

**Minutes of the 34th Meeting of the  
Sunnyside Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee**

**Meeting Held: 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**Venue:** The meeting was held at Namoi Valley Brickworks 15:30

**1. Present and Apologies**

**Present:** Michael Broekman (MB) (Chairperson)  
Andrew Raal (AR) (Environmental Officer- Whitehaven), Colleen Fuller Colleen Fuller (CF) (Gunnedah Shire Council Rep

**Apologies:** Mr Wade Hudson Senior Development Officer (WH) (Gunnedah Shire Council); Liz Ferguson (LF) (Community Representative), Ron Fuller (RF) Community

**2. Previous Minutes**

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record on the motion and confirmed by MB and CF.

**3. Business Arising**

LF has concerns with remaining highwall long-term erosion and risk to wildlife falling down the highwall. Rehabilitation of highwall and associated concerns will be addressed in next meeting. Highwall drain and associated bund is still to be installed which will prevent rainfall runoff from running over the highwall edge.

**4. Environmental Report**

AR presented environmental monitoring results and records of complaints, which are include in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

Groundwater levels have remained stable with slight rise in sync with increase rainfall. February 2020 had high dust levels due to regional dust storms and drought conditions. Removal of requirement to undertake attended noise monitoring was approved by the EPA and Dept of Planning (DPIE). Had one high dust reading in Dec2020. has been suspended due to lack of activity on the mine site.

**5. General Business**

Discussion on Koala sightings and two ecological studies undertaken late 2020 where no koalas were found. One Koala has since been spotted along the Coocooboonah road. MB and CF both stated that koala sightings in the area have dropped off.

**6. Next meeting**

Next meeting scheduled for November 2021 (Date to be confirmed)ay 15:30, at Namoi Valley Brickworks.

Meeting closed at 15:55

Michael Broekman – Chairperson

# Sunnyside Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #34

## Environmental Monitoring Report November 2020 – April 2021

### Noise Monitoring

Updated noise monitoring plan to remove attended noise monitoring from Sunnyside was approved by the Department of Planning. Site activities are limited to weed treatment (spraying and slashing), seeding and minor drainage works.

### Blasting

There has been no blasting during the reporting period, all site blasting has ceased.

### Air Quality Monitoring

#### **Deposited Dust**

The annual averages for deposited dusts at all monitoring locations remain below the criteria of 4g/m<sup>2</sup>/month average over the reporting period. There were elevated dust levels at Ivanhoe in Dec2020. Table 1 below gives the monthly depositional dust readings at each gauge over the last two quarter.

Table 1: Quarterly depositional dust gauge readings

Month	SD1	SD3	SD4	SD5	SD6	SD7	SD8
	Ferndale	Plain View	Lilydale	Ivanhoe	Illili	Innisvale	Woodlawn
	(EPL 1)	(EPL 2)		(EPL 4)	(EPL 5)	(EPL 6)	
Nov-20	1.6	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.6	1.6
Dec-20	1.38	2.47	1.09	8.17	0.88	1.61	0.97
Jan-21	1.2	2.5	0.4	2.1	1	2.3	0.8
Feb-21	1.06	1.14	0.39	1.83	1.13	1.97	0.73
Mar-21	2.01	1.48	7.83	0.64	1.09	1.27	1.41
Apr-21	0.9	1.32	3.38	1.45	1.07	0.35	0.63
Mean	1.36	1.79	2.40	2.58	1.16	1.52	1.02

#### **Dust PM<sub>10</sub> Data**

PM10 dust levels are taken every 6 days at Sunnyside. Table 2 below details each reading over the last two quarters. There were no exceedances.

