

Meeting Minutes
Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Thursday 08 November 2018

Attendees:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	Michael Plain	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Brian Eastoe	CCC Member	Gavin May	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Noel Smith	CCC Member	Tom Kirkwood	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
		John Cullen	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd

Guests:

Lyndie Hepple	MidCoast Council
Drew Morris	MidCoast Council

1. Site Tour

A site tour was undertaken at the end of the meeting. The tour included viewing of the rehabilitation area from the weather station.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 12:10pm.

The Chair welcomed Noel Smith who is the newly appointed member to the Duralie Coal CCC. The Chair also welcomed Lyndie Hepple (MCC Community Coordinator), Drew Morris (MCC Catchment Officer) and Tom Kirkwood (Duralie Coal Environment & Community Coordinator).

Apologies: Rod Williams, Alan Fisher-Webster, Cr Karen Hutchinson (MCC), Paul De Szell (MCC), Ryan Fenning (MCC).

3. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared that she is the Independent Chair, approved by the Secretary of the Department of Planning & Environment and a member of the Mine Subsidence Board.

The declarations of the Duralie CCC members remain current.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 9th August 2018 were confirmed.

Moved: Brian Eastoe; Seconded: John Cullen.

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

1. **Action Item 1:** The Chair to invite MCC to provide an update on the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan.

Mr Morris (MCC Catchment Officer) attended the CCC meeting and provided an update on the progress of the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan. Mr Morris provided information regarding the ongoing implementation of catchment projects including “best practice farm management” and “riparian vegetation rehabilitation”. Mr Morris advised several of the current projects have been integrated with initiatives being implemented by Great Lakes Landcare particularly regarding biodiversity connectivity and landholder engagement.

Mr Morris advised MCC have continued to leverage off the funding from Duralie Coal to source additional government funding for the Karuah River Catchment Projects.

The Chair enquired about the rehabilitation of the Stroud Showground riparian zone as raised by Rod Williams. Mr Morris advised there were no specific plans at this stage although works could be integrated with the flood relief funds managed by the Stroud Showground Committee. The Karuah Catchment Management Plan aims to focus on catchment wide projects rather than specific localised issues.

Mr Eastoe encourage the ongoing community engagement and information sessions which have been successful. The Chair thanked Mr Morris for attending the meeting.

2. **Action Item 2:** SCPL to provide a summary of the biodiversity management works completed and the key changes to the revised Biodiversity Management Plan.

DCPL advised the Annual Biodiversity Report for 2018 had been prepared and is attached to the Duralie Coal Mine Annual Review 2018 which is available on the website. The report includes a summary of all the works undertaken in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan. Mr Plain provided a summary of these works including habitat enhancement, nest box program, seed collection and revegetation works, access and security, weed control, pest control, bushfire management, monitoring and reporting. The Committee further discussed the biodiversity management activities at Duralie.

Mr Plain advised the Biodiversity Management Plan has been updated to reflect the works which have been completed and the ongoing works which will be required for completion of the Offset area.

3. **Annual Action Item:** MidCoast Council to provide an annual report each August on the spending of the Gloucester and Great Lakes components of the Duralie contributions made to Council. Note – Rescheduled for November 2018 meeting.

Mr De Szell was unavailable to attend the November CCC meeting and Lyndie Hepple attended as an alternate. Ms Hepple tabled an annual report on the “*Duralie Community Enhancement Funding*”. Ms Hepple provided a summary of the report to the Committee. The report included a breakdown of the allocation of community enhancement funding from the Duralie Coal Mine Development Consent to both the former Great Lakes Council area and the former Gloucester

Council area. In accordance with the Duralie Coal DA the funds are allocated to the key areas of Bucketts Way road and bridge maintenance, community infrastructure and environmental projects (Karuah River Catchment Management Plan).

Mr Plain clarified the source and the sum of the community enhancement funds from both the Duralie Coal Mine and the Stratford Coal Mine.

Mr Eastoe thanked Council for the detailed report and the coordination of the Duralie Community Fund which has been implemented during 2018. Mr Eastoe suggested extending the time for applications to be submitted and Ms Hepple confirmed this would be considered for 2019.

The Committee discussed the former Gloucester Council component of the Duralie funds and how they are allocated. Mr Eastoe noted that the Duralie funds do not have a published Section 94 Plan and that they have been referred to as funds held under Section 94 reserves. Ms Hepple indicated to the CCC that she was seeking to have the current linkage to Section 94 corrected. Mr Plain advised the same matter had been discussed in the Stratford Coal Mine CCC meeting. The Committee also discussed the continuation of the funding for the Education Support Program.

New Action Item 1: MidCoast Council to investigate removing the community enhancement funds from the Section 94 reserves.

4. **Ongoing Action Item:** DCPL to include updates and progress on the potential final land use options and mine closure and rehabilitation plans in the quarterly reports to the CCC.

A slide on mine closure planning has been included in the CCC quarterly presentation. This information will be progressively updated each meeting.

5. **Ongoing Action Item:** The CCC's print media to be drafted following each CCC meeting and provided to the committee for comment prior to finalising and submission by DCPL.

Completed and published. Mr Eastoe suggested information on the completion of coal mining at Duralie could be a subject for the next print media.

6. Correspondence

Correspondence is listed in the CCC meeting agenda.

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

DCPL presented the Company Reports and Overview of Activities.

1. Progress at the Mine: DCPL advised the third quarter production at the Duralie mine. Mining in the Weismantel pit and coal extraction was completed in October 2018. Bulk shaping of the waste emplacements has continued during the quarter.
2. Environment & community activities including monitoring and community programs: (*refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail*). Items discussed by exception.
 - a. The Committee discussed the Duralie Coal monitoring data and the mine closure planning progress as detailed in the presentation.

8. General Business

1. Duralie Operations & Stratford Extension Project Update

DCPL provided an update on the progress of the Duralie operations and the transition back to the Stratford Mining Complex. Mr May advised coal mining at Duralie was completed in October 2018 and the shuttle train operations had been ceased. Mr May advised Duralie had transitioned to a crew on day shift undertaking rehabilitation and waste rock rehandle work. The focus at Duralie for the next year is to continue bulk shaping and rehabilitation.

2. Duralie Agricultural Rehabilitation Planning Workshop

Mr Plain advised during September 2018 Duralie Coal in conjunction with the CCC held an Agricultural Rehabilitation Planning Workshop at the Duralie Coal Mine. The workshop involved an interactive day in the rehabilitation area with involvement from a cross-section of community, industry and government stakeholders, with the focus on property planning for the long-term layout and operation of the agricultural rehabilitation areas and integration with the surrounding lands. Topics discussed included stock rotation, water infrastructure and pasture management.

3. Post Mining Land Uses – Mr Eastoe Letter

Mr Eastoe tabled a letter for discussion at the CCC meeting regarding the post-mining land uses for the Duralie Coal Mine rehabilitation. Mr Eastoe's letter questioned the rationale for the location of the proposed agricultural rehabilitation lands and suggested DCPL consider leaving a significantly higher Level of agricultural land behind by putting rehabilitation resources into other existing adjacent agricultural lands it owns, lands that are more likely to deliver a better agricultural result. Mr Eastoe suggested diverting agricultural rehabilitation funds to lands it owns either outside the mining lease or within.

Mr Plain advised the proposed rehabilitation strategy had been developed through extensive community engagement during the preparation of the Duralie Extension Project Environmental Assessment and this was reflected in the conditions of the Project Approval. DCPL has a commitment to include both post-mining land uses for agriculture and native vegetation in the rehabilitation areas. Mr Plain advised this does not in any way detract from the management of agricultural lands owned the Yancoal which are outside the Mining Lease and these lands are managed separately under rural leases.

The Committee further discuss the rehabilitation land uses at Duralie.

New Action Item 2: Discussion topic for next meeting – Potential opportunities to increase agricultural land capability in addition to the rehabilitation requirements for agricultural lands.

No further business.

Proposed meeting schedule 2019: 7th February, 2nd May, 1st August, 7th November.

Next Meeting date: Proposed 12:00nn on Thursday 7th February 2019 at the Duralie Mine Site.

The Chair thanked the Committee members for their contribution to the CCC during 2018 and wished the members and their families a Merry Christmas.

Meeting closed at 2:48pm.

Summary of Action Items from this meeting

1. ***New Action Item 1:*** *MidCoast Council to investigate removing the community enhancement funds from the Section 94 reserves.*
2. ***New Action Item 2:*** *Discussion topic for next meeting – Potential opportunities to increase agricultural land capability in addition to the rehabilitation requirements for agricultural lands.*
3. ***Annual Action Item:*** *MidCoast Council to provide an annual report each August on the spending of the Gloucester and Great Lakes components of the Duralie contributions made to Council.*
4. ***Ongoing Action Item:*** *DCPL to include updates and progress on the potential final land use options and mine closure and rehabilitation plans in the quarterly reports to the CCC.*
5. ***Ongoing Action Item:*** *The CCC's print media to be drafted following each CCC meeting and provided to the committee for comment prior to finalising and submission by DCPL.*