

Minutes of Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee – Meeting #10

Meeting Held: Wednesday 9th February 2011

Venue: The meeting held at Rocglen Coal Mine Training Room

Commencement Time: 3:00pm

1. Present and Apologies

Present: Mr John Sturgess (Chairman)
Clr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)
Mrs Pam Burns (Community Rep)
Mr Rod Barnes (Community Rep)
Mr Tony Heinrich (Project Manager)
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer - Whitehaven)
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager – Whitehaven)
Miss Jill Scealy (Environmental Officer – Whitehaven)

Apologies: Mr Warren Nicholls (Community Rep)

2. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record on the motion of Mrs Pam Burns and Clr Colleen Fuller.

3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

3.1. Danny Young advised that the Environmental Assessment (EA) was with the Department of Planning (DoP) for adequacy assessment and that DoP had requested additional work on the geotechnical assessment. Whitehaven is currently working on this and expects to have the final EA submitted in mid February for Department endorsement for exhibition. Following this endorsement, another newsletter will be issued to surrounding landholders. The EA will be on exhibition for a period of 28 days with copies available from the Council and Department of Planning website. A notification of the exhibition period will be in the local paper.

3.2. Jill Scealy stated that John Molloy (Project Manager – Toll Resources) had advised the Tarrawonga Coal Mine CCC that morning that there wasn't such a need for hardstand bays now that the drivers are using facilities at the Vickery depot as well as the Tarrawonga and Rocglen mines. It was agreed that this item should be removed from the agenda.

- 3.3. Danny Young advised that he had not yet spoken to Rod Barnes about replacement of the corridor of trees that will be removed with the Wean Road upgrade that currently provide a visual screen between the mine and Rod's house. Danny said it will be some time before we remove the trees but he would discuss the issue with Rod in the near future.
- 3.4. Jill Scealy advised that Ken Bates (Tarrawonga CCC Chair) had advised the Tarrawonga CCC that morning that a letter had been issued to Gunnedah Shire Council in December 2010 regarding safety concerns with the Bluevale/Kamilaroi highway intersection upgrade. Colleen Fuller advised the Tarrawonga CCC at the time that the RTA Traffic Committee that she is a member of had not seen the letter and she committed to following up its whereabouts.

4. Mine Progress Report

Tony Heinrich advised that over the past 3 months approximately 2.2 million BCM of overburden was moved and 231,800 tonnes of coal was mined.

5. Review of Environmental Performance

Danny Young presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the environmental monitoring report.

Rod Barnes noted that noise from the mine has generally been ok lately but sometimes it's quite loud. He said Saturday morning was particularly noisy and Tony Heinrich said that the excavator had been working at surface that morning which would have been the likely contributor to greater noise generation.

6. Complaints/Complaints Hotline

Complaints were discussed in the Environment Monitoring Report.

7. General Business

- 7.1. Rod Barnes raised an issue on behalf of Warren Nicholls regarding another step in the waste dump since the last meeting. Tony Heinrich confirmed that the dump had increased in height by 10m but it was still below the approved height. Tony said the mine didn't want to go any higher but delays with the extension approval meant that they weren't able to dump to the north.

Danny Young and Jill Scealy explained that the approved top height of the dump is the same height as the highest point in the adjacent Vickery State Forest. Danny said if you drive along Wean Road towards the mine you can see that the dump is still lower than the ridge in the State Forest.

Tony also explained that the dump will be battered back to provide a more subtle slope. He said that he will contact Warren to discuss his concerns.

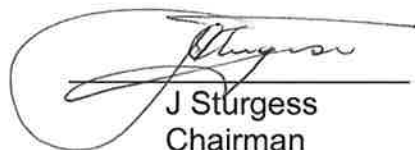
7.2. Rod Barnes raised an issue on behalf of Warren Nicholls regarding litter along Wean Road. He said that Warren had commented that some of it appeared to be from service vehicles (eg. oily rags). Tony said that some of the traffic may not be related to Rocglen (as people take a shortcut through Riorden Road to get to other mines) but he would reiterate to his contractors and employees to secure their loads and not to litter. Tony also said that Warren should contact the mine if he notices a build up of litter on the road.

7.3. Rod Barnes asked whether Wean Road would be returned to its original alignment once the mine finishes. Tony Heinrich said that the deviation will remain as the final void will be where the current road alignment is.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Rocglen CCC is scheduled for Wednesday 11th May 2011.

Meeting closed 3:30pm



J Sturgess
Chairman