

# **Minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee**

**Meeting Held:** 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012, 10am

**Venue:** Tarrawonga Coal Mine, Training Room

## **1.0 Present and Apologies**

**Present:** Cllr Ken Bates (Narrabri Shire Rep), Chairman  
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager)  
Cllr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)  
Mrs Jill Johnson (Environmental Officer)  
Mr Jason Conomos (Project Manager)  
Mr Bart Crosby (Community Rep)  
Mr Sandy Bull (Community Rep)  
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer)  
Mr Bob McGregor (Community Rep)  
Mr Peter Laird (Community Rep)

**Apologies:** Mr Brian Cullen (General Manager – Technical Services)

## **2.0 Declaration of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Bob McGregor noted that he may have an interest on the basis of potential compulsory acquisition.

## **3.0 Previous Minutes**

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record on the motion of Colleen Fuller and Bart Crosby.

## **4.0 Business Arising**

- 4.1 Danny Young advised the Committee that the Environmental Assessment (EA) when on exhibition on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2012 and will remain on exhibition until the 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012. He provided a copy of the Environmental Assessment to the Chair for reference by Committee members. It was also noted that the EA is available on the Whitehaven and Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoPI) website.

Danny explained the EA process of submissions being received and collated by DoPI, provision of the submissions to Whitehaven for response and then issue of Whitehaven's response to submissions to the Department. On the basis that submissions close at the end of February it is expected that Whitehaven will submit a response to submissions by the end of March. Following that, the Department will do an assessment report and determine whether the project should proceed to a Planning Assessment Commission or to determination.

Ken Bates raised the issue of recent flooding and advised the Committee that Narrabri Shire Council had requested an extension to the submission deadline. He was of the understanding that the Department had granted

an extension without specifying a new due date but said he would check that was the case. He advised members of the Committee that anyone is able to contact the Department and request an extension.

Bart Crosby asked how the general public will find out that they can request an extension.

Colleen Fuller asked how many submissions had been received. Danny said he wasn't aware as the submissions went to the Department and not Whitehaven.

Bart asked whether the traffic counts in the EA included the expected 90,000m<sup>3</sup> of gravel. Danny said that he believed they did but he would confirm that.

Bob McGregor asked if the cumulative noise and air models included other mines that will possibly start up including Vickery. Danny said it included the Boggabri Coal expansion but not Vickery as there wasn't any information for Vickery at the time the modelling was undertaken for Tarrawonga. Danny will confirm if Maules Creek was included in the modelling.

4.2 Ken Bates asked Colleen to provide an update on the Mining Related Councils (MRC) push for funding. Colleen is Chair of the Committee. Colleen advised that there was a MRC meeting held in Coonabarabran last Friday and there was a unanimous decision to move a motion to recommence the process of applying for funding from the State Government, as promised at the last election. She said there will be a media release on Friday and then they will meet with the Government later. Ken said MRC need support from industry through the Minerals Council.

4.3 Danny advised that the Committee's safety concerns with Orica were raised at a meeting with Orica which was arranged to discuss a range of issues associated with their contract. Danny said he will organise for Orica to provide a presentation at the next CCC meeting, as they had done at other Whitehaven CCC meetings. Bart said the presentation needs to include safety aspects for their local depot as well as transportation.

Sandy Bull said there had never been a DA lodged for the Orica depot as the Committee hadn't been made aware of it. Ken said a DA would have been lodged with Narrabri Shire Council and it would have been advertised. Tim Muldoon said that whilst Whitehaven should have advised the Committee of the DA as a matter of courtesy, there was no requirement stating that the Committee had to be provided with it.

Bob McGregor asked why the facility had been built on the floodplain in close proximity to the road. Jason Conomos said that only raw products are stored at the Orica facility and that until the materials are mixed on the mine site they are not explosive. The Orica trucks also only transport raw materials. Bart Crosby said we'd be in trouble if a diesel tanker ever crashed into the facility. Whitehaven representatives present at the meeting said they didn't believe that would cause an explosion but said Orica would be able to answer such questions at the next meeting.

- 4.4 Jill said that she had spoken to Jeremy Lutvey (Toll) regarding the company's windscreen replacement policy. Whilst there is no official written policy, Toll have contributed to the cost of replacing windscreens on a case by case basis and may consider the same should similar situations arise. Jill said that Toll have indicated that this is considered an act of goodwill and not an admission of Toll vehicles contributing to the damage.
- 4.5 Danny advised the Committee that following the last meeting, Wayne Parkes (Whitehaven Roads Project Manager) now regularly liaises with Gunnedah Shire Council to co-ordinate cleaning of road signs and guide posts on Blue Vale Road. Bart asked whether it will be a regular thing or only done following a complaint. Danny said it will be a regular thing.
- 4.6 Jill advised that she had provided a CD of past minutes and reports to Ken as well as emailed the meeting minutes to Ken and Colleen for use in Council meetings. Emailing of minutes to Ken and Colleen will continue.

## **5.0 General Business**

### **5.1 Mine Progress Report**

Jason Conomos, Project Manager, provided the November, December and January production results as follows:

- 4.569 million BCM overburden removed
- 427,580 tonnes of coal recovered

Rehabilitation status remains the same:

- 18.3 ha rehabilitated and under maintenance
- 13.82 ha seeded to cover crop

The site currently has 112 employees and 18 full time contractors. Since the swipe system was installed before Christmas 2676 contractors have signed in.

Sandy Bull asked if the Thuin buildings had, or will be, dumped over. Tim said the smaller "cottage" had been moved to the Blair Athol Schoolhouse property. The main house went out for tender with the successful bidder relocating it to another property.

### **5.2 Environmental Monitoring Report**

Danny Young presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

Danny provided further discussion on the blast exceedance. He said Whitehaven were planning a meeting with Orica and the EPA to discuss this blast and other blasting issues.

In reference to wet weather sampling, Bob asked if Bollol Creek is Goonbri Creek. Danny said that the upstream sample is collected on Blair Athol Lane near the stand of trees. Bob said the downstream should be taken in Goonbri Creek at the dip in the haul road as opposed to further downstream so it can assess the sediment level before the water reaches the "Tarrawonga" property otherwise sediment is allowed to settle out before it reaches the current monitoring location. Danny said the current monitoring locations are prescribed by the EPA. Whitehaven is willing to add the suggested monitoring point to the existing monitoring regime. Bob McGregor moved a motion for this monitoring to commence. The motion was seconded by Bart Crosby.

Following discussion about the discharge from a non-licensed discharge point, Bart asked why the rest of the company didn't know about the problem and prepare a contingency plan if site personnel knew about it. Jason said the site has banks everywhere for various reasons including safety and water management. The bank in question was poorly constructed and if construction had have been better and the bank surveyed there wouldn't have been an issue. Danny also explained that the mine has the same harvestable right restrictions as everyone else so we aren't able to physically or legally build banks and dams everywhere to catch all the water. He noted that recent changes in legislation will now require licencing of sediment control structures. He also said that it wasn't that long ago that we were being accused of holding back too much water so it is difficult to find a happy medium.

In relation to the complaint about trucks on the road at the same time as the school bus, Bart asked whether Daracon are aware of the procedure with the school bus. Danny said that they are aware of the procedure and are on the same UHF channel. Bart asked if the drivers carry shovels to spread out the load if it's too high for the tarp. Jason said they aren't allowed to be on top of the trucks which is why they pull up at site where the platform is provided.

Bart asked whether Whitehaven would assist Council in maintaining Goonbri Road if gravel trucks are diverted from Manilla Road to Goonbri Road. Danny said the council is getting gravel for its own use so if they can use it on the road if they wish. Ken said repair work on the road cannot commence until the RTA has inspected it for flood damage funding. If the work is done prior to this assessment the council will not receive the funding. Tim noted that discussions have been held between Whitehaven and Narrabri Shire Council in relation to local roads and the possible bitumen sealing of nominated areas. He believes that NSC has not accepted the offer at this stage. Ken said there have been many discussions about the roads and that these discussions will continue.

## **6.0 New Business**

- 6.1 Bart requested advice as to the outcome of the trailer rollover on the Manilla Road/private haul road intersection. Jill said the investigation had been undertaken but not yet finalised. The major contributing factor was driver behaviour with road conditions (pothole) being a minor factor. Bart

asked if the driver was doing a long shift as he was relatively young and inexperienced. Whitehaven said they didn't think that he would have been but they would confirm.

Ken asked why the police weren't called to the incident. Jill said that Toll believed it to be on private land which Whitehaven supported. Ken said as far as he's concerned any incidents that occur (even on private property) that begin on public roads require notification. Bart said there was a requirement to notify of any incident within a certain distance of a public road. Jill asked both Ken and Bart if there was any written guideline that Whitehaven could refer to for these conditions but no guidelines were specified. Tim asked whether every incident just within a farm fence or gate is notified to the police and council.

Tim asked if the pothole in question has been repaired. Whitehaven to check with Wayne Parkes.

Bob said the incident should have been reported to the DPI. Jill said there is no requirement to report to the DPI as it's not within a mining lease.

Bart said the cleanup crew interfered with Manilla Road and the traffic control personnel were not trained. He said we're all preaching safety and that is a fundamental safety issue.

Ken said he is not happy that he found out second hand and that not notifying council is leaving the Council open.

Actions from the discussion are as follows:

- Ken said the Council needs to be notified immediately of every incident which has any association with public roads so they are able to attend the incident and conduct their own investigation into whether road conditions were a contributing factor.
- The police need to be notified.
- The CCC should be notified of incidents during meetings and Ken will report the issues to the Council as a delegate.
- A motion was moved for the Committee to write a letter to Toll about the incident (moved by Ken, seconded by Bart). Ken to write and issue the letter to Toll. Jill to provide Ken with Toll's address.
- Jeremy Lutvey (Toll) to be invited to the next meeting.

6.2 Ken told the Committee of male driver in an older model white falcon ute cutting the corner on the wrong side of the road at the Blue Vale Road/Kamilaroi Highway intersection. He is turning from the highway onto Blue Vale Road using the concrete slip lane that is provided for traffic travelling in the opposite direction. Ken said he wasn't close enough to get the number plate but he did see that the driver wasn't a young person. Danny asked if Ken called the police or council but he said he didn't. A number of committee members said they know the driver and he is not associated with the mine. He is a farmer that lives on Blue Vale Road. If anyone can get his number plate they should refer it to the police.

6.3 Colleen requested details on the number of employees at each Whitehaven site for use by Council. Tim will provide the details.

- 6.4 Sandy Bull tendered his resignation from the Committee as he will be travelling and won't be regularly available for meetings. He said he had enjoyed being on the Committee. Other Committee members thanked Sandy for his participation and wished him well. Bart asked if the Committee would like to nominate people to fill the vacant position. Jill and Danny said that any positions require advertising for expressions of interest and selection by the Department. A new committee was discussed but members agreed that it would be beneficial for the current members to at least see through the extension project and also to remain on following the project. Danny said he had spoken to the Department who indicated two options of either advertising for a whole new Committee or advertising for vacancies.

It was agreed that at this stage Whitehaven will seek expressions of interest for the current Committee and if the extension project is approved the Committee will consider options such as a new Committee or the existing Committee with the possibility of a new Chair. Ken said he really wants to see someone from Boggabri but Danny said we are reliant on who submits expressions of interest and which applicants the Department chooses.

- 6.5 Peter Laird said that he wants to remain on the Committee but his poor hearing makes it difficult for him to follow what people are saying. The possibility of his wife assisting him at the meetings was discussed. Jill made note of another Whitehaven CCC that has a member with a similar situation. That Committee wrote to the Department seeking advice on the situation with the Department allowing a family member to assist the Committee member at each meeting. The Tarrawonga Committee agreed to the approach so Whitehaven will request approval from the Department.

- 6.6 There was general discussion about recent flooding in the area and the assumption from some surrounding landholders that the mines had increased the volume of water affecting particular properties. A member of Committee said he didn't believe the mines contributed to an increase in flow and that his concern was related to sediment levels. In relation to the claims of mines contributing to greater volumes of floodwaters downstream, Danny said that the concerns had been formally submitted to the Department in relation to Boggabri Coal but it also included reference to Tarrawonga.

Whitehaven intends to have the surface water specialist involved in the EA works visit the area to assess Tarrawonga's discharge points, recorded rainfall volumes and catchment dynamics in order to put some science behind a response to these claims.

Danny said there have also been preliminary discussions within Whitehaven about the possibility of additional information days to address water concerns.

Ken asked if the mine had photos of the floodwaters. Danny said he had photos from November and January/February of the mine site and surrounding area. Ken noted that Boggabri Coal took video footage from a helicopter which might assist Whitehaven with their discussions.

6.7 Jill tabled a letter received from Gunnedah Shire Council nominating Colleen Fuller as the returning Council representative.

6.8 Bart asked about the speed limit on Manilla Road. As previously discussed at CCC meetings there are conflicting speed limit signs on Manilla Road with the road being signposted with a 100km/h speed limit at the Manilla end of the road and 80km/h at the Boggabri end of the road.

The current roadworks on the sealed section of Manilla Road (which forms part of the Tarrawonga haul route) have again highlighted the issue as the speed sign at the end of the roadworks (on the Boggabri end of the sealed section) says 100km/h which is a different speed than what is signposted for traffic coming from Boggabri in the opposite direction (80km/h).

Jill to send an email to Colleen prior to Traffic Committee meeting so Colleen can raise the concern at the meeting. Colleen to email a response to Ken and Jill.

It was noted that even though Council conducts road works on the road it is RTA that determines the speed limit.

## **7.0 Complaints**

Complaints were discussed in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

## **8.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 10:00am.

Meeting closed at 11:55 am.

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Ken Bates - Chairman

# Tarrowonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #24

## Environmental Monitoring Report November 2011 – January 2012

### Noise Monitoring

Noise monitoring was undertaken on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011 as per requirements under the consent. Results from the monitoring are outlined below. The noise criterion for Tarrowonga is 35dB(A) Leq (15 min) for all operating times. It is noted that receivers N2 and N4 are now mine owned. A Private Agreement was also entered into for haul truck noise on private sections of the haul road for the Pine Grove property. This property is now also mine owned.

Noise Monitoring Results – 20 December 2011 (day)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N2 Bollol Ck Station	11:57 am	53	1.0 m/s, SE	Birds & insects (53), <b>TCM (26)</b>
N3 Tarrowonga	7:54 am	45	0.2 m/s SE	Birds & insects (45), <b>TCM (24)</b>
N4 Ambardo	7:22 am	50	Calm	Birds (50), <b>TCM (34)</b> <sup>1</sup> , traffic (25)
Pine Grove	7:21 am	42	Calm	Birds (41), <b>TCM (36)</b> <sup>2</sup> , traffic (30)

<sup>1</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road (34), mine noise (20).

<sup>2</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road.

Noise Monitoring Results – 20 December 2011 (evening)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N2 Bollol Ck Station	7:34 pm	42	0.2 m/s, SW	Birds & insects (42), <b>TCM (26)</b>
N3 Tarrowonga	8:24 pm	40	Calm	Birds & insects (40), <b>TCM (20)</b>
N4 Ambardo	6:48 pm	60	Calm	Birds & insects (60), <b>TCM (37)</b> <sup>1</sup> , traffic (30)

<sup>1</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road (37), mine noise (25).

Noise Monitoring Results – 20/21 December 2011 (night)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N2 Bollol Ck Station	10:20 pm	43	0.5 m/s, SE	Birds & insects (40), <b>TCM (30)</b>
N3 Tarrowonga	1:25 am (21/12)	43	1.5 m/s, SE	Insects (40), <b>TCM (39)</b> , other mines (32)
N4 Ambardo	10:03 pm	46	0.5 m/s, NW	Birds & insects (46), <b>TCM (30)</b>

The results show that noise emissions from the mine were in excess of the operational noise criterion at the Tarrowonga monitoring location during the night time period. Noise emissions were below the operational noise criteria at all other monitoring locations at all times. The Tarrowonga landholders, OEH and DP&I have been notified of the exceedance.

In addition to the operational noise, noise from the mine must not exceed 45 dB(A) L1 (1min) between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am. This is to minimise the potential for sleep disturbance as a result of individual loud noises from the mine.

At the Tarrawonga monitoring location during the night period the L1 (1 min) noise from mining was 45 dB(A), attributable to an impact noise from trucks dumping at the mine. The L1 (1min) noise from the mine did not exceed 45 dB(A) during the night at any other monitoring location.

## **Blast Monitoring**

### **Blasting Results**

Since the first shot there have been 342 blasts (until the end of January).

With the exception of one blast on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012, all blasts over the last 3 months have remained below 115dBL. All have remained below 5mm/s.

Orica provided blast monitoring reports following the blast on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012 indicating compliance at both monitors. As a result, no further action was taken by Whitehaven.

Following a review of the monitoring data by Orica Technical Services, it became apparent that a blast monitor report had been issued to Whitehaven that was incorrect, and that the blast had in fact exceeded compliance criteria (127.4dBL). The blast exceedance was recorded at the "Tarrawonga" property. Upon recognition by Orica of this fact, Whitehaven was advised (afternoon of 8<sup>th</sup> February) and the Orica personnel involved was subsequently dismissed.

OEH and DoPI were notified of the issue on the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012 and Orica have been instructed by Whitehaven to prepare an investigation report into the matter which will be referred to both Departments.

Exceedances in the 115dBL airblast overpressure and 5mm/s ground vibration threshold are allowable under the consent for 5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months at residences on privately-owned land. No blasts are allowed to exceed 120dBL or 10mm/s.

To date, the highest overpressure recorded is now the 27<sup>th</sup> January blast of 127.4dBL recorded at "Tarrawonga". The highest ground vibration recorded is 2.88 mm/s recorded at "Templemore" on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

## Air Quality

### Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results

MONTH	TEMPLEMORE (EB-4)	BOLLOL CREEK STN (EB-5)	AMBARDO (EB-6)	TARRAWONGA (EB-7)	THUIN (EB-8)	PINE GROVE (EB-9)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-10)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-11)	PINE GROVE (EB-12)	BOLLOL CREEK (EB-13)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-14)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-15)	JERALONG NORTH (EB 16)
January 2011	0.2	1.7	0.7	1.0	1.9	0.5	2.6	2.3	1.3	2.0	2.1	2.0	0.7
February 2011	13.1	4.3	1.2	1.1	6.6	1	2.6	2.7	1.3	3.3	1.6	7.2	2.1
March 2011	10.2	2.5	0.5	0.7	3.3	0.5	2.4	1.6	2.7	3.5	2.8	10.6	1.6
April 2011	10.7	1.6	0.5	0.4		0.5	0.9	2.8	0.4	2.1	1.1	3.5	1.8
May 2011	1.6	6.3	0.7	0.7	2.3	0.9	1.6	0.6	1.0	0.5	1.0	2.4	1.4
June 2011	0.9	5.8	0.5	0.5	6.5	0.5	0.6	1.0	1.3	2.5	1.2	2.6	2.2
July 2011	3.3	1.5	0.7	0.8	3.6	0.4	4.2	1.0	0.5	3.9	2.5	1.3	0.3
August 2011	2.0	2.5	0.5	1.8	6.1	0.8	4.0	1.2	0.5	1.8	2.0	4.3	3.0
September 2011	2.4	3.4	0.8	0.6	5.1	0.8	3.8	1.1	5.1	2.0	1.6	2.8	2.0
October 2011	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	4.9	0.4	2.4	1.8	1.0	2.1	1.9	3.5	1.1
November 2011	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.2	4.6	0.9	1.3	1.1	0.9	2.2	1.7	4.6	1.2
December 2011	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.2	8.0	0.9	3.6	1.0	1.5	9.3	-	-	1.6
<b>Annual Average</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>

Dust levels have been relatively low at most monitoring locations over the last three months. EB-8 continues to have elevated results, which is a result of the monitor being in close proximity to soil stripping activities. The high result at EB-13 comprised 8g/m<sup>2</sup>/month of combustible matter, indicating that only 1.3g/m<sup>2</sup>/month comprised dust or mineral matter.

The annual average threshold of 4g/m<sup>2</sup>/month is currently being exceeded at EB-4 (which has reduced from 4.7g/m<sup>2</sup>/month), EB-8 and EB-15, which are all on mine-owned land. EB-10 has dropped from 5.2g/m<sup>2</sup>/month to 2.5g/m<sup>2</sup>/month due to the exclusion of anomalous results which are now outside the annual period.

### **PM<sub>10</sub> Results**

The annual average for PM<sub>10</sub> readings is currently at 15.79µg/m<sup>3</sup> (until end of December 2011) and remains well below the annual average limit of 30µg/m<sup>3</sup>. PM<sub>10</sub> levels have remained compliant since the last CCC meeting.

The highest 24hr reading to date is 97µg/m<sup>3</sup> which was recorded on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

## Water Monitoring

### Ground Water

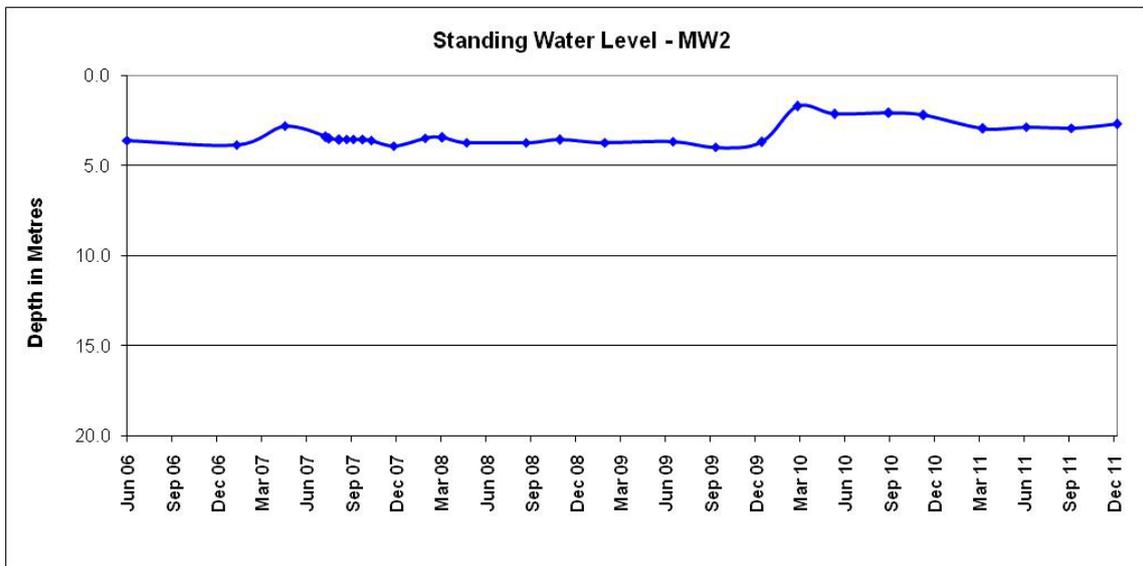
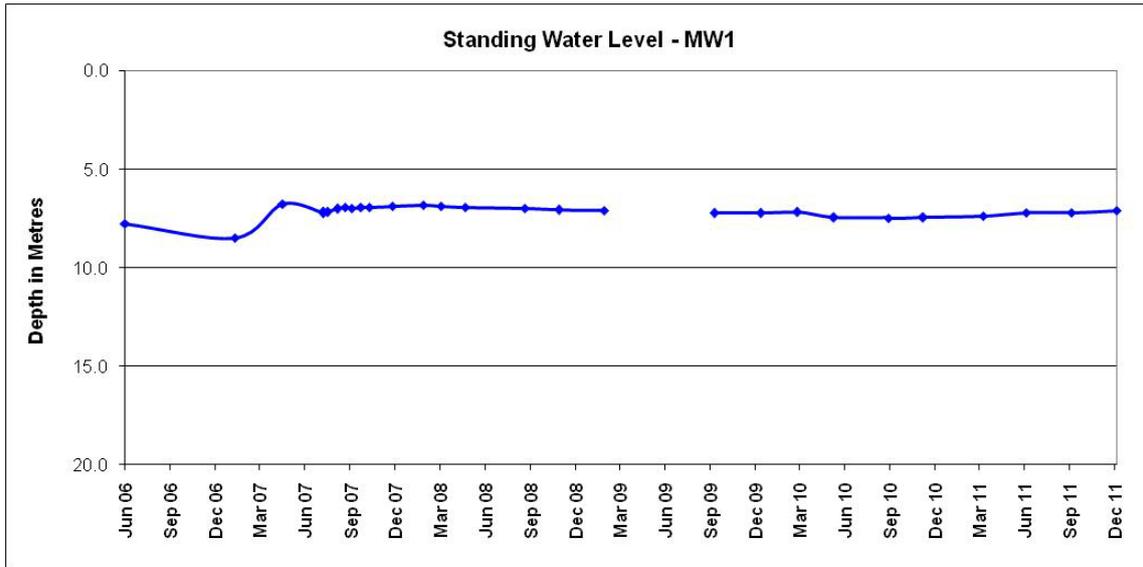
Groundwater monitoring data obtained to date, including the last round of SWL monitoring in December 2011, is presented in the following table. The next round of monitoring is scheduled for March 2012.

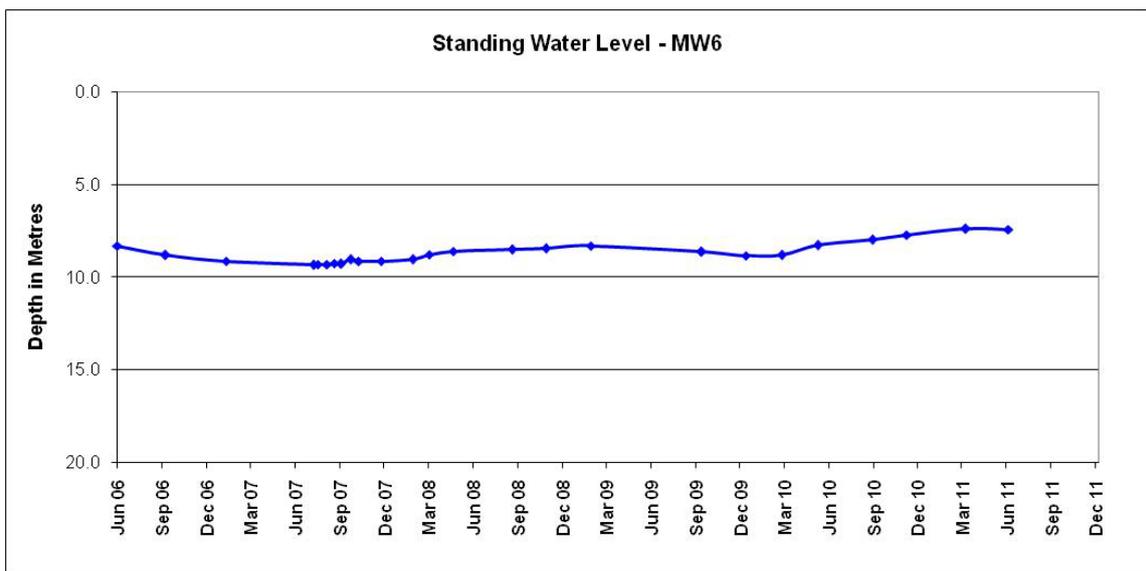
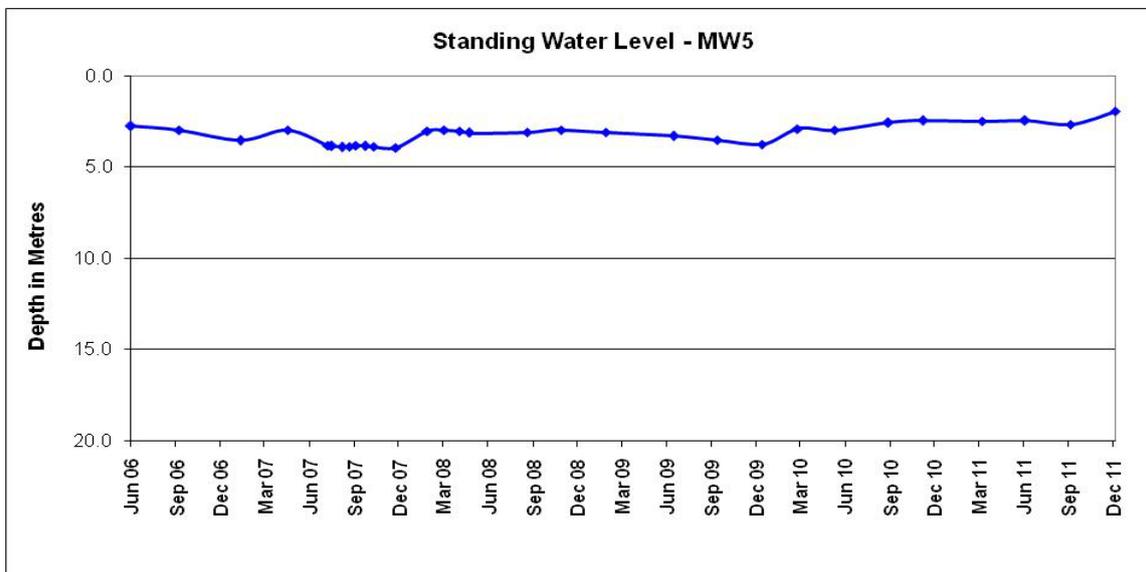
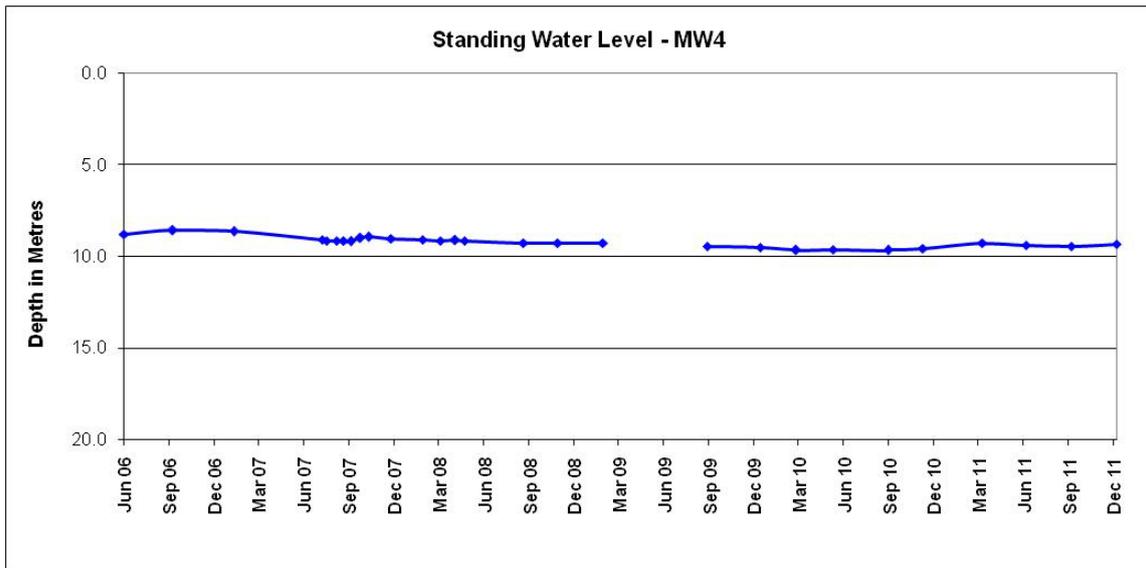
Site	Date	SWL (m)	pH	Elect. Conduct
<b>MW1</b>	January 07	9.22	7.1	2410
	April 07	7.49		
	July 07	7.91	7.3	2500
	August 07	7.66		
	September 07	7.66		
	October 07	7.64		
	November 07	7.62		
	January 08	7.55		
	March 08	7.60		
	April 08	7.67	7.3	3120
	August 08	7.73		
	September 08			
	October 08	7.82	7.8	3500
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	7.73		
	June 09	7.87	7.2	5470
	September 09	7.9		
	December 09	7.9	7.83	4510
	February 10	7.84		
	May 10	8.13		
	August 10	8.14	7.47	3890
	November 10	8.12	7.06	3170
	March 11	8.05	7.1	3280
June 11	7.87	7.2	3110	
September 11	7.19	7.09	3200	
December 11	7.09	7.16	3150	
<b>MW2</b>	January 07	4.62	6.8	511
	April 07	3.59		
	July 07	4.29	7.1	496
	August 07	4.32		
	September 07	4.34		
	October 07	4.37		
	November 07	4.68		
	January 08	4.25		
	March 08	4.23		
	April 08	4.50	7.3	440
	August 08	4.51		
	September 08			
	October 08	4.37	6.9	620
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	4.51		
	June 09	4.53	7.7	660
	September 09	4.8		
	December 09	4.51	7.5	640
	February 10	2.51		
	May 10	2.94		
	August 10	2.89	7.4	590
	November 10	3.01	7.32	513
	March 11	3.75	7.31	566
June 11	3.65	7.3	553	
September 11	2.95	6.9	585	
December 11	2.71	7.08	600	

