



Wilpinjong Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee



Meeting Minutes

1. PRESENT

Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Date & Time:	23 November 2020, 10:05am
Venue:	Oriental Hotel Mudgee	Minute Taker:	Julie Burns (JB)
Committee Members:	Colin Faulkner (CF), Kim Peach (KP), Bruce Hughes (BH), Ian Flood (IF), Kieren Bennetts (KB), Brian McDermott (BM), Bev Smiles (BS), Cr Des Kennedy (DK), Scott Lillis (SL), Lisa Menke (LM), James Heesterman (JH),		
Invited Guests/Observers:	Nil.		

2. APOLOGIES/ABSENT

Apologies:	Blair Jackson (BJ)
Absent:	Nil.

3. WELCOME

Committee members have gathered for the fourth Community Consultative Committee (CCC) meeting for 2020. LA opened the meeting at 10:05am and welcomed all attendees.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Lisa Andrews – Independent Chair approved by Director General of Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E), engaged by Peabody Energy
 Julie Burns – Executive Assistant to General Manager, Wilpinjong Coal
 Kieren Bennetts – Environment & Community Manager, Wilpinjong Coal
 Ian Flood – Manager Project Development and Approvals, Wilpinjong Coal
 James Heesterman - Environmental Coordinator, Wilpinjong Coal
 Scott Lillis – Community Member (Former Resident)
 Brian McDermott – Community Member (Lessee of Peabody Pastoral land and Former Resident)
 Kim Peach – Community Member and Lessee of Wollar General Store
 Bev Smiles – Community Member (Resident)
 Cr Des Kennedy – Mayor Mid-Western Regional Council
 Bruce Hughes –Community Member (Resident)
 Lisa Menke - NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service
 Colin Faulkner (CF) Community Member (Resident)

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FINALISED MINUTES

ACTION ITEMS

ACTION LIST			
Number	Action	Whom	By When
1.	Waste management from demolition program (including asbestos removal) to be addressed at every CCC meeting, and notification placed at Wollar Store when conducting asbestos removal in the Wollar township <i>IF covered off demolition plan in his presentation. Asbestos removed from 5 buildings. Demolition to occur early December.</i>	IF	Ongoing
2.	Communicate project modifications to the CCC. <i>IF presented project modification – noted that it may be withdrawn.</i>	IF	Ongoing
3.	Attended noise monitoring reports to be available in hard copy at each CCC meeting. <i>Hard copy reports were made available at the meeting.</i>	KB	Ongoing
4.	Cemetery access signage to be erected at the church and communicated to the public via the WCPL website. <i>Signage has been erected. IF updated the presentation to include a picture. Closed</i>	IF	Closed
5.	Organise Australia Post Representative to attend the next CCC meeting <i>IF provided an update that Australia Post is unlikely to attend. LA to send correspondence to Hon Mark Coulton MP - Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government escalating the postal issue and proposed solution.</i>	LA	Next Meeting
6.	Provide detail of the location and status of the WEP offset area package to be transitioned to national parks. IF to update on it at the next meeting. <i>Update provided in the Property and Approvals presentation. Closed</i>	IF	Closed
7.	Provide more information around the environmental study of current works in the Munghorn. <i>LM explained that the Wollar Road works would resume a portion of NP land and this process required approval from the Queen and also an area of offset land to be established by MWRC. LA to write to MWRC regarding the speed limits.</i>	LA	Next Meeting
8.	Ryan's crossing aerial image displaying offset areas, where are the boundaries and update on the biodiversity boundaries for the WEP <i>Update provided in the Property and Approvals presentation. Closed</i>	IF	Closed

6. CORRESPONDENCE IN AND OUT

As per Meeting Notice, emailed on 13/11/20 with [two additional emails](#):

Correspondence Report:

- 15/9/20 – Email to members with the ARTC with the proposed rail grinding and maintenance information.
- [15/9/20 – Email to ARTC asking to be placed on their distribution list for notifications.](#)
- 28/9/20 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review.
- 9/10/20 – Email to members with the finalised minutes, presentations and update from Australia Post.
- 15/10/20 – Email from MWRC advising that Mayor Cr Des Kennedy will be Council's delegate for the next 12 months.
- 15/10/20 – Minutes posted to Col Faulkner
- 9/11/20 – Email from IF advising of proposed road closure of the Ulan-Wollar Road on Tuesday 17 November 2020 by ARTC. This information forwarded on to members the same day.
- 13/11/20 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda & Correspondence Report for the meeting.
- 13/11/20 – Same information to Col Faulkner via post.
- 20/11/20 – Email to members with a reminder for this meeting.

