

**Mount Pleasant Project
Community Consultative Committee**

Minutes of Meeting Held 5 July 2007

Present:

Trevor Parkinson	Community Representative
Jim Lonergan	Community Representative
Ken Weekes	Community Representative
Patricia Watts	Community Representative
Antony Bijok	Coal & Allied General Manager - Mount Pleasant Project
Stephen Sneddon	Coal & Allied Community Relations Specialist
Richard Bailey	Coal & Allied Manager Mining - Mount Pleasant Project
Leah Cook	Coal & Allied Environment Specialist

Apologies:

John Douglas	Chair – Muswellbrook Shire Council - Councillor
Chris Gidney	Manager Environmental Services - Muswellbrook Shire Council
Jennifer Bowcock	Coal & Allied Community Relations Officer – Mount Pleasant Project

Minute Taker:

Leah Cook	Coal & Allied Environment Specialist
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- 1. Meeting Opened at 1pm:** CCC members met at the MTP office before traveling by bus to CNA's Hunter Valley Operations Riverview Pit.
- 2. Emergency Procedures and Housekeeping:** Stephen provided safety briefing with regard to traveling on the bus and access to the mine site.
- 3. Mining Tour – focus – dragline operations:**

Paul Neely (Drill and Blast Engineer HVO) and Richard Bailey provided an overview of the mining sequence. A typical multi-seam mining sequence such as proposed at Mount Pleasant is as follows:

- 3.1 Pre-clearing inspections done and completed as per CNA standards and procedures
- 3.2 Clear the land (dozer) of vegetation. Timber which may be used for fencing is harvested with the remnants used as habitat mounds or mulched and incorporated into the rehabilitation process.
- 3.3 Remove (scraper or dozer) and stockpile topsoil (as per CNA procedure) or if there is reshaped spoil ready for rehabilitation directly reapply the topsoil.
- 3.4 Waste material removal (front-end loader and trucks)
- 3.5 Drill and blast the waste material (overburden). For say a 100m long blast it would typically take 2-3 days to drill, 1 day to load the shot and fire.
- 3.6 Prestrip the upper waste removed (truck and shovel or truck and excavator combination)
- 3.7 Drill and blast – coal. Coal mining – upper seam (loader and truck)
- 3.8 Overburden drilling and blasting
- 3.9 Dragline waste removal

- 3.10 Drill and blast – coal. Coal mining (lower seam)
- 3.11 Re-contouring of waste profile (dozer). The material from truck and shovel operations is used to shape the dragline spoil peaks. Drainage design incorporated in reshaping.
- 3.12 Replacement of topsoil. Reseeding/replanting and fertilizer

This process (steps 1-12) may take several years to complete, dependant on the strip length and interaction issues. Mine planning is complex due to sequencing interactions of equipment at each bench level and the confinement of space within the pit.

