

Minutes of the 8th Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee

Meeting Held: Thursday 7th February at 4:35pm

Venue: The meeting held at Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room.

1. Present and Apologies

Present: Clr Ken Bates (Narrabri Shire Rep.) Chairman
Clr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep.)
Mr Chris Burgess (Group Manager New Projects)
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager)
Mr Jason Conomos (Project Manager)
Mr Peter Laird (Community Rep)
Mr Bart Crosby (Community Rep)
Mr Sandy Bull (Community Rep)
Mr Bob McGregor (Community Rep)

Apologies: Mr Tony Jones (Community Liaison Officer)
Mr Casper Dieben (General Manager – Open Cut)

2. Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st November 2007 were distributed and accepted as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.

3. Business Arising

- 3.1** Noise monitoring in relation to road transport noise had been undertaken at the “Kyalla” residence prior to the previous meeting, however results had not yet been received.

The results obtained from Spectrum Acoustics confirmed that road transport noise levels obtained at 5:50pm on Monday 24th September was at 53.7 dB(A), which is under the road traffic noise criterion of 60dB(A) as defined in the consent.

- 3.2** Noise levels from prior monitoring had also indicated an exceedance in noise criteria on private sections of the haul road at the “Pine Grove” and “Ambardo” residences. The cause of the exceedance was described as being a result of trucks crossing the grids located at the intersection with Manilla Road. The grids have subsequently been removed to ascertain if this brings noise levels at these locations back into compliance. At

the time of the meeting, no additional noise monitoring results had been received to confirm if this had been successful.

Removal of the grids has not resulted in any significant issues relating to stock movements.

4.0 General Business

4.1 Mine Progress

Production from Tarrawonga over the last 3 months has generally been on target as per figures below:-

November – Target (123,998t) Actual (112,700t)

December – Target (98,726t) Actual (100,000t)

January – Target (87,075t) Actual (71,170t)

Constraints to production continue to be in relation to transport of product both via rail to Newcastle as well as delays in loading boats in Port. The derailment that occurred on the line near Breeza set the production and transport schedule back by 1 week, with 2 trains/day still not sufficient in clearing the backlog of product coal. This has resulted in the cut back in some shifts to cut back on production until the backlog is cleared. It also requires the balancing of stockpiles on site to avoid excess coal stockpiling at the Gunnedah CHPP.

The upgrade to the rail line and passing loop in Gunnedah has now been completed, with additional works now proposed at Emerald Hill and Curlewis. The new Port facilities at Newcastle will also assist in the coal loading process however this is not expected to be operational until the end of 2009.

4.2 Environmental Monitoring Results

The Environmental Monitoring report was presented for the period with analysis indicating general compliance with consent criteria. Noise monitoring for September 07 indicated exceedance in relation to road traffic on the private sections of the haul road, however these readings were taken prior to removal of the grids. This will continue to be monitored at the next round of transport noise monitoring.

Rehabilitation has continued to progress on the western emplacement area with good results following good rainfall. The first round of tree planting on the site is scheduled for April 08.

The Department of Planning has also undertaken an audit at the

site to determine compliance against consent criteria. Whilst a formal response has not yet been received, general advice on day indicated a positive response from the Department.

5.0 New Business

- 5.1** The matter of Narrabri Shire Council measuring traffic use on adjacent gravel roads was raised for determination of road work requirements. It was noted that traffic counters had been placed on Hoad Lane, but there had been no results or advice from the Council on the measurements undertaken.
- 5.2** A truck turning sign on Manilla Road (in front of "Pine Grove") prior to the haul road to Whitehaven has been removed. New sign to be obtained.
- 5.3** Weed control to be addressed on the private haul roads. Action to be taken to investigate engaging Council or a contractor to undertake weed spraying.
- 5.4** Follow up on installation of First Flush Diverter for "Bollol Creek Station".

6.0 Complaints

No complaints were received on the complaints line or to personnel over the reporting period.

Bart Crosby highlighted that he had observed coal trucks stopping during heavy rain which was a positive sign in terms of general safety.

Peter Laird raised a complaint relating to a coal truck travelling at speed through water following a rain event which resulted in a wash which forced him from the road. Chris Burgess indicated this would be raised with Toll at the next toolbox meeting.

7.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room on Thursday 8th May at 3:30pm.

Meeting closed at 5:15pm.

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Ken Bates - Chairman