

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING:	Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee	
LOCATION:	<i>Via Teleconference</i>	
DATE:	17:30, 26 March 2020	
ATTENDEES:	Independent Chairperson Community Representatives Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Representatives (IMC) Australian Bushfire Solutions (ABS)	Mike Archer (MA) Phil Diamond (PD) Phil Grant (PG) Phil Clunas (PC) Viv Twyford (VT) Jenny Evans (JE) Ben Fitzsimmons (BF) Chris Schultz (CS) Neville McAlary (NMCA) Rhiannon Wright (RW) Deborah Dawson (DD) Jane Brandon (JB)
APOLOGIES:	Alex Beccari (AB) Noel Lowry (NL) (Wollondilly Shire Council) Ron Zwicker (RZ) Wollongong City Council	

1	PURPOSE
	<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> <p><i>NOTE: The March DCCC meeting was held via teleconference. To ensure all members were able to participate fully, a copy of the presentation was provided to the committee members prior to the meeting. While every effort was made to ensure an uninterrupted meeting, some connectivity issues were experienced.</i></p>
2	AGENDA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome/Apologies • Acceptance of minutes of last meeting • Presentation – Australian Bushfire Solutions - Bushfire Review • Approvals Update • Operational update

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental update • Community • Member Updates • General Business
3	WELCOME / APOLOGIES
	<p>Mike Archer welcomed all members present to the Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee (DCCC), held for the first time as a teleconference due to the current COVID-19 crisis. MA issued apologies for absent Committee members. MA welcomed Rhiannon Wright to the DCCC who has recently joined South32 in the community team. MA welcomed Deborah and Jane from ABS who were presenting to the committee their recent bushfire review. MA declared a pecuniary interest, advising that in his role as independent chairperson, he is paid for his time by South32.</p>
5	PREVIOUS MINUTES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the minutes from the previous DCCC meeting (January 2020) were accepted as a correct record of the meetings. Moved: PD; Seconded; PC.
5A	BUSINESS ARISING
	<p>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.</p> <p><i>- no update, this will roll over to the next meeting.</i></p> <p>ACTION: BF to seek advice from a bushfire expert and report back to the committee.</p> <p><i>Jane and Deb from ABS presented to the committee on their recent Bushfire Review for Kembla Heights and Mount Kembla. Based in NSW, ABS have over 35 years' experience in the assessment and management of bushfire hazard and risk. The ABS presentation discussed the vulnerability of the villages due to the topography, the surrounding vegetation and the constraints regarding egress in and out of the two communities. ABS discussed the collaborative approach to managing bushfire risk in bushfire prone areas. The presentation was distributed to the committee.</i></p> <p><i>NB: due to technical and connection issues, this was presented at 18:35 (post community update)</i></p>
6	ILLAWARRA COAL OPERATIONAL UPDATE
	<p><u>Dendrobium Mining Approvals Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BF provided an update on the mining approvals for Dendrobium. • The Dendrobium Mine Extension Project Response to Submissions (RTS) was submitted to the NSW Government in February 2020. • Longwall 19 Subsidence Management Plan was submitted to the NSW Government on the 16 March 2020. • Longwall 20 Subsidence Management Plan has been placed on hold. <p><u>General Update – Environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS provided an update on the environment to the committee.

- Dendrobium underground water balance indicates a slight increase in water reporting to the underground workings following the February rainfall.
- PD asked if the discharge volumes were available online. CS advised that the data was available in the 14-day report. The report can be accessed here - [14 day report](#).
- Noise exceedance recorded during daytime period in February monitoring. Recorded two dBA above noise impact assessment criteria at receptor R6a.
- Progressing plans for second noise monitor for Kemira Valley rail line,
- Interim real time noise monitoring system (non-directional) has been implemented at the Pit Top. Longer term solution (directional) being progressed. CS highlighted that this work may be impacted by the restrictions imposed on the business as the COVID crisis evolves.
- Completed sediment dam clean out works. Sediment removed from the dam is drying and will be transported underground in the coming weeks.
- Air quality monitoring program has been reviewed.
- Hydrocarbon storage facilities being evaluated following the identification of some geotechnical issues surrounding the current storage area.
- PD asked if the environmental field team are still able to access the monitoring sites while remaining compliant with the COVID-19 restrictions. CS advised that at this current point in time, the environment field team was still able to access the sites. If the situation was to change, data loggers were in place which would continue to capture and store some data should access to the field sites be restricted as the COVID-19 crisis evolves.
- CS advised that a three-yearly review of the Dendrobium Closure Plan was recently held. This was facilitated by South32 colleagues from Perth and is undertaken periodically to ensure the Closure plan contains the most up to date risks and is consistent with current legislation.

