

# Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee

## MEETING MINUTES (FINAL DRAFT)



<b>MEETING:</b>	Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee (DCCC)	
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Dendrobium Nebo Room	
<b>DATE:</b>	17:30, Thursday 01 February 2024	
<b>ATTENDEES:</b>	Independent Chairperson Independent Secretary Community Representatives  Wollongong City Council Wollondilly Shire Council Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Representatives (IMC)	Mike Archer (MA) Maxine Wiseman (MW) Anita Mulrooney (AM) Phil Grant (PG) Phil Clunas (PC) Ron Zwicker (RZ) – <i>online</i> Rod Mapstone – (RM) Principal Community Chris Schultz (CS) Environment Superintendent Simon Thomas (ST) General Manager
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		Viv Twyford (VT), Phil Diamond (PD), Alex Beccari (AB), Jenny Evans (JE), Michael Banasik (MB). (CCC)  Gary Brassington (GB) (IMC)

<i>PURPOSE</i>	
	<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>

<i>AGENDA</i>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome, Apologies</li> <li>2. Acknowledgement of Country</li> <li>3. Declaration of interests</li> <li>4. Endorsement of previous minutes</li> <li>5. Questions on notice and actions</li> <li>6. IMC Update               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6.1. Operations</li> <li>6.2. Approvals</li> <li>6.3. Environment</li> <li>6.4. Projects</li> <li>6.5. Community</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. General Business               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7.1. Resignations</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>Next meeting:</b></p> <p>Thursday, 4 April 2024 @ 5.30pm</p>
1	<i>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</i>
	<p>Meeting opened at 5:30 pm.</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 issued an apology for absentees Viv Twyford (VT), Phil Diamond (PD), Alex Beccari (AB), Jenny Evans (JE), Michael Banasik (MB), Gary Brassington (GB) (IMC)</p>
2	<i>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY</i>
	<p>MA - Acknowledged on behalf of the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet, Dharawal Country, Elders past, present and emerging.</p>
3	<i>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</i>
	<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>
4	<i>ENDORSEMENT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</i>
	<p>Meeting minutes of DCCC from Thursday 7 December 2023 are a fair and accurate record and accepted.</p> <p>Moved by: Phil Grant (PG). Seconded by: Rod Mapstone (RM)</p>

5	<b>QUESTIONS ON NOTICE AND ACTIONS</b>
	<p>MA - Will issue an invitation to the DPE in the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>ST - To provide Width of LW21A – 256 metres.</p> <p>RM – Arrange visit to LW21 to view rehabilitation works, arrange some dates to put forward after heavy rainfall delayed opportunity.</p>
6	<b>IMC UPDATE</b>
6.1	<b>OPERATIONS</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LW19A commenced 2 November 2023.</li> <li>• Development continuing at TG22, MG22, and Pioneer Mains.</li> <li>• Car park remediation work (micropiles and resurfacing) commenced in January 2024 – expected to continue until about May 2024.</li> <li>• KV Stockpile wall permanent repairs commenced in January 2024.</li> <li>• Gas Drainage Plant construction continuing at VS2/3 – planned completion March 2024.</li> <li>• Stones Road remediation ongoing until mid-February 2024. Works to improve safety and access to KVCLF.</li> </ul> <p>ST - Starting to plan, looking at options to make the most of the approved area.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Provide map illustrating water courses for next meeting.</b></p>
6.2	<b>APPROVALS</b>
	<p>No changes since last meeting – update on website see link in minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LW19A SMP approved 11 August 2023.</li> <li>• LW21 Subsidence Management Plan approved 19 December 2019.</li> <li>• LW21A Subsidence Management Plan submitted 16 November 2023.</li> <li>• LW22 and LW23 Subsidence Management Plan approved 20 December 2022 – developing a variation application for LW23.</li> <li>• Dendrobium Area 3 Gas Management Plant approved by DPE 8 July 2022.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mod-9-gas-management-infrastructure">https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mod-9-gas-management-infrastructure</a></p>
6.3	<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Underground water balance has remained steady.</li> <li>• LDP 5 flow in December was an average of 8.87 ML/day (max: 10.33 ML/d and min: 2.27 ML/d), which is a slight increase but consistent with previous months.</li> <li>• Belt removal on O’Briens Drift was completed.</li> <li>• Traffic Management Plan has been reviewed and submitted.</li> <li>• Diesel tank replaced at the Pit Top with a self-bunded tank. Solcenic tank also to be replaced.</li> <li>• Noise monitors require calibration and will be offline for some months.</li> <li>• Sealing of additional sections of the portal road are being progressed.</li> <li>• Exceedance of TSS criteria at LDP 5 (38 mg/L) in January.</li> </ul> <p>CS – Noted January 2024 data unavailable to due timing of CCC meeting.</p> <p>MA – Is conveyor belt recyclable?</p> <p>CS - Some conveyor belt can be recyclable; some is utilised by farmers.</p> <p>PC – What is the suspended solids limit?</p>

