

**Mount Pleasant Project
Community Consultative Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting Held 1 May 2008
Commencing at 1.00pm**

Present:

John Douglas	Chair – Muswellbrook Shire Council - Councillor
Trevor Parkinson	Community Representative
Jim Lonergan	Community Representative
Ken Weekes	Community Representative
Patricia Watts	Community Representative
Stephen Sneddon	Coal & Allied Principal Advisor Community Relations
Richard Bailey	Coal & Allied Manager Mining - Mount Pleasant Project
Dion Lucke	Coal & Allied Manager - Mount Pleasant Coal Chain and Services
Jennifer Bowcock	Coal & Allied Community Relations Officer – Mount Pleasant Project

Minute Taker:

Julie Fibbins Mining & Earthmoving Services – Mount Pleasant Project

- 1. Emergency Procedures and Housekeeping:** Presented by Jen Bowcock. Jen outlined the emergency exits and muster point. As a safety share, John Douglas spoke about a recent incident involving a hot water thermos bursting, resulting in third degree burns to his chest.
- 2. Meeting Opened:** Chairperson: Cr John Douglas opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
- 3. Apologies:** Chris Gidney, Muswellbrook Shire Council.
 Antony Bijok, Coal & Allied General Manager Studies
 Scott Mitchell, Coal & Allied Environmental Co-ordinator.

Moved: Ken Weekes; *Seconded:* Jim Lonergan.

- 4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:** No interests declared.
- 5. Confirmation of Minutes:** *Motion:* The minutes of the previous meeting held 7 February 2008 are accepted. *Moved:* Trevor Parkinson; *Seconded:* Pat Watts.
- 6. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:** Nil.

7. Community Representative Feedback

Ken Weekes A number of people have enquired about the project following the approval of the third coal loader. There doesn't seem to be a clear understanding of the situation in the community and an update of the status of the project would be useful.

Richard Bailey (**Action**) We will discuss today and look into having information and some indicative timeframes for the next meeting. We will also look into including this information in the next newsletter.

8. Status Report by Richard Bailey (see attached slides)

- 8.1** The indications to date are that the mine is an economically attractive project. We now have a clear path of activities to undertake prior to making a final decision on this project, including

finalising our environmental management plans and continued engagement with the local community, including the Muswellbrook Office.

8.2 Project Update

Trevor Parkinson: Could CNA do something to assist the recent Castlerock Road issue that was mentioned in the newspaper?

Richard Bailey: I have driven out and inspected the area referred to in the article. It appears to be about 10 kms past the CNA lease area.

John Douglas: Will we eventually need that area?

Richard Bailey: That area is not within the Mount Pleasant mining area and is about 10 kms further out. Only the first few kilometres of road will be closed as a result of mining activity. This is consistent with the Western Roads strategy. While we don't have an obligation to maintain other parts of the road we remain open minded.

Richard referred the meeting to the MTP EIS Volume 2 and the map outlining the Western Link Roads strategy.

Ken Weekes: I am a member of a local action resident's group that recently met with Neil Pope from MSC to put forward our concerns regarding the condition of the road. He stated that money would be available for upgrade in 2011. There has been 800 metres of bitumen already surfaced. The group has been invited into the consultation process.

Richard Bailey: Richard further outlined Western and Northern link roads strategy and confirmed that the new road network will be constructed and maintained by CNA for a number of years as per MTP's Development Consent conditions, but owned by council.

8.3 Land Management (see attached slides)

Trevor Parkinson: What is the success rate of the tree planting?

Richard Bailey: An earlier strike survey showed that with some species it was 90% and others 60%. The most recent stage of the tree screening program included the replacement of fatalities.

Richard confirmed that all land management issues are handled by CNA's Land & Property Department managed by Jennifer Anderson at Hunter Valley Services. The Muswellbrook office will continue to be used as a point of contact for neighbors and landholders, with specific land management enquiries referred on to the Land & Property Department.

9. Water Management by Dion Lucke (see attached slides)

Jim Lonergan: Requested maps showing improved detail and clarity, as per the Water Management map in EIS Volume 2 page 33.

Dion Lucke: **(Action)** We will look into producing an enhanced map.

Jim Lonergan: What percentage of normal run-off will leave the lease area?

- Dion Lucke: The actual amount changes depending on the land that is disturbed.
Ten percent can be harvested in keeping with current regulations.
- Trevor Parkinson: When the overburden is mined, do you pump water into MWD5?
- Dion Lucke: Yes. If there was a major event, it would be stored on site until it could be released under the Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme.
- John Douglas: Is the main dam big and not so deep?
- Dion Lucke: The dam will be relatively deep and will be designed to minimise evaporation, in keeping with the natural topography of the area.
- Jim Lonergan: What is the capacity of RW2?
- Dion Lucke (**Action**): We will check and confirm at the next meeting.
- John Douglas: Will there be more dams on the south western side for tailings?
- Dion Lucke: Yes.
- Stephen Sneddon: Discussed CNA targets and practice for water efficiency.

10. Environmental Approvals Update & Monitoring by Richard Bailey (see attached slides)

There was general discussion on Greencorp group and the pathways to employment this program offers.

- Ken Weekes: Is the slashing work being carried out by Yunnaga?
- Richard Bailey: Yes.
- Pat Watts: Why do they whipper snip around the trees and not use "Round Up?"
- Stephen Sneddon: The work practices are decided and detailed when the contract is set up.
- John Douglas: Is there a supervisor on the job?
- Richard Bailey: Yes.
- Jim Lonergan: Does the slashing and mowing inhibit the strike rate of volunteer tree species?
- Richard Bailey: Yes, however as the planted trees mature this practice will be reduced. To date approximately 4,000 trees have been planted.
- Action:** Information regarding tree screening undertaken to date and strike rates will be presented at the next meeting.
- John Douglas: Are the Golf Club using grey water which would affect the monitoring readings of Muscle Creek?

Mount Pleasant Project – CCC Minutes of Meeting 01/05/08

Stephen Sneddon: Historical monitoring data has typically indicated high levels of salinity at the Muscle Creek monitoring site.

Jim Lonergan: How deep are the boreholes?

Richard Bailey: The boreholes vary in deep depending upon the geological survey requirements. They have been monitored since mid 1990's.

John Douglas: What noise is currently being monitored?

Richard Bailey: At present it is traffic, tractors, and general noise from activity in the area.

Continuous improvement in monitoring practices has enabled distinguishing noises from each part of equipment and implementing strategies to reduce that noise.

11. Community Relations Update – Jen Bowcock (see attached slides)

Stephen Sneddon Presented the attached slides on the Coal & Allied Community Trust and the ADCC and outlined the application and approval process for Trust funded projects.

12. General Business

Trevor Parkinson: Noted the glove recycling project currently being trialed at Bengalla. Further, Trevor noted a former colleague had been undertaking a similar process for many years.

Pat Watts: What is happening with History Week activities discussed with Robert Tickle at one of the EMP Focus Groups?

Jen Bowcock: History Week will be conducted in September 2008. CNA have also been invited to be involved with the Muswellbrook Historical Society's 50th Anniversary event in June at Skellatar House.

Jen Bowcock: CNA will be hosting the Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce Business Breakfast on 5 August. Invitations will be sent to CCC members.

13. Next Meeting

Thursday, 7 August 2008 at 1.00pm at the Coal and Allied Office, 19 Bridge Street Muswellbrook.

Jen Bowcock advised that Antony Bijok had enquired if CCC Members had any particular aspects of mining operations or the industry that they would like to learn more about so that we can continue the practice of arranging site visits and providing relevant information. A previous suggestion was to visit a rehabilitation site. Members to discuss and confirm.

The meeting closed at 2.45pm.