

Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee MEETING MINUTES (final)



MEETING:	Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee (DCCC)	
LOCATION:	Dendrobium Nebo Room	
DATE:	17:30, Thursday 2 February 2023	
ATTENDEES:	Independent Chairperson Independent Secretary Community Representatives Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Representatives (IMC)	Mike Archer (MA) Maxine Wiseman (MW) Vivien Twyford (VT) Jenny Evans (JE) Anita Mulrooney (AM) Phil Grant (PG) Phil Diamond (PD) - <i>online</i> Phil Clunas (PC) Michael Banasik (MB) Wollondilly Shire Council – <i>online</i> Simon Thomas (ST) General Manager Dendrobium Termira Speer (TS) Principal Community - Observer Chris Schultz (CS) Environment Superintendent Antony Leone (AL) – Principal Community
APOLOGIES:	Ron Zwicker (RZ) Wollongong City Council Alex Beccari (AB)	

	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.</p> <p>Acknowledgement to Country</p> <p>MA provided Acknowledgement to Country – <i>"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet this evening, the Dharawal People, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging"</i>.</p>
	AGENDA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome, Apologies & Declaration of Pecuniary Interests• Acceptance of Minutes of last meeting• Previous Actions• Business Arising• IMC Update<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Operations Update○ Approvals Update○ Environment Update○ Community Update• General Business• Member Updates
1	WELCOME / APOLOGIES
	<p>Meeting opened at 5:33pm.</p> <p>MA welcomed all members and introduced MW as the minute taker. Anything specific to be recorded in minutes please advise MW.</p> <p>MA noted apologies from RZ and AB.</p>
2	DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS
	<p>MA declared a pecuniary interest, advising that in his role as Independent Chairperson, he is paid for his time by South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal. MW is paid as minute taker by MA and the cost is recovered from South32 IMC.</p> <p>There were no other declarations made at the meeting.</p>
3	PREVIOUS MINUTES
	<p>Meeting minutes of DCCC from Thursday 8 December 2022 are a fair and accurate record and accepted.</p> <p>Moved by VT Seconded by PC</p>
4	BUSINESS ARISING – PREVIOUS ACTIONS
	<p>Antony Leone (AL)</p> <p>Agenda similar to previous meetings, VT raised two items with the Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP) and long term plans for Kembla and Kembla Heights, will speak to these in tonight's presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enquiry regarding stand-off distance from Cordeaux for Pioneer Mains (PC) ST - There is a 300 metre buffer from longwall panels to the full-supply level of Cordeaux dam.• RZ to mention problems associated with “coffee van” parking bay at Mount Kembla to relevant Wollongong City Council (WCC) manager. AL - RZ sent apologies and will carry over to next meeting. AL - Will send email to get update from RZ – ACTION• IMC to contact John Kerr at UOW Innovation Campus iAccelerate regarding Indigenous business sponsorship opportunities. AL – Mira (TS) reached out to John Kerr and action is completed, TS advised waiting on response.
	DENDROBIUM OPERATIONS UPDATE
	<p>ST presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LW19 Commenced extraction on 21 June 2022• LW19 due to finish Mid-March 2023

	<p>LW change-out to LW19 – some movements will start happening around 15th March, but it won't be to the same scale as the last one, i.e. there will be no roof supports going through the village. Details shown on map.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development completed in MG21 • Development continuing at MG19A, TG22, MG22 and Pioneer • Surface Slope Stability Works due to commence over coming weeks. • Slope Movement observed in car park – geotechnical recommendations being finalised. <p>PD- In regards to car park, are you keeping the neighbours up to date? ST - Yes, notifying local residents in regards to the geotechnical works and drilling, will be looking at minimising noise whilst carrying out repairs and keep community up to date with what's happening. VT – Is that the top car park? ST – Yes, there has been a minor slip that you can see sectioned off.</p> <p>ST - There may be some short periods of increased traffic and movement throughout the village during the next LW move. Nearby neighbours & community will be updated as we transition over to the next LW.</p> <p>ST –LW19A is undergoing further exploration to identify further prospectivity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LW19A improves longwall continuity by allowing additional gas drainage time for high gas areas. • Assessment completed, including an assessment of Aboriginal Heritage, Wongawilli Creek and Swamp 15A. • LW19A Subsidence Management Plan Application submitted to DPE October 2022. • LW22 and LW23 SMP was approved in late December 2022. <p>PG – Is the furthest LW approved? ST – LW22 and 23 are approved. ST described the sequence of LW operations. VT – What is the timing for this mining sequence to be completed? ST – With our current forecasting an approximate timeframe will be into 2030. PD – Distances of LW from the Cordeaux Dam? ST – It is a minimum of 300 metres.</p>
	<p><i>DENDROBIUM – APPROVALS UPDATE</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ST - LW 22/23 subsidence management plan approved 20 December 2022 • Longwall 19 Subsidence Management Plan approved 11 March 2021 • Longwall 19A SMP Application submitted 10 October 2022 • Longwall 20 Subsidence Management Plan – further approval required • Longwall 21 Subsidence Management Plan approved 19 December 2019 • Longwall 21A Subsidence Management Plan studies underway • Dendrobium Ara 3 Gas Management Plant – approved by DPE 8 July 2022 <p>(https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mod-9-gas-management-infrastructure)</p>
	<p><i>DENDROBIUM – ENVIRONMENT UPDATE</i></p>
	<p>CS presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underground water balance has decreased since the last peak in October/November 2022. Water storage volumes in Area 3B have remained high. • LDP 5 flow in January was an average of 11.99 ML/day (max: 12.94 ML/d and min: 10.69 ML/d) – average flow has remained consistent.