CS - Limit is 30 mg/L and result was 38 mg/L, there was a spike in elevated turbidity, some dirty water had got into the pipeline and we reported to the EPA.

PG – Why was the water in American Creek cloudy?

CS – There was a burst water main unrelated to our operations.

AM – There is a thread on community Facebook page, and it was identified as the cause, a burst water main.

CS – The EPA had been contacted and were investigating. The EPA were advised of the burst water main as the cause of the milky water.

### **Independent Environment Audit**

The Independent Environmental Audit was conducted at Dendrobium Mine, with the site inspection occurring between 9 – 11 October 2023.

The IEA identified a total of 14 non-compliances, with a low-risk, non-compliance rating assigned to nine non-compliances and an administrative non-compliance (ANC) assigned to five non-compliances.

A number of these non-compliances were interrelated, including:

- NC01, NC03, NC04, NC10, NC11 and NC12: all related to the same non-compliance.
- NC02: identified due to non-compliance with other conditions of DA 60-03-2001; and
- NC07 and NC08: both related to the same non-compliance.

Furthermore, a number of these non-compliances were already identified in Annual Reviews required by conditions of DA 60-03-2001, and Annual Returns required by conditions of EPL 3241, including NC05; NC06; NC07; NC08; NC09, NC13 and NC14.

A response to recommendations was developed and submitted to the Department to accompany the IEA Report. The IEA and response to recommendations are available on the IMC website:

[IEA Report](#)

### **Water balance and LDP 5 Discharge**

Presentation on water balance and discharge

### **Longwall 19A impacts and triggers**

Presentation on impacts and triggers

### **Area 3A: Swamp 15A Groundwater and Soil Moisture Triggers**

- Two swamp 15a triggers were recorded and reported.
- Groundwater level at 15a\_09 recessed at a rate greater than baseline levels following the start of Longwall 19A extraction - level 1 trigger.
- Level 1: Post mining median rate of pool level recession is higher than the 80th percentile of recession during baseline period.
- Site 15a\_09 is located at a distance of 420m East of the starting line of Longwall 19a.
- Soil moisture trigger level 2 was recorded and reported at the site S15a\_19.
- Level 2: Groundwater or soil moisture level lower than baseline level at any monitoring site within the swamp.
- Site 515a\_19 is located at a distance of 349m from Longwall 19A at the closest point.
- Monitoring at site S15a\_19 prior to Longwall 19A start has predominantly occurred during a period of unusually high rainfall in 2022 followed by a relatively dry period in 2023. Average soil moisture has risen since the trigger, likely due to recent rainfall and is currently above baseline.