**Table 2:** Illili PM10 High Volume Air Sampler results

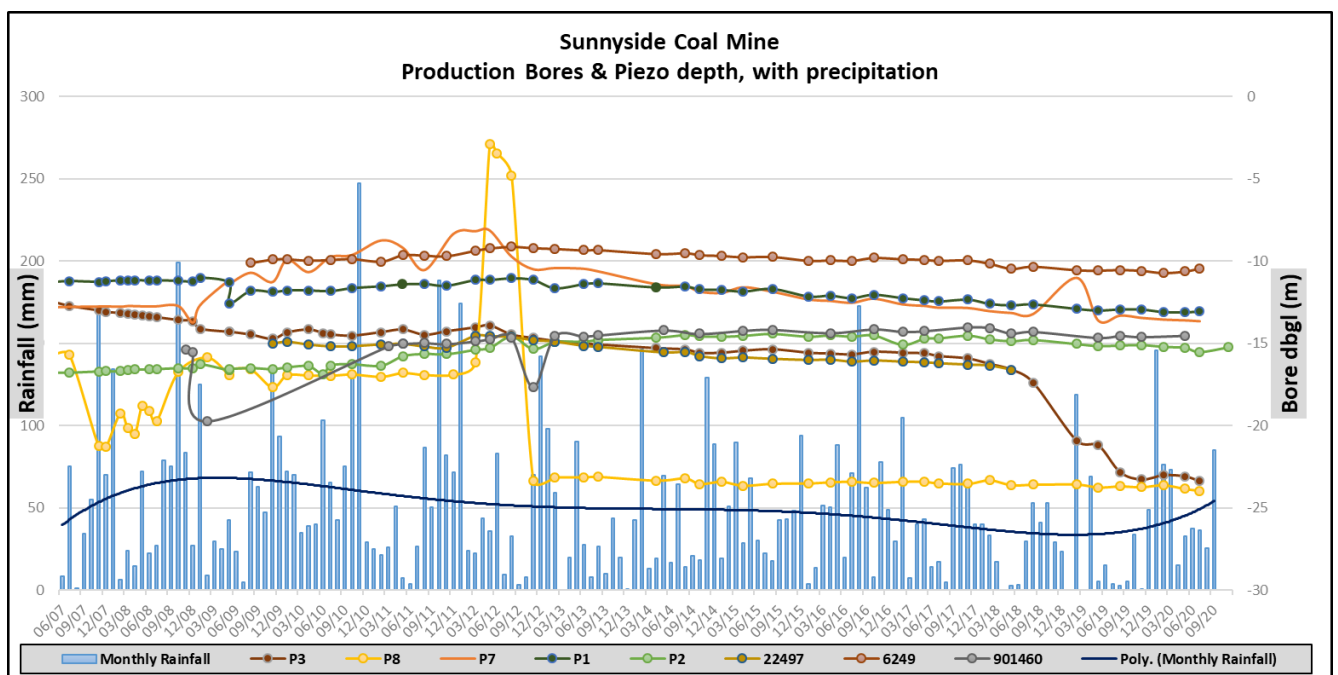
<b>Date</b>	<b>µg/m<sup>3</sup></b>
04-Nov-20	25.5
10-Nov-20	10.3
16-Nov-20	25.1
22-Nov-20	19.9
28-Nov-20	16.6
04-Dec-20	12.3
10-Dec-20	21.5
16-Dec-20	7.4
22-Dec-20	1.9
28-Dec-20	4.8
03-Jan-21	3.4
09-Jan-21	4.8
15-Jan-21	16.4
21-Jan-21	11.
27-Jan-21	18.7
02-Feb-21	3.3
08-Feb-21	9.9
14-Feb-21	9.4
20-Feb-21	2.9
26-Feb-21	6.8
04-Mar-21	12.5
10-Mar-21	9.
16-Mar-21	14.4
22-Mar-21	1.3
28-Mar-21	3.5
03-Apr-21	8.8
09-Apr-21	9.9
15-Apr-21	17.2
21-Apr-21	9.2
27-Apr-21	14.8

## Groundwater Monitoring

Groundwater monitoring is undertaken from a range of monitoring piezometers and water bores both within and surrounding the mine site. Standing Water Level (SWL) checks are undertaken on a quarterly basis, with full water quality sampling undertaken on a 6 monthly basis.

Groundwater levels have remained stable with slight rise in sync with increased rainfall at year end Figure 8.2.2.1a & b. Piezometer P3 sits on the western edge of the pit and was impacted by drought conditions in 2019 and since has stabilised in 2020. Mine void was closed and made free draining in December 2020. P3 water levels are expected to rise.

There has been no groundwater extraction.



## Surface Water

Surface water sampling of storages onsite continues to be carried out on a quarterly basis. Water stored on site is approximately 9.1ML

## Complaints

No complaints have been received for the Sunnyside Coal Mine since the previous CCC meeting.

## Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation undertaken since last meeting

### **General Rehab:**

- Rehabilitation trials on coated seeds
- Seeding and planting of all rehabilitated areas
- Establishment of dump highwall drain