

# MEETING MINUTES



## ILLAWARRA COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING: # 30

LOCATION: Douglas Park Community Hall

DATE: 8 August 2017

### ATTENDEES:

Phillip Costa (PC - Chair)  
Danny Stewart (DS)  
Peter Chaffer (PCh)  
Ray Slee (RS)  
Noel Lowry (NL)  
John Wisby (JW)  
Charlie Wheatley (CW – South32 Manager Operations)  
David Gregory (DG – South32 Environment)  
Amanda Blunt (AB – South32 Community)

### APOLOGIES:

Sharyn Cullis (SC)  
Mick Zammit (MZ)  
Peter McMillan (PM – South32 Environment)

### ABSENT:

Andrew Spooner (AS – Campbelltown Shire Council)  
Brad Staggs (BS)

### MEETING DATES 2017:

Tuesday 28 March  
Tuesday 30 May  
Tuesday 1 August  
Tuesday 26 September  
Tuesday 28 November

### SITE VISITS 2017:

August 2017 - Cumberland Plain Woodland site  
September 2017 - Menangle Old Growth Trees  
November 2017 – Appin Tower

1	<b>PURPOSE</b>
	The purpose of the Community Consultative Committee is to facilitate and maintain two-way communication between Illawarra Coal, key stakeholders and local residents. It is to promote open discussion on the activities of Illawarra 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>• Site visit to Cumberland Plain Woodland Enhancement Project area</li> <li>• Welcome / introductions / apologies</li> <li>• Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes / business arising from previous Meeting Minutes</li> <li>• Declaration of Interests</li> <li>• Illawarra Coal - updates on Operations, Environment and Community</li> <li>• Questions on Notice Tracker review and tidy up</li> <li>• Membership Review</li> <li>• General Business</li> </ul>
2A	<b>SITE VISIT – CUMBERLAND PLAIN WOODLAND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to the meeting all committee members in attendance visited the proposed site for the Cumberland Plain Woodland Enhancement project in Douglas Park. Shane Norrish of Landcare Australia also attended and provided expert advice.</li> <li>• The application for funding through the Federal Government's <i>20 Million Trees</i> Program was lodged in late July 2017. The outcome of the request will not be known until late 2017. The Committee suggested contacting the local MP to notify of the application.</li> <li>• The Project will be completed in partnership with Landcare Australia and aim to re-establish Cumberland Plain Woodland over about 88 hectares of South32 land.</li> <li>• Adjacent residents and the Douglas Park community will be notified of the project within the next fortnight.</li> </ul> <p>Action: PC to contact the Local Member, Angus Taylor, and advise of the application and strong support for the project</p>
3	<b>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</b>
	Phillip Costa Independent Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Apologies for the meeting were noted.
4	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS / CORRESPONDENCE</b>
	Phillip Costa 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 minuted at every meeting.
5A	<b>PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES</b>
	Previous meeting minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting. Moved: RS Seconded: NL.
5B	<b>BUSINESS ARISING</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
6	<b>SOUTH32 OPERATIONS UPDATE</b>
	<p><u>Operational Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The safety of our people is important to us which is why we took the precautionary measure to withdraw the workforce from our Appin Mine after a fault with the mine's gas extraction system on 28 June 2017</li> <li>• At no time were there elevated levels of gas underground or concerns with the Mine's ventilation system. As standard practice we notified the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (the Regulator) who, subsequently, issued a prohibition notice.</li> <li>• Underground operations at Appin remain suspended while we work a review of controls and</li> </ul>

	<p>plans associated with the Mine's gas extraction system. The thorough review of plans and systems will see Appin Mine well positioned for a safe return to production.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mine workers continue to be engaged in the review work, inspections as required and competency based training and development programs.</li> </ul> <p><u>Appin Area 7 Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Longwall 707 has progressed slightly since the previous meeting. There is approximately 780 metres remaining.</li> <li>• Longwall 707 current operations are about 1.35km from the Nepean River.</li> </ul> <p><u>Appin Area 9 Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Longwall 901 has been able to operate under controlled conditions during the suspension of operations. There is approximately 6 metres remaining and it is expected to be completed during August.</li> <li>• The commencement of Longwall 902 will be determined as part of the Appin review process.</li> <li>• Longwall 901 current operations are about 909 metres from the Nepean River</li> </ul>
8	<p><i>SOUTH32 ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE</i></p>
	<p><u>Environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioning of the Water Filtration Plant upgrade has been delayed due to the Appin mine review, with a new date still to be determined.</li> <li>• A 3 month trial of a Fogger Cannon commenced in July at the West Cliff Coal Prep Plant. It is being tested as a method of dust suppression on coal stockpiles and to assist in the reduction of process water entering into Brennans Creek Dam.</li> <li>• The Resources Regulator recently completed an audit of the Appin mining and exploration lease conditions and recognised the high quality of the rehabilitation at the emplacement. Areas for improvement were administrative.</li> <li>• The South32 Environmental Improvement Program involves a Stakeholder Working Group that includes representatives from the Environmental Protection Authority, Western Sydney University, Georges River Combined Councils Committee, Georges River Environmental Alliance, National Parks Association, Campbelltown Council and Wollondilly Council. Data is collected bi-annually. The autumn data collection has been completed and the results will be shared with the CCC when they are available.</li> <li>• PCh raised an idea to use redundant mine real estate as a Hydroelectric Scheme. PCh requested South32 raise this idea within the business.</li> </ul> <p><u>Subsidence impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eleven active gas releases in the Nepean River. One new release over the last two months</li> <li>• A map was presented showing the location of all non-active, active and new gas releases</li> </ul> <p>Action: PM to provide survey data on the closure of Area 9 at the next meeting.  Action: PM to arrange DG to present on the Environmental Improvement Program Autumn results at the appropriate time  Action: AB to raise PCh's idea of the Hydroelectric Scheme with the appropriate South32 teams and provide an update on the response when available.  Action: AB to provide gas release maps at future meetings as per DS request</p>
8	<p><i>SOUTH32 COMMUNITY UPDATE</i></p>