### **AREA 3A: Sandy Creek/SC10 Pool Levels**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of pool water levels in tributary SC10 identified that the median rate of recession in SCIO_Pool 26a was gradually increasing with time thus reaching level 1, level 2 and level 3 triggers in quick succession:</li> <li>• Level 1: Post mining median rate of pool level recession is higher than the 80th percentile of recession during baseline period.</li> <li>• Level 2: Post mining median rate of pool level recession is higher than the 90th percentile of recession during baseline period.</li> <li>• Level 3: Post mining median rate of pool level recession is higher than the 95th percentile of recession during baseline period.</li> <li>• The reason is that the baseline period was mostly rainless thus relatively low rates of recession. Each rainfall event that occurred after start of the longwall caused increase of median rate of recession above previous values.</li> <li>• The triggers outlined in the SIMMCP allow assessment of monitoring data that can be reported by the IMCEFT in a timely manner. Assessment of the influence of mining and/or climatic conditions occurs subsequently to trigger reporting stage.</li> </ul> <p>AM – Is that effectively saying that it is mostly due to unusual weather?  CS – It's a short baseline period and the results will be assessed for the entire longwall block and reported in the End of Panel Report.</p>
6.4	<b>PROJECTS</b>
	<p><b>Third Party Coal Processing</b></p> <p>Modification Applications were submitted 30 October.</p> <p>Submissions received including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 supportive submissions for Dendrobium.</li> <li>• 8 objecting submissions (3 x Dendrobium, 2 x Appin, and 3 x RVC).</li> <li>• 11 commenting submissions (3 x Dendrobium, 4 x Appin, and 4 x RVC).</li> </ul> <p>Submissions from Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wollongong City Council</li> <li>• Wollondilly City Council</li> <li>• NSW Environmental Protection Authority</li> <li>• Transport for NSW</li> </ul> <p>Prepare a Submissions Report that responds to these.</p> <p>RM - Went out for public exhibition, Dendrobium, Appin and Russell Vale Colliery submitted separately.</p> <p><b>NRAR Enforceable Undertaking</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.nrar.nsw.gov.au/about-us/compliance/regulatory-responses/enforceable-undertakings/illawarra-coal-holdings-dendrobium-mine">https://www.nrar.nsw.gov.au/about-us/compliance/regulatory-responses/enforceable-undertakings/illawarra-coal-holdings-dendrobium-mine</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft proposal submitted on 29 September 2023</li> <li>• South32, NRAR, WaterNSW and ILALC have been in discussions to progress the community project.</li> </ul>

**6.5**      **COMMUNITY**

**Complaints**

- Since our last meeting:
- 3 x noise (rail)
  - 1 x traffic (curfew breach)

- FY24
- 9 x noise (7 x rail)
  - 2 x environment
  - 1 x Traffic

**Community investment**

- Illawarra Metallurgical Coal
- Science Space – entering second year of partnership.
  - Wollondilly Indigenous Playgroup – playgroup designed to learn about culture and play in a safe and inviting place.
  - New grant application site launched Community Programs | Community South32

**DCEP**

- Current balance ~\$301,109
- Next meeting – 13 February 2024
- Kembla Heights Bowling Club – New Year’s Eve on the green was held with more than 60 local children in attendance.

**Indigenous Grants Program**

- Applications remain open.

MA - Any takers on the Indigenous Grants Program?

RM - There was a children’s book that was bi-lingual and has been some interest recently.

AM – DCEP there been a resident posting on Facebook page about grants. The barrier is individuals can’t apply for grants, suggested he contact IMC directly and contact The Men’s Shed.

**7**      **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Resignations**

VT – resigned effective post April 2024

MA – resigned effective end of May 2024. Resigning from all five of his CCC commitments.

The department have a pool of 48 chairpersons. They will go through and test the interest of approved chairpersons (email sent to all chairpersons on 6 February 2024). MA will be passing on contact details and incoming chairperson would be invited to attend the April 4 DCCC meeting as an observer.

**Member Updates**

PC – interested in the water courses map. Will the map include features?

AM – Can we include an agenda item of longer-term plans of Dendrobium when the time’s right?

	AM – Clearing of the verge up on Cordeaux Road has been stepped up and is a lot better. The contractors come in once a month and they tidy up the side of the road. Very polite. Good positive feedback.
	<b>MEETING CLOSE / NEXT MEETING</b>
	<b>Meeting close:</b> 6:14pm  <b>Next Meeting:</b> Thursday, 4 April 2024 at 5.30pm  <b>Actions:</b> Provide map illustrating water courses for next meeting.