

Minutes of Inaugural Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultation Committee

Meeting Held: Thursday 4 May 2006 at 3:30pm

Venue: Whitehaven Coal Mining office
125 Merton Street, Boggabri

Present: Clr. Ken Bates (Narrabri Shire Rep.) Chairman
Clr. Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep.)
Mr. Sandy Bull (Community Rep.)
Mr. Bart Crosby (Community Rep.)
Mr. Bob McGregor (Community Rep.)
Mr. Peter Laird (Community Rep.)
Mr. Mathew Laird (Alternate member)
Mr. Chris Burgess (Area Manager – Tarrawonga Mine)
Mr. Tony Jones (Community Liaison Officer – Tarrawonga Mine)
Mr. Alex Irwin (Environmentalist – R.W.Corkery & Co.)

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mr. Colin Phillips and Mr. Bob Corbett

1. Introduction / Welcome

The Area Manager, Mr. Chris Burgess, welcomed the committee members and explained that the Consent for the Tarrawonga Mine required the formation of the committee and that the Company was very committed to the concept and would do its utmost to ensure that the members were kept informed.

He further pointed out that the members had access to the Company and its staff at all times to discuss problems raised with them and that the Company would do all it could to resolve such problems.

2. Role of Committee Members

Chairman, Clr. Ken Bates, outlined the role of committee members and pointed out that they were the contacts and liaison for the public. It was not the role of the committee to actively canvas the public and seek complaints but to bring any concerns raised with them to the committee. He pointed out that such complaints or concerns did not have to wait until a committee meeting but could be taken up with the Company directly.

Clr. Bates further advised that the public had access to a complaints hot line and that committee members were the conduit for personal concerns of the community.

Area Manager, Chris Burgess, pointed out the committee was responsible for monitoring the environmental performance of the mine.

Mr. Mathew Laird enquired as to the mechanics of the environmental monitoring and was advised that an audit will be conducted every 3 years of environmental compliance as part of the consent conditions.

Mr. Burgess advised that a mine web site was in the process of being established.

3. Format and Frequency of Meetings

Mr. Burgess advised that meetings had to be held at least four times each year as a minimum, but could be held more frequently if required. Minutes of the meetings would be circulated to members and would be presented for confirmation at the next meeting.

Mr. Peter Laird enquired as to the confidentiality or otherwise of those minutes and was advised that they were a public document.

Mr. Burgess suggested that by the next meeting the mine would be operating and that it would be appropriate to commence the meeting at Whitehaven and inspect an operating mine and then proceed along the new haul road to view work at Tarrawonga Mine. The committee agreed with this proposal.

4. Review of Consent Conditions and Environmental Management Systems

Mr. Burgess advised that actual mining could not commence until all consent conditions were complied with and the required management plans were completed and approved.

The Bushfire Management Plan is being prepared following consultation with Boggabri No: 1 Brigade and the Nandewar Brigade. Further to that the mine is required to have a Fire Control System in place on site under the C.M.R.A. and Regulations.

The mine is required to train its staff in fire control. The mine will also have a water tanker available to assist in fighting fire. The tanker will be equipped with a water cannon.

The Flora / Fauna Management Plans are being completed. The Groundwater Contingency Strategy is being developed in consultation with Peter Sinclair Dept of Natural Resources.

Mr. Burgess outlined the proposals for location of piezometers and the procedures for monitoring them.

5. General Business

5.1 Dust Monitoring

Mr. Peter Laird enquired as to where analysis of dust monitors is done and Mr. Burgess advised Ecowise Environmental did them in Mudgee.

Mr. Mathew Laird asked if he could have copies of the test results and Mr. Burgess advised he would make them available to him. He advised Mr. Laird that it was intended to install a high volume sampler on his property "Templemore".

5.2 Complaints

Mr. Burgess advised that the complaints hot line is operational on 0429 497730 and that there had been 3 complaints since 15/2/06. Two of those complaints had in fact referred to the operation of contractors to Idemitsu Boggabri Coal Project. Both of these complaints have been resolved. The other complaint concerned the removal of a number of trees on the Boggabri / Manilla Road.