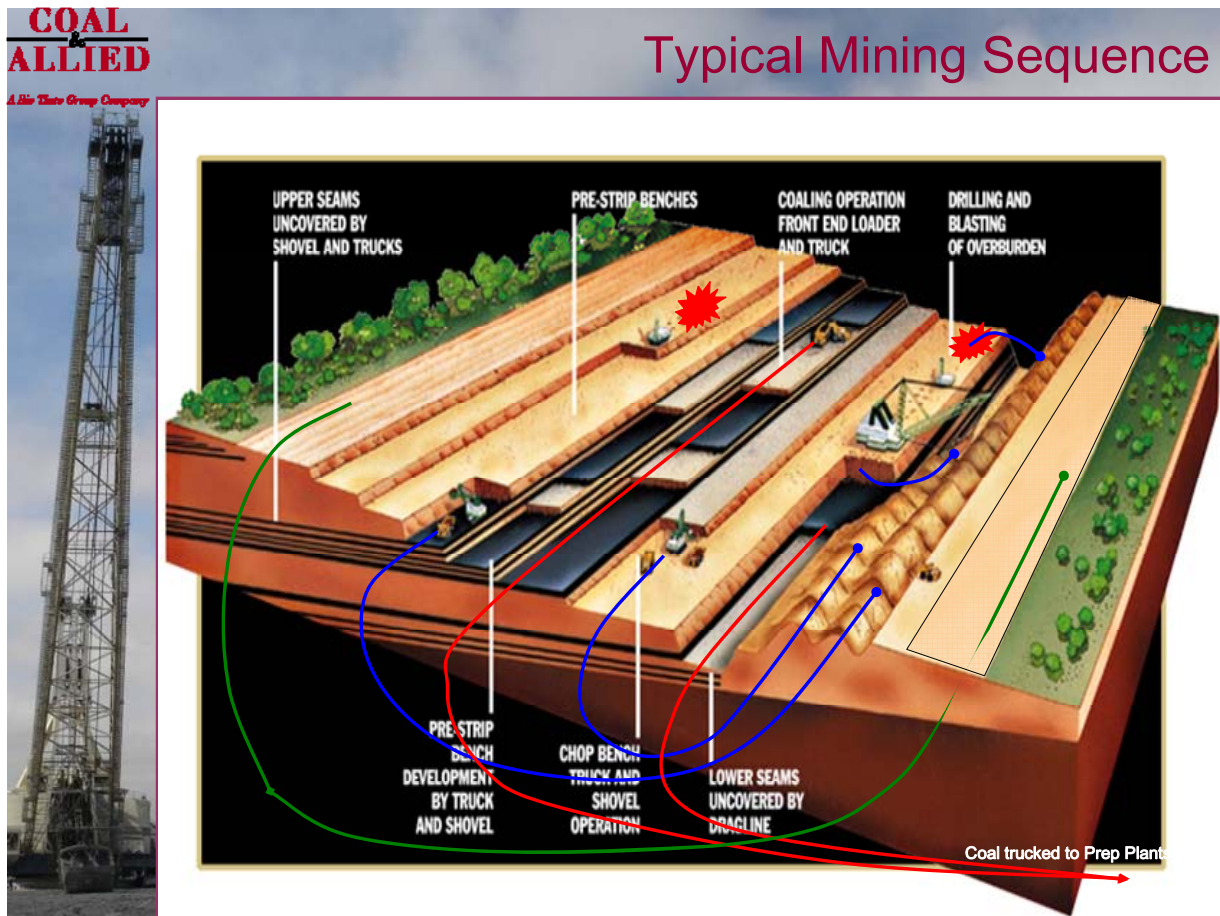


Figure1: General Mining Sequence

Review of mining operations at Riverview Pit:

- The dragline completes three passes within the Riverview Pit (i.e. Three main coal seams/blocks - Woodlands Hill, Arrowfield and Bowfield seams). On an annual basis 2.5million tonnes are mined from this pit.
- It take about 8 months to move forward 1 strip (60 metres)
- In the period July 2006 to July2007, the dragline had 355 hours of wind/dust related environmental downtime, relative to other downtime of 403 hours unplanned maintenance, 387 hours dozer waiting time.

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- The dragline in Riverview is a BE70 with a 52m³ bucket. It is electric powered. This dragline was commissioned in the 1970s. The 'sister' dragline is currently working in Xstrata's Ravensworth West Pit.
- Dragline is operated 24 hrs a day, with 2-3 people working 12 hr shifts.

4. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:** No interests declared.

5. **Confirmation of Minutes:** *Motion:* The minutes of the previous meeting held 7 May 2007 are accepted. *Moved:* Trevor Parkinson, *Seconded:* Jim Lonergan

6. External Relations Update

- The objective of the Community Funding programs is to build sustainability and capacity within the local LGA's of Cessnock, Maitland, Singleton, Muswellbrook and the Upper Hunter Shire. The Coal & Allied Community Trust approved \$218,800 in funding to local initiatives at their June 2007 meeting. The ADCC approved \$16,900 at their June 2007 meeting.

The projects supported at the June Community trust meeting include:

- **Australian Museum** - \$ 43,000 to expand the outreach of newly developed techniques involving invertebrates to measure biodiversity in the region.
- **University of Newcastle** - \$60,000 for first-year scholarships for students entering the fields of engineering, science or medicine. Upper Hunter, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Cessnock and the Maitland LGA's will be eligible for the scholarships.
- **Hunter Valley Vineyard Association** - \$50,000 to prepare a marketing strategy for promotion of Hunter Valley wines.
- \$26,000 to determine the feasibility for a **Hunter Regional Brand**, which if developed, can be used to "brand" products produced in the Hunter Valley. Joint industry venture.
- **Hunter Region Landcare Network** - \$24,400 technical assistance to Hunter agricultural producers to interpret changes in weather patterns and use the data to determine optimal crop selection.
- **Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council** - \$15,400 will enable the Mindaribba Recreation and Learning Centre in Metford to open. The funding was for essential furnishings for the facility.

