

BULGA COAL

GLENCORE

Community Consultative Committee Meeting

19 October 2017

Bulga Coal Administration Meeting Room

Present	Community representatives	Stewart Mitchell (SM)
		Helen Sharrock (HS)
	Bulga Coal	Ralph Northey (RN)
		Teegan Hayward (TH)
		Scott Wolfenden (SW)
	Glencore	Greg Newton (GN)
	Chairperson	Godfrey Adamthwaite (GA)
Apologies	Community representative	John Krey (JK)

Meeting opened: 9.12am

Meeting closed: 10.45 am

Declaration of pecuniary interest: None.

Confirmation of the minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were moved as true and accurate by GA and seconded by SM.

Actions from the minutes 31/05/17

Item 1 *Email Glencore apprenticeships to all CCC. COMPLETED 6/06.*

Item 2 *Email the report from the EPA that compares dust to TH. No report received from JK*

Item 3: *Provide the EPA report on PM2.5 study to CCC members. COMPLETED 23/06*

Item 4: *Draft a letter to Planning advising that we would like a local chair who doesn't have time constraints during the meeting time. Circulate to CCC for comment. CCC to provide feedback on the letter regarding how our committee will adhere to the guidelines to TH. COMPLETED 14/09. It was noted the Bulga Coal CCC will continue to operate in its current capacity as per letter from Department of Planning (attached to minutes).*

Item 5: Advertise for more committee members. RN approached Hunter Valley Protection Alliance to nominate a member however the suggested member is not available to be part of CCC. Will continue to advertise for new members from Broke area.

Item 6 Send today's presentation for council report. COMPLETED 31/05

Item 7 Send evidence of payment to Convict Trail Project. RN: as we did not relocate Charlton Road we did not go ahead with the heritage project. It was noted that RN incorrectly stated that Bulga Coal made a payment to the Convict Trail Project at the last meeting dated 31st May 2017.

Note only: Ned Stephenson has left Bulga Underground to take a position at Glencore's Mt Owen Complex.

1. Presentation from Bulga Cut

RN Gave an overview of complaints for 2017. Out of 16 complaints, 9 are noise complaints. There are 3 residents on Milbrodale Road who have concerns regarding morning noise. One complaint was received for spontaneous combustion when the underground stockpile was on fire. Other complaints were for air quality (2), lighting (3) and blast dust (1).

RN Showed the progress of rehabilitation for 2017. We have completed 91.7 hectares of rehabilitation, our target for the year was 86 but we are planning to complete 115 hectares. Most of the rehabilitation is on the noise and visual bund and the Eastern Emplacement Area. RN noted we had 13 dust exceedances at the Mushroom Composters monitor. We have strict levels and during the hot dry weather conditions we shut down the rehabilitation and dumping activity on the Eastern Emplacement Area.

RN: Showed the rehabilitation planned for 2018. We are working very hard to complete the outer face of noise and visual bund. There was a discussion about the current industrial action impacting the mining rate and ability to complete the outer face of the noise and visual bund by the end 2018.

SM: Is the North West corner complete, it looks like it has been topsoiled? RN: referred to the figures in the presentation. The outer face is complete and the top will be completed in 2018.

HS: The Old Tailings Dam still appears very flat. RN: we are still capping the Old Tailings Dam. We are seeding the outer face in 2018, but it will take some times for the trees to soften that.

RN: Updated the committee on a site visit by Monique Meyer from Planning and Environment – Resources and Energy. She was happy with the rehabilitation on the

noise and visual bund along Charlton Road which appears to have good outcomes for the Endangered Ecological Community.

SW: Gave an overview of noise, air quality and blasting.

The mine is not generating as much noise due to current industrial action. Mine noise is generated from dumping overburden on the noise and visual bund, and we dump in shielded locations at night. In certain weather conditions, you can still hear dumping activities.

SW We have moved a noise monitor from Watts Creek on Milbrodale Road, further north on Milbrodale Road. This is in response to complaints from that location on Mibrodale Road. It also means there is less distance between the Bulga monitor (on Putty Road) and Milbrodale Road monitor.

SW Showed the locations of the noise monitors on a figure. SM and HS requested a copy of the figure in A3. **ACTION**

SW Noted that we are refining the blasting model to understand/manage dust and fume better.

