

Wilpinjong Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Parklands Resort – Meeting Room 1
25 November 2013

Present: Brian McDermott (BM)
Bev Smiles (BS)
Bruce Hughes (BH)
Scott Lillis (SL)
Col Bailey (CB)
Kieren Bennetts (KB) –Environment & Community Manager, Peabody Energy, Wilpinjong
Kim Peach (KP)
John Webb (JW)
Blair Jackson (BJ)

Absent: Nil

Apologies: David Crust (DC)

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

Observers: Denise Williams, Mick Fetch

Scribe: Catherine French

Commenced: 4.00pm

Chair: Lisa Andrews (LA)

1.	Welcome: LA introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2.	Declarations of Interest BM declared his interest as a licence holder over some Peabody Pastoral Land.
3.	Confirmation of Previous Minutes – 23 September 2013 ADJUSTMENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 1 – John Jakes’ (JJ) application for CCC membership: BS believed the outcome of the conversation was that JJ was welcome to attend meetings. It was confirmed that approval needs to be sought from the Chair for JJ or any other visitor prior to attending the meeting in accordance with the Guidelines and as a matter of courtesy. General Business: Wilpinjong Rural Fire Service involvement: Clarification was requested. Slate Gully Project Assessment: Clarification requested. Gulgong Tennis Club donation – KB confirmed Wilpinjong has not received a letter. <i>The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record. Moved by BM 2nd by BH.</i>
4.	Action Items and Business Arising: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Resources and Energy link was sent to CCC members on 9/10/2013 Review of Environmental factors link was sent to CCC members on 9/10/2013 S75W public concerns and issues were sent to CCC members – other discussion in presentation Monitoring bore water – discussion in presentation Cumbo Creek technical investigation – BS requested a copy of KPI’s Blast monitoring – BS questioned and criticize the Helen Barnes’ blast report- explaining there was no background

	<p>about the conditions. BS questioned why there was blast monitoring for only one month while noise was monitored for two.</p> <p>KB explained mobile phone reception is required to allow for daily checking of monitor functionality and was not available at this monitoring location. A power failure in July resulted in there being no records during this period, therefore the noise monitoring was undertaken over two month period to capture 4 weeks of records, as originally agreed with the landowner. BS questioned why there were only four blasts reported on when there had been 15 in that month. KB explained only blasts that received complaints were reported on.</p> <p>7. Attended noise monitoring: BS questioned how the mine chooses its sites and what criteria are used. KB explained sites are selected based on locality and complaints profile, then presented for approval by NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoPI) via the Noise Management Plan, following consultation with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). SL raised concerns about night monitoring in the Wollar public areas without community knowledge. KB explained that the mine is not generally aware of when the monitoring occurs, thus preventing potential to modify operations during the monitoring, but could investigate notification options with the noise consultant.</p>
5.	<p>Correspondence In:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25/11/13 – Late correspondence received from Wollar Progress Association (WPA) raising a number of concerns. KB confirmed that the mine will take the concerns on notice and respond at the next CCC. <p>Correspondence Out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8/10/13 – Letter to JJ from Margaret MacDonald Hill confirming their telephone conversation where she explained the consideration, at the last meeting of his application to join the CCC 9/10/13 – Email - minutes of previous meeting CCC 17/11/13 – Email from LA advising of agenda and location of next CCC meeting 20/11/13 – Email from KB – extending an invitation to all CCC members and invited guests to dinner following the CCC meeting
6.	<p>Report Kieren Bennetts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial photo shown displaying current works and main areas of operation. It was questioned how many hectares were affected; JL explained there is approved disturbance of approximately 1900 hectares. <p><u>Attended Noise Monitoring</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted on 21st – 23rd October 2013 Locations displayed for attended and real time noise monitoring sites The Mine was compliant with Project Approval conditions Mine was audible during monitoring (audible noise included truck exhaust, machinery engines/fans and dozers) Many non-mining related noise sources were also present at the time of monitoring including (audible noise, such as road traffic, trains, dogs and insects) <p><u>Dust Monitoring</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depositional dust gauges – compliant High volume air samplers – compliant TEOM's (real time dust monitors) 26th September 2013 - non-compliance (Araluen Road) – was the result of a combination of mine dust, regional dust and dust from Araluen Road. 18th & 19th October 2013 – non-compliances at Araluen Road and Wollar caused by bushfire smoke Notification provided to DoPI and Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) on each occasion. <p><u>Notice to provide information and/or records</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued 30th October 2013 by EPA Wilpinjong responses submitted 22nd November 2013 25 requests to provide information and/or records, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions taken to minimise dust generation from the mine between 10th to 17th October 2013, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standing down of equipment (what and where) Planning of blasting activities Responsibility for these decisions Dust management tools used by Wilpinjong Coal Copies of all records in relation to the above points provided