Projects supported at the **June ADCC** meeting include:

- A Singleton university student will receive \$2,500 to complete her tertiary study and support her role in the Oxfam International Youth Partnership.
- \$4000 will be provided to Scone, Muswellbrook and Merriwa High Schools, to enable them to take a group of Indigenous students to Croc Fest 2007 in Dubbo.
- A talented young cricketer from Singleton will receive \$6000 to support his cricket development and mentoring of other aspiring Aboriginal sportspeople.
- Singleton NAIDOC Week organising committee will receive \$4,400 to stage a community celebration in July 2007.

The Community relations plan is structured around communication, consultation, relationships and community development. Highlights since last meeting include:

- Approximately 6,000 **newsletters** distributed to the broader community following initial target group

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- The **CNA/MTP project shop front** is continually evolving. The office space is also being used by ADCC, CNA Trust and BEC. There have been six approaches to BEC at the shop front for business development opportunities in Muswellbrook.
 - Shop front breakdown:
 - Complaints – two both relating to third parties accessing private property
 - Neighbouring landowners – 10 visitations about project
 - General community – eight visitations about the project
 - Employment – three enquiries. A list of training/employment providers for employment enquiries has been compiled.
- **Socio Economic Baseline:** Hunter Valley Research Foundation (HVRF) has been engaged, to undertake a socio economic baseline study. There is some census data available, however the detailed information will not be available till November.
 - HVRF Breakfast held 30 May, invited all school principals due to previous educational focus.
 - Kangaroo Kids: Knights Rugby League clinics 5 July
 - Attended Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce meeting
 - Richard and Jennifer attended the careers development day at St Josephs College and discussed their career experiences.
 - Yunaga Mine Services is providing Landcare services in the Mount Pleasant area with fencing and tree planting.

Trevor Parkinson	How were the complaints received? Do people have to ring the hotline number or lodge a complaint in writing?
Stephen Sneddon	All complaints are recorded, regardless of how they are received. The complaint received in May was via the Information Line and the one in June was a direct call. The preferred approach is via the 24 hr Environmental Contact Line (1800 656 892). This number is advertised regularly in the local newspapers. There is also a Mount Pleasant Information Line (1800 727 745) if people have general enquires about the proposed mine.
Pat Watts	Received comment from a local resident that the newsletter stated that the infrastructure was to be 15km from Muswellbrook – is this correct?
(Post Meeting)	After review of the newsletter/fact sheet it is noted in the project statistics - <i>rail loop (15km)</i> – this indicates that the rail loop itself is 15km off the main north-south line (Muswellbrook junction). It is not intended to indicate that infrastructure is 15km from Muswellbrook. It is estimated that the nearest part of the mine is approximately 3km and the infrastructure area is approximately 6km from Muswellbrook.)
Trevor Parkinson	The newsletter has been well received by the community. I have had about eight people approach me about my role on the CCC and wanting to know more about the mine.
Stephen Sneddon (action)	The next newsletter we will include a clearer map of the site.

