

# BULGA COAL

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## GLENCORE

### Community Consultative Committee Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Bulga Coal Administration Building, Broke Road

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Community representatives | Helen Sharrock (HS)      |
|                           | John Krey (JK)           |
|                           | Mike Wilson (MW)         |
| Singleton Council         | Godfrey Adamthwaite (GA) |
| Bulga Coal                | Ralph Northey (RN)       |
|                           | Tas Willis (TW)          |
|                           | Teegan Hayward (TH)      |
| Chairperson               | John Turner              |

#### Welcome and opening by the Chair

- Meeting opened: 9.07am

#### Apologies

- Stewart Mitchell, Dave Foster

#### 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 HS

#### Business arising from the previous meetings

Actions from previous minutes

##### *Item 1 Analyse the composition of PM<sub>10</sub> samples*

- We collected samples from our High Volume Air Samplers located at Cobcroft Road, Putty Road and Hill Street to identify the type and size of the dust particles. The results show the majority of the dust is soil or rock dust. There were small percentages of plant debris, fungi and coal. The percentage of coal in these samples is different to the community samples taken last year and we are unsure why this is. Irrespective of the results, we need to do what we can to manage dust.

*Item 2 Add an additional PM<sub>10</sub> monitor at the north of our mine site and compare with EPA point 9*

- An additional PM<sub>10</sub> dust monitor was placed to the west of the current EPA monitor on the Bulga / Mt Thorley boundary and we compared the results. The results show that the monitor to the west recorded higher dust levels. We will apply to the EPA to change the location of the monitor on our EPL. It was noted to the key thing for us is management of dust such as water carts and shutting down activities when needed.
- It was agreed to provide the CCC with data from the EPA monitor on our southern boundary. **ACTION**

### **Correspondence**

- Nil

### **Presentation from Bulga Open Cut**

#### Modification 3 and Modification 7

- Bulga Coal received state approval for Bulga Open Cut Mod 3 and Bulga Underground Mod 7 in July and Federal EPBC approval in September.
- We commenced a dredging trial in October. The tailings relocation project will relocate 3 gigalitres of tailings over 5 years.
- We are updating our management plans. We have to consult with our CCC on the Rehabilitation Management Plan, which is our Mine Operating Plan (MOP).
- We have a VPA variation of \$1M, which will go into the Community and Economic Development Fund until local projects are determined, costed and planned. There was a general discussion around the fund and supporting local projects. The community view is that the VPA is really to offset the impact of the mine expansion. The VPA money needs to be spent locally, now, to offset impacts. GA & RN will follow up with Council on the Community and Economic Development Fund, its status and the process for scoping and applying for projects. We will circulate this information to the CCC and if it is insufficient, we will ask a representative from Council to attend the next CCC meeting. **ACTION**

### Rehabilitation

- TW gave an overview of MOP (which is our Rehabilitation Management Plan). The MOP outlines mining activity, rehabilitation and disturbance over the next 3 years. It is approved by the Resources Regulator and sets the benchmark for the quality and monitoring of our rehabilitation. The plan has been updated to reflect changes in Mod 3.
- Our rehabilitation target for 2020 is 88 hectares. We have completed 46.5 hectares. We have also completed 75 hectares of temporary rehabilitation out of a target of 101 hectares. In 2021 the rehabilitation target is 32.7 hectares. It was noted there is limited opportunity for rehabilitation over the next few years.
- This year's rehabilitation focuses on a more natural landform that blends in with the surrounds (GeoFluv). The design is about controlling water and stopping erosion.
- RN asked if the CCC were happy with the consultation on the MOP and whether they would like an electronic or hard copy distributed. We will email a link to the

document and provide a hard copy to HS **ACTION**. JT: Does the CCC have any further requirements on the MOP consultation? No further requirements noted.

- There has been 2 campaigns of dog and fox baiting in 2020, both are coordinated by Local Land Services.

#### Complaints and incidents

- 17 complaints (12 noise, 2 lighting, 1 blast vibration, 1 blast overpressure, 1 air quality) year to date.
- 9 hydrocarbon spills, 8 dust, 6 water, 3 ground disturbance, 2 noise, 2 waste and 1 blast incident. We received an official caution from the EPA for the water spill in April 2020.
- We are no longer required to report air quality exceedances to the Department of Planning where the source of the dust is not attributable to Bulga Coal.

#### Noise, air quality, blasting, water

- There were no non-compliances for noise during the monthly-attended noise-monitoring year to date. A graph showed that equipment was shut down for longer periods during May this year.
- There was no non-compliances for blasting year to date.
- Graphs of the 24 hour average PM<sub>10</sub> levels during winter and spring showed the air quality was generally good.
- Bulga Coal is well supplied with water and we are not currently drawing from the Hunter River. We have a substantial requirement for water for the dredging project from 2022-2027.
- We recently commissioned our Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme discharge facility. We can discharge 500ML a day, under strict conditions. We are unlikely to use this for the next 8 years.

#### Bulga Underground rehabilitation and subsidence

- Pre-drainage wells are continuing to supply the power station. We are decommissioning redundant infrastructure. Subsidence is monitored quarterly and repairs made were required. Some of the underground workings are being mined into by the Open Cut.

#### Heritage and community

- The Minimbah Teaching Place will start construction in January at the Wollombi Brook Conservation Area on Charlton Road. The contract has been awarded to Singleton builder Hunter Prestige Homes.
- We are working with the community on a video to tell the local Aboriginal story. Next year we will work with the community on bush tucker gardens, walking trails and interpretive sign installation.
- The skatepark was completed in August which was funded through Bulga Coal VPA and a grant by the state government. It is an asset for the community and a great example of money spent on the ground with immediate benefits. The remaining VPA

funding will be spent on headstone restoration at the Bulga Cemetery and at the Bulga Hall.

- We have not had any community barbeques this year due to COVID-19. We are looking at how we can connect with the community next year while keeping safe. HS said the community have missed the Bulga Coal barbeque meetings this year and look forward to receiving the next community newsletter. TH said the next community newsletter is due out late November/December.
- We ran free skateboard clinics in the Sept/Oct school holidays, which were well received. Over 30 kids attended and the majority of them were beginners.
- The mine supported Adopt a Spot Road clean-up, Summer Reading Program, Broke School, milk carrier history book production, Singleton Neighbourhood Centre and the Salvation Army. A number of events we would normally support did not go ahead this year. It was noted the Broke Residents Committee are planning seasonal events for community gatherings, when we are able to meet in groups. RN – both Hall committees have money from the VPA for local events.
- HS enquired whether there is funding available for printing of the local Cockfighter newsletter, which is currently emailed. RN said we have spoken to Tom Jackson in the past about support for printing the newsletter, and we are happy to talk to them.
- The Glendell Continued Operations project is still with the Department of Planning, no further update on the relocation of Ravensworth Homestead.

### General business

- Send the presentation and a copy of the dust report to GA.

### Next meeting

Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 9am

### Actions

| Item | Raised by | Action   | Responsibility | Item No.  |
|------|-----------|--|----------------|---|
| 1    | JK        | Provide data from the EPA monitor located on the south of our boundary   | SW             | Business arising from previous minutes            |
| 2    | JK        | Clarify the status of the Council's Community and Economic Development Fund and its process, including scoping and applying for local projects | RN & GA        | Presentation from Bulga Open Cut – Mod 3 & Mod 7  |
| 3    | RN        | Send a link to the Mine Operations Plan to the CCC and a hard copy to HS   | TH             | Presentation from Bulga Open Cut - Rehabilitation |

Meeting closed 10.15am