



Bulga Complex CCC Meeting

25 July 2011

Bulga Coal Administration Meeting Room

Present: Ned Stephenson (NS), Ralph Northey (RN), Bruce Russell (BR), Terry Everett (TE), Nathan Lane (NL), Brian Thomas (BT), Paul Amidy (PA), Helen Sharrock (HS), Gary Boland (GB)

Apologies: Stewart Mitchell, Godfrey Adamthwaite, Stephen Shoosmith

Chairperson: Alison Howlett (AH)

Meeting opened: 9:11am

Meeting closed: 12:57pm

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: Brian Thomas- son currently employed at Bulga Mine

1. Previous minutes

The previous minutes were moved as true and correct by BR, seconded by AH.

A question from Stewart Mitchell regarding water that recently flooded Charlton Road was brought to the meeting. Stewart was unable to attend the meeting.

NL explained the water had flooded due to pooling associated with the subsidence of a major ephemeral drainage line, called the Southern Drainage Line. Civil, erosion and sediment control and rehabilitation designs have been completed for the area. These works have been delayed as they need to be conducted on private property and a land access agreement established. In the interim supplementary pumping had been established to manage the pooling and traffic control plus lighting put in place during the flooding to eliminate the safety risk to road users. NL expects the works to be completed by end of quarter 3 2011.

Actions arising from the last meeting

Item 1: Include hay shed on Bulga Complex heritage register – complete. AH noted that there is an increasing community desire for the preservation of European History in the Singleton area.

Item 2: Spike in piezometer data - RN to speak to Stewart Ewen regarding the spike in data. **ACTION**

Item 3: 3 year rehabilitation report - to be updated in the following presentation by PA.

Item 4: Mt Lennard real time noise monitor - PA explained that the 360° radar determines noise direction on the noise monitor. There was a general discussion about Mt Thorley noise monitoring and the complaint process. HS noted that she was happy with the complaints process and timeliness at Bulga Coal. A recent complaint to Coal and Allied had not been responded to. AH will take the feedback to Coal and Allied regarding HS's complaint. PA to update SM on the noise monitor technology being used. **ACTION**

Item 5: RN spoke to the woman in question regarding a blast enquiry. An internal investigation indicated that the blast cloud did not engulf cars. The community member was in the traffic line up and not in between the sanctuaries. Blast controls are being revisited including road blocks and a health study and further blast monitoring are currently underway. It was noted the health study findings will be made available when completed and can be reviewed if required.

Item 6: The weed program has started and monitoring will continue.

1. Presentation from Bulga Coal and Beltana on 2010 Annual Environmental Management Report

RN: Gave an overview on the Bulga Complex Operations for 2010 and provided an update on the independent audit findings in 2010 for Bulga Coal against its development consent.

NS: Gave an overview of Beltana Underground Operations.

BT: Asked where the power station was up to? NS said it has been delayed due to the fire underground that affected all of the surface operations due to exclusion zones.

PA: Gave an overview on the Bulga Open Cut Operations and provided an update on performance against Mine Operations Plan (MOP) targets.

BT: Asked for a comparison of actual versus predicted targets rather than MOP targets for CCC. It was noted that topsoil is stripped from previously rehabilitated areas that have existing weed. RN discussed the use of organic material fertiliser in rehabilitation to improve organic matter and outcomes. The mine uses Landscape Function Analysis (LFA) and Ecosystem Function Analysis (EFA) to determine long term success.

PA: Provided an overview of the environmental monitoring results for 2010.

HS: Asked about dust at night and fog on Broke Road on the first Saturday of this month. PA noted this was due to the dragline being in the Southern Extension Pit. PA explained the introduction of a real time dust monitoring system to be implemented in 2011 to help manage dust issues offsite, especially at night when dust is not visible to the operators. Education programs have been undertaken with operators to reduce dragline swing and drop heights to reduce dust generation.

There was a discussion about the real time dust monitors - 2.5 and 10 micron filters real time monitoring network will include a monitor in Broke beside the tennis courts.

AH: Asked about the possibility of having a working group to update the community members who have the greatest concerns for certain issues. **ACTION**

BR: Raised an issue relating to blast signage notifying people of delays. PA noted there is a proposal to place a sign at both ends of Broke Road to provide people with information regarding potential blasting delays and alternate traffic routes. **ACTION**

RN: Gave an update on the Complex water balance.

BT: Asked if using irrigation for dust controls would reduce discharge to the Hunter River? RN said this may be the case on the spoil piles and for dust suppression, however irrigation on cropping areas would not be suitable due to water quality. It was discussed that Beltana has been using saline water underground with no issues.

BR: Asked about valving for discharge from Swan Lake under the Hunter River Salinity trading Scheme. RN stated an application had been made to increase discharge volume from the 3GL dam to discharge more water during rainfall events as Bulga is currently constrained by its infrastructure.

PA: Provided an update on the internal Erosion and Sediment Control audits and issues.

NS: Gave an update on mine subsidence

NS: Gave an update on flora and fauna and noted that new sites have been added to the monitoring program.

NL: Provided an update on Aboriginal Archaeology for 2010. Works were completed in consultation with Aboriginal Parties and government agencies.

- PA: Gave an overview on visual and stray light including findings of 2010 audit against AS 4282 and the changes with regards to illumination and energy savings.
- PA: Gave an update on Hydrocarbon Management including remediation works and development of the Hydrocarbon Management Plan.
- RN: Provided an update on complaints and community liaison for 2010.
- NS: Updated the 2010 total disturbance and rehabilitation performance for the underground operations.
- PA: Gave an overview of Bulga Open Cut rehabilitation and disturbance, rehabilitation targets including aerial seeding. RN noted there is a heightened focus of rehabilitation for 2011.
- NS: Provided an update on the underground operations for 2011. The reasons for the Blakefield North modification were outlined. The main changes in the modification are: no highwall access; increased gas drainage infrastructure; new ventilation shaft; and increased power generation capacity.
- BT: Asked if pre-drained gas is flared? NS said it is piped back to the flaring facility where it is flared. It was noted the power from the power station will be used onsite first then fed into the public grid.

2. Bulga Coal Optimisation Project

- GB: Introduced himself to the forum. He is the Project Manager for the Bulga Coal Optimisation Project. GB gave an overview of the project and the approval process. The first round of consultation has been completed and a follow-up newsletter with feedback will follow.
- AH: Asked about the relocation of Charlton Road. GB stated that the road relocation allowed for the noise and visual bund.
- BT: Asked about the height of the dumps. GB stated they have been able to adjust the heights due to changes in dumps in other locations. Without the bund noise impacts would be unacceptable.
- GB: Noted an office would be set up in Broke for community members. GB updated forum on the community visioning project.
- BR: Asked to be updated on the relocation of the mushroom farm. GB noted that BR will be included in future consultation about the project as it develops.

3. General Business

No general business.

Actions from this meeting

Item	Raised by	Action	Responsibility	Item No.
1	AH	Speak to Stewart Ewen regarding spike in piezometer data	RN	Item 2
2		Update SM on real time noise monitor technology at Mt Lennard	PA	Item 4
3	AH	Investigate possibility of a working group to update community members on key issues	RN	1
4	BR	Look into the installation of blast signage at both ends of Broke Road notifying of possible delays and alternate routes.	PA	1

Next meeting scheduled for 31st October 2011.