

# MEETING MINUTES



## SOUTH 32 ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING: # 55

LOCATION: Microsoft teams

DATE: 14 September 2021

### ATTENDEES:

Mike Archer (MA - Chair)  
Sharyn Cullis (SC)  
Sam Davis (SD)  
Barry Durman (BD)  
Peter Chaffer (PC) – part meeting  
Danny Stewart (DS)  
Michael McGrath (MM) – left before review of ToR

### ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL:

Antony Leone (AL – South32 Community)  
Liam Stower (LS – South32 Community)  
Chris Schultz (CS – South32 Environment)  
Simon Pigozzo (SP – South32 Environment)  
Andy Hyslop (AH – Appin General Manager)  
Kathleen Swinbourne (KS – South32 Community)  
Alexandra Szalla (ASz – South32 Community)

### APOLOGIES:

Noel Lowry (NL – Council Representative)  
Shane Simpson (SS)  
Peter Chaffer (PC) – lost internet connection halfway through meeting

1	<i>PURPOSE</i>
	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 Mine; environmental performance and community relations; and to keep all stakeholders informed on these matters.
2	<i>AGENDA</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome, Acknowledgment of Country and apologies</li> <li>• Declaration of Interests</li> <li>• Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes / Business Arising from previous Meeting Minutes</li> <li>• Questions on Notice Tracker</li> <li>• Update from South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Operations Update</li> <li>○ Managing Mining under the M31</li> <li>○ Exploration / Approvals</li> <li>○ Environment Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Update on Georges River Remediation Plan</li> <li>▪ Heritage Management Plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Community Update</li> <li>○ Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project</li> </ul> </li> <li>• General Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Terms of Reference (2021)</li> <li>○ 2021 meeting dates</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Meeting close</li> </ul>
3	<i>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MA opened the meeting at 4:05pm and noted apologies from Shane Simpson and Noel Lowry.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
4	<i>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS / CORRESPONDENCE</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MA declared he receives payment from South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC) 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.</li> </ul>
5	<i>PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING</i>
	<p>Previous meeting minutes were accepted. AL to edit questioner regarding ventilation shaft angle to “CCC member”. Moved by SD and 2<sup>nd</sup> by PC.</p> <p><b>Questions on Notice from previous meeting</b></p> <p><b>Q.</b> SD requested additional information regarding the donation to the Menangle Community Association.</p> <p><b>AL.</b> Advised the Menangle Hall donation including providing financial support to fund the preliminary designs for the rebuild of the Hall. This included detailed architectural and construction plans, and structural engineers drawing and specifications. AL also advised that the Menangle Community Association is seeking financial support through the Bushfire Recovery Relief program. The Appin Mine Ventillation &amp; Access Project team at IMC are looking at supporting the MCA through some funding commitments. SD commented that the project appears expensive and the</p>

MCA group does not necessarily represent the entirety of the Menangle Community.

**Q.** SD requested a CSIRO researcher to attend the next meeting to discuss the VAMP.

**AL.** Advised that the current trials between IMC and the CSIRO have been suspended due to COVID, as the research team are based in Queensland. Currently working through the pre-feasibility study at this point as well as Grant opportunities for the rest of the calendar year. AL advised that once restriction ease and there are more details on the project, a CSIRO researcher as well as a South32 representative working on the project will be invited to attend a CCC meeting. CSIRO own the patents to most of the Abatement technology – more information can be found:  
<https://www.csiro.au/en/work-with-us/industries/mining-resources/mining/fugitive-emissionsabatement/mine-ventilation-air-methane-abatement>

SC requested that the QoN tracker be provided to the Committee members along with the agenda and presentation prior to each meeting.