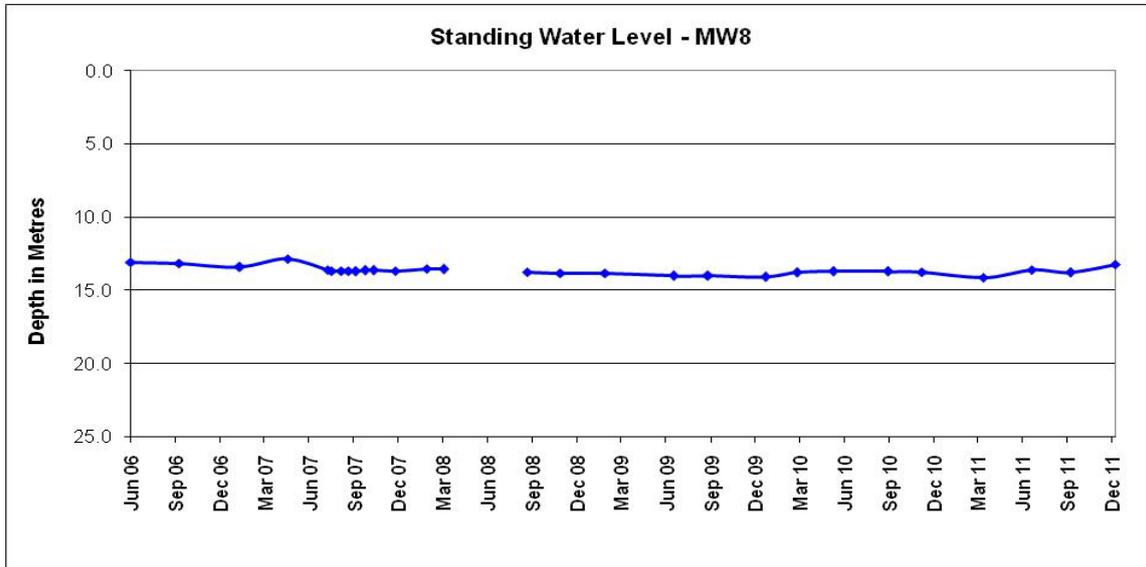
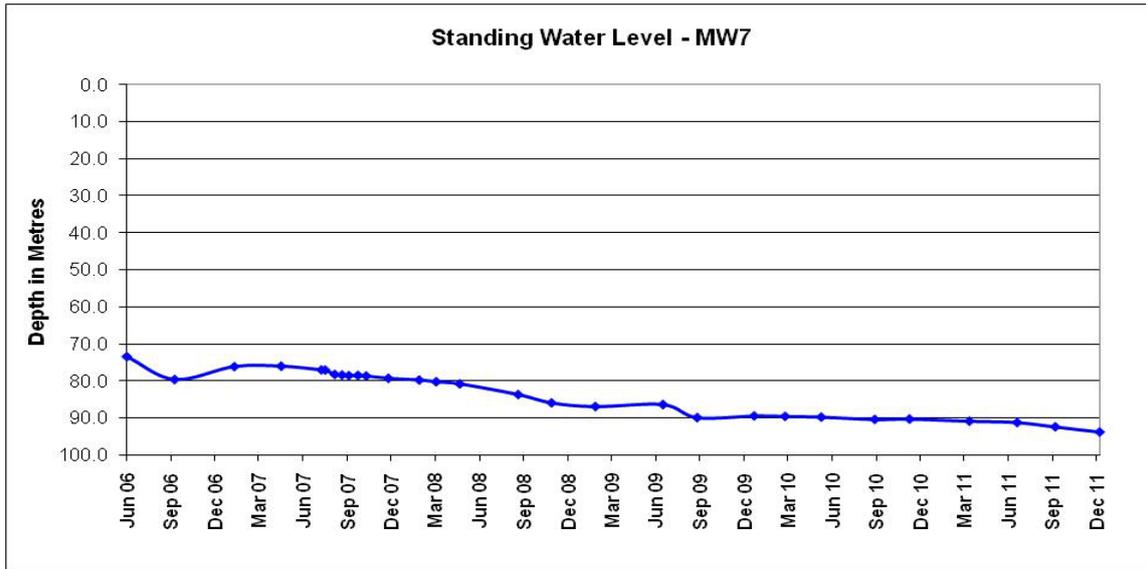
<b>MW4</b>	September 06	9.25		
	January 07	9.37	7.1	3430
	July 07	9.88	6.8	5400
	August 07	9.87		
	September 07	9.73		
	October 07	9.67		
	November 07	9.76		
	January 08	9.80		
	March 08	9.87		
	April 08	9.88	7.1	5160
	August 08	10.01		
	September 08			
	October 08	9.98	7	5800
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	9.96		
	June 09	10.05	6.8	5400
	August 09	10.10		
	December 09	10.14	7.35	5040
	February 10	10.30		
	May 10	10.28		
	August 10	10.31	7.33	4740
	November 10	10.23	6.9	3810
	March 11	9.93	7.18	3060
	June 11	10.04	7.25	3080
	September 11	9.46	7.12	3196
	December 11	9.35	7.10	3180
<b>MW5</b>	September 06	3.64		
	January 07	4.18		
	April 07	3.60		
	July 07	4.49	7.5	1930
	August 07	4.50		
	September 07	4.48		
	October 07	4.53		
	November 07	4.56		
	January 08	3.68		
	March 08	3.63		
	April 08	3.77	7.9	3260
	August 08	3.72		
	September 08			
	October 08	3.59	7.3	3400
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	3.73		
	June 09	4.18	7.7	2390
	September 09	4.32		
	December 09	4.56	7.44	7460
	February 10	3.71		
	May 10	3.8		
	August 10	3.4	7.85	1740
	November 10	3.28	7.35	2620
	March 11	3.31	7.39	1917
	June 11	3.27	7.45	1032
	September 11	2.7	7.39	1910
	December 11	1.96	7.36	2275
<b>MW6</b>	September 06	9.54		
	January 07	9.81	6.9	2030
	July 07	10.01	7.5	2060
	August 07	9.95		
	September 07	9.73		
	October 07	9.82		
	November 07	9.83		

	January 08	9.72		
	March 08	9.48		
	April 08	9.28	7.1	2120
	August 08	9.21		
	September 08			
	October 08	9.15	7.1	2100
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	9.10		
	June 09	No sample		
	September 09	9.43		
	December 09	9.64	7.3	2100
	February 10	9.62		
	May 10	9.08		
	August 10	8.78	7.2	1927
	November 10	8.5	7.03	1835
	March 11	8.19	7.08	1783
	June 11	8.22	7.15	1670
	September 11	Piezo damaged	-	-
	December 11	Piezo damaged	-	-
<b>MW7</b>	September 06	80.52		
	January 07	77.0	7.3	1960
	April 07	76.9		
	July 07	77.93	7.2	2250
	August 07	79.28		
	September 07	79.39		
	October 07	79.55		
	November 07	80.17		
	January 08	80.63		
	March 08	81.10		
	April 08	81.68	7.6	2370
	August 08	84.57		
	September 08			
	October 08	86.81	7.4	2300
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	87.80		
	June 09	87.50	7.4	2440
	August 09	91.04		
	December 09	90.58	7.49	2240
	February 10	90.69		
	May 10	90.90		
	August 10	91.53	7.52	2385
	November 10	91.43	7.47	2010
	March 11	92.00	7.24	2075
	June 11	92.36	7.55	2180
	September 11	92.49	7.35	2160
	December 11	93.89	7.70	2200
<b>MW8</b>	September 06	13.9		
	January 07	14.1	6.7	2260
	April 07	13.6		
	July 07	14.41	6.8	2530
	August 07	14.40		
	September 07	14.38		
	October 07	14.37		
	November 07	14.43		
	January 08	14.28		
	March 08	14.30		
	April 08	N/S		
	August 08	14.52		
	September 08			
	October 08	14.59	NA	NA
	November 08			

	December 08		
	January 09	14.60	
	June 09		Unable to sample
	August 09	14.77	
	December 09	14.85	Casing blocked
	February 10	14.55	
	May 10	14.47	
	August 10	14.46	Casing blocked
	November 10	14.49	Casing blocked
	March 11	14.87	Casing blocked
	June 11	14.37	Casing blocked
	September 11	13.8	Casing blocked
	December 11	13.24	Casing blocked







The results indicate very consistent SWL at all monitoring sites, except MW7, since the last round of monitoring. A number of monitoring locations have shown slight recharge which is likely attributable to the wet weather in late 2011. The SWL at MW7, which is located at the north-eastern corner of the mine lease on mine-owned land, continues to drop as a result of depressurisation from a reduction in groundwater pressures due to mining both the Tarrowonga and Boggabri Coal pits.

### Surface Water

Routine surface water monitoring was conducted in November 2011. Total suspended solids results were generally low in all storages indicating compliant sediment loads if discharge were to occur. SD17 was slightly elevated at 56mg/L.

The following paragraphs provide details on wet weather discharges since the last meeting.

## November 2011

A discharge occurred from SD9 on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011 following 34.0mm of rainfall on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2011. The discharge water quality was compliant with all criteria except TSS (144mg/L). The only creek flow able to be sampled at the time was Bollol Creek Downstream (BCD), which is downstream of the SD9 discharge point. TSS in the BCD sample was 29mg/L indicating the discharge waters did not have a significant impact on creek flow water quality.

Rainfall totalling 62.5mm in the preceding 5 days (including the 34.0mm on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2011 mentioned previously) resulted in discharges from SD16 and SB16 on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Both discharges were complaint with all criteria except TSS with SD16 recording 64mg/L and SB16 recording 562mg/L. Again, the BCD sample had a much lower TSS level (32mg/L), therefore indicating the well vegetated land between the discharge point and the creek allowed for settling out of sediment. Nagero Creek Upstream (NCU) and Nagero Creek Downstream (NCD) were both sampled despite discharges not occurring from the northern discharge points. Both these samples had elevated TSS levels (146mg/L and 147mg/L respectively).

Significant rainfall on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2011 (41.4mm in 24 hours) resulted in flows in all four ambient water quality monitoring locations, with the following TSS levels.

- BCU – 64mg/L
- BCD – 24/mg/L
- NCU – 98mg/L
- NCD – 103 mg/L

SD17 discharged on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2011 following the 41.4mm which fell during the preceding day. Again, the discharge water was compliant with all criteria except TSS (620mg/L).

November was a particularly wet month with 220.4mm of rain recorded at the site. The last time such rainfall occurred in the area during the month of November (as per Boggabri (Retreat) rainfall records) was in 1950.

## January 2012

The site began to discharge on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012 following significant rainfall with the results provided below. 37.6mm of rainfall had been received at the site in the five days leading up to the discharge. This is just under the 5 day 90<sup>th</sup> percentile rainfall depth and therefore exceedances in TSS are considered non-compliances. All other parameters were compliant.

Sample Location	Time	pH	Electrical Conductivity (µS/cm)	Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	Grease & Oil (mg/L)	Total Organic Carbon (mg/L)
SB23	1145	7.74	188	1340	<5	6
SD9	1130	7.39	48	116	<5	5
SD16	1150	7.79	301	124	<5	4
SB14	1200	7.92	356	1170	<5	3
SB24	1220	7.28	76	37	<5	11
BCU	1355	6.76	306	584	<5	14
NCU	1430	7.23	174	78	<5	14
NCD	1450	7.13	167	132	<5	9

A further discharge occurred from the site on the 31<sup>st</sup> January however the discharge occurred from a non licenced discharge point. The incident was initially reported to Danny Young, Group Environmental Manager, by a neighbour of the mine site who noticed what appeared to be a dam wall breach at the eastern end of the mine lease. A volume of water had flowed off the mine site and onto Goonbri Road, before running into Goonbri Creek.

Upon receiving notification of the incident, Danny Young travelled to the Tarrawonga site and observed a substantial break in a bank/wall which had been constructed at the western end from an existing soil stockpile, and ending on the eastern end where it joined an existing access road. It was clear that water held behind the bank/wall had overtopped the bank before it collapsed and travelled off site. It is unclear as to the volume of water that would have left site from this wall breach, albeit the width of flow could be ascertained from the tall grass being laid over within the road reserve.

The bank/wall that collapsed was not a design feature in the Tarrawonga site water management system, and was constructed by site personnel in early January 2012 as a means of storing additional dirty water prior to discharge through licensed discharge points at the southern end of the lease. The construction of the bank/wall was not subject to survey to confirm that water would discharge via the existing drainage system, and as a consequence overtopped the bank. The requirement to ensure all proposed surface water management structures are in accordance with appropriate design and determined as appropriate in accordance with Mining Operations Plans and Site Water Management Plan has been discussed with the Project Manager to ensure this type of incident is not repeated. The Project Manager has also provided this advice direct to the Open Cut Examiners on site.

At the time of investigating the breach, it was determined that Goonbri Creek was not running east of the mine site, but was running below the mine site. A sample of the water was taken from a point where Goonbri Creek crosses the Private Haul Road to Tarrawonga to determine water quality. The results of this sample have not yet been received.

On the day of the breach, 35.2mm of rain was recorded at the Tarrawonga weather station (10mm of this falling in the period between discharges from licenced points and this discharge), totalling 99.2mm for the month of January. A further 151mm fell from the 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> February, and as a consequence wet weather discharge continued to occur from licensed discharge points that had been sampled on the 31<sup>st</sup> January.

The event was reported to the EPA Pollution Hotline at the time on the basis that the discharge occurred due to a bank failure and was not from a licensed discharge location. An advice was also issued to the EPA on the morning of 1<sup>st</sup> February, with a letter report on the 7<sup>th</sup> February providing additional details as to the nature of the incident.

As a means of managing wet weather discharge issues, actions have been taken in terms of using liquid flocculant in final storages, as well as constructing additional storages as identified in the water management measures prescribed in the Tarrawonga Modification Environmental Assessment. In addition to this, we have asked URS to scope a review of surface water management on site, with the purpose of identifying any deficiencies and formalising an updated Site Water Management Plan. The outcomes of this review and the updated plan will be issued to the EPA on completion.

## **Complaints**

Since the last meeting, there have been three complaints in relation to operations at Tarrawonga as detailed below.

### **21<sup>st</sup> November 2011**

A complaint was received from a resident who lives on Hoad Lane in relation to the number of Toll trucks (from Tarrawonga and Rocglen) on Blue Vale Road when the school bus is travelling between the Canyon turnoff and Old Blue Vale Road during the morning and afternoon. The complainant asked for trucks to be staggered or held back to reduce the number of trucks on the road at that time (ie. for the 15-20 minutes from 8:05am). The complainant also made comment that each day there is about 10 trucks that overtake the school bus.

The complaint was also in relation to regular cracks and chips in her windscreen from coal falling from trucks. She noted truck T31 at 7:45am on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011 being so full that the tarp was only half covering the load.

The Environmental Officer committed to raising the concerns with the appropriate personnel within Whitehaven and Toll and advised the complainant to contact Whitehaven any time she has any issues with the trucks.

A letter was issued to the complainant on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011 advising that the current roadworks are causing congestion at times and in general delaying the trucks while the bus is on Blue Vale Road would require an extension to haulage hours which isn't an option at this stage. The letter also reiterated that the trucks are in UHF contact with the bus driver and that recent discussions with him indicated that he didn't have concerns with the Toll drivers.

Toll was advised of the complaint regarding T31 and was requested to remind drivers about the requirement to have trucks fully covered.

### **9<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

A complaint was received in relation to dust generation from Manilla Road as a consequence of haulage of gravel from Tarrawonga to Narrabri Coal.

Immediately following the complaint, the Environmental Manager contacted Narrabri Coal to confirm if it had a water cart operating on Manilla Road. Narrabri Coal advised that a water cart had been stationed on the road all day. The time of the complaint and details of the location of the complaint were provided to Narrabri Coal who advised they would cease haulage immediately and investigate the situation and revert with an appropriate response.

Upon investigation it was confirmed that the water cart commenced operations on the road at 7am. The water cart operator is a sub-contractor servicing both Narrabri Coal and Narrabri Shire Council during gravel haulage. The water cart operator has a designated fill point located adjacent to the Tarrawonga mine entrance and on this basis, it is thought that the truck was on refill at the time the complainant travelled the road. The gravel truck operators were questioned in relation to the extent of dust being generated during haulage on this day, both indicating the dust lift off was minimal. Inspection of the road was undertaken the following week, with the water cart identified operating and the road generating minimal dust.

## **14<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

Another complaint was received in relation to dust generation from Manilla Road as a consequence of haulage of gravel from Tarrawonga to Narrabri Coal or to Narrabri Shire Council.

Immediately following the complaint, the Environmental Manager contacted the Tarrawonga Project Manager with an instruction to confirm that a water cart was stationed on Manilla Road. Narrabri Coal ceased haulage upon notification of the complaint. Confirmation was made that the water cart was operating and that truck operators considered the extent of dust generation acceptable. A shower of rain also occurred on Saturday morning which assisted in dust suppression.

Inspection of the route was undertaken early the following week with the water cart identified as operating and the road well watered – minimal dust was observed during truck haulage. Discussions have been held with the Project Manager in relation to redirecting gravel haulage down Goonbri Road rather than using the gravel section of Manilla Road. This would take the dust impacts further away from the residents in proximity to Manilla Road, with only one residence within proximity to Goonbri Road, at its western connection with the tar sealed Leard Forest Road. If this action is taken, the water cart will be removed from Manilla Road and stationed at Goonbri Road.

### **Rehabilitation**

No additional rehabilitation works undertaken over the period.

### **Independent Environmental Audit**

The Independent Environmental Audit report was received by Umwelt in early January 2012. An action plan to address identified issues is currently been drafted. Once the plan has been approved by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure the audit report and action plan will be posted on the Whitehaven website. A copy of the audit will be provided to the CCC.

# Minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee

**Meeting Held:** 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2012, 10am

**Venue:** Tarrawonga Coal Mine, Training Room

## 1.0 Present and Apologies

**Present:** Mr Danny Young (DY) (Environmental Manager)  
Mrs Jill Johnson (JJ) (Environmental Officer)  
Mr Jason Conomos (JC) (Project Manager)  
Mr Bart Crosby (BC) (Community Rep)  
Mr Bob McGregor (BM) (Community Rep) (Acting Chair)  
Anthony Green (AG) (Orica)

**Apologies:** Clr Ken Bates (Narrabri Shire Rep), Chairman  
Clr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)  
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer)  
Mr Peter Laird (Community Rep)  
Mr Jeremy Lutvey (Toll Resources)

## 2.0 Declaration of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests

Bob McGregor noted pecuniary interests in relation to his acquisition right on "Tarrawonga" and his contracting business which employs one part time person at Boggabri Coal.

## 3.0 Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record on the motion of Bart Crosby and Bob McGregor.

## 4.0 Business Arising

- 4.1 DY provided an update on the LOM EA. Whitehaven issued its second response to submissions on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May and now there will be a period of time where the Department assesses the responses. The Department will prepare a report for the first Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) which may occur in the next three months. Whitehaven will advise the Committee when the date for the PAC is decided.

An additional information day will be held in Boggabri in the coming weeks specifically addressing the Goonbri Creek Realignment and Low Permeability Barrier. Relevant consultants and engineers will be available. Notification of the information day will be via newspapers and CCC members.

BC asked if Whitehaven foresees any change to the CCC in relation to the LOM Extension Project. DY said he has had discussions with the Department and there is potential for the Committee to be reconstituted if the Extension Project is approved. Danny also mentioned the possibility of mixing the Tarrawonga and Boggabri Coal CCCs.

4.1.1 DY confirmed that the predicted traffic volumes in the LOM Extension Project EA include gravel haulage (90,000m<sup>3</sup> per year). It is anticipated that gravel haulage will account for approximately 22 round trips (ie. 44 one way movements) per day.

4.1.2 DY confirmed that Maules Creek was included in cumulative modelling in the EA. BM asked if Vickery and Rocglen were also included. DY said they weren't, just Tarrawonga, Boggabri Coal and Maules Creek. BC asked if they should have been included even though the EA for Vickery hadn't commenced. DY said the Department may include a requirement in the Vickery EA process. Alternatively, they may consider the distance between the mines to be sufficient enough for them to be considered separately.

BM said cumulative impacts on the valley are one of the biggest concerns for landholders. BM tabled a letter and photos that Jim and Robynne Picton of "Sylvania" requested that he provide to the Committee. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes.

BM tabled a letter from the Boggabri Business Promotions Association that was issued to Narrabri Shire Council. BM said the Association is not picking on Boggabri Coal or Whitehaven but rather they have concerns about local roads and the Voluntary Planning Agreements. Business people and the Boggabri Community want to be involved in the mining developments.

BM said he spoke at a Council meeting last week and received a negative response from the Mayor. Mayor Faber said that Whitehaven will be required to bitumen seal Manilla Road as part of Tarrawonga's LOM Extension consent. DY said that part of Whitehaven's proposal was to seal the road but the response to date from Council is that they're not in support of that proposal. DY believes NSC's preference is more to do with provision on another basis (ie. one off payment and/or royalties).

BM said that Boggabri Coal approached Council the same day after the Association met with Council in an attempt to sort out the issues.

DY suggested that the Committee put something in writing to Whitehaven management.

4.2 BM introduced Anthony Green from Orica, who was invited to the meeting to discuss the community's concerns in relation to the storage facility and Orica's practices. BM said people are worried about the safety of carting explosives to and from the storage facility, safety associated with access to the facility and wanted to know why it was built on the flood plain.

AG said he is unable to comment on why the facility was built where it is and provided the following comments in relation to explosives:

- The trucks don't cart explosives, only raw materials.

- Ammonium nitrate (AN) is industrial grade urea. Emulsion is AN mixed with water and has a mayonnaise consistency.
- Diesel is stored separately.
- Emulsion needs a precursor/detonator to explode. If it heats up without a precursor, it melts.
- The materials in the trucks are not impact sensitive.
- The utes carry detonators and boosters (initiation equipment) in boxes designed to Australian Standards.
- Stock checks are undertaken daily, immobilisation and lockout measures are in place and no initiation equipment is stored at the same facility.
- Daily checks are also conducted at the offsite magazine. Magazines are designed to contain any explosion.
- The storage facility has security cameras.
- All storage and transport is as per WorkCover requirements.
- The storage facility has lightning protection which is checked every 6 months.
- It is unlikely that the facility would explode if a diesel truck crashed into it. The materials are not confined and would melt rather than explode.
- AG didn't think there was a safety issue with the site, especially now the road has been straightened. JJ noted that the storage facility is actually on a private road and therefore the risk to the public in proximity to the access should be minimal. BM said that everyone on the mine side of Manilla Road uses the private road.
- Orica does not cart explosives on public roads. The explosive is mixed by an auger onsite adjacent to the blast hole.

BC asked if it is necessary to keep the lights on 24/7 at the storage facility. AG said he would investigate security and safety requirements. If they can't be turned off, perhaps they could be pointed more towards the ground.

BC asked about safety risks onsite. AG said it's the same setup, all materials segregated and not confined.

BM asked about blast monitoring. AG said Orica is looking to install permanent blast monitors that are solar powered, only require periodic maintenance and transfer results via the 3G network. Orica/Whitehaven will liaise with BM regarding potential installation of a permanent blast monitor at "Tarrawonga".

AG left the meeting at 10:25am

- 4.3 Ken Bates to provide an update at next meeting regarding the Mining Related Council's appeal for reinjection of funds from royalties into the communities where mining is undertaken.

- 4.4 Additional wet weather monitoring location immediately upstream of the “Tarrawonga” property added to monitoring regime.
- 4.5 JJ read an email from Jeremy Lutvey (Toll) which said the driver involved in the recent trailer rollover was not on a long shift. He had clocked on at 1:50pm for start of shift, tipped off a pre load, travelled to Tarrawonga to load then unload, then returned to Tarrawonga for the last load prior to the accident. The last load was loaded at around 4:30pm and the accident occurred at 4:40pm. Of the many contributing factors to this incident, Toll’s investigation ruled out fatigue as a possible contributing factor.
- 4.6 In relation to incident notification to Council, JJ advised that Whitehaven wrote to NSC immediately following the last CCC meeting seeking written clarification regarding notification requirements and appropriate contact details. No response has been received from Council. BC said it is an RTA road so the letter should have been issued to RTA. JJ said that the letter was written to Council because Whitehaven was instructed at the last CCC meeting by a number of members that Council must be notified.
- 4.7 JJ advised that she had provided Toll’s address to Ken Bates as Ken was to write a letter to Toll regarding concern about notification and management of the recent trailer rollover. Unsure if the letter has been issued. Ken to provide update at next meeting.
- 4.8 Jeremy Lutvey (Toll) was invited to the meeting but was unable to attend. He will be invited to the next meeting.
- 4.9 Details about the number and origin of Whitehaven employees were provided to Mayor Marshall by Tim Muldoon.
- 4.10 Whitehaven advertised for new Committee members via the Namoi Valley Independent and Narrabri Courier and received three responses. The Department has subsequently approved one applicant for a full time role on the Committee (Julie Heiler), one as an alternate member (Jim Picton) and did not appoint the other (Peter Brien). The Department has advised that it is the Chair’s responsibility to notify applicants. Information to be provided to be posted to Ken Bates following his absence at the meeting.
- BC asked why the Department chose those members. DY said he didn’t know because Whitehaven was not involved in the decision. BC asked what an alternate member does. DY said alternate members receive minutes, agenda etc but only attend meetings if someone else is unable to attend.
- BM said he believes members should be local to the mines rather than living in Gunnedah and having a hobby block near the mines. He said he doesn’t know why Julie Heiler would have been chosen over Jim Picton as the new full time member on the Committee. DY commented that the decision made would have related to the expressions of interest lodged and how they addressed the relevant criteria that that nominated in the advertisement.

- 4.11 JJ advised that a letter had been issued by Whitehaven to DoPI requesting approval for Anne Laird to assist Peter Laird at meetings. The Department approved this arrangement noting that Anne would not be involved in any decisions of the CCC, as it is Peter who is the member. All CCC members were notified of this decision via post when the meeting agenda was issued. Peter and Anne were, however, unable to attend this meeting.
- 4.12 JJ provided an email to Colleen Fuller on the afternoon of the last CCC meeting advising of the different speed zones on Manilla Road (80km from one end, 100km from the other) so she could take the issue to the Traffic Committee. Colleen to provide update at next meeting.

## 5.0 General Business

### 5.1 Mine Progress Report

Jason Conomos, Project Manager, provided the February, March and April production results as follows:

- 4.566 million BCM overburden removed
- 399,776 tonnes of coal recovered

Rehabilitation status remains the same, however these areas will change at the next meeting due to the rehabilitation works on the southern emplacement.

- 18.3 ha rehabilitated and under maintenance
- 13.82 ha seeded to cover crop

The site currently has 112 employees and 18 full time contractors. Over the last 3 months, the swipe system has registered 4,897 people signing in from 84 different companies. This does not indicate the number of different contractors, as it includes individuals signing in multiple times during the period. BC said that explains the increased traffic in the area.

### 5.2 Environmental Monitoring Report

DY presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

#### Real time monitoring

DY said the real time noise monitor had been relocated to “Northam”. BC asked how long the monitor will stay in that position as he knows there are three locations to be monitored. DY said he would like to leave it there for 6-8 weeks to allow collection of data across a range of conditions.

DY discussed the real time air quality monitor (TEOM) at “Flixton” and said the raw trends (not ratified at this stage against wind direction etc)

indicate spike periods which generally coincides with traffic on unsealed roads at shift change times.

BC asked if Boggabri Coal's TEOM is the monitor in the corner of "Tarrawonga". BM said the TEOM is 70m east of the house and EB7 is the deposited dust gauge near the shed. DY said he believes the one in the corner is EB16 which is labelled as Jeralong North. BM and BC said it's actually part of "Northam" (called "Taylorvale") and was probably put on the "Tarrawonga" side of the fence for access reasons. Whitehaven to confirm location of monitors.

BM said the funnel in EB7 has been broken and not replaced. Whitehaven to investigate and replace funnel if required.

BC said if EB16 is the one at "Taylorvale" then it proves that the deposited dust gauges are inaccurate. He said you couldn't have lived there for the past three months with the amount of dust.

#### Flocculation and Sedimentation

DY said a flocculation trial had occurred onsite a couple of months ago with Dust Control Solutions but it wasn't very effective. A second trial at Rocglen with a different product was effective but it had an alum base which has an impact on water quality. A third trial will soon be undertaken at Tarrawonga and Rocglen and Whitehaven will then determine the best approach.

BC asked if anyone had checked the sediment build up in the dams. DY said the sediment levels hadn't been checked because they can only be checked effectively when the dams are empty. BC said he thought they were supposed to be checked monthly. DY said once the discharge dams are emptied, they will be checked and cleaned out as required. He said there is also now additional capacity to pump upstream into SB16 which has recently been constructed.

BC asked what the levels in the dams are like now. DY said the discharge dams are quite low and they have adequate capacity to handle the 40mm predicted. The site is looking at better options to irrigate water from discharge dams onto soil stockpiles and rehabilitation as a means of reducing the water level in the dams and watering the rehabilitation.

#### Gravel Haulage, Gravel Crushing Area and Manilla Road

In relation to the number of complaints about gravel haulage, DY said that Narrabri Coal now carts gravel along the Whitehaven haul route and back up to Narrabri along the highway.

BC said there was a McKellar truck on Manilla Road at 6:30am a couple of days ago. JC said it wasn't McKellar carting gravel from Tarrawonga because the only gravel they've carted recently is for the CHPP or the rail line in Gunnedah. DY said Joe Rennick from Boggabri Coal had rung him about a complaint regarding gravel haulage but had then rung back to confirm it was actually trucks associated with Boggabri Coal.