Operational Downtime – 24th September - 24th November

- Dust – 5.29 hours
- Noise – 2.13 hours

Ambient Air Monitoring

- Ambient air monitoring remains in place at Wollar until advised by the EPA.
- Reports are available on the Peabody Website or at the Wollar General Store.

Complaints 23rd September - 24th November

- 21 mine-related complaints received from nine different households.
 - Blast - 5
 - Noise - 5
 - Dust - 9
 - Traffic - 1
 - Spontaneous combustion/odour - 1

2013 Rehabilitation Areas

- Map displayed
- Aiming to achieve 40 ha – subject to capping performance of tailings dam in Pit 1.

Draft Noise Management Plan

- Draft Plan finalised, developed in consultation with the EPA
- Monitoring locations have been changed to reflect changes in land ownership and to be nearer to private residences (refer slide 13)
- Locations of proposed attended noise monitoring site shown
- BS questioned if these would be done bi-monthly – CP confirmed they are hoping to be done monthly
- Management Plan to be submitted to DoPI for approval in accordance with Project Approval.

Mine Operations Plan – Review

- Have received verbal approval for Mine Operations Plan (MOP) extension until April 2014
- New MOP will be submitted (in accordance with new guidelines) following approval of S75W Modification
- OEH consulted regarding MOP development

2014 Wilpinjong Exploration Program

ML1573:

- 6 coal quality boreholes
- 5 structural (igneous definition) boreholes
- Up to 84 structural (palaeochannel definition) boreholes
- 2 large diameter coal quality boreholes.

EL7091 (Slate Gully):

- 2 coal quality boreholes
- 1 large diameter coal quality borehole.

EL6169:

- 3 coal quality boreholes
- Site preparation earthworks are planned to commence early December 2013
- Drilling is planned to commence early January 2014
- Drilling is planned to continue for approximately 4 - 5 months
- Drill crew will be working a 10 days on/4 days off OR Monday to Friday roster
- Operating during daylight hours only.

2013 Ground Geophysics

- Ground geophysics is required to assist in surface exploration mapping
- The geophysical tool used is a passive surface electromagnetic device that uses a single frequency to identify unconsolidated alluvial deposits vs. consolidated rock and coal seams
- Will be used to establish depths at which paleochannel material cuts through target coal seams south of Pit 5
- Will also be used to confirm theories of an igneous intrusion based on variation in rock types north of Pit 3.

Community Update

Donations

- Can Assist - Can Assist provides accommodation, financial assistance and home-based support to people in country NSW affected by cancer.
- Ronald McDonald House - RMHC is an independent, non-profit organisation, that helps seriously ill children and their families when they need it most
- It was confirmed that donation decisions are based on a calendar year and anyone is welcome to put forward a request.

Upcoming Events/Commitments

- Rotary Club of Mudgee – Christmas Carols, Max Potential, 2014 Mudgee Show

Consultation

Wollar 'Have a Chat'

- Occurs 1st Thursday of every month between 1:30pm & 4:30pm
- Bookings required – see Kim at the store.

