

Wilpinjong Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Wilpinjong Coal Mine – Boardroom
22 September 2014

Present: Bruce Hughes (BH)
Bev Smiles (BS)
Kim Peach (KP)
Kieren Bennetts (KB)
Blair Jackson (BJ)

Absent: Col Bailey (CB)

Apologies: Brian McDermott (BM), Scott Lillis (SL), Max Walker (MW), David Crust (DC)

Invited Guests: Clark Potter (CP) - Senior Environmental Advisor, Peabody Energy, Wilpinjong
Karin Fogarty (KF) – Environmental Advisor, Peabody Energy, Wilpinjong
Wayne Jones (WJ) – Senior Compliance Officer, Department of Planning & Environment

Observers: Nil

Scribe: Kellie Smith (KS)

Commenced: 3.26 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 Bruce Hughes – Resident Bev Smiles – Resident Kim Peach – Owner of Wollar Shop Clark Potter – Senior Environmental Officer, Wilpinjong Coal Kieren Bennetts – Environment and Community Manager, Wilpinjong Coal Blair Jackson – General Manager, Wilpinjong Coal
3.	Site Tour A site tour of Wilpinjong Coal commenced at 2.00 pm, prior to CCC meeting.
4.	Confirmation of Previous Minutes – 23 June 2014 BH moved previous minutes, BS seconded.
5.	Action Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste management to be addressed at every CCC meeting. Captured in KB’s presentation. • KS to print 10 x copies of approved minutes for Progress Association. The approved minutes were printed and provided to the Progress Association at the previous meeting. • KP to display 1 x copy of approved previous minutes on the Wollar Shop notice board. Action is ongoing. • KB to arrange for new Project Approval conditions to be printed for the CCC. Emailed and Printed. • KB to make technical reports easier to read.

	<p>Captured in KB's presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email to be sent to CCC members regarding PPE required for site visit next – emailed by LA on 8 September 2014. • KB to provide breakdown of lost hours of operational downtime due to noise for CCC presentation. <p>Captured in KB's presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie Lees (JL) to ensure 2 x hard copies of Modification 6 are put on public exhibition at Wollar Shop – completed. <p>Business Arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS to provide Wilpinjong alternative options to feral animal control and evidence of increase. The action is still outstanding. The problem is not as bad as it was last year, however BS will double check with the people concerned and provide an answer at the next meeting. • JL and DC to meet to discuss a plan to bait closer to Wollar village. JL and DC have met. Neither was present at the CCC meeting, therefore outcome will be discussed at the next meeting.
1.	<p>Correspondence In:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10/09/2014 – Email from Mid-Western Regional Council nominating Cr Max Walker as delegate on the CCC. • 17/9/2014 – Apologies received from BM and DC. <p>Correspondence Out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15/7/2014 – Email to CCC members with Minutes of the last meeting (including the presentations). • 8/9/2014 – Email to CCC members with Meeting Notice and Agenda. • 17/9/2014 – Email to CCC members requesting PPE information.
2.	<p>Report Kieren Bennetts</p> <p><u><i>Aerial Overview of the site</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KB showed the location of Pit 5 on the photograph and explained it is the main area being mined at present. <p><u><i>Noise Monitoring – Locations (new Noise Management Plan)</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KB showed the new noise monitoring locations. <p><u><i>Attended Noise Monitoring conducted on 13th – 15th May 2014</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The monitoring was conducted during the evening and night at five sites. • The duration of all measurements was 15 minutes. • The mine was audible during monitoring from the following sources – general mine noise continuum, and rear dump trucks. • Many non-mining related noise sources were present at the time of monitoring including road traffic tyre noise, trains, aircraft, dogs, bats, frogs and insects. • WCP was compliant with the noise limits at the monitoring locations during the May / June 2014 monitoring period. There was discussion around the May monitoring being conducted from the old monitoring sites. KB confirmed that was correct. <p><u><i>Attended Noise Monitoring conducted on 25th – 26th August 2014</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The monitoring was conducted during the night at seven sites. • The duration of all measurements was 15 minutes. • The mine was audible during monitoring from the following sources – general mine noise continuum, engines and exhaust surges, and rear dump trucks. • Many non-mining related noise sources present at the time of the monitoring including road traffic tyre noise, trains, aircraft, dogs, bats, frogs and insects. • WCP was compliant with the noise limits at the monitoring locations during the August 2014 monitoring period. There was discussion around the August monitoring being conducted from the new monitoring sites. KB confirmed that was correct. It was requested that a map be provided showing the old monitoring sites, and the current monitoring sites as well as reports of the monitoring that are easy to read. <p><u><i>Correlation Noise Monitoring conducted between 10th – 12th September 2014</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted by Global Acoustics. • The purpose of the survey was to measure the difference between the noise levels monitored at the real time noise monitors and the noise received at two sites, as nominated by the Wollar Progress Association. • Results are expected in two weeks. • BH queried why Mogo Road was not on the map shown. KB confirmed Mogo Road was included under additional noise monitoring. • BS asked if the correlation report will outline where the mining activity was occurring while the attended monitoring is taking place. KB advised the information was with the consultant and would be provided to the CCC in due course.