BM said gravel haulage is a major issue. BC said it doesn't matter whether they use Goonbri Road or Manilla Road, dust is still an issue.

BC asked what is happening with the gravel crushing area now. DY said Whitehaven offered the land to Council to assist with emergency road repairs following flooding. The offer was made with a number of conditions that Council didn't meet. Following a number of complaints, preparation of the area ceased. BC said they've left a bank there that will change the flow of water. JJ said Peter Laird had asked for that issue to be raised as well because water will now flood his block. BC said whoever it was from Whitehaven that told Council they could use that area for gravel crushing needs their head read. BC said a letter should be written from the CCC to Council telling them that the area needs to be rehabilitated (JJ to write for Ken Bates to sign).

BM said it seems like Council is trying to be like a mine. He said they shouldn't be trying to do things in the area that affect the mines. Council shouldn't be getting gravel from this area to use elsewhere. The local farmers don't get gravel from the mines so why should NSC. He said NSC has a gravel business at the expense of locals.

BM said the Committee needs to tell Whitehaven management that they don't want Tarrawonga to supply gravel anymore. He said maybe there shouldn't be any gravel leaving site, Whitehaven should just stop it. BM said he would like to move a motion that gravel leaving site should cease immediately. DY asked if that was a motion on behalf of himself or the Committee and BM said both. BC asked if the Committee has the capacity to do that. DY said the Committee has the capacity to suggest it but not the power to stop it. BC supported the motion to suggest to Whitehaven management that gravel haulage cease.

BM said gravel haulage is out of control. JC said he disagrees with that statement. It appears that there was one dishonest truck driver. Narrabri Coal has two trucks with two drivers that travel the Whitehaven haul route and Kamilaroi Highway. If they travel a different route, they will be dismissed.

BM said it's alright for Tarrawonga to supply gravel to Narrabri Coal but any private or Council sales should stop. BM said if it was his business, he would stop it. He doesn't think it's fair that the Shire is taking the gravel. He doesn't want to see the gravel trucks on that road whatsoever.

BC said there are enough trucks on Manilla Road already.

JJ asked BM to clarify whether he is happy for all other vehicles (including B-double deliveries to Boggabri Coal – fuel etc) to continue to use Manilla Road and that it is only gravel trucks he wishes to stop. BM said he's not trying to stop b-doubles with fuel travelling to Boggabri Coal, he's just trying to make the Shire wake up to themselves and stop using Manilla Road. He's not trying to stop the mines. Stopping the gravel will fix the problem.

BC said NSC doesn't give two hoots about the community near the mine because they are right on the Shire boundary.

BM said he's just trying to stop unnecessary traffic.

Letter to be written to Whitehaven management from CCC requesting that all gravel sales stop until the road is sealed.

BM said he would prefer that when the road is sealed that Whitehaven manage the upgrade and keep NSC out of it. He said he doesn't care if we upset the Shire.

## **6.0 New Business**

- 6.1 DY noted the proposed information day that was discussed previously in the meeting. The information day will be in the coming weeks (advertised in local papers and via CCC members) and will address the Goonbri Creek Realignment and Low Permeability Barrier.

## **7.0 Complaints**

BM said he'd had a lot of complaints over the last 6-12 months from different people that he didn't raise at the time and now thinks he should have raised earlier. He tabled a list of complaints he'd written down with the heading "General Concerns of Most People in the Valley". The list was as follows with no further detail provided:

- Manilla Road and all gravel roads
- Dust
- Noise
- Extra traffic
- Gravel trucks
- Orica blasting depot
- Creek diversion
- Town not progressing forward
- Tarrawonga extension
- Proposed Vickery Mine
- Proposed Goonbri Mine
- Flooding from mine site
- Town not involved in VPAs
- Lack of rehabilitation
- Zone of affectation should include all neighbours
- Unable to expand their farms
- Unable to sell their farms
- Excessive lighting
- Concerns about gas drilling
- 15 hour shifts for Toll trucks
- Committee deterred from inspecting a creek diversion in the Hunter
- Absentee lessees of mine owned land not managing properties properly resulting in stock on public roads.

JJ asked BM if he could provide more specific details on the origin of the complaints (ie. was this list of complaints from a couple of people,

each with multiple concerns or multiple people each with a couple of concerns). BM said they are just general concerns from people throughout the valley.

BM said the Boggabri Coal CCC members had been accused by Maules Creek residents of running a "love in" with the mine. That has been fixed with a better setup for the minutes.

BM summarised the letter from Picton's that was tabled at the beginning of the meeting. He noted each key point and read the final paragraph, commenting that the comments in the final paragraph applied to anyone left in the valley. Picton's letter is appended to these minutes.

BM said some people feel that members on the CCC aren't doing their job correctly. BC said he's told people that they raise concerns but the mines aren't listening. There's only so much the CCC members can do.

BC asked if it's possible for Whitehaven to provide the CCC with details on the amount of funding provided to NSC because Council tells the community that the mines don't give them anything. BM said Boggabri Coal provided a full report to the community on their contributions. DY said he will seek to provide this information.

## 8.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at 10:00am.

Meeting closed at 12:05 am.

*Ken Bates* 8/18/2012  
Ken Bates - Chairman

Issues from Robynne + Jim Picton, 723 Dripping  
Rock Rd, Boggabri.

1. Why are we not in the impact zone when we boarder the mine site area on the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Extension.
2. Noise has increased in the last few months at our home Sylvania, Coomalagw and working environment. Data given to us over the last year is not conclusive. It indicates low frequency mine noise at times but they say it is unlikely to fit into the criteria of 35db for a period longer than 15mins or 45db for a period of 1 minute. We can hear it over the T.V some evenings and recently it is as loud as a highway each morning. Sounds of bulldozer working and trucks reversing can be heard and for longer periods than 15mins.

Noise predictions for the next 16yrs were taken over a 3 night interval of 15 minutes in June 2011. These predictions are what developed the noise criteria on the D.A. These are not taking into account the Cumulative Effects when Tarrawonga, Boggabri Coal, Aston, Roc Glen <sup>Goonabri Vickers</sup> and <sup>Coal</sup> what other projects are operating in the next 20 years. How can these Noise levels be accurate?

3. Dust is of great concern as well as Air Quality conditions. Dust is increasing and visibly seen every morning with a haze

Down through the valley as well as a black layer over each mine. You can not deny this as each morning when workers drive out to Tarrawonga, Roc Glen and Idemitsu it is blatantly visible to all in this area.

This issue will never go away it will only increase with the Cumulative Effect from all mines operating in the valley. How are we not effected by this and in the future it is only going to magnify. In 20yrs time our ~~respiratory~~ ~~systems~~, Health may indicate Asthma, respiratory problems, Pulmonary Oedema, and others due to the Pollution from Coal mining. Has this been taken into account in the EA?

4. We are concerned for our business with the change of Goonbri Creek, levy's to change and hold the course of flooding creeks these all will impact on erosion, destruction of fencing and even stock losses if it is aloud to proceed. This area is a floodplain and should not be manipulated.

5. Contamination is also a concern for us in our location. February 2012 saw flooding and heavy rain This caused the Tarrawonga mine site dam wall give way and contamination flow across the road and into Bollol Creek. Can the mine be trusted to protect our environment from repeated occurrences of pollution -

6. Lately we have been effected by the Gravel Crushing Plant Project which is to go down on Blair Athol Lane and Dipping Rock Rd corner. Changes occurred with levelling and a levy bank to control water direction before any D.A was placed in the D.P.I submission office. How can we be not impacted when the local people are not even notified about these projects and the certain impact that a crushing plant would inflict upon our roads and safety?

7. Lastly these are <sup>only</sup> a few of the issues that impact upon our lives now in this valley. We purchased these property's when the valley was a quiet rural area with no coal dust, blasting impacts on animals and houses, air pollutants from Nitrogen Oxide, noise from mining activity and uncertainty for our expansion for our family enterprise.

All this is gone, we see no buisness developement strategies available here in this valley for us to expand and live for generations to come.

We are land locked in with mining projects all around in close proximity.

How can this not be an impact by mining on our buisness now and in the future?

Boggabri Business Promotions Association and  
concerned local residents of Boggabri  
PO Box 53  
Boggabri, 2382

14<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Narrabri Shire Council  
PO Box 261  
Narrabri NSW 2390

**Submission to Council re the Idemitsu Boggabri Coal and Whitehaven Coal -  
Narrabri Shire Council Voluntary Planning Agreements.**

**Attention: Councillors and Management of Narrabri Shire Council**

Dear Sirs/Madams,

We wish to make a submission concerning the Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPA's) between Idemitsu Boggabri Coal and Whitehaven Coal and the Narrabri Shire Council.

We are aware of the details of the Boggabri Coal Agreement and want to make certain that the funds are distributed as outlined in the VPA. We also wish to be consulted in the development of the Whitehaven VPA.

The Boggabri community is greatly affected by the close proximity of the coal mines to our town and residences and we wish to ensure that our community is the first recipient of the designated funds sourced via the VPA's to make improvements to our roads and our town community.

Whilst the Boggabri Coal VPA commits money to Boggabri community projects we still have the following issues that affect road users in closer proximity to the current mines and feel that they should be included within the Whitehaven VPA.

Manilla road is of increasing concern as the level of traffic movements has increased significantly and with the further expansion of mining in the valley the issue of dust and road conditions needs to be urgently addressed by both Narrabri Shire Council and the RTA.

**Road Movements**

Manilla Road (Rangari Rd) traffic movements have increased from 30 light movements and 4 heavy movements per day in 2002, to ranging from 369 to 637 total

traffic movements per day currently. (Appendix 1. Tarrawonga Coal project – Environmental Assessment)

The safety of road users on the Manilla road has become an increasing concern. The state of disrepair of the road is commonplace as the road deteriorates far too quickly after being graded due to large number of traffic movements. Excessive speed for the road conditions is too frequent an occurrence. The traffic volume is too great for an unsealed road. The community fears that a tragedy could occur if this issue is not addressed.

## **Dust and Air Borne Emissions**

### **Coal Mines**

Emissions from the mines are closely monitored and individually are not the cause of greatest concern at this stage, it is the cumulative effect of a number of mines contributing to airborne emissions which is the greatest issue and will only increase as production increases within the valley.

### **Road Use**

Dust from Manilla road is adding to the above cumulative dust in the area and is causing great concern. This is evidenced by the Tarrawonga Complaints Hotline (Appendix 2.) and relevant Idemitsu Boggabri Coal Consultative Committee minutes. (Appendix 3.)

Narrabri Shire council vehicles (gravel trucks) are also contributing to the excessive dust. A number of Boggabri Business Promotions Association meetings have requested to council for the trucks to use Goonbri Rd and not Manilla Road. The members were assured by Mayor Faber and Shire Roads Department that the gravel trucks would be using Goonbri Rd. This has not happened. It is our understanding that when gravel trucks are using this road a water cart should be also used to suppress dust.

These measures are only a temporary solution to an ever increasing problem. The committee and local community believes that the only long term solution is to bitumen the Manilla Road between Barbers Lagoon Rd intersection and Tarrawonga Haul Road Intersection.

## **The Voluntary Planning Agreements**

We are seeking a commitment from Narrabri Shire Council that the funds being sourced through the VPA between Whitehaven and Narrabri Shire Council include provision for approximately 4km bitumen on Manilla Road between Barbers Lagoon Road and Tarrawonga Haul road. We recommend that either the funds allocated be placed in a trust fund until utilised or that Whitehaven be in charge of completion, with Narrabri Shire Council to oversee the project.

Boggabri Business Promotions Association as a representative group of Boggabri should be consulted and have input from the beginning and throughout the VPA negotiations.

The Boggabri Community and residents in the mining zone need to see that Narrabri Shire Council is representing their needs and putting the funds into the areas that are most affected by the mines. The community knows that the mining will only increase in this area and our residents want an assurance that they will be consulted and their needs met.

We wish to strongly put forward the necessity of setting the VPA money aside in a trust fund. Reports to the community need to be provided by council to substantiate these expenditures.

The Boggabri Business Promotions Association wishes to be consulted on issues and priorities for funding projects in and around the town of Boggabri.

Yours faithfully,

John Shaw  
President  
Boggabri Business Promotions Association

# Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #25

## Environmental Monitoring Report February – April 2012

### Noise Monitoring

Noise monitoring was undertaken on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2012, with results outlined below. The noise criterion for Tarrawonga is 35dB(A) Leq (15 min) for all operating times. It is noted that receivers N2, N4 and Pine Grove are now mine owned.

Noise Monitoring Results – 15/16 March 2012 (day)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N2 Bollol Ck Station	4:26 pm	41	1.5 m/s, SE	Birds & insects (41), <b>TCM barely audible</b>
N3 Tarrawonga	4:25 pm	37	1.5 m/s SE	Birds & insects (37), <b>TCM (&lt;15)</b>
N4 Ambardo	7:55 am	54	Calm	Birds (50), <b>TCM (39)<sup>1</sup></b> , farm machinery (37)
Pine Grove	7:33 am	46	Calm	Birds (43), traffic (41), <b>TCM (39)<sup>2</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road (38), mine noise (31).

<sup>2</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road (38), mine noise (30).

Noise Monitoring Results – 15 March 2012 (evening)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N2 Bollol Ck Station	8:39 pm	41	Calm	Insects (41), <b>TCM inaudible</b>
N3 Tarrawonga	9:12 pm	41	Calm	Insects (39), <b>TCM (37)</b>
N4 Ambardo	7:54 pm	48	Calm	Birds & insects (47), <b>TCM (41)<sup>1</sup></b> , traffic (36)

<sup>1</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road (40), mine noise (35).

Noise Monitoring Results – 15/16 March 2012 (night)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N2 Bollol Ck Station	10:10 pm	43	1 m/s, NE	Insects (43), dog (25), <b>TCM (&lt;25)</b>
N3 Tarrawonga	1:23 am (16/3)	43	Calm	Birds & insects (43), <b>TCM (38)</b> , other mines (33)
N4 Ambardo	11:08 pm	44	0.5 m/s, NE	Insects (44), <b>TCM (33)</b>

The results show that noise emissions from the mine were in excess of the operational noise criterion at the “Tarrawonga” property during the evening and night time periods. Noise emissions from the mine (TCM) were below the operational noise criteria at all other monitoring locations at all times. The “Tarrawonga” landholders, EPA and DP&I have been notified of the exceedances.

In addition to the operational noise, the noise from TCM must not exceed 45 dB(A) L1 (1min) between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am. This is to minimise the potential for sleep disturbance as a result of individual loud noises from the mine. Throughout the night time survey the worst case L1 (1 min) noise from mining activity was at the “Tarrawonga” monitoring location. A noise level of 43 dB(A) L1 (1 min) was attributable to noise from dozer tracks at TCM.

The real time noise monitor was positioned at the “Northam” property on the 18<sup>th</sup> May. Results will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **Blast Monitoring**

### **Blasting Results**

Since the first shot there have been 357 blasts (until the end of April).

All blasts over the last three months have been compliant however a blast on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2012 resulted in a number of complaints to both Whitehaven and the EPA. Despite monitoring indicating this blast complied with blast criteria (“Tarrawonga” did not trigger, “Templemore” – 102.3dBL and 1.099mm/sec), Whitehaven requested that Orica conduct an investigation into why the blast appeared to have a greater impact on neighbours.

Orica issued Whitehaven information about a number of technical actions that were undertaken prior to firing the shot in order to mitigate the risk of exceeding EPL criteria. Possible causes of the impact to surrounding landholders that were identified by Orica were:

- Light cloud cover at the time of firing;
- The face height and elevation of the blast;
- The length of face which in turn resulted in a long blast duration; and
- Review of the blast noted that some blast gas escaped the confines of the blast in an area where a slip of ground had occurred associated with the local geology. The direction the gas took was in the general direction of Boggabri and could have caused an increase in air movement in that direction.

Letters, which provided a summary of the investigation, were provided to all complainants and EPA was issued with the investigation report.

## **Air Quality**

### **Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results**

MONTH	TEMPLEMORE (EB-4)	BOLLOL CREEK STN (EB-5)	AMBARDO (EB-6)	TARRAWONGA (EB-7)	THUIN (EB-8)	PINE GROVE (EB-9)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-10)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-11)	PINE GROVE (EB-12)	BOLLOL CREEK (EB-13)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-14)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-15)	JERALONG NORTH (EB 16)
May 2011	1.6	6.3	0.7	0.7	2.3	0.9	1.6	0.6	1.0	0.5	1.0	2.4	1.4
June 2011	0.9	5.8	0.5	0.5	6.5	0.5	0.6	1.0	1.3	2.5	1.2	2.6	2.2
July 2011	3.3	1.5	0.7	0.8	3.6	0.4	4.2	1.0	0.5	3.9	2.5	1.3	0.3
August 2011	2.0	2.5	0.5	1.8	6.1	0.8	4.0	1.2	0.5	1.8	2.0	4.3	3.0
September 2011	2.4	3.4	0.8	0.6	5.1	0.8	3.8	1.1	5.1	2.0	1.6	2.8	2.0
October 2011	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	4.9	0.4	2.4	1.8	1.0	2.1	1.9	3.5	1.1
November 2011	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.2	4.6	0.9	1.3	1.1	0.9	2.2	1.7	4.6	1.2
December 2011	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.2	8.0	0.9	3.6	1.0	1.5	9.3	-	-	1.6
January 2012	-	-	1.4	0.9	4.5	0.4	3.9	2.6	1.2	7.5	3.5	5.2	2.9
February 2012	1.8	0.2	1.0	0.7	9.9	0.5	2.0	-	1.8	2.0	2.4	4.0	0.9
March 2012	5.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	5.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	1.2	5.5	3.8	1.5
April 2012	2.9	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.6	11.4	1.4	2.9	1.4	2.5	3.0	2.0
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>

EB16 returned a result of 29.7g/m<sup>2</sup>/month in January 2012. The property is not currently occupied as a residence and results confirmed that the majority of the sample was combustible, thereby only the non combustible matter (2.9g/m<sup>2</sup>/month) has been included in the average.

EB-8 continues to have elevated results, which is a result of the monitor being in close proximity to soil stripping activities. This monitoring location is currently the only one exceeding the annual average threshold of 4g/m<sup>2</sup>/month. As this monitor is project related, with no occupied residence located at the monitoring point, compliance criteria do not apply.

### **PM<sub>10</sub> Results**

The annual average for PM<sub>10</sub> readings is currently at 14.91µg/m<sup>3</sup> (until end of April 2012) and remains well below the annual average limit of 30µg/m<sup>3</sup>. PM<sub>10</sub> levels have remained compliant since the last CCC meeting.

The fixed real time air quality monitor (TEOM) was installed at the “Flixton” property during April and is currently providing daily reports as well as real time air quality results. The system is currently in a trial phase to ensure it functions in accordance with required standards. The supplier is preparing a training protocol for site staff for implementation during June. Results from real time monitoring will be discussed at the next meeting, by which time all processes and procedures will be in place and operating.

### **Water Monitoring**

#### **Ground Water**

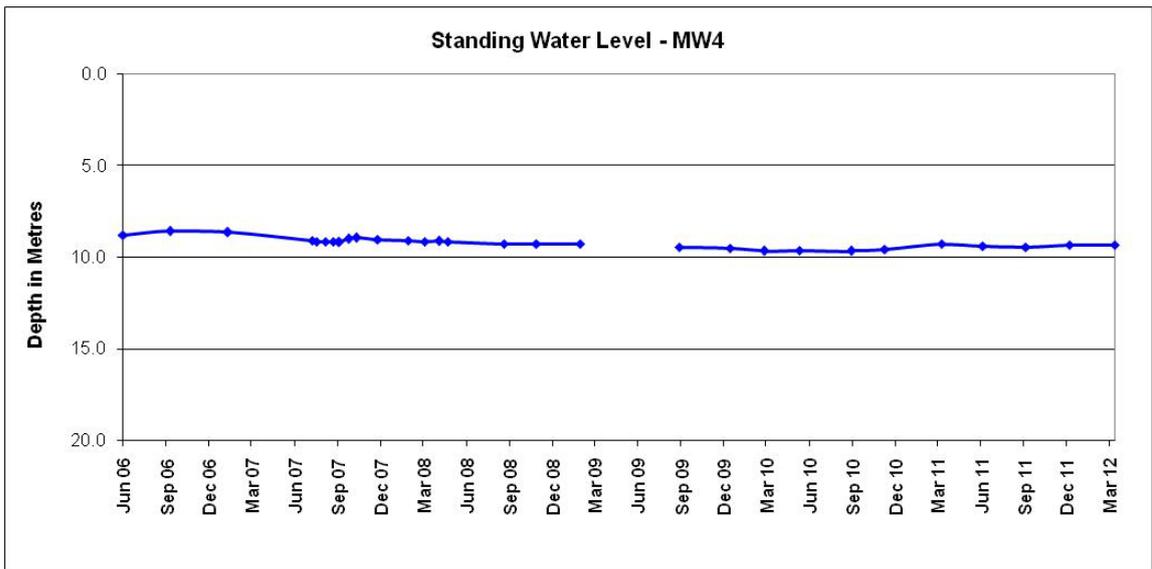
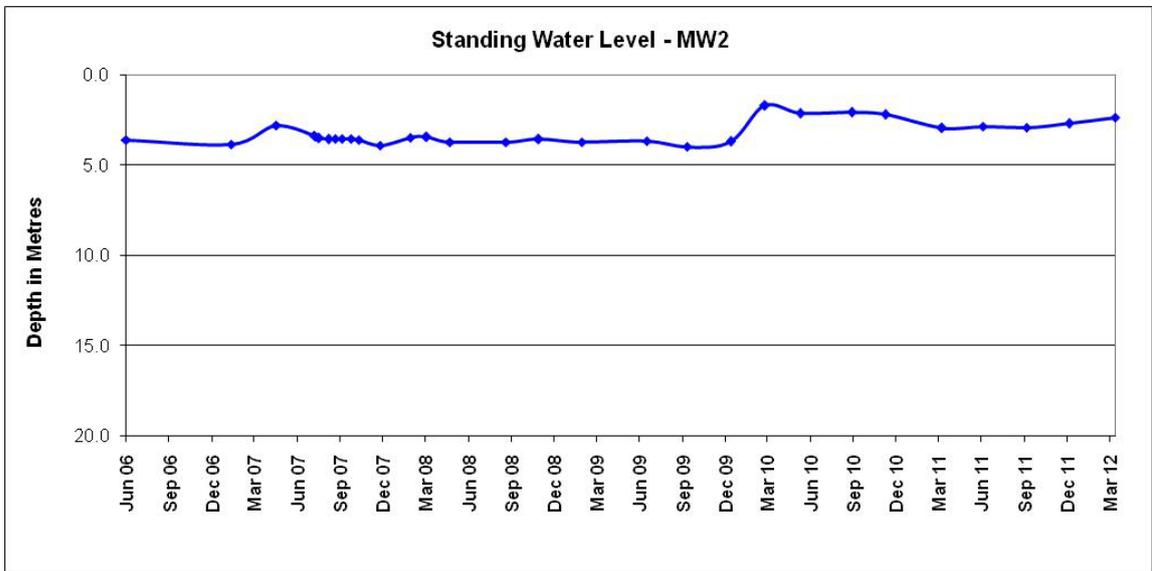
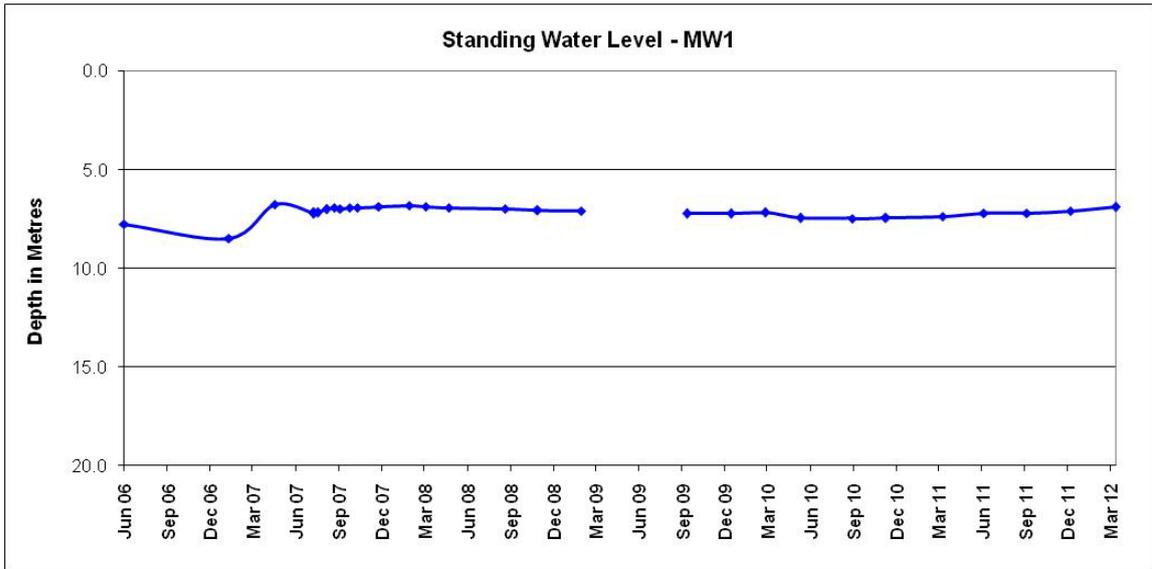
Groundwater monitoring data obtained to date, including the last round of SWL monitoring in March 2012 is provided in the table and graphs below.

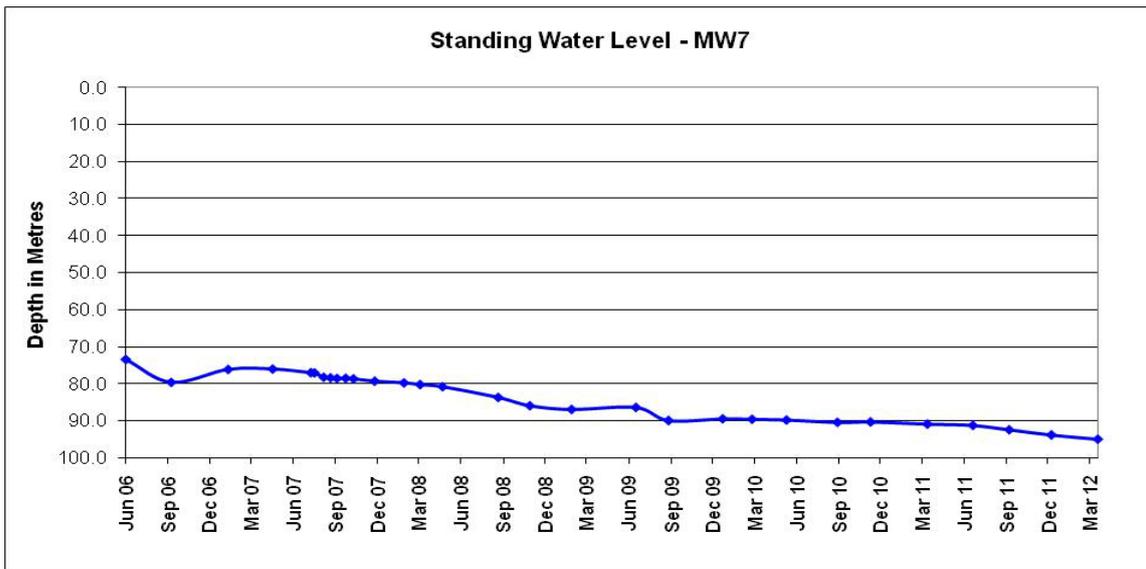
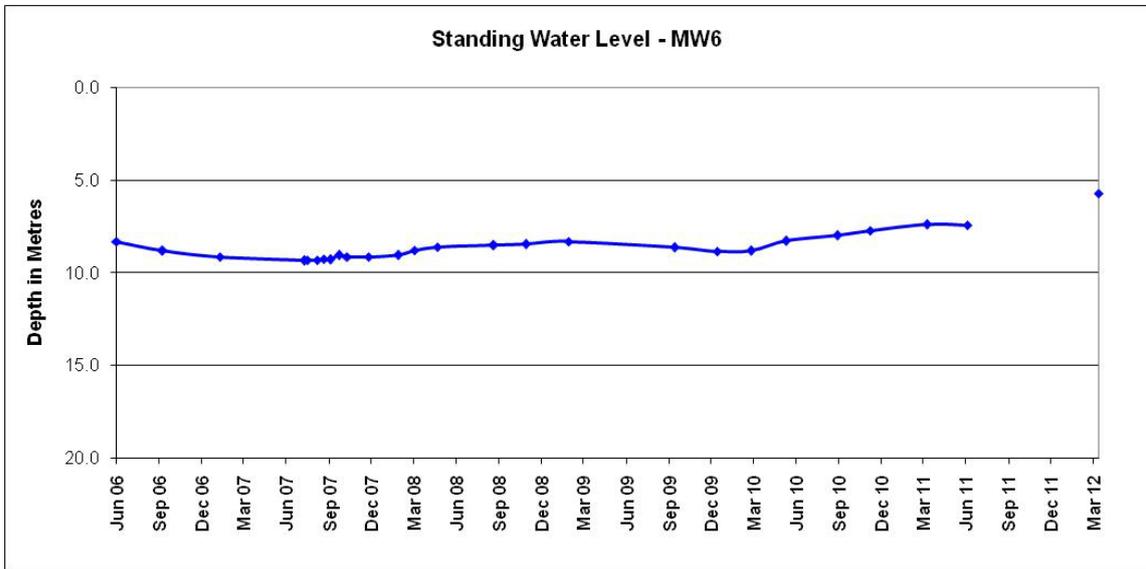
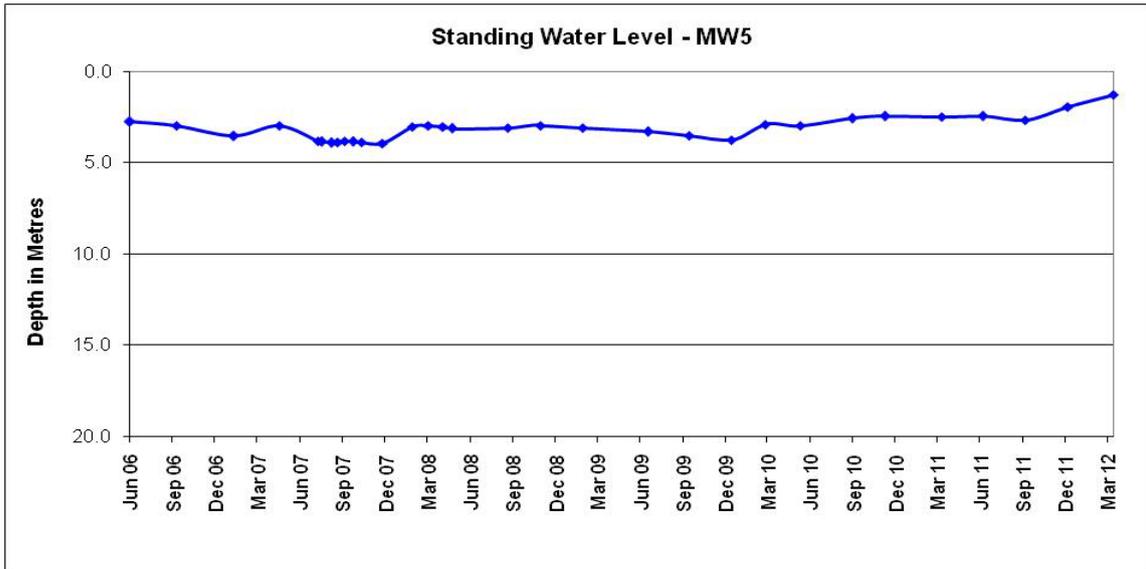
Site	Date	SWL (m)	pH	Elect. Conduct
MW1	January 07	9.22	7.1	2410
	April 07	7.49		
	July 07	7.91	7.3	2500
	August 07	7.66		
	September 07	7.66		
	October 07	7.64		
	November 07	7.62		
	January 08	7.55		
	March 08	7.60		
	April 08	7.67	7.3	3120
	August 08	7.73		
	September 08			
	October 08	7.82	7.8	3500
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	7.73		
	June 09	7.87	7.2	5470
	September 09	7.9		
	December 09	7.9	7.83	4510
	February 10	7.84		
	May 10	8.13		
	August 10	8.14	7.47	3890
	November 10	8.12	7.06	3170
	March 11	8.05	7.1	3280
	June 11	7.87	7.2	3110
	September 11	7.19	7.09	3200
December 11	7.09	7.16	3150	

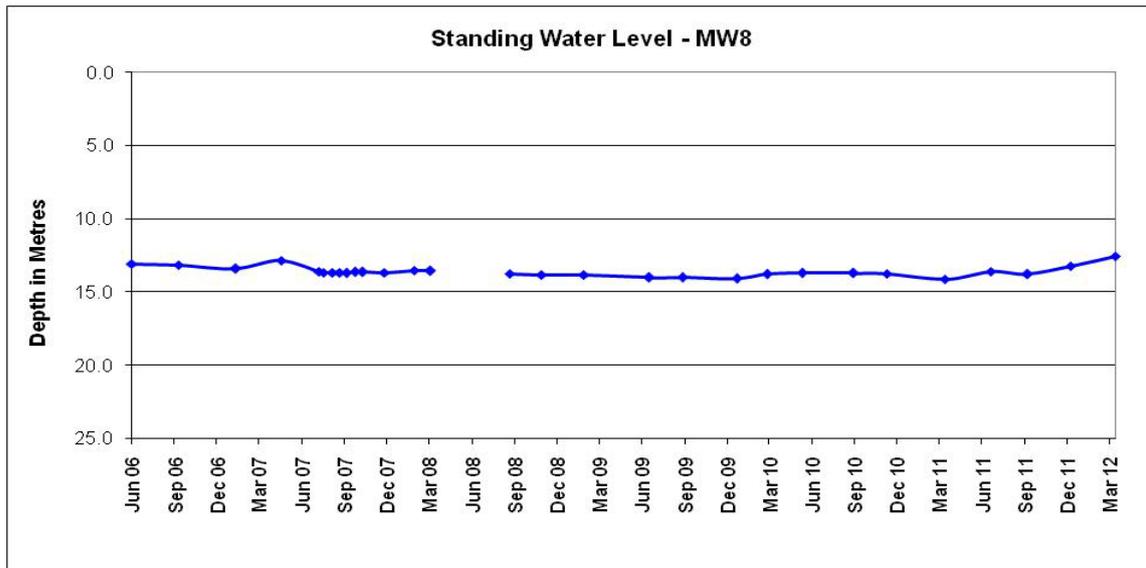
	March 2012	6.9	7.44	3140
<b>MW2</b>	January 07	4.62	6.8	511
	April 07	3.59		
	July 07	4.29	7.1	496
	August 07	4.32		
	September 07	4.34		
	October 07	4.37		
	November 07	4.68		
	January 08	4.25		
	March 08	4.23		
	April 08	4.50	7.3	440
	August 08	4.51		
	September 08			
	October 08	4.37	6.9	620
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	4.51		
	June 09	4.53	7.7	660
	September 09	4.8		
	December 09	4.51	7.5	640
	February 10	2.51		
	May 10	2.94		
	August 10	2.89	7.4	590
	November 10	3.01	7.32	513
	March 11	3.75	7.31	566
	June 11	3.65	7.3	553
	September 11	2.95	6.9	585
	December 11	2.71	7.08	600
	March 12	2.38	7.06	912
<b>MW4</b>	September 06	9.25		
	January 07	9.37	7.1	3430
	July 07	9.88	6.8	5400
	August 07	9.87		
	September 07	9.73		
	October 07	9.67		
	November 07	9.76		
	January 08	9.80		
	March 08	9.87		
	April 08	9.88	7.1	5160
	August 08	10.01		
	September 08			
	October 08	9.98	7	5800
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	9.96		
	June 09	10.05	6.8	5400
	August 09	10.10		
	December 09	10.14	7.35	5040
	February 10	10.30		
	May 10	10.28		
	August 10	10.31	7.33	4740
	November 10	10.23	6.9	3810
	March 11	9.93	7.18	3060
	June 11	10.04	7.25	3080
	September 11	9.46	7.12	3196
	December 11	9.35	7.10	3180
	March 12	9.36	7.6	2580
<b>MW5</b>	September 06	3.64		
	January 07	4.18		

	April 07	3.60		
	July 07	4.49	7.5	1930
	August 07	4.50		
	September 07	4.48		
	October 07	4.53		
	November 07	4.56		
	January 08	3.68		
	March 08	3.63		
	April 08	3.77	7.9	3260
	August 08	3.72		
	September 08			
	October 08	3.59	7.3	3400
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	3.73		
	June 09	4.18	7.7	2390
	September 09	4.32		
	December 09	4.56	7.44	7460
	February 10	3.71		
	May 10	3.8		
	August 10	3.4	7.85	1740
	November 10	3.28	7.35	2620
	March 11	3.31	7.39	1917
	June 11	3.27	7.45	1032
	September 11	2.7	7.39	1910
	December 11	1.96	7.36	2275
	March 12	1.28	7.52	1110
<b>MW6</b>	September 06	9.54		
	January 07	9.81	6.9	2030
	July 07	10.01	7.5	2060
	August 07	9.95		
	September 07	9.73		
	October 07	9.82		
	November 07	9.83		
	January 08	9.72		
	March 08	9.48		
	April 08	9.28	7.1	2120
	August 08	9.21		
	September 08			
	October 08	9.15	7.1	2100
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	9.10		
	June 09	No sample		
	September 09	9.43		
	December 09	9.64	7.3	2100
	February 10	9.62		
	May 10	9.08		
	August 10	8.78	7.2	1927
	November 10	8.5	7.03	1835
	March 11	8.19	7.08	1783
	June 11	8.22	7.15	1670
	September 11	Piezo damaged	-	-
	December 11	Piezo damaged	-	-
	March 12	5.74	7.49	1840
<b>MW7</b>	September 06	80.52		
	January 07	77.0	7.3	1960
	April 07	76.9		
	July 07	77.93	7.2	2250
	August 07	79.28		

	September 07	79.39		
	October 07	79.55		
	November 07	80.17		
	January 08	80.63		
	March 08	81.10		
	April 08	81.68	7.6	2370
	August 08	84.57		
	September 08			
	October 08	86.81	7.4	2300
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	87.80		
	June 09	87.50	7.4	2440
	August 09	91.04		
	December 09	90.58	7.49	2240
	February 10	90.69		
	May 10	90.90		
	August 10	91.53	7.52	2385
	November 10	91.43	7.47	2010
	March 11	92.00	7.24	2075
	June 11	92.36	7.55	2180
	September 11	92.49	7.35	2160
	December 11	93.89	7.70	2200
	March 12	95.05	7.25	2460
<b>MW8</b>	September 06	13.9		
	January 07	14.1	6.7	2260
	April 07	13.6		
	July 07	14.41	6.8	2530
	August 07	14.40		
	September 07	14.38		
	October 07	14.37		
	November 07	14.43		
	January 08	14.28		
	March 08	14.30		
	April 08	N/S		
	August 08	14.52		
	September 08			
	October 08	14.59	NA	NA
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	14.60		
	June 09		Unable to sample	
	August 09	14.77		
	December 09	14.85	Casing blocked	
	February 10	14.55		
	May 10	14.47		
	August 10	14.46	Casing blocked	
	November 10	14.49	Casing blocked	
	March 11	14.87	Casing blocked	
	June 11	14.37	Casing blocked	
	September 11	13.8	Casing blocked	
	December 11	13.24	Casing blocked	
	March 12	12.57	Casing blocked	







All monitoring locations have shown slight levels of recharge over the last 3 months with the exception of MW7. The SWL at MW7, which is located at the north-eastern corner of the mine lease on mine-owned land, continues to drop as a result of depressurisation from a reduction in groundwater pressures due to mining both the Tarrawonga and Boggabri Coal pits.

### Surface Water

Routine surface water monitoring was conducted at the beginning of May 2012. Total suspended solids results were generally low in all storages indicating compliant sediment loads if discharge were to occur. SB14 was slightly elevated at 57mg/L.

No wet weather discharges have occurred since the last meeting.

Work is continuing with URS in relation to updating the Site Water Management Plan.

### Complaints

Since the last meeting, there have been 16 complaints, as outlined on the following pages.

### Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation works since the last meeting have included:

- Topsoiling and seeding of dams;
- Shaping and seeding of soil stockpiles;
- Maintenance and upgrade of water management structures (contour banks etc);
- Ripping and seeding the area adjacent to Goonbri Road (where soil stockpile used to be);
- Shaping, topsoiling, installing contour banks and seeding of the western face of the southern waste emplacement;
- Extension of the rock waterway on the western face of the northern emplacement, topsoiling, installation of contour banks and seeding; and
- Construction of clean water diversion banks to the east of the advancing pit.

### **Independent Environmental Audit**

The Independent Environmental Audit report was received by Umwelt in early January 2012. The audit report and action plan were submitted to the Department for approval in late February. Once the plan has been approved, the audit report and action plan will be posted on the Whitehaven website. A copy of the audit will be provided to the CCC.

### **Annual Environmental Management Report**

The annual environmental meeting for the 2010/2011 AEMR period for the Tarrawonga Coal Mine was undertaken by DRE and EPA on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012. General compliance was noted during the inspection with special mention for the effective management of the workshop and laydown area, especially in relation to hydrocarbon management.

The delay in rehabilitation as a result of the proposed LOM extension was discussed however DRE noted that rehabilitation had recently commenced on the western face of the southern emplacement.

Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
Phone call to Environmental Manager	13/02/2012 5:40pm	Complaint in relation to coal truck exiting Tarrawonga haul road without its tarp fully extended. Coal was clearly visible above the sides of the trailer and the coal appeared to be blocking the tarp from full extension.	The matter was taken up with Toll. A truck number was not provided, however was described as having the rounded edge trailer, and exited Tarrawonga haul road at approximately 17:40pm. Toll confirmed that Truck 26 experienced a tarp failure on its "A" trailer after loading from Tarrawonga, and returned direct to the Toll Depot at 17:53pm for repairs. Upon entry to the Depot the B Tarp was fully extended and operational. The problem with the A tarp was corrected prior to truck leaving the depot and running into the CHPP.	No further follow up required. Outcome of investigation explained to complainant – 16/2/2012.
Phone call to Environmental Manager	3/03/2012 10:40am	Complaint in relation to blast at Tarrawonga which shook the complainant's house. Described as one of the worst blasts they had felt.	The complainant was advised that once the monitoring results were available a formal response to the complaint would issue. An offer was made to undertake a structural inspection of the property by an Engineer to verify if any blast related damage had occurred. The offer was declined. Blast results have since confirmed that the blast was within compliance limits at both monitoring points, with the blast not triggering at the "Tarrawonga" property and returning a 102.3dB overpressure and 1.099mm/s in vibration at the "Templemore" property. Orica were also requested to consider any reasons that this particular blast may have exacerbated impacts at further afield locations on the basis of other complaints received in relation to this blast.	A written response was issued on 16/03/2012 including summary of Orica investigation.
Phone call to Environmental Manager	3/03/2012 11:06am	Complaint in relation to blast at Tarrawonga which impacted at the complainant's property above normal levels. Requested confirmation of blast results once they become available.	A message was left with the complainant indicating that once results were made available we would advise of the results. Blast results confirmed compliance at blast monitors with the "Tarrawonga" monitor not triggering and the "Templemore" monitor triggering at 102.3dB overpressure and 1.099mm/sec in vibration. Orica were also requested to provide advice as to why the blast impacted at far field locations when compared to the monitor results which are well below compliance limits.	A written response was issued on 16/03/2012 including summary of Orica investigation.
Phone call to Environmental Manager	5/03/2012 9:20am	Complaint in relation to blast at Tarrawonga which impacted at the complainant's property above normal levels. Complainant indicated this was not the first time they had experienced blast impacts from mines located further to the north, however this blast caused significant vibration in their property and it is concerning given the proposed Vickery Mine so close to his property.	The complainant was advised that blast monitoring results were not yet available at the time of his complaint, but that they would be provided as soon as they were known. The results have indicated compliance with compliance limits, recording 102.3dB overpressure and 1.099 mm/s vibration at "Templemore" with the "Tarrawonga" monitor not triggering. Given the extent of concerns raised further afield, Orica has been asked to undertake an investigation into the blast to verify causes/reasons behind blast impacts being generated at far field monitors and not locally at the monitoring points.	A written response was issued on 16/03/2012 including summary of Orica investigation.
Email to Environmental	14/03/2012 2:16pm	EPA advised that a number of complaints had been received following	The EPA was advised on 8 March at Tarrawonga that the blast had occurred. They were advised that blast monitoring indicated compliance however three complaints and an enquiry	No further action required at this stage.

Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
Officer from EPA on behalf of anonymous complainant		the 3 <sup>rd</sup> March blast. One complaint read: “A huge blast Saturday 03.03.12 at about 12 noon shook the house & cracked glass window panes. Everyone in the house was very startled with the blast as you could feel it through the ground like a shock. There was another blast Monday 05.03.12 about 12.30pm which was strong, though not as bad. Caller is about 3k from the mine in Boggabri”.	had been received following the blast. Whitehaven requested that Orica provide an investigation report into the blast and this report, along with a letter from Whitehaven, was subsequently issued to the EPA on 16 March. The EPA was also advised that each complainant had been provided with a summary of the Orica report.	
Email to Environmental Officer from EPA on behalf of anonymous complainant	22/03/2012 10:22am	EPA advised that an anonymous complaint had been received on the Environment Pollution Line regarding dust at Tarrawonga. The complainant advised that the incident time was 21:00 hours and the description provided was “A very large quantity of dust coming from Tarrawonga Mine”.	Site personnel investigated the complaint with afternoon shift supervisors advising that water carts were operating as per standard practice around the time of the complaint. An email response was provided to EPA advising of standard water cart use and the fact that it would be impossible at night to see dust outside the immediate sphere of the lighting plant so Whitehaven can only assume that a halo around a lighting plant (which could have been caused by a single dump truck passing the lighting plant) led the complainant to believe the entire site was generating dust. Notwithstanding this, the requirement for adequate dust control at all times has been reiterated to all supervisors and operators.	No further action required at this stage.
Phone call to Environmental Officer	27/03/12 8:10am	Complaint in relation to dust at Tarrawonga that morning (and the previous day) and light from Rocglen. Was unable to define where dust was actually coming from (Tarrawonga and/or Boggabri Coal) but said she could see Tarrawonga which is why she called us. Complainant also asked about the noise monitoring report Whitehaven is to provide. Suggested that report will be issued on return of Environmental Manager from Annual Leave.	Environmental Officer immediately called Tarrawonga Project Manager and asked that the dust situation be assessed and any additional controls be implemented if issues are identified. The Project Manager and Mine Planner inspected the site and were unable to ascertain any dust generation that could have caused concern. Some dust generation from Boggabri Coal was noticeable and photos of both sites were taken. The paddock directly south of the Tarrawonga Mine was also being ploughed at the time of the complaint. The Rocglen Project Manager was made aware of the complaint in relation to light impacts. It was identified that whilst site personnel are aware of the need for sympathetic positioning of light, often it is very difficult to position the lights in such a way that allow for safe operations whilst not affected neighbouring landholders. The complainant’s property is approximately 15km from the mine site.	

Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
Phone call to Environmental Officer	2/04/2012 8:25am	Complaint in relation to dust from gravel haulage on Manilla Road.	Environmental Officer immediately called Tarrawonga Project Manager who advised that gravel haulage would be ceased until the road was appropriately watered. A water cart had been provided by the Council however haulage had commenced before the road was watered. Tarrawonga personnel had previously requested that the road be watered for an hour prior to haulage and this requirement was reiterated to NSC personnel. The complainant said it was extremely dangerous and motorists were unable to see where they were going.	No further action required.
Email to Environmental Manager	25/04/2012 9:29am	Complaint in relation to noise over the previous three days and concerns over the location of a proposed gravel crushing plant.	Complainant was advised by return email of intent to undertake an attended noise monitoring event at their property with noise consultants when next undertaking compliance monitoring. The matter pertaining to the proposed Council gravel crushing and screening facility is a Council matter, and should be discussed with Council. A letter response will issue to the complainant.	No further action required.
Phone call to Tarrawonga Complaints Line	9/05/2012 9:44am	Complaint in relation to dust from the mine. Complainant was unable to identify if dust was only from Tarrawonga. He said that he knew the dust was being generated at night when the water carts aren't utilised at the same rate as daytime operations.	Environmental Officer contacted the site to determine source of dust. The onsite Environmental Officer viewed the pit from the east (Bollol Creek Station) and took photos at this location. He also spoke with the Manager Mining Engineering who was in the pit at around 9:30am taking photos of a clear inversion layer. He commented that dust in the pit was fairly minimal but a haze could be seen due to a clear inversion layer. The OCE also commented that dust from the pit was minimal. Water carts could be observed running in the pit and on the scraper circuit. The OCE confirmed that the water cart had been running the previous night and drills were using water injection.	No further action required.
EPA on behalf of anonymous landholders – email to Environmental Manager	9/05/2012 1:35pm	Complaint in relation to dust from Tarrawonga and Boggabri Mines. Very thick dust in the air this morning right across the valley and coming from the mines.	Investigation undertaken to confirm operations occurring at Tarrawonga and extent of dust suppression undertaken. Confirmed normal operations with 835,000L of water used for dust suppression on night shift up to 2:30am Wednesday morning. Tarrawonga shut down between 2:30am and 7:00am. Photographic evidence taken on the Thursday morning prior to pit start up identifying substantial dust in the area, but no dust identified above the Tarrawonga site. This is indicative of other dust sources contributing to dust levels first thing in the morning. Review of the Real Time PM <sub>10</sub> at Flixton property confirms dust levels well within compliance limits. A report has been issued to the EPA in response to the complaints.	No further action required.
EPA on behalf of anonymous landholder – email to Environmental Manager	10/05/2012 11:18am	Complaint in relation to dust from Tarrawonga Mine. Very thick dust in the air this morning with black smog over Tarrawonga site.	Investigation undertaken to confirm operations occurring at Tarrawonga and extent of dust suppression undertaken. Confirmed normal operations with 928,000L of water used for dust suppression on night shift up to 2:30am Thursday morning. Tarrawonga shut down between 2:30am and 7:00am. Photographic evidence taken on the Thursday morning prior to pit start up identified substantial dust in the area, but no dust identified above the Tarrawonga site. This is indicative of other dust sources contributing to dust levels first thing in the morning. Review of the Real Time PM <sub>10</sub> at Flixton confirms dust levels well within compliance limits. A	

Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
			report has been issued to the EPA in response to the complaints.	
EPA on behalf of anonymous landholder – email to Environmental Manager	11/05/2012 9:48am	Complaint in relation to noise from the mines last night, and dust this morning being so thick you can't see the hills.	Investigation undertaken to confirm operations occurring at Tarrawonga and extent of dust suppression undertaken. Confirmed normal operations with 960,000L of water used for dust suppression on night shift up to 2:30am Friday morning. Tarrawonga shut down between 2:30am and 7:00am. Photographic evidence taken on the Friday morning prior to pit start up identified substantial dust in the area, but no dust identified above the Tarrawonga site. This is indicative of other dust sources contributing to dust levels first thing in the morning. With regard to the noise complaint, Tarrawonga site shuts down between 2:30am and 7:00am thereby minimizing potential for noise impacts from site over this period. The real time noise monitor was in Gunnedah at the time of the complaint however is being re-tasked to site to measure noise levels. Review of the Real Time PM <sub>10</sub> at Flixton confirms dust levels well within compliance limits. A report has been issued to the EPA in response to the complaints.	
Phone call to Environmental Manager	11/05/2012 10:30am	Complaint received in relation to dust from the mine and gravel trucks causing dust on Manilla Road. Complainant believes she had seen gravel trucks running on Manilla Road in the morning without a water cart.	<p>Both Council and Narrabri Coal have been informed of the need for a water cart to be operational on Manilla Road during gravel haulage on several occasions. A phone call was made to Narrabri Coal at 2.30 p.m. to discuss the movements of Narrabri Coal gravel trucks. They confirmed that two trucks (White Kenworth and Blue Kenworth) were doing 3 loads per day from the quarry and had been clearly instructed not to use Manilla road, if this was the case serious action was to be taken. Narrabri Coal immediately rang the truck drivers and told them to pull up for the day. The truck drivers confirmed they had been using the sealed Whitehaven haul road instead of Manilla Road.</p> <p>Tony Williams from Narrabri Shire Council was then called at 3.30 p.m. Tony confirmed that Council had not been using the quarry for 3 weeks and that on the day of the complaint there was a Rostered Day Off so no council trucks were operating.</p> <p>Further investigation found that a third gravel truck was operating on the day. A meeting was held with the Environmental Officer, Project Manager and Peter Harris (who is currently running the quarry) on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 8.30 a.m. Peter was also asked to confirm where the third gravel truck is travelling to so it can be assured it is not using Manilla Road. Monitoring of trucks using the Manilla Road will continue over the following weeks by the Project Manager and Environmental Officer.</p> <p>In relation to dust from the mine, an inspection was conducted that morning from 6.30 a.m. Water carts were observed from the beginning of morning shift. Dust was being created by a drill rig from around 7.00 am. The Project Manager was informed and both the Project Manager and Environmental Officer met with the drill rig operator to confirm that water injection was being used and dust aprons were down (of which both actions were already in place). The operator was also told by the Project Manager to keep dust in mind.</p>	The complainant was contacted via phone at 4.00 pm by the Environmental Officer. She was informed that Narrabri Coal, Narrabri Shire Council and Peter Harris had been contacted in regard to the matter and investigations were underway. She was instructed to call and try to provide specific details on any gravel trucks seen using Manilla Road without a water cart in future so that Whitehaven can narrow down who is responsible and take necessary action. She said she could see two gravel trucks on the morning but couldn't provide more detail. She was also informed that the pit was being monitored in an attempt to keep dust to a minimum and that the Project Manager and OCE's are aware that dust is an issue and are working to minimise it.

Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
EPA on behalf of anonymous landholder – phone call to Environmental Manager	15/05/2012 10:30am	Complaint in relation to noise from the mines last night, from around midnight through to 9am this morning	Investigation undertaken to confirm operations occurring at Tarrawonga. Confirmed normal operations with three dumps active, being on the western out of pit emplacement (RL 358m), central dump in pit (RL 322m) and southern emplacement (RL 307m). Tarrawonga shut down between 2:30am and 7:00am. As a consequence, Tarrawonga operations could have only contributed to noise impacts for a small component of the timeframe nominated by the complainant. The real time noise monitor was in Gunnedah at the time of the complaint however is being re-tasked to site to measure noise levels. Arrangements will be made to position the monitor at the complainant's residence to verify noise levels. A letter report has been issued to the EPA on this basis.	Real time monitor relocated to complainant's property – 18/5/2012.
Phone call to Environmental Manager	17/05/2012 9:30am	Complaint in relation to a blast from Tarrawonga yesterday which shook his house. Concerns that they felt this blast but don't normally feel them and if the mine continues to expand – what will the implications be from blasting impacts.	Reviewed the blast information which confirmed the shot was of an average size and performed to expectations. Review of monitoring results confirmed the blast was well within compliance limits at closer monitoring points, recording levels of 1.77mm/s vibration and 105.3 dBL overpressure at the "Templemore" property and not triggering at the "Tarrawonga" property. A blast the following day on the same bench of similar size was undertaken and Environmental Officers travelled up to the complainant's property for the blast. It was reported that the blast was hardly audible with negligible vibration noticeable.	A letter was issued to the complainants in relation to the blast and observed conditions, with an offer to have blast monitors placed for a period to define blast impacts.

# Minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee

**Meeting Held:** 8<sup>th</sup> August 2012, 10am

**Venue:** Tarrawonga Coal Mine, Training Room

## 1.0 Present and Apologies

**Present:** Mr Danny Young (DY), Environmental Manager  
Mrs Jill Johnson (JJ), Environmental Officer  
Mr Bart Crosby (BC), Community Rep  
Mrs Julie Heiler (JH), Community Rep  
Mr Lee Hunt (LH), Acting Project Manager  
Clr Ken Bates (KB), Narrabri Shire Rep (Chairman)  
Mr Peter Laird (PL), Community Rep  
Mrs Anne Laird (AL), Assists Peter Laird  
Mr Jeremy Lutvey (JL), Guest - Toll Resources

**Apologies:** Clr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)  
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer)

**Absent:** Mr Bob McGregor (Community Rep)

## 2.0 Declaration of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests

JH leases "Velyama" from Aston Resources (now Whitehaven) and is in discussions with Whitehaven and Boggabri Coal regarding water issues at her property.

## 3.0 Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record on the motion of Bart Crosby and Danny Young.

## 4.0 Business Arising

4.1 DY provided an update on the LOM EA. A Community Information Day was held in June which focused on the water related aspects of the project. Approximately 20 people attended. In terms of the EA, there has been no change since the last meeting. The EA is still with DP&I who need to complete an assessment report. There has been no indication on timing of this process.

BC said Whitehaven's response to submissions was now available on the DP&I website. He said the process is failing (JH said it was flawed) as people who provided a submission are not told that the responses are available. DY said it is an issue that the Department needs to recognise. Whitehaven is required to provide a response to the Department so it is the Department that needs to notify those who provided submissions. JH said it should be on the notification of receipt of submission from the Department. BC said he didn't receive any notification from the Department that they had received his submission. DY asked if the issue

had been raised with DP&I. JH said she has raised it with them and also with the local member for parliament. She said the process needs to be transparent. KB agreed that the Department should provide an acknowledgment of receipt of submission which includes details about the response to submissions.

**DY to provide update on EA progress at next meeting**

- 4.2 KB referred to BM's discussion in the previous meeting about not receiving a good response from Council regarding Manilla Road and said that presentations to Council are not open for debate.

JH asked whose responsibility it is to upgrade Manilla Road. KB said there isn't a problem regarding the Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPAs) for the mines, it's just a difference of opinion in negotiations.

JH said she had spoken to Ken McClaren, GM Boggabri Coal, who said they were taking samples of the pavement on Manilla Road for quotation purposes. BC said they were digging up the road the other day and a mine vehicle was collecting samples. KB said it's unusual that they would dig up the road. JH said digging up the road would not leave the road in any worse state than it already is. BC said it wouldn't leave a pothole any bigger than the ones that are already there.

DY said there had been a number of meetings and letters about what would make up the VPA including provision of tar sealing, provision of an upfront payment for other projects and provision of ongoing royalties.

KB said until negotiations had been finalised the VPAs should not be discussed. JH disagreed with negotiations being conducted behind closed doors and said people closest to the mine should be consulted.

KB said if NSC can't come to an arrangement with the Company then the decision will be made by DP&I or the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC). He said hopefully personalities don't get in the way of good business.

**Manilla Road to be added to next meeting's agenda for new NSC representative to address**

- 4.3 DY said that immediately following last meeting Anthony Green from Orica arranged to have the top lights on the top bin at the Orica plant turned off. BC said he has noticed a difference but they are not off. LH said the other lights are now facing down instead of outwards and he has noticed the difference when driving to work in the dark.

**Lights at Orica plant turned off or repositioned - action complete**

- 4.4 DY said discussions had been held between BM, Orica and Whitehaven regarding location of the permanent blast monitor. Monitor to be installed in the coming weeks.

**Permanent blast monitors to be installed at Tarrawonga and Templemore**

- 4.5 KB said the promise from the Liberal/National Party for \$160 million to be reinjected into mining impacted shires has been broken. The only people spending money are the mining companies but the Association is still pushing for funding. He said only people east of the range are benefiting.

**Update on reinjection of mining royalties in affected shires to be provided at next meeting**

- 4.6 JJ read a letter from NSC dated 21 June 2012 regarding notification of traffic incidents. KB told Whitehaven at a previous meeting that all accidents that occur on public roads or on private property but that commence on public roads (like the Toll trailer rollover) must be immediately reported to Council. Whitehaven wrote to NSC seeking clarification of KB's advice and the reply from NSC said that "incidents that occur on your haul road do not need to be reported to Council whereas incidents occurring on public roads are reportable to Police dependent upon value and injury. I suggest that you seek advice from the Police in regards to those type of incidents. All other incidents should be reportable in accordance with your conditions of consents".

KB said he will debate that advice. The Committee disagreed with KB and said that as per advice from NSC, Police should be notified first and it is up to them to determine what other agencies require notification (which may or may not include Council). JL said the rollover on the highway highlighted this process. Police were called and they co-ordinated contact with the fire brigade, RTA (to update the live traffic website) and Council to assist with the cleanup.

**Road incident notification requirements clarified – no further action required**

- 4.7 KB said he had not yet issued the letter to Toll regarding the Committee's concern over their lack of notification to Council regarding the trailer rollover near Manilla Road. He said he still wanted to write the letter but JJ asked what the basis of his letter would be given the previous discussion on advice from NSC. BC said as long as the Company contacts the Police in future there shouldn't be an issue. JH said past incidents are water under the bridge.

JL said Toll's first call following the trailer rollover near Manilla Road was to their legal team to determine whether the incident was reportable. Toll's Emergency Response Plan has since been updated and now states that the Company must alert Police in all situations. He said this was one of the incidents that led to that change.

**Road incident notification requirements clarified – no further action required**

- 4.8 JL had been invited to the meeting and was in attendance.

**Jeremy Lutvey in attendance following Committee request - no further action required**

- 4.9 JJ posted information to KB for issue to new members and KB issued that advice. JJ told the Committee that JH had been selected by DP&I to be

the new full time member and Jim Picton as the alternate member. Jim was invited to this meeting. JJ advised the Committee that if anyone is not able to attend a meeting they should let Whitehaven know as soon as possible so that Jim can be invited.

**New members appointed – no further action required**

- 4.10 JJ advised that she had spoken to Colleen Fuller about the conflicting speed zones on Manilla Road. Colleen had raised it at a Traffic Committee meeting and a report was to be issued to Whitehaven. She will follow up and provide an update at the next meeting.

**Colleen Fuller to provide an update on conflicting speed zones on Manilla Road.**

- 4.11 DY said that EB-16 is on “Taylorvale” and the report has been updated to reflect that.

**EB-16 renamed “Taylorvale” following advice from BM and BC – no further action required**

- 4.12 JJ said the broken funnel at EB-7 had been replaced but the broken glass had not been replaced. Whitehaven’s Field Officer had been asked to clean up the glass.

**EB-7 has a funnel and broken glass has been picked up – no further action required**

- 4.13 JJ said she hadn’t written the letter on behalf of the Committee (for KB to sign) regarding rehabilitation of the earthen bank as she had been told that the bank was installed by CMA/NSC for general water management rather than directly in relation to the Council gravel crushing area. DY said he believed CMA/NSC installed the bank to stop water channelling down the road. He wasn’t sure of Whitehaven’s involvement.

KB said there hasn’t been a DA submitted for the gravel crushing area.

PL said about 20 years ago someone wanted to put a bank in the same location and the Soil Conservation Service wouldn’t do it because it would divert water down the road. He said there was also a bank constructed near the Matong gate which diverted water on that side.

PL said they’ve pushed rubbish up at 90 degrees to Goonbri (from boundary fence to new bank).

PL said big banks are going to increase velocity of the water. He said people don’t know how much water comes down there. The February 2012 water was a small flood. In a big flood the whole of Templemore would be under water.

BC said Council applying to CMA to save 500m of road to ruin others people’s properties is ridiculous.

KB said unfortunately a few things have happened at NSC and that’s why the last General Manager is no longer there. He was a one man band.

KB said prior to Lewis Oldfield, NSC's policy was to talk to landholders regarding these types of decisions. JH said they talked but didn't listen (Manilla Road is an example).

**DY to discuss with Tim Muldoon first and investigate who designed the bank and who was involved with the process.**

- 4.14 DY/JJ said they weren't aware of Whitehaven receiving a letter from the CCC regarding a request to cease gravel sales. BC said he had drafted the letter for BM to issue and would follow up with BM.

KB asked if any gravel haulage was currently occurring. DY said gravel is being carted to Narrabri Coal but those trucks travel into Gunnedah via Whitehaven's haul route and along the Kamilaroi Highway to the mine. This approach avoids dust issues on Manilla Road and removes the requirement for a water cart. KB asked how long that had been occurring and DY said a few months. DY said NSC is receiving some gravel but they are using Goonbri Road and a water cart.

BC asked if domestic coal is still being carted on Manilla Road. LH said it was. BC said the driver with the white Mack is quite polite and slows down when approaching other vehicles.

**BC to liaise with BM regarding issue of letter to Whitehaven requesting gravel sales cease.**

- 4.15 JJ said details on funding to NSC had not been provided yet. BC said it needs to happen. It was brought up last year with NSC that Tarrawonga is required to fund maintenance of the roads and NSC said they knew nothing about it. KB said the only agreement is for the haul road. BC asked what about the condition of consent. He said NSC knew about it over a year and a half ago, said they would look into it but nothing has happened. BC said if you're short of money and you've been told its coming you should chase it.

**Whitehaven to provide funding summary**

- 4.16 JH said BM had a lot to say at the last meeting about gravel trucks and how the community perceives CCC members as not doing their job but then he provided a list of complaints from community members that he had not raised for 6 – 12 months. She said if meetings are to be effective then issues need to be put on the table at the time they are raised.

JH also noted that the CCC guidelines provided to her state that the CCC is a consultative committee yet BM is telling the mine they can't sell gravel. She said that is like her telling BC that he can't grow wheat this year because she doesn't want the wheat trucks driving past her place.

KB said that we should go through each issue that BM raised. JH said that is not the point she is making. The point is that the issues should have been raised and dealt with promptly, not 6 – 12 months later. KB insisted on discussing each issue, as outlined below:

1. **Manilla Road and all gravel roads** – KB said negotiations are ongoing and road repair/upgrade is reliant on funding.
2. **Dust** – KB said some is to do with mining and some is related to unsealed roads. DY said the EPA has installed a real time video camera onsite which they have remote control over. They can move it

anywhere (except towards Boggabri Coal because Boggabri Coal are yet to approve the camera) and zoom. BC asked if there had been any feedback. DY said the EPA are logging in at times and are being notified of blast times. LH tabled photos from the camera. JH/BC said they think it's in the mine's interest to have the camera there. JH said the EPA hasn't got enough people on the ground so this is a good way for them to monitor the site. DY said the real time monitor has been installed at "Flixton" and cumulative impact management discussions are ongoing with Boggabri Coal.

BC said a camera should be installed on Gins Leap so you can look across the whole valley to identify the dust source. DY said there is an ongoing issue with dust in the valley. Some is mine related but it is obvious at shift change when people are driving on unsealed roads.

JH said Boggabri Coal should be encouraged to allow the EPA to install a camera. KB said he had heard there might be only one camera. JJ said the initial proposal was to find a location that could look over both sites but then the EPA suggested a 3 month trial on each site.

PL said an example of dust from the mines can be seen at the Vickery hill where there is more dust around the mines than anywhere else. He said the dust can be seen distinctly going up to Jim Picton's place.

LH said the mine does its best to manage dust. There is localised dust when digging material but this is very difficult to control. Inversion layers exacerbate the issue in winter months.

PL said if a farmer ploughs a paddock they create dust.

3. **Noise** – KB said the mines try to overcome noise as much as possible. DY said it's the same as dust with a real time noise monitor being used. He said the monitor has the capacity to provide alerts and once noise hits a nominated limit the mine will need to modify operations. DY said last month there had been a noise related complaint when dumping was occurring up high on the northern dump. The OCE looked at the noise monitoring, reconfigured dumping to reduce the impact and noted that he believed noise had reduced.

LH said Tarrawonga is no longer dumping on the skyline level after dark and a noise abatement bund has been constructed.

BC asked if there was anything the mine could do to stop the noise from dozer tracks because that is often what he hears. LH said the D10s have rubber inserts in their tracks but there's not much you can do with the D11s.

JH noted that the noise continues when Tarrawonga is not operating. David Gillham complained to JH about the noise and assumed it was Tarrawonga because it's closest but Tarrawonga wasn't operating at the time the noise was noted.

BC said the proposal from Whitehaven to operate 24/7 would mean that there would be no break from the noise. He wanted to know how you distinguish low level noise from the mine using the real time monitor. He said that Whitehaven had told him that they didn't know what the noise source was. DY said the audio hasn't been analysed yet so we wouldn't know what the noise source was. You can't define the noise source until you listen to the audio. Tarrawonga's

Environmental Officer is currently processing the data for Taylorvale but there is a large amount of information to go through so it will take some time to process. BC said surely you don't need to look at the whole lot but DY said you need to assess the data to determine what periods of time the audio needs to be reviewed. He said the alerting and live streaming system when up and running will streamline the process. The Werris Creek mine has noise controllers who listen to the audio all night and if mine operations cannot be conducted within compliance limits the fleet is systematically stood down.

4. **Extra Traffic/Gravel Trucks** – KB said these can be combined and to overcome the problem you need to funding. He referred again to VPAs and funding from royalties. JH said money is not going to reduce traffic. KB said he doesn't like private roads because in 20 years time they will be ripped up. JH said the mine has just as much right to cart coal as anyone else on the roads. KB said you can't stop clowns. JL said Highway Patrol was patrolling the road on Wednesday at the request of Toll. BC said he wants a speed camera on Manilla Road. JL said under the new Work Health Safety Act employers don't have the same control over their workers when they are travelling to and from work. KB suggested changing the speed limit and requesting more patrols by Police. JJ asked if there were any further actions required out of this discussion. KB said it is just reliant on funding.
5. **Orica depot** – covered in previous meeting.
6. **Creek diversion** – KB expressed disappointment again that the Committee was deterred from visiting the cut-off trench in the Hunter. DY said it was out of our control. Whitehaven requested access through Hunter Valley Operations but this access wasn't granted. In lieu of this visit, Whitehaven invited the landholder (Neville Holt) who previously owned the land to the recent information day. JH spoke with Neville at the information day and provided the following summary of their discussions:
  - a. In Neville's experience the cut-off trench worked.
  - b. His neighbour got a little extra water.
  - c. The soil was removed and replaced in order and then tested – not as productive initially but still worth farming.
  - d. The CCC was given a tour of the pit and you could see the seams drying up.
  - e. There was no interaction between the Hunter River and the mine.
  - f. Neville indicated he is happy to discuss his experiences if requested.

JH told the Committee she thinks it would be more beneficial for Neville to discuss his experiences rather than for the Committee to visit the site because there would be nothing to see.

JH said she thinks the biggest issue identified during their discussions was regarding the cumulative impacts of mining on Neville's property. He had lived there for 62 years and he spent the last 2 years fighting with the mines.

7. **Town not progressing forward** – KB said the way he looks at it the town will progress. A number of DAs have been submitted, they're just

waiting for mine approvals before proceeding. BC said Whitehaven made promises at the start that they haven't kept. They said they would always have an office in Boggabri and an engineering shop which never happened. KB said those things are business decisions. BC said the Company said they would do all those things.

JH said businesses have tried to start up but they've had trouble with NSC. KB said the MPC (hospital) went to Forbes because of local issues.

JH said elderly and young families don't want to live in Boggabri anymore. The MAC camp will be bigger than the town. NSC is spending its funding in Narrabri rather than in the communities that are most affected by mining. JH/BC said Gunnedah is more impacted by trains than Narrabri.

JJ asked if any actions are required following these discussions. KB said no actions are required and that this issue will be progressed when development occurs.

8. **Tarrawonga extension** – BC said this issue should be “Tarrawonga extensions” not “Tarrawonga extension” as there has been extension after extension. He said they community was told that in 8-10 years the mine would be gone. The extensions are affecting their lives.

PL said he was told years ago that there was coal from Boggabri to Manilla.

KB said this is one of the biggest issues and it's bigger than us. The community should be told about possible extensions in the future so people can make a decision early on if they want to get out.

Whitehaven representatives explained that just because there might be coal over a large area, it may not be feasible to mine depending on a number of factors including depth of coal, quality of coal and coal prices.

BC said the issues have been raised with the local member but they just get fobbed off.

9. **Proposed Vickery Mine** – PL said he'd heard that Whitehaven might not be mining Vickery. DY said they Environmental Assessment works are continuing however given the progress of the Maules Creek Project and the more favourable coal quality and stripping ratio, Maules Creek will be the priority at this stage.

BC said you wouldn't be actively buying properties if you weren't going to go ahead with it at some stage.

DY also told the Committee that Whitehaven has acquired Coalworks. The Vickery South Project will not progress at this stage. Whitehaven will need to go back through a first principles assessment and then determine if it proceeds at all and, if so, whether it forms an extension of the Vickery Project.

10. **Proposed Goonbri Mine** – not owned by Whitehaven.
11. **Flooding from mine site** – investigation is ongoing.
12. **Town not involved in VPA discussions** – as per above discussions.
13. **Lack of rehabilitation** – DY said this is a function of the modifications to the mine. The northern waste dump will increase in height and the

southern waste dump will extend out. Rehabilitation is occurring when possible but not the extent we would like.

14. **Zone of affectation should include all neighbours** – KB asked how we deal with that. JH said the zone of affectation should extend to until neighbours are happy to live near a mine. DY said to an extent the mine is bound by policy and consent conditions, which can also change (as we've seen with Boggabri Coal). A lot of those issues are determined by the Department and the Planning Assessment Commission.
15. **Unable to expand their farms/unable to sell their farms** – BC said farmers surrounding the mines are unable to sell their farms because the only people who will buy the farms are the mines. No private buyers would consider buying a farm when they have to drive past or near a mine to get to it. JH said everyone is treading water. She used her example where they hear the mines, are not really affected by dust and have water problems they could never have imagined but they don't know where to go because they've got sons who want to continue farming. A lot of landholders are saying they can't sell but not sure how you can change it.

JH referred to the letter from Picton's which was tabled at the last meeting and said Mrs Picton rang her after the earthquake and was devastated. JH said Clayton's Coexistence doesn't work. It's in the mine's best interest to buy out Pictons. BC said no-one will buy them at market value. JH said Picton's situation is bad PR for the mine. Mines got an easy run into the area because of how good Whitehaven was when they started off. She said Whitehaven needs to up their image because their image is terrible. KB said he was uncomfortable with what JH was saying that it is almost a conflict of interest telling the mine they should buy a property.

JH said the community is disappointed with Corporate Whitehaven. Previous Whitehaven management cared about the community and a handshake meant something.

16. **Excessive lighting** - has been addressed at the Orica facility and is addressed on an ongoing basis at the mine.
17. **Concerns about gas drilling** - Whitehaven is not involved in coal seam gas so this concern is out of Whitehaven's hands.
18. **Excessive lighting** - has been addressed at the Orica facility and is addressed on an ongoing basis at the mine.
19. **15 hour shifts for Toll trucks** – JL said no drivers are doing 15 hour shifts. He said they are doing either 12 or 14 hour shifts which include minimum breaks depending on experience and training. Toll also complies with mining regulations and Whitehaven's requirements which include minimum 10 hour break between shifts. There are no back to back long shifts and no more than three per week including Saturdays. BC asked if Toll take into consideration where a driver lives when allocating shifts. JL said they do. Drivers volunteer and nominate shifts which suit them and these requests are considered as much as possible. Toll is also careful not to upset a driver's sleep pattern. JL said Toll actively recruit people from the Boggabri and Gunnedah area (or within 30 minutes) and are proactively cutting down the drivers to

incorporate locals as much as possible. He said a number of drivers also car pool.

20. **Committee deterred from inspecting a creek diversion in the Hunter** – discussed above.

21. **Absentee leasees of mine owned land not managing properties properly resulting in stock on public roads** – DY said most properties are leased back to previous owners and leasees are required to manage the properties in an appropriate manner. BC asked if they are ever inspected. DY said they are managed through a stock and station agent. LH said they are subject to the usual inspections by Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPA). BC said they've never turned up on his property. LH said so Whitehaven properties are no less managed than private properties.

JH/BC referred to a Western Australian example of the mining companies setting up a pastoral company. DY said the option had been considered by Whitehaven personnel but not approved by management.

BC said landholders are also concerned about the fire risk on uninhabited properties. He said the properties need fire breaks. JH said that the RFS does free burn offs.

## 5.0 General Business

### 5.1 Mine Progress Report

LH advised that Jason Conomos is now the Project Manager at Whitehaven's Rocglen Coal Mine. LH is Acting Project Manager until a new Project Manager is appointed. Financial year YTD results (for July 2012 only) are as follows:

- 1.5 million BCM overburden removed
- 183,000 tonnes of coal recovered

A small amount of rehabilitation has occurred on the southern and northern waste emplacements. Employee numbers remain the same.

### 5.2 Environmental Monitoring Report

DY presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

DY noted that currently there are two different noise monitoring requirements, which is why the report is not in the same format as previous reports. The existing Noise Monitoring Program requires monitoring at a number of properties including properties which are now project related. The Environment Protection Licence has been updated in accordance with the Section 75W modification approval and existing land ownership with a requirement only to monitor on non-project related properties. The EPL also requires monitoring over a different timeframe. Monitoring was previously 15 minutes but the EPL now requires 1 hour during the day and 1 ½ hours at night over three consecutive days.

JJ noted some errors in the report (property name included in complaint, SD16 incorrectly listed as SD15 and “Taylorvale” incorrectly listed as “Northam”) and asked the Committee if it was ok to change these errors before posting the report online. The Committee agreed to these changes.

## **6.0 New Business**

- 6.1 JH asked if Toll has incentives for drivers (ie. incentives if no complaints received for the month). JL said they have incentives for things such as safety initiatives and vehicle cleanliness but not production or efficiency.
- 6.2 JH raised concern over the Blue Vale Road/Vickery intersection, in particular the dip to the north of the intersection which makes it difficult for people coming from Vickery to see southbound traffic. JL said Toll consider that intersection to be one of the higher risk areas of the haul route. When fog is present they have the leading hand sit at the intersection to assist with safe use of the intersection.
- 6.3 JH acknowledged the good job that Jason Conomos has done at Tarrawonga. She said some of the Tarrawonga employees were part of the RFS and Jason never had an issue letting them go if they were called. He was also good at alerting the RFS about fires. And any other problems, there was no issue ringing the site. People associated Jason with Tarrawonga and it might be worthwhile putting a thank you notice in the local paper. She said emergency numbers with the SES would need to be updated. Whitehaven representatives suggested perhaps we should wait until the new Project Manager has been appointed and then put a notice in the paper telling the community of the new Project Manager’s appointment and thanking Jason.

**SES emergency contact details to be updated.**

**Ad to be placed in local paper advising of new Project Manager (when appointed) and thanking Jason Conomos for his time at Tarrawonga.**

- 6.4 BC asked DY if anything had happened about coal on the road. DY said Whitehaven’s Environmental Field Officer had inspected the road immediately following the complaint and identified it was coal mud fines tracked out from the CHPP rather than solid coal falling off trucks. DY said Whitehaven is aware of the issue and hopes to have the upgraded truck washing operating within the week. Engineers are also looking at other arrangements for the CHPP to minimise the amount of coal fines tracked out onto the road.

BC said you can drive as close as you want to trucks on the highway and not get any spray but with the Toll trucks you either need to stay well back or get around them quickly. He said material often hits the car, often not in pieces big enough to damage but sometimes causing stone chips.

DY said Whitehaven also now engages the GSC street sweeper 3 days per week to clean the CHPP haul road, highway and Gunnedah end of Blue Vale Road.

JL said the spray suppression mud guards on B-doubles are designed and required for road user safety but in this coal haulage application the tyres fill with mud which then collects on the mud guards and falls off on

the road. BC said the coal is all the way along the road. JL disagreed and said there is definitely material build up on either end of the haul road but in the middle the issue is more related to road damage.

BC said Whitehaven needs to keep on top of keeping the signs cleaned. He said the other night he couldn't see the fog lines or reflectors because they were totally blacked out by coal.

**Whitehaven to recommence use of CHPP truck wash.**

**Road signs to be cleaned more regularly.**

- 6.5 KB referred back to the discussion about the CCC being a 'love-in' (as raised by BM in the previous meeting) and suggested that we need to have a list of actions closed out by the Committee. JH said the minutes show what has been done. DY/JJ suggested a bolded sentence at the end of every agenda item to summarise actions required or closed out.

**Suggestion implemented in these minutes. No further action required.**

- 6.6 DY said that given KB is no longer standing for Council, NSC will need to notify the CCC who the new NSC representative will be and the CCC will need to find a new independent chair. DY will discuss this with the Department. KB said he can see the value in having an independent chair. KB said he will write a letter of resignation to Whitehaven and the CCC. DY thanked KB for his contribution to the CCC since its commencement.

**NSC to advise CCC of new representative.**

**DY to liaise with Department of Planning and Infrastructure regarding new independent chair.**

## **7.0 Complaints**

Complaints were discussed in the Environment Monitoring Report.

## **8.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 10:00am.

Meeting closed at 1:10pm.

..... / /  
Ken Bates - Chairman

# Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #26

## Environmental Monitoring Report May – July 2012

### Noise Monitoring

Noise monitoring was undertaken on the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June 2012, with results outlined below. The noise criterion for Tarrawonga is 35dB(A) Leq (15 min) for all operating times. It is noted that receivers N2, N4 and Pine Grove are now mine owned.

Noise Monitoring Results – 26 June 2012 (day)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N2 Bollol Ck Station	12:20 pm	40	2 m/s, SE	Birds & insects (37), wind (36) <b>TCM (30)</b>
N4 Ambardo	8:02 am	58	0.5 m/s SE	Birds (58), <b>TCM (40)</b> <sup>1</sup>
Pine Grove	8:33 am	47	0.5 m/s SE	<b>TCM (43)</b> <sup>2</sup> , birds (42), traffic (40)

<sup>1</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road (40), mine noise (<30).

<sup>2</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road (43).

Noise Monitoring Results – 26 June 2012 (evening)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N2 Bollol Ck Station	7:10 pm	29	1 m/s S	<b>TCM (27)</b> , birds (24)
N4 Ambardo	7:26 pm	40	0.5 m/s S	<b>TCM (38)</b> <sup>1</sup> , birds (35)

<sup>1</sup> Trucks on private section of haul road (38), mine noise (<30).

Noise Monitoring Results – 26 June 2012 (night)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
N4 Bollol Ck Station	12:16 am	33	Calm	<b>TCM (33)</b>
N2 Ambardo	10:43 pm	36	Calm	<b>TCM (36)</b>

Noise Monitoring Results – “Tarrawonga”				
Date	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
25 June 2012	1:30 pm	40	1.5 m/s WNW	Birds (40), <b>TCM (31)</b>
25 June 2012	9:29 pm	30	Calm	Cattle (29), <b>TCM (23)</b>
25 June 2012	10:20 pm	25	Calm	<b>TCM (25)</b>
26 June 2012	2:09 pm	37	1 m/s SE	<b>TCM (35)</b> , birds (33)
26 June 2012	7:50 pm	39	Calm	<b>TCM (38)</b> , birds (32)
26 June 2012	1:22 am	37	Calm	<b>TCM (37)</b>
27 June 2012	3:52 pm	41	2.5 m/s SE	Birds (41), <b>TCM (32)</b>
27 June 2012	9:04 pm	38	Calm	<b>TCM (38)</b>
27 June 2012	1:47 am	38	Calm	<b>TCM (37)</b> , insects (31)

The results show that noise emissions from the mine were in excess of the operational noise criterion at the “Tarrowonga” property during the evening and night of both June 26<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup>. Noise emissions from the mine (TCM) were below the operational noise criteria at all other monitoring locations at all times. The “Tarrowonga” landholders, tenants, EPA and DP&I have been notified of the exceedances.

It is noteworthy that the exceedance of noise criteria at “Tarrowonga” was predicted in the modelling conducted for the 2010 Tarrowonga Modification Project. This modelling placed “Tarrowonga” in the project acquisition zone, and a consent condition was applied providing the owner of the “Tarrowonga” property with acquisition rights, for which has been advised in writing under the terms of the consent. On this basis, the measured noise levels are in accordance with predictions for which there is limited capacity for any site based actions to further reduce noise impacts.

In addition to the operational noise, the noise from TCM must not exceed 45 dB(A) L1 (1min) between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am. This is to minimise the potential for sleep disturbance as a result of individual loud noises from the mine. Throughout the night time survey the worst case L1 (1 min) noise from TCM was 1 dB (A) over the sleep disturbance criterion at the “Tarrowonga” monitoring location on the night of 26<sup>th</sup> June.

The real time noise monitor was positioned at the “Northam” property from the 19<sup>th</sup> May to the 19<sup>th</sup> June. Results are currently being analysed.

## **Blast Monitoring**

### **Blasting Results**

Since the first shot there have been 373 blasts (until the end of July).

All blasts over the last three months have been compliant however several complaints were received in relation to blasts shaking houses. Whitehaven investigated each complaint with Orica and have identified the likely cause of blasts shaking houses to be due to:

- Cloud cover at the time of firing;
- Blasting at elevated heights.

Letters, which provided a summary of investigations, were provided to all complainants. At this stage the next action is to notify complainants prior to blasting during these conditions and offer the complainants blast monitoring to record overpressure levels at the residents.

## Air Quality

### Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results

MONTH	TEMPLEMORE (EB-4)	BOLLOL CREEK STN (EB-5)	AMBARDO (EB-6)	TARRAWONGA (EB-7)	THUIN (EB-8)	PINE GROVE (EB-9)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-10)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-11)	PINE GROVE (EB-12)	BOLLOL CREEK (EB-13)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-14)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-15)	TAYLORVALE (EB-16)
August 2011	2.0	2.5	0.5	1.8	6.1	0.8	4.0	1.2	0.5	1.8	2.0	4.3	3.0
September 2011	2.4	3.4	0.8	0.6	5.1	0.8	3.8	1.1	5.1	2.0	1.6	2.8	2.0
October 2011	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	4.9	0.4	2.4	1.8	1.0	2.1	1.9	3.5	1.1
November 2011	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.2	4.6	0.9	1.3	1.1	0.9	2.2	1.7	4.6	1.2
December 2011	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.2	8.0	0.9	3.6	1.0	1.5	9.3	-	-	1.6
January 2012	-	-	1.4	0.9	4.5	0.4	3.9	2.6	1.2	7.5	3.5	5.2	2.9
February 2012	1.8	0.2	1.0	0.7	9.9	0.5	2.0	-	1.8	2.0	2.4	4.0	0.9
March 2012	5.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	5.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	1.2	5.5	3.8	1.5
April 2012	2.9	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.6	11.4	1.4	2.9	1.4	2.5	3.0	2.0
May 2012	3.2	-	0.5	0.2	5.4	1.5	9.2	0.7	0.7	2.3	5.4	8.8	3.8
June 2012	3.4	0.7	0.3	0.4	2.4	0.3	2.1	0.9	0.4	2.9	1.9	4.5	2.4
July 2012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>

EB-16 returned a result of 5.8 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month in May 2012 and 5.1 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month in June 2012. The property is not currently occupied as a residence and results confirmed that the majority of the sample was combustible, thereby only the non combustible matter (3.8 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month and 2.4 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month) has been included in the average.

EB-8 continues to have elevated results, which is a result of the monitor being in close proximity to soil stripping activities. EB-15 also has an elevated result, this is likely due to its close proximity to present construction works at Idemitsu Boggabri Coal. As both these monitors are project related, with no occupied residence located at the monitoring point, compliance criteria do not apply.

Results from July 2012 monitoring are not currently available however will be included in the next report. A single result is missing from EB-5 in May 2012 due to the bottle being missing. The bottle was replaced shortly after that round of monitoring.

### **PM<sub>10</sub> Results**

The annual average for PM<sub>10</sub> readings is currently at 14.42µg/m<sup>3</sup> (until end of June 2012) and remains well below the annual average limit of 30µg/m<sup>3</sup>. PM<sub>10</sub> levels have remained compliant since the last CCC meeting.

The fixed real time air quality monitor (TEOM) was installed at the “Flixton” property during April and is currently providing daily reports as well as real time air quality results. The system is currently in a trial phase to ensure it functions in accordance with required standards. The supplier is preparing a training protocol for site staff for implementation.

## Water Monitoring

### Ground Water

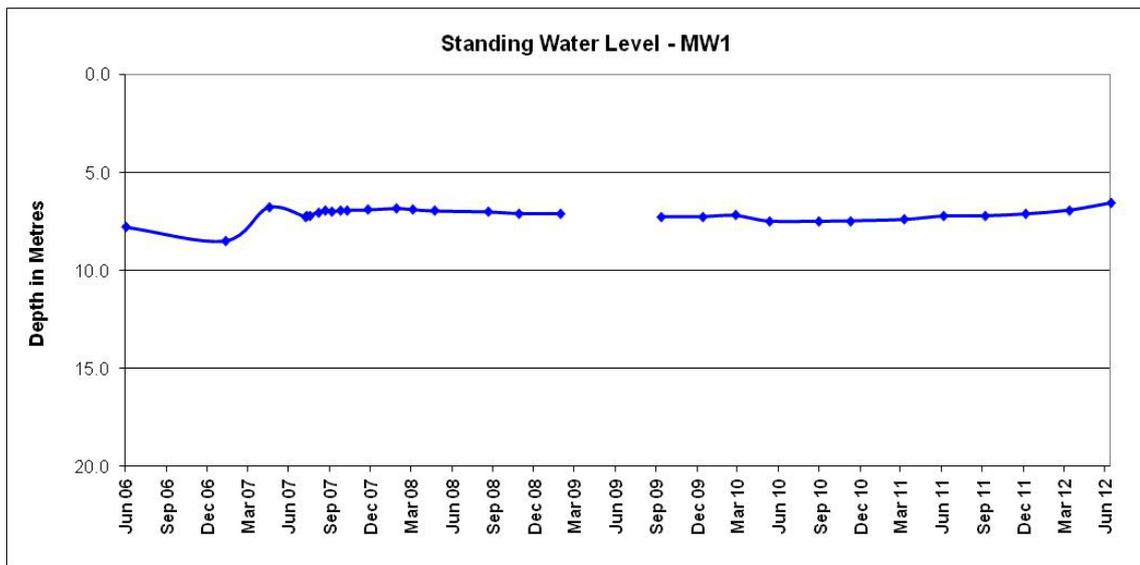
Groundwater monitoring data obtained to date, including the last round of SWL monitoring in June 2012 is provided in the table and graphs below.