The trees had been removed as a safety measure to ensure that traffic on the Boggabri / Manilla Road was not endangered. Part of the complaint related to the fact that the trees had to be left where they fell as harbour for fauna. It was considered that they constituted a hazard to motorists on what would become a high-speed road when it was constructed and sealed.

It was resolved that the Company would attempt to obtain permission to move the stumps and branches to render the road safer for traffic.

5.3 General Discussion

Mr. Peter Laird raised concerns that trucks were not giving way to traffic on Whitehaven Lane and Goonbri Road. The issue is to be raised with the Project Manager, Wayne Parkes, to establish the rules and to ensure that the rules are adhered to.

It was advised that the Whitehaven Community Consultative Committee had determined that stop signs were to be re-instated at the mine entrance road.

Mr. Bob McGregor raised concerns that a mitre drain at Gins Gully could have the effect of re-directing storm water with detrimental effect further down the road. It was agreed that they should be filled in.

5.4 Environmental Performance

Mr. Burgess advised that the initial road noise monitoring has been completed but until haulage of coal commenced no real data could be assessed.

He pointed out that information share arrangements are in place with Idemitsu Boggabri Coal for the meteorological station, dust and water monitoring points.

Mr. Peter Laird raised concerns about the bund and overburden emplacement, which could be viewed from his property. Mr. Burgess advised that it could be up to 4 years before the particular bunds and emplacements were constructed.

Mr. Burgess outlined the contractual arrangements for the mine and advised that the initial work up to the ramp and box cut would be carried out by the Company itself which would invest a large amount of funding in plant and equipment.

5.5 Coal Transportation

No coal is being transport at this time.

5.6 Mining Lease

Mr. Burgess advised that the lease has been issued and signed by the Minister and that the Mine Operations Plan is lodged with the Dept. Primary Industries - Mineral Resources.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Whitehaven Mine and will then proceed along the haul road to Tarrawonga Mine. Date 3rd August 2006 at 2:00pm.

..... ____/____/2006
Ken Bates - Chairman

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultation Committee

Meeting Held: Thursday 3 August 2006 at 3:00pm

Venue: The meeting convened at Whitehaven Open Cut Coal Mine and members were taken on an inspection of the mine, rehabilitation and the new Haul Road. The Committee then adjourned to the Tarrawonga Mine for an inspection of the work in progress. Following the inspection, the committee met in the Tarrawonga Training Room for the meeting.

Present: Clr. Ken Bates (Narrabri Shire Rep.) Chairman
Clr. Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep.)
Mr. Mathew Laird (Alternate Community Rep.)
Mr. Bob McGregor (Community Rep.)
Mr. Sandy Bull (Community Rep.)
Mr. Graham Pathuis (Narrabri Shire Council)
Mr. Alex Irwin (Environmentalist – R.W.Corkery & Co.)
Mr. Colin Phillips (Environ. Planning Officer - Dept. of Planning)
Mr. Chris Burgess (Area Manager – Tarrawonga Mine)
Mr. Tony Jones (Community Liaison Officer – Tarrawonga Mine)
Miss. Rachel Gleeson (Environmental Manager – Tarrawonga Mine)
Mr. David West (Resource Development – Tarrawonga Mine)

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mr. Bart Crosby (Community Rep.) and Mr. Peter Laird (Community Rep.)

1. Previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted as a true record of the inaugural meeting

2. Business Arising

2.1 Mine Web Site

It was advised that work was proceeding on the mine web site.

2.2 Management Plan Approvals

It was reported that copies of the Groundwater Contingency Plan, Flora and Fauna Management Plans had been sent to Narrabri Shire Council and Gunnedah Shire Council.