- Progressive Mysore Thorn spraying at Kemira Valley has been successful. Dead plants are planned to be mulched in February and spraying in the rail corridor is planned during the longwall change out in March. Inspection undertaken by Illawarra District Weeds Authority.
- Pit Top Sediment Pond clean out has commenced and progressing over a number of weeks, Kemira Valley planned (delayed due to wet weather).
- Dust suppression spray frequency has been increased.
- Noise mitigation has been implemented on the compressor on the portal road in response to complaints that has resulted in a significant reduction in noise levels.

CS – Noise mitigation has been put in place with a conveyor belt, which has resulted in a noticeable reduction in noise at the source.

AL – We are continuing to implement mitigation to resolve this issue. There has been no change to the surface compressor arrangement over the past two-years. We brought in a noise consultant to review this and they identified the creek flow between the source and resident has now reduced which most likely helped buffer this existing source. There will be ongoing noise mitigation and review to reduce the impact of noise.

PD – General area of Cordeaux Road re-stop/go lighting. – AL – It is a Council issue

Dendrobium Water Balance and License Discharge Plate (LDP) 5

CS – Discussed graph of the underground water balance. It is coming down relatively slowly.

Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP)

- Rehabilitation Management Plan was submitted to the Resources Regulator end June 2022, including Rehabilitation Objectives (RO) and Forward Plan (FP).
- While the RMP does not need to be approved, the RO and FP do. These documents have not yet been approved.
- Once approved, the Rehabilitation Criteria will be submitted for approval (pending if amendments to the RO/FP are required). Once they are approved, the RMP will be updated.
- The RMP details the processes that would be implemented for the rehabilitation of surface facilities, noting that rehabilitation of subsidence impacts is progressive.
- The RMP identifies proposed final land uses for the surface facilities/areas.
- The FP indicates studies and progressive rehabilitation that is planned to be undertaken.
- Progress against the RMP will be reported in the Annual Rehabilitation Report – which is a separate document to our annual review.

VT – The final land uses the RMP identifies, who proposes them?

CS – IMC proposes the final land uses, taking into consideration current and future land zonings and feedback from consultation. These are reviewed by the Resources Regulator and will be subject to more extensive consultation closer to closure.

Phases of Rehabilitation

- Active Mining
- Decommissioning – removal of infrastructure and removal of contamination.
- Landform Establishment – reshaping of landform, construction of water management features.
- Growth Medium Development – establishment of the physical, chemical and biological components of the substrate required to establish the desired vegetation community.
- Ecosystem and Land Use Establishment - activities to manage maturing rehabilitation areas on a trajectory to achieving the rehabilitation objectives and criteria. To establish a vegetation community can take decades so we need to manage them on a trajectory plan so they continue to grow.
- Ecosystem and Land Use Development - processes to establish the approved final land use following construction of the final landform including weed control.

- Rehabilitation Completion – sign off by the Resources Regulator that the objectives and criteria have been achieved.

VT– Who actually approves the final land use, it is local or State Government or you?

CS - The Resources Regulator.

VT – And who is that? The State Government?

CS – Yes – they are part of the Department of Regional NSW.

PD – After the rehabilitation completion, is that something that will continue after the closing of the mine?

CS – Until the Resources Regulator is satisfied with the trajectory being demonstrated that we will achieve the rehabilitation, they won't sign off on it. The owner of the land generally proposes the final land use that is consistent with the surrounding land uses.

VT – South32 own most of the land in Kembla Heights, which is of great interest to the community.

What's going to happen with Kembla Heights?

CS – The Kembla Heights Master Plan is being developed.

VT - Residents were to be fully engaged in the consulting with the Master Plan.

CS – There will be increasing community consultation closer to closure. The Resources Regulator will not approve use of the land that is not in line with what is allowable.