**Action: AL to provide Questions on Notice tracker to the Committee members prior to each meeting.**

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#### *APPIN MINE OPERATIONS UPDATE*

##### **Appin Area 7 update**

- AH advised that mining of Longwall 708B commenced in late April 2020.
- Highest production rate recorded for August 2021.
- It has progressed about 1,952 metres as at 12 September 2021.
- Approximately 230m remaining.
- Longwall 708B is expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

##### **Appin Area 9 update**

- LW904 commenced 20 May 2021
- As at 12 September 2021 – progressed 699m
- There's approximately 1270m remaining with a completion date ~June 2022

##### **Managing Mining Under the M31**

- RW advised that Longwall 703 was the first longwall to mine beneath the M31 many years ago. There is significant monitoring across the M31, specifically subsidence monitoring points located across the M31. These monitoring points indicate a 30mm subsidence on the east line and significantly less subsidence movement on the western side in a one-week period.
- A Steering Committee and Roads and Maritime Services (at the time) established a technical committee to develop a monitoring system for safe mining beneath the infrastructure.
- RW advised that there are smaller monitoring systems within the pavement that monitor strain. Mitigation works commenced prior to mining, which included the implementation of expansion joints in the pavement. These expansion joints, or slots, are located across the pavement periodically where higher compression is expected. The slots assist in accommodating compression without significantly impacting the pavement. Additionally, they absorb the compression without putting too much strain on the pavement.
- Visual inspections are also undertaken to examine the pavement movements. A Technical Committee, comprising of IMC and Transport for NSW employees, review the data weekly during the active subsidence periods. All data is available in real time and include trigger alarms to alert the Committee of any significant movements. The Committee reviews the data and Transport for NSW advise if works are required to ensure the safety and useability of the road. Transport for NSW is the infrastructure provider and decide what and when works take place.
- SD questioned if the agreement with IMC and Transport for NSW was in the Bulli Seam Operations approval. RW advised the agreement with Transport for NSW has been longstanding and would fall under the Built Features Management Plan, however the

agreement is not specifically outlined and is beyond the Consent.

- SD questioned if the subsidence observed in the data presented was a sensible pattern for subsidence movement, and what yearly subsidence total would be. RW advised that the Technical Committee has information on the predicted subsidence, as well as the incremental subsidence measurements from Longwall 708. The predicted subsidence is 850mm, and the current subsidence is at 500mm.
- SD questioned if the shape of subsidence presented was typical and commented on the detailed monitoring points along the M31. RW advised that the continuous lines of monitoring are common and can also be found along Camden Road, Appin Road, Moreton Park Road, Menangle Road and the Main Southern Railway Line.
- SD confirmed with RW that IMC receives invoices from Transport for NSW for the consultants that take part in the Technical Committee as well as any required repairs to the roadways.

#### **Exploration / Approvals Update**

- AL advised that IMC are currently operating four drill rigs, all located within the EL8972 (Western Exploration) area. Drilling currently due to continue around Mount Hunter, Cawdor and Razorback.
- LS advised that there was no significant update since last meeting regarding DND. IMC are still working through the judicial review.
- SD questioned if there was a set date for the court hearing. LS unable to comment.

#### **Nepean River Gas Zones**

- AL advised the new active gas zone in Area 7 was currently 3.5km away from longwall mining.
- SC commented on the location of the new gas release zone at the confluence of the Nepean and Cataract Rivers. SC questioned if any monitoring was taking place along the Cataract River? CS advised this will be taken as a QoN.
- **Action: AL to add aforementioned question to QoN Tracker**

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#### **ENVIRONMENT UPDATE**

##### **Environmental Water Project Update**

- CS provided an update on the construction of the Appin North water treatment plants, which is progressing.

##### Permanent Plant

- Bulk earthworks have been completed
- Concrete foundations are 95% complete. Remaining works include kerbs and hobs. Plinths are 94% complete.
- Pipe racks 1-12 are 100% complete, with pipework in racks 1-6 95% complete and 7-12 40% complete.
- Brine tank and Feed tank 100% complete.
- Delays due to COVID restrictions, including the Construction Pause, will impact the delivery date of the Permanent WTP. CS advised some equipment is being manufactured in Western Sydney and may cause delays.

##### Temporary Plant

- Volumes of permeate to Brennan's Creek are:
  - 0.8 ML in May
  - 1.22 ML in June
  - 11.392 ML in July
  - 11.157 ML in August
  - 8.134 ML from 12 September to Sunday evening

BD questioned if the permeate was improving water quality. CS advised the water quality should be better than what is currently in Brennan's Creek Dam due to some dilution with the permeate.