7. REPORT BY KIEREN BENNETTS

An update on operations and an overview of activities was provided to the CCC via presentation. The presentation will be provided to the CCC members electronically. Discussions and actions arising from the report:

Aerial Photograph

- Updated photograph provided from October 2020.
- Nil queries.

Environmental Monitoring Overview

- Attended Noise Monitoring locations and results presented for the period of September 2020 – October 2020.
- On the 1-2 September 2020 - audible in all sites – N6, N14, N15, N17, N19, N20. WCPL was predominately operating machinery in the west of the mine, ie: Pit 6. However, were compliant with limits.
- On the 6-7 October 2020 WCPL was not audible at any site.
- Attended Noise Monitoring Summary of Compliance for September 2020 – October 2020. Noise levels from WCPL complied with relevant noise limits at all monitoring locations. Attended noise monitoring reports in hard copy made available at the meeting.
- Nil queries.

Real Time Noise Monitoring

- KB presented a map of the Current Real Time Noise Monitoring Locations. - Mogo Rd, Ringwood Rd, Wollar and Tichular.
- No changes since September 2020 meeting and remain compliant.

Blast / Vibration Monitoring

- Blast and Vibration monitoring results from August 2020 – September 2020 were presented, no exceedance of vibration or overpressure criteria throughout.
- 30 blasts for August 2020 – September 2020.
 - Nil queries.
- Presented a graphical representation of overpressure and vibration monitoring August 2020 – September 2020 against compliance limits.
 - Nil queries.

Blast Incident

- WCPL recorded a blast related vibration level of 117.66 mm/s at the road culvert on the 11 November 2020.
- WCPL has an agreed level of 100mm/s with MWRC.
- Report currently being prepared for both MWRC & NSW DPIE.
- BH queried if the blast was overburden. Response confirmed that it was.
- CF asked if WCPL are going to continue to use that amount of explosives. KB explained that WCPL models each blast to estimate vibration levels at certain locations and this result was not expected as all blasts are designed to comply with the relevant compliance limits at certain locations.
- BS asked if WCPL monitor how far the vibrations are going. Response was that the blast monitoring network records vibration for all blasts if detectable, for example the railway bridge approximately 40 -50 metres away from the road culvert was 80mm/s on 11 November 2020. IF noted that for every blast all nominated blast monitors (as per the approved blast management plan) will detect the resultant vibration level.

Air Quality / Dust Monitoring

- Presented 12-month monitoring trend of Air Quality till the end of September 2020.
- Data recorded at TEOM 3 in September 2020 is invalid due to instrument failure causing inaccurate results. Data unable to be corrected or adjusted due to the nature of the failure.
- KB presented the regional daily PM10 results to show relationship between Bathurst, Muswellbrook regional events and Wilpinjong monitored levels.

Surface Water & Discharge Monitoring

- No water discharged off site since November 2018.

- Site has accumulated an extra 1GL of water due to all the rain recently. WCPL is looking at what is required to start up the RO plant and a water strategy going in to Summer as it has been predicted to be a wet season.
- BV inquired into the sites water levels.

Operational Downtime

- Presented graphs of lost time including breakdown of data by pit and causal factor. Total lost time from 11 September 2020 - 19 November 2020 was 9344.99 hours (primary dig units only), with Pit 6 (26%) & ROM (22%) have been the worst effected for lost time.
- Main events causing lost time were rain (45%) and lightning (35%).
- BS inquired on the total operation hours in pit 8. KB took question on notice. **Action.**
- BH queried what happens when WCPL shut down for noise. KB responded that there is a process as per Wilpinjong approved Noise Management Plan and a noise complaint triggers onsite review of noise levels/sources; additionally, the real time noise monitors have alarm points that also trigger investigation and a TARP response.

Management Plan Update

- Presented the Management Plans recently submitted to DPIE for approval, currently in various stages of consultation with relevant agencies, 6 in total. KB advised the CCC that the currently approved Plans are available on the Peabody website and can be viewed there.
- In consultation with relevant agencies:
 - Mine Operations Plan.
 - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan.
 - Water Management Plan.
 - Groundwater Management Plan.
 - Surface Water Management Plan.
 - Site Water Balance.

