

MEETING MINUTES



SOUTH32 ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL APPIN MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING: #60

LOCATION: Menangle RFS

DATE: 20 July 2022

ATTENDEES:

Mike Archer (MA - Chair)

Sam Davis (SD)

Barry Durman (BD)

Peter Chaffer (PC)

Cr. Matthew Deeth (MD) – Wollondilly Shire Council – Joined at 5:15pm

Michael McGrath (MM) Joined at 5:03pm

ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL:

Antony Leone (AL – South32 Community)

Chris Schultz (CS – South32 Environment)

Valentina Tasevska (VT – Admin)

APOLOGIES:

Andy Hyslop (AH – Appin Mine GM)

Amanda Silarski (AS – South32 Community)

Danny Stewart (DS)

Shane Simpson (SS)

1	PURPOSE
	The purpose of the Community Consultative Committee is to facilitate and maintain two-way communication between South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC), key stakeholders and local residents. It is to promote open discussion on the activities of South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal's Bulli Seam Operations, including underground mining and surface operations of Appin; environment performance and community relations; and to keep all stakeholders informed on these matters.
2	AGENDA
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome & Apologies Received 2. Acceptance of Minutes / Matters Arising 3. Declaration of Interests 4. Questions on Notice Tracker 5. IMC Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMC Operations Update • Environment • Exploration • Approvals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appin Mine Ventilation & Access Project Update ○ Dendrobium Mine Extension Project • Complaints • Community 6. General Business
3	WELCOME / APOLOGIES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA opened the meeting at 4:38pm and noted apologies from AS, DS, AH and SS. • MA provided the Acknowledgement to Country – “Illawarra Metallurgical Coal and the Community would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet this evening, the Dharawal People, and pay our respects to Elders past and present and emerging.”
4	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS / CORRESPONDENCE
	MA declared he receives payment from South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal 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. No further declarations were noted by the Committee.
5	PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING
	<p>Minutes of meeting 1 June 2022 were endorsed by BD and seconded by AL.</p> <p>Committee spent time acknowledging and reflecting on former CCC member Sharyn Cullis (Anderson) who sadly passed away on 10 June 2022. On behalf of the Committee MA had written a note of gratitude prior to her passing when she had relinquished her position on the committee due to ill health (attached to minutes). A certificate of appreciation signed by IMC Vice President of Operations (and flowers) was sent to Sharyn shortly before her passing. The booklet at her service was passed around the Committee. The CCC acknowledges Sharyn's lengthy and valuable contribution to the committee over the last decade.</p> <p><u>Questions on Notice Tracker (AL)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to CCC the outcomes of arborist survey on the OGT (Old Growth Trees) and scope for future fencing (AL). <p>AL – IMC had engaged an arborist to survey the OGT, record those that have fallen and identify the number of trees without fencing. IMC has received the final report recently and is reviewing the recommendations. An update will be provided at the next meeting. (ACTION) A total of 64 trees assessed with most indicating termite damage.</p> • MA seek acceptance of March 2022 Minutes <p>MA noted this has not been completed and requested if committee can review and endorse over email (ACTION)</p>

- **Share a copy of the Rehabilitation Management Plan with MD**

Completed and council comments received.

- **Volume of air coming out of each shaft (SD)?**

- VS6 (Douglas Park) – approx. 640m³/s
- VS2 (Appin) – approx. 310m³/s
- VS1 (West Cliff) – approx. 300m³/s.
- 0.2%-0.4% methane

SD/PC request design parameters for VS6 in relation to these parameters. **(ACTION)**

6 OPERATIONS UPDATE

Longwall 709

AL – Provided an operations update. Longwall 709 commenced in February 2022 and has extracted 718m as of 18 July 2022. Approximately 1.8km remaining with forecast completion in Q4 2023.

SD – Has South32 contributed to the cost of the repairs to Menangle Road over the last few years?

AL – There is an arrangement for repair of Menangle Road with council if mining has caused damage to the roads. Will look at the details of the process with council for next meeting **(ACTION)**.

Longwall 904

AL – Commenced 20 May 2021. As of 18 July 2022 – progressed 2,028m.

Looking to complete the longwall in late July and prepare for changeout to Longwall 905.

PC – How long does it take to get to the longwall face underground?

AL – Approximately 40 minutes. We recently took the Menangle Advisory Panel underground and feedback was very positive. AL to arrange an underground tour for the committee members **(ACTION)**.

BD – Can you include the roadways on future maps?

AL – Yes.

7 ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

CS provided an update on the environment:

Water Treatment Plants

Long-term Plant

Continued delays have been experienced due to:

- Wet weather – that has impacted critical outdoor activities.
- COVID-19 – personnel sick and in isolation.
- Supply chain – worldwide semi-conductor shortage needing alternative design and source of spare parts.
- Faults with transformer/kiosk when installed that has resulted in delays in energising the plant.
- A meeting was held with the EPA on 7 July 2022.
- A licence variation has been submitted to the EPA to extend the date for completion.
- Trial to be undertaken to use concrete settling tanks for backwash treatment.

