

# MEETING MINUTES



## ILLAWARRA COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING: # 41

LOCATION: Douglas Park Community Hall

DATE: 18 June 2019

ATTENDEES:

Mike Archer (MA - Chair)  
Barry Durham (BD)  
Noel Lowry (NL)  
Danny Stewart (DS)  
Sharyn Cullis (SC)  
Michael McGrath (MM) – *present from 5.10pm*  
Craig Manz (CM – South32 Appin General Manager)  
Chris Schultz (CS – South32 Environment)  
Amanda Blunt (AB – South32 Community)  
Rachel Cameron (RC – South32 Corporate Affairs)

APOLOGIES:

Peter Chaffer (PC)  
Sam Davis (SD)

ABSENT:

DRAFT

1	<b>PURPOSE</b>
	The purpose of the Community Consultative Committee is to facilitate and maintain two-way communication between Illawarra Metallurgical Coal, key stakeholders and local residents. It is to promote open discussion on the activities of Illawarra Metallurgical Coal's Bulli Seam Operations, including underground mining and surface operations of Appin; environmental performance and community relations; and to keep all stakeholders informed on these matters.
2	<b>AGENDA</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome and apologies</li> <li>• Declaration of Interests</li> <li>• Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes / Business Arising from previous Meeting Minutes</li> <li>• Questions of Notice Tracker</li> <li>• Update from South32 Illawarra Coal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Operations</li> <li>○ Community</li> <li>○ Environment, including water</li> </ul> </li> <li>• General Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2019 meeting dates</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Meeting close</li> </ul>
	<b>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MA opened the meeting at 4.10pm and noted apologies from SD and PC.</li> <li>• MA welcomed South32 Corporate Affairs representative, Rachel Cameron, to the meeting as a guest.</li> </ul>
4	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS / CORRESPONDENCE</b>
	MA declared he receives payment from South32 to fulfil the role of Independent Chair. It is a requirement of the Government CCC Guidelines that this be noted and stated in the minutes at every meeting.
5	<b>PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING</b>
	<p>Previous meeting minutes (April 2019) were approved by DS and seconded by SC.</p> <p>Actions from previous meeting (April 2019):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AB provided longwall progress maps as required. This was addressed in General Business in the June 2019 meeting.</li> <li>• AB included the link to the Wilton Growth Area detail in the April 2019 minutes as requested.</li> <li>• AB shared the Mining Lease Numbers and the maps in the April 2019 minutes as requested.</li> <li>• CS provided update on water licence variation as part of the Illawarra Coal update June 2019.</li> <li>• CS provided an update on the Georges River remediation trial as part of the Illawarra Coal update June 2019. More information to be shared at the next meeting.</li> <li>• CS provided an update on Georges River and the Nepean River as part of the Illawarra Coal update June 2019.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: CS to provide further update on the Georges River remediation trial</b></p>
6	<b>SOUTH32 UPDATES</b>
	<p><u>Illawarra Metallurgical Coal update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CM advised a contractor had been seriously injured at Appin North after their foot was caught in a conveyor. The contractor had surgery and has been discharged from hospital. The event is under investigation. We can provide the details of the investigation at the next meeting.</li> <li>• CM shared information about activities held at Appin (and across the Illawarra Metallurgical Coal business) to recognise National Reconciliation Week. The lunch and learn held at Appin was well received.</li> <li>• CM advised production of Longwall 708A was on plan. About a quarter of the longwall had been mined, and preparation of the next longwall (Longwall 903) was in its advanced stages.</li> </ul>

- Longwall 708A is planned to be complete in October 2019. Longwall 903 is planned to commence in October 2019, with Longwall 708B due to start June 2020. This will return the Appin Mine to a two-longwall mine operation.
- The Committee questioned the resolution of gas issues to be able to support the two-longwall mine operation. CS confirmed the gas from Appin Mine is being managed well, and RC noted we are working closely with the Regulators to ensure they maintain confidence in our gas management processes.
- AB advised the Mountbatten stable/church renovations remain in the preliminary approvals process. The heritage structural assessments final reports are pending. When the reports are received the heritage builder will be able to determine the work to be completed.
- AB advised there will be activity around Mountbatten House as the maintenance program is continued.

#### Appin Area 9 update

- Longwall 903 would commence when Longwall 708A was completed, currently planned for October 2019.
- The Committee questioned the number of properties that had been impacted from Longwall 902. AB advised the number of closed and accepted claims could be shared publicly, and for Area 9 this was one house. Properties are generally impacted by more than one longwall and claims are closed when all longwalls are completed.
- The Committee questioned the mining impact to dams and private water boreholes, and the number impacted from Longwall 902. AB advised the number of closed and accepted claims could be shared publicly, and for Area 9 this was none as per the above. The Committee was interested in proactive actions taken to monitor private water borehole damage.

**Action: AB to report on the number of closed and accepted claims at the next meeting.**

**Action: AB to provide detail on work being done on private water borehole monitoring.**

#### Appin Area 7 update

- Longwall 708A has progressed 418 metres and has about 807 metres to go.
- The quarterly update letter will be sent to residents within the subsidence impacted area by the end of the month.

