

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting**  
**Duralie Mine Site and via video/teleconferencing**  
**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

**Attendees:**

Ms Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	John Cullen	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Cr Karen Hutchinson	MidCoast Council	Mike Plain	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Ryan Fenning	MidCoast Council	Rod Williams	CCC Member
Noel Smith	CCC Member	Thomas Kirkwood	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd
Brian Eastoe	CCC Member		

**Guests:** Nil

**1. Site Tour**

No Site Inspection was undertaken at this meeting due to poor weather conditions. A site tour will be scheduled for the next meeting.

**2. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair opened the meeting at 12:35pm.

Apologies: Drew Morris (MCC)

The Chair informed the Committee that Mr May has recently retired from Stratford Coal. Mr May passed on his thanks to the CCC members and expressed his appreciation for their contributions and professionalism.

**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, Industry & Environment.

The declarations of the Duralie CCC members remain current.

Mr Eastoe declared an interest at Action Item 2 in Business Arising.

**4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020 were confirmed.

Moved: Brian Eastoe; Seconded: John Cullen.

**5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting**

1. **Action Item 1:** MidCoast Council to provide an annual report prior to the February 2021 CCC meeting, on the spending of the Duralie Coal community enhancement contributions made to Council.

Mrs Hepple (MCC) provided the 2019/20 Annual Financial Report prior to the February CCC meeting. This was forwarded to the Committee by the Chair. Mr Plain advised he had undertaken a review of the report on the Community Enhancement Funding contributions and had provided a response to Ms Hepple and the MCC finance team. Mr Plain advised the information regarding the spending of the Duralie Coal community contributions to Council was accurate and well detailed. Mr Plain advised the information regarding the spending of the Stratford Coal community contributions to Council was not clearly reported and contained some discrepancies. These matters have been raised with MCC and MCC is assisting with a revision of the report.

Mr Plain tabled the minutes from the meeting held with MidCoast Council on 10 February 2021. The meeting was attended by Mr Phil Brennan (MCC), Mrs Lyndie Hepple (MCC), Mr Michael Plain (Yancoal), Mr John Walton (Chair, Stratford Coal Education Fund).

Meeting Summary:

- Mr Plain provided clarification on the requirements for Stratford Coal and Duralie Coal to make contributions to MidCoast Council and the allocation of this contributions
- **Action:** MCC to invoice SCPL for back-dated contributions to 2018
- Mr Plain provided an update on the Stratford and Duralie mining operations and confirmed requirements/expectations regarding the longevity of contributions to MCC.
- Mr Walton provide an update on the Stratford Coal Education Support Fund. Mr Walton expressed support from the CCC's and requested a commitment from MCC on a proportion of the Community Enhancement funding to be allocated to the education fund. This has previously been 50%.
- **Action:** Mr Brennan and Mrs Hepple to review previous related correspondence and confirm MCC's current position.
- **Action:** Ms Bindon (MCC) to supply updated spreadsheet on the Education Fund account status.
- Financial reporting from MidCoast Council – The annual financial report to the Stratford and Duralie CCC's was discussed. Mr Plain advised the reporting for Duralie was accurate, however limited information regarding Stratford has been included.
- **Action:** Agreed that Council's annual report will be provided at November meeting and include relevant updates.
- Discussion regarding how Council has been able to leverage Environmental funding to obtain other funding/grants within the Karuah Catchment.

Cr Hutchinson noted that absence of any records regarding the spending of contributions to the former Gloucester Council. This matter was confirmed by Mr Brennan in the meeting on 10 February 2021.

Mr Eastoe thanked Mrs Hepple for the financial report. Mr Eastoe also commented on the valuable contribution from Glen Hannford on behalf of the former Great Lakes Council in negotiating the contributions from Duralie Coal. Mr Plain commented on the valuable input from the late Mr Don Carroll (former CCC) to developing the reports provided by Council.

2. **Action Item 2:** DCPL to add Mr Eastoe's presentation on Corporate Citizenship Initiatives to the CCC Meeting Minutes and update this on the Duralie Coal website.

Action completed. Minutes are available on the Duralie website.

Mr Eastoe queried why the processes outlined in his presentation hasn't been adopted by Duralie Coal. Mr Plain responded the current biodiversity offset mechanism utilising a PPC and Restriction on the Use of Land meets the objectives of the biodiversity area and the requirements of the

Project Approval for the Duralie Coal Mine. Duralie Coal will not implement an additional security mechanism as it does not add value, would involve significant unnecessary cost and would add conflicting reporting mechanisms. The existing biodiversity security mechanism is held in perpetuity and a secondary mechanism is not necessary under current legislation and approvals.

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

Mrs Hepple requested that Council's annual report to the CCC be provided at each November meeting to align with other Council reporting

***Annual Action Item:** MidCoast Council to provide an annual financial report each November 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 reports to the CCC.

Information included in the CCC presentation. Mr Plain presented section 3e. of the Duralie Coal CCC meeting presentation. Mr Plain discussed future rehabilitation works including ongoing yearly PAF rehandling works, bulk landform shaping works, Auxiliary Dam 2 dewatering and progressive rehabilitation.

5. **Ongoing Action Item:** The CCC's print media to be reviewed by the committee at the February 2021 meeting.

The Committee agreed that the print media should continue during 2021 whilst operations at Duralie are occurring. DCPL will draft the print media for review by the CCC. Mr Williams recommended topics for inclusion in the print media could include the recommencement of mining at Duralie and the progressive rehabilitation status.

***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. Correspondence**

Correspondence is listed in the CCC meeting agenda.

The Chair noted one additional item:

23/2/21 MP/MMH email MCC financial report to CCC.

## **7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities**

DCPL presented the Company Reports and Overview of Activities.

1. Progress at the Mine: Mr Cullen and Mr Plain provided a progress update at Duralie Coal as part of business arising.

Mr Cullen provided an updated on the recommencement of mining operations at the Duralie Coal Mine. Mr Cullen advised a contractor run operation was proposed for the duration of 2021

involving day shift operations 7 days per week. A presentation on the Duralie operations was sent to the Committee members prior to the meeting.

2. Environment & community activities including monitoring and community programs: (*refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail*). Items discussed by exception.

## **8. General Business**

1. The Chair informed the CCC that Mr Morris was unable to attend the February meeting to provide an update on the Karuah River Catchment management projects. An open invitation will be provided to Mr Morris.
2. Mr Eastoe commented on previous CCC discussions regarding the leasing and maintenance of Yancoal owned properties outside of the immediate Mining Lease areas. Mr Eastoe asked if there had been any changes to the management of these properties. Mr Plain provided a brief update on the tendering process and rural licencing of Yancoal owned properties. Mr Plain advised the licencing of the first five parcels of land between Stratford and Duralie, originally tendered in 2018, had been finalised. The licences involve 5-year annual rolling licence terms and include a 5-year property management plan prepared by the licensee and agreed by Yancoal. These property management plans also include relevant WHS requirements and environmental management requirements. Another two parcels of land north of Stratford were put to tender in late 2020 and the applications are currently being reviewed.
3. The Chair raised for discussion the frequency of CCC meetings during 2021. The Committee agreed that quarterly meetings will recommence for the coming year whilst active mining operations are occurring.

Next Meeting date: Proposed 12:30pm on Wednesday 26th May 2021.

Meeting closed at 2:10pm.

### **Summary of Action Items from this meeting**

1. **Ongoing Action Item:** DCPL to include updates and progress on the potential final land use options and mine closure and rehabilitation plans in the reports to the CCC.
2. **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.*
3. **Annual Action Item:** *MidCoast Council to provide an annual financial report each November on the spending of the Gloucester and Great Lakes components of the Duralie contributions made to Council.*