

Meeting Minutes
Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Thursday 10 November 2016

Attendees:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	John Cullen	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Ryan Fenning	MidCoast Council	Michael Plain	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Tony Tersteeg	CCC Member	Heidi Watters	DP&E
Rod Williams	CCC Member		
Brian Eastoe	CCC Member		
Donald Carroll	CCC Member		

1. Site Tour

A site tour of the operations was not possible due to wet weather and unsuitable road conditions and was postponed to the next meeting. An inspection of the biodiversity offset area along Johnsons Creek Rd was undertaken following the meeting.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:00am. The Chair welcomed Ryan Fenning from MidCoast Council who attended the meeting in place of Lisa Schiff. The Chair also welcomed Heidi Watters from the Department of Planning & Environment. Ms Watters is the newly appointed compliance officer for the Duralie mine site and was attending the meeting as an observer.

Apologies: Lisa Schiff, Karen Hutchinson, Alan Fisher-Webster.

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.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 4th August 2016 were confirmed with a minor amendment to the title for Ms Hutchinson.

Moved: Rod Williams; Seconded: Tony Tersteeg.

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

1. **Action Item 1:** MidCoast Council to update the CCC on the allocation of funding from the Duralie Project previously provided to Gloucester Shire Council.

Lisa Schiff was not present at the meeting and this action has been deferred to the next meeting.

Mr Eastoe asked now that disaster relief funding has been confirmed from the NSW State Government can MidCoast Council provide an estimated total cost for the repairs to the Stroud Showground and does this require the full funding from the Duralie contributions. Mr Tersteeg asked if the Duralie contributions should now be released to other community projects since state funding has been granted for the Showground. The request was confirmed with the CCC and the committee agreed the Chair would provide a letter to MidCoast Council requesting the same.

***Deferred Action Item 1:** MidCoast Council to update the CCC on the allocation of funding from the Duralie Project previously provided to Gloucester Shire Council.*

***New Action Item 2:** The Chair to provide a letter to MidCoast Council requesting an update on the total funding required for the Stroud Showground repairs and releasing of the Duralie community infrastructure contributions for other community projects.*

2. **Action Item 2:** DCPL to include the correspondence log in the CCC agenda.

Completed.

3. **Ongoing Action Item:** DCPL to provide an update to the CCC on relevant matters regarding Yancoal owned properties including bushfire management and weeds management.

Information on bushfire management and weeds management is now included in the CCC presentation. Further comments are included in "Section 7 Company Reports" below.

4. **Ongoing Action Item:** DCPL to provide updates on the potential final land use options and mine closure plans as details become available.

DCPL advised a draft report on the final land use options had been received and was currently being reviewed by Yancoal. The report includes a high level market assessment of the potential land uses that can be supported on the subject site and short lists those land uses which are considered to be suitable and warrant further investigation. Further information will continue to be provided as it becomes available.

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.

Print media completed and published.

Suggestions for the next print media topics included results from the recent nest box monitoring in the Duralie biodiversity offset areas.

6. **Ongoing Action Item:** The committee extended an open invitation to Mr Stringer for future meetings pending availability.

Mr Cullen advised Mr Stringer has now been appointed as Regional Manager for the eastern regional open cut and underground Yancoal mines and as such his availability will be limited. However Mr Stringer is interested in attending the Duralie CCC when available.

Mr Plain advised Mr Fittler (Yancoal – Community Relations Coordinator) would be invited to the next CCC meeting.

6. Correspondence

In:

- 7/10/16 email from DCPL (MP) attaching 2016 AR

Out:

- 22/9/16 email from DCPL (MP) forwarding invitation to MCC Know Your Bush Workshop to CCC
- 22/9/16 email from DCPL (MP) update on workforce to CCC members
- 7/10/16 email 2016 AR to CCC members

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

DCPL presented the Company Reports and Overview of Activities.

1. Progress at Mine: DCPL advised of the third quarter production at Duralie mine. Operations are currently ongoing in Clareval pit and Weismantel pit.
 - a. Mr Carroll asked what the expected life of mine for Duralie was following the restructure in October 2016. Mr Cullen advised coal mining was now expected to be finalised in mid-2018.
 - b. Mr Eastoe asked for an update on the odour issue which DCPL had raised at the previous CCC meeting and asked about sulfur in the Duralie coal. Mr Cullen provide information on coal qualities including the varying nature of sulfur levels within the Weismantel and Clareval seams. Areas of high sulfur were previously identified in the southern extent of the Clareval pit which was currently being mined and it was expected to be removed within 3 weeks. Mr Plain advised ongoing management of the PAF waste emplacements was being undertaken to manage and minimise odours. Mr Eastoe asked about future controls for PAF and odours and what risk there is for long-term issues. Mr Cullen advised the long-term management of the PAF materials involves placement below the groundwater table which removes the availability of oxygen and the potential for generating odours.
2. Environmental Projects/Activities including monitoring and community complaints: (refer to CCC presentation for further detail). Items discussed by exception.
 - a. DCPL discussed the key activities and projects undertaken during the previous quarter including reporting obligations.
 - b. The committee discussed the proposed back burning on Yancoal owned properties and the burn plan prepared by Gloucester RFS. Mr Eastoe and Mr Williams raised concerns with delays to the burning and the pending bushfire risk. Mr Plain advised DCPL has continued to liaise with the RFS to undertake the burns when conditions were suitable, however despite these efforts no burns had been undertaken. The committee agreed on an action

