

Minutes of the 11th Meeting of the Sunnyside Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee

Meeting Held: 14th September 2011, 3:30pm

Venue: The meeting was held in the Board Room at Namoi Valley Brickworks.

1. Present and Apologies

Present: Mr Michael Broekman (MB) (Chairman)
Mr Bruce Reid (BR) (Community Representative)
Mrs Vivienne Rooke (VR) (Bruce Reid's Representative)
Mr Andrew Kennedy (AK) (Community Representative)
Mr Glenn Bailey (GB) (3:40pm) (Community Representative)
Mrs Jill Johnson (JJ) (Environmental Officer - Whitehaven)
Mr Michael Clark (MC) (Project Manager - Whitehaven)
Mr Tim Muldoon (TM) (Community Liaison Officer - Whitehaven)
Mr Danny Young (DY) (Environmental Manager - Whitehaven)

Apologies: Mr Danny Young (DY) (Environmental Manager - Whitehaven)

Moved: MC and AK

2. Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record on the motion of GB and AK.

3. Business Arising

- 3.1. JJ noted that Michael Lloyd from Division of Resources and Energy (DRE, formerly I&I NSW) had advised Whitehaven that DRE didn't have an issue with CMA being supplied with a copy of the AEMR but that they didn't intend to invite CMA to the annual inspections. GB said that he would contact DRE directly.
- 3.2. JJ advised the committee that the Independent Environmental Audit had been submitted to DoPI with an action plan to address any issues. A copy of the audit report was provided to the Committee.
- 3.3. In response to VR's question at the last meeting about allowable truck movements, MC provided a copy of the statement in the Environmental Assessment that estimated approximately 125 truck loads per day (ie. 250 truck movements). He said on the current budget of 40,000t per month and use of the trucks which carry the smallest loads (single trailer trucks) there would be approximately 70 loads per day.

GB asked about the cumulative number of trucks on Blackjack Road in relation to Sunnyside and fine reject haulage to the former Melville open cut. Whitehaven representatives noted that reject haulage is a separate operation to Sunnyside but committed to providing the estimated truck movements for the reject at the next meeting.

- 3.4. MC provided the blast monitor results for the blast on the 9th April 2011, which BR had noted at the last meeting as a 'damaging' blast. The highest recorded overpressure and ground vibration was 105.3dB and 0.99mm/s respectively which is well below the compliance limits of 115.0dB and 5mm/s. Two of the monitors did not trigger (ie. the overpressure and ground vibration was not high enough to trigger the monitor) and one monitor malfunctioned so a result was not recorded. Despite this, a Whitehaven representative was at the property where the monitor malfunctioned and advised that the blast wasn't any more significant than other blasts.

4. Mine Progress Report

MC provided an update on the mine's progress as follows:

- Operators - 13 full time, 8 permanent casual and 3 part time casual.
- Fitters - 2 permanent.
- Site management – 2 permanent and 1 part time contractor.
- 434 LTI free days as at 31st August 2011.
- Some reshaping and topsoil of the north western face of the waste emplacement has occurred and this area will be seeded in the next couple of months.
- Six overburden blasts have been fired since the last meeting. A complaint was received following Shot 34. Monitor results at all monitoring locations were well within compliance limits or did not trigger.
- 16,966 bcm of topsoil has been stripped and 9,034 bcm spread on the north western corner of the waste emplacement.
- In the last three months 1,004,000 bcm of overburden has been removed and 45,000 tonnes of coal mined. Nil coal was mined during July and August owing to both digger fleets pre-stripping upper benches in advance. It is anticipated that a payback will ensue during the course of the year, and year to date coal budget targets are expected to be met.
- 95,755 tonnes of ROM coal has been transported offsite.

VR asked about the direction of mining. MC said there is approximately 50m to mine to the south, 150m to the east and then the rest will be to the west.

BR asked if Whitehaven would then start mining on the "Lilydale" property. MC said "Lilydale" is not part of the approved ML.

MC was asked about the timing for completion of mining operations at Sunnyside. He said the consent allowed for mining until end 2015 but current budgets (which are subject to change) have mining being completed in July 2014.

GB asked about Whitehaven's response to the blast complaint. JJ advised that Danny Young had contacted the complainant on the day of the blast and stated that he would follow up with written advice. The complainant said that he was going to be away for a few weeks. The letter was issued this week. GB thought a more prompt response should have been

provided. Whitehaven noted his concern but reiterated that a phone call on the day of the complaint was a prompt response and that the letter had not been issued earlier as the complainant advised that he would be away.

5. Environmental Monitoring Report

JJ presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

VR asked about whether noise monitoring had been conducted as requested at "Woodlawn". She said she was used to silence from when she grew up at the property but that BR was just worried about the dust. JJ thought it had but couldn't remember the exact details. BR said no-one had been at his property. JJ said she would investigate and provide the results if it had happened or organise for monitoring to occur if it hadn't already occurred.

There was some discussion about the noise level allowance under inversion conditions, as per the Project Approval.

VR asked about the noise monitoring process. JJ said that the monitors are not permanently situated at a monitoring location. Specialist consultants visit the site on a quarterly basis and Whitehaven are not aware of the exact date and time that monitoring occurs. This means the mine is not able to deliberately cease noise generating activities whilst the noise monitoring is being conducted. JJ also said that the benefit of having attended noise monitoring conducted by specialist consultants is that they can decipher the source of different noises (ie. mining, birds, dogs etc).

GB asked about whether blast monitoring could be conducted at the property where 2 blast complaints had been generated. JJ advised that the letter issued to the complainant had made the offer of blast monitoring to determine whether there are compliance issues. Whitehaven will await a response from the complainant.

6. Complaints

Complaints were discussed in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

7. General Business

MB advised the committee that the company that he is a director of has entered into an agreement to dispose of fine reject at the old Brickworks open cut on "Wilga Park" and ultimately rehabilitate it. He was concerned that members of the committee may see the situation as a conflict of interest. AK asked if it was a deal with Sunnyside and MB replied that it was with Whitehaven, not Sunnyside. AK stated that he saw no conflict and other committee members didn't identify any concerns.

AK asked whether Sunnyside was going to receive water from Santos. MC and JJ said that Whitehaven had been in discussions with Santos

regarding the receipt of excess water from their exploration activities. The water will not be from their production holes, is within all guidelines and approvals and will be used for dust suppression purposes onsite. It is the same as water from a bore or seepage into the pit.

VR advised that she would no longer be able to attend the committee meetings with BR. She asked if the committee would be agreeable to another representative attending the meetings with BR. MB provided a copy of the letter from DoP advising that there is no issue with a family member attending. VR to write a letter to Whitehaven advising that she is no longer able to attend and nominating another representative.

8. Next Meeting

Wednesday 14th December 2011, 3:30pm

Meeting closed at 4:22pm

Michael Broekman - Chairman