

BULGA COAL

GLENCORE

Community Consultative Committee Meeting

31 May 2017

Bulga Coal Administration Meeting Room

Present	Community representatives	Stewart Mitchell (SM)
		John Krey (JK)
	Bulga Coal	Ralph Northey (RN)
		Teegan Hayward (TH)
		Tom Scott (TS)
	Chairperson	Godfrey Adamthwaite (GA)
Apologies		Helen Sharrock (HS)

Meeting opened: 9.07am

Meeting closed: 11.16am

Declaration of pecuniary interest: None

Confirmation of the minutes

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

Actions from the minutes 26/10/16

Item 1 *Resend Scott Brook's response to the industrial noise policy.* COMPLETED 10/11.

Item 2 *Indicate your preferred candidate to fill the vacant position when the minutes are circulated.* COMPLETED 29/11.

Item 3: *Provide graphs on air quality over 3-5 year period to show any trends.*

RN: Referred to air quality graphs in Appendix B of the Annual Review. RN noted the PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ levels mimic the weather conditions. When it is hot and low rainfall, we have elevated results. When it is cooler and there is more rainfall, dust levels are low. The results are driven by the prevailing meteorological conditions.

RN Referred to the data in the graphs in the presentation. The data shows PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} levels (annual average) in Broke, Bulga, Merriwa, Sydney and Newcastle.

SM Why are the dust levels in Merriwa higher when it's an agricultural area? JK noted that a recent report from the EPA suggested that dust levels in Broke and Bulga were higher than Merriwa.

JK to email the report from the EPA that compares dust levels to TH. **ACTION**

SM Referred to Table 21 on page 31 of the Annual Review. Why isn't there any data for PM_{2.5}? RN: we don't have a requirement in our development consent to measure PM_{2.5}. We do measure PM_{2.5} at the Hill Street (D2) and Putty Road (D10) against the national standard which is 8ug/m³. There was no result shown for Hill Street as the dataset is less than 75% complete for 2016. The results for Putty Road is included in the table at 5.7 ug/m³ as the annual average. The data is analysed in the Todorski Report in Appendix B of the Annual Review.

SM In Merriwa, the dust is surface dust, whereas dust in the valley is the made up of different constituents. RN referred to a report by the EPA that studied the composition of PM_{2.5} in Singleton and Muswellbrook.

TH to provide EPA report to CCC members. **ACTION**

JK Does the EPA measure dust in and dust out? RN: The EPA use the monitors to see what is coming on and off site. The problem with that is dust can go over the top. Good operational controls are the best option for dust control at site.

SM Our issue is the cumulative effect of dust in the valley, a north westerly blows it here to our community. The input and output on the boundary avoids cumulative dust.

RN There is no limit put on those monitors, the EPA use them to show which mine is causing the dust.

1. Community Consultative Committee Guidelines from Department of Planning

GA DPE have updated their guidelines and he referred to letter from DPE. The letter allows the Bulga Coal CCC to continue business as usual for this meeting. It refers to the Code of Conduct that must be signed by existing members.

RN Suggested we notify DPE that we would like to continue to operate as we are and request a local independent chair.

SM There was no consultation about the guidelines with committee members. I've been a part of the committee for 25 years without signing a Code of Conduct.

There was discussion about using an independent chair whose time is restricted.

Bulga Coal to draft a letter to Planning advising that we would like a local chair with no time constraints during the meeting time and circulate. JK, SM and HS to provide feedback or comments to TH. **ACTION**

RN Max Tolson is no longer available for the vacant position and the other applicant was not from Broke. RN will talk to Hunter Protection Alliance and residents in Broke area re: applying for the committee. We can have up to 7 members. JK and SM will suggest others who might be willing to join CCC.

Bulga Coal will advertise for more committee members. **ACTION**

GA Please send today's presentation for my council report. **ACTION**

2. Bulga Open Cut

TS Gave an overview of rehabilitation completed and planned for 2017. The final lift on the North West corner will be shaped and rehabilitated this year.

SM Will the top be undulated? It looks very flat. JK: referred to the landscape architect workshop and the undulation of the bund. TS: there will be a height difference from 150RL to 120RL. RN: the top will look flat until the trees grow up and soften the flatness. The Southern Extension dump is treed and looks like a natural landform.

RN We are on track to have the outer face of the noise and visual bund dumped and seeded and rehabilitated by the end of 2018 which is in our consent.

