

BULGA COAL

GLENCORE

Community Consultative Committee Meeting – via Webex

6th May 2020

Community representatives	Present (via Webex)
	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: 9.02am

Apologies

- Stewart Mitchell

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 GA and seconded by JK.

Business arising from the previous meetings

Actions from previous minutes

Item 1 Analyse the composition of PM₁₀ samples.

- We are going to take more samples in the community from residences and get samples from our high volume air samplers to work out the particle size and composition of those samples. We have broken the project into 2 phases. Phase 1 commenced on 26th April. We took PM₁₀ samples from our High Volume Air Samplers in Bulga, Broke and Cobcroft Road in dusty conditions and a control site in

Newcastle. The samples will be analysed by the University of Queensland for particle size and composition.

- Phase 2 includes collecting depositional dust samples from CCC residences and analysing these for particle size and composition.
- JK asked why we are doing a 2nd lot of depositional samples given the samples we took last year provided comprehensive results? SW: There were limitations from the previous samples in that we couldn't determine the particle size which then helps us to understand potential health impacts.
- SW referred to a report – *Review of the health impacts of emission sources, types and levels of particulate matter air pollution in ambient air in NSW*. SW noted one of the limitations of the study is that there is currently insufficient evidence that the type of particle has a greater health impact than any other particle. We are keen to understand the issue better and why we recorded a greater percentage of coal in those samples than we would expect. Particle size determines the health impact, not the type of particle.
- JK asked if the analysis was just about the size of particles and not the content of the dust. SW: We will look at type of particle and the particle size.
- HS asked if it was possible to extend the sampling to more areas in the community. SW explained that the sampling and analysis was expensive and the budgetary constraints would determine the number of samples collected and analysed. It was noted that Bulga Coal will take the prevailing wind conditions into account when taking the samples from CCC residences.

Item 2 Review the current air quality monitoring locations with the CCC

- SW showed the map of the current air quality monitors around the perimeter of our site informed by air quality modelling. The locations of the monitors are based on prevailing wind conditions to measure PM₁₀ leaving our site. These monitors are used in conjunction with visual triggers and the air quality monitors in the community to manage dust. The monitors don't measure dust from all sources leaving or coming onto our site. Visible dust triggers are the most effective management tool we have.
- JK noted EPA point 9 seems to be too far to the East to pick up what is coming onto our site from the Mt Thorley pit. SW: There is a road further to the west that runs on our boundary, a monitor in this location would be impacted by vehicle traffic. The intent is to try and capture all of the dust and not just a localised source.
- It was noted Bulga Coal has PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} monitors in the community and these capture the dust falling in the community and we use visible dust triggers to manage dust on our site.
- RN: **We can put another monitor to the west if we have a spare one and check the data. ACTION**

Correspondence

1. The 2019 Bulga Coal Annual Review was distributed to the CCC in April 2020.

Presentation from Bulga Open Cut

Covid-19

- RN outlined the measures in place at Bulga Coal during COVID-19 and the support of the workforce during this time.

Rehabilitation

- The target is 88 hectares, with 101 hectares of temporary rehabilitation planned including the Old Tailings Dam to the south of our operation.

Complaints and incidents

- 5 noise complaints, 2 lighting complaints and 1 dust complaint year to date. The majority of the noise complaints were in the morning between 6am – 9am.
- There have been 8 air quality, 4 minor hydrocarbon spills, 1 noise and 2 water incidents. Each of the air quality incidents (where the air quality was over our mine criteria) are investigated and a report is provided to the Department of Planning. The investigations showed the source of the dust was not attributable to Bulga Coal.
- There was a mine water discharge incident on the 6th April which was reported under our Pollution Incident Response Management Plan. A small amount of water spilled out of a mine water drain (south of the CHPP raw coal stockpile) into a clean water catchment tributary of Nine Mile Creek. A drain under a causeway became blocked by a piece of wood and sediment which caused the drain to fill up and overtop. No remediation was required. The causeway has been removed. A report, figures and photos of the incident were provided to the CCC.

