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Austar Coal Mine

Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: Board Room, Austar Coal Mine Main Office
 Time: 9:30am
 Date: 15 February 2013

Name	Representative
Hon Garry West (GW)	Independent Chair
Alan Smith (AS)	Community Representative
David Holmes (DH)	Community Representative
Councillor Jeff Maybury (JM)	Cessnock City Council Representative
Adrian Moodie (AM)	Austar Coal Mine
Gary Mulhearn (GM)	Austar Coal Mine
Apologies	
Peter Sturrock (PS)	Community Representative
Dave McLean (DM)	Austar Coal Mine
Copy of minutes	
Councillor Bob Pynsent	Mayor of Cessnock City Council
Mr Joel Fitzgibbon MP	Federal Member for Hunter
Mr Clayton Barr	State Member for Cessnock
Mr Howard Reed	NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure
Ms Valerie Phillips	Librarian, Cessnock City Council

Item	Issue	Action	Date
1	Welcome		
	GW welcomed the committee and opened the meeting.		
2	Declaration of Interests		
	No additional declarations of interest to those standing.		
3	Confirmation of Previous Minutes		
	The minutes as prepared by Austar, were considered representative of the meeting. AS proposed, DH seconded.		
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes		
	<p>GM provided A3 copies of flood maps for the Stage 3 mining area.</p> <p>GM provided CCC members with A3 size copies of 2 maps to issued to residents in letter correspondence regarding the completion of Stage 2 and upcoming commencement of Stage 3 mining, with an Extraction Plan / Subsidence Management Plan application area for Longwalls A7 to A10.</p> <p>GM provided update on query regarding the locations of some poles for the upgraded powerline to the Kitchener SIS. Powerline was designed by Ausgrid to stay within the road reserve, with the road very near to the road reserve boundary at one location. Austar has been in contact with Cessnock City Council to discuss pole locations of concern, in relation to potential for barriers.</p>		
5	Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints		
	<p>AM provided an update on current operations.</p> <p>UNDERGROUND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longwall A5a (& Stage 2) completed February 2013 • Development focusing on operations in Stage 3 • Longwall move from LWA5a to LWA7 currently in progress • LWA7 (Stage 3) planned commencement end of May to early June 2013 <p>CHPP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shutdown/maintenance undertaken during longwall move commenced 19 Feb 2013 • No washing apart from 20,000t of ROM coal processed in April 2013. • Planned startup last week May 2013 to early June 2013 		

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	<p>KITCHENER SIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No.5 Shaft fan construction progressing – completion due in May 2013. • Services borehole fully lined and is being used to hoist cuttings from No. 6 shaft. • No. 6 shaft raise bore. Currently reaming the 3.0m shaft. 338m of 478m complete. Due completion early June 2103. • Site power construction is due for completion May 2013. • Power line construction is due for completion May 2013. • Permanent water and communications line commenced and to be completed in May 2013. <p>Photos of construction at Kitchener SIS were presented.</p> <p>REHABILITATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AREA 12 - Capping, Reshaping of main drain in March 2013. • ABERDARE EMPLACEMENT AREA – Capping of north end. And at north and south ends lime and gypsum addition, compost application, ripping and seeding between March and May 2013. <p>GM indicated night emplacement of rejects is due to occur at the Aberdare Emplacement Area Night Dump area (south end) when the longwall startup in the. Near residents to be informed with letterbox drop.</p> <p>ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 incidents not reportable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 water spill to land (pipeline leak Kalingo, 2 shaft manifold, Kitchener mullock bund) ○ 2 Dust exceedances under investigation (Pelton Village) • 4 externally reportable incidents (1 noise, 2 SIS sed basin overflow, 1 washdown water to clean water system) <p>21 February 2013 – Noise exceedance CHPP from Q4 2012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measured noise from CHPP monitored in Q4 2012. Low frequency noise identified per Industrial Noise Policy definition, 5 dB modifying factor applied to measured noise levels resulting in exceedance. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported to EPA. • Continuous noise monitor installed at residence. Noise Pollution Reduction Program to continue with new noise data. <p>23 February 2013 & 1 March 2013 SIS Sediment Basin Overflow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overflow from sediment basins during greater than design rainfall • Reported to EPA. <p><u>9 May 2013 Reportable Coal Bin Washdown Water to Clean Water System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coal Surface Bin spills into tunnel have required clean up by hosing • Coal filled a culvert and allowed water to bypass the dirty water drains and into an onsite cleanwater drain. Reported to EPA due to potential for dirty water to enter clean water tributary. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Containment activities. ○ Clean water drain temporarily diverted to Austar Dam ○ Bunding established downslope of Austar Dam to capture dirty water and pump back to Austar Dam. ○ Bunds removed and rehabilitated once water captured. • Engineering review of washdown area to be undertaken. <p>MONITORING – SUBSIDENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring survey undertaken in March 2013. Graphs of subsidence measurement presented. • Subsidence results are within predicted levels, currently at slightly less than 1.2m in Stage 2. <p>MONITORING – AIR QUALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual average PM₁₀ is well below Annual Average Maximum Criteria at both locations. • Annual average insoluble solids (g/m².month) recorded from dust deposition gauges remains below Annual Maximum Criteria of 4 g/m² at all gauges except location D2 (Pelton Village).. At D2 Jan, Feb and March 2013 data have all been greater than 4 g/m². Prevailing wind direction during these months have 		