Additional Noise Monitoring

- Real time noise monitoring at Mogo Road – 11 March to 15 May 2014
- The report being prepared by Advitech. Key findings were: -
 - low frequency noise sources (rail or mine noise) were observed in the recorded audio;
 - the assessed mining noise levels were well below the Project Approval criteria;
 - mining noise not detected in the form of 'Peak' noise levels that may cause short term disruption to disturbance to sleep;
 - while audible on occasion, mining noise is not a dominant noise source in the area. Dominant noise sources detected were: insects and livestock (query by BH regarding livestock being heard as no livestock at residence); and
 - noise complaints from Mogo Road area appeared to coincide with calm and stable atmospheric conditions (i.e. inversions) and no wind.

Real time Noise Monitoring

- Real time noise monitors are located at Araluen Road, Wollar Central and Wandoona.

Dust Monitoring

- Depositional Dust Gauges
 - Compliant
- Hi Volume Air Samplers
 - Compliant
- TEOM's (Real Time Dust Monitors)
 - Compliant
- Wheel Generated Dust Review
 - WCPL commissioned Pacific Environmental Ltd to undertake assessment during December 2013, April 2014 & June 2014.
 - Purpose of the assessment was to comply with EPL 12425 Condition U1:
 - Particulate Matter Control Best Practice Implementation - Wheel Generated Dust requires Wilpinjong Coal to achieve and maintain a dust control efficiency of 80% or more on all active haul roads.
 - Control Efficiency is calculated

$$CE = \frac{E_{uncontrolled} - E_{controlled}}{E_{uncontrolled}} \times 100$$

Where E = emissions rate of the activity.

- The dust control effectiveness was calculated as 80% on 18th December 2013, 87% on 8th April 2014 and 95% on 6th June 2014. On all three occasions the site was maintaining a dust control efficient of greater than 80%.
- A number of factors contribute to dust generation from haul roads. No site specific relationships were evident from the data collected at Wilpinjong Coal, when the data was compared to silt and moisture data, meteorological data and operational parameters.
- However, a recent ACARP study has shown that consideration of site specific operational factors is critical to minimising the level of dust generated from unsealed roads, including: -
 - Roads under construction
 - Roads recently graded
 - Roads adjacent to stockpiles
 - Highly trafficked areas

Ambient Air Monitoring

- WCPL commissioned Pacific Environmental to undertake ambient air quality monitoring in response to ongoing odour/spoon complaints in Wollar and Cooks Gap between March and July 2014.
- 45 complaints were received during the monitoring period, but all were from the Wollar area.
- Summary of the report findings:
 - the overall average H2S concentrations were higher during periods prior to complaints than during periods without complaints. However, it seems unlikely that spontaneous combustion at the mine was the primary source of the odour nuisance.
- BS raised a concern with the summary of the report finding in that she did not understand it.
- CP explained that the level of H2S was so low that it could not be determined if it was a measurement or the operational noise of the instrument.
- BS asked if the higher level of H2S causes the complaints.
- CP confirmed that the information was plotted to draw a correlation but there was no connection between the

higher levels of H₂S and the complaints being received.