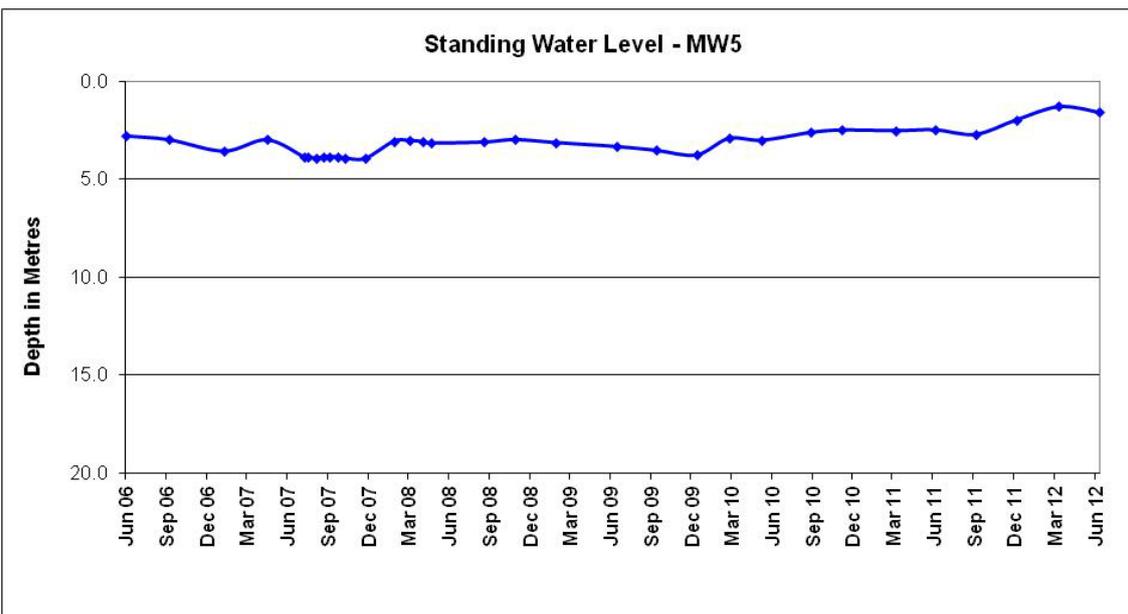
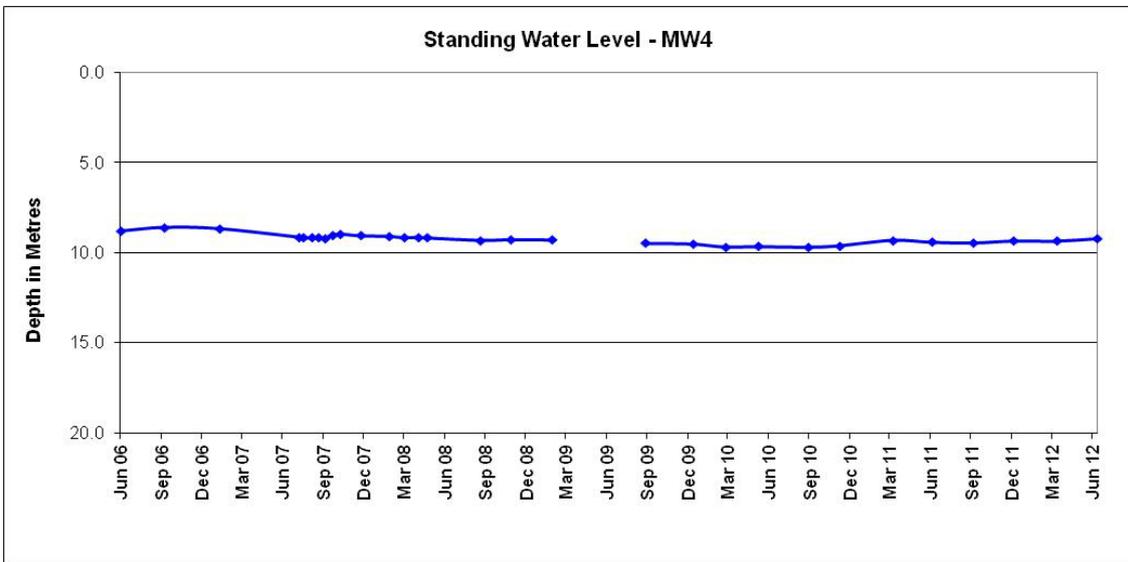
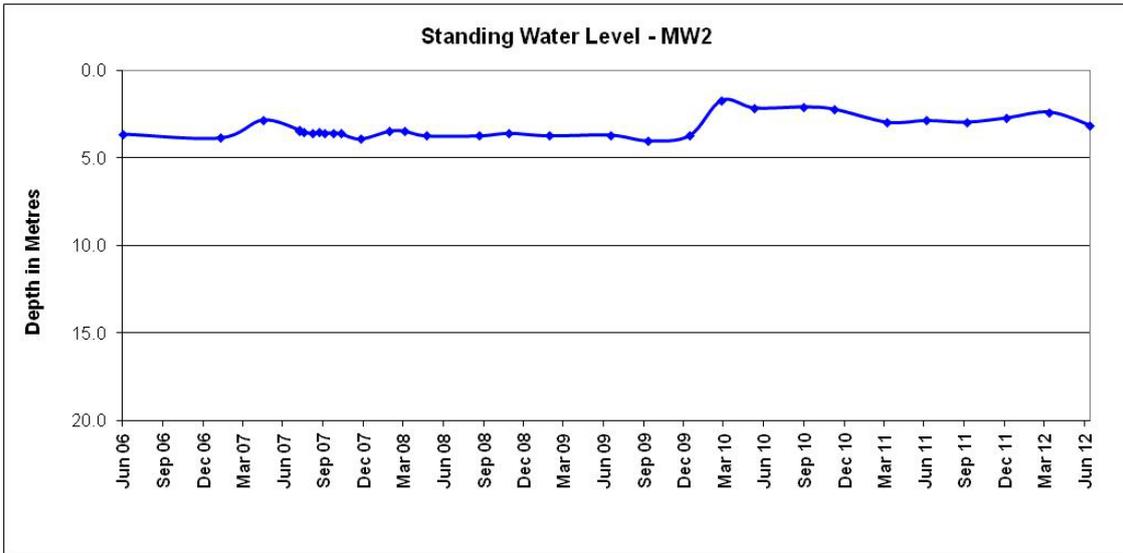
Site	Date	SWL (m)	pH	Elect. Conduct
<b>MW1</b>	January 07	9.22	7.1	2410
	April 07	7.49		
	July 07	7.91	7.3	2500
	August 07	7.66		
	September 07	7.66		
	October 07	7.64		
	November 07	7.62		
	January 08	7.55		
	March 08	7.60		
	April 08	7.67	7.3	3120
	August 08	7.73		
	September 08			
	October 08	7.82	7.8	3500
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	7.73		
	June 09	7.87	7.2	5470
	September 09	7.9		
	December 09	7.9	7.83	4510
	February 10	7.84		
	May 10	8.13		
	August 10	8.14	7.47	3890
	November 10	8.12	7.06	3170
	March 11	8.05	7.1	3280
June 11	7.87	7.2	3110	
September 11	7.19	7.09	3200	
December 11	7.09	7.16	3150	
March 2012	6.9	7.44	3140	
June 2012	6.53	7.37	3730	
<b>MW2</b>	January 07	4.62	6.8	511
	April 07	3.59		
	July 07	4.29	7.1	496
	August 07	4.32		
	September 07	4.34		
	October 07	4.37		
	November 07	4.68		
	January 08	4.25		
	March 08	4.23		
	April 08	4.50	7.3	440
	August 08	4.51		
	September 08			
	October 08	4.37	6.9	620
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	4.51		
	June 09	4.53	7.7	660
	September 09	4.8		
	December 09	4.51	7.5	640
	February 10	2.51		
	May 10	2.94		
	August 10	2.89	7.4	590
	November 10	3.01	7.32	513

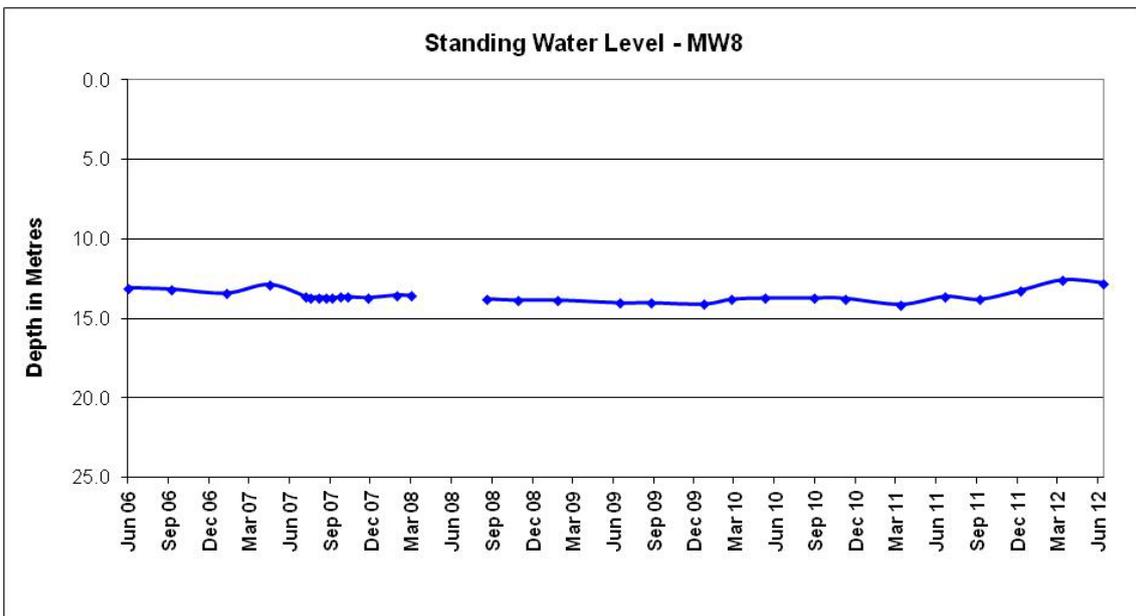
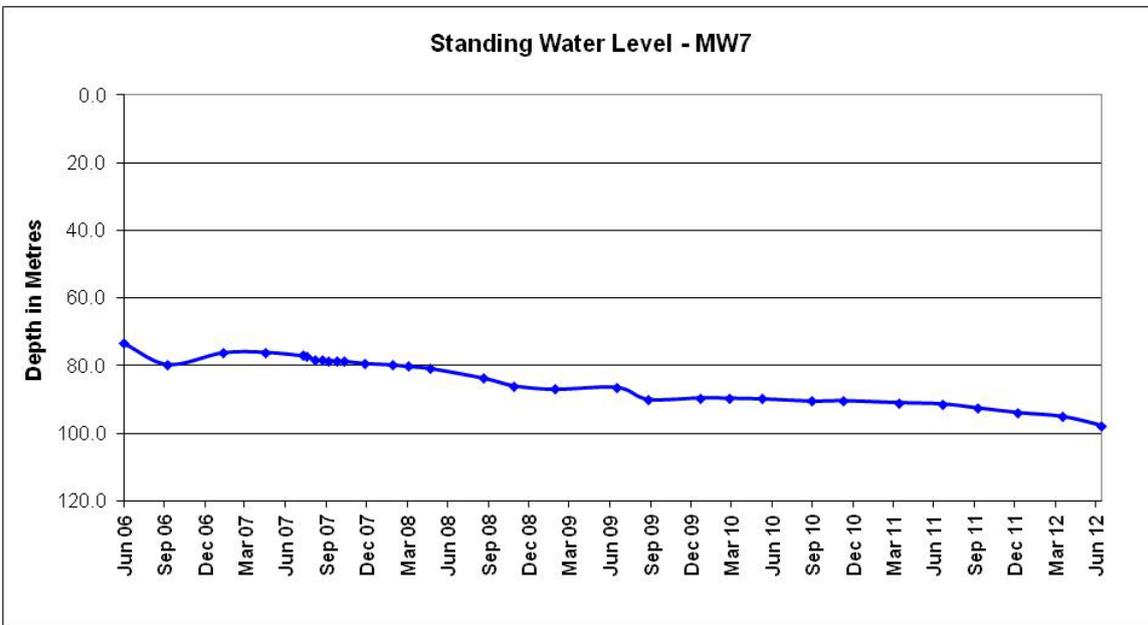
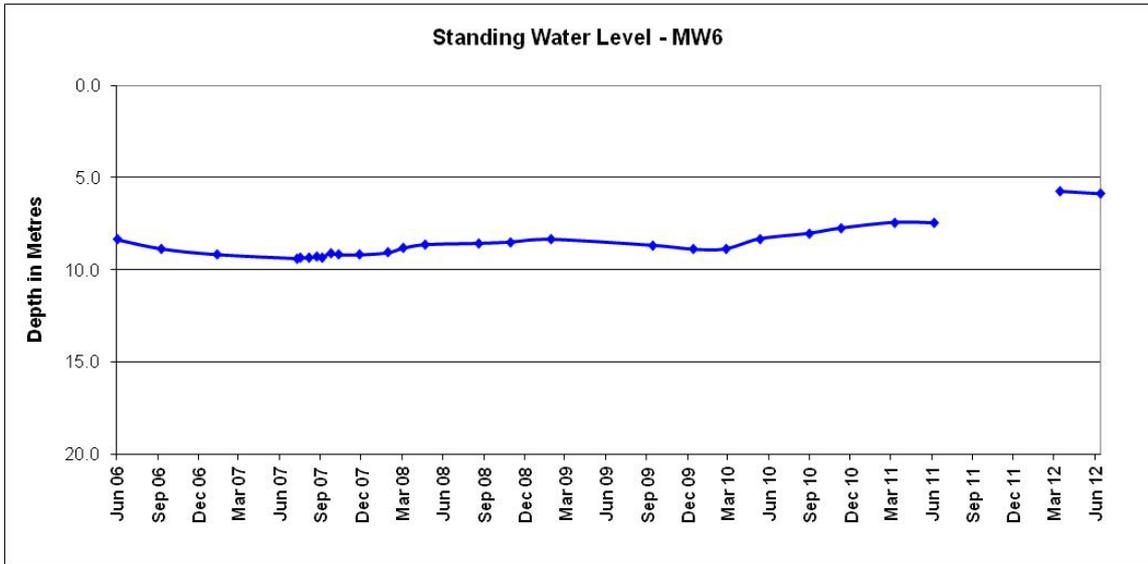
	March 11	3.75	7.31	566
	June 11	3.65	7.3	553
	September 11	2.95	6.9	585
	December 11	2.71	7.08	600
	March 12	2.38	7.06	912
	June 12	3.13	7.02	1320
<b>MW4</b>	September 06	9.25		
	January 07	9.37	7.1	3430
	July 07	9.88	6.8	5400
	August 07	9.87		
	September 07	9.73		
	October 07	9.67		
	November 07	9.76		
	January 08	9.80		
	March 08	9.87		
	April 08	9.88	7.1	5160
	August 08	10.01		
	September 08			
	October 08	9.98	7	5800
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	9.96		
	June 09	10.05	6.8	5400
	August 09	10.10		
	December 09	10.14	7.35	5040
	February 10	10.30		
	May 10	10.28		
	August 10	10.31	7.33	4740
	November 10	10.23	6.9	3810
	March 11	9.93	7.18	3060
	June 11	10.04	7.25	3080
	September 11	9.46	7.12	3196
	December 11	9.35	7.10	3180
	March 12	9.36	7.6	2580
	June 12	9.22	7.52	3850
<b>MW5</b>	September 06	3.64		
	January 07	4.18		
	April 07	3.60		
	July 07	4.49	7.5	1930
	August 07	4.50		
	September 07	4.48		
	October 07	4.53		
	November 07	4.56		
	January 08	3.68		
	March 08	3.63		
	April 08	3.77	7.9	3260
	August 08	3.72		
	September 08			
	October 08	3.59	7.3	3400
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	3.73		
	June 09	4.18	7.7	2390
	September 09	4.32		
	December 09	4.56	7.44	7460
	February 10	3.71		
	May 10	3.8		
	August 10	3.4	7.85	1740
	November 10	3.28	7.35	2620
	March 11	3.31	7.39	1917

	June 11	3.27	7.45	1032
	September 11	2.7	7.39	1910
	December 11	1.96	7.36	2275
	March 12	1.28	7.52	1110
	June 12	1.58	7.81	977
<b>MW6</b>	September 06	9.54		
	January 07	9.81	6.9	2030
	July 07	10.01	7.5	2060
	August 07	9.95		
	September 07	9.73		
	October 07	9.82		
	November 07	9.83		
	January 08	9.72		
	March 08	9.48		
	April 08	9.28	7.1	2120
	August 08	9.21		
	September 08			
	October 08	9.15	7.1	2100
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	9.10		
	June 09	No sample		
	September 09	9.43		
	December 09	9.64	7.3	2100
	February 10	9.62		
	May 10	9.08		
	August 10	8.78	7.2	1927
	November 10	8.5	7.03	1835
	March 11	8.19	7.08	1783
	June 11	8.22	7.15	1670
	September 11	Piezo damaged	-	-
	December 11	Piezo damaged	-	-
	March 12	5.74	7.49	1840
	June 12	5.87	7.45	2040
<b>MW7</b>	September 06	80.52		
	January 07	77.0	7.3	1960
	April 07	76.9		
	July 07	77.93	7.2	2250
	August 07	79.28		
	September 07	79.39		
	October 07	79.55		
	November 07	80.17		
	January 08	80.63		
	March 08	81.10		
	April 08	81.68	7.6	2370
	August 08	84.57		
	September 08			
	October 08	86.81	7.4	2300
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	87.80		
	June 09	87.50	7.4	2440
	August 09	91.04		
	December 09	90.58	7.49	2240
	February 10	90.69		
	May 10	90.90		
	August 10	91.53	7.52	2385
	November 10	91.43	7.47	2010
	March 11	92.00	7.24	2075
	June 11	92.36	7.55	2180

	September 11	92.49	7.35	2160
	December 11	93.89	7.70	2200
	March 12	95.05	7.25	2460
	June 12	97.7	7.6	2900
<b>MW8</b>	September 06	13.9		
	January 07	14.1	6.7	2260
	April 07	13.6		
	July 07	14.41	6.8	2530
	August 07	14.40		
	September 07	14.38		
	October 07	14.37		
	November 07	14.43		
	January 08	14.28		
	March 08	14.30		
	April 08	N/S		
	August 08	14.52		
	September 08			
	October 08	14.59	NA	NA
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	14.60		
	June 09		Unable to sample	
	August 09	14.77		
	December 09	14.85	Casing blocked	
	February 10	14.55		
	May 10	14.47		
	August 10	14.46	Casing blocked	
	November 10	14.49	Casing blocked	
	March 11	14.87	Casing blocked	
	June 11	14.37	Casing blocked	
	September 11	13.8	Casing blocked	
	December 11	13.24	Casing blocked	
	March 12	12.57	Casing blocked	
	June 12	12.76	Casing blocked	







All monitoring locations have remained relatively consistent over the past three months. Slight levels of recharge were evident in MW1 and MW4. For the remaining locations levels dropped slightly with no significant reductions in SWL. The SWL at MW7, which is located at the north-eastern corner of the mine lease on mine-owned land, continues to drop more prominently as a result of depressurisation from a reduction in groundwater pressures due to mining both the Tarrawonga and Boggabri Coal pits.

### **Surface Water**

Routine surface water monitoring was conducted during June 2012. Total suspended solids results were generally low in all storages indicating compliant sediment loads if discharge were to occur. SB14 was slightly elevated at 92mg/L, although the water was sitting over one metre below the spill level.

One controlled discharge has been undertaken during the last 3 months while wet weather discharges occurred from a number of dams during a single rainfall event in July 2012, as detailed below:

23 May 2012 – Controlled discharge occurred from SB23 after sampling indicated that the water was within EPL parameters. Approximately 2ML was pumped from the dam to free up capacity in advance of the 30.8 mm received over the following three days.

12 July 2012 - Discharge occurred from SB14, SD9 and SB23 following 43.8 mm in the preceding 5 days. Water quality from these discharges complied with all parameters except TSS for SB 14 (932 mg/L) and SB23 (910 mg/L). Given the amount of rainfall exceeds the 5 day 90%ile design criteria, these discharges were not reported as non-compliances. As a response to these discharges flocculation efforts were undertaken at SB23 and SB14 on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July respectively. The flocculation successfully brought TSS levels below the EPL criteria. TCM is now in a situation where controlled discharges from these dams could occur to free up capacity before future rain events.

A discharge event from the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2012 was accidentally omitted from the previous Environment Monitoring Report. Discharge occurred from SB14, SD15 and SB23 on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2012 following 64.6mm in the preceding 5 days and 0.2mm on the day of discharge. Again, water quality from these discharges complied with all parameters except TSS (193mg/L, 59mg/L and 396mg/L, respectively). Given the amount of rainfall exceeds the 5 day 90%ile design criteria, these discharges were not reported as non-compliances.

Work is continuing with URS in relation to updating the Site Water Management Plan.

### **Complaints**

Since the last meeting, there have been 23 complaints, as outlined on the following pages.

### **Rehabilitation**

Works have progressed through G & B Ward to undertake rehabilitation of the shaped component of the southern emplacement and upper level of the western emplacement with contour drain establishment, mounding and seeding of the areas undertaken.

Fields Environmental Solutions were engaged to plant 2000 trees on the southern emplacement and 1000 trees on the western emplacement. The trees were planted after 30mm of rainfall on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012 and received a follow up 30mm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2012. They have also received 65mm in mid July so soil moisture should assist survival rates. The pasture seeded in the months prior to tree planting is also responding well to the rain.

Environmental Cadet Jake Hodgkins spent two hours per day during his June vacation work planting shrubs and understorey to add biodiversity to the rehabilitation areas.

Overburden shaping to 10 degrees will progressively continue on the southern end of both the southern and western emplacements to form the next platform for rehabilitation. Although delays may occur due to the proposed LOM extension.

### **Independent Environmental Audit**

The Independent Environmental Audit report was received by Umwelt in early January 2012. The audit report and action plan were submitted to the Department for approval in late February. Once the plan has been approved, the audit report and action plan will be posted on the Whitehaven website. A copy of the audit will be provided to the CCC.

Phone call to Tarrawonga Complaints Line	9/05/2012 8:44am	Complaint in relation to dust from the mine. Complainant was unable to identify if dust was only from Tarrawonga. He said that he knew the dust was being generated at night when the water carts aren't utilised at the same rate as daytime operations.	Environmental Officer contacted the site to determine source of dust. The onsite Environmental Officer viewed the pit from the east (Bollol Creek Station) and took photos at this location. He also spoke with the Manager Mining Engineering who was in the pit at around 9:30am taking photos of a clear inversion layer. He commented that dust in the pit was fairly minimal but a haze could be seen due to a clear inversion layer. The OCE also commented that dust from the pit was minimal. Water carts could be observed running in the pit and on the scraper circuit. The OCE confirmed that the water cart had been running the previous night and drills were using water injection.	No further action required.
EPA on behalf of anonymous landholders – email to Environmental Manager	9/05/2012 1:35pm	Complaint in relation to dust from Tarrawonga and Boggabri Mines. Very thick dust in the air this morning right across the valley and coming from the mines.	Investigation undertaken to confirm operations occurring at Tarrawonga and extent of dust suppression undertaken. Confirmed normal operations with 835,000L of water used for dust suppression on night shift up to 2:30am Wednesday morning. Tarrawonga shut down between 2:30am and 7:00am. Photographic evidence taken on the Thursday morning prior to pit start up identifying substantial dust in the area, but no dust identified above the Tarrawonga site. This is indicative of other dust sources contributing to dust levels first thing in the morning. Review of the Real Time PM <sub>10</sub> at Flixton property confirms dust levels well within compliance limits. A report has been issued to the EPA in response to the complaints.	No further action required.
EPA on behalf of anonymous landholder – email to Environmental Manager	10/05/2012 11:18am	Complaint in relation to dust from Tarrawonga Mine. Very thick dust in the air this morning with black smog over Tarrawonga site.	Investigation undertaken to confirm operations occurring at Tarrawonga and extent of dust suppression undertaken. Confirmed normal operations with 928,000L of water used for dust suppression on night shift up to 2:30am Thursday morning. Tarrawonga shut down between 2:30am and 7:00am. Photographic evidence taken on the Thursday morning prior to pit start up identified substantial dust in the area, but no dust identified above the Tarrawonga site. This is indicative of other dust sources contributing to dust levels first thing in the morning. Review of the Real Time PM <sub>10</sub> at Flixton confirms dust levels well within compliance limits. A report has been issued to the EPA in response to the complaints.	
EPA on behalf of anonymous landholder – email to Environmental Manager	11/05/2012 9:48am	Complaint in relation to noise from the mines last night, and dust this morning being so thick you can't see the hills.	Investigation undertaken to confirm operations occurring at Tarrawonga and extent of dust suppression undertaken. Confirmed normal operations with 960,000L of water used for dust suppression on night shift up to 2:30am Friday morning. Tarrawonga shut down between 2:30am and 7:00am. Photographic evidence taken on the Friday morning prior to pit start up identified substantial dust in the area, but no dust identified above the Tarrawonga site. This is indicative of other dust sources contributing to dust levels first thing in the morning. With regard to the noise complaint, Tarrawonga site shuts down between 2:30am and 7:00am thereby minimizing potential for noise impacts from site over this period. The real time noise monitor was in Gunnedah at the time of the complaint however is being re-tasked to site to measure noise levels. Review of the Real Time PM <sub>10</sub> at Flixton confirms dust levels well within compliance limits. A report has been issued to the EPA in response to the complaints.	
Phone call to Environmental	11/05/2012	Complaint received in relation to dust from the mine and gravel trucks causing	Both Council and Narrabri Coal have been informed of the need for a water cart to be operational on Manilla Road during gravel haulage on several occasions. A phone call was made to Narrabri	The complainant was contacted via phone at 4.00 pm by the

Manager	10:30am	dust on Manilla Road. Complainant believes she had seen gravel trucks running on Manilla Road in the morning without a water cart.	<p>Coal at 2.30 p.m. to discuss the movements of Narrabri Coal gravel trucks. They confirmed that two trucks (White Kenworth and Blue Kenworth) were doing 3 loads per day from the quarry and had been clearly instructed not to use Manilla road, if this was the case serious action was to be taken. Narrabri Coal immediately rang the truck drivers and told them to pull up for the day. The truck drivers confirmed they had been using the sealed Whitehaven haul road instead of Manilla Road.</p> <p>Tony Williams from Narrabri Shire Council was then called at 3.30 p.m. Tony confirmed that Council had not been using the quarry for 3 weeks and that on the day of the complaint there was a Rostered Day Off so no council trucks were operating.</p> <p>Further investigation found that a third gravel truck was operating on the day. A meeting was held with the Environmental Officer, Project Manager and Peter Harris (who is currently running the quarry) on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 8.30 a.m. Peter was also asked to confirm where the third gravel truck is travelling to so it can be assured it is not using Manilla Road. Monitoring of trucks using the Manilla Road will continue over the following weeks by the Project Manager and Environmental Officer.</p> <p>In relation to dust from the mine, an inspection was conducted that morning from 6.30 a.m. Water carts were observed from the beginning of morning shift. Dust was being created by a drill rig from around 7.00 am. The Project Manager was informed and both the Project Manager and Environmental Officer met with the drill rig operator to confirm that water injection was being used and dust aprons were down (of which both actions were already in place). The operator was also told by the Project Manager to keep dust in mind.</p>	<p>Environmental Officer. She was informed that Narrabri Coal, Narrabri Shire Council and Peter Harris had been contacted in regard to the matter and investigations were underway. She was instructed to call and try to provide specific details on any gravel trucks seen using Manilla Road without a water cart in future so that Whitehaven can narrow down who is responsible and take necessary action. She said she could see two gravel trucks on the morning but couldn't provide more detail. She was also informed that the pit was being monitored in an attempt to keep dust to a minimum and that the Project Manager and OCE's are aware that dust is an issue and are working to minimise it.</p>
EPA on behalf of anonymous landholder – phone call to Environmental Manager	15/05/2012 10:30am	Complaint in relation to noise from the mines last night, from around midnight through to 9am this morning	<p>Investigation undertaken to confirm operations occurring at Tarrawonga. Confirmed normal operations with three dumps active, being on the western out of pit emplacement (RL 358m), central dump in pit (RL 322m) and southern emplacement (RL 307m). Tarrawonga shut down between 2:30am and 7:00am. As a consequence, Tarrawonga operations could have only contributed to noise impacts for a small component of the timeframe nominated by the complainant. The real time noise monitor was in Gunnedah at the time of the complaint however is being re-tasked to site to measure noise levels. Arrangements will be made to position the monitor at the complainant's residence to verify noise levels. A letter report has been issued to the EPA on this basis.</p>	<p>Real time monitor relocated to complainant's property – 18/5/2012.</p>
Phone call to Environmental Manager	17/05/2012 9:30am	Complaint in relation to from Tarrawonga yesterday which shook his house. Concerns that they felt this blast but don't normally feel them and if the mine continues to expand – what will the implications be from blasting impacts.	<p>Reviewed the blast information which confirmed the shot was of an average size and performed to expectations. Review of monitoring results confirmed the blast was well within compliance limits at closer monitoring points, recording levels of 1.77mm/s vibration and 105.3 dBL overpressure at the "Templemore" property and not triggering at the "Tarrawonga" property. A blast the following day on the same bench of similar size was undertaken and Environmental Officers travelled up to the complainant's property for the blast. It was reported that the blast was hardly audible with negligible vibration noticeable.</p>	<p>A letter was issued to the complainants in relation to the blast and observed conditions, with an offer to have blast monitors placed for a period to define blast impacts.</p>
Phone call to	23/05/2012	Complaint in relation to blast from	An investigation is being undertaken in relation to the blast and likely causes as to why it was felt	No further action required.

Community Liaison Officer	12:15pm	Tarrawonga at around 12:01pm that shook the complainant's house. The complainant is concerned that this is the third blast from Tarrawonga that he has felt at his property, and at such a distance (~21km), the impacts should not be experienced at his property.	at the complainant's property. Blast monitor results from monitors in much closer proximity to the Tarrawonga site confirmed compliance at all monitoring locations. The complainant was advised a written response would be issued in relation to the investigation and that arrangements would be made to further discuss the issue with him with both Whitehaven and Orica personnel.	
Phone call to Environmental Manager	24/05/2012 12:30pm	Complaint in relation to blast on 24 <sup>th</sup> May that shook the complainant's house. Felt like a large blast.	Orica was called at 3.30pm on the 24 <sup>th</sup> May to discuss the blast. They advised that the blast was not in any way different to previous blasts apart from it being a high blast and an overcast day. Overcast days can have the tendency of spreading noise from blasting activities. The monitoring results received by Orica the following morning indicated that both locations (Tarrawonga and Templemore) conformed to environmental parameters. The site Environmental Officer monitored the blast from the road outside the "Sylvania" property to the east and reported that no overpressure or vibrations were present or could be noticed from this location. The complaint was in regard to air blast overpressure as the complainant reported that she could hear the blast and it rattled her windows, although she couldn't feel any vibrations. This was discussed with Orica in the weekly production meeting on 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2012, of which Orica again reinforced the potential impact of an overcast day.	The complainant was left a phone message on the afternoon of the 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2012 indicating that the complaint was being investigated and a response would be delivered in due time. A follow up phone call was made from the Environmental Officer at 9.00am on the 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2012. The complainant confirmed that the issue with the blast was overpressure rattling windows and noise from the blast. She indicated that no vibrations could be felt. She was advised that this information would be provided to Orica to further investigate the complaint.
Phone call to Environmental Manager	25/05/2012 8:30am	Complaint in relation to a rotten egg gas smell persisting in the area – not sure of the source but has contacted Whitehaven to check if the source is related to Whitehaven operations.	Tarrawonga and Rocglen Project Manager's checked their respective sites with no identification of any spontaneous combustion. Contact was made with Boggabri Coal who also confirmed no spontaneous combustion was present at their site. Site personnel were instructed to visit the Canyon site to confirm no spontaneous combustion from the reject emplacement area. The Geology team was also instructed to confirm no gas was emanating from exploration holes located on surrounding properties. Orica was contacted who also confirmed no odour emanating from their site. Orica personnel could also notice the smell, but described it as not being a sulphurous smell. It was suggested that perhaps there had been an application of a fertilizer product on an adjacent farming enterprise.	Whitehaven was unable to get in contact with the complainant despite many phone calls.
Phone call to Environmental Manager	25/05/2012 8:45am	Complaint in relation to a rotten egg gas smell persisting in the area – not sure of the source but has contacted Whitehaven to check if the source is related to Whitehaven operations.	Tarrawonga and Rocglen Project Manager's checked their respective sites with no identification of any spontaneous combustion. Contact was made with Boggabri Coal who also confirmed no spontaneous combustion was present at their site. Site personnel were instructed to visit the Canyon site to confirm no spontaneous combustion from the reject emplacement area. The Geology team was also instructed to confirm no gas was emanating from exploration holes located on surrounding properties. Orica was contacted who also confirmed no odour emanating from their site. Orica personnel could also notice the smell, but described it as not being a	Follow up phone call with complainant to advise that the smell was not found to be related to any of Whitehaven's or Orica's activities.