Rehabilitation Regulations

Dendrobium Development Consent

- Condition 18 – Rehabilitation in catchment to be to the satisfaction of WaterNSW.
- Condition 18A – Sites to be rehabilitated to meet the outlined objectives (submitted to Resources Regulator).
- Condition 18B – Rehabilitation must be done progressively, as soon as reasonably practical.
- Condition 20 – RMP to be developed.
- Condition 21 – Closure Plan to be developed (at least two years prior to cessation of mining).

Mining Regulation – Schedule 8A

- Clause 5 – Rehabilitation to occur as soon as practicable after disturbance.
- Clause 6 – Rehabilitation must achieve final land use.
- Clause 7 – Rehabilitation Risk Assessment must be undertaken.
- Clause 10 – RMP to be developed and implemented.
- Clause 12 – Rehabilitation Outcome documents to be prepared.
- Clause 13 – Forward Program and Annual Rehabilitation Report to be prepared

PD – Is the land all free hold? – CS – Yes it is.

VT – How far up to the cemetery do you own?

CS - We own the cemetery.

VT – Yes but do you own any of the land from the top Cordeaux Road and the cemetery?

CS – IMC owns the land from the cemetery to the Pit Top.

PD- Is there a monetary value to the rehabilitation?

CS - There is a security deposit provided to the Resources Regulator for rehabilitation liability.

Wongawilli Creek (WC) 21 Remediation

- Remediation through grouting using polyurethane resin (PUR) has been undertaken in Pools 24 and 25 in Wongawilli Creek.
- Aesthetic remediation works were also undertaken.
- Results indicate that PUR has penetrated open features (0.0 – 3.5 m into bedrock) with some improvement in the retention of water observed.

- The banks in Pool 24 were disturbed during remediation works that may have influenced post remediation recession testing.
- Water levels and recession curves will be monitored over the next 6 months.

Pool	Pre-remediation regression rate	Pre-remediation water holding	Post-remediation regression rate	Post-remediation water holding
24	2.2 m/hr	3 minutes	0.21 m/hr	3 hours
25	0.034 m/hr	4.5 minutes	0.019 m/hr	8.5 hours

CS- These are preliminary results and we will be monitoring for next 6 months.

Dendrobium Area 3A Impacts

CS – **Dendrobium Area 3A Impacts** Some rock fracturing and soil cracking with a trigger on one of the soil moisture probes. Graphs of Groundwater and Soil Moisture in Swamps 148, 34 and 15b were presented.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

AL – Complaints – most related to noise.

- 6 recorded in January – predominantly related to noise
- 4 x recorded in December – all related to noise
- 1 x Grievance management

Long term data indicates a general increase in noise complaints in December – February period. . Generally complaints with noise relate to shift change over times with vehicle and people movements.

We are constantly looking at improvements and rectifying operator behaviour when identified. Rail team & rail contractors – the audit did not show any breaking issues on those carriages.

AM - Warmer weather with windows open it is a factor for residents.

PD – With the slip zone in carpark taking out some spaces, are there buses bringing staff up to carpark?

ST – Yes there have been buses bringing staff up from Unanderra.

AL - Shift changeover time and compressor noise is a separate issue – we’ve identified and working toward a solution to improve on site.

DENDROBIUM – COMMUNITY UPDATE

AL – **Dendrobium Community Enhancement Program**

- Current bank balance at ~\$289,763.
- Most recent projects funded: – Mount Kembla Public School – STEM, Project, Teacher and equipment – \$49,105
- Mount Kembla Pathway – Care and Maintenance \$40,600

PD-Is any of the \$40,000 going to bush care?