Water quality sampling is taking place and analysis of results are still being undertaken. The next report should be available in March 2022. CS commented on the water ecotoxicity levels advising the current ecotoxicity level of the dam water was better than the permeate with the current samples that has been analysed.

#### **Brennan's Creek Dam**

- CS advised that the discharge continues approximately 1.2 ML/day with limited dilution from the WTP (current EC is 1.5 mS/cm, pH 8.6).
- Dam level is currently at 10.2 metres.

#### **Aquatic Health Monitoring**

- CS advised that ecotoxicity sampling undertaken in August.
- Aquatic Health Assessment to be undertaken in October.

#### **Georges River Remediation Plan**

- CS advised that approval has been received for undertaking trials in WC21.
- Property access is still being sought for the Georges River.

#### **Appin East Drainage Line**

- Dark sediment was observed in a drainage line from the Main Dam to the Georges River.
- An investigation was undertaken that identified that a portion of the material was coal fines, possibly from overflow events from the Main Dam. The remainder was organic matter.
- Dissolved metals are below relevant ANZECC Guidelines or within normal ranges and appear to be immobile.
- A monitoring program has been developed and will be implemented over the next 12-months.

#### **Rehabilitation Reform**

- Rehabilitation Legislative Reform was passed on 2 July 2021. The new conditions will be included in the mining lease.
- Requirement to resubmit Mining Operations Plan as Rehabilitation Management Plan by 2 July 2022.
- The RMP will meet the requirements under the Project Approval and Mining Act.
- Consultation on the RMP is available between the CCC and IMC.
- SD questioned if IMC will redraft the current Mining Operations Plan in regard to the RMP. CS advised that the MOP will be used as a base for the RMP, and will likely include more detailed risk assessments. The RMP will serve a dual purpose – as the Rehabilitation Management Plan required under the Project Approval (that required consultation with the CCC) and as the RMP under the mining lease (submitted to the Resources Regulator).
- SD requested to be provided with the proposed changes (i.e. highlight or summary detailing the difference). CS advised that as the review process has not yet commenced this information isn't available, however when the review is underway, this information will be provided to the CCC as part of the required consultation.

#### **Annual Review**

- Annual Review is currently being developed and will be completed by 30 September 2021.

#### **Heritage Management Plan (HMP)**

- Minor amendments to the approved plan include:
  - Inclusion of the consultation with Registered Aboriginal Parties. No comments were received.
  - Update to the stakeholders for consultation and process followed.
  - Minor update to section regarding discovery of unanticipated human remains.
  - Formatting changes
  - Update to items 39 (Hume and Hovell Monument) and 40 (Beulah) on advice from the Campbelltown City Council.

- SC noted that in the archaeology report there were several heritage items that were unable to be located. Normally GPS bearings are used, however it must be hard to monitor impacts of mining if the heritage items cannot be located. CS advised that GPS bearings are not always the most effective way of locating a heritage site due to the changing levels of accuracy of GPS readings over time. Artefacts may be separated and not protected from impacts such as erosion and being situated on farm land. SC advised there was a listing of artworks in an overhang and will email CS on this matter.
- SC questioned the commitment from IMC regarding the painting of timberwork in Mountbatten House. This was taken as a Question on Notice.
- SD questioned when the CCC was consulted on the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) and if it was part of the Heritage Management Plan. CS advised the CMP was created in 2019 and was not put to the CCC for consultation, however it is included as part of the HMP, so any comments on the CMP can be captured in the HMP and incorporated into the CMP when it is next reviewed. SD noted that CCC comments on Mountbatten House should be included in the HMP and recommended that previous commentary by the CCC be included in the HMP when it is next revised. CS advised that there is no requirement in the Project Approval to consult the CCC on the HMP, however consultation with a number of historical organisations is currently underway and it was felt that the CCC should be involved in that consultation process. CS advised that he will consult with the Community Team on how feasible it is to review previous commentary on Mountbatten House by the CCC and will respond accordingly..

