

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING:	Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee	
LOCATION:	Dendrobium Conference Room, Dendrobium Mine	
DATE:	17:33, 12 December 2019	
ATTENDEES:	Independent Chairperson Community Representatives Illawarra Coal Representatives (IC)	Mike Archer (MA) Phil Diamond (PD) Phil Clunas (PC) Phil Grant (PG) Viv Twyford (VT) Ben Fitzsimmons (BF) Chris Schultz (CS) Scott Dennis (SD)
APOLOGIES:		Alex Beccari (AB) Jenny Evans (JE) Neville McAlary (NM) Councillor Noel Lowry (NL) (Wollondilly Shire Council) Ron Zwicker (RZ) Wollongong City Council David Henry (Wollondilly Shire Council)

1	<i>PURPOSE</i>
	The purpose of the DCCC is to provide a forum for open discussion between representatives of Dendrobium Mine, the community, the relevant councils and other stakeholders on issues directly relating to the mine's operations, environmental performance and community relations, and to keep the community informed on these matters. The meeting also includes a discussion on the progress of the Dendrobium Next Domain development application.
2	<i>AGENDA</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome/Apologies • Acceptance of minutes of last meeting • Approvals Update • Operational update • Update on Environment • Update on Community • General Business
3	<i>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</i>

	<p>Mike Archer welcomed all members present to the December meeting of the Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee (DCCC), and final meeting for this calendar year. MA issued apologies for absent Committee members. MA welcomed Scott Dennis, standing in for Neville McAlary. MA declared a pecuniary interest, advising that in his role as independent chairperson, he is paid for his time by South32.</p>
5	<i>PREVIOUS MINUTES</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of the minutes from the previous DCCC meeting (October 2019) were accepted as a correct record of the meetings. Moved: PD; Seconded; VT.
5A	<i>BUSINESS ARISING</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NL requested that South32 provide further information on the nature of the land sale. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>BF and Richard Walsh (Exploration Superintendent) met with Clr Noel Lowry to discuss the relinquishment of the mining lease. South32 relinquished its right to mine in the area. This considered many factors including the NSW Government's identification of this area as a priority for housing development and the enactment of the Coal Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 2017. South32 made the decision to relinquish its right to mine after stakeholder consultation including with the NSW Government and the property developer.</i>
6	<i>ILLAWARRA COAL OPERATIONAL UPDATE</i>
	<p><u>Dendrobium Mining Approvals Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BF provided an update on the mining approvals for Dendrobium. Discussed the progress of the Dendrobium Project. IMC is currently preparing its Response to Submissions report, in accordance with the NSW Planning Process. Longwall 20-21 Subsidence Management Plan was submitted to Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) on 31 May 2019. The SMP has been referred to the Independent Expert Panel on Mining in the Catchment. A determination on the SMP is anticipated late December 2019, or early 2020. Subsidence Management Plan applications for Longwalls 18 and 19 have not yet been submitted. PD raised a recent news article which reported on the water quality in Avon and Cordeaux dams, and suggested the impact of mining on measured increases in iron levels. BF advised that Illawarra Metallurgical Coal does not longwall mine beneath Cordeaux or Avon dams and has a comprehensive water monitoring program in place. He noted that prolonged drought conditions have had an impact on water quality in the catchment. PD requested that the environment team investigate the impact of mining on water course and pools overlying the Dendrobium mining area. CS took the question on notice. See section 10 for more information. <i>NOTE: the article can be <u>viewed here</u></i>

Longwall Progress Update

- SD issued an apology for NM and provided the committee with an update on Dendrobium's operational progress.
- LW15 extraction is progressing to plan. Panel expected to be completed Jan 2020. Some delays have extended LW15 completion date as an igneous intrusion was encountered earlier than expected.
- PD asked if there would be increased traffic during the longwall move. SD advised that upon completion of LW15, there may be an increase in traffic movements as some equipment is taken offsite for planned maintenance.
- VT highlighted that it is possible that the longwall move may coincide with school holiday period. The team should consider the traffic-pedestrian interactions when planning the transport of heavy loads during this time.
- Progress of development for LW16 on track with currently no issues to report.
- The surface power kiosk upgrade, located at the entrance of Dendrobium, is now complete. The connection via the existing Bluescope alignment has now been disconnected. Powerline removal is well underway and is likely to be completed in late December. Powerpole removal is on track to commence mid-late February 2020. Community consultation is ongoing, including letterbox drops and door to door campaigns.
- SD advised that the sediment pond below Dendrobium pit top required de-silting. An excavator would be mobilised to site in the new year. The excavated material will be transported using the mine's conveyor system, avoiding the use of trucks along Cordeaux Road.
- SD highlighted that the site had recently completed training and communication sessions with the workforce. Proactive noise minimisation was highlighted with the employees. Signage has also been erected to remind the workforce to be considerate of our neighbours when departing site.

General Update – Environment

- One exceedance of noise criteria recorded in November 2019
 - R6a (374 Cordeaux Road) - a noise level of 41 dBA was recorded, which is above the impact assessment criteria by 1 dBA.
- Investigations into the installation of a second noise monitor along rail line, near William James Drive continue. Environment team is examining the available devices to ensure the data collected would be consistent and replicable with the currently installed device.
- Real time noise monitoring system is planned to be implemented on site. The system is currently being developed in consultation with the mine and environment teams.
- Water Balance steady with no issues to report.
- Investigations into mine water reuse options continue, looking at opportunities to reduce the need to discharge water via the licenced discharge point LDP5 (at Allan's Creek).

