

Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Pine Dale Coal Mine – Yarraboldy Extension

C/- Enhance Place Pty

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Minutes of the Meeting of Members of the Pine Dale Coal Mine-Yarraboldy Extension & EL7621

Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

Held at the Black Gold Conference Centre,

121 Main Street, Wallerawang NSW 2845

On Thursday 25th June, 2015 at 2.00pm

Present:	Mr Howard Fisher	(Chairman)
	Mr Robert Taylor	(Community representative)
	Ms Jessica Heath	(Lithgow City Council)
	Mr Graham Goodwin	(Company representative)
	Mr Mark Frewin	(CCC Secretary – Company representative)
Apologies:	Mr Peter Barnes	(Community representative)
	Clr Colin Hunter	(Lithgow City Council)
	Mrs Sharon Brown	(Community representative - Gundungurra Tribal Council)

1. Welcome and apologies

The apology of Mrs Sharon Brown, Mr Peter Barnes and Clr Colin Hunter was noted.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

A motion to accept the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th of December 2014 was passed.

3. Matters Arising

No matters from the previous meeting were noted to require discussion.

4. Enhance Place (Pine Dale Mine) Yarraboldy Extension – Company report

Mr Goodwin ran through a presentation outlining the progress of the mine, and environmental monitoring. The presentation is attached for further detail. The main areas of discussion by the Committee are outlined below.

4.1 Report on progress of the mine

- Operations ended in March 2014
- Since that time the mine had been in Care and Maintenance

Mr Taylor asked who was working at the site and covering of the various statutory functions under the mining act while the mine was in Care and Maintenance. Mr Goodwin outlined that he was the Manager Mining Engineering, and explained who was performing the Open Cut Inspector, Statutory Electrical and Mechanical Engineering functions. Mr Taylor appreciated the update and indicated that employment was the type of information community members were interested to understand.

4.2 Environmental monitoring

- All the environmental monitoring showed the site was compliant; which was as expected given the site is not operating. This element of the update was therefore brief.
- Mr Goodwin pointed out that full monitoring details are available on the company Website.

Mr Taylor queried why the monitoring was still required given the mine was not operating? Mr Goodwin pointed out that it was required for statutory reasons.

When it was noted that no surface water discharges were made during the period, a question was raised about what happened to any water collected on the site. Mr Goodwin explained that in accordance with approvals, water was directed back into historic underground workings and therefore did not feed into the Neubecks Creek.

- It was noted that the sediment management system continued to be maintained

A question was asked in relation to sediment ponds, and whether any additives were used to treat water. Mr Goodwin clarified that no additives were used in treating the water – which was only surface run-off - and that monitoring confirmed it was all within relevant limits.

4.3 Rehabilitation works

- Vegetation development on the Yarraboldy amenity bund was noted – with good development of a Japanese Millet base following seeding in Jan 2015. It was noted that Acacias and Gums were developing and would emerge over time as they matured.

In response to a question it was noted that a local firm from Portland had conducted recent rehabilitation works.

Mr Taylor commended the company for progressing rehabilitation works during this care and maintenance period.

- Progress on pasture development in the areas known as B&C was outlined including that:
 - Lime had been added to improve soil chemistry
 - Further weed spraying was planned to deal with African Love Grass in some areas
 - That a key upcoming focus during the Spring planting season would be on addressing contour drains which had not developed as desired, with hydro mulching being planned over coming months to improve results in these areas.

Mr Fisher inquired if the Upper McQuarie Weed Management Council was consulted on weed management? Mr Goodwin clarified that the main authority regulating the mine rehabilitation - including weed management - was the Department of Resources and Energy. In addition the company took advice from various experts as required to ensure the program was well targeted and effective.

4.4 Complaints discussion

- Mr Goodwin noted that only one complaint was received since the last meeting.
- This complaint related to a concern by a neighbor who conducts horse training early each morning, and had been concerned that mine personnel conducting noise monitoring may have spooked his horses. Mr Frewin indicated that arrangements had been made to mitigate risks of this occurring.

Mr Taylor questioned if the Butterfly monitoring was required given mining was not occurring.

- Mr Frewin indicated that the Company was reviewing monitoring requirements, but that any changes would need to be approved by the Commonwealth Government. Meanwhile the Company would continue with the program as required to meet its regulatory requirements.

4.5 Exploration lease consultation

Mr Frewin noted that regular update on the Companies Exploration lease had been agreed to become part of this forum at the last meeting. This was required to cover off increased consultation requirements around Exploration leases imposed by the State Government.

As reported at the previous meeting, the Company had applied to have EL7621 renewed. At the time of this meeting, approval of this renewal remained outstanding.

The main purpose of the Exploration lease was to support future mining development, and so it feeds into the next phase of mine development – as outlined in the next section.

4.6 Outlook for next phase of mine development

Mr Frewin discussed the process for the next phase of development at the mine. This would require a full planning process, including various public consultation and Planning Assessment Commission processes.

In discussion it was noted this would likely take several years of process.

The Company continued to review development options for the project considering environmental, planning and economic factors.

5. General Business

5.1 Correspondence

The only correspondence for this meeting was the notice issued to local residents seeking input to the meeting.

It was noted that one resident had contacted the Company, and indicated a written submission would be made prior to the meeting. At the time of the meeting this was not received, however the Secretary noted this inquiry to the group and indicated that any correspondence would be circulated to the Committee out of session for consideration.

[Post meeting note: Subsequent to the meeting correspondence was received – and this was circulated to the group for immediate attention. This will be dealt with in detail at the next meeting.]

5.2 Other business

No other business was tabled.

5.3 Next Meeting

The next meeting was to be scheduled in early December 2015.

Meeting closed.

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Attachments:

1. Presentation used at the meeting

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