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**COMMUNITY UPDATE**

**Community Complaints**

- KS advised that there were three community complaints received from July to September 2021.
- Two complaints pertained to dust, one at a private property and another apparently coming from an IMC vent shaft.
- One complaint pertained to an IMC vehicle using a public water hydrant outside a community member's property.

**IMC Community Investment**

- IMC donated \$10,000 to assist with the increased calls to Lifeline Macarthur during this ongoing period of uncertainty.
- Upcoming activities supported by the business include:
  - Illuminate Wollondilly. 12-14 November. IMC are the Festival Partner contributing \$12,000 to the events. More information is available on the Wollondilly Council website.
  - Illawarra Convoy 2021. 21 November. IMC is once again providing the lead truck and motorbike start location at Appin North Colliery. This costs the business about \$25,000 as production is impacted and staff are involved. This annual event is the largest fundraiser in the Illawarra for sick children.
  - We are working closely with event organisers to understand COVID-19 impacts. The events may be cancelled or rescheduled if required.

Both events may be rescheduled based on covid restrictions. Decisions are to be made at the end of the month.

**Community Partnership Program**

- \$30,000 proactively offered to local schools:
  - Appin PS – laptops for disadvantaged students - \$4,983
  - Cawdor PS – laptops for disadvantaged students - \$5,480
  - Douglas Park PS – laptops for disadvantaged students - \$4,983
  - Picton High School – TBA - \$10,000
  - Wilton PS – online learning platforms - \$5,742
- At its last meeting on 9 September, the CPP wished to extend this proactive offer of relief to include:
- Shining Stars Foundation - delivering emergency food hampers to those in need - \$10,000

- Domestic Violence Refuge – which refuge in the Wollondilly to be investigated - \$10,000 .

### Fundraising

- Corporate Affairs – STEPtember Challenge – Shining Stars Foundation

### IMC FY21 Local Spend (\$USD)

- Total spend within Campbelltown City, Wingecarribee, Wollondilly and Wollongong Local Government Areas - \$240,000,000.
- Land Tax – AU\$921,113
- NSW Government Royalties – AU\$63.0M

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### APPIN MINE VENTILATION AND ACCESS PROJECT

- AL provided a recap on the previous meeting, that IMC are proposing to construct two ventilation shafts (one upcast; one downcast) and mine access facilities at 345 Menangle Road.
- AL advised that the first stage of the project would include the construction of Vent Shaft 8 and associated infrastructure. The second stage of the project would include the construction of Vent Shaft 7 and mine access building and facilities.
- AL advised the modification report was released on 3 August 2021 and had a 14-day exhibition period as decided by the Department. IMC will now review the submissions and submit a Response to Submissions in the upcoming weeks.
- Twenty-six submissions were received in total and related to Social and Economic, Traffic and Transport, Air Quality, Visual Amenity, Noise, Water Resources, Rehabilitation, Biodiversity, Lighting and Historic Heritage impacts. AL advised that of the 15 submissions from the public, 12 were from community members residing in Menangle and Douglas Park, one was from Unanderra and another from Victoria.
- AL enquired to the group if anyone knew Arien Simonian – they made a submission and IMC would like to get into contact with them. CCC were unaware of this person.
- AL advised that community engagement began in September 2020 and included door knocks, letters to residents, ICCCC informed, webpage established, key stakeholders informed, Menangle Advisory Panel established, Community Information sessions, ongoing consultation with landowners and a newsletter sent to 855 residents in the local area.
- SD questioned how many attendees were at the Community Information Sessions. AL advised eight meetings were organised which included individuals and couples.
- SC commented on the visual impact for the landowners looking down on the project layout and suggested that more trees should be included in the carpark and across the facility to provide shade (reduce “heat island”) and assist with the visual impact. AL will take that feedback to the Project Team.
- DS questioned what the facility would be called. AL advised that the current name of the project is the Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project, however this is still in the project phase and IMC is unable to comment on the name of the site at this point.
- AL displayed a video to the CCC regarding the tree screening and currently proposed intersection at the site. SD requested if a copy of the video could be made public. AL advised that he will check internally if it could be shared publicly and will send if possible.
- **Action: AL to enquire if video drive-by can be released**
- The Committee discussed screening and the name of the project, suggesting that more trees throughout the site would be necessary and the Project (Appin Mine Ventilation & Access Project) should have included the word ‘Menangle’.
- SD questioned how South32 will compensate landowners that are immediately impacted by the site, specifically for their potential loss of value of their land and property. AL advised that by all current assessments and modelling, the projected impacts fall within government guidelines and industry requirements. However, IMC is proactively working closely with proximal local residents to determine appropriate mitigations above industry requirements. Any trigger to compensation requirements are usually stipulated in the Consent of the Project. IMC are currently working through the Modification to the existing State Significant Development with the Department – no determination has been granted.