- BS queried where the smell was coming from if not the mine?
- CP said they could not confirm as the readings are so low, not sure if the instrument noise or a measurement. He confirmed there were reports of smelling sulphur burning and H₂S.
- BJ explained that the discrepancy was because the levels were so low, that they are difficult to measure, but the nose is sensitive enough to smell it.
- BH said it is a smell that was not present in Wollar before.
- Summary of the report findings continued:
 - The average concentrations of nitric oxide (NO) were higher during the period prior to complaints than during periods without complaints, but the concentrations were well below the human odour threshold. Other possible sources of odour include local traffic, domestic wood burning, and waste water treatment.
 - For all measured pollutants and metrics the concentrations at Wollar and Cooks Gap were significantly below the relevant air quality criteria.
- BH confirmed that waste water treatment (ie: septic tanks) is an issue in Wollar only in the wet season, but wood/coal have a different smell.
- CP will take the new report down to Wollar.

Operational Downtime Since previous CCC Meeting (does not include associated equipment stood down – i.e. trucks, graders, attended plant or contractor operations)

- Digger/loader and dozer hours lost
 - Breakdown by event
 - 1% Dust
 - 99% noise
 - No. of hours lost per pit
 - Pit 3 – 14.77
 - Pit 4 – 15.21
 - Pit 5 – 4.72

Community Complaints

- 41 complaints for the time period 1 June 2014 to 18 September 2014
 - Break down of complaints by type
 - 51% Noise
 - 21% Blast
 - 18% Odour/Spon com
 - 5% Dust
 - 5% Property Issue
 - Breakdown of the 9 Blast Complaints
 - 54% Overpressure
 - 31% Vibration
 - 8% Dust
 - 7% Noise
 - Complaints breakdown – by complainant and location
 - 35% Barrigan Street
 - 7% Barnett Street
 - 10% Cooks Gap
 - 7% Mogo Road
 - 5% Moolarben Road
 - 3% Ulan-Wollar Road
 - 10% Winchester Crescent, Cooks Gap
 - 8% Wollar
 - 5% Barigan Road
 - 10% Araluen Road

The complaints by person graph was included also.

Recent Environmental Incidents

- 30 July 2014 at 15:52 – A scheduled blast resulted in a fume event. 3C contained on site. Unplanned reaction of Dyno Nobel Titan 2070G emulsion product. WCPL implemented the Wilpinjong Coal Pollution Incident Response Management Plan. An internal blast investigation was conducted, including an independent analysis of the product.

Keylah Dump

- 1.2 lcm overburden dump containing inert and carbonaceous material will be mined, commencing October 2014 and scheduled to be ongoing into 2015 during favourable weather conditions.

- Dust and odour will be managed with water, by either soaking or misting of material through sprinklers and/or a water fogger.
- BH commented that it would be best to mine in the day due to the noise and queried whether using the water would overcome the odour and dust issues.
- KB confirmed that the plan is to flood or deluge where mining the dump and also use a dust suppressant and fire retardant.
- BS queried what were 'favourable conditions' and what the definition of adverse weather was. KB confirmed the EPA defines 'adverse weather' for Wilpinjong as 'calm, cold weather with inversions'.
- KB also confirmed that a draft Air Quality Management Plan has been submitted to the EPA.
- BH commented that WCPL will need to be careful when mining Keylah as it is on public display.
- BS noted that Keylah needed to be mined and gone by the end of next year under as a condition under the approval.

Environmental Management Plans – Update

Noise Management Plan

- Submitted to DP&E – WCPL preparing response to comments.

Blast Management Plan & Air Quality Management Plan

- Submitted to DP&E – WCPL preparing response to comments.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan

- Submitted to DP&E – WCPL preparing response to comments from both DP&E and OEH.

Water Management Plans

- Submitted to DP&E – WCPL preparing response to comments from both DP&E and NOW.

Waste Management Plans

- Submitted to DP&E – WCPL preparing response to comments.

Biodiversity Management Plan

- On schedule for submission to DP&E on 30 September 2014. Submission to OEH and primary consultation undertaken.