Community Complaints

- 24 complaints were received in FY17 for Bulli Seam Operations. This is 37 per cent more than the previous year and most can be attributed to the Mine Safety Gas Management project.
- Overall Illawarra Coal (Bulli Seam and Dendrobium Operations) complaints decreased by 10 per cent in FY17 compared to the previous year. This can be attributed to the work undertaken to reduce rail noise.
- Eleven complaints were received since the last meeting in May.
- Noted seven complaints were from residents near the Mine Safety Gas Management project on Brookes Point Road, Appin. All issues were rectified within a satisfactory timeframe.
- Noted four complaints related to noise from the Appin West Gas Drainage Plant. All noise monitoring has returned results within noise regulations however South32 has installed noise walls and investigations into further noise suppression remain ongoing.
- Noted one complaint related to a speeding truck in Appin.

Community Investment

- In FY17 South32 Illawarra Coal provided more than \$218,000 to community groups and projects.
- In FY17 the Community Partnerships Program contributed more than \$139,000 and committed an additional \$82,000 to projects within the Wollondilly Region.

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*PROJECTS UPDATE*

Mine Safety Gas Management Facilities, VS3

- The project is behind schedule. Trenching and laying of the pipe is now expected to be complete in mid to late September 2017, with the pressure test to follow early October 2017.

Ballast Borehole

- Work has commenced on the Ballast Borehole near Vent Shaft 6.
- No community concern has been lodged to date.

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*MEMBERSHIP UPDATE*

- Three positions are vacant – two community representatives and one environmental group representative. CCC determined to fill the roles, advertising for all positions.
- AB advised the NSW Government CCC Guidelines outline the process for appointing new representatives to the committee. Advertising must be open for at least four weeks, the Chairperson must shortlist applicants within two weeks and notify the Department with the desired applicants. The Department then appoints the representatives within two weeks.
- Adverts will be placed in the Wollondilly Advertiser 21 August and 4 September

Action: AB to place adverts in the Wollondilly Advertiser  
Action: NL to follow up with BS regarding his membership

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*GENERAL BUSINESS*

- NL thanked South32 Illawarra Coal for the presentation to Wollondilly Council on the Cumberland Woodland Plain Enhancement project, and advised Council were supportive of the Project.
- DG advised the bi-annual Environmental Improvement Program meeting will be soon. Date and location is to be confirmed.
- DS questioned how much saline water was coming from the Appin East Tower. It was noted salinity is down and upgrade works are continuing.
- AB advised the new South32 website is live and thanked committee members involved in the feedback process. The new website remains fluid and changes will be made accordingly.

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*ACTIONS*

- Action: AB to follow up with the South32 DPAP representative regarding Mountbatten group
- Action: AB to investigate Conditions of Consent requirements in relation to Mountbatten House
- Action: AB to provide update by email on the status of Mountbatten Church preservation
- Action: AB to review the Questions on Notice Tracker and update outstanding actions where possible, and bring a printed copy of outstanding actions to the next meeting to discuss and close out.
- Action: PM to provide survey data on the closure of Area 9 at the next meeting.
- Action: AB to advertise the member vacancies in August 2017
- Action: NL to follow up with BS regarding his membership
- Action: PC to contact the Local Member, Angus Taylor, and advise of the *20 Million Trees* funding application and note the strong support for the project
- Action: PM to arrange DG to present on the Environmental Improvement Program autumn results at the appropriate time
- Action: AB to raise PCh's idea of the Hydroelectric Scheme with the appropriate South32 teams and provide an update on the response when available.
- Action: AB to provide gas release maps at future meetings as per DS request

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**CLOSE OF MEETING**

Close of meeting at 6.00pm.

Next meeting Tuesday 26 September, 4.30pm – 6.00pm at Douglas Park Community Hall.

Menangle Old Growth Trees, Menangle Road, site visit commencing 3.30pm. Details to be circulated.