

**Mount Pleasant Project  
Community Consultative Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting Held 7 August 2008  
Commencing at 1.00pm**

**Present:**

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

**Minute Taker:**

Kim Harris External Relations Administration

- 1. Emergency Procedures and Housekeeping:** Emergency procedures outlined. John Douglas provided an update on last meeting's safety share regarding a hot water thermos bursting, resulting in third degree burns to his chest. It is important to follow the manufacturers' specifications regarding use and care of products, including the intended lifespan.
- 2. Meeting Opened:** Chairperson: Cr John Douglas opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
- 3. Apologies:** Antony Bijok, Coal & Allied General Manager Project Studies  
*Moved:* Trevor Parkinson *Seconded:* Ken Weekes
- 4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:** No interests declared.
- 5. Confirmation of Minutes:** *Motion:* The minutes of the previous meeting held 1 May 2008 are accepted. *Moved:* Trevor Parkinson; *Seconded:* Pat Watts.

Chris Gidney joined the meeting at 1:15pm

**6. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

MTP Visual Tree Screening (see slides attached)

A survey of the two completed stages of the MTP visual screening was completed in January 2008. This information will assist us to improve the success of the screening program through appropriate plant selection, site preparation and post planting maintenance. There will be further in-planting and completion of the remaining stages of the visual screening program. A variety of plants will continue to be used for their visual screening properties.

Trevor Parkinson: Recently someone was cutting a tree down and came across a steel star picket. The tree had grown around the picket and it was not visible until they had started to cut the tree down. There is therefore, danger involved in using these sorts of pickets. The advice was that wooden pickets be used to avoid this problem.

Water Management (see plan provided in meeting)

A revised plan of the water management system at year 5 of the MTP project was provided to all CCC members for further consultation. The capacity of RW2 was confirmed as 118ML. Leah explained the various dams. The sedimentation dams (sed1-7) will control runoff from the environmental visual bund, RW5 de-watering from the pits, RW1 is the main water source for the CHPP and will be the licensed HRSTS discharge dam and the rail loop dam will contain water runoff around the rail loop.

Jim Lonergan: How big is the RW1 dam? Can you harvest all the water from that catchment?

Leah Cook: The water from the hardstand area and other disturbed areas will be collected in RW1. RW1 has a design capacity of approximately 2000ML. It is the main water storage for site. Further up the catchment of RW1 (Dry creek), diversion structures will be constructed to minimise water contamination and collection. As per the requirements of harvestable rights we are allowed to collect 10% of the runoff from the total land holdings.

John Douglas: What happens in heavy rainfall or a flood?

Richard Bailey RW1 will need to be managed to allow sufficient capacity for a heavy rainfall event. Probably operated at a maximum fill of nominally 75% of capacity (i.e. 1500ML). If there is an overflow from this dam it will follow the same pathway as the licensed discharge route (via Dry creek to the Hunter River).

Confirmation was provided by Jim and Ken that this plan was sufficient and provided the required detail in an enhanced format.

## 7. Community Representative Feedback

Patricia Watts: Recently spoke to Rob Tickle and wanted to know about the progress of a European heritage booklet based upon the oral history report. Have you had photos taken?

Leah Cook: Preparation of an oral history report regarding the MTP site is a condition of the development consent. Rob has collated a report. The results of this work were discussed at the EMP focus group (E) and it was suggested that a public document be prepared. This will not be prepared before History Week 2008 which is in September.

**ACTION:** *Consider further the options regarding communication of the European Heritage of the Mount Pleasant area. Consider required distribution.*

## 8. Status Report and Coal Chain Report - Dion Lucke (see attached slides)

Dion confirmed that the information presented was from publicly available sources ([www.riotinto.com](http://www.riotinto.com), [www.asx.com.au](http://www.asx.com.au), [www.atrc.com.au](http://www.atrc.com.au)).

Many Hunter Valley based mines are feeling the pressures of Newcastle port and infrastructure constraints with latent capacity at existing operations at around 20%. Development of MTP may be 8MTpa possible by 2015. Capex for MTP ~\$1.3 Billion - feasibility estimate.

Ken Weekes: What timing and capacity could you produce from MTP?

Dion Lucke: It will take approximately 2.5 years of construction and 3 years ramp up to 8Mtpa so there may be some coal production before 2015.

Trevor Parkinson: How will the rail infrastructure manage the increased production load?

Dion Lucke: The ARTC has committed considerable expenditure to a number of projects to remove the bottlenecks and have commenced some of these projects. However, there are no certainties regarding the outcomes of the projects.

Trevor Parkinson: How many tonnes are transported per train?

Richard Bailey: There are approximately 6000 tonnes per train.

Ken Weekes: I heard on the radio that there plans for a new coal loader in the river?

Dion Lucke: I haven't heard about it but there may be one there.

## **9. Land Management – Richard Bailey (see attached slide)**

An overview of site land management activities in progress through to the end of the year was provided.

John Douglas: Is there a large problem with wild dogs at MTP?

Richard Bailey: There has been a lot of press regarding the issues of wild dogs. CNA is intending to act in a consistent manner to other land holders in the area.

## **10. Environmental Approvals Update & Monitoring - Leah Cook (see attached slides)**

An independent review has been completed for the Commonwealth DEWHA regarding Box Gum Woodland at MTP. This report is yet to be finalised and provided to CNA however, it did reconfirm the work completed for CNA by Cumberland Ecology. Further consultation is required with the government regarding the project.

## **11. Community Relations Update – Jennifer Bowcock (see attached slides)**

An overview of recent community and external relations activities, including Community Trust and Aboriginal Development Consultative Committee projects, was provided.

## **12. General Business**

Jim Lonergan: Do CNA have any old buildings which the Rural Fire Service could use for fire drill training?

Richard Bailey: There are no properties currently appropriate at MTP however as we come closer to construction it would be appropriate to review this issue again.

Patricia Watts: What is in place for fire management across the site?

Richard Bailey: We have a fire management plan that we have in place for all our sites. As summer approaches a review will be completed and any further actions required will be completed.

John Douglas Notified the CCC that this may be the last meeting as Chair as Council elections are approaching and he may not be re-elected. John expressed his pleasure in being involved in the MTP CCC and best wishes for the future of the committee.

Leah Cook Thank you to the CCC for arranging flowers when Alexandra was born.

### **13. Next Meeting**

Thursday, November 6 2008.

Meet at the Coal and Allied Office, 19 Bridge Street Muswellbrook and a site inspection of a mine rehabilitation area will be arranged. Please wear long sleeve shirt and trousers and steel capped boots.

The meeting closed at 2.45pm.