SM There was no fume 10 years ago, is it the quality of the explosives? There was a discussion around fume and that there is more blasting, more mines, some bigger blasts.

SW: Explained a graph that showed 24 hour average for PM10 from August to October. The graph shows that the levels are below the criteria and there are spikes in September from the hot, dry weather.

SW: Explained an air quality graph that showed the annual rolling average from 2013-2017. It shows higher dust levels when it is dry and lower levels when it is wet.

HS Can you provide a copy with rainfall? Include annual rainfall on this graph and send to HS and SM. **ACTION**

2. Bulga Underground – update on activities

RN Showed the remaining longwall panels, longwall 9 and 1B. Mining will finish in April next year.

RN explained there were temporary repairs to Broke Road after upsidence from longwall 8.

RN showed a figure with the rehabilitation of gas wells. We have rehabilitated 100 holes so far, with 70 planned for 2018. The Blakefield North gas wells will continue to supply power to the 9MW power station.

SM: Is the power station operating? RN: it is running at full utilisation and generates about 8-9 MW.

3. Community update

TH Gave an update on the VPA committee, the next meeting is in November to review plans from the consultants for recreation areas in Broke and Bulga.

TH Updated the CCC on Broke school working bee, tree planting, sponsorships and barbeques planned for 7th November in Bulga and 9th November in Broke.

4. Bulga Open Cut – Proposed modification

Ralph Northey introduced Greg Newton to the CCC. Greg is the Approvals Manager for the DA modification.

GN: Gave an overview of a proposed modification to the Bulga Open Cut approval.

The modification is within the existing project boundary, extends mine life to 2039 and has a similar final void.

SM: Is there a physical protection buffer between Broke? GN: Yes, mining is still behind the bund. The bund is 150RL in the south.

GA: Do you have the final void in the conceptual mine plan? GN: our final void has to be safe, stable and non-polluting.

GA: What is planned for final land use? There was discussion about pumped hydro, wind and solar energy sources.

RN: Noted we are committed to the Bulga intends meeting the current/similar criteria for noise and quality as our current approval.

SM: What is the disturbed area? GN: its 21 hectares of regrowth that is landlocked. RN: we have an opportunity to offset it somewhere else.

RN We plan to pump the tailings from the old Saxonvale Pit and mine the coal below that. It will take 6 years to move the tailings to the tailings emplacement in the North Pit. We plan to use dredges, pipes and pumps with thickeners. There is a possibility to reprocess the coal fines which is about 30% of the tailings.

5. General business

HS: Have we progressed any further with end of mine life plans?

RN: This modification is an opportunity to look further into this and how we head towards a post mining outcome that the community can be a part of. We have

approval to return the area to endangered ecological Community and 260ha of agriculture. We need to look at how we manage our offset areas post mining.

HS: It's important to the community, don't stop working on end of mine life.

SM: I've been told that there seems to be delays with the VPA, can you explain where it is up to?

RN The council is putting a process in place to administer the projects and funding. There wasn't much of a process prior to this. It's been frustrating but there hasn't been a VPA community committee before this one so we've had to pave the way and put proper processes in place.

Next meeting

Thursday 17th May 2018 at 9am, commence with a site tour.

Item	Raised by	Action	Responsibility	Item No.
1	SM	Provide an A3 printout of the locations of the noise monitors to CCC	SW	1. Bulga Open Cut
2	HS	Include annual rainfall on the air quality rolling average graph and provide to CCC	SW	1. Bulga Open Cut



Mr Ralph Northey
Environment and Community Manager
Bulga Coal Management Pty Ltd
PMB 8
Singleton NSW 2330

Dear Mr  Northey

Bulga Community Consultative Committee

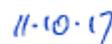
I refer to your correspondence of 28 September 2017 requesting to continue operating the Bulga Community Consultative Committee (CCC) business-as-usual until a replacement chairperson is appointed by the Department in accordance with the new CCC guideline, *Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects November 2016*.

The Department accepts this approach and the continued representation of Councillor Godfrey Adamthwaite as chair. Please continue operating the CCC under the current arrangement until the Department advises otherwise.

If you have any enquiries about this matter, please contact Megan Dawson on the above details.

Yours sincerely



Howard Reed 
Director Resource Assessments