

BULGA COAL

GLENCORE

Community Consultative Committee Meeting

29th May 2014

Bulga Coal Administration Meeting Room

Present: Stewart Mitchell (SM), Terry Everett (TE), Tim Walls (TW), Ned Stephenson (NS), Tom Scott (TS), Lucy Stuart (LS), John Krey (JK), Ralph Northey (RN), Scott Wolfenden (SW), Teegan Hayward (TH)

Apologies: Godfrey Adamthwaite, Helen Sharrock, Paul Amidy

Chairperson Ralph Northey (RN)

Meeting opened: 9.16am

Meeting closed: 12.16pm

Declaration of pecuniary interest: none

Apologies

It was noted that a Bulga Coal representative will email invitations to the CCC meetings as well as call the Friday prior to the meeting to confirm dates.

Presentation from EPA – Mitchell Bennett and Emma Coombes

The EPA attended the CCC meeting to gain feedback regarding the air quality monitoring network around Bulga Coal mine. The EPA has monitors at Bulga, Mt Thorley industrial Area and Warkworth village which form part of the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network.

There was a discussion around Bulga Coal's current air quality monitoring. Bulga Coal has TEOMs in Broke, Bulga and Cobcroft Road, high volume samplers and dust depositional gauges. Bulga Coal also has a PM10 monitor in the north west and south west of the pit. The best cues for causes of dust in the pit are visual – and supervisor and operator education.

The EPA discussed the optimisation of air quality monitoring with the CCC and Bulga Coal. The proposed monitoring focuses on:

1. A limited number of real-time continuous monitors upwind and downwind of each site close to individual operations, and

2. Reliance upon the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network for the monitoring of ambient air quality in the community.

The EPA would appreciate the CCC's comments by the 19 June, 2014.

RN We will produce a summary of the EPA and Bulga Coal air quality monitoring to the CCC and coordinate a response to the EPA's enquiry. **ACTION**

There was a discussion around the Upper Hunter characterisation study into PM2.5.

Previous minutes

The previous minutes were moved as true and correct by JK and seconded by NS.

Actions arising from the previous meeting

- Item 1:** Send the amended table (Table 5.1) from the AEMR to the CCC
This was attached with the final minutes mailed on 18/11/2013
- Item 2:** Provide a copy of the Department of Planning presentation with the minutes
The presentation was included with the final minutes mailed on 18/11/2013
- Item 3:** Clarify the approvals process for the Bulga Optimisation Project to the CCC
This was addressed in the covering letter accompanying the final minutes mailed on 18/11/2013
- Item 4:** Clarify Bulga and Coal and Allied's Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme's discharge and monitoring points on Loders Creek and report back to CCC
This will be addressed in the presentation by Bulga Open Cut.
- Item 5:** Look into use of alternate members of the CCC
TH followed up with GA after the meeting who noted that there is no provision for alternate members to attend the Bulga Coal CCC.

1. Bulga Optimisation Project Update

TW Gave an overview of the Bulga Optimisation Project including the approval process. A PAC hearing will be on the 25th June with a site tour by the PAC committee scheduled for the 4th June. The Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) approval has been granted for the Project.
Provide a copy of the Federal EPBC approval with the final minutes **ACTION**
Provide a copy of the PAC notification with the final minutes for HS, GA and TE
ACTION

- JK Where will you dump given you can't dump at the mushroom composters? TW: there is dump space available in the pit due to a change in the mine plan where a section at the top of the north west corner will no longer be mined.
- JK How do the state and federal approvals interact? TW: Following the referral of a Project under the EPBC Act, the approval authority will first decide if the action is deemed a Controlled Action, and what further detail is required for assessment. The Federal approval authority can choose to either allow the state assessment process to assess the matters referred or choose to undertake its own assessment and determination process. In the case of the BOP the approval authority requested preliminary documentation (TW explained that this was similar to an EIS, focussing on the specific matters requested) for assessment at the Federal level. As the assessment was not made under the state process the Federal approval authority decision can be made prior to the State's project determination.
- TW Gave an overview of the project development should the project be approved. The infrastructure construction period will take around 2 years and will include: Contractor car park; upgrade to mine infrastructure area; water management system, Broke Road relocation and 330kV powerlines relocation. It was noted that the current Broke Road won't be impacted until the change over from the old to the new.
- The main activity that the community will see will be the development of the noise bund and the dam in the north east.
- RN We have community information sessions planned for a month after the PAC hearing to outline the works that will be undertaken, should the project be approved.
- SM Were there any concerns from the local community about the relocation of Broke Road? TW: The Hunter Valley Protection Alliance included it in their submission; no other submissions addressed Broke Road relocation. The re-aligned road will be an extra 1.9km compared with the existing route.
- There was discussion around the Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) – a committee will be formed with key stakeholders from the council, the mine and the community to plan for projects with the money from the VPA.
- JK It is important for the community to be involved in the VPA as it is compensation for the community and a consultant or town planner needs to produce a professional plan. RN noted that Bulga Coal's dealings with council regarding the VPA had been positive and the VPA amount will be split 50% between the villages and Singleton.

