



## Minutes of Community Consultative Committee Meeting Wambo Coal Pty Ltd and United Wambo Joint Venture

Meeting of the Community Consultative Committee (**CCC**) for Wambo Coal Pty Ltd (**Wambo**) and United Wambo Joint Venture (**UWJV**), held UWJV Administration building on Tuesday 6 February 2024.

Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews (LA) – Independent Chairperson	
In attendance:	Brian Atfield (BA) – Community Member	
	Robert Ball (RB) – Community Member	
	Shane Gee (SG) – Community Member	
	Janet Fenwick (JF) – Community Member	
	Cr Godfrey Adamthwaite (GA) – Singleton Council	
	Shane Armitage (SA) – Hunter Gliding Club (online)	
	Jan Davis (JD) – Hunter Environmental Lobby (online)	
	Morgan Katsch (MK) – Wambo Coal	
	Nicole Dobbins – (ND) – Wambo Coal	
	Aislinn Farnon (AF) - UWJV	
	Skye Vickers (SV) - UWJV	
	Lori Depczynski (LD) – UWJV	

Apologies: Dianne Gee (DG) – Community Member David Thelander – Community Member Nick Slater (NS) – UWJV Peter Jaeger (PJ) – Wambo Coal

### 1. Welcome & Apologies (LA)

The chairperson opened the meeting at 9:08 am, welcoming all to Wambo / UWJV CCC meeting and delivering an acknowledgment of Country.

#### 2. Declarations

LA declared that she is an approved Independent Chairperson, appointed by the Secretary for the Department of Planning and Environment – engaged by UWJV to chair the CCC. Terms of reference and governance forms distributed to CCC for completion and return.

#### **Business Arising**

The minutes from the previous meeting held on 14 November 2023 were finalised and distributed to members on 21 November 2023.

Action items from the previous CCC:

	Date	Action	Responsible	Complete (Y/N)		
	ltem 1					
	1	Wambo to communicate with JF regard to baiting programs	МК	Y Ongoing		
	2	Share wildlife camera footage in Q1 2024	PJ	N To be provided in Q2, 2024 meeting		
3.	3	Conduct Creek Diversion Tour in Q2 2024	PJ	N Scheduled for Q2, 2024		
	4	Identify data for water taken from Wollombi Brook and communicate to AF who will then distribute to CCC members.	CS	N SV awaiting details from CS		
	5	Arrange a lock for the gate to offset property along JF boundary.	AF	Y		
	7	Distribute Hall of Fame Inductees link to committee members.	PJ	N 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees not yet listed on Singleton Council website		
4.	Corresponden	ce (LA)				
	<ul> <li>21 November 2023 – Email to members with draft minutes for review</li> <li>1 December 2023 - Email to members with the finalised minutes, presentations, Terms of Reference for this CCC and governance forms.</li> <li>11 January 2024 – Email from UWJV advising of trespassing incident. Forward to members on 12 January 2024.</li> <li>29 January 2024 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda and Correspondence Report for Q1 2024 Meeting.</li> <li>30/1/24 – Email from UW with update on trespassing incidents in the area. Forwarded to members the same day.</li> <li>5/2/24 – Email to members with reminder for this meeting.</li> </ul>					
5.	Wambo Business Update					
	MK and ND provided update on the Wambo operations via a PowerPoint presentation (attached) noting the following:					

	MK outlined the presentation agenda.		
	<ul> <li>MK provided a current and future operations plan for review.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>MK presented weather statistics including 71mm rainfall for January 2024.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>MK provided an update on the south dam project. Liner installation almost complete. The 1.6GL storage capacity will help with water management on site</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>ND provided update of Wambo's Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) completed in December 2023. Onward Consulting and a technical water specialist from KCB were engaged. In summary, 13 non-compliances in total, including 4 low risk and 9 administrative. Most non-compliances had already been reported via the Annual Review or other regulatory body. Non-compliances noted in the summary table included interruptions to continuous air quality monitoring data, inundation events of the Hales Crossing sump and a delay in lodging the Conservation Bond. Details of the non-compliances are detailed in the presentation. Opportunities for improvement are included in the IEA final report and will be implemented.</li> </ul>		
6.	United Wambo Coal Business Update		
	AF - Provided the members with an update on UWJV via a PowerPoint presentation (attached), noting the following:		
	AF outlined the agenda for the presentation.		
	• AF disclosed the production totals for 2023. Targets for ROM and waste tonnes were reached for the calendar year. Safety statistics at the site are some of the best in Glencore operations.		
	<ul> <li>AF discussed Glencore undergoing potential change of business, divesting coal and alloys with purchase of Canadian company Elk Valley Resources in November 2023 JF asked if this will impact the future of mining at United Wambo. AF answered that it is not anticipated to materially change the operation.</li> </ul>		
	• RB asked how Glencore is planning to reduce its emissions targets. AF said it is difficult for UWJV. The company has looked at options for alternatively fuelled trucks and excavators, however a viable solution has not yet been identified; further work in this area will be investigated.		
	Consultation		
	AF outlined additional consultation items since the last meeting:		
	<ul> <li>DPE (now DPHI) – feedback received on Air Quality Management Plan with proposed recommendations.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>MEG – as per presentation</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>RR – Final landform and Rehabilitation Plan approved 22/8/23.</li> </ul>		
	о <b>ЕРА –</b>		
	<ul> <li>A number of inspections conducted for 'Bust the Dust' campaign which included an RFI (Request for Information) regarding water cart usage including water volumes used and kilometres completed in two 110-day periods to be provided to EPA.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>SG asked how much diesel would be used to run the water carts. AF said that would need to be calculated using a burn rate and hours run.</li> </ul>		