The Bushfire Management Plan was forwarded to the Rural Fire Service for approval. A response from Mr. Michael Brooks in July stated that he could not comment on the plan because Consent conditions had not been validated. Mr. Colin Phillips from the Dept. of Planning advised that the conditions of the Consent have been signed and are valid. The Chairman was requested to obtain copies of the Bushfire Management Plan. The conditions of the Consent require consultation with Boggabri No: 1 Brigade and Nandewar Brigade.

Waiting on approval of Flora & Fauna Management Plans.

3. Environmental Performance

3.1 Environmental Status Report

Environmental Manager Rachel Gleeson presented a detailed report on the environmental status, monitoring and reporting procedures with a written report and Power Point presentation.

3.2 Water Bores

Mr. Mathew Laird enquired about details regarding quantity and use of the new bores on Tarrowonga.

Mr. Chris Burgess advised that two bores would be used. One bore producing 1,500 gallons per hour and one producing 700 gallons per hour. The water will be used for dust suppression, crushing and general use.

3.3 Monitoring

Mr. Mathew Laird enquired how the monitoring information was passed from Community Representatives to Council.

He was advised that such information would be preferred in electronic form supported by a paper copy.

4. General Business

4.1 Construction Activities Report

Area Manager, Chris Burgess reported that road works were nearing completion. Narrabri Shire Council is coming on 4th August 2006 to inspect the road junction at Hoad Lane and Goonbri Road prior to sealing. Fencing and guide post installation carried out by Mr. Bob McGregor were nearly completed and grading and sealing of private entrances was underway.

Mr. Mathew Laird expressed concern regarding poor visibility on Goonbri Road and Haul Road intersection.

Mr. Chris Burgess responded that the removal of some small trees and undergrowth could be required. This would require concurrence from Narrabri Shire Council. It was advised that stop signs would be installed with preference to the Haul Road.

4.2 Mine Progress

Area Manager, Chris Burgess stated that the mine site inspection held prior to today's meeting had revealed the mine progress.

5. New Business

5.1 Complaints

Mrs. Pritchard of "Bundaleer" property complained of effects of recent blast at her residence some 8 to 10km distant. It was decided to place a blast monitor at her property to check results.

5.2 Council Representative

Clr. Colleen Fuller advised that the Minister has appointed her to the Caroon Project Community Consultative Committee.

Area Manager, Chris Burgess advised that he would be happy if the Caroon Project was not connected to Tarrawonga Coal Mine in the eyes of the community.

5.3 Guidelines for CCC Meetings

Mr. Colin Phillips from NSW Dept. of Planning advised that the draft guidelines for community consultative committees were available for comment. He stated that the information passed on every time committees met was of enormous benefit.

Mr. Phillips further advised that there was a requirement to hold four meetings per annum as a minimum, but there was a mechanism to reduce that number should the committee feel that number to be unnecessary.

Mr. Phillips expressed his pleasure at being present at today's meeting, but advised that he would not be a frequent visitor. His contact details are:

Phone: 02 92286483
Fax: 02 92286466
Email: colin.phillips@planning.nsw.gov.au

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Tarrawonga Coal Mine on Thursday 2nd November 2006 at 3:30pm.

Meeting closed at 5:00pm.

.....*K Bates*..... 11/9/2006
Ken Bates - Chairman

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultation Committee

- Meeting Held:** Thursday 2 November 2006 at 4:00pm
- Venue:** The meeting held a Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room
- Present:** Clr. Ken Bates (Narrabri Shire Rep.) Chairman
Clr. Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep.)
Mr. Peter Laird (Community Rep.)
Mr. Bob McGregor (Community Rep.)
Mr. Sandy Bull (Community Rep.)
Mr. Bart Crosby (Community Rep.)
Mr. Chris Burgess (Area Manager – Tarrawonga Mine)
Mr. Tony Jones (Community Liaison Officer – Tarrawonga Mine)
Miss. Rachel Gleeson (Environmental Manager – Tarrawonga Mine)
- Apologies:** Apologies were received from Mr. Rob Kneale (Narrabri Shire Works Engineer), Mr. Mathew Laird (Alternate Community Rep.)

1. Previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting of 3 August 2006 were read and accepted as a true record on the motion of Clr. Colleen Fuller and seconded by Mr. Sandy Bull.

2. Business Arising

2.1 Management Plan Approvals

- 2.1.1. The Flora and Fauna Management Plan has been with Government Departments for some time without response.
- 2.1.2. The confirmation of approval of the Bushfire Management Plan has been received from Narrabri Shire Council. The assistance of Chairman Clr. Bates in this was noted.
- 2.1.3. The Ground Water Contingency Plan has now been approved. Copies will be sent to all Committee members.

2.2 Poor Visibility

The issue of poor visibility regarding the intersection of Goonbri Road and the haulage road was discussed with Mr. Rob Kneale of Narrabri Shire Council. Mr. Kneale was invited to attend this meeting of the Tarrawonga CCC but was unable to attend. Mr. Kneale has advised he will contact Tony Jones to conduct an inspection of the area early in the week commencing 6 November 2006. Tony will contact Ken Bates and Bob McGregor to attend the inspection.

2.3 Complaint – Mrs. Pritchard

Mrs. Pritchard has withdrawn her earlier complaint regarding blasting. The withdrawal of the complaint followed a visit and monitoring by mine staff.

3. General Business

3.1 Mine Progress

Area Manager, Chris Burgess reported that all required machinery was on site. The last of the new diggers was being constructed and would be ready to work in approx. 12 days. Three excavators and six trucks are currently working on site. The night shift has commenced with one unit and the second night shift unit will commence after Christmas.

Coal is currently being transported to Whitehaven Mine for crushing and hauling to the Preparation Plant.

The tender for the Tarrawonga crushing plant has been let to Moree Engineering to build the crusher which is expected to be ready by the end of January 2007.

Suitable experienced staff are hard to find, despite having many applicants.

The water bore is up and running but we are still carting water. A good downpour is needed.

3.2 Environmental Monitoring Results

Environmental Manager, Rachel Gleeson, presented a detailed report on the environmental status and monitoring results for the period July to October 2006. Dept. of Primary Industry and Dept. of Environment and Conservation have inspected the results and are satisfied that they comply. A copy of this report is attached.

4. New Business

Peter Laird enquired as to whether rainwater first flush diverters were to be fitted to domestic water tanks in the vicinity of the mine. He thought it was mentioned in the E.I.S. Area Manager, Chris Burgess, agreed to investigate.

Peter Laird queried a blast which was 30 minutes late and for which he had not received notification of the delay. Peter also queried the yellow dust that had resulted from the blast. Area Manager, Chris Burgess, agreed to obtain details.

Peter Laird complained of a rumbling noise that had occurred between 1:00am and 2:00am on one night last week. Area Manager, Chris Burgess, advised that we were not operating at that time, so the rumbling must have come from somewhere else.

Sandy Bull suggested that no trees be planted in the area adjacent to the junction of the haul road and the Manilla Road, as it would obscure safe visibility for traffic.

The matter of Stop Signs on the Goonbri Road was raised. The matter will be discussed with Mr. Rob Kneale when he comes up next week to inspect the intersection.

5. Complaints

No complaints received since last meeting.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room on Thursday 1st February 2007 at 4:00pm.

Meeting closed at 5:00pm.

K Bates
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Ken Bates - Chairman

10/11/2006

Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #3

Environmental Monitoring Report, July-October 2006

Noise Monitoring

Since the Tarrawonga Community Consultation Committee in July, Road Traffic and Mine site Noise monitoring has been conducted in July, August, September and October.

The July mine site noise monitoring was conducted early in the morning with inaudible monitoring results from TCM.

The August site noise monitoring was conducted over three periods: day (7am-6pm), evening (6pm-10pm) and night (10pm-7am). The results at all sites from TCM were inaudible.

The September site noise monitoring was conducted again over three time periods (day, evening, night). The results from all sites were within the noise criterion level of 35dB (A) with the highest reading of 30dBL (A) occurring at 10:56am at Templemore

The results from the October monitoring have not yet been received, but technicians on the day indicated that the results showed that TCM was compliant.

