

Minutes of Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee – Meeting #11

Meeting Held: Wednesday 11th May 2011

Venue: The meeting held at Rocglen Coal Mine Training Room

Commencement Time: 3:00pm

1. Present and Apologies

Present: Mr John Sturgess (Chairman)
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: Cllr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)
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 Mr Rod Barnes.

3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- 3.1. Danny Young advised that the Environmental Assessment (EA) was on public exhibition for a period of 28 days until the 4th April 2011. Electronic copies of the EA were delivered to surrounding landholders during this time. Submissions were received from Government departments but not from the public. Whitehaven is currently preparing a Response to Submissions that is expected to be lodged by the end of May with a determination hopefully by the end of June.
- 3.2. Danny Young had a conversation with Rod Barnes earlier in the day regarding planting trees to replace those removed during the Wean Road diversion works. Rod indicated that it would be a long time before they provided a screen. Danny explained to Rod that we will be planting trees along the new road alignment and it is possible to plant trees at his property if requested. Danny told the committee that a meeting was planned with Rod for the following week.
- 3.3. Danny Young provided an updated on the letter to Gunnedah Shire Council regarding the Kamilaroi Highway upgrade, as initially raised at the Tarrawonga CCC meeting. RTA responded to the letter issued

by the Tarrawonga CCC advising that the intersection had been designed in accordance with relevant standards. The Committee agreed that this item could be removed from the Rocglen CCC agenda however any further progress made by the Tarrawonga CCC will be reported.

4. Mine Progress Report

Tony Heinrich advised that over the past 3 months approximately 2.4 million BCM of overburden was moved and 280,000 tonnes of coal was mined. The northern section of the pit has now finished and the pit will commence moving in a south-easterly direction.

5. Review of Environmental Performance

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

6. Complaints/Complaints Hotline

Complaints were discussed in the Environment Monitoring Report. Danny Young advised that an additional complaint had been received following completion of the Environment Monitoring Report. The complainant was concerned about the amount of traffic travelling on Wean Road and the litter present on the road verges, which he believed to be associated with mine related vehicles. Danny told the committee that he explained to the complainant that the issues had been raised with employees and contractors but it is difficult to control people's use of a public road.

7. General Business

- 7.1. Tony Heinrich advised that he had resigned as the Rocglen Project Manager with his last day to be the 7th June 2011.
- 7.2. Rod Barnes said that he was being swamped by Ron Rennick's sheep. Tony Heinrich and Danny Young both indicated that Whitehaven properties were also being affected by Ron's sheep and that the mine has spoken to him on a number of occasions. Danny advised that Whitehaven has ordered materials to electrify the boundary fence in an attempt to keep the sheep in Ron's paddock. Once the Biobank Area is finalised, improved fencing will be a priority.
- 7.3. Rod Barnes advised that a blast just after Good Friday covered him in red-ginger dust as he was driving along Wean Road. He said he had been talking to people who worked at the mine that said it's not good for this dust to settle on your roof. Danny Young advised the Committee that he had told Rod that Whitehaven will sample his tank

water to determine the level of contaminants in the water. He also suggested that an Orica representative be invited to the next CCC meeting to explain the blasting process. The Committee agreed to this suggestion. Tony Heinrich said he didn't think we'd had a blast since Good Friday. He checked the blast records and confirmed that the last blast was on the 16th April 2011.

7.4. Rod Barnes said that he believed mining was occurring on Sundays. Tony Heinrich said that only maintenance occurs on Sundays. Rod said that it was machinery noise around 8:30am – 9:00am and Tony said it would have been equipment at the workshop.

7.5. Rod Barnes advised that he had received a complaint from Andrew Thibault regarding lighting impacts on their property which is south east of the mine. Pam Burns said she had been to that property and didn't think light impacts from the mine were a problem. It was explained that all efforts are made to minimise the impacts of off-site lighting, and given the distance to the Thibault property, direct lighting impact was unlikely.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Rocglen CCC is scheduled for Wednesday 10th August 2011.

Meeting closed 3:30pm

J Sturgess
Chairman