

Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee

Meeting Held: 27th July 2011, 10am

Venue: Tarrawonga Coal Mine, Training Room

1.0 Present and Apologies

Present: Clr Ken Bates (Narrabri Shire Rep), Chairman
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager)
Mr Peter Laird (Community Rep)
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer)
Clr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)
Ms Jill Scealy (Environmental Officer)
Mr Bob McGregor (Community Rep)
Mr Jason Conomos (Project Manager)
Mr Richard Kirwood (Resource Strategies)
Mr Brian Cullen (Technical Services Manager)
Mr John Molloy (Project Manager – Toll) (10:30am)

Apologies: Mr Sandy Bull (Community Rep)
Mr Bart Crosby (Community Rep)

2.0 Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record on the motion of Peter Laird and Ken Bates.

3.0 Business Arising

- 3.1 Danny Young and Richard Kirwood delivered a Powerpoint presentation which outlined the progress of the LOM EA over the last few months (attached to these minutes).

Ken Bates asked how many people responded to the request in the newsletter regarding the bore census. Danny said only one person responded but other key properties were targeted and approximately 8 properties were surveyed. Richard advised that the results of the surveys were provided to each landholder. The groundwater model will be quite comprehensive as it will also include publically available data from registered bores and information from Boggabri Coal and Aston Resources.

Bob McGregor asked what work would be done before the realignment of the creek to assess whether the new alignment will still be above the alluvium. Richard explained that the extent of the proposed open cut is within the alluvium as mapped by the Office of Water. Based on the mapping, the new alignment of Goonbri Creek extends further into the identified area of alluvium to the east. Danny discussed the additional drilling and electromagnetic survey that has been undertaken to assist with more accurate determination of the extent of the alluvium as opposed to the broad scale mapping done by NOW.

Bob asked how deep the low permeability barrier will be. Richard said that the deepest drilling to date has been 38m but the electromagnetic survey will provide more comprehensive data when the results become available. Danny explained that the barrier needs to be keyed into the bedrock so the water can't seep below the barrier. Richard noted the Hunter Valley No. 1 mine which has successfully installed a barrier to a similar depth and length as that proposed for Tarrawonga, which also utilised the same barrier construction methodology as proposed for Tarrawonga.

Ken Bates suggested that the committee visit the Hunter Valley to inspect the barrier but it was agreed this would be of little value given the barrier is buried and therefore not visible. Richard said that a paper has been written about the barrier and perhaps this would be a good starting point for providing information to the committee. Danny also advised that the consultants designing the barrier for Tarrawonga will be present at the community meeting to answer any questions the community may have.

Colleen Fuller requested that Gunnedah Shire Council be made aware of the community open day meeting as she believes water is the biggest concern for this area. Danny advised the committee that the Council will be invited to the meeting and notices will be placed in the local paper.

Peter Laird referred to the shallow water table near the boundary of the Templemore and Ambardo properties and questioned whether bores in that vicinity had been surveyed. Danny advised that we had bores in that area that are only a couple of metres deep and all that information has been included in the study. Bob advised Peter that the committee had done a bus tour of the area and that an additional meeting had been held with specific landholders so all of that information had been captured.

Ken Bates said that it is good that the infrastructure area had been relocated away from the flood plain and Bob agreed.

Ken requested a copy of the presentation.

- 3.2 Ken advised that the Mining Related Council was not happy with the offer of \$40 million per year over 4 years and is pushing for 30%. Update to be provided at next meeting.
- 3.3 John Molloy (Toll) advised that there hasn't been any fatigue issues associated with the longer shifts and that the drivers generally finish their 10 loads out of Tarrawonga within 12.5 to 13 hours.
- 3.4 Ken said that he had not issued a letter to NSC regarding the condition of Manilla Road but he had spoken to them in person. It is unlikely that additional speed signs will be installed and the Council is understaffed so it is difficult to get anything done.
- 3.5 Danny advised that the survey of bores had been completed. Vibrating wire piezometers have been installed, drilling has been conducted and an electromagnetic survey has been undertaken with results to be issued in the near future.

- 3.6 In relation to heritage items on "Willeroi", Peter Laird advised that the graves had been moved. Some had been moved to "Melrose" and some to "Coolah". On this basis, it is believed that none of these items remain on "Willeroi".
- 3.7 Ken said the truck numbers are still obscured when the trucks are dirty. John explained the difficulty of keeping the trucks clean, especially after rain, and advised that he is continually investigating ways to have either employees or contractors clean the trucks.
- 3.8 Ken advised that he had been away and hadn't discussed the option of annual joint meetings with Boggabri Coal.

4.0 General Business

4.1 Mine Progress Report

Jason Conomos, Project Manager, provided the May and June production results as follows:

3.35 million BCM overburden removed
337,000 tonnes of coal recovered

The rehabilitation status remains unchanged since the last meeting because of the increasing height of the waste emplacement as per the 2010 modification approval.

4.2 Environmental Monitoring Report

Danny Young presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the Environmental Monitoring Report. He advised that an additional complaint had been received after the report had been finalised which related to the blast on Monday 25th July. A written response will be provided to the complainant and OEH with further details provided at the next CCC meeting.

Peter Laird commented that the windy conditions at the time of Monday's blast dispersed dust and fume to his property.

5.0 New Business

- 5.1 John Molloy advised that Toll had been penalised for having an overweight truck as the inspector from Moree doesn't recognise HML vehicles east of the Newell Highway, even though GSC and NSC does. The committee agreed that a letter should be issued to both Council's requesting clarification of the matter. Ken requested a report from Toll to

assist with the investigation. John to provide the report to Jill and Jill to write letter for Ken to issue to the Councils.

5.2 Jason Conomos advised the committee that Tarrawonga had agreed to donate gravel to the Boggabri Go Cart Club to assist with building of a new track. The gravel, which will be carted free of charge by Toll, will need to be carted all day Sunday for possibly a couple of weekends. Jason asked if any of the committee had concerns and they agreed that it should be permitted as it's for a good cause. Bart Crosby and Sandy Bull will be notified and committee members to advise any surrounding landholders that may be concerned about carting gravel on Sundays.

5.3 Jill provided a hard copy and CD of the AEMR to the CCC which was recently submitted to DTIRIS.

6.0 Complaints

Complaints were discussed in the Environmental Monitoring Report, with the exception of the complaint on Monday which is discussed in Section 4.2 of these minutes

7.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Tarrawonga Coal Mine Training Room on Wednesday 16th November 2011 at 10:00am.

Meeting closed at 11:45 am.

Ken Bates 16/11/2011
Ken Bates - Chairman