

**Mount Pleasant Project
Community Consultative Committee**

Minutes of Meeting Held 8 November 2007

Present:

John Douglas	Chair – Muswellbrook Shire Council - Councillor
Chris Gidney	Director Environmental Services - Muswellbrook Shire Council
Trevor Parkinson	Community Representative
Jim Lonergan	Community Representative
Ken Weekes	Community Representative
Patricia Watts	Community Representative
Antony Bijok	Coal & Allied General Manager – Project Studies
Dion Lucke	Coal & Allied Manager Coal Chain & Services
Richard Bailey	Coal & Allied Manager Mining - Mount Pleasant Project
Leah Cook	Coal & Allied Environment Specialist - Mount Pleasant Project
Jennifer Bowcock	Coal & Allied Community Relations Officer – Mount Pleasant Project

Apologies: Nil

Minute Taker:

Leah Cook Coal & Allied Environment Specialist

- 1. Meeting Opened at 1pm:** CCC members met at the MTP office before traveling by bus to the Jerry's Plains Tavern for lunch and then continuing to Mount Thorley Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP).
- 2. Emergency Procedures and Housekeeping:** Leah provided a safety briefing with regard to traveling on the bus and access to the preparation plant.
- 3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:** No interests declared.
- 4. Confirmation of Minutes: Motion:** The minutes of the previous meeting held 6 September 2007 were accepted. *Moved:* Ken Weekes, *Seconded:* Trevor Parkinson.
- 5. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting:**
 - The water pipeline from the river is to be buried.
 - Coal & Allied has acquired 75% of the land.
 - A kangaroo management strategy will be addressed/resolved in one of the Environmental Management Plans (talked about the EMP focus group process). Currently CNA seeks culling permits from the National Parks and Wildlife Service annually for all of their operations.

The CCC agreed that kangaroo management at MTP is not currently an issue. However, there was concern that once mining commences kangaroos would be driven off the MTP area due to the disturbance onto surrounding land and roads. A management plan needs to be implemented before construction activity commences.

Community Feedback

- Pat Watts A person in a Bengalla owned house within the Mount Pleasant lease hasn't received any information regarding the likely tenancy duration with regard to the commencement of activity at MTP. CNA is currently in negotiations with Bengalla Mining Company regarding land owned within the MTP area. At this time, CNA is intending to continue existing arrangements with leases into the New Year at which time CNA will re-appraise arrangements.
- Ken Weekes: The trees on the road look good.
- Trevor Parkinson: The Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Meeting on 2 October was very interesting and I appreciated being able to attend.

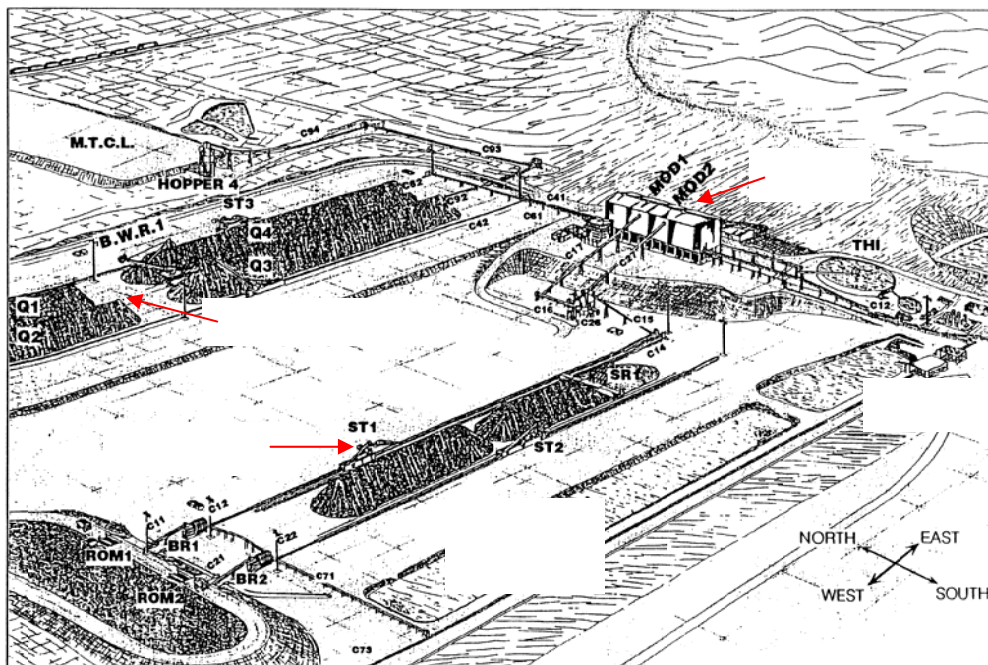
6. Tour of Mount Thorley CHPP

Nicholas Earner (Manager MTW CHPP) and Ron McWilliams (MTW CHPP Supervisor) provided a tour of the Mount Thorley CHPP.