#### Impacts update

- AB advised there was one new gas release identified since the April 2019 meeting. 11 previously active zones are active, and 19 previously identified zones remain inactive. It was noted that there is no obvious increase in the size of the active zones. BD questioned the size of the most recent gas release. This was taken as a question on notice.
- Menangle Road and Camden Road surveys are continuing. Impacts to Spaniards Hill are being monitored weekly as Longwall 708A progresses in the area.
- Hume Highway resurfacing works were completed by RMS in the northern and southern lanes.
- There are no new impacts to report on the rail.

**Action: CS to report back at next meeting on the classification of gas releases.**

#### Community Complaints

- AB noted two community complaints had been received since the last meeting.
- Both were in relation to a humming noise from Ventilation Shaft 6. The source of the noise could not be determined. A diesel compressor (previous cause of the noise) was not operating at the time of the complaints.
- The Committee commented on the April complaint marked as 'other'. This was in reference to the community newsletter delivered to a No Junk Mail letterbox. AB questioned if an electronic newsletter would suit the Committee members – no, but a hard copy at the meeting would be useful.

#### Community Support

- AB shared activities Illawarra Metallurgical Coal had supported over the last two months:
  - University of NSW Careers Fair. Human Resources representatives attended the event.
  - Wollondilly Illuminate Festival. Funding was provided to support the event this year. NL reported about 20,000 people attended the event and thanked Illawarra Metallurgical Coal for its support
  - Appin Mine Memorial. The artist, Artventure, was appointed to develop the artwork with the assistance of a curator. To date Artventure has met with internal stakeholders and family members of those involved in the Appin Mine disaster to inform their design. The design will be unveiled at the ceremony in July. Committee members confirmed they had received an invitation to the ceremony.
- AB advised the Community Partnership Program did not endorse any funding requests at its May meeting. It did consider a request from Menangle Mens Shed and this remains under consideration pending more information from the group.

#### Environment update

- CS advised an audit on Environmental Management (ISO14001) completed in June returned one major and three minor findings. The audit included all Illawarra Metallurgical Coal sites.
- The major finding was a failure to complete a review of the management system over the last 12 months. Since the audit a review has been completed at Dendrobium Mine, and Appin Mine to be determined.
- The minor findings related to out of date documents, governance schedules not recording of Triennial Audit actions (since identified and the non-conformance is to be closed out).
- As raised at the previous meeting, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal is working with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to determine a water licence variation. CS presented a detailed timeline of work with the EPA to date on the request. Illawarra Metallurgical Coal is waiting response from the EPA on the issue.
- CS advised concerns raised with the EPA included:
  - the timing to meet new suggested water quality limits;
  - permeate water quality and effect on meeting proposed water quality limits;
  - the frequency and requirement for ecotoxicity monitoring;
  - an extension in time to provide a schedule for implementation of water treatment options at Appin West and Appin North; and
  - volume limits from Brennans Creek Dam.
- The volume limits from Brennans Creek Dam were discussed in detail as the EPA would like flow to maintained at 1.5ML per day. There may be periods, such as in drought, where this flow cannot be managed. We are working to understand what we can do. The Brennans Creek Dam water level is below 10 metres now so the flow into Brennans Creek has been reduced to 0.5ML per day.
- SC highlighted it was a complex issue and expressed the need for the community to be part of the conversation – they need to decide what they would like Georges River (fed by Brennans Creek) to look like in the future. RC noted the EPA has expressed a desire to consult with the community on the issue.
- SC was concerned about the request for further time extensions given the time already provided. RC noted senior management had met with the EPA on the matter and expressed that future commitments would be met. Management shares the concern that commitments had not been met.
- CS noted the Georges River remediation trial results were still being reviewed. Information would be shared at the next meeting / when available.
- CS advised of a formal warning issued by the EPA on 3 June 2019 for failure to appropriately bund a flocculant tank at Appin North between emplacement ponds. A temporary bund was constructed immediately and will remain in place until the tank is removed. The tank has been emptied.

**Action: CS provide an update on the water licence variation at the next meeting.**

9	<b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC noted a resident in Appin had shared an image of black gunk going into Brennans Creek. CS responded that clear water only should be entering the Creek and requested SC share the image with him for investigation.</li> <li>• DS requested the underground roadways be included on the hard copy maps provided.</li> <li>• DS presented a stratigraphic column showing the typical geology of the area including the Bulli Seam.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: SC to share image with CS for investigation.</b></p> <p><b>Action: AB to update hard copy maps to include underground roadways.</b></p> <p><b>Action: AB to investigate stratigraphic column specific to the Douglas Park area can be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.</b></p>
10	<b>ACTIONS</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action: CS to provide further update on the Georges River remediation trial at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Action: AB to report on the number of closed and accepted claims at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Action: AB to provide detail on work being done on private water borehole monitoring.</li> <li>• Action: CS provide an update on the water licence variation at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Action: SC to share Brennans Creek image with CS for investigation.</li> <li>• Action: AB to update hard copy maps to include underground roadways.</li> <li>• Action: AB to investigate what stratigraphic column specific to the Douglas Park area can be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Action: CS to report back at next meeting on the classification of gas releases.</li> </ul>
11	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING</b>
	<p>Close of meeting at 5.40pm.</p> <p>Next meeting: Tuesday 20 August, 4.00pm – 6.00pm at Douglas Park Community Hall.</p>