Mine Operations Plan

- WCPL are seeking an amendment of the approved MOP to align sequence of mining and rehabilitation plans, with recent modifications to the WCPL mining schedule.
- MOP submitted to DRE on 4 September 2014 for approval.

Cumbo Creek Realignment

- Currently assessing mining in proximity to the existing creek alignment.
- Full realignment and no realignment are no longer being considered.
- BH commented that on the site tour he noticed the green barrier along Cumbo Creek and did not think that would be any use if a big flood event happened.
- BS asked if Cumbo Creek would eventually be moved, KB confirmed that it is a possibility in the future but not at this stage. BS queried whether that would change the current approval, and KB confirmed that it would, once a decision had been made a presentation will be given to the CCC. It does not involve a modification, just notification.
- BH queried whether the coal quality would make a difference to the decision regarding Cumbo Creek in the future. KB confirmed that the decision will be consistent with environmental approvals and BJ confirmed that the coal quality is known to be consistent with other areas.

Organic Growth Medium ("OGM")

- OGM is pasteurised soil conditioner that contains nutrients and organic matters which have been recycled from the urban waste stream. Its primary aim is to add organics to poor soil present at Wilpinjong and being applied at 100t/ha.
- WCPL are using OGM as a commitment to undertake rehabilitation trials. OGM has not been trialled previously within the Mudgee mining district. The trial has included an area without topsoil application to deem if OGM is a viable topsoil alternative.
- BH commented that he believed the use of OGM was a good idea.
- BS queried whether the odour would be leaving site? KB and BJ advised they were not sure, but it is possible.

Exploration Update

- All drilling has now finished for the year.
- Data interpretation and modelling is ongoing.
- Rehab inspections of drill sites are currently underway (post-drilling and 6 monthly checks).
- Looking to recommence drilling in Q1 2015 and the drilling will take a few months. BS queried whether the Q1 2015 drilling will be in front of where WCPL are currently mining. KB and BJ confirmed that it is still at Slate Gully, and

there will be no difference.

- Planning for environmental due diligence, approvals and permits will get underway in Q4 2014.

Community Update

Donations

Donations for the period June to September 2014

- Lifeskills Plus - \$25,000.00
 - Watershed Landcare (Green Day) - \$2,500.00 and BBQ
 - Little Wings – Everyday Hero (Postie Ride) - \$500.00
 - Rotary Club of Mudgee Sunrise (Carols in the Park) - \$6,000.00
 - Gulgong Community Project 2014 (Community Facility at Billy Dunn Oval) - \$5,000.00 'in principle'
- Total: \$39,000.00**
Year to Date: \$96,237.89

Have a Chat

- 1st Thursday of the month between 1.30 pm and 4.30 pm at the Wollar Store
- For bookings see Kim at the Wollar Store.

Modification 6

- Purpose is to increase annual ROM coal production from 15Mt to 16Mt
- The following aspects of WCPL would not change arising from the Modification:
 - Open cut and contained infrastructure area;
 - Mine life;
 - Saleable coal transport off-site (12.5 Mtpa) or associated average or maximum rail movements; and
 - Operational workforce (up to approximately 550 people).
- Assessed Environmental Impacts
 - Noise – no change to noise impacts in comparison to Modification 5
 - Air – no additional exceedances of applicable air quality criteria
 - Groundwater – No material changes to approved and licensed water extraction volumes
 - Surface water – no additional environmental risks
- Timing of Process
 - Public Exhibition – Q3 2014
 - DP&I Assessment – Q3 2014
 - PAC Determination – Q4 2014
- Discussions arising
 - KB confirmed that Jamie Lees (JL) had a new position with Peabody and was relocating to the corporate office in Brisbane. BS asked if the work at Slate Gully will continue in JL's absence. BJ confirmed that the project will be managed via the corporate office and that JL will continue to work on it until a new person is appointed to take over his position.
 - BS queried where Slate Gully project was up too. BJ confirmed that a presentation was currently with the Department of Trade and Investment. BS queried whether it was a good resource, BJ confirmed that it was, and that it was consistent what WCPL are currently doing and had received a favourable response. BS requested an update in the next meeting, which KB confirmed would take place. BJ confirmed it is due to commence in 2018.
 - BH heard an ABC report that WCPL had been fined for overproducing and queried if true. KB and BJ confirmed it was; that a fine had been received and paid, and subsequent media attention.

