

BULGA COAL

GLENCORE

Community Consultative Committee Meeting

29th October 2019

Present	Community representatives	Stewart Mitchell (SM)
		Helen Sharrock (HS)
		John Krey (JK)
		Mike Wilson (MW)
	Singleton Council	Godfrey Adamthwaite (GA)
	Bulga Coal	Ralph Northey (RN)
		Scott Wolfenden (SW)
		Teegan Hayward (TH)
	Chairperson	John Turner

Welcome and opening by the Chair

- Meeting opened: 9.40am
- Mike Wilson was welcomed to the Bulga Coal CCC

Apologies

- Nil

Declaration of pecuniary interest

- John Turner, Helen Sharrock

Confirmation of the minutes

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

Business arising from the previous meetings

Actions from previous minutes

Item 1 Provide a copy of the presentation for the Council report. Completed 10/05

Item 2 Provide a copy of the draft dust sampling table. Completed 5/07

Item 3 Contact Singleton Council on behalf of CCC about the surface of Charlton Road.

RN The council had removed the signs and were waiting until the warmer weather to undertake the permanent repairs, under warranty.

Item 4 Relocate the Sharrock dust monitor. Complete.

Item 5 Investigate state of the post and rail fence in Modification 3 and salvage, use elsewhere for education. The committee were satisfied after viewing photos of the fence that it was not worth salvaging.

Item 6 Provide a copy of the interpretive signs for the Teaching and Keeping Place. Complete

Item 7 Offer the community the opportunity to participate in the development of heritage signs and stories. To be covered in the community presentation

Item 8 Recommend Mike Wilson join the Bulga Coal CCC to DP&E. Complete.

Correspondence

1. Show cause letter from DPE regarding operation of CCC
2. Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Annual Forum & October newsletter

Presentation from Bulga Open Cut

Complaints and incidents

- 22 complaints year to date and a reportable water discharge incident.
- Bulga Coal was issued with a Show Cause letter from DPE alleging Bulga Coal failed to operate the CCC generally in accordance with the guidelines. The committee had received a copy of Bulga Coal's response to DPE.
- Bulga Coal received an advisory letter from EPA regarding dust from our Deep Pit tailings dam blowing across Broke Road. The tailings dam was irrigated with water and tailings placed on top in response. The Air Quality Trigger Action Response Procedure has been changed to consider irrigating the dam prior to adverse weather conditions.
- There was a general discussion about the location of our northern and southern EPA dust monitors and whether they are in the right location to be measuring the dust into our operation and the dust leaving our operation.
- HS asked about updating the zones of acquisition given the expansion of mines and increased overburden. RN: air quality assessments are completed for each modification. In the air quality impact assessment for Modification 3, one property has moved into the acquisition zone for air quality and that is due to a change in criteria for PM₁₀ and not from an increase in emissions. This property is already in the noise acquisition zone for Mt Thorley.
- There was a discussion about the recent dust study and the health issue associated with the percentage of coal in the results. The dust samples were analysed for composition of depositional dust only. Depositional dust is the larger dust particles that fall out of the air and is not representative of what we breathe in. **Analyse the composition of PM₁₀ samples. ACTION.**

- SM asked if he could forward these results to the EPA or Department of Health. RN noted the EPA appear to be aware of the results of the dust study report.

Water discharge incident

- There was a water discharge incident on 18th September where rainfall resulted in approximately 1.4ML of sediment laden water discharging into Nine Mile Creek. The incident was reported to the DPE, EPA and Resources Regulator. The EPA has issued Bulga Coal with a Show Cause notice.

Rehabilitation

- The outer face of noise and visual bund has been completed. There has been lesser strikes so far this this year due to low rainfall.
- There is a rehabilitation tour planned for the community on the 20th November, invites will be sent out shortly.

Air quality, noise, blasting, water

- The PM₁₀ results were generally good and PM_{2.5} results very good for most of quarter 2 and 3. Exceedances measured were found unlikely to be caused by Bulga Coal.
- Noise has been well managed to the criteria in quarter 2 and 3.
- There has been a change to the blasting process and we are trialling the reintroduction of ANFO explosives with plastic liners in dry holes to manage fume.
- Bulga Coal is in a good position for water with approximately 2.5GL of water stored on the surface and 4GL in the underground goafs. We are drawing water from the Singleton Council operated Mt Thorley water supply system to maintain our storage levels. There was discussion about the water supply from this system and the allocation of 95%, to be reviewed next year.

Bulga Underground update

- Selected goaf wells are still operating, we are decommissioning and rehabilitating redundant gas wells, pipelines, offices and buildings. The predrainage gas wells from the Blakefield North mine are supplying the 9MW power station and goaf wells are operating to maintain differential flow. There will be open cut mining interaction with the underground workings late next year.
- A second dewatering bore is being constructed at Fordwich to access the water stored in the underground goafs. There was discussion about the impact on alluvial aquifers. RN: The dewatering bore is located outside of the alluvial aquifer and we have extensive monitoring in place that shows no observable impact to the alluvial aquifers.

Independent Environmental Audit

- An Independent Environmental Audit was conducted in November last year, with the final report submitted to the DPE in February. A copy of the report and our proposed actions are on the website. The committee will let TH know if they would like a hard copy of the report.

Bulga Optimisation Project Modification 3 (Tailings Relocation) and Bulga Underground Modification 7

- Modification 3 and 7 are currently on exhibition. If these modifications are referred to the Independent Planning Commission, Bulga Coal will submit another modification to mine a wedge in the western highwall (potentially Modification 4).

Community, land management

- The playground shade sail, surrounds and soft fall for the Bulga Recreation Ground is scheduled for construction in early 2020. The skatepark in Broke is also scheduled for construction early 2020. The Broke School purchased ipads, apps and charging stations with their 2019 VPA funding.
- European heritage signs for Broke and Bulga will be discussed at a community session in either early December or early 2020.
- Bulga Coal is working to improve its buffer land management including cleaning up waste, securing wells, reviewing agricultural land use opportunities and developing management & maintenance schedules for residences including Mt Leonard. SM noted the community is losing good agricultural properties to mining companies.
- The Teaching and Keeping Place is currently being designed and is progressing.
- JK asked about the relocation of Ravensworth Homestead. RN: it entirely depends on Glendell's development consent approval. The CCC would like to receive future updates.

General business

- The committee had an informal meeting prior to this meeting about the 2019 guidelines.
- The Chair asked the community members about the frequency of the meetings. It was resolved to keep the frequency at twice a year. The Chair noted the agenda would follow standard format from the guidelines and asked the CCC to advise him if any recurring items need to be added to the agenda.
- SM reiterated his concern that the dust monitors are in the wrong spot and are not giving a true indication of the dust coming from other mines. **Review the current air quality monitoring locations with the CCC. ACTION**
- JK thanked previous Chairs for their contribution.

Next meeting

Wednesday 6th May 9am.

Actions

Item	Raised by	Action	Responsibility	Item No.
1	SM	Analyse the composition of PM ₁₀ samples.	<i>SW, RN</i>	Bulga Open Cut presentation
2	SM	Review the current air quality monitoring locations with the CCC	<i>SW, RN</i>	General business

Meeting closed: 12.15pm