

Meeting Minutes
Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Thursday 17 August 2017

Attendees:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	Ryan Fenning	MidCoast Council
Brian Eastoe	CCC Member	John Cullen	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Donald Carroll	CCC Member	Michael Plain	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Tony Tersteeg	CCC Member	Gavin May	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Rod Williams	CCC Member		

1. Site Tour

No site tour was undertaken at this meeting. A site tour has been proposed for the next meeting at the Stratford Mine Site rehabilitation areas.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:01am.

The Chair welcomed Gavin May to the Duralie CCC meeting. Mr Cullen advised Mr May had recently commenced a role with Yancoal as Business Optimisation Manager for the Stratford and Duralie operations. The restructure was undertaken to allow the Yancoal regional team to focus on the Hunter Valley operations and provide a designated team to guide the Gloucester Basin operations.

Mr May addressed the committee on his role with Yancoal. Mr May was previously involved with the Stratford and Duralie operations between 1997 and 2007.

The Chair advised the MidCoast Council (MCC) had provided notification that Ryan Fenning would be the alternate for Lisa Schiff on the committee. Additionally, MCC also advised the Local Representative Committee had been dissolved prior to the upcoming election and Karen Hutchinson would no longer represent council on the Duralie CCC. MCC will consider the appointment of a representative to the CCC following the council elections in September 2017.

Apologies: Alan Fisher-Webster, Debbi Delaney (MCC), Karen Hutchinson (LRC).

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 4th May 2017 were confirmed.

Moved: Brian Eastoe; Seconded: Tony Tersteeg.

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

1. **Action Item 1:** The Chair to write to MidCoast Council advising them of the Education Support Program arrangements and the ongoing support of the Duralie Coal CCC.

A letter was prepared by the Chair and sent to MCC. A response was provided by Mr John Turner (MCC) acknowledging the Education Support Program. The Chair suggested Mr John Walton, Chair of the Education Support Program, may be available to attend the next CCC meeting.

***New Action Item 1:** The Chair to invite Mr John Walton to attend the next CCC meeting and provide information on the Education Support Program.*

2. **Action Item 2:** MidCoast Council to include in the annual report an update on the remaining funds allocated to community infrastructure projects which have been released from the Stroud Showground repairs.

The annual report on council funds is due in February 2018. No additional information since that previously advised by Lisa Schiff has been provided by MCC regarding the DCPL contributions to council. The committee discussed the ongoing frustrations at the lack of transparency in the information provided by council in relation to the annual financial contributions provided by DCPL. It was reiterated that annual contributions of approximately \$320,000 are provided to the former Great Lakes Council and \$45,000 to the former Gloucester Council.

An action has been undertaken by MCC to provide an annual report on the council contributions each February and this was supported by the committee. Mr Fenning advised this information would be conveyed back to MCC.

The Chair suggested it may be an option for DCPL staff to meet with MCC each year following the payment of council contributions.

3. **Deferred Action Item 3:** Debbi Delaney to provide an update on the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan.

The Chair advised Ms Delaney was still unavailable and the MCC was in the process of arranging an alternate to present information on the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan. Mr Carroll stated there was still significant interest to receive information on how DCPL's financial contributions had been utilised to implement the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan.

Action Deferred.

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

Refer to the update in General Business regarding the Duralie Coal Mining Operations Plan amendment.

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 the Clontarf partnership program and the biodiversity offset progress.

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

Mr May has now replaced Mr Stringer in a similar capacity at DCPL. Mr May attended this meeting.

7. **Annual Action Item:** MidCoast Council to provide an annual report each February on the spending of the Gloucester and Great Lakes components of the Duralie contributions made to council.

Other than as stated in Item 2 above, no further discussion at this meeting.

6. Correspondence

Correspondence is listed in the CCC meeting agenda. There was no further discussion regarding the correspondence.

The Chair reminded the committee any comments on the amended Mining Operations Plan should be provided to DCPL by August 23.

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

DCPL presented the Company Reports and Overview of Activities.