2. Presentation from Bulga Open Cut

- TS Gave an overview of mining in 2013 which continued in the main pits in a westerly direction. Bulga is currently dumping in the north-west which forms the northern most portion of the noise and visual bund. The current activities are about as exposed as we will be for the Bulga Optimisation Project.
- TS Gave an overview of planned rehabilitation for 2014 – a total of 34 hectares
- TS Gave an over view of incidents and complaints. There has been an increase in complaints in 2014; the majority are lighting and visual with 9 out of total 20 complaints from a single stakeholder.
- SW Provided an overview of air quality from 2013 including Dust Trigger Action Response Procedure; management of haul roads and reduction in disturbance footprint with primary and temporary rehabilitation
- No exceedences of consent / EPL criteria for PM10, TSP or depositional dust at nearest non mined owned residences.
- The CCC members were offered a tour of the control room. SM and TE had been to the control room in 2013. JK will contact us when he would like a tour.
- TS Gave an overview of noise management. He showed the committee a web based noise modelling program which is used by dispatch.
- TS Gave an overview of blast management
- TS Item 5 from previous meeting's actions: Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme (HRSTS) discharge points and monitoring locations for Bulga Coal and Mt Thorley. It was noted that MTW discharge via Doctors Creek which is on Glencore owned land.

3. Presentation from Bulga Underground

- NS Gave an overview of mining in 2013 including undermining Broke and Charlton Roads, exploration drilling for Blakefield North mine. Development consent approval for Blakefield North and Subsidence Management Plan approval for Blakefield South Longwalls 7-9.
- NS Gave an overview of subsidence for 2013. Undermined public roads, powerlines, pipelines and telecommunications. Subsidence was within predictions with average vertical subsidence ranging from 61% to 84% of extracted seam thickness.

- NS Showed pictures of Broke Road before and after mining, which subsided approximately 2 metres.
- JK Does Council / RMS require you to bring the road back up to 2 metres?
- NS No. The MSB is responsible for returning the road to a condition acceptable to the Singleton Council. The road must be returned to 100km zone and follow RMS guidelines. During the undermining Bulga Underground works with the Mine Subsidence Board (MSB) to ensure the road remains trafficable and that temporary repairs are made while damaging the road surface. After subsidence has ceased, the MSB plan the final repairs usually a few longwalls at a time.
- NS Permanent repairs of Charlton Road are planned for mid-June. This will cover re-profiling the Charlton Road for longwalls 1,2 and 3. Unfortunately, at the same time the MSB will be doing the final repairs to Charlton Road the mine will be impacting Broke Road for around 12 weeks. Therefore there will be speed restrictions on both roads for most of June and July. (MSB have now decided to delay the repairs to Charlton Road until after Broke Road has been undermined).
- NS Gave an overview of rehabilitation. Gas drainage requires the most amount of rehabilitation for dirt tracks, drill pads and pipelines trenches. Rehabilitation occurs after gas well infrastructure has either been decommissioned, or at the earliest available opportunity.
- NS Went through the approvals planned for 2014. There may be a minor modification for Blakefield North. None of the other approvals require community consultation because they are all minor.
- NS Went through planned activities for 2014: undermining Broke Road; surface disturbance and rehabilitation with gas drainage; rehabilitating parts of Talgarth Farm post subsidence; exploration drilling for Blakefield North and gas drainage for Blakefield North; preparing for undermining longwalls 7 and 8 steep slopes in 2016; and revision of Mine Operations Plan.

General Business

- SM: Asked about the power station. NS: There have been issues around not enough gas, connecting to the grid and minor technical issues. RN: should be within the next 6 months.
- JK: Asked where the 15,000 cubic metres of topsoil which was stripped from a previously rehabilitated area came from? TS: it is from the common boundary area with Mount Thorley.

TW: Would any of the CCC members like some additional refresher on the Project before the PAC? It was noted the members will contact Tim or Ralph if they need further information.

Actions arising from the meeting

| Item | Raised by | Action | Responsibility | Item No. |
|------|-----------|---|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | RN | Produce a summary of EPA and Bulga Coal air quality monitoring and coordinate a response to the EPA | SW, RN | Presentation from EPA |
| 3 | TW | Provide a copy of the Federal EPBC approval with final minutes | TH | 1 |
| 4 | TW | Provide a copy of the PAC notification with the final minutes | TH | 1 |

Next meeting: **Wednesday, 29th October at 9am** at the Bulga Coal Administration Room.