- SD stated that despite the Project falling within noise/air quality levels, it is not going to compensate for the loss of property value.
- SD moved that the committee recommend South 32, despite legislative requirements to do so, consider compensation for the residents immediately impacted by the project, for loss of property value. DS, SC, MM and BD supported the recommendation.
- MM stated support for SC and SD for the imposition the Project may have onto near neighbours and the community.

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**GENERAL BUSINESS**

SC enquired whether S32 will consider further fencing around the old growth trees located on property Lot 2/747563 Menangle Road to prevent ringbarking by horses. AL will seek to respond post meeting. Item will be raised at next CCC meeting.

**Terms of Reference**

The Committee discussed in detail the Terms of Reference (ToR).

The Committee's discussion included:

- Adding a clause to allow the CCC to receive information and provide comment on other factors affecting the viable operation of the BSOP that does not disclose commercially sensitive information. The Committee was advised by the Chair, that the DCCC minutes are publicly available if members would like to review updates to the Dendrobium operation. LS and AL will review these comments again to ensure relevant information is provided to the CCC when applicable.
- SD questioned who is making final decisions about the ToR. MA advised that the review of the CCC ToR is a democratic process and a final copy will be provided at the November meeting to be agreed upon by the whole Committee. If there are disagreements, the Chair will rule.
- MA advised numerous naming protocols in the ToR had been changed to include 'Metallurgical' in IMC throughout the document.
- The Committee agreed to include Mount Hunter, Picton and Cawdor as part of the townships potentially impacted by the Bull Seam Operation.
- The Committee discussed the role of the CCC and agreed to include a clause from the CCC guidelines from NSW Government regarding the Committee being a non-decision making or regulatory body, as the Committee are representatives of the community. It was agreed to include the clause once at the beginning and remove any mention of it further in the document.
- SD requested that the CCC be consulted on approvals prior to submission to the Department. AL advised that the current consent conditions require limited Management Plans to be provided to the CCC for their consultation. Currently the only required consultation relates to the Rehabilitation Management Plan. SD noted that Tahmoor CCC has significantly more but accepted this.
- The Committee discussed minimum meeting attendance and suggested Committee members may be withdrawn if they do not meet the minimum attendance rates without reasonable explanation to the Independent Chairman. Some members of the Committee suggested less harsh wording. It was agreed that some re-wording will be done.
- SD requested that the original email list be reused to issue summaries of CCC discussion to share more broadly, however noted this does not need to be included in the ToR. IMC representatives agreed.
- The Committee discussed and agreed to changing the name of the Committee to the Appin Mine Community Consultative Committee.
- SD requested that the Code of Conduct be reshared with the Committee and included as an appendix in the ToR. LS advised the Code of Conduct would be provided to the members for them to resign for the next term and included as an appendix.
- MA thanked the Committee for reviewing the ToR and advised a final copy would be provided via email prior to the next meeting.



**Meeting dates 2021**

- 2 November 2021 at 4:00pm.

**11 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE & ACTIONS**

- Action: AL to provide Questions on Notice tracker to the Committee members prior to each meeting.
- QoN: SC questioned if any monitoring was taking place along the Cataract River.
- QoN: SC questioned the commitment from IMC regarding the painting of timberwork in Mountbatten House.
- Action: CS to contact Community Team to discuss reviewing previous CCC minutes regarding commentary on Mountbatten House.
- Action: AL to review if the Menangle Road drive-by video can be issued publicly.

**12 CLOSE OF MEETING**

Close of meeting at 6:35pm. Next meeting Tuesday 2 November 2021.