Temporary Plant

The volume of permeate discharged to Brennans Creek since commissioning is 177ML. New membranes were flown in from Canada as existing membranes had failed. CS notes a world-wide shortage of membrane parts.

Brennans Creek Dam

Overflow from BCD commenced on 24 February 2022 and ceased for approximately 3 weeks. It recommenced on 2 July 2022 and has continued since that date. Over 430mm of rain fell in four days. The discharge continues at maximum rates (approximately 3.5 ML/day) and BCD discharge current EC is 1.4ms/cm, pH 8.3.

The dam level is currently over 12.5 metres (height of spillway).

BD – Interested regarding quality levels and whether excess silt on bottom of dam is the result. Have you thought about draining the dam to clean it out?

CS – We are exploring opportunities to dredge. Firstly, we want to assess the amount of sediment within the dam and also conduct a contamination assessment. We are looking into a package of works to undertake this. The water in BCD is used in the washery and underground and therefore it is unable to be drained as the water supply needs to be maintained.

PC – Do you suspect that the dam is contaminated?

CS – Prior to the installation of the floating offtake pump, higher levels of heavy metals in the water had been recorded. It is possible this is still the case; therefore we will undergo the appropriate assessments.

Georges River Remediation Plan

The catchment has been closed or access limited since 9 December 2021 due to wet weather, with the exception of a three week period in June and therefore there has been no progress on the trial at WC21.

VENM Import – Appin North

Import of virgin excavated natural material (VENM) commenced in December 2021. Approximately 40,000 tonnes was imported for use as capping material on the coal wash emplacement area. This project has now been completed.

Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation Management Plan was finalised in June and is available on the IMC Website. Link below:

https://www.south32.net/docs/default-source/illawarra-coal-bulli-seam-operations/management-plans/mining-operations-plan/appin-mine-rehabilitation-management-plan.pdf?sfvrsn=deb45405_2

Rehabilitation Objectives have been submitted to the Resources Regulator Portal. Once approved, the Rehabilitation Criteria will be submitted. This will hopefully be happening in the next couple of months.

Management Plans

Environmental Management Strategy – Consultation with Wollondilly Shire Council.

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas MP – Consultation with EPA.

Waste Management Plan – Submitted to Department.

Noise Management Plan – Consultation with EPA and WSC.

Closure Investigations

Preliminary Site Investigation undertaken for contamination. Targeted Site Investigation planned. Heritage Assessment undertaken.

BD – Whereabouts was the Heritage Assessment done?

CS – It was done across all sites.

Audits

ISO 14001 audit undertaken in June. No non-conformances identified. Triennial Independent Environmental Audit planning is underway, with IEA report to be provided by the end of 2022. The CCC will be contacted by the consultant as part of the IEA process.

Annual Review

Annual review reporting period has commenced.

***Persoonia hirsuta* Translocation**

Three *Persoonia* translocations have been undertaken at Appin North. 128 plants stage 1 – 2019. 90 plants stage 2 – 2021 and 102 plants stage 3 – 2022.

The plants in the third translocation were planted in the *Persoonia hirsuta* Offset Area.

PC – How are the 1st plantings coming along?

CS – 1st plantings not so well, seems to be drought impacted. It was a trial stage and different planting techniques were applied. We applied the learnings from this trial to the 2nd and 3rd plantings with greater success. It seems the greater success rates are from seedlings as opposed to cuttings.

Nepean River Gas Zones

There are 7 active gas zones – 6 at the AA9 end of river and one at the AA7 end.

8 S32 WEB PORTAL

<http://community.s32illawarra.com.au>

AL – Reminder of new portal. This portal includes interactive maps of our mine plans that are easily accessible. It provides the opportunity for feedback and communication.

Landholder Portal: Extraction Plan

South32 Illawarra works closely to support landholders who are affected by our operations.

This portal offers to all landholders in the near future mining areas the option to individualise online support for their property to co-develop their specific Property Management Plan, discuss potential impacts relating to subsidence and arrange potential surveys and monitoring during active periods.

This portal will be completed and operating the first week of August 2022 and offered to the landholders in the Extraction Plan area and approved extraction area.

The goal is to reach in first instance the landholders affected by LW905 and LW710B.

9 EXPLORATION UPDATE

Currently operating 4 x drill rigs, they are located within EL8972 and A248. Drilling to continue around Menangle Road, Picton East, Cawdor and Razorback. The Aeromagnetic survey (helicopter) is now completed.

SD – Has there been any outcome on the drilling on the Mount Taurus Property since last year? Will this impact the proposed development?

AL – There is potentially further exploration required in the area. IMC has previously indicated that its preference is to undertake mining prior to any proposed surface development within our approved area to mine (BSO Consent boundary).

