



Bulga Complex CCC Meeting

30 October 2012

Bulga Coal Administration Meeting Room

Present: Helen Sharrock (HS), Stewart Mitchell (SM), Ralph Northey (RN), Ned Stephenson (NS), Steve Shoosmith (SS), Scott Wolfenden (SW), Dan Cupitt (DC) Trescinda French (TF), Martin Salm (MS), Lucy Stuart (LS), Gary Boland (GB), Tim Walls (TW)

Apologies: Terry Everett (TE), Paul Amidy (PA), Teegan Hayward (TH)

Chairperson: Godfrey Adamthwaite (GA)

Meeting opened: 9.00am

Meeting closed: 12.20pm

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: None

1. Previous minutes

The previous minutes were moved as true and correct by the CCC.

Actions arising from the last meeting

Item 1: Distribute health study from blasting to CCC members.

RN noted that a summary of blast fume study would be presented at this meeting. A copy of the summary of the health study would be made available to the CCC. Road closure signage was installed on Charlton Road and procedures updated to trigger a road closure to prevent potential dust impacts from blasting as recommended in the blast fume study.

Item 2: Look into blast from 15th September 2011.

RN noted that the blast on the 15th of September was investigated. RN spoke to the woman who complained about the blast on the 15th September.

1. Presentation from Bulga Surface Operations on 2011 Activities

- SS Provided an overview of the mining, construction and rehabilitation activities undertaken at Bulga Surface Operations during 2011.
- SS Provided an update on the water discharge incident and the tailings incident in 2011.
- Water discharge – received a penalty infringement notice from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in May 2011. Controls upgraded in immediate area of the discharge.
- Tailings Incident – EPA lodged proceedings in the Land and Environment Court in October 2012.
- SM Asked how serious the water discharge incident was treated by the EPA.
- RN Said that the incident was treated very seriously by the EPA.
- SS Provided an update of complaints for 2012 year to date (YTD). Majority of complaints related to blasting, noise and lighting.
- HS Requested that a correlation between noise complaints and weather at the time of the complaints be presented at the next CCC meeting. **Action**
- SM Asked whether temperature inversions were taken into account for noise monitoring purposes.
- RN Noted that temperature inversions were taken into account when operating the real-time noise monitoring and management system.
- SM Asked why no dust complaints were recorded in 2012 YTD.
- RN Explained that any dust complaints received 2012 YTD were related to blasting and as such were attributed to the blasting category.
- SS Provided an update on environmental incidents for 2012 YTD. Incidents related to blasting and hydrocarbon spills. The blast exceedance on the 30th May was caused by reinforcement. It was reported to government agencies and a warning letter received.
- SS Noted the positive news story on the implementation of the real time noise system in the Singleton Argus.
- SS Provided an update on the implementation of Dust Improvement Program and gave an overview of the 4 new water carts, dust suppressant program and the real-time dust monitoring system. SS outlined operational shut downs due to dust.
- SS Provided an overview of the implementation of the 2012 Annual Rehabilitation Plan.
- RN Outlined the results of the Blast Fume Health Study. Dispersion model predicted that fume was below the EPA criteria for all blasts at all locations except one location on Charlton Road. Small potential for impacts to individuals sensitive to fume. Potential for lengthy exposure was unlikely. Traffic control will be put in place on Charlton Road if the potential for exposure exists. There are no potential for impacts of blast fume at private landholders in the area.

2. Bulga Coal Optimisation Project

- GB Provided an overview of consultation undertaken for Project since previous CCC meeting and consultation proposed between now and lodgement of Environmental Impact Assessment.
- TW Provided an overview of proposed Bulga Coal Optimisation Project and studies.
- TW/GB Provided an overview of the draft interactive final landform model developed for the Project.

HS Suggested that Bulga Coal consider making the interactive model publicly available for members of the community. **Action**

3. Presentation from Bulga Underground Operations on 2012 Activities

NS Provided an update on complaints at Bulga Underground for 2012 YTD. Complaints related to visual amenity, noise, speeding through Broke, lighting on Charlton Road.

NS Provided an update on Environmental incidents for 2012 YTD. Incidents related to oil spills, water discharged from boreholes and a damaged transformer.

NS Provided an update on mining operations BUO during 2011 and to date in 2012.

4. Community Engagement

RN Provided an update on the community consultation undertaken and feedback received during 2012. Two community barbeques: Broke barbeque - 3 requests for further consultation; Bulga barbeque - requests for funding and a collaborative approach with Mt Thorley Warkworth.

RN Provided an update on recent community projects, sponsorships and donations.

RN Provided an update on Xstrata Coal NSW Corporate Social Involvement Program.

RN Provided an update on the community newsletters and information made available on the Bulga Coal Complex website during 2012.

5. Approval Modifications

RN Provided an overview of Bulga Coal's Western Limit Consent Modification.

RN Provided an overview of Bulga Underground's Blakefield North and 32MW Power Station Consent Modification.

6. General Business

HS Congratulated Bulga Coal on the publication of Plants/Animals Booklet. Potential to distribute to tourist accommodation and cellar doors in the local area. **Action**

HS Moved that the cost of travel to and from CCC meetings should be covered by Bulga Coal for CCC members.

HS Moved that CCC members should receive a small gift of appreciation for volunteering for the CCC.

HS Asked whether the Aboriginal Teaching Place project was still progressing.

RN Explained that the project was currently on hold. However, opportunities to continue the project or similar are currently being explored as part of the Bulga Optimisation Project.

HS Asked whether Bulga Coal would be interested in running a TAFE NSW accredited cultural heritage and law education course for site personnel.

RN Noted that personnel involved in consultation with the indigenous community had undertaken similar cultural heritage and awareness training in the local area.

- SM Asked why the overpressure limit at the Lewis blast monitor was 140dB as noted in the 2011 AEMR.
- SS Noted that the property was under a private agreement for an overpressure limit of 140dB.
- SM Noted the high annual depositional dust reading at the monitoring location adjacent to Broke Road as noted in the 2011 AEMR.
- RN Explained that Broke Road was not considered a sensitive receptor for depositional dust. **Action**
- SM Thanked Bulga Coal for the contribution for the Bulga History Book and Bulga Bridge and congratulated Bulga Coal on the launch of the Broke History Book.

Actions from this meeting

Item	Raised by	Action	Responsibility	Item No.
1	HS	Provide a correlation between noise complaints and temperature inversions at time of complaint.	SW	1
2	HS	Investigate making the interactive final landform model publicly available.	TW	2
3	HS	Consider distributing the plants and animals identification booklet to local tourist accommodation.	NS	General Business
4	SM	Check DOPI/EPA guidelines for sensitive receptors for depositional dust.	SW	General Business
5	RN	Advertise to replace Bruce Russell on the CCC.	RN	
6	SM	Distribute health study from blasting to CCC members.	PA	Actions from previous meeting

Next meeting scheduled for 15th May 2013 - 9am – 1pm