1. Progress at the Mine: DCPL advised of the second quarter production at the Duralie mine. Operations are scheduled to finish in the Clareval pit in September 2017 and will then focus on the Weismantel pit.
2. Environment & community activities including monitoring and community programs: (*refer to CCC presentation for further detail*). Items discussed by exception.
 - a. DCPL advised the DCM Annual Review would be issued prior to the next CCC meeting and would provide a summary of the activities and performance at the DCM during the 2016/17 reporting year.
 - b. Discussion included the air quality monitoring program and the analysis of high results received at the D5 dust gauge. The results don't appear to be related to mining activities based on surrounding monitoring results. The committee also discussed rehabilitation progress and biodiversity offset management.
 - c. A hazard reduction burn was undertaken by the RFS in August 2017 on land owned by DCPL including biodiversity offset areas. The burn was undertaken successfully and DCPL expressed its appreciation to the RFS.
 - d. The committee discussed the community complaints and the reduced number of complaints over the previous 12 months. Mr Eastoe advised feedback on recent community

engagements had been positive and particularly in regard to matters which had been not been managed well previously. This was a positive outcome.

- e. DCPL discussed the 2017 Community Support Program recipients and in particular the engagements with the Science and Engineering Challenge and the Clontarf Foundation. Mr Eastoe gave his appreciation for the work undertaken on the community programs.

8. General Business

1. The Chair asked at the request of Karen Hutchinson if there was an update on the proposed shutdown timing for Duralie. Mr May presented information on the future progress for Duralie and suggested the term shutdown was misleading. Duralie is still expected to finalise ROM coal production around mid-2018 following which there would be ongoing rehandle and rehabilitation works in line with the existing Mining Operations Plan and Project Approval for the Duralie Mine. DCPL are continuing to consider the opportunity to recommence mining under the approved Stratford Extension Project however this would still require approval from the Yancoal board.

Mr Carroll asked about the final rehabilitation scenarios and the composition of native vegetation versus pasture for grazing. Mr Plain advised the Duralie site would predominantly consist of native forest/woodland with smaller areas of pasture. Conversely the Stratford rehabilitation predominately consists of pasture with smaller areas of native vegetation. Mr Plain suggested it may be of interest to the Duralie CCC to undertake a site tour of the Stratford rehabilitation. This was agreed for the next CCC meeting.

Mr Williams asked if there were any plans to relinquish parts of the exploration leases held by Yancoal. Mr May advised none of the existing tenements were proposed for relinquishment.

2. DCPL provided an update on the Stratford Extension Project (SEP) and the Modification currently in progress. Both Stratford Coal and Gloucester Resources Ltd have prepared responses to the public submissions on the proposals. The responses have been submitted to the Department of Planning & Environment for review and determination.

Mr Tersteeg advised he had heard comments that there were plans to recommence mining at Stratford. Mr Cullen advised Yancoal were still assessing the possibility of commencing mining under the Stratford Extension Project however this would be up to the discretion of the Yancoal board.

3. Mining Operations Plan (MOP) amendment: Mr Plain advised DCPL had met with the Division of Resources and Geoscience in May 2017 to discuss mine closure planning at DCM. Following the meeting DRG have requested DCPL to prepare an amendment to the MOP to include a mine closure planning program with a schedule for the relevant technical and environmental assessments/designs. The amendment to the MOP has been distributed for consultation with the relevant stakeholders including the CCC. Following on from this the preparation of a detailed mine closure plan will be undertaken prior to the expiry of the MOP term. Additionally, the amendment of the MOP has included merging this document with the previous Rehabilitation Management Plan. All plans will be made available on the Duralie Coal website.

Mr Williams asked how potential future works fit into the equation in regard to the Mining Operations Plan. Mr Plain advised the regulators are only concerned with what is currently approved and DCPL are assessed for compliance in this regard. Any future modifications or extensions can be prepared at the discretion of Yancoal however this is not addressed in existing Management Plans.

No further business.

Next Meeting date: The committee agreed to hold the next meeting on 9th November 2017 to align with the Stratford Coal CCC meeting. The next meeting will be held at Stratford Coal Mine at 9:00am.

A site tour has been proposed of the Stratford Coal Mine rehabilitation areas.

Meeting closed at 10:50am.

Summary of Action Items from this meeting

1. ***New Action Item 1:*** *The Chair to invite Mr John Walton to attend the next CCC meeting and provide information on the Education Support Program.*
2. ***Annual Action Item:*** *MidCoast Council to provide an annual report each February on the spending of the Gloucester and Great Lakes components of the Duralie contributions made to council.*
3. ***Deferred Action Item 3:*** *MCC to provide an update on the Karuah River Catchment Management Plan.*
4. ***Ongoing Action Item:*** *DCPL to provide updates on the potential final land use options and mine closure plans.*
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.*
6. ***Ongoing Action Item:*** *The committee extended an open invitation to Mr May for future meetings pending availability.*