	<ul> <li>LA asked if the site used a dust suppressant or plain water use. AF said that the site only uses water in the water carts. Trials have been completed using dust suppressant, which has shown not to be effective in areas of high traffic or where grading occurs regularly. UWJV were looking to trial on open areas of disturbed land.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>RB commented that open areas are often where the dust is seen opposed to from vehicles.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>JF asked what chemical is in the dust suppressant. AF said the exact ingredients are not known; it is a polymer of some kind.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>RB asked if the 'Bust the Dust' observations were related to trucks. AF confirmed that footage received from the EPA was of a truck (followed by a water cart shortly behind). RB said that the wheel generated dust can be significantly reduced by slowing down. AF agreed and reiterated that it is normal process to call up, stop and wait for a water cart.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>BCT – the 6<sup>th</sup> and final BSA was signed off by UWJV Directors and will soon be signed off by Wambo Directors. Then BSAs will be returned to the Department for signing. Following this, the credits will be retired in line with the consent condition (currently non-compliant). LA congratulated the team on receiving the BSAs. LA asked if a BCT representative would come out to do a presentation to the CCC on the role of the BCT and their forward plan for the region. AF said she wasn't sure who at BCT to enquire to do so, however UW could take an action to present at the next meeting. There was discussion with AF and NB on the amount of works to be completed as part of the Stage 1 offset requirements. AF understands how farmers may be impacted by these offset areas. AF said that the Stage 2 and 3 credits will be bought, rather than having land-based offsets. JF asked how they are bought. AF said UWJV will buy some credits off Glencore and the open market. Buying CEEC offsets is rather difficult.</li> </ul>
	ACTION: AF to present information regarding BCT and offsets to CCC at Q2, 2024 meeting.
	<ul> <li>DCCEEW – no news on non-compliance notification previously sent on 4/10/23.</li> </ul>
	• DSNSW – Mining in Riverview Void Notification Area, documents provided.
	<ul> <li>Water NSW – SG asked to clarify what the Water NSW non-compliances were. LD said that it was regarding detailed log book retainment and AF added it included not-notifying Water NSW post decommissioning of Dam 1.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Singleton Council – required to complete Annual Fire Safety Statements.</li> <li>Next VPA meeting scheduled for 16/1/2024.</li> </ul>
•	LD provided overview of Rehabilitation completion in 2023 of 38ha as per plan and target for 2024 being 59ha. JD asked if the CCC could look at the rehabilitation. LA and AF confirmed that it can be scheduled for inspection in Q3.
	ACTION: LD to provide website address for rehabilitation program to CCC.
	ACTION: Schedule viewing of rehabilitation on site for Q3, 2024 meeting.
•	LD provided update on Tree Screening along Golden Highway. AF also mentioned that a boundary fence and further screening will be installed. AF discussed that this

was not completed sooner due to initial plans to move the Golden Highway and mine in this area, however, this is no longer going ahead, due to failed negotiations for land purchase with Singleton Council.

• JF asked if there are maps of the offset areas. AF said they can provide maps to the CCC.

#### ACTION: AF to provide Offset Maps to the CCC.

- AF commented that Exploration program was going ahead in 2024 and that any drilling to occur on privately owned properties would be communicated and a private access agreement would be discussed with the private landholder.
- AF provided a summary of the Environment and Community Metrics as at end of 2023, including EPA waste exception non-compliance back in January 2022. No community complaints year to date in 2024.
- AF provided an overview of Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) completed at end 2023 using the same process as the Wambo IEA. A summary of the noncompliances as discussed (shown in the presentation slides). These included items on continuous air quality monitoring, water licencing (discussed previously in the presentation), required offset credits, lighting complaints and mining within Notification Area of Riverview Void In-Pit Water Storage Dam. The audit was completed by James Bailey and Associates.
- AF presented meteorological data. Significant and intense rainfall received late December and early January discussed between AF, RB, BA & JF.
- AF presented Air Quality data and noted that the annual average TSP at the Warkworth monitor was higher than predictions in the Environmental Impact Statement. Warkworth is impacted by UWJV, Hunter Valley Operations and Mount Thorley Warkworth. Residents have the ability to end a lease and that data will be provided to them and they then have the option to terminate tenancy agreements if they wish. JD said that she can appreciate the option for tenants to leave if preferred, however persons under the age of 18 may not have that ability to do so. It is something for the company to look out for. AF said she was not aware of any children currently residing in the Warkworth area. AF said further investigation and consultation with tenants will be conducted. Currently tenants are provided with relevant health guidelines and monitoring data. JD asked if there were any residents living near Moses Crossing, referring to the higher dust levels in late 2023. AF advised that UWJV had bought the properties as part of the Project acquisitions, apart from 1 resident that did not want to sell. Houses are located approