

Minutes of Canyon (Whitehaven) Coal Mine Community Consultation Committee

Meeting Held: Thursday 18th September 2008 at 3:30pm

Venue: The meeting held at Whitehaven Coal Mine Training Room

1. Present and Apologies

Present: Hans Allgayer (Chairman)
Clr Ken Bates (Narrabri Shire Rep)
Mrs Kellie Fletcher (Community Rep)
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager – Whitehaven)
Mr Colin Hulm (Project Manager – Canyon Coal Mine)
Mr Chris Thomas (Environmental Cadet – Observer)

Apologies: Mr Bob McGregor (Community Rep)
Mrs Helen Cruickshank (Community Rep)

2. Previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting of Thursday 27th September 2007 were read and accepted as a true record. Moved by Ken Bates. Seconded by Hans Allgayer.

2.1 Business Arising

2.1.1 Traffic – Hoad Lane

Ken Bates advised that Council had completed an audit of traffic movements following the placement of traffic counters on Hoad Lane. Council will review the information and any outcomes in terms of future road maintenance will be reported at the next meeting.

2.1.2 Mine Life

At the last meeting it was identified that production at Canyon would be due for completion by the end of 2008. The committee was advised that an extension to the current pit to the west, of an additional 8 hectares would extend the life of the Canyon site for at least a further 12 months on a single shift basis. A modification to the consent has issued from the Department of Planning, and an amendment to the current mining operations plan has been approved by the Department of Primary Industries.

3.0 General Business

3.1 Mine Progress

Mining continues in accordance with the schedules presented in the Mining Operations Plan. Current activity is in relation to access to the newly approved western extension.

Rehabilitation continues behind the advancing face of the pit with reshaping works having commenced in the Canyon area. Bank construction and seeding to cover crop of the newly reshaped areas is expected to be undertaken by Soil Services within the next month.

3.2 Environmental Monitoring Results

Environmental Manager, Danny Young, tabled the Environmental Monitoring report for the period October 2007 to September 2008. Results were generally within limits specified in the Consent and Environment protection licence. Members of the CCC were provided hardcopies of the Environmental Monitoring Report for their review.

In addition to the monitoring results, it was tabled that approximately 3500 native tree seedlings had been planted at the Canyon site since the last meeting through tree planting campaigns by both Rotary and Red Chief Local Aboriginal Land Council. The bulk of planting was undertaken on the rehabilitated northern face above the haul road and on the western side of the top plateau area. Planting has achieved a good success rate as a result of good planting conditions with good winter and spring rains. Additional planting is proposed over the Spring period subject to availability of adequate tubestock.

4.0 New Business

The only new business tabled at the meeting was in relation to the newly approved western extension to the Canyon pit. This was discussed in 2.1.2 above.

5.0 Complaints

No new complaints were made over the reporting period. All complaints identified at the last meeting were addressed at the time of complaint with no further matters arising.

6.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Whitehaven Coal Mine Training Room on Thursday 21st May 2009 at 3:30pm

Meeting closed at 4:10pm

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Hans Allgayer – Chairman
/ / 2008