The purpose of the Coal Preparation Plant is to convert Run Of Mine coal into a saleable product that meets customer specifications. This is achieved by separating coal from reject (ie. diluents such as clay and shale) based on differences in either density or surface chemistry.

Site Layout

The Mount Thorley CHPP consists of a raw coal system (with stockpile), two module plant, and a clean coal system (with four stockpile quadrants and a bucketwheel reclaimer). The site is arranged in a "U" shaped layout.

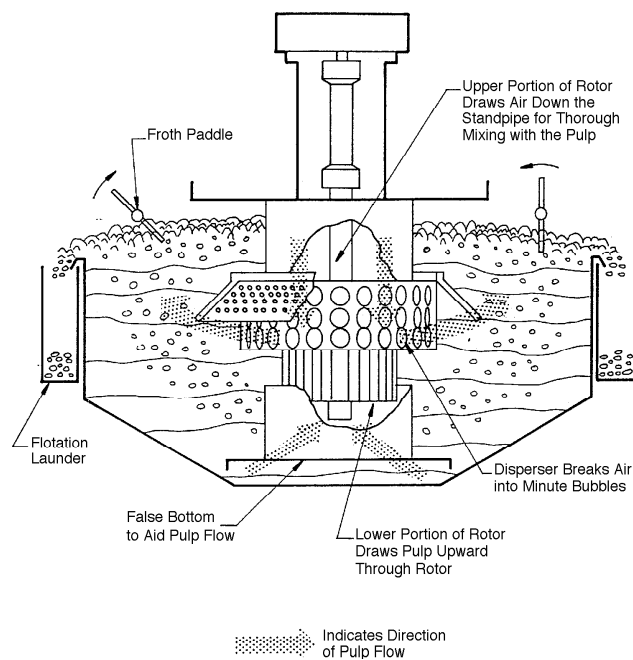


The plant produces a low ash and high ash product simultaneously. This is achieved by blending the coal produced in each processing circuit between the two conveyors to achieve product specifications. Centrifuges are used to dewater the product coal, allowing water to be reused.

Flotation is used to process $-0.5+0.063\text{mm}$ material (-0.063mm is predominantly clay). Reject particles have a surface that is easily wet by water, while coal repels water. This difference in surface chemistry is the separation mechanism used by flotation.

The feed slurry is pumped into a long, trough shaped flotation cell. A rotating impellor draws air to the bottom of the cell and mixes small bubbles with the slurry. Coal particles attach to the rising bubbles and move into the froth at the top of the cell. The coal and froth are recovered in a product launder, while reject remains in the slurry.

Chemicals are added to stabilise the froth and strengthen the attachment of coal particles to air bubbles. The froth breaks down in product centrifuges, allowing water to be recovered.



Froth Flotation Cell

Comparison to Mount Pleasant CHPP

The Mount Thorley CHPP is similar to that proposed for Mount Pleasant. The MTP design will incorporate newer technology and a modern design approach.

Similar Features

- Cladding on plant and transfer station walls to reduce light, noise, and visual impacts
- Recycling of process water to reduce make up requirements
- Use of water sprays and enclosed chutes to minimize fugitive dust
- Most coal will be processed via DMCs
- Two products produced simultaneously
- Coarse reject disposed of with overburden

Some Differences at Mount Pleasant

- No raw coal stockpile (but allowance for future construction if required)
- Dozer push product stockpile area
- Use of paste thickening to reduce water consumption
- Canopy on ROM hopper to reduce fugitive dust
- Larger, higher capacity equipment
- "L" shaped layout to reduce footprint

7. Proposed dates for 2008

1pm, first Tuesday of every second month

7 February, 10 April, 5 June, 7 August, 9 October, 9 December.

8. General Business

Nil

9. Next Meeting: 7 February 2008 at 1.00pm at the Mount Pleasant office, Muswellbrook.

10. Meeting Closed: 4.00pm.