

Mount Pleasant Project Community Consultative Committee

Minutes of Meeting Held 7 February 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
Chris Gidney	Director Environmental Services - Muswellbrook Shire Council
Antony Bijok	Coal & Allied General Manager - Mount Pleasant Project
Stephen Sneddon	Coal & Allied Principal Advisor Community Relations
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 (Arrived 1.50pm)

Minute Taker:

Julie Fibbins Mining & Earthmoving Services – Mount Pleasant Project

- 1. Emergency Procedures and Housekeeping:** Presented by Leah Cook. Leah indicated where the three emergency exits and top car park emergency muster point were. As a safety share, Leah spoke about driving to conditions in the wet weather and mentioned the fatality at Mt Thorley last week.
- 2. Meeting Opened:** Chairperson: Cr John Douglas opened the meeting and welcomed everyone for 2008.
- 3. Apologies:** Nil
- 4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:** No additional interests.
- 5. Confirmation of Minutes:** *Motion:* The minutes of the previous meeting held 8 November 2007 are accepted. *Moved:* Ken Weekes; *Seconded:* Pat Watts.
- 6. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

Trevor Parkinson Dates of meetings need amending on page 4. Should be 3 April, 5 June, 7 August, 2 October, 4 December.

Jim Lonergan Inclusion of current water management system omitted from minutes.

Action: Leah Cook will circulate as an addendum to these minutes.

7. Community Representative Feedback

Trevor Parkinson I had one community enquiry from a MTP neighbour. He wanted to know more about the project generally. No follow-up needed and he receives the newsletter.

8. Status Report by Antony Bijok (See attached slides)

The MTP Feasibility Study will not be finalised until there is greater certainty surrounding coal chain infrastructure in the Hunter Valley. We will continue to operate the CNA shop front and provide office facilities for BEC, we are working through the environmental management plans

and further approvals required, we will continue to acquire land where possible, and review costs to improve value.

- Ken Weekes: Is the previously provided timetable not accurate now?
- Antony Bijok: We are unable to update the timetable until we have a date on the port facility.
- Ken Weekes: You are still at investment committee approval task?
- Antony Bijok: We are not able to complete that task until we have more certainty on the port infrastructure.
- John Douglas: Any news on when you will get to that point?
- Antony Bijok: Antony explained the situation with the Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group (third coal loader) and the need to guarantee that there was a ship available to take the coal. There has been discussion on a path forward but it is not at fruition yet. The timeline is still correct except for the starting point.
- Ken Weekes: Are you prepared to start if the coal chain is sorted out?
- Antony Bijok: Yes, but some numbers will need to be reviewed regarding coal prices, etc. The bulk of the work though has been done to allow a decision regarding investment.
- Richard Bailey: The engineering won't change, only the costs.
- John Douglas: Who will utilise the third coal loader?
- Antony Bijok: BHP Billiton, Centennial, Xstrata, Stratford Coal, Ashton. Rio won't have access to new coal loader as it is a different consortium and operates under different rules to the current port infrastructure.
- John Douglas: Didn't the coal loader officer on our tour say the new loader had started?
- Richard Bailey: He was referring to expansion work within PWCS that had started.
- Ken Weekes: Does the rail infrastructure have the capacity?
- Richard Bailey: Rail is increasing capacity and recent delivery of rail projects has been good.
- Antony Bijok: Coal & Allied had approximately 20 percent less production as a result of constraints in 2006.
- The first phase of the new port project is for 30 mtpa and the second stage for a further 30 mtpa.
- Richard Bailey: PWCS has a current capacity for about 91 mtpa and can expand to 104 mtpa.

9. Update of Project Approvals and Results of 2007 Environmental Monitoring by Leah Cook

See attached slides.

9.1 Leah invited all the committee to attend the EMP's next week.

9.2 Slide 11 Air Quality

John Douglas: Where was the information collected?

Leah Cook: Leah showed DG 7 and DG9 on the map. These monitors are very close to existing mining operations. In addition, contamination can be caused by localised dust in the region such as cars driving by, agricultural activity and localised erosion.

9.3 Slide 21 – Land Management

Land management – Leah explained that we had repaired some dams due to heavy rains in 2007 and to prevent widespread erosion damage.

A tree screening inspection was conducted by Toby Cairnes (vacation student). This study was completed to ensure continual improvement in our visual screening efforts. Leah stated that we needed to keep a mixture of species that provide dense rapid growth and long life.

10. Community Relations by Stephen Sneddon

Steve showed a series of slides as attached.

10.1 Community Trust. Stephen spoke about the Regional Grants Officer role and that ads for the positions would be advertised by the end of the month.

11. General Business

11.1 Leah Cook: I will be taking maternity leave from the start of April and if not available for next meeting, Jen Bowcock will take over liaison with the CCC.

11.2 Chris Gidney: How are discussions going with Anvil Hill and Bengalla.

Antony Bijok: I don't know to what extent discussions are up to.

Chris Gidney: Referring to general progress re roads, not works. Does it need another agent to get together?

Antony Bijok: There have been discussions on the Link Road.

Leah Cook: On other collaboration fronts, the environmental officers from Muswellbrook mines have been looking at synergies in monitoring data.

11.3 Jim Lonergan: What is happening with Dartbrook and the Energy Australia power line?

Richard Bailey: We plan to move the 66kV power line from the middle of MTP, as described in the EIS and approved in the Development Consent. We have spoken to Energy Australia and they are comfortable with our approach. They also want to extend the line to Aberdeen and Scone. This will not impact the works that Mount Pleasant intend to undertake. We have also been speaking to Dartbrook to ensure that we do not impact their plans.

12. Next Meeting:

12.1 Ken Weekes: Moved that meetings be moved to three monthly intervals due to the hold up in the project. 2nd Jim Lonergan.

12.2 Next meeting is 1 May, 2008 at 1pm in 19 Bridge Street. Proposed dates for the remainder of 2008 would be 7 August and 6 November.

The meeting closed at 2.15pm. The field trip to the mine site was cancelled due to recent rains and limited safe access.