

Meeting Minutes
Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Thursday 8 May 2014

Attendees:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chair	Doug Gordon	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Cr Karen Hutchinson	Great Lakes Council	Tony Dwyer	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Ms Lisa Schiff	Great Lakes Council	Michael Plain	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Alan Fisher-Webster	CCC Member	Alan Andrews	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Brian Eastoe	CCC Member	Corrina Merrick	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Donald Carroll	CCC Member		
Rod Williams	CCC Member		
Tony Tersteeg	CCC Member		

1. Site Tour

A site tour was undertaken to the Clareval pit lookout and the evaporative sprays located on the waste dump.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 1:45pm.

No apologies.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared that she is the Independent Chair, approved by the Director-General of Planning & Infrastructure, a member of the Mine Subsidence Board, a member of the Minister's Arbitration Panel, and Chair of the ministerial committee of AGL (Hunter CCC) and Chair AGL's Camden Gas Project CCC.

The Chair opened discussions on recent media items. The Members of the Committee and the Company unanimously provided their support for Ms MacDonald-Hill to continue in her role as the Chair.

Discussed it is normal procedure for the Company to pay the Chair and that it is declared on the Company website.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 13 February 2013 were confirmed.

Moved: Rod Williams; Seconded: Cr Karen Hutchinson.

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

1. **Action Item 1:** DCPL to provide the CCC with notification on any significant incidents as soon as practicable following the incident.

Noted.

2. **Action Item 2:** *Great Lakes Council and DCPL to discuss offset area traffic management issues and report back to the CCC.*

GLC officers been busy. Deferred until next meeting.

3. **Action Item 3:** *Great Lakes Council to present a report to the CCC on council's reporting, expenditure, allocation and forward plans for DCPL contributions.*

Ms Lisa Schiff advised that the information of the Duralie community enhancement is in the book at the Stroud office of the Great Lakes Council.

An abridged version:

- \$265,122.85 available for community enhancement.
- \$164,291 town projects listed in the Stroud office and published in the local paper. Were on the website.
- In addition \$100,000 construction of skate park in Stroud, Showground community enhancement. Decision wasn't made as part of recommendations by Grants Committee but arose out of discussion of Council.
- 30/06/2013: In the Fund \$831.85; \$109,105.94 currently as next allocation is received.
- \$649,000 in reserve held in restricted funds for expenditure in this vicinity. \$68,000 roads, \$265,000 community enhancement grant funding, \$36,000 bridges, \$280,000 environmental works.
- \$312,000 in CCC minutes was an actual projection of forward income.
- \$264,291 community enhancement.
- \$58,455 environmental works.
- 30/06/2014: \$326,264 projected available balance.

Not a section 94 contribution although it is under that heading.

Ms Lisa Schiff will provide a yearly update each year.

4. **Action Items 4:** *DCPL to provide a response to Brian Eastoe requests.*

Responses to Mr Brian Eastoe's requests were provided.

Item 1: Discussed Biophysically Strategic Agricultural Land (BSAL) and lands classified by the Department of Planning as such. DCPL advised that it does not apply to land within the Mining Lease area and is therefore not applicable to current operations or proposed modification. Mr Brian Eastoe asked the Chair to ask the Department of Planning why a rehabilitation area is being classified as BSAL.

Action Item 2: *The Chair to contact the Department of Planning and ask why the rehabilitation area is being classified as BSAL.*

Item 2: Noted response.

Item 3: Mr Brian Eastoe noted response and excellent extraction of information therein. DCPL discussed the first flush system and the graphs relating to electrical conductivity.

Item 4: DCPL advised the information is contained in the Annual Irrigation Area Monitoring Report July 2013 and is available on request.

The Chair advised that any information requested needs to be of interest to the Committee (as a whole) and to also consider the time frame from the request of the information to allow for a response.

6. Correspondence

Out:

- a. 27/2/14: Letter to Rachael Windrum thanking her for her contribution.

In:

- a. 04/03/14: Letter from Rachael Windrum.

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

DCPL presented the Company Reports and Overview of Activities.

1. Progress at Mine: Good quarter for production, low rainfall. Mining at northern limit in Clareval pit and now progressing downwards.
2. Environmental Projects/Activities:
 - a. Environmental Management Plans: undergoing review.
 - b. Air Quality:
 - i. Comment - Mr Tony Tersteeg advised that the mine wall failure area had an unsatisfactory amount of dust on the site tour today. Mr Rod Williams agreed and also commented on health and safety of operators.
 - ii. Pollution Reduction Programs – DCPL advised EPL's require a trial for best practice measures for handling overburden material from loading activities. The NSW Minerals Council put a proposal to EPA that they would undertake an industry wide investigation and submit the research report to EPA as part of program. Now awaiting on feedback from EPA to looking at different measures that could be used in these areas. Mr Brian Eastoe asked that DCPL review the dust lift off.

Action Item 3: DCPL to review dust lift off in mine wall failure area.