			<p>sulphurous smell. It was suggested that perhaps there had been an application of a fertilizer product on an adjacent farming enterprise.</p>	
<p>Phone call to Tarrawonga Complaints Line</p>	<p>26/05/2012 8:00am</p>	<p>Complaint in relation to excessive noise from the mines all night and into the morning. She knows they've had noise monitoring but the noise the night prior to the complaint and the morning of the complaint was very, very loud. The complainant finds it hard to believe that the noise contours for the next 16 years of mining do not include the complainant's property.</p>	<p>Phone message left with complainant on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May. No response received to date.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>
<p>Phone call to Environmental Manager</p>	<p>28/05/2012 9:00am</p>	<p>Complaint in relation to the local Rural Fire Brigade in attending a fire at the "Pine Grove" property, reported issues with Toll coal haulage trucks not moving sufficiently out of the way to enable immediate access to the property. No specific truck numbers could be provided. Incident occurred at around 8pm on Wednesday night 23 May 2012.</p>	<p>Toll was contacted to discuss this issue and ensure that all operators are made aware of their responsibility in terms of avoiding any impediment to operating fire trucks when in attendance of a fire. Toll confirmed that a driver hauling from Tarrawonga noted that the fire truck was already at the Pine Grove residence when he travelled on Manilla Road at approximately 7:15pm. The fire truck was still at the residence when all trucks completed their final haul back to Gunnedah.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>
<p>Text message to Environmental Manager</p>	<p>29/05/2012 3:57pm</p>	<p>Complaint in relation to a Toll truck attempting to overtake the complainant's father, who was travelling at 100km/hr. Also questioned if WHC had spoken to Toll in relation to changed bus drivers on the school bus run to ensure communication protocols between Toll trucks and the bus were understood. Complainant indicated that unless these issues were sorted out with Toll, he would be contacting the Police.</p>	<p>A response was sent to the complainant confirming that he is within his rights to take the matters up direct with the Police if he believes there are activities occurring outside legal road rules. The complainant was also asked to provide any details in relation to the truck involved in the overtaking incident including truck number and time so it could be thoroughly investigated. No additional information had been received by the time of preparing this complaint record. Contact was made with Toll who refuted suggestions that a Toll truck attempted to overtake a vehicle travelling at 100km/hr. This was on the basis that the trucks are speed limited to 98km/hr and that any speed infringement would result in immediate notification to the RTA and Toll due to the system in place for Toll operations. Toll also confirmed communications had been held with the alternate drivers on the bus run and all were comfortable with communication protocols between trucks and the school bus.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>
<p>Phone call to Environmental Manager</p>	<p>30/05/2012 9:20am</p>	<p>Complaint in relation to the blast held at Tarrawonga on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May just after 12pm. Complainant felt the blast in his shed. The complainant's property is located south east of the Rocglen mine, so to be feeling blasts from Tarrawonga</p>	<p>The complainant was advised that an investigation is being undertaken in relation to the blast to confirm if the blast performed to expectations and verify if there was anything related to the shot that may have exacerbated blast impacts at far field sites. A letter report has been issued to all complainants confirming blast monitors were within compliance limits and offering further discussions with the complainants and Orica.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>

		is indicative of something not going right with the blasts.		
Phone call to Environmental Manager	8/06/2012 9:50pm	Complaint in relation to vibration felt at complainant's property and suggestion that it was caused by Tarrawonga Coal Mine operations.	The complainant was advised that there had been an earth tremor and the vibration was felt at the Environmental Manager's property in Tamworth, and as a consequence was not related to mining activities. Complainant did not accept this response and remained adamant that the vibration was a consequence of Tarrawonga mine and wanted the complaint recorded. Subsequent news reports the following morning confirmed an earth tremor had occurred to the west of Manilla, with the vibration felt in many centres in the north-west. As a consequence, no further action taken in relation to the complaint.	No further action necessary.
Text message to Environmental Manager	9/6/2012 4:59pm	Complaint in relation to a Service Vehicle travelling out to Tarrawonga nearly colliding with the complainant.	The complainant was asked if he could provide any details of the vehicle involved as without detail there was little that could be done in terms of finding the offending driver. The complainant indicated that he did not get any details due to being shaken up as a consequence of the incident and it happening so fast. The only detail provided was that the vehicle had a crane on the back of the truck. As a consequence of the limited information available, the offending vehicle or driver could not be tracked down for further action.	No further action necessary.
EPA on behalf of anonymous complainant	20/06/2012 7:30am	Complaint in relation to dust in the area in the early morning and assumption that it was related to Tarrawonga, Boggabri and Rocglen Coal Mines.	A response was issued to the EPA identifying the extent of dust mitigation undertaken from water application, as well as daily reports from the Real Time TEOM located at the "Flixton" property. It was also identified that a thick fog was present around the mine until 9:30am that morning. The development of cumulative impact strategies with Boggabri Coal was also provided in the response.	No further action necessary.
EPA on behalf of anonymous complainant	25/06/2012 4:00am	Complaint in relation to noise from Tarrawonga and Boggabri operations from 4am through until 10am that morning.	A response was issued to the EPA identifying the Tarrawonga operation was not running at 4am. Site commencement was from 7am. Daily reports from the real time noise monitor located at "Templemore" were also provided identifying the noise levels at the time of the complaint. From 4am, noise levels were well within compliance limits. The monitor did identify mining noise during the morning, however could not be used for compliance as it is currently based at "Templemore" which is project related and in much closer proximity to operations. A temperature inversion was prevalent throughout the night and early morning. The EPA was advised of the developing cumulative impact strategies between Boggabri and Tarrawonga to address noise impacts.	No further action necessary.
Phone call to Open Cut Examiner (shift supervisor)	27/06/2012 10:00pm	Complaint received in relation to noise from the mine. Boggabri Coal also received the same complaint. The complainant subsequently contacted the Environmental Manager the following morning to discuss their concerns.	The OCE on shift immediately went for a drive to assess noise from the east and the west. From the west it was noted that noise could be heard from both Tarrawonga and Boggabri sites. At the time Tarrawonga was dumping on the top level of the western emplacement. The OCE turned the trucks around to start dumping to the eastern side of the western emplacement, of which after a second inspection from the west it was noted to be quieter. The OCE noted the need to dump lower in the pit after 10pm. The Environmental Officer and Project Manager were advised the morning of the 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 subsequent operations that night were aligned for dumping lower in the pit after 10pm despite space constraints. It was also noted that Boggabri Coal have placed a real time noise monitor at the property as of	No further follow up necessary at this time. Complainant was advised that Tarrawonga would be prepared to locate its real time monitor at their property if Boggabri Coal needed to relocate their unit.

			28 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 to obtain relevant noise data. The complainants also advised the Environmental Manager that after 2:30am, once Tarrawonga operations had ceased, the mining noise was still prevalent. The complainants identified that the majority of the noise source appeared to be from Boggabri Coal operations given the noise level remaining after Tarrawonga shut down. It was identified that there was a minor reduction in noise at this time, but was still of significant concern to the complainants.	
Phone call to Environmental Manager	10/07/2012 12:05pm	Complaint received in relation to a blast held at Tarrawonga at 12:02pm Blast shook the complainant's house.	Complainant indicated that every time there are overcast conditions, it seems to cause the blast to impact on her property. Complainant was advised that Tarrawonga would look into the blast monitor results to identify the monitor levels and provide that information to the complainant.	Written advice was issued to the complainant advising that the blast was compliant. An offer was made to place a blast monitor at the complainant's property when similar weather conditions are present.
Phone call to Environmental Manager	16/07/2012 7:40am	Complaint in relation to runoff from the mine causing increased flooding at the complainant's property.	Complainant indicated rainfall over the weekend had resulted in excess runoff causing increased flooding on his property. This follows previous complaints on the same issue from November 2011 and February 2012. The issue is subject to an investigation by Lindsay Gilbert to determine impacts of the mine on flooding downstream.	Subject to ongoing investigation.
In person complaint to Project Manager	24/07/2012 3:55pm	Toll truck T21 on the road at approximately 2.30 pm today with what appeared to be a split tarp at the rear of the B trailer and coal spilling over the back of the truck.	The Environmental Officer contacted Toll's Mining Services Manager to discuss the issue. He advised that following notification of the complaint, Toll's Leading Hand inspected T21 after it loaded at the Tarrawonga bin and found both tarps to be fully intact front to rear. The only explanation that Toll could provide is that the B trailer was loaded high at the rear and the tarp had cut through the coal load, depositing a small amount of coal on top of the tarp which was then able to fall off the truck. Toll has counselled the driver regarding inspecting the load whilst loading to ensure even placement of the load.	No further action required.
Text message to Environmental Manager	30/07/2012	Lights from the Tarrawonga dump were shining direct to the complainant's property.	Environmental Manager contacted the night shift OCE at Tarrawonga and requested that he review the lighting plant location and re-align the lighting plants to avoid impact on complainant's property. OCE contacted Environmental Manager upon completion of re-alignment to confirm it had been done. OCE provided with complainant contact number to confirm the issue had been resolved. OCE was also to advise complainant of cattle out on the road.	No further action required.

# **Minutes of the 27th Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee**

**Meeting Held:** 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012, 10am

**Venue:** Tarrawonga Coal Mine, Training Room

## **1.0 Present and Apologies**

**Present:** Mr Danny Young (DY), Environmental Manager  
Mr Brian Cullen (BrC), General Manager  
Mr Tim Muldoon (TM), Community Liaison Officer  
Mr Matthew Sparkes (MS), Operations Manager  
Mr Bart Crosby (BC), Community Rep  
Mrs Julie Heiler (JH), Community Rep  
Mr Jim Picton (JP), Community Rep (Alternate)  
Mr Bob McGregor (BM), Community Rep  
Clr Hans Allgayer (HA), Gunnedah Shire Rep  
Clr Catherine Collyer (CC), Narrabri Shire Rep

**Apologies:** Peter Laird, Community Rep

**Visitors:** Lewis Oldfield (LO) (Director, Engineering Services – NSC)  
Luke Tanner (LT) (Road Services Manager – NSC)  
Tony Williams (TW) (Roads Operations Manager – NSC)

## **2.0 Declaration of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests**

JH leases “Velyama” from Aston Resources (now Whitehaven) and is in discussions with Whitehaven regarding water issues at her property.

BM property “Tarrawonga” is within the acquisition zone for Tarrawonga operations.

BM retains a commercial lease with Whitehaven for land on which part of the Tarrawonga Haul route is located.

JP property has 70% of its boundary adjoining mine owned land.

## **2.1 Introduction of Committee**

DY provided introductions to the committee of new members JP, HA and CC. DY called for nominations from the committee to chair the meeting in the absence of an independent chairperson. BM queried HA if he would chair the meeting. HA agreed on the proviso that it was a temporary arrangement and that a full time chair would be present for the next meeting.

DY provided the committee with a brief outline as to the current status of a new independent chairperson. It was explained that discussions had been held with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure in relation to an appointment and that it was the Department’s preference to install an independent chairperson that would chair all three mine CCC’s in the area

(Tarrawonga, Boggabri and Maules Creek). The reason given for this was that it would provide an opportunity for coordination between CCC's and would provide the benefit of being able to undertake at least one CCC meeting per year where the 3 groups would come together. DY advised he would be consulting with Boggabri Coal and Maules Creek on this matter to confirm adoption of the request and seek an appropriate independent Chair.

**DY to discuss with Boggabri Coal and Maules Creek to confirm arrangement of single independent chair for all three committees.**

### **3.0 Previous Minutes**

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record on the motion of Julie Heiler and Danny Young. One clarification was requested by Julie Heiler that the prior minutes be revised to reflect that Boggabri Coal were obtaining quotes for pavement design of Manilla Road only, and were not actually undertaking the works.

### **4.0 Business Arising**

- 4.1 DY provided an update on the LOM EA. At this stage there remains little to report with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's Assessment Report yet to be issued to the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC). Similarly, there has yet to be an announcement as to the makeup of the PAC for the Tarrawonga Extension Project. DY advised that it was still hoped that the PAC would be formed and commence consideration of the Project before the end of the year. JP asked if the EA for Tarrawonga had been amended to take into account discussions at the last community day in relation to the proposed flood bund and Goonbri Creek Diversion. DY advised that the EA had not been revised, but that additional work, including a more detailed design scope for the diversion and flood bund had been prepared, and this information would be made available to the PAC during their assessment of the project as required.

**DY to provide update on EA progress at next meeting**

- 4.2 DY asked the NSC visitors to introduce themselves to the group.

LO provided a brief discussion around the works initiated on WHC land on the corner of Blair Athol Lane. LO explained that the construction of the earthen bank was undertaken in direct response to damage caused to Goonbri Road following the November 2011 and February 2012 flood events. NSC held an on-site meeting with the Namoi CMA to identify the location of the break-out point from Bollol Creek and to confirm the location of the required bank to avoid future road damage. LT advised that more detailed design information was available from Council if required.

LO, LT and TW all confirmed that the construction of the earthen bank was in no way related to the proposal to develop a gravel crushing facility at the same location. JP disputed this claiming it was more than a coincidence that the two activities were occurring at the same location.

LO and LT identified that the positioning of a gravel facility at that location was no longer being considered, and that they were in talks with Boggabri

Coal to access gravel from their site for subsequent use in road repairs for the surrounding area.

The question was raised around who was undertaking the works to tar seal the remaining section of Manilla Road west of the Tarrawonga haul road. DY confirmed that under the Voluntary Planning Agreement reached with NSC, Whitehaven would provide funding of up to a pre-determined value to undertake the works upon receiving Project Approval to the Tarrawonga Extension. BC confirmed that the agreement reached included funding of Manilla Road tar sealing (up to \$1.4M). CC queried who is responsible for the works noting that there appeared to be confusion as to whether the responsibility lay with Boggabri Coal, Tarrawonga Coal or Maules Creek as she recalled seeing this required in the Maules Creek consent. CC suggested a meeting be called between NSC, Boggabri Coal, Tarrawonga Coal and Maules Creek to sort out where the responsibility lies. CC also queried if commencement of works on the detailed design can start now so that once approval is received actual works could commence as soon as possible. JH queried why Council can't undertake the works now on the basis that it is a Council road that has been in a poor state of repair since well before the mines came to the area. JH suggested that Council could then be reimbursed for the costs once the mine approval had been received. BC suggested that as the road is a Council road, NSC instigate the required meeting with the mines to get actions started.

**CC to instigate meeting between NSC and the mines to commence discussions on sealing the road to confirm who is undertaking the works and in what timeframe.**

- 4.3 DY advised that the permanent blast monitors at Tarrawonga and Templemore were now in place. Despite some early teething problems with data acquisition the issues were being resolved between Orica and the supplier. JP raised the issue of dust generation from blasting, and in particular recent blasts at Tarrawonga during strong winds. DY advised that it is not intended to send large dust plumes across the valley from blasting operations, and that site is currently reviewing operational protocols to try to minimise the extent of dust generation towards surrounding residences.

**DY to arrange for site rules for blasting, giving consideration to wind speed and direction.**

- 4.4 CC attended a meeting last Friday with the Mining Related Councils. The Department of Planning and Infrastructure also attended the meeting to consider guidelines for funding and appropriate policy in relation to appropriate royalties for regions, including the VPA process. Discussions were also held with the Opposition Planning Minister in relation to their proposed solutions which was based on a royalties per capita basis. There was general acknowledgement of frustration as to the lack of outcomes in relation to the royalties for regions issue.

**CC and HA to provide further updates at next meeting.**

- 4.5 As Colleen Fuller is no longer the GSC representative, HA agreed to take up the matter of different speed signs at different ends of Manilla Road with the Road Traffic Committee.

**HA to provide advice at next meeting.**

- 4.6 LT provided advice as to where the earthen bank design came from, which was based around consultation with the Namoi CMA. JP advised that the February flood would easily break the earthen bank that has been constructed as Bollol Creek broke its banks well upstream from that location.

LT explained that the works on the bank are not yet complete, with the further intent of extending the bank across Blair Athol Lane when they next do road repair works.

BM raised the issue that at a community meeting earlier in the month, the community had resolved that they don't want the bank there at all, and that it should be removed and the site rehabilitated to its former state. LT advised it remained Council's intention that the bank remain and be further improved during the next round of road works.

BC raised the issue of repairs to Dripping Rock Road and when this would be likely to happen. LO advised it is dependent on availability of gravel and the works program for road repairs in the region. On this basis LO could not give an indication of timing of road works at the meeting.

JH queried why Council is now reliant on gravel from the mines rather than using their existing gravel pits. LO advised that the use of gravel from the mines is a much cheaper option, and it was this source of gravel that the RTA based its provision of funds for road repairs as a consequence of the flooding. To access gravel from existing quarries has the additional costs of winning the gravel and subsequent transport to the area. It was also noted that the gravel from the mines was of superior quality for road repairs. JH raised the issue of Council not necessarily using the gravel from the mines for local road repairs, and that they were transporting it further away to do works elsewhere. LO advised that this was simply based on the road works program and where works were scheduled at the time.

**No further action required.**

- 4.7 BC confirmed that they will no longer be submitting a letter requesting WHC to cease gravel sales from the site. This was previously based on Council and others accessing Tarrawonga and transporting gravel along unsealed roads causing significant dust impacts on the community.

With the current arrangements of gravel haulage via the sealed haul route, or via Goonbri Road, no further action was required.

LO advised that NSC understood the community concerns around dust impacts from gravel transport but advised that a central location for crushing gravel product and collection is a must to resolve dust issues as well as provide product to repair local roads. NSC is negotiating potential outcomes with Boggabri Coal on this, but would still like the opportunity to further discuss options with WHC. BrC advised that past experience on the matter had resulted in WHC being tarnished in reputation for simply trying to facilitate access to product. On this basis WHC would be very wary of subsequent discussions on the matter and would require iron clad guarantees from Council that all appropriate mechanisms would be followed prior to any activity. LO expressed that NSC would ensure that any such site would have appropriate infrastructure to do the right thing.

JH raised the issue that the community has lost confidence in Council doing the right thing due to the lack of proper consultation that occurred in this instance.

**NSC to negotiate appropriate outcome with Boggabri Coal in first instance. No further action required.**

- 4.8 DY provided approximate expenditure on road maintenance within NSC for the FY12 at \$510k and \$67k to date for FY13. BC questioned if this related just to the sections of haul road within NSC. DY confirmed this was the case. BC questioned if NSC had sought any additional funding from WHC for roadworks elsewhere in the vicinity. NSC indicated this has not occurred.

**No further action required.**

- 4.9 Emergency contact details for the SES were provided to JH at the conclusion of the meeting

**No further action required.**

- 4.10 DY advised that placement of a notice in the paper advising of Operations Manager Jason Conomos leaving Tarrawonga, and contact details of new Operations Manager, Matthew Sparkes has not yet been done.

**DY to follow up placement of notice in paper.**

- 4.11 DY advised that the truck wash at the CHPP had been re-activated and was currently being trialled to verify performance. Results to date have indicated successful cleaning of truck wheels, however the trial will need to continue during wet weather to identify if wheel washing is effective in the wet or if it exacerbates material being deposited on the road.

**DY to report outcomes at next meeting**

- 4.12 DY advised NSC had informed that Catherine Collyer was the new Narrabri Shire Council representative. DY advised of discussions with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure concerning appointment of a new independent chairperson. It was explained that the Department would prefer a single chair for the CCC committees of Tarrawonga, Boggabri and Maules Creek. DY to discuss this with Boggabri and Maules Creek Mines.

**DY to liaise with Boggabri Coal and Maules Creek on the option of a single Independent Chair for all three committees.**

## **5.0 General Business**

### **5.1 Mine Progress Report**

MS provided the mine progress report as follows:

- 5,351,482 million BCM overburden removed
- 417,456 tonnes of coal mined

- 73 permanent operators on site
- 25 casual operators on site
- 15 staff/management on site

Main issue over the reporting period has been the operations approaching eastern approved pit limit, with extension approval becoming critical to maintain production.

Dust suppressant trial is currently underway to reduce dust emissions from site as well as conserve water during the summer months.

## 5.2 Environmental Monitoring Report

DY presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

## 6.0 New Business

- 6.1 CC raised the issue of the Boggabri Medical Centre needing to understand potential employment growth in the area in order to plan for the areas needs in terms of doctors and other medical staff. In particular, interested to understand the extra jobs that will be created with the Tarrawonga extension and the Maules Creek Project. BrC suggested that they make contact with TM to discuss.

**CC to provide contact details to medical centre to make contact with TM.**

- 6.2 JH raised concern over the increasing rents being experienced in Boggabri and that it is starting to price elderly and vulnerable people out of the market. Suggested that this issue needs to be addressed in some way and should have been thought of well in advance of the mines coming to the area. CC advised the issue has been discussed through Council, but there is no easy fix to the situation. It was explained that the MAC Village should alleviate the issue to some extent by providing accommodation to contractors/construction personnel, rather than these groups competing for rental accommodation in town. HA advised of recent forum in Narrabri discussing these issues, and in his opinion the State Government should be directing some of the royalties they receive from mining into addressing accommodation shortages and subsequent rental increases. JH raised the issue of Councillors undertaking field trips to other mining areas to understand the impacts, yet nothing seems to be getting done locally to address the issues. JH advised that she had heard that personnel for the mines had been told that they must use the MAC village for accommodation rather than live locally. CC suggested this was not the case, and that the MAC village was more for the FIFO/contractor for short term accommodation. BrC advised this was the case, and that Whitehaven retained the preference for employing locally, and encouraging new employees to relocate to the area.

**No further action required.**

- 6.3 DY tabled notice from NSC that Catherine Collyer was the new NSC representative to the committee and a notice that Hans Allgayer was the new Gunnedah Shire Council representative to the committee.

**No further action required.**

- 6.4 DY tabled the Tarrawonga AEMR/Annual Review for the 2011/2012 period and advised the committee that the report was on the website, with a hard and soft copy presented at the meeting for those interested in taking it away for review.

**No further action required.**

## **7.0 Complaints**

Complaints were discussed in the Environment Monitoring Report.

## **8.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 10:00am.

Meeting closed at 12:00pm.

..... / /  
Hans Allgayer – Temporary Chairman

# Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #27

## Environmental Monitoring Report August – October 2012

### Noise Monitoring

Noise monitoring was undertaken on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September 2012, with results outlined below. The noise criterion for Tarrawonga is 35dB(A) Leq (15 min) for all operating times.

Table 1 TCM Noise Monitoring Results – 24 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2012				
Date	Time	dB(A),Leq (15 min)	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources as dB(A) Leq (15 min)
24 Sept 2012	1:22 pm	49	3.5 m/s, S	Birds & insects (49), wind (40) <b>TCM inaudible</b>
24 Sept 2012	8:32 pm	28	1.5 m/s NE	Traffic (28), insects (20), <b>TCM inaudible</b>
24 Sept 2012	11:22 pm	26	2.5 m/s E	Mine noise (26)
25 Sept 2012	9:00 am	42	4 m/s S	Birds & insects (41), wind (35), <b>TCM inaudible</b>
25 Sept 2012	8:02 pm	40	0.5 m/s S	Birds & insects (39), mine noise (31)
26 Sept 2012	12:04 am	32	Calm	Mine noise (32)
26 Sept 2012	9:47 am	39	3 m/s SE	Birds & insects (39), mine noise (20)
26 Sept 2012	9:03 pm	42	3 m/s SE	Insects (40), wind (35), mine noise (33)
<b>27 Sept 2012</b>	<b>12:59 am</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0.5 m/s NE</b>	<b>Mine noise (40) TCM (est. 39)</b>

Table 2 TCM Sleep Disturbance Monitoring Results – 24 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2011			
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq (1 min)	Wind Speed/Direction
Tarrawonga (24/9)	10:20 pm	<30	2.5 m/s E
Tarrawonga (26/9)	1:22 am	37	Calm
<b>Tarrawonga (27/9)</b>	<b>1:47 am</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0.5 m/s NE</b>

The results indicate that, under the operational and atmospheric conditions at the time, noise emissions from the operations at TCM exceeded the noise criterion of 35 dB(A) Leq (15 min) by 4 dB at “Tarrawonga” during the night survey of the 27<sup>th</sup> September (Table 1). In addition, TCM exceeded the sleep disturbance criteria of 45 dB(A) L1 (1min) by 2 dB at “Tarrawonga” on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Table 2). The “Tarrawonga” landholders, tenants, EPA and DP&I have been notified of the exceedances.

It is noteworthy that the exceedance of noise criteria at “Tarrawonga” was predicted in the modelling conducted for the 2010 Tarrawonga Modification Project. This modelling placed “Tarrawonga” in the project acquisition zone, and a consent condition was applied providing the owner of the “Tarrawonga” property with acquisition rights, for which the landowner has been advised in writing under the terms of the consent. On this basis, the measured noise levels are in accordance with predictions for which there is limited capacity for any site based actions to further reduce noise impacts.

The Real Time noise monitor remains at “Kyalla” and will be removed from this location on the 16th November 2012, marking 3 months from its placement. The alarm system on the noise monitor has recently been activated and outcomes will be monitored closely to verify noise levels.

### **Blast Monitoring**

#### **Blasting Results**

Since the first shot there have been 397 blasts (until the end of October).

All blasts over the last three months have been compliant with the blast criteria.

### **Air Quality**

#### **Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results**

MONTH	TEMPLEMORE (EB-4)	BOLLOL CREEK STN (EB-5)	AMBARDIO (EB-6)	TARRAWONGA (EB-7)	THUJIN (EB-8)	PINE GROVE (EB-9)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-10)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-11)	PINE GROVE (EB-12)	BOLLOL CREEK (EB-13)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-14)	TARRAWONGA MINE (EB-15)	JERALONG NORTH (EB 16)
November 2011	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.2	4.6	0.9	1.3	1.1	0.9	2.2	1.7	4.6	1.2
December 2011	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.2	8.0	0.9	3.6	1.0	1.5	9.3	-	-	1.6
January 2012	-	-	1.4	0.9	4.5	0.4	3.9	2.6	1.2	7.5	3.5	5.2	2.9
February 2012	1.8	0.2	1.0	0.7	9.9	0.5	2.0	-	1.8	2.0	2.4	4.0	0.9
March 2012	5.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	5.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	1.2	5.5	3.8	1.5
April 2012	2.9	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.6	11.4	1.4	2.9	1.4	2.5	3.0	2.0
May 2012	3.2	-	0.5	0.2	5.4	1.5	9.2	0.7	0.7	2.3	5.4	8.8	3.8
June 2012	3.4	0.7	0.3	0.4	2.4	0.3	2.1	0.9	0.4	2.9	1.9	4.5	2.4
July 2012	1.3	1.2	0.5	0.3	1.9	0.3	14.8	0.7	0.5	2.8	2.3	14.5	1.1
August 2012	3.3	0.3	0.9	0.8	2.8	3.4	10.3	1.1	1.0	3.1	1.3	4.8	0.9
September 2012	0.9	4.4	1.1	1.2	2.8	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.2	1.5	1.1	3.7	1.1
October 2012	-	-	-	-	2.1	-	1.3	1.2	2.2	2.5	1.1	1.9	1.8
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>

Note that combustible matter reported in the dust deposition results have been excluded from the annual average for results taken in August, September and October.

EB-15 continues to return an elevated annual average; this is likely due to its close proximity to present construction works at Idemitsu Boggabri Coal. As this monitor is project related, with no occupied residence located at the monitoring point, compliance criteria do not apply.

Not all results from October 2012 monitoring are currently available however will be included in the next report.

## PM<sub>10</sub> Results

The annual average for PM<sub>10</sub> readings is currently at 15.21µg/m<sup>3</sup> (until end of September 2012) and remains well below the annual average limit of 30µg/m<sup>3</sup>. PM<sub>10</sub> levels have remained compliant since the last CCC meeting.

The fixed real time air quality monitor (TEOM) is currently providing daily reports as well as real time air quality results. As at the end of October, the 24hr average PM10 level was recorded at 20.8µg/m<sup>3</sup>, below the 24hr criterion of 50µg/m<sup>3</sup>. As with the real time noise monitor, an alarm system has been activated on the TEOM to alert when dust levels reach a pre-determined level based on wind direction from the mine site. This will be monitored closely to verify if dust levels from the site approach compliance limits.

## Water Monitoring

### Ground Water

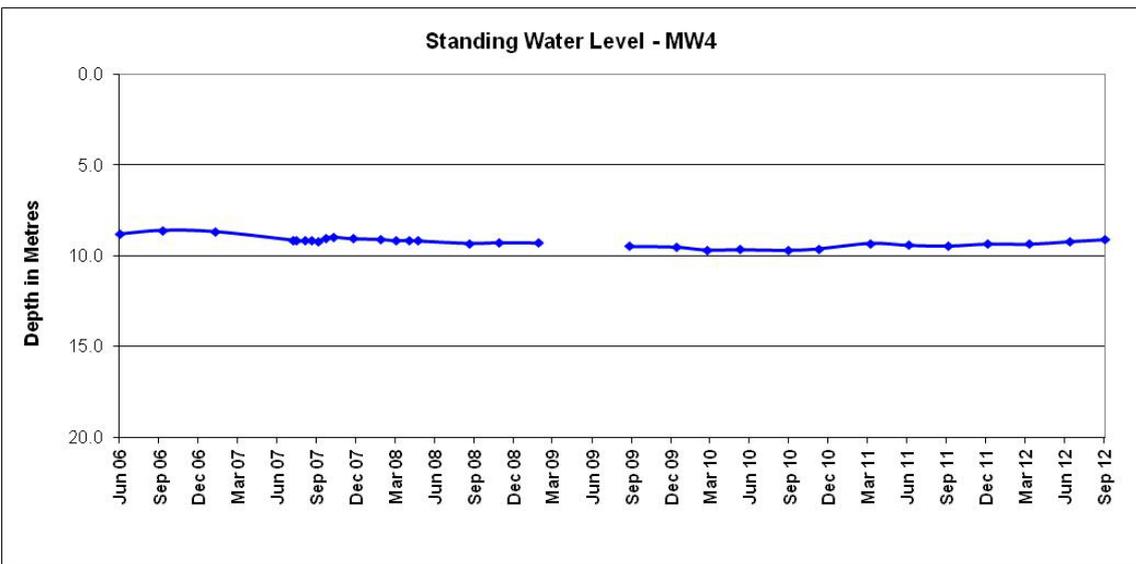
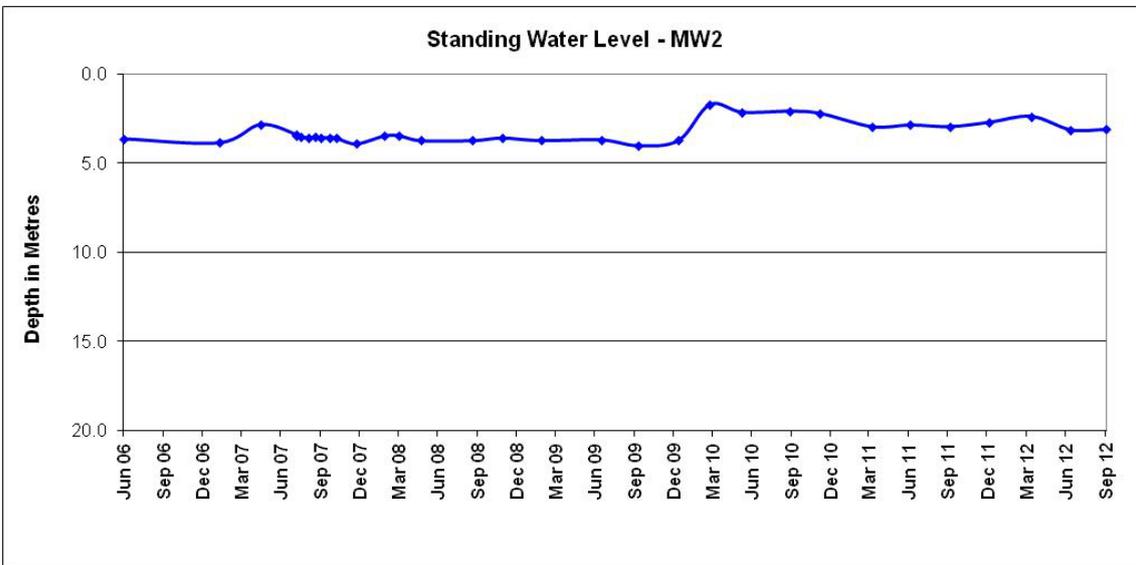
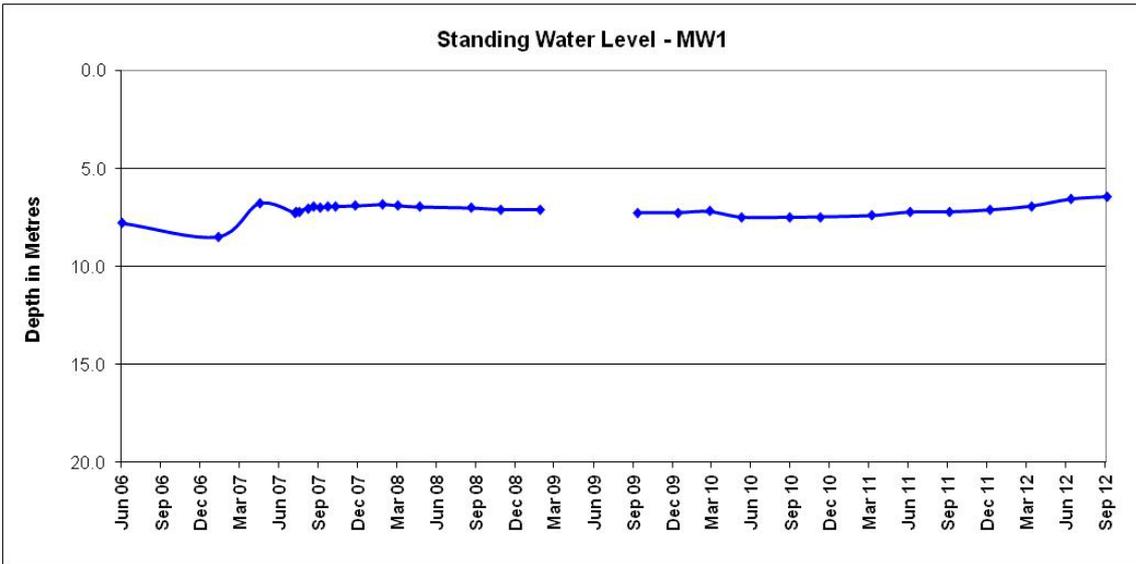
Groundwater monitoring data obtained to date, including the last round of SWL monitoring in June 2012 is provided in the table and graphs below.

