

MEETING MINUTES



ILLAWARRA COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING: # 42

LOCATION: Douglas Park Community Hall

DATE: 27 August 2019

ATTENDEES:



Mike Archer (MA - Chair)
Noel Lowry (NL)
Danny Stewart (DS)
Peter Chaffer (PC)
Sam Davis (SD)
Sharyn Cullis (SC)
Michael McGrath (MM) – *present until 7.10pm*
Craig Manz (CM – South32 Appin General Manager)
Amanda Blunt (AB – South32 Community)

APOLOGIES:

Barry Durham (BD)
Chris Schultz (CS – South32 Environment)

ABSENT:

1	PURPOSE
	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	AGENDA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and apologies • Declaration of Interests • Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes / Business Arising from previous Meeting Minutes • Questions of Notice Tracker • Update from South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Operations ○ Community ○ Environment, including water • General Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2019 meeting dates • Meeting close
	WELCOME / APOLOGIES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA opened the meeting at 6.20pm and noted apologies from CS and BD.
4	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS / CORRESPONDENCE
	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	PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING
	<p>Previous meeting minutes (extraordinary meeting July 2019) were reviewed by the group and amendments requested.</p> <p>Amendments requested before the minutes are approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend point 5 – Mine ventilation patterns – discussion to ‘A drift shaft would be at least 3.5km long rather than approx. 520m for a vertical shaft.’ • Amend actions to include ‘AB to investigate if there is written evidence of a commitment to switch Ventilation Shaft 6 to a downcast shaft in about 20 years, and renovate and return the Mountbatten Buildings to the community.’ <p>Action: AB to update minutes with amendments requested.</p>
6	SOUTH32 UPDATES
	<p><u>Illawarra Metallurgical Coal update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM shared the FY2019 results and highlights for Illawarra Metallurgical Coal. This included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An increase in our saleable production by 57 per cent compared to FY2018 and is due to our Dendrobium and Appin longwalls continuing to perform strongly; ○ We successfully concluded the renegotiation of all major labour agreements – three at Dendrobium and two at Appin; ○ Dendrobium and Appin's safety performance remained a focus for the year; and ○ There is a continued focus on safety and risk management for FY2020. • CM advised more recently an issue with Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus (CABA) units was discovered during routine testing at our Appin and Dendrobium mines. The devices provide breathable air in the event of an underground emergency. We voluntarily withdrew our underground workforce and are working to return to safe and orderly fashion – this has slowed longwall production this week. Some work has been able to continue.

Appin Area 9 update

- Longwall 903 would commence when Longwall 708A was completed, currently planned for October 2019.
- Engagement with landholders that are likely to experience subsidence has commenced.

Appin Area 7 update

- Longwall 708A has progressed 930 metres at 26 August 2019, with about 400 metres to go.
- Longwall 708A is expected to be completed in October 2019.
- The quarterly update to residents within the subsidence area will be sent in September 2019.
- The Appin operation is planned to return to a two-longwall operation in June 2020; this is when Longwall 708B will commence and Longwall 903 continues.

Impacts update

- AB advised there was one new gas release identified in August 2019. 9 previously identified zones are active, and 23 previously identified zones remain inactive. It was noted that there is no obvious increase in the size of the active zones.
- AB detailed the sampling process of the gas releases to determine size and rating given by South32. The process involves a bucket and a gas sampling bag.
- Menangle Road surveys are weekly, with twice weekly survey inspections also completed. Subsidence movement is within predictions, with the bumps in the road about 200 metres north of Spaniards Hill a result of subsidence. The road was repaired 20 August by South32, and further works may be required as Longwall 708A approaches the area.
- Railway visual inspections are continuing twice per week. Between 16-18 August copper thieves cut and stole about 500 metres of South32 rail monitoring power cables. Members were asked to report any suspicious activity in the rail corridor to the police.
- Hume Motorway rehabilitation above Longwalls 705 and 706 is 90 per cent complete, the final wearing course will be applied when the weather warms.
- There are no new impacts to report on the rail.

Community Complaints

- AB noted one community complaint regarding noise from ventilation shaft 6 had been received since the last meeting.
- Noise testing was arranged with the resident and later cancelled when the resident reported the noise had ceased. This coincided with the removal of two temporary compressors from the site.

Community Support

- AB provided an update on the Appin Mine Memorial, presenting the artwork concept which was unveiled at the 40th Anniversary in July 2019. The artists engaged to deliver the artwork worked with the families who lost loved ones in the disaster, working to incorporate what they wanted the memorial to give them. All families were in support of the final concept. The artwork is due to be constructed over the next 12 months and include lights which will be powered through solar panels to be installed on the Appin Men's Shed. All efforts will be made to source the building materials from Australia.

MA noted the limited time available to continue the meeting. All other agenda items were agreed to be held over to the next meeting.

9 GENERAL BUSINESS

No general business discussed given the time constraint.

10 ACTIONS

- Action: *Held over from previous meeting* - CS to provide further update on the Georges River remediation trial at the next meeting.
- Action: *Held over from previous meeting* - AB to report on the number of closed and accepted claims at the next meeting.
- Action: *Held over from previous meeting* - AB to provide detail on work being done on private water borehole monitoring.
- Action: *Held over from previous meeting* - CS provide an update on the water licence variation at the next meeting.
- Action: *Held over from the previous meeting* - AB to investigate what stratigraphic column specific to the Douglas Park area can be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.

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CLOSE OF MEETING

Close of meeting at 7.20pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday 15 October, 4.00pm – 6.00pm at Douglas Park Community Hall.