Noise, air quality, water

- There were no non-compliances during monthly attended noise monitoring this year to date. The frequency of shutting down equipment during the night and early mornings has increased due to the change in weather and current mining locations.
- A graph of the 24 hour average PM₁₀ concentrations at monitors in the community, year to date showed the air quality was heavily impacted by bushfire smoke in January and early February. The air quality improved after rain. Each exceedance is investigated so we can quantify our contribution.
- It was noted our quarterly environmental monitoring reports show the PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ readings at our monitors.
- Bulga Coal is in a good position for water. We are currently drawing on Hunter River to supplement our supply. We anticipate high security allocations to be reduced in July.

Modification 3 and Modification 7

- Bulga Coal is likely to get approval in July. A dredging trial will start in July. The administrative council have accepted \$1M Voluntary Planning Agreement which is yet to go before the elected councillors.
- JK asked how much of that will go to the community and how was that figure arrived? RN: Singleton Council require 1% of the project capital value. Bulga Coal is keen for the majority to be spent in the community now. Council require an amount for their Community Economic Development Fund.
- JK noted the community strongly stresses that the majority of the VPA goes to the community. All CCC members agreed to this.
- The Chair noted there is a strong desire of the community to spend the VPA money locally.

Bulga Underground update

- Decommissioning and rehabilitation of redundant infrastructure is ongoing. Subsidence repairs are ongoing.

Community and heritage

- Teaching and Keeping Place – 5 tenders have been received from builders and we are hoping to complete the building this year.
- HS asked about landscape designs to include bush tucker gardens for teaching purposes. RN: we are keen to work with the Aboriginal community on education, interpretive walks and bush tucker gardens.
- HS noted the opportunity for events at this venue given its location on the tourist trail.
- Bulga Coal would like a bike path / walking trail to the Teaching and Keeping Place from Broke and there is an opportunity to link the path to Bulga.
- An update on the Bulga Coal Voluntary Planning Agreement projects was provided: The playground shade sail, surrounds and soft fall at the Bulga Recreation Ground have been installed. The quote for headstone repairs at the Bulga Cemetery has been accepted by council and the skate park in Broke is currently on hold until the contracting company secure their permits to travel to NSW. They are likely to recommence in the next couple of weeks.
- Broke School received funding from Glencore P&C grants round for a new playground which has been installed and looks great.
- Signs for a heritage trail planned for Broke and Bulga will be drafted after consolidating feedback from the community at a morning tea in March.
- The proposal to relocate Ravensworth Homestead is part of the Glendell Continued Operations approval. It's currently with Department of Planning and the project team is preparing their response to submissions. They are working with the Heritage Council to provide more information and Singleton Council also require further information on the Broke proposal.

Annual Review 2019

- The CCC were asked if they had any questions regarding the Annual Review 2019. There were no questions about the report.

General business

- HS asked about the progress on end of mine life? RN: We have a conceptual final landform which is predominately an ecological outcome with a final void. We haven't decided what the final land use will be, but things like rural residential, grazing and recreation have been discussed. We believe we have the best opportunity for recreation given our location. We will work with Council and the community to canvas their ideas on what they want. Linking Broke and Bulga with a bike path, the Teaching and Keeping Place and the proposed equestrian centre in Bulga might steer the final land use of the area. It was suggested to work on this each year even though there is 20 years of mine life left.
- GA said local Government elections have been postponed until September 2021. This council's term is 5 years and next term will be 3 years.

Next meeting

Wednesday 4th November 2020 9am

Actions

Item	Raised by	Action	Responsibility	Item No.
1	JK	Add an additional PM ₁₀ monitor at the north of our mine site and compare with EPA Point 9	SW	Business arising from previous minutes

Meeting closed: 10.20am