The road noise monitoring was undertaken since the transportation of coal has begun and results were compliant with limits.

Blasting Pressure

Blasting Results

Since the first shot there have been 8 blasts.

Of this all have been compliant with the limits of 115dBL and 5mm/s.

The highest overpressure recorded was 109.2 dBL at Bollol Creek on the 25th of October 2006.

The highest ground vibration was 0.94mm/s at Templemore on the 8th of June 2006.

The only complaint received about the blasting, has since been retracted after monitoring was conducted at their residence, which did not register any pressure or vibration changes.

Air Quality

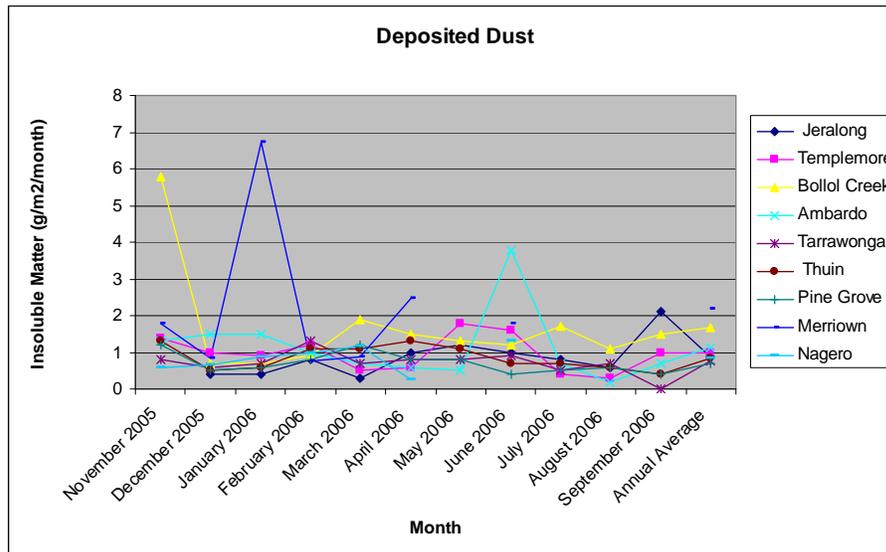
Air Quality (PM₁₀) Results

The annual average for PM10 readings is currently at 8.9 ug/m³, which is well below the annual average limit of 30ug/m³.

The highest 24hr reading was 19 ug/m³ which was recorded on the 3rd July 2006 and again is well below the 24hr limit of 50 ug/m³.

Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results

Month	Jeralong	Templemore	Bollol Creek	Ambardo	Tarrawonga	Thuin	Pine Grove
November 2005		1.4	5.8	1.3	0.8	1.3	1.2
December 2005	0.4	1.0	0.7	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.5
January 2006	0.4	0.9	0.7	1.5	0.7	0.6	0.6
February 2006	0.8	1.2	0.9	1	1.3	1.1	0.8
March 2006	0.3	0.5	1.9	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.2
April 2006	1.0	0.6	1.5	0.6	0.8	1.3	0.8
May 2006	1.2	1.8	1.3	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.8
June 2006	1	1.6	1.2	3.8	0.9	0.7	0.4
July 2006	0.8	0.4	1.7	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.5
August 2006	0.6	0.3	1.1	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.6
September 2006	2.1	1	1.5	0.7	NS	0.4	0.4
Annual Average	0.86	0.97	1.66	1.14	0.78	0.85	0.71



Water Monitoring

Ground Water

The Ground Water Monitoring Program involves monitoring at six monthly intervals. Monitoring occurred in June this year, the next monitoring is to occur in the 1st week of December.

Surface Water

There have been no discharges from site.

Water quality tests of water in storage dams are to be completed quarterly. The first monitoring of this occurred on the 8th of September, due to lack of rain only four dams had water in them and were tested.