

# MEETING MINUTES

MEETING:	Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee	
LOCATION:	Dendrobium Conference Room, Dendrobium Mine	
DATE:	17:30, 16 January 2020	
ATTENDEES:	Independent Chairperson Community Representatives  Observer Illawarra Coal Representatives (IC)	Mike Archer (MA) Phil Diamond (PD) Alex Beccari (AB) Jenny Evans (JE) Phil Grant (PG) Councillor Noel Lowry (NL) (Wollondilly Shire Council) Bruce Devonport (BD) Ben Fitzsimmons (BF) Chris Schultz (CS) Neville McAlary (NMCA)
APOLOGIES:	Viv Twyford (VT) Phil Clunas (PC) Ron Zwicker (RZ) Wollongong City Council	

<b>1</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
	<p>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.</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>AGENDA</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Welcome/Apologies</b></li> <li>• <b>Acceptance of minutes of last meeting</b></li> <li>• <b>Approvals Update</b></li> <li>• <b>Operational update</b></li> <li>• <b>Update on Environment</b></li> <li>• <b>Update on Community</b></li> <li>• <b>General Business</b></li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</b>
	<p>Mike Archer welcomed all members present to the first meeting of the Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee (DCCC) for 2020 and wished all those present a Happy New Year. MA issued</p>

	apologies for absent Committee members. MA welcomed Bruce Devonport, who was attending the meeting as an observer representing Wollondilly Shire Council. MA declared a pecuniary interest, advising that in his role as independent chairperson, he is paid for his time by South32.
<b>5</b>	<b>PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of the minutes from the previous DCCC meeting (December 2019) were accepted as a correct record of the meetings. <b>Moved: PG; Seconded; PD.</b></li> </ul>
<b>5A</b>	<b>BUSINESS ARISING</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>BF to extend an offer to the local MPs seeking their interest in a tour of the water catchment facilitated by South32</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Rachel Cameron (Lead Government) has extended a verbal invitation to several local members.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>CS to 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.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Charts were provided in the presentation to the panel. A copy of the charts, and further details on their analysis can be found in the South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal – Dendrobium Mine. End of Panel Surface Water and Shallow Groundwater Assessment: Longwall 14 (Area 3B). The report can be downloaded <a href="#">here</a>.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>ILLAWARRA COAL OPERATIONAL UPDATE</b>
	<p><b><u>Dendrobium Mining Approvals Update</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BF provided an update on the mining approvals for Dendrobium.</li> <li>Discussed the progress of the Dendrobium Mine Extension Project. IMC is currently preparing its Response to Submissions report, in accordance with the NSW Government's state significant development planning process.</li> <li>Longwall 20-21 Subsidence Management Plan was submitted to Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) on 31 May 2019.</li> <li>Longwall 21 Subsidence Management Plan was approved by the NSW Government on 19 December 2019. The SMP for Longwall 20 has been referred to the Independent Expert Panel on Mining in the Catchment. IMC is progressing further studies to support the Longwall 20 Subsidence Management Plan application.</li> <li>Subsidence Management Plan applications for Longwalls 18 and 19 have not yet been submitted.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Longwall Progress Update</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NMcA welcomed the committee back to Dendrobium in 2020 and provided an update on the mining operations at Dendrobium</li> <li>The mine is very close (within 10m) of completing LW15. This is slightly later than expected due to an, earlier than expected, intersection of an igneous intrusion in LW15.</li> </ul>

- Once LW15 is complete, 30 powered roof supports (PRS) will be taken offsite for regulatory maintenance. Truck mounted carriers that have been specifically designed to reduce coal spillage during the transport of the PRS, will be used once again following their successful implementation during the previous longwall relocation.
- The PRS are expected to return to site on 21 February 2020.
- NMcA advised that most of the major equipment for LW16 had already been mobilised to site in the previous months, therefore reducing the number of traffic movements during the longwall relocation period.
- Equipment that is being brought to the surface for regulatory maintenance (excluding PRS) will be transported offsite in March/April. Once again, to reduce the number of traffic movements during the longwall relocation.

#### **General Update – Environment**

- Underground water balance is steady with no issues to report.
- The flow meter (LDP24) was identified by the environmental team as under-reporting dewatering flows. The flow meter was replaced and the malfunction reported to the Environmental Protection Authority as soon as it was identified. The team is now reviewing the data collected by the malfunctioning meter and will adjust the dewatering flow values accordingly.
- The proposed second noise monitor along the rail line, near William James Drive is being progressed. The Environment team is working with a potential supplier to ensure the data collected is consistent and replicable with the current monitoring network.
- A noise monitoring pilot has been deployed and is currently being trialled on site. The noise monitoring system is non-directional, which means that it can detect noise and noise levels, however cannot determine the direction of the noise source.
- CS emphasised that real time noise monitoring is a proactive approach to managing noise across our surface operational areas. The system is not intended for compliance purposes, rather designed to assist the operation better understand and manage noise.
- De-silting of the sediment dam is planned for January. As discussed at previous meeting, the sediment will be removed from site using the mine's conveyor network, therefore eliminating heavy vehicle traffic along Cordeaux Road.
- Investigations into mine water reuse options continue, looking at opportunities to reduce the need to discharge water via the licenced discharge point LDP5 (at Allans Creek). A workshop was held toward the end of 2019 with internal and external stakeholders involved. An analysis of the potential opportunities will be presented in the project's response to submissions report.
- AB asked how much town water Dendrobium consumes daily. CS advised that town water supplies essential areas only, including the bathhouses, offices and sensitive longwall hydraulic components. On average, this requires 255 kL/day
- AB asked why Dendrobium was not discharging water into Mount Kembla waterways which had dried out during the drought. CS advised that Dendrobium's conditions of consent do

not allow for water to be discharged into local waterways. Surplus water from the mine is discharged into Allans Creek at LDP5.

- Increased particulate matter levels have been recorded due to regional poor air quality associated with the significant bushfires in the area. 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. There have been no air quality non-compliances recorded.
- An incident was reported when a crane travelling to site spilt radiator coolant on Cordeaux Road. The spill was contained and cleaned as per Dendrobium's environmental procedures.
- CS provided an update on the latest subsidence monitoring. CS noted that access to the water catchment has been difficult over the past several weeks, with the catchment closed during Total Fire Bans.
  - There has been one impact recorded, a soil moisture trigger overlying LW15.
  - Impacts continue to be monitored.
- PD asked if it would be possible for Dr Ian Wright to present to the committee on water quality and the effects of dissolved metals in pools? MA advised that if this was something the committee was supportive of, then he could extend an invitation to Dr Wright.
- ***ACTION: PD to write to MA articulating his request and justification for Dr Ian Wright of University of Western Sydney to present to the committee.***

#### **Bushfire Mitigation**

- CS provided an update on bushfire management in the Mount Kembla and Kembla Heights area.
- South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal undertakes activities to mitigate and manage the bushfire risk in and around the Dendrobium mine. This includes:
  - Maintenance of asset protection zones behind 28-38 Harry Graham Drive and homes along Benjamin Road, as well as maintenance of the Dendrobium, Mt Kembla Ring Track, Stones Road and Benjamin Road fire trails;
  - Mowing and clearing of numerous road verges in Kembla Heights;
  - Undertaking gutter cleaning throughout the village of Kembla Heights, removing leaves and other debris;
  - Removal of large branches and other green waste which was unable to be disposed of during normal green waste collection; and
  - Working closely with the local real estate agency to communicate bushfire preparedness measures to local tenants.
- Illawarra Metallurgical Coal also has representatives on the Illawarra Bushfire Management Committee and regularly liaises with the Rural Fire Service.
- Illawarra Metallurgical Coal can request hazard reduction burns in the area, however these are prioritised by the Committee, and are dependent on weather conditions.
- AB expressed concern for the level of fuel (e.g. natural combustible material) which had built up over time across the lands owned by South32. AB stated that not enough had been

done to reduce the fuel loads, and this was placing the communities which neighbour these properties at risk.

- AB suggested there were more ways to reducing fuel loads than just hazard reduction burns, including slashing of the undergrowth, fuel removal, weed management and trimming/removal of some vegetation.
- **ACTION: BF to seek advice from a bushfire expert and report back to the committee**

#### **Community Update**

- BF provided a community update.
- 15 complaints received during the December - January period (as of 16.01.2020).
  - Every complaint was responded to within 24 hours, investigated and action taken where required.
  - Operational employees, contractors and delivery personnel continue to be 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.
- Illawarra Metallurgical Coal community recent sponsorships:
  - Additional donation of \$500,000 to the Red Cross bushfire relief fund, bringing the total bushfire donation from South32 to A\$1 million.
  - Dendrobium donated P2 masks and gloves and clean up tools to the Shoalhaven RFS
  - Employees in RFS or impacted by the fires are being supported by South32 during this time

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#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **Dendrobium Next Domain – Environmental Impact Statement**

- South32 is finalising the Response to Submissions (RTS), as per the NSW Planning State Significant Development process. South32 is aiming to submit the RTS report to the Department of Planning Industry and Environment in February 2020.
- PD asked if South32 was reducing the width of the longwall panels as part of the RTS report. BF advised that the mine plan presented in the EIS is the mine plan that continues to be presented in the RTS.
- PD queried why other mines in the region were able to remain profitable when mining reduced longwall widths, when compared to the panel dimensions at Dendrobium. NMCA advised that he could not comment of the profitability of other operations, however reiterated that Dendrobium does not mine underneath water storages, and does not mine within 1000 metres of dam walls, or within 300 metres of the full supply level of Avon and

	<p>Cordeaux dams. Additionally, Dendrobium does not longwall mine beneath named water courses or key stream features.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PD stated that the water catchment is an oasis and any impact on this sensitive environment is of great concern. BF emphasised that South32 ensures that its operations balance the social, economic and environmental outcomes to ensure a sustainable operation. This includes monitoring and mitigating impacts across these sensitive environmental areas.</li> <li>• BF advised that once the RTS was complete, he would distribute to the committee as soon as possible.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>General Business</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PG highlighted that there was a burst water main near Stones Road. The water has been flowing for some time and he has been in regular contact with the water provider to rectify the leak. To date, works undertaken to rectify the leak have been unsuccessful.</li> <li>• NL advised that at the next Wollondilly Shire Council meeting, he will acknowledge South32's AU\$1,000,000 contribution to the bushfire relief funds.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Next Meeting Dates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next meeting will be held on the <b>26 March 2020</b></li> <li>• Following this, meetings are planned for the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 21 May 2020</li> <li>○ 16 July 2020</li> <li>○ 17 September 2020</li> <li>○ 19 November 2020</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
10	<b>ACTIONS</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ACTION:</b> PD to write to MA articulating his request and justification for Dr Ian Wright of University of Western Sydney to present to the committee.</li> <li>• <b>ACTION:</b> BF to seek advice from a bushfire expert and report back to the committee</li> </ul>
	<b>MEETING CLOSE / NEXT MEETING</b>
	<p><b>Meeting close:</b> 6:55pm</p> <p><b>Next Meeting:</b> 26 March 2020</p>