3.

General Business:

Concerns regarding local resident's noise complaints

- BH raised a concern regarding a local resident who had phoned to say they had been making complaints in relation noise to the EPA and WCPL but had not received any responses from either EPA or WCPL. KB confirmed that he had phoned the resident each time a complaint had been made to discuss.
- BH suggested maybe a noise monitor could be placed at the location. CP advised that he had conducted attended noise monitoring at the location, had informed the resident that it would be taking place, and provided feedback with the results.
- BS queried whether the resident had only recently started complaining. KB confirmed that the resident would previously make complaints, but did not require a phone call back. Now the complaints are received in the middle of the night, and a phone call requested after 5.00 pm the following day.
- BS queried whether the reason for the increase in noise is due to increased activities in Pit 3. BJ confirmed that no activity has taken place since February, the same as Pit 7. BS acknowledged that noise will be ongoing.

	<p><u>State Rail Camp</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BH asked whether WCPL could contact them about the rubbish their campers are leaving behind. KB confirmed he had already contacted them and had a conversation, but would follow up again. <p><u>Questions arising from Tony Wellbourne's Noise Report last meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BS advised there were still some questions from the community regarding the report presented last meeting, in particular in relation to clouds, sandstone escarpments etc. not having an effect on the noise. It was suggested that BS collate the questions from the residents, send to KB who will request the answers from Tony Wellbourne for discussion at the next meeting. <p><u>Wollar Progress Association Request</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BS tabled a letter on behalf of the Wollar Progress Association requesting financial assistance for the annual running costs of Wollar Community Hall as the annual costs are in excess of \$2,500.00. The Wollar Progress Association intend to use the hall more regularly as a community facility, holding functions etc. KB confirmed that the letter will be tabled at the monthly Donations Committee Meeting and advised that if approved, criteria of receiving the assistance would be WCPL receiving a letter of recognition with a photograph etc. BS confirmed that could be provided. <p><u>Wayne Jones – Department of Planning & Environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wayne Jones attended the meeting to introduce himself and provide summary of his role. Wayne is employed in the Compliance section of the Department of Planning & Environment NSW and located in Singleton. He has recently undertaken an audit of mine websites, and undertakes site inspection approximately once to twice a month. Wayne's contact details are: <i>Wayne Jones</i> <i>Senior Compliance Officer</i> <i>Northern Region</i> <i>Planning Services, Resources Assessments</i> <i>Department of Planning & Environment GPO Box 3145 Singleton NSW 2330</i> <i>T 02 65753406 M 0437 533 549</i> <i>E wayne.jones@planning.nsw.gov.au</i> <p><u>Query regarding correlation report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BS queried what happens to the noise correlation report once finalised. KB confirmed it will be sent to the DP&E, and then posted to the members of the Wollar Progress Association. <p><u>Query as to roles of meeting attendees with WCPL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BS requested that the attendees of the from WCPL advise what their roles with WCPL were: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karin Fogarty – Environmental Advisor Clark Potter – Senior Environmental Advisor Kieren Bennetts – Environment & Community Manager
4.	<p>2014 Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 8 December- 3.00 pm, Parklands Resort Mudgee (invitation to remain after meeting for Christmas dinner)
5.	<p>Meeting Closed: 4.44 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 from demolition program to be addressed at every CCC meeting	JL	Future meetings
KB to update presentation showing both the old and new attended noise monitoring sites.	KB	Prior to next meeting
KB to provide noise monitoring reports in easy to read format.	KB	Future meetings
CP to take copy of the Pacific Environment Limited report to Wollar Store.	CP	Prior to next meeting
KB to provide Slate Gully project update at next meeting.	KB	At next meeting
KB to speak to State Rail regarding the campers' rubbish being left behind.	KB	Prior to next meeting
BS to collate questions regarding the Global Acoustic's noise report, and send to KB. KB will request the answers from Global Acoustic's for discussion at next meeting.	BS/KB	Prior to next meeting