	Future meetings

KS to print 10 x copies of approved minutes for Progress association	KS	Prior to next meeting
KP to display 1 x copy of approved previous minutes on Wollar Shop notice board	KP	Prior to next meeting
New conditions printed for CCC	KB	Prior to next meeting
Technical reports made easier to read	KB	As required
Email to be sent to CCC members regarding required PPE for site visit – next meeting	LA	Prior to next meeting.
Provide break down of lost hours by location of operational downtime due to noise for CCC presentation.	KB	Prior to next meeting.
2 hard copies of Modification 6 to be put out for Public Exhibit at Wollar Shop.	JL	27 June 2014.
JL and DC will meet to discuss a plan to bait closer to the village.	JL/DC	Prior to next meeting.