Rehabilitation Update

- Presented aerial overview of WCPL's Rehabilitation footprint.
- WCPL planning for 138 hectares of rehabilitation in 2020, which is depicted by green polygons on the aerial photo presented.
- 50ha rework of existing rehabilitation to final Biometric Vegetation Types (BVT) planned for 2020. Currently working on track to complete.
- Working on Wilpinjong Creek and Cumbo Creek Riparian revegetation works;
 - 12,000 tubestock
 - Over 5 kms
 - Re-establishment of Yellow Box & Rough-Barked Apple Vegetation Communities
 - Cumbo Creek 90% Survival (October 2020).
 - Wilpinjong Creek 60% (October 2020).
- BV asked if there has there been flows in Cumbo Creek with all the rain recently. KB advised yes there has been some good flows in the creek.

Exploration

- 2020 exploration program has been delayed and will be incorporated in the 2021 Exploration Program.
- Program commences in February / March 2021.
 - Plan to drill 34 drillholes
 - 9 cored drillholes for coal quality
 - 23 open drillholes for coal structure
 - 2 cored drillholes for gas testing & coal structure
 - Duration ~ 4 to 5 months depending on weather conditions
 - 100% above ground sump methods is planned to be used

- Currently reviewing exploration procedures and relevant documentation
- Presented aerial photo of planned exploration drill holes of Coal Quality (green) and Coal Structure (Red).
- BS asked what happens with the information gathered from the drill patterns. KB advised that it is inputted into the models – different pits have different qualities and different blends.

Community

- Complaints data presented. Total of 11 complaints for period 14 September 2020 to 22 November 2020. 7 for noise, 1 for Traffic and 3 for Odour/Spontaneous Combustion.
- Community Donations and Sponsorships from the past quarter was presented. Breakdown over the period totalling \$11,890.
- KB queried if the request from the Wollar Progress Association for sponsorship had been discussed at the last meeting. BS responded that the Wollar Progress Association no longer wished to pursue the sponsorship request.
- CF commented that the stockpile looked very large. Asked what happens when WCPL run out of room. IF responded that the export coal to China had stopped, coinciding with a 4-day rail-shut and a loader issue at NCIG the previous Monday – there is surplus stock on the ROM. Marketing Team hold in the forecast 50,000 tonnes. Some months are heavy on coal and some overburden.
- BS inquired whether the Macquarie Generation contract was still current. IF replied that it is expected to run out in 2026 but the forecast total amount of energy until the contract is complete – BS was of the understanding that the original approval ran out last year. No not to IF's knowledge – will be complete in 2026

8. REPORT BY IAN FLOOD

An update on the Wilpinjong Extension Project (WEP) and property matters was provided to the CCC via presentation. The presentation will be provided to the CCC members electronically. Discussions and actions arising from the report:

Wilpinjong Extension Project – Proposed Water Supply Modification

- Considering withdrawing Modification due to the significant improvement in site water levels.
- From a low of approx. 750 ML to nearly 2 GL of water stored onsite and therefore comfortable with this position for water.
- Working internally to complete the proposed modification documentation. However, likely to officially withdraw the application currently with DPIE. IF will notify the CCC when a decision has been made.

Wilpinjong Extension Project – Wollar Resource Area

- Tralee exploration licence application ELA5804 was rejected.
- Tralee is now referred to as Wollar Resource Area. Tralee was WCPL's ELA application – Wollar Resource Area is the government's reference to a larger unallocated area.
- Presented aerial overview of the Wollar Resource Area.
- WCPL is awaiting the release of Expression of Interest for the Wollar Resource Area. Non-formal indications that the EIO would be before the end of the year.
- Indication is that the portion of the Wollar Resource Area west of the cutting will go out to market interest and areas to the east, towards Bylong, may remain unallocated at this stage. Market interest expected before end of 2020.
- Justification - strategic release as it is a large area potentially supporting. Existing regional EIS documents / assessment information available for DPIE to draw into the preliminary environmental assessment for the release. Once they finalise, there will be an expression of interest and go straight to a tender document.
- BS queried if you could select partial areas. IF responded that the government will assess, once the second market interest test is released. The government have 6 exploration holes. BS asked what genuine coal is in that area. IF responded WCPL had their estimations and will continue to update as it progresses.
- BM noted that it could be 2-3 years off any movement. IF commented that WCPL would like to get to it as soon as possible.
- Applied to DPIE to postpone this year's social function as required in the SIMP due to COVID. Will look to hold that social event in 2021. IF will provide an update on this.

Property Management – Wollar Postal Service

- Discussion with Australia Post representative on the 30th September 2020.
- Response was that they would be unlikely to attend a meeting in person and preferred a consultation process via a "mail poll"
- Mail poll would be conducted at the time that the notification of store closure is received.
- Australia Post reiterated the proposal that the letter delivery to each property with a letterbox located near the roadside.

- BH raised his concern that in the past Australia Post was not interested in going up Mogo Road.
- BS concurred with BH that the Wollar residents have had trouble in the past with the contractor for Australia Post. BS made the suggestion of permanent post boxes at the Wollar General Store in the breezeway.
- IF advised WCPL would be happy to participate in providing the post box infrastructure. IF advised that he did table this as a solution, however Australia Post advised that this is not how they provide delivery to small communities.
- BM advised that the boxes would need to be secured/locked.
- BH replied that a letter of complaint and propose the residential post boxes. Letter to be sent on behalf of the Wollar Progress Association to escalate. LA took the action to write to the relevant state government department. **Action.**
- BS advised that Hon Mark Coulton MP – Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government would be the best person to direct the correspondence to.
- BS inquired on the closure of the Wollar General Store. IF advised that the continuation of the store is in the budget for 2021.

Wollar Village House Demotion

- IF presented an update on the Wollar Village house demolition.
- Asbestos removed from 5 buildings.
- Demolition to occur early December 2020, then final asbestos assessment/removal prior to issuing of clearance certificate.
- Air quality monitoring to date has not detected any asbestos at property boundary while works is occurring.
- IF presented before and after photographs of the houses that the asbestos has been removed.
- BS asked that now the asbestos has been moved could the old house be left in situ. IF advised that he has contacted the Historic Engine Society to see if they are interested. BM said it is deteriorating and is not safe to stay erected.
- Old store – Barnett Street will need a DA to be removed. This house will be incorporated into the 2021 plan.
- BM queried the fuel tank still under the old store. CF advised that he believes that the Old Bakery still has a fuel tank. IF to come back to the group on both buildings on whether they still have fuel tanks.
- BH queried where the asbestos was taken. IF advised it went to Dubbo authorised waste facility.
- CF queried if in the future inert rubbish / housing material will be dumped onsite. Noted that there is playground equipment that needs to be disposed of. IF to see if WCPL can assist, however, will need to check the EPL prior to committing to accepting the equipment, as WPCL doesn't wish to breach its approval requirements.

Property Management

- Presented an aerial photo of the LLS Aerial shoot. No-go zone depicted in red. Purple depicts National Parks. Red dotted line is the area of the LLS aerial shoot.
- Reasonably happy with the results.
- BS inquired if the neighbours get a notification.

RFS participation

- Attended the interagency Cudgegong Bushfire Management Committee Meeting on Thursday 5 November 2020.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

- KB on behalf of WCPL we would like to extend our thanks in participating in the CCC meetings for 2020. We appreciate all of the committee's efforts over the year, and we hope you have a safe and great Christmas ahead. We look forward to seeing you all in 2021.
- BM made the comment that he was impressed on the rehabilitation he saw on the site tour back in September 2020 and congratulated Wilpinjong on a job well done.
- DK wished all committee members a Merry Christmas, giving an update on feedback from visitors to Mudgee over the COVID-19 period. When tourists were asked how likely it was that they would come back (to Mudgee) statistics previously stated around 48%, now they are at 98%. Real estate has gone really well. Good for NSW as a state.

Meeting Closed:	11:35am closed the meeting with LA thanking all members for their attendance and contribution in 2020 and wishing them a happy festive season.
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Next Meetings:	2021 Meeting Schedule
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- Monday 8th March, Monday 7th June, and Monday 6th September – onsite meeting and final meeting 29th November.

ACTION LIST

Number	Action	Whom	By When
1.	Waste management from demolition program (including asbestos removal) to be addressed at every CCC meeting, and notification placed at Wollar Store when conducting asbestos removal in the Wollar township.	IF	Ongoing
2.	Communicate project modifications to the CCC.	IF	Ongoing
3.	Attended noise monitoring reports to be available in hard copy at each CCC meeting.	KB	Ongoing
4.	Write to MWRC on the Munghorn Road upgrades speed limit on behalf of the CCC.	LA	Carried over
5.	IF to forward recent notification on ARTC rail works.	IF	Closed
6.	LA to follow up with the ARTC on being placed on the distribution list.	LA	Closed
7.	Provide update on Wollar Resource Area progress	IF	Next meeting
8.	Write a letter to Hon Mark Coulton MP - Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government escalating the postal issues for Wollar and proposed solution of erecting locked mail boxes at the Store in the breezeway.	LA	Next meeting
9.	Confirm if the old Bakery and General Store has fuel tanks in the ground.	IF	Next meeting
10.	Report on total operational hours for pit 8 for the period 11 September to 19 November 2020	KB	Next meeting
11.	To confirm if the old playground equipment can be disposed of on site.	IF	Next meeting