AL – Will obtain a breakdown on the Mount Kembla Pathway - Action

Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

- Koala Conservation Project Partnering with Symbio - Educational and research for Macarthur and Mount Kembla. \$470,000.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IRL Women's and Jr League partnered for 3 years of \$270,000. • Indigenous Grants applications still open. <p>Koala Conservation Project – Australian First concept. We are developing an App that demonstrates and educates children on our environment and the animals within it. The children will learn about our native wildlife to overall become Wildlife Warriors.</p> <p>Mount Kembla was the first ever scientific findings of Koalas within Australia however they have not been found in the area for over 60 years. The Project will study the area with Drones and a survey team to try and locate koalas within the Mount Kembla/Keira areas. -</p> <p>IMC partnered with IRL Illawarra Women's Rugby League and Junior Rugby League in FY23 for 3 years to support the annual competition. This program seeks to increase female participation in sport and focuses on junior mental health while providing IMC with a valuable branding opportunity locally.</p> <p>Indigenous Grants Program – the program supports a range of educational and cultural activities that promote indigenous culture, as well as pre-employment and start up business development.</p> <p>MA - The enhancement committee was very successful, thanks in no small part to Mira & Amanda.</p> <p>AM – It has been good for the school too.</p>
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6	GENERAL BUSINESS
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	<p>AL - Slope Stability Update</p> <p>Planned work to reduce the potential impact from further land slippage includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing access track down the slope from Kembla Heights to the mine • Establishing a temporary compound behind Kembla Heights Bowling Club (pending Council approval, advice expected Feb-2023) • Installing soil nails to remediate the area • Rehabilitating the area after work is completed • The works commenced on Monday, 12 December and stopped before Christmas period. Works recommenced on 1 February 2023 and will take about 11 months to complete. Surface borehole drilling • Main Dendrobium carpark to help us understand the ground conditions following recent heavy rainfall • Once completed, some of the boreholes will be used for environmental, slope and ground water monitoring while the remainder will be filled with concrete. Planned continuation of the activity on Monday, 30 January 2023 for about 3 weeks. <p>Planned work will include establishing a temporary construction site compound in Kembla Heights and conducting slope stabilisation activities on the slope, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an access track down slope from Kembla Heights Village to Dendrobium Mine for machinery ingress/egress, including delivery of materials, removal of spoil, staff access and access for emergency services. • Establish a temporary fenced compound behind the Kembla Heights Bowling Club which will be used as a site office and amenities for project staff, storing of containers and materials, vehicle parking, delivery of plant and equipment and a work area (pending Wollongong City Council approval for placement on their property). • Install erosion and sediment controls in the area. • Manage open drainage channels to redirect water ingress from the failed slope. • Install soil nails to remediate the area of slope instability. Soil nailing involves drilling holes into the exposed face and inserting tension-resisting bars (typically steel) into the holes then grouting them in place. It is a proven technique used in the Illawarra region, such as at Bulli Pass. • Rehabilitation of the temporary compound and work site following the completion of works.
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AL – Slope stability update – working with Council, heading out to the broader communities, a mulching aspect will need to be completed and will keep the residents and DCCC informed.

AM - The updates that are emailed around are awesome and appreciate them keeping us up to date.

AL – Regarding IMC Facebook page - want to encourage community to join the page.

AL - Catchment tour – keen to get up and going. Flexibility is there in terms of movements – looking at a half day on Thurs 23rd March?

AL - Will propose a date in April possibly around the 18th and then have one later in the year.

AL - Mine closure – IMC Provided funding to council who will be leading this engagement. Council will develop a futures framework and potentially look to start engagement around April.

- Kembla Heights visioning continues to be planned with WCC
- South32 funding the Project with WCC leading engagement
- Updates will be provided to DCCC when engagement timeline is issued

AM – Some background questions, South32 own most of the properties in Kembla Heights? AL – The properties inherited through history.

CS – There needs to be boundary adjustments – the houses are located on the same parcel of land as the Pit Top and some land would be too small to meet current council conditions.

PD – Bike track, not as much activity as expected. AL – WCC will be giving the community an update on the bike track soon.

VT- 30km's will be started and construction finishing about mid-2024. Regarding traffic study – could we have a look?

MA – Take it as question on notice to see if we can provide a link to it.

PC – National Parks put out a questionnaire to residents.

JE – Is the bike track still on South32 land? AL – There is still part of it proposed on South32 land.

VT – We will continue to ask questions about what happens after closure. IMC funded WCC/NPWS for Traffic Study, can we see a copy? **AL – Take as Action to enquire WCC**

PC – Part of the vision plan – I wonder how much money is allocated to weed control? Sometimes after rehabilitation and years later no longer managed.

MB – Facebook page is very good with information. AL – Appreciate any feedback to make the best out of these meetings.

MA – Discussed the three year reviews. Completed with the Appin CCC, my question is to schedule a night for a face to face meeting or would prefer Messenger or Teams? AM - Good for Facetime.

MA - It is the opportunity to opt out if you want, if participation is no longer meaningful for you. You will need to re-apply and re-sign Code of Conduct and Pecuniary Interest Declarations. MA makes

	<p>recommendations to DP&E for the committee. If a member leaves we will need to recruit. MA - Will send out a proposed schedule.</p> <p>Action: AL to send copy of presentation to MW.</p> <p>Meeting closed 6.45pm</p> <p>Next Meeting: Thursday 6 April 2023. 5:30pm (Dendrobium Nebo Room)</p>
	<p><i>ACTIONS</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose a date for Catchment Tour [AL] • RZ to mention problems associated with “coffee van” parking bay at Mount Kembla to relevant Wollongong City Council (WCC) manager [CARRY OVER] • obtain a breakdown on the Mount Kembla Pathway DCEC grant [AL] • Investigate if Traffic Study commissioned as part of REF for IEMB study is available to view [AL]