- Nebo switchyard upgrades (at front entrance) are complete. Powerline and power pole removal program is continuing. Some residents have indicated they did not receive consultation materials regarding the removal program.
- VT asked if the company could consider sending text messages to residents to inform them of planned works in the area. BF explained that South32 has been undertaking letter box drop and door knocking campaigns in the lead up to and during the planned powerline works. If an enquiry or complaint is received through the community hotline, it is responded to as soon as possible by one of the community team members.
- Increased particulate matter levels have been recorded due to regional poor air quality. The TARP to control dust on site is being implemented, which includes hose down of the area around the warehouse on hot or windy days.
- PD asked if the Dendrobium Mine was prepared for potential bushfire threats in the upcoming summer. SD explained that the mine was well prepared. The site has a Bushfire Management Plan, that identifies the hazard and risk associated with bushfire threats and details the communications, response and processes in place to manage bushfire emergencies.
- SD highlighted that Dendrobium communicates and consults with the local Rural Fire Service and State Emergency Service regarding bushfire management practices.
- PD asked if South32 was aware of Wollongong City Council's recent council resolution to achieve net zero emissions for the City of Wollongong by 2050. BF and CS explained that South32's Climate Strategy included a science-based target of net zero emissions by 2050.
- CS provided an update on the latest subsidence monitoring
 - There have been eleven impacts in the reporting period, including rock fracturing and slaking.
 - These impacts continue to be monitored.

Community Update

- BF provided a community update.
- 21 complaints (from seven stakeholders) received over October, November, December period (as of 12.12.2019).
 - Every complaint was responded to within 24 hours and investigated with onsite personnel and rectification undertake where required.
 - Several complaints were received regarding driving practices. Operational employees, contractors and delivery personnel were reminded of their responsibilities in accordance with the Dendrobium Driver's Code of Conduct.
 - **NOTE: community call line (1800 102 210) is resourced 24/7**
- Community investment through the Dendrobium Community Enhancement Program (DCEP) continues.
 - Work is continuing to strengthen the Committee relationship with Wollongong City Council.

- The DCEP committed to support Figtree Community Carols - \$17,500
- Illawarra Metallurgical Coal community recent sponsorships:
 - Sponsorship of the Illawarra Convoy
 - Donation to the Dilly Drought Drive of \$2,000 from the collective CCCs
- South32 donated \$500,000 to the NSW and QLD rural fire services to assist with the current bushfire crisis.

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GENERAL BUSINESS

Dendrobium Next Domain – Environmental Impact Statement

- Public display concluded on the 18 September 2019 with submissions uploaded to NSW Planning Portal on 3 October 2019 (available at <https://bit.ly/2MOuwMS>)
- South32 is now developing its Response to Submissions (RTS), as per the NSW Planning State Significant Development process. South32 is aiming to submit the Response report to the Department of Planning in early 2020.
- On the 31 October 2019, the NSW Government release the second report from the Independent Expert Panel on Mining in the Catchment.
 - 50 recommendations currently being considered by government
 - The media release noted environmental flows and evaporative losses are up to 820ML/day
 - Mining may result in losses of up to 8ML/day
 - Recommendations being considered by South32 in preparation of the RTS.
- PD asked if South32 was considering alternate mine plans as part of the Response to Submissions report. BF indicated that South32 was progressing with the mine plan proposed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- PC highlighted that the NSW Government has given South32 approval to mine in these areas and it was up to the government to review the findings of the Independent panel report and incorporate the recommendations into future mining approvals.
- PG discussed that coal mining had coexisted within the water catchment areas for over 100 years and the state's population growth was having an impact on water resources. This should be considered when weighing up the construction of water sources such as dams or desalination plants.

SD left the meeting at 18:40

General Business

- BF had received an email from one of the committee members with the following question:
 - ***Will the proposed pipeline corridor cross any of the South32 mining areas? If so, will the corridor cross areas that have already been undermined, or areas yet to be undermined?***
 - APA are still investigating the best route options for the pipeline - they may look to make use of existing easements and cleared corridors, they may interact with S32 surface infrastructure and areas of land that have been undermined but at this stage they are still considering a range of options.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VT discussed the Wollongong Heritage Collections Group's plans to relocate the heritage items from the core shed to a storage facility at Unanderra. South32 has offered assistance in the relocation of the items and the disposal of waste. The core shed will be demolished once the contents have been relocated. VT noted that Amanda Blunt had been a tremendous help with the entire process and thanked her for her time and assistance. • VT advised that she had emailed a local resident who had requested, through the independent chairperson, to connect with a member of the DCCC. • VT advised that she had received an email from a local resident regarding the DCEP minutes not being accessible or up to date online. BF will investigate and if the minutes are not available, will discuss with the website administrator if these are able to be uploaded as soon as possible. • MA advised that he attended a CCC review with the Minister for Planning, Rob Stokes. The minutes will be circulated to the committee members for their review. • BF asked the group if an observer could attend a meeting in 2020. This was unanimously endorsed by the committee. • This is the last meeting for 2019. BF thanked the members for their time and commitment to the committee. <p><i>SD returned to the meeting at 18:49</i></p> <p><u>Next Meeting Dates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting will be held on the 16 January 2020 • Following this, meetings are planned for the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 26 March 2020 ○ 21 May 2020 ○ 16 July 2020 ○ 17 September 2020 ○ 19 November 2020
10	<i>ACTIONS</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: BF to extend an offer to the local MPs seeking their interest in a tour of the water catchment facilitated by South32. • Question on Notice (QON): CS to investigate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Report on the water quality along water courses and within pools where water quality monitoring is undertaken. Include results of iron levels recorded in these locations.
	<i>MEETING CLOSE / NEXT MEETING</i>
	<p>Meeting close: 6:55pm</p> <p>Next Meeting: 16 January 2020</p>