SM You are getting away from open woodland. TS: we have a commitment in our development consent to rehabilitate 2,500 hectares to woodland. There is a commitment to return 260 ha suitable for agricultural use.

JK Where are you working at the moment, are you dumping on the outside of the bund at night time? TS: we are dumping inside the outer face but those dumps are higher now.

SM We are having trouble with temperature inversions at the moment until 9am in the morning. The noise is coming from both pits. Most of the data doesn't count during an inversion but that is when we have the most trouble. RN: During inversions, we still try to work to the criteria.

SM The northern end of the bund will be totally completed by this year? TS: Yes. You still may be able to see into the pit from elevated positions.

3. Bulga Underground

RN The underground has almost completed longwall 8. Mining was twice the rate that was anticipated. Longwall mining should be finished by May next year.

RN The mine will be sealed. We are retaining our approvals. It won't go into Care and Maintenance. We will maintain the Blakefield North gas drainage, goaf gas plant and power station.

SM Are there any plans for future longwall mining? RN: If it becomes commercially viable, we will mine it. At the moment it is not commercially viable. We have submitted a draft Mine Operations Plan to the regulator that says we mine until 2018.

There is no future mine plans in the Mine Operations Plan. It's a sad situation with 150 employees finishing up next year.

4. Community Update

- TH Gave an update on the Voluntary Planning Agreement Committee.
- JK I have concerns with the village master plans. We gave feedback and were expecting the feedback to be incorporated into revised plans. What came back to the community were the same plans without any changes. We were asked to put dots on our priorities.
- JK: Noted the plans should show the direction the village is headed in. This is a landscaping plan. It doesn't give an idea of where the villages are going.
- GA Offered to pass JK's concerns onto Jason re: discussion about village master plans.
- JK I thought the criteria for prioritising projects had been changed and churches would not be included in this funding? RN and TH noted the committee agreed to the existing criteria. TH to look at the past minutes from VPA meeting.
- TH Gave an overview of current and future sponsorships and included an update on the cool burn at McNamara Park.

5. General Business

- GA Attended the Putty Road truck driver's memorial and wondered why there weren't any locals at the event. SM said it was a private event for the truck drivers association.
- SM Referred to the Annual Review - Biodiversity Offsets on page 42. Where is the Reedy Valley and Condran offset areas? Were these areas designated as part of the Bulga Optimisation Project?
- RN Condran was part of an older consent. It is north of Lake Liddell. Reedy Valley is north of Wybong. We own it and it's going to be a conservation area. TS noted that the total size of the property is 2,500 ha with 1,000 ha for agriculture and 1,500 ha fenced off to be managed according to the conservation area. The main reason for this property was for clearing of woodland with the Bulga Optimisation Project and removal of habitat of the Regent Honeyeater. The property has been destocked for 3 years now with natural regeneration. We are managing feral animals by baiting and pig traps.
- SM Referred to page 42 of the Annual Review and losing grasslands for forestation. RN noted that there will be agricultural rehabilitation areas set aside at Bulga.
- SM I thought you were keeping the grinding grooves in Loders Creek? RN: The grooves were relocated from Nine Mile Creek to the creek bank on the Hedley property.

SM When the Optimisation project was considering the relocation of Charlton Road, there was an offer of funding to the Convict Trail Project. Did that happen? RN: I was of the understanding that even though we no longer impact on Charlton Road we paid it.

RN to send evidence of payment to SM. **ACTION**

SM Noted the MSB had concluded the Charlton Road repairs.

Next meeting

Thursday, 18th October 2017 at 9am at the Bulga Coal Administration Building.

Actions arising from the meeting

Item	Raised by	Action	Responsibility	Item No.
1	GA	Email Glencore apprenticeships email to Godfrey / all CCC. <i>COMPLETED 6/06</i>	RN	General
2	JK	Email the report from the EPA that compares dust to TH	JK	Actions from the previous minutes
3	SM	Provide EPA report on PM2.5 study to CCC members. <i>COMPLETED 23/06</i>	TH	Actions from the previous minutes
4	RN	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	TH	CCC Guidelines - DPE
		CCC to provide feedback on the letter regarding how our committee will adhere to guidelines to TH	JK, SM, HS	
5	RN	Advertise for more committee members	RN	CCC Guidelines - DPE
6	GA	Send today's presentation for council report. <i>COMPLETED 31/05</i>	TH	CCC Guidelines - DPE
7	SM	Send evidence of payment to the Convict Trail Project	RN	General Business