10 APPIN MINE VENTILATION AND ACCESS PROJECT

The construction schedule is that early works shall begin July 2022 and primary works will be done Q1 2023. These dates are subject to change and only an indication at the moment. A video detailing the construction proposed was shown (<https://www.south32.net/our-business/australia/illawarra-metallurgical-coal/appin-mine-ventilation-and-access-project/appin-mine-ventilation-fact-sheets>)

PC – Why is there a helipad on site?

AL – This is used for emergency purposes only and could be used by emergency services for events in the community. Helipad is designed to meet CASA guidelines.

SD – Can South32 re-surface Menangle Road from the creek (Foot Onslow Ck bridge) to Finns Rd intersection? This would be a minor extra cost impost on South32 given the scale of their operations and a positive goodwill gesture for the community.

AL – This is not currently in scope. This would fall under council jurisdiction. But I can raise this point to the Project team.

There was a Community Information Day held on 2 July 2022. Attendance hampered by heavy rain. Priorities amended to assist in local sand bagging.

11 BSO COMPLAINTS

The Bulli Seam Operation has received in total no complaints since last meeting.

5 enquiries received – 4 regarding Appin Memorial, 1 regarding current mining in relation to property.

12 COMMUNITY UPDATE

South32 has donated \$600,000 to help support the flood response and recovery efforts in New South Wales. The donation will be split between the Salvation Army to assist its frontline emergency response and to the Red Cross to assist with recovery and building community resilience to future disasters and emergencies.

IMC Community Investment

FY22 Spend total \$1.5M

- \$1.47M Community Investment and Sponsorships
- \$332,618 Community Trusts

Community Partnership Program (CPP)

- Menangle Community Association Hall Construction - \$100K
- Wilton Rural Fire Brigade for a new hose drying area - \$9,980

SD – what percentage of your tonnes goes into the CPP?

AL – 3c per saleable tonne of coal

AL – Breakdown from CPP and Donations for the year, show the Committee at the next meeting **(ACTION)**.

13 DENDROBIUM MINE EXTENSION PROJECT

IMC to prepare a submissions Report responding to key issues raised on the Project EIS. As per Services Agreement with NSW Government, the report will be submitted on/before 19 August 2022.

Keys Dates

Dec 4 – Project determined SSI

Dec 6 – Scoping Report lodged/SEARS issued

Apr 22 – EIS Submission

May 22 – Public Exhibition for 6 weeks (14 June)

3 Month Look Ahead

Aug 22 – Response to submissions due

Sept 22 – Determination pending

Oct 22 – Determination pending

Breakdown of Submissions

- 531 total submissions
- Agencies
- Organisations
- Public

Summary of Submissions

Broadly, supporting submissions recognised;

- Importance of the Project to the continuation of the Dendrobium Mine and ongoing employment.
- Importance of the Project more broadly to IMC and the Southern Coalfield economic ecosystem.
- IMC's revised mine design which reduces potential impacts and address the concerns of the IPC.

Broadly, key issues raised are consistent with those for the previous application such as;

- Surface water losses
- Potential impacts to biodiversity
- Amenity Impacts.

14 GENERAL BUSINESS

- The 43rd Anniversary of The Appin Mine Disaster was held on Sunday 24th July 2022 at the Appin Mine Memorial Garden Commemorating the victims of the 1979 Appin Mine Disaster.
- 96 Candles Ceremony Remembering the 96 Victims of the 1902 Mt Kembla Mine Disaster will be held on Sunday 31st July 2022 at Windy Gully Cemetery.
- DP Hall booked out on Monday and Wednesday nights – alternate day or location for the AM CCC Meeting – The committee agreed on having the meeting at the Menangle RFS. MM to enquire with the RFS **(ACTION)**.
- Antony Leone on leave from September 2022 for 3 months.

PC – with the recent rainfall, has there been an increase in water make underground?

CS – Not noticeable in Appin.

BD – Have you noticed increase in your groundwater monitoring bores?

CS – Indicated groundwater level monitoring is undertaken however didn't have this information available at the meeting.

AL – We can take as an action to provide some groundwater level monitoring data at the next meeting **(ACTION)**

15 ACTIONS

- Provide recommendations of OGT report (AL)
- Finalise March 2022 (1 June 2022) CCC meeting minute acceptance (MA)
- SD seeking if airflow rates at VS6 within design capacity? (AL)
- Outline the process of road repair between IMC and council for Menangle Road (AL)
- Look into Underground tour for CCC (AL)
- Breakdown from CPP of Donations for the year (FY22) (AL)
- Provide some groundwater level monitoring data at the next meeting (CS)
- MM to confirm availability of RFS building for CCC meetings for remainder of the year

16 CLOSE OF MEETING

Close of meeting at 5:47pm

Next meetings:

- Wed 21 September 2022 at Menangle RFS (TBC)