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	<p>not supported Austar as the source. Other roadworks activities may be responsible. Austar is continuing to monitor results from this location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphs of air quality monitoring data were presented <p>MONITORING – WATER QUALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pH and EC graphs were presented. • pH and EC monitoring within Environment Protection Licence limits. • General trends in Bellbird Creek, Quorrobolong Creek and Coney Creek presented. <p>MONITORING – NOISE CHPP & KIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q4 2012 – Consultant review of monitoring data provided a 5 dB low frequency modifying factor. With mod factor - 6 dB exceedance north of CHPP, 5 dB to west of CHPP. Reported to EPA in Feb 2013. Continuous noise monitor installed. • Q2 2013 – monitoring yet to occur. <p>GM indicated the continuous noise monitor will also be used as part of the voluntary Noise Pollution Reduction Program at the CHPP.</p> <p>MONITORING – NOISE KITCHENER SIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil noise exceedance – February 2013 to April 2013 <p>MONITORING – VIBRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 vibration events from 1 February 2013 to 3 May 2013 • 1 event only on 15 February 2013 2.3mm/sec • LWA5a finished in February 2013. No events since LW completed. • Graph of vibration results presented. <p>COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS</p> <p>Since last CCC meeting (13 February 2013 to 15 May 2013) Austar has received 3 complaints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 April 2013 – Anonymous complaint regarding dozer noise at Aberdare Emplacement Area at night. Investigation found that a train was being loaded at the CHPP at the time of complaint. • 27 April 2013 – Complaint regarding noise from 3 shaft. Investigation found some additional compressors have been in operation. Noise monitoring conducted at 530am 2 May 2013 found no 		

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	<p>noise exceedance. Complainant advised of outcome.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 May 2013 – Complaint from Bellbird Heights regarding odour from rehabilitation activities. Also informal contact from EPA officer. Advised both that compost has been spread at Aberdare, is currently being ripped in ahead of seeding, which should reduce odour. 		
6	General Business		
	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extraction Plan / Subsidence Management Plan submitted on 11 April 2013. Required to be approved prior to extraction of LWA7. Stage 3 Historic Heritage Management Plan approved on 19 April 2013. Site Water Management Plan updated and submitted to regulators on 30 April 2013. Landscape Management Plan – Kitchener SIS submitted to regulators on 7 May 2013. Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan submitted to regulators on 13 May 2013. <p>COMMUNITY PROJECTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camp Quality – donation towards the Giggle Ball 2013 Abermain-West Hawks Rugby League - 100years of Abermain-Weston Hawks sponsorship for new jumpers Cessnock Rugby League Football Club – 2013 sponsorship Rotary Club of Toronto Sunrise – Homeless support sponsorship through Paddlefest 2013 Cessnock Amateur Swimming Club PCYC - sponsorship towards the new PCYC project Newcastle United Emerging Jets - under 12's trip to Japan Shamrocks Football Club - 2013 season sponsorship Bellbird Junior Football Club - 2013 season Gold package sponsorship Kurri Kurri Football Club - sponsorship for KKFC & sportsground Kurri Mongrels bike ride to raise money for Hunter Medical Research Institute Cessnock Mayoral Academic Scholarship – awarded on 9 April 2013 to Kylie Brook Paxton Public School – assistance with iPad acquisition 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nulkaba Public School – sponsor of the Nulkaba Aerobics Team <p>EXTRACTION PLAN LWA7 to LWA10</p> <p>GM provided a presentation on the area subject to Extraction Plan / Subsidence Management Plan application for Longwalls A7 to A10. The presentation included the subsidence affected area, and identified natural and built features within the area. The management strategies / plans that will be used to manage subsidence impacts were also identified.</p> <p>GM indicated that, extraction of LWA7 would commence in late May or early June 2013, pending approval of Extraction Plan / Subsidence Management Plan.</p> <p>OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Landholder Agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DH noted that a meeting regarding Landholder Agreements was held with Austar and several landholders to progress the agreement. • DH noted that a response to this meeting had been sent to DM. GM indicated that a reply would be sent soon <p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JM indicated an application for subdivision on 77 Wollombi Road has been received at Council, this lot is adjacent the four concrete columns in Bellbird, immediately adjacent to Austar’s rail line. • GM indicated Austar had provided a submission regarding rail traffic and Austar’s private haul road to transport reject and rehabilitation materials. GM indicated that approx. 4 trains per day operate on the line, which would increase to 6 to meet approved production levels. • JM enquired as to the time required to complete reject emplacement and rehabilitation, and indicated some concerns had been raised about the compatibility of land use for the subdivision. • GM indicated Austar had recently re-estimated the time to rehabilitate Aberdare Extended with the Division of Resources and Energy as approximately 2018, with rehabilitation activities to be completed in 2019. 		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
7	Next Meetings		
	Next meeting: 14 August 2013 – 9:30am Following Meetings: 13 November 2013 – 9:30am		
8	Meeting Closed		
	GW – Declared the meeting closed and thanked all for attending. Meeting closed 10:45am		

Recorded: G Mulhearn 15/05/2013

Confirmed: To be confirmed at next meeting

Chairperson – Garry West