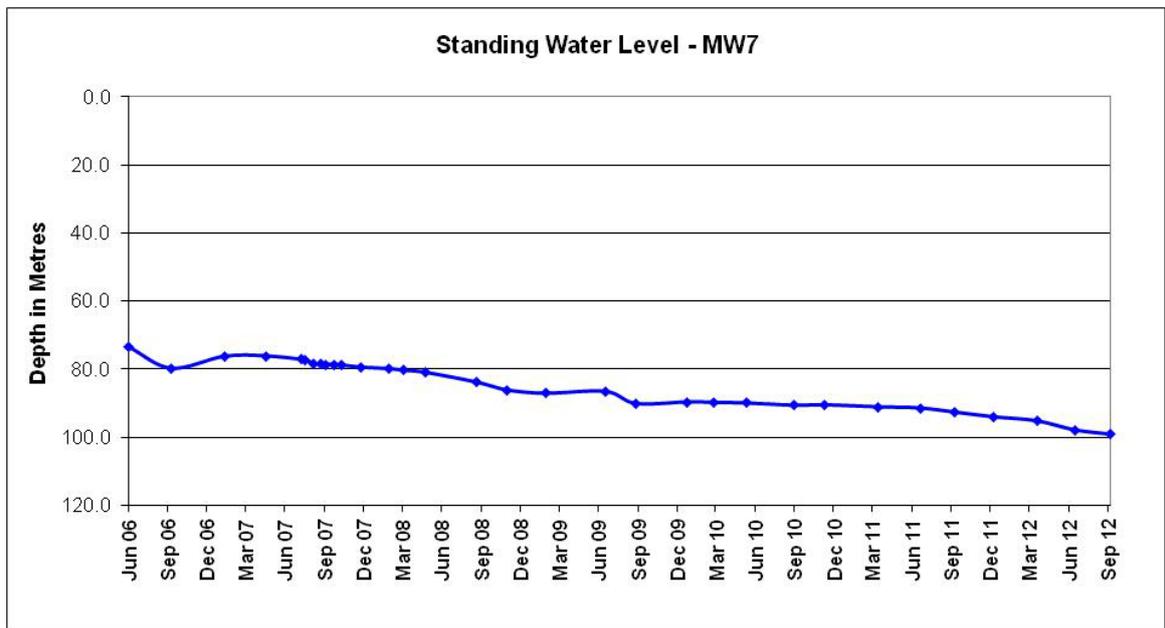
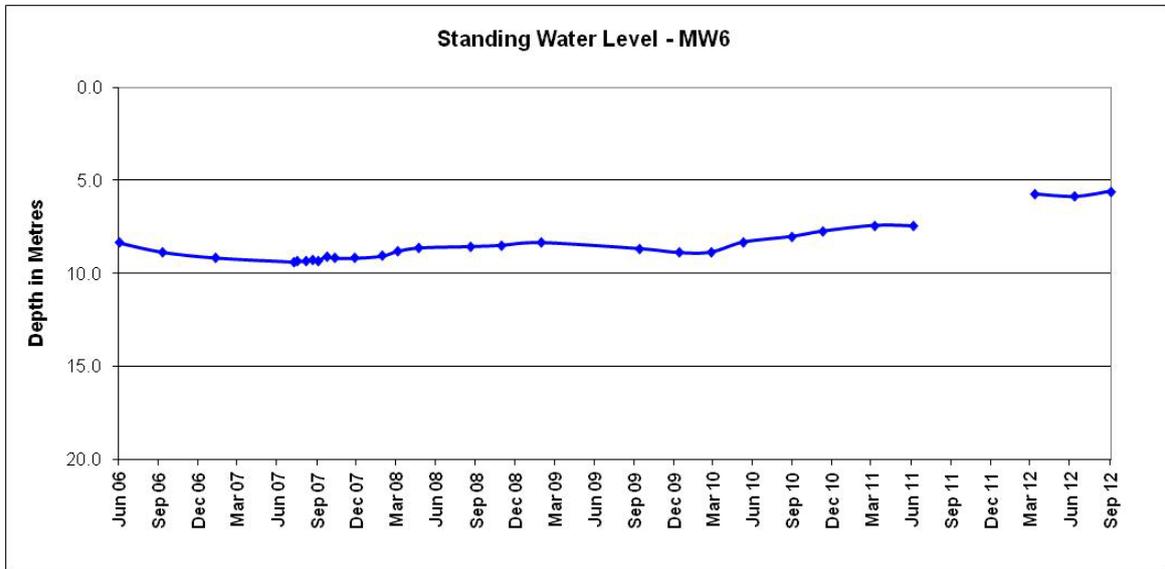
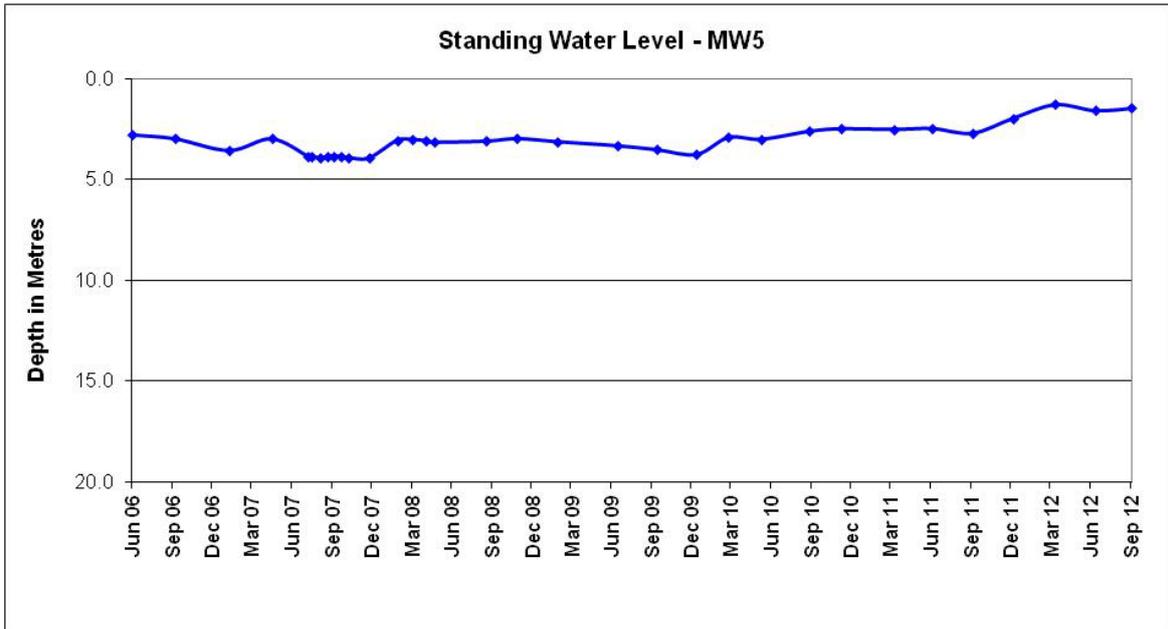
Site	Date	SWL (m)	pH	Elect. Conduct
MW1	January 07	9.22	7.1	2410
	April 07	7.49		
	July 07	7.91	7.3	2500
	August 07	7.66		
	September 07	7.66		
	October 07	7.64		
	November 07	7.62		
	January 08	7.55		
	March 08	7.60		
	April 08	7.67	7.3	3120
	August 08	7.73		
	September 08			
	October 08	7.82	7.8	3500
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	7.73		
	June 09	7.87	7.2	5470
	September 09	7.9		
	December 09	7.9	7.83	4510
	February 10	7.84		
	May 10	8.13		
	August 10	8.14	7.47	3890
	November 10	8.12	7.06	3170
March 11	8.05	7.1	3280	
June 11	7.87	7.2	3110	
September 11	7.19	7.09	3200	
December 11	7.09	7.16	3150	
March 2012	6.9	7.44	3140	
June 2012	6.53	7.37	3730	
September 2012	6.41	7.8	3570	
MW2	January 07	4.62	6.8	511
	April 07	3.59		
	July 07	4.29	7.1	496
	August 07	4.32		
	September 07	4.34		
	October 07	4.37		

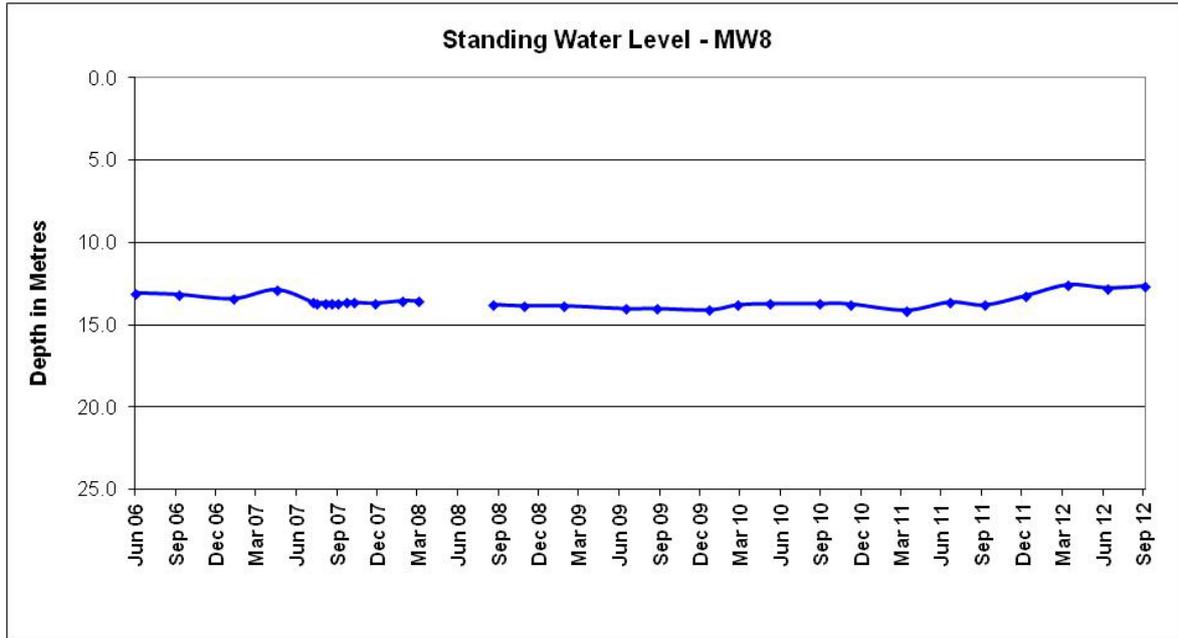
	November 07	4.68		
	January 08	4.25		
	March 08	4.23		
	April 08	4.50	7.3	440
	August 08	4.51		
	September 08			
	October 08	4.37	6.9	620
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	4.51		
	June 09	4.53	7.7	660
	September 09	4.8		
	December 09	4.51	7.5	640
	February 10	2.51		
	May 10	2.94		
	August 10	2.89	7.4	590
	November 10	3.01	7.32	513
	March 11	3.75	7.31	566
	June 11	3.65	7.3	553
	September 11	2.95	6.9	585
	December 11	2.71	7.08	600
	March 12	2.38	7.06	912
	June 12	3.13	7.02	1320
	September 2012	3.11	7.47	1310
<b>MW4</b>	September 06	9.25		
	January 07	9.37	7.1	3430
	July 07	9.88	6.8	5400
	August 07	9.87		
	September 07	9.73		
	October 07	9.67		
	November 07	9.76		
	January 08	9.80		
	March 08	9.87		
	April 08	9.88	7.1	5160
	August 08	10.01		
	September 08			
	October 08	9.98	7	5800
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	9.96		
	June 09	10.05	6.8	5400
	August 09	10.10		
	December 09	10.14	7.35	5040
	February 10	10.30		
	May 10	10.28		
	August 10	10.31	7.33	4740
	November 10	10.23	6.9	3810
	March 11	9.93	7.18	3060
	June 11	10.04	7.25	3080
	September 11	9.46	7.12	3196
	December 11	9.35	7.10	3180
	March 12	9.36	7.6	2580
	June 12	9.22	7.52	3850
	September 12	9.11	7.98	3770
<b>MW5</b>	September 06	3.64		
	January 07	4.18		
	April 07	3.60		
	July 07	4.49	7.5	1930
	August 07	4.50		
	September 07	4.48		

	October 07	4.53		
	November 07	4.56		
	January 08	3.68		
	March 08	3.63		
	April 08	3.77	7.9	3260
	August 08	3.72		
	September 08			
	October 08	3.59	7.3	3400
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	3.73		
	June 09	4.18	7.7	2390
	September 09	4.32		
	December 09	4.56	7.44	7460
	February 10	3.71		
	May 10	3.8		
	August 10	3.4	7.85	1740
	November 10	3.28	7.35	2620
	March 11	3.31	7.39	1917
	June 11	3.27	7.45	1032
	September 11	2.7	7.39	1910
	December 11	1.96	7.36	2275
	March 12	1.28	7.52	1110
	June 12	1.58	7.81	977
	September 12	1.46	7.92	2120
<b>MW6</b>	September 06	9.54		
	January 07	9.81	6.9	2030
	July 07	10.01	7.5	2060
	August 07	9.95		
	September 07	9.73		
	October 07	9.82		
	November 07	9.83		
	January 08	9.72		
	March 08	9.48		
	April 08	9.28	7.1	2120
	August 08	9.21		
	September 08			
	October 08	9.15	7.1	2100
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	9.10		
	June 09	No sample		
	September 09	9.43		
	December 09	9.64	7.3	2100
	February 10	9.62		
	May 10	9.08		
	August 10	8.78	7.2	1927
	November 10	8.5	7.03	1835
	March 11	8.19	7.08	1783
	June 11	8.22	7.15	1670
	September 11	Piezo damaged	-	-
	December 11	Piezo damaged	-	-
	March 12	5.74	7.49	1840
	June 12	5.87	7.45	2040
	September 12	5.58	8.08	1990
<b>MW7</b>	September 06	80.52		
	January 07	77.0	7.3	1960
	April 07	76.9		
	July 07	77.93	7.2	2250
	August 07	79.28		

	September 07	79.39		
	October 07	79.55		
	November 07	80.17		
	January 08	80.63		
	March 08	81.10		
	April 08	81.68	7.6	2370
	August 08	84.57		
	September 08			
	October 08	86.81	7.4	2300
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	87.80		
	June 09	87.50	7.4	2440
	August 09	91.04		
	December 09	90.58	7.49	2240
	February 10	90.69		
	May 10	90.90		
	August 10	91.53	7.52	2385
	November 10	91.43	7.47	2010
	March 11	92.00	7.24	2075
	June 11	92.36	7.55	2180
	September 11	92.49	7.35	2160
	December 11	93.89	7.70	2200
	March 12	95.05	7.25	2460
	June 12	97.7	7.6	2900
	September 12	98.95	7.93	2840
<b>MW8</b>	September 06	13.9		
	January 07	14.1	6.7	2260
	April 07	13.6		
	July 07	14.41	6.8	2530
	August 07	14.40		
	September 07	14.38		
	October 07	14.37		
	November 07	14.43		
	January 08	14.28		
	March 08	14.30		
	April 08	N/S		
	August 08	14.52		
	September 08			
	October 08	14.59	NA	NA
	November 08			
	December 08			
	January 09	14.60		
	June 09		Unable to sample	
	August 09	14.77		
	December 09	14.85	Casing blocked	
	February 10	14.55		
	May 10	14.47		
	August 10	14.46	Casing blocked	
	November 10	14.49	Casing blocked	
	March 11	14.87	Casing blocked	
	June 11	14.37	Casing blocked	
	September 11	13.8	Casing blocked	
	December 11	13.24	Casing blocked	
	March 12	12.57	Casing blocked	
	June 12	12.76	Casing blocked	
	September 12	12.63	Casing blocked	







All monitoring locations have remained relatively consistent over the past three months. The SWL at MW7, which is located at the north-eastern corner of the mine lease on mine-owned land, continues to drop more prominently as a result of depressurisation from a reduction in groundwater pressures due to mining both the Tarrawonga and Boggabri Coal pits.

### **Surface Water**

Routine surface water monitoring was conducted during August 2012. Total suspended solid levels were low (<5mg/L) in all dams sampled which is indicative of the low rainfall received over the quarter. All discharge points have maximum capacity at present due to dry weather and utilisation of the water for dust suppression activities.

No wet weather discharges occurred during the period.

### **Complaints**

Since the last meeting, there have been 14 complaints, as outlined on the following pages.

### **Rehabilitation**

Rehabilitation areas seeded during May 12 and June 12 have been closely monitored over the past three months.

The most limiting factor to the growth of seedlings and cover crops during August 12 was wallabies foraging in the rehab areas, particularly on the western emplacement.

The cover crop on the southern emplacement has provided a good immediate cover, but is now haying off with the warm weather. Rehabilitation planning for future months has developed with strategic dumping occurring on the southern emplacement to open up a further 2.5 ha area for dozer push. Subsoil and topsoil was moved from the north onto this area in late October and early November 12. Rehabilitation will continue north over the coming months. This will allow for

opportunities in the later stages to move topsoil directly from pre-strip areas onto the shaped slope, avoiding stockpiling and rehandling.

Dozer push has also occurred on the upper 370 level of the western emplacement in order to progress rehab at this visible level.





#	Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
36	Phone call to Environmental Manager	2/08/2012 8:02am	Dust from Tarrawonga and Boggabri Coal hanging in the valley. Unacceptable dust levels and something needs to be done to reduce dust impacts.	Investigation undertaken into dust suppression activities undertaken at site. Records indicate 1,024,000L of water was used in dust suppression on the night shift of 6 <sup>th</sup> August. Dayshift used 1,493,000L. Personnel at site reported a general dust haze in the area during the morning, however there was no specific dust generation activity identified at site that could be the cause of the dust haze. The 'Flixton' PM <sub>10</sub> did not identify any elevated dust levels during the early morning of the 7 <sup>th</sup> August, with the predominant spike in dust levels coinciding with shift change between 5-8pm. The running 24hr average PM <sub>10</sub> was at 12.3ug/m <sup>3</sup> .	The Environmental Manager left a phone message on the complainant's message bank with an indication that a meeting could be arranged to discuss this and other matters.
37	Phone call to EPA	7/08/2012 7.45am	Dust plume in the air coming from the Boggabri and Tarrawonga coal mines. Caller advised the dust is thicker than usual.	Investigation undertaken to determine dust suppression activities undertaken at the time. It was confirmed that 1,024,000L of water was used for dust suppression during night shift of the 6 <sup>th</sup> August. This followed application of 1,248,000L of water during day shift. Review of data from the EPA camera did not pin-point any specific dust generating activities during the early morning with water carts actively in use. Review of the real time PM <sub>10</sub> data at Flixton identified a peak in PM <sub>10</sub> levels between 8am and 11am, and again between 5 and 8pm. Wind direction was from the North East and wind speed was around 0.8m/s.	Response provided to the EPA. Project Manager informed of complaint via Environmental Officer. Complaints highlighted in weekly production meeting and monthly GM's meeting.
38	Phone call to Environmental Manager	7/08/2012 11:11am	Gravel truck identified as travelling along Manilla Road. Truck had Robson marked on its trailer.	Investigation undertaken to determine who the truck was operating for. Robson was operating for Narrabri Coal, and all drivers had been instructed to travel the haul route to Gunnedah and stay on the tar. A new driver was operating who may not have been given this specific instruction. The matter was referred to Narrabri Coal to ensure all drivers understood the protocol.	Narrabri Coal has spoken with Robson and the driver has been given a first and final letter. The complainant was advised of the outcomes of the investigation.
39	Phone call to Environmental Manager	8/08/2012 8:30am	General dust in the valley from the coal mines. Dust levels unacceptable and something needs to be done to reduce dust impacts.	Investigation undertaken to determine dust suppression activities undertaken at the time. It was confirmed that 928,000L of water was used for dust suppression during night shift of the 7 <sup>th</sup> August. This followed application of 1,368,000L of water during day shift. Review of data from the EPA camera did not pin-point any specific dust generating activities during the early morning with water carts actively in use. Review of the real time PM <sub>10</sub> data at Flixton identified a peak in PM <sub>10</sub> levels between 8am and 11am, and again between 5 and 8pm. Wind direction was generally from the south west and north west which may have caused dust to drift towards the complainant's property.	A phone message was left with the complainant. In addition, the Environmental Officer had discussed several issues with the complainant over the subsequent days.
40	Phone call to Environmental Manager	8/08/2012 12:10pm	Dust travelled down to complainant's property following a blast at Tarrawonga.	Investigation undertaken which identified the blast was a near surface shot and as a consequence was not afforded the protection from the pit as usually occurs. At the time of the shot conditions were very still which result in the dust from the shot not dispersing as would normally occur. The shot did not result in any obvious peak in PM <sub>10</sub> levels at the "Flixton" monitor at the time of the shot.	A phone message was left with the complainant confirming that a meeting could be arranged to further discuss blasting protocols and impacts on properties.
41	Phone call to Environmental	9/08/2012	Noise from both Tarrawonga and Boggabri Coal unbearable this morning	Discussions held between the complainant Tarrawonga Environmental Officer as to noise. The complainant indicated it was their belief that noise from the Boggabri Mine was the main	Discussions were held with the complainant in relation to the noise

#	Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
	Manager	10:48am	and we need to do something to reduce the noise impacts.	source of impact at their house, however, believed noise from Tarrowonga was the main source at their other residence. The use of the mobile noise monitor was again explained, however the complainant was not of the view that the noise monitoring was accurate. The noise monitor was placed out to the east within the public road reserve for a period of time to obtain additional noise monitoring results. In terms of active noise mitigation, operations are currently using the western dump RL375m during the day and relocating to the eastern dump RL 347m during the night to reduce noise impacts.	however the matter remains unresolved. Data from the real time unit will be reviewed to identify noise levels.
42	Phone call to the EPA	21/08/2012 No specific time	Dreadful dust for the last few days and nights from unsealed section of local road. Council and the two local mines have been arguing about who will pay to seal the road but no agreement has been reached. Caller states the road is watered from time to time but not sure of the legal position of whether the mine or council should deploy water trucks. Caller states the traffic is almost entirely mine staff. Caller asks for EPA intervention and/or advice on what should be done and whether Council is legally responsible for the situation.	Complaint is clearly in relation to Manilla Road. Whitehaven Coal had an agreement with Council and Narrabri Coal to supply a water cart if gravel trucks leaving Tarrowonga were to be using Manilla Road. Narrabri Coal decided only to use sealed haul roads when carting gravel. For the last 2 months to avoid Manilla Road council trucks have been using Goonbri Road to access Tarrowonga. They supply a water cart and water Goonbri Road for the duration that the gravel trucks are running. Tarrowonga coal has no registered water carts and therefore it is illegal for Tarrowonga to water public roads	Response provided to the EPA. Project Manager informed of complaint via Environmental Officer. Complaints highlighted in weekly production meeting and monthly GM's meeting. Issue of dust from gravel trucks reiterated with Pete Harris (Gravel Manager) and Council and both parties are fully aware of their obligations.
43	Phone call to the EPA	3/09/2012 7.45 am	Caller reports dense dust from the mine. The site reportedly has cameras on their own site to alert them to high levels of dust and this also is a lead to them shutting down operations to correct the matter. Caller relates that the cameras cannot be working given the volumes of dust travelling down their valley this morning.	The EPA requested that Tarrowonga informs of blast times for viewing, as well as having direct access for real time viewing of mine site operations. Since installation there have been no other requests from the EPA received. Investigation to determine dust suppression activities confirmed that 1.720.000L of water was used for dust suppression during day shift of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> September. This followed application of 1,088,000L of water during night shift. No water was applied on the previous night of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> September as this was a Sunday. Review of data from the EPA camera did show thick dust in the air at 8.00am in the morning. Given the first dig at Tarrowonga doesn't occur until around 7.30am and Tarrowonga was not operating the previous night, the volume of dust in the air is not considered to be directly attributable to Tarrowonga mining operations.	Response provided to the EPA. Project Manager informed of complaint via Environmental Officer. Complaints highlighted in weekly production meeting and monthly GM's meeting.
44	Phone call to the EPA	3/09/2012 8.25 am	Large amount of dust in the air from the Tarrowonga Coal Mine	Investigation to determine dust suppression activities confirmed that 1.720.000L of water was used for dust suppression during day shift of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> September. This followed application of 1,088,000L of water during night shift. No water was applied on the previous night of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> September as this was a Sunday. Review of data from the EPA camera did show thick dust in the air at 8.00am in the morning. Given the first dig at Tarrowonga doesn't occur until around	Response provided to the EPA. Project Manager informed of complaint via Environmental Officer. Complaints highlighted in weekly production meeting and monthly

#	Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
				7.30am and Tarrawonga was not operating the previous night, the volume of dust in the air is not considered to be directly attributable to Tarrawonga mining operations.	GM's meeting.
45	Phone call to Environmental Manager (left message) and Tarrawonga site	12/9/2012 12:30pm	B-double truck travelled on unsealed section of Manilla Road and turned left onto Tarrawonga haul road. A description of the truck, including its trailer registration number, was provided.	The Environmental Officer and Tarrawonga Operations Manager contacted the complainant to discuss the issue. The Operations Manager advised that the truck is a sub-contractor to a domestic coal haulage contractor and committed to counselling the driver. The complainant further advised that he had reported the incident to the police. He suggested that Tarrawonga notify all contractors of restricted B-double routes. Following the commitment to counsel the driver, it was determined that the truck was a 19m B-double with bogey axles which means it is legally permitted to drive on all roads unless there is a road sign specifying a load limit. The complainant was contacted again to advise him of the situation. He said it's not that he didn't believe what he'd been told but he would be seeking clarification from the RTA as to what constitutes a B-double.	Whitehaven emailed the complainant a copy of the RTA information sheet on B-doubles on the 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2012.
46	Phone call to Environmental Manager	8/10/2012 8:03am	Dust coming off the mine site this morning and over the last few days.	The Environmental Officer was contacted and asked to do a site review to verify extent of dust generation on site. Environmental Manager accessed the site camera and reviewed real time vision of the site, as well as snapshot photographs from the camera over the course of the morning. The real time vision and photographs did not identify any significant dust source from the active pit or haul roads. Upon completion of the site review the Environmental Officer confirmed that all haul roads were well watered as was the scraper route. The only identified dust source was from the dig face and dumping of loads into haul trucks for which there is no practical solution, albeit this dust source was minor and unlikely to be visible outside the pit. Photographs were taken of the pit to verify limited dust generation.	No further action required.
47	Phone call to Environmental Officer	17/10/2012 12:10pm	Large amount of dust in the air from a blast at Tarrawonga Coal Mine	The OCE advised the Production Superintendent of the wind speed and wind direction at around 10 am being 6m/s WNW. The wind was taken into consideration however there was no option to delay the blast due to an urgent need to move an excavator the following day. The wind direction was also blowing towards Whitehaven owned land. The wind speed and direction during the time of blasting was 6.4m/s WNW (301 degrees). The Environmental Officer inspected the blast from Goonbri Road and noted that dust was present but no fume rising from the shot. The dust was swept to the South East towards "Flixton" and "Templemore" (both Whitehaven owned properties).	Environmental Officer discussed complaint with Production Superintendent and Operations Manager. Complaint brought up in weekly production meeting. Operations Manager and Environmental Officer are reviewing the pre-blast assessment process.
48	Phone call to EPA	17/10/2012 12:10pm	Complainant advised that it was quite windy and that following the blast a "huge cloud of dust" was coming over the valley.	The OCE advised the Production Superintendent of the wind speed and wind direction at around 10 am being 6m/s WNW. The wind was taken into consideration however there was no option to delay the blast due to an urgent need to move an excavator the following day. The wind direction was also blowing towards Whitehaven owned land. The wind speed and direction during the time of blasting was 6.4m/s WNW (301 degrees). The Environmental Officer inspected the blast from Goonbri Road and noted that dust was present but no fume	Response provided to the EPA. Environmental Officer discussed complaint with Production Superintendent and Operations Manager. Complaint brought up in weekly production meeting.

#	Method	Date/Time of Complaint	Nature of Complaint	Investigation	Action Taken / Follow-up
				<p>rising from the shot. The dust was swept to the South East towards “Flixton” and “Templemore” (both Whitehaven owned properties).</p>	<p>Operations Manager and Environmental Officer are reviewing the pre-blast assessment process.</p>
49	Text message from unknown number to Environmental Manager	24/10/2012 ~9:00am	Photo showing one Toll truck overtaking another. Text said “T27 overtaking t02 700 metres before turn not on”.	<p>The matter was referred to Toll. The Toll Mining Services Manager spoke with both drivers, viewed the scene of the photo, and interrogated the relevant GPS tracking data and rejected the complainant’s claim for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The full overtaking manoeuvre was completed well before 500m before the corner – some 20 B Double lengths before the corner</li> <li>• Both drivers had clear view past the corner along Hoads Lane, and to the approaching left entry road for at least another 500m (from truck driver viewing position)</li> <li>• Truck T02 was loaded with chitter and slowing for the corner, slowed further and called T27 around, foreseeing that he would impede his progress up the hill towards the Canyon weighbridge</li> <li>• The call from T02, the response from T27 and the ok to return to lane by T02 was heard by all vehicles in the vicinity</li> <li>• Single dotted lines are in place on the roadway</li> <li>• At no stage were any other vehicles in danger, or required to make unplanned movement</li> </ul>	<p>No further action required.</p>