- c. Blasting: No feedback from EPA in relation to relocation of a monitor. Mr Brian Eastoe asked in relation to the blasting results if current over-pressure exceedances are a breach of conditions? DCPL advised overpressure exceedances of 115dB(L) are only reportable at the end of the monitoring year if greater than 5%. DCPL advised the exceedances are from a monitor now under private agreement and approval of a variation to the monitoring site is still pending. Until EPA approves the variation to move the unit monitoring will continue to be undertaken at the current site. The Department of Planning & Environment has already approved relocation of the monitor however the EPA has not yet approved the licence variation. Mr Brian Eastoe asked if there was some way on the graph to explain why the results are not as bad as they look. Discussed changing information and privacy issues.
- d. Noise: Evaporative spray use was discussed during the site tour. Ms Lisa Schiff would like to explore issues relating to noise and specific conditions relating to noise attached to evaporative sprays. A lot of noise and local residences being affected and the degree of tolerances. When there is a proposal would like to have a better understanding of noise levels, some benchmark. DCPL ask for clarification on Lisa Schiff's request, i.e. how noise was assessed or management placed around noise generation. Discussions continued on different noises and at different areas. Ms Lisa Schiff's more specifically requested a better understanding about what noise is, operating parameters relating to conditions of consent, operations, are fans ancillary, special parameters to operation. Overall how noise is dealt with here and how it is monitored.

Action Item 4: *DCPL to provide feedback on noise and to provide the Committee a better understanding of noise, how it is dealt with and monitored.*

- e. Duralie Open Pit Modification: DCPL presented information to the Committee. DCPL running out of dump space to place waste. Modification is not to change footprint of the dump but to go approximately 15m higher than the current dump which was in accordance with the Rehabilitation Management Plan as approved by DRE. The increased dump height would be over an area near the current evaporative sprays and not over the entire dump. The peninsula area will also be mined under the modification. The current project life and production profile will remain unchanged. Environmental assessment study is being completed. Mr Brian Eastoe enquired if the Committee members will receive a copy of the EA at the same time as authorities so the Committee is reviewing at the same time.

Action Item 5: *Duralie Open Pit Modification to be discussed further at next meeting.*

- f. Weed Management Program: DCPL advised it is undertaking a program targeting woody weeds then in early spring, Giant Parramatta Grass. The contractor has been briefed; weeds inspected and plan being finalised. Will be introducing fungal solution to Giant Parramatta Grass. Already aware that fungus exists in some infestations. Ms Lisa Schiff and Ms Karen Hutchinson discussed local government active roles including an upcoming weed presentation.

Action Item 6: *DCPL to report on status of Weed Management Program.*

8. General Business

- 1. Mr Alan Fisher-Webster raised concerns regarding a blast which occurred on Monday (5th May) about 12.40pm and the visual (as per photo) from his residence. DCPL took on notice and will respond.

Action Item 6: *DCPL to investigate and respond in relation to the blast on Monday 5 May.*

- 2. Mr Alan Fisher-Webster produced some barb wire which was rusted. Normally where it goes through the fence post it rusts first however this has rusted outside the fence post first. Mr Alan Fisher-Webster thought it was from "acids coming out of the blowers". The wire was from near the blast monitor located on Mr Alan Fisher-Webster's property.

Action Item 7: *DCPL to investigate and report back on rusted barb wire from Mr Fisher-Webster's property.*

- 3. Mr Brian Eastoe advised that the Stroud Historical Society raised with him whether DCPL had any old photos or any information on historic coal workings near Coal Shaft Creek. Mr Brian Eastoe suggested that the Society submit a written request.
- 4. Mr Brian Eastoe submitted a request in relation to the science and environmental impact of the innovative Evaporative Water Disposal practice and how the practice relates to current project approvals.

Action Item 8: *DCPL to respond in relation to Evaporative Water Disposal.*

- 5. Mr Brian Eastoe submitted a second request in relation to Broader Community Engagement. Discussions took place on the community drop in that was held. Alan Andrews from DCPL will draft a small print media for consideration for the Committee. Other ideas on community engagement were discussed including the placing of Committee members details on the DCPL website.

Action Item 9: *DCPL to draft a small print media for consideration of the Committee.*

Action Item 10: *DCPL to gather details on Committee Members and place on website.*

6. Mr Brian Eastoe raised that there is a lot of water held on site that could be utilised off site. Discussions centred on previous water release discussions and community concerns. Mr Brian Eastoe requested a report even if verbal. Although relevant to CSM, the Chair advised that the Chief Scientist, Mary O’Kane's report is due out in July, which covers similar issues.

No further business

Next Meeting date: 7 August 2014 at Stratford site at 1.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 4.25pm.

Summary of Action Items from this meeting

1. **Action Item 1 (Deferred):** Great Lakes Council and DCPL to discuss offset area traffic management issues and report back to the CCC.
2. **Action Item 2:** The Chair to contact the Department of Planning and ask why the rehabilitation area is being classified as BSAL.
3. **Action Item 3:** DCPL to review dust lift off in mine wall failure area.
4. **Action Item 4:** DCPL to provide feedback on noise and to provide the Committee a better understanding of noise, how it is dealt with and monitored.
5. **Action Item 5:** Duralie Open Pit Modification to be discussed further at next meeting.
6. **Action Item 6:** DCPL to investigate and respond in relation to the blast on Monday 5 May.
7. **Action Item 7:** DCPL to investigate and report back on rusted barb wire from Mr Fisher-Webster’s property.
8. **Action Item 8:** DCPL to respond in relation to Evaporative Water Disposal.
9. **Action Item 9:** DCPL to draft a small print media for consideration of the Committee.
10. **Action Item 10:** DCPL to gather details on Committee Members and place on website.