Report Jamie Lees

S75W Modification

- Responses to Submissions submitted 3rd October 2013
- Currently in assessment phase with DoPI
- Will be referred to the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC)
- Determination expected in late December or January 2014

Future Extensions – Wilpinjong Extension Project

- Mine planning progressing
- Environmental baseline studies commenced in November 2013 including agricultural resources, groundwater and geochemistry
- Commencing Gateway Site Verification process. JL explained there is a new process to determine if the proposed project is on strategic agriculture lands. A Gateway Certificate application will be lodged with Government in early 2014 and also made available to the CCC
- Groundwater monitoring network extensions near completion
- Additional surface water quality monitoring site established in Slate Gully
- Lodgment of EIS proposed in Q4 2015

Groundwater Monitoring Network (GWMN) Extension

- Piezos that Wilpinjong had installed were dominated by Wilpinjong Creek, data was adequate to assist the supporting model
- The expanded GWMN is monitoring alluviums, fractured rock, coal reserve, water levels under infrastructure areas, tailings dam monitoring, all other holes. The piezos installed have data loggers in them
- JL discussed how Wilpinjong is currently reviewing water licences and licencing the relevant networks – alluvial piezos covered under the *Water Management Act 2000* do not need to be licenced.
- SL identified there is no groundwater monitoring to the south of the village and questioned whether Wilpinjong is interested in the water from that end of town. JL explained the seam outcrops in the south and therefore the model demonstrates there would likely be no impact. SL advised he had concerns as Ulan didn't install bores for many years and it was evident there was an impact. JL confirmed future bores have not been ruled out. BS questioned how often the model is recalibrated; JL explained it is recalibrated when there is a change to the mine plan or an anomaly. Currently it is being recalibrated for the Wilpinjong Extension project.

	<p><u>Land Management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2013 St John's Wort weed control program has commenced around the mine and includes some road reserves. Poor seasonal conditions have led to a lot of weeds. Concerns were raised regarding Saffron thistle down near Cumbo Creek – JL discussed that Saffron thistle is an indicator of competition resulting either from over grazing or extended dry periods affecting plant growth. It was confirmed that anybody that leases land from Peabody is obligated to maintain the land. <p><u>Tree Line Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation will commence on 2.5km of tree line corridors to be planted in 2014. Trees native to the area will be planted to provide a connective corridor between remnant areas of vegetation. <p><u>Crown Road Closures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications to close roads were submitted in 2006 by Wilpinjong and MWRC <u>Council and Crown roads within mining areas</u> Crown Lands restructured in 2007 and applications were misplaced When reviewing the status of the roads this year the error was identified Crown Lands have located the paper work and are in the process of re-advertising the Crown road closures Notice of proposed road closure was advertised in the Mudgee Guardian on the 22nd November 2013 <p><u>Community Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wollar Shop – lease renewed with Kim Peach Ulan Road upgrade- road works will commence soon with the recent money received by Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC) from the State Government. Three mines and MWRC working towards developing an implementation agreement detailing how the Ulan Road Strategy will work Investigating the opportunity to demolish the burnt house at the entrance to Wollar. There is a standing issue with where to take the waste as it cannot all be taken to the Mudgee tip. The mine only holds an EPL approval to dump and restricted amount of large tyres in pit. The section 75W is seeking approval to allow disposal of inert building waste from Peabody houses in the pit as well. Any demolition program will be undertaken by a licensed person and waste will be appropriately separated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was suggested there could be a fire training program on an asbestos house that is to be demolished.
7.	<p>General Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BS raised a question about the term 'extreme weather events' KB confirmed 'extreme weather events' are being investigated as part of a new Pollution Reduction Program (PRP) condition within Wilpinjong's EPL, currently operating using the existing dust Trigger Action Response Protocol (TARP) whilst developing the PRP. JW raised that in the future closure of the mine, it is important that fire trails are left through the rehabilitated areas. It was confirmed that these factors are included in future planning. BH raised concern about the grazing around the Wollar Creek – JL confirmed that overstocking will not be tolerated and proper grazing techniques will be used.
8.	<p>2014 Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 17th March – 3pm, Wollar General Store Monday 23rd June – Mine, Site Tour Monday 22nd September – 3pm, Wollar General Store Monday 8th December- TBA
9.	<p>Meeting Closed: 5:50pm.</p>

Action Items List

Agreed Action Items/Outcome	Who	When
Issue Cumbo Creek technical investigation KPI's	KB	Prior to next meeting
Investigate notification protocol to community prior to attended noise monitoring	KB	Prior to next meeting
Respond to Wollar Progress Association letter tabled at CCC meeting.	KB	Prior to next meeting