- Trevor Parkinson People at the swimming pool have been talking about the council 10% rate increase. They want to know why the residents are paying and are asking if mining and other industry is putting enough back in to pay for damage caused by service providers to industry eg delivery trucks and benefits they receive. CNA needs to communicate more broadly to the people about the trust fund projects and be transparent about the rates/royalties paid.
- Antony Bijok CNA is trying to ensure that people don't see the mine as a source for ongoing payouts. The community needs to be self sufficient so when the mine closes it isn't such a shock to the community.
- Trevor Parkinson I recognise the mine isn't a charity. My concern is the old saying in town that people don't want to live in town. The hotel has recently reopened and is full; people are coming up to work through the week and then leaving.
- The coal mines are paying contributions but the community doesn't see this information. The Muswellbrook LGA is one of the most profitable in NSW but the money isn't coming back to the local area.
- The MSC should publish expenditure reports.
- Stephen Sneddon The measure of success of some funded projects is sometimes difficult to quantify. The objective of the Community funding programs is to build sustainability and capacity within the local LGA's of Cessnock, Maitland, Singleton, Muswellbrook and the Upper Hunter Shire.
- Trevor Parkinson The unemployment rate in Muswellbrook is higher than the state average. How can this be when mining is strong?
- Stephen Sneddon Discussion with Rod from BEC about his recent experiences with kids in the Lower Hunter area is probably true here as well. The Y generation (16-24 yr olds) has a different mind set about what type of work they will do and how they will do it. Teachers in some schools are having difficulties with these groups as there has never been any exposure to any form of discipline or dedication tasks.
- Leah Cook The development consent requires us to develop in consultation a number of environmental management plans which require approval. We are going to establish focus groups to develop these plans and we are looking for participants. Individuals will be provided further context before workshops commence in August. Details of the required plans and proposed focus groups are shown in the tables below.

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EMP – Requirements of Development Consent	Timing	Approval Authority	Required Consultation
MOP – C. 2.1	Pre- Mining	DMR	
Waste Management Plan – C. 2.2	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	
Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan – C. 3.3	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	Wonnarua Tribal Council NPWS
Flora and Fauna Management Plan – C.3.4	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	Suitably qualified expert MSC NPWS (receive a copy)
Erosion and Sediment Control Management Plan – C 3.5	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	DECC (DLWC)
Soil Stripping Management Plan – C. 3.5	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	DECC (DLWC)
Final Void Management Plan – C. 3.6	Yr 5 of operations	D-G DPI	DMR, DWE (DLWC) MSC
Landscaping Management Plan (includes visual)– C. 3.7	Pre- Construction	MSC	
Land Management Plan – C. 3.10	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	MSC NSW Agriculture DNR
Water Management Plan – C.4.1	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	MSC DNR
Air Quality Management Plan – C. 6.1	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	MSC
Blast Management Plan – C. 6.3	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	DMR DECC-EPA
Noise Management Plans – C. 8.4	Pre- Construction	D-G DPI	

Required EMP's as per Development Consent – suggested grouping

1. Land Management	4. Erosion and Sediment Management Plan	6. Soil Stripping Management Plan	9. Air Quality Management	12. Archaeological and Cultural Heritage management
2. Flora and Fauna Management	5. Water Management Plan	7. Final Void	10. Blasting Management	
3. Waste Management		8. Landscaping	11. Noise Management	

Groups Focus Areas

Buffer lands, conservation and tidiness	Water runoff quality, site controls, HRSTS and water use	Mining process and Life of Mine Planning and visual impacts	Mining impacts offsite and site OH&S	Cultural heritage indigenous and non indigenous
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Groups Focus Participants (indicative only)

DECC/NPWS Local or CCC NSW Agriculture PPB / CMA Forest Alliance Expert	DECC/DWE Hunter River Water User's Association Catchment Management Authority Local or CCC Expert	DMR MSC Planner 3 Residents Catchment Management Authority	DECC/DWE MSC Local or CCC Hunter Health Experts	DECC/DWE Historical Society MSC CWA Expert
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7. General Business:

- Pat Watts What is the status of the Bengalla Link Road? I heard via the Bengalla CCC that they are in no hurry to build the road. They haven't even bought all the land.
- Richard Bailey We understand that Bengalla is working through the approval process with council. There have been some environmental issues to resolve. .

Date and time of next meeting

Date: Thursday 1pm, 6 September 2007.

Venue: 19 Bridge Street Muswellbrook.

Proposed dates for remainder of 2007:

8 November 1pm (CPP visit)

Meeting closed: Meeting closed at 5:00pm.

**MT PLEASANT PROJECT OFFICE
TELEPHONE LIST**

Name	External Number	Mobile	Position
Antony Bijok	65490504	0418 794 897	General Manager Studies
Richard Bailey	65490505	0417 412 962	Manager Mining
Dion Lucke	65490502	0418 622 869	Manager Coal Chain & Services
Leah Cook	65490503	0429 640 806	Environmental Specialist
Jen Bowcock	65490506	0447 122 369	Community Relations Officer
Julie Fibbins	65490501	-	Reception