for the Chair to write to the RFS expressing their concerns for bushfire risks and the delays to back burning.

New Action Item 3: The Chair to provide a letter to the RFS raising the concerns of the Duralie CCC regarding hazard reduction burning.

- c. Mr Plain advised the trial program for the GPG fungus had commenced and plots had been established on a property north of Wards River. Updates will continue to be provided during the program.
- d. Mr Plain discussed the results from the recent nest box monitoring in the Duralie biodiversity offset areas. Mr Williams suggested this information could be included in the CCC print media.

8. General Business

1. Mr Williams raised the topic of a mine site community open day and indicated these have been successful at other operations. Mr Williams asked if Stratford/Duralie had considered an open day for the public to visit the operations. Mr Cullen advised mine site visits had been conducted by Stratford Coal in the past. There is a significant amount of organisation required to undertake an open day and Stratford and Duralie would not be in a position to coordinate this at the present time. Mr Cullen suggested an open day could be held at a suitable time in the future, potentially during the mine closure process

New Action Item 4: Yancoal to consider coordinating an open day at a suitable time in the future.

2. In regard to the Duralie Annual Review 2016, Mr Eastoe suggested rewording section 9.3 relating to community liaison and the CCC for the 2017 Annual Review.
3. Mr Tersteeg asked about planning for the final void and the prescribed dams management. Mr Plain advised these aspects have been addressed at a conceptual level in the project environmental assessments and detailed planning would be included in the mine closures planning process.
4. Mr Tersteeg asked if Yancoal has considered retaining local employees during the recent restructuring and redundancies. Mr Cullen explained the process for voluntary redundancies which doesn't necessarily provide the flexibility to give preference to existing local employees depending on who applies for the redundancies.
5. Mr Plain advised the committee of the upcoming MidCoast Waterway Annual Report presentation and asked if the committee would be interested in inviting Debbi Delaney (MidCoast Council) to provide an update on the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan to the committee. The committee agreed.

New Action Item 5: The Chair to invite MidCoast Council's Debbi Delaney to provide and update on the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan.

6. Mr Plain suggested the layout of the CCC presentation could be updated to better reflect the individual Environmental Management Plans for Duralie, to which the committee agreed.

New Action Item 6: DCPL will update the layout of the CCC presentation and provide for comment prior to the next meeting.

7. Proposed Meeting Schedule for 2017 provided by the Chair :

- 16th February 2017
- 4th May 2017, *TBC*
- 17th August 2017
- 16th November 2017

No further business.

The Chair thanked the committee members for their ongoing contribution to the Duralie CCC during 2016 and wished the committee and their families a Merry Christmas. The committee reciprocated their thanks to the Chair.

Next Meeting date: 16th February 2017 at Duralie Mine site at 9:00am.

Meeting closed at 11:05am.

An inspection of the biodiversity offset area along Johnsons Creek Rd was undertaken following the meeting.

Summary of Action Items from this meeting

1. ***Deferred Action Item 1:*** MidCoast Council to update the CCC on the allocation of funding from the Duralie Project previously provided to Gloucester Shire Council.
2. ***New Action Item 2:*** The Chair to provide a letter to MidCoast Council requesting an update on the total funding required for the Stroud Showground repairs and releasing of the Duralie community infrastructure contributions for other community projects.
3. ***New Action Item 3:*** The Chair to provide a letter to the RFS raising the concerns of the Duralie CCC regarding hazard reduction burning.
4. ***New Action Item 4:*** Yancoal to consider coordinating an open day at a suitable time in the future.
5. ***New Action Item 5:*** The Chair to invite MidCoast Council's Debbi Delaney to provide and update on the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan.
6. ***New Action Item 6:*** DCPL will update the layout of the CCC presentation and provide for comment prior to the next meeting.
7. ***Ongoing Action Item:*** DCPL to provide updates on the potential final land use options and mine closure plans as details become available.
8. ***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.
9. ***Ongoing Action Item:*** The committee extended an open invitation to Mr Stringer for future meetings pending availability.