

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

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

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

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

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

1. Previous Minutes

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

2. Business Arising

2.1 Mine Web Site

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

2.2 Management Plan Approvals

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

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

Waiting on approval of Flora & Fauna Management Plans.

3. Environmental Performance

3.1 Environmental Status Report

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

3.2 Water Bores

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

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

3.3 Monitoring

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

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

4. General Business

4.1 Construction Activities Report

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

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

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

4.2 Mine Progress

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

5. New Business

5.1 Complaints

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

5.2 Council Representative

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

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

5.3 Guidelines for CCC Meetings

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

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

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

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

6. Next Meeting

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

Meeting closed at 5:00pm.

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