Longwall Progress Update

(NMCA joined the meeting at 18:15 after some technical issues however his connection was lost at approx. 18:20)

- NMCA provided an update on the progress of the longwall and development units.
- The longwall relocation from LW15 to LW16 was completed safely and successfully, only two days over forecast. Delays were due to power outages from rainfall in February and several mechanical breakdowns.
- The mine has commenced mining in Longwall 16 and is progressing well.
- Development is progressing in the main gate of Longwall 17.
- Inseam drilling is investigating some geological anomalies in Longwall 18.
- Development units are continuing in the Avondale mains.
- VT asked if there were LW panels planned in Area 3C. BF advised that South32 was considering further mining within Area 3C however due to the geological constraints, investigations were still ongoing to prove up potential longwall plans.

- PD asked why South32 was considering Area3C when he understood South32 did not consider it a potential mining area. BF advised that Area 3C was an approved mining area (i.e. has Development Consent) and South32 would continue to investigate possible mining options in all approved mining areas.

Community Update

- BF provided a community update.
- 18 complaints received during the mid-January to March period (as of 25.03.2020).
- BF advised that each complaint was responded to within 24 hours, investigated and action taken where required. **NOTE: community call line (1800 102 210) is resourced 24/7**
- VT asked if there was anything the committee could do to support residents. MA suggested that VT reach out to residents who have contacted the Chairperson previously to ascertain if the DCCC can provide any support.
- Community investment through the Dendrobium Community Enhancement Program (DCEP) continues.
 - Local RFS brigades provided \$10,000 each for necessary equipment.
 - Kembla Heights Fishing Club received funding for a sun shade.
- PD asked if the Mount Kembla Pathway group was eligible for support as some machinery has recently broken down. MA advised that the Pathway group was eligible.
- VT asked in the Mount Kembla Mine Heritage group was eligible as they were seeking support after relocating from the Dendrobium ‘core shed’ storage. MA advised that they were eligible.
- Illawarra Metallurgical Coal community recent sponsorships:
 - Illawarra Women’s Rugby League – Naming Rights - \$50,000
 - University of Wollongong Science Space Partnership - \$200,000
- South32 Corporate Sponsorships
 - US\$5 million global community fund to support communities affected by COVID-19
 - Australian Bushfires - final matched contribution amount ~\$180,000 (matched contribution being South32 corporate providing an equal amount of funding to ‘match’ South32 employee donations).

8

GENERAL BUSINESS

Dendrobium Next Domain – Environmental Impact Statement and Response to Submissions

- South32 submitted the Response to Submissions to the Department of Planning Industry and Environment in February 2020.
- PD and VT asked if South32 had reduced the panel width originally proposed in the EIS. BF advised that the mine design remained consistent with what was presented in the EIS.
- PD expressed his disappointment with the DND proposal. He believes that the impact on the environment is unacceptable and South32 should reduce the width of the longwall panels. He believes this would reduce impacts to environmental features which overlie the

mining areas. PD noted that other mines were extracting coal with narrower longwall panels and this should be considered by South32 in their application for future mining in Areas 5 and 6.

- JE advised that she has questions regarding water compensation and water licencing. These will be emailed to BF and a response provided to JE and DCCC in writing.

Member Updates

- VT – was surprised to hear about Area3C being considered as a future mining area after previous advice that high in-situ gas levels would make the area unviable. VT is concerned about longwall panel widths proposed in Area 5 and Area 6.
- JE – several questions on the Response to Submissions, however will email these to BF
- PC – no update
- PG – no update
- PD – reiterated his disapproval of longwall panel widths in Areas 5 and 6 and his disappointment that Area 3C is being investigated as the potential next mining area. PD remains concerned about the impacts of longwall mining on the water catchment.

Next Meeting Dates

- Next meeting will be held on **21 May 2020**
- Following this, meetings are planned for
 - 16 July 2020
 - 17 September 2020
 - 19 November 2020

10	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • ACTION: BF to include link to the 14 Day Monitoring Report. It can be found online - here • ACTION: VT to make contact with local resident to offer assistance if required. • ACTION: BF to discuss the car park extension plans at the core shed site, addressing questions submitted to MA from local resident. • ACTION: BF to circulate the presentation by ABS to the committee. The presentation will be provided to the committee on the basis it is Commercial in Confidence and broader distribution would be subject to approval by the chairperson and committee.
	MEETING CLOSE / NEXT MEETING
	<p>Meeting close: 7:00pm</p> <p>Next Meeting: 21 May 2020</p>