

Mt Pleasant Project Community Consultative Committee

Meeting Held 21st September 2005

Present:

Mark Trevan	General Manager Mt Pleasant Project
Stephen Sneddon	Coal & Allied Environmental Specialist
Kenneth Weekes	Community Representative
Trevor Parkinson	Community Representative
Jim Lonergan	Community Representative
Andrew Woodcock	Community Relations Specialist CNA
Chris Gidney	Muswellbrook Shire Council
John Douglas	Chairman – Councilor Muswellbrook Shire Council

Minute Taker:

Joan Spooner

Hunter Valley Admin

- 1. Meeting Opened at 1:00 pm:** Chairperson Cr J Douglas opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and giving the general housekeeping and emergency procedures. Cr J Douglas's safety tip was that now spring is here to ensure while out driving you keep your wits about you.
- 2. Apologies:**
- 3. Declaration of pecuniary interests:** Nil.
- 4. Confirmation of Minutes:** Moved K Weekes seconded T Parkinson, the minutes of the previous meeting held 29th June 2005 be accepted.
- 5. Business Arising from the Minutes:**
Nil
- 6. Community Representative Feedback:**
Nil
- 7. Operations update:**
GM Mark Trevan began by introducing himself and gave a brief outline of his career background.
M Trevan then gave a presentation on the history of Mount Pleasant.
 - Consent was lodged in 1997 – Consent granted in 1999
 - January 01 acquired Peabody – Bengalla
 - January 04 project shelved due to infrastructure bottlenecks, would be unable to get coal to port.

- April 05 Expansion of coal chain announced, project reactivated.
- Mark explained the project in relation to the market

J Douglas: Rio Tinto can't be surviving on the spot market, what would the long-term contract price be?

M Trevan: The market used to be long term contracts now more forced into the spot market. R T now competing on the world market.

K Parkinson: at what price? MT: The spot price is now \$45.00 per tonne, which is still very good.

M Trevan then did a presentation on the H V Coal Chain, in relation to Mt Pleasant.

- Current upgrades will raise capacity to 85 MT
- Rail upgrades will further increase to 92 MT qtr 4 2006
- Rail and port upgrades will increase to 102 MT qtr 4 2007 and there are further plans for large infrastructure spend past qtr 4 2007.

T Parkinson: Who puts up all the funds for rail improvements? M Trevan: ARTC the money is then recouped via the rates paid.

M Trevan: Presentation on current status

Mark Trevan appointed as Mt Pleasant Project Manager on the 1st of August, to head a small team formed from within Rio Tinto.

Scope: Reassessing of project as consented. Interface with Bengalla on logical synergies. The options are being assessed and it is hoped to have the report ready at the end of 2005 so the decision made can be put to the Joint Venturers.

Joint Venturers then to weigh up the merits of the proposal. Whether integrated or stand-alone. Feasibility Studies will take around 9 months, then getting through approvals etc end 2006.

M Trevan: Any questions – nil

8. Environmental Monitoring:

S Sneddon presented a lot of historical data, which included noise, wind, surface water, ground water, rainfall & dust and further explained the presentation of the results.

C Gibney: The dust isopleth is an excellent explanation, like a ready reckoner with colour. The committee accepted the format for presenting data and asked for a similar report for the next meeting covering the intervening period.

S Sneddon then went on to explain there would be further work done on ED1. Installation of a high level spillway to cater for the Probable

Maximum Precipitation consequence rainfall event. This is an extreme situation and the spillway is designed above the existing 1 in 100 year spillway and just below the wall height on the southern side of the dam. Friday morning S Sneddon has a meeting with aboriginal consultants to review the area again for archaeological impact. The work will require 1 D6 Dozer + operator for less than a week.

Any Questions: Ken: What about the Western Road matter? S Sneddon: I am not up to speed on that one. Will bring an update to the next meeting.

If you want any further information on this presentation please give me a call and I will explain it one to one.

9. General Business:

Chris Gidney: I have 3 items I would like to bring up

- Construction Certificate received
- **Draft guidelines for Community Consultative Committee.**
There have been a few workshops held. There will be a meeting of all CCC's on September 27th. Final meeting organised by the Department of Planning, in Singleton on the 11th October from 6pm to 9pm.
- Rory Gordon has been in contact regarding the Conditions of Consent.

Andrew Woodcock: The Managing Director Grant Thorne attended a breakfast this morning where he gave an update on operations in the Hunter Valley.

10. Next Meeting:

7th December 2005 at 1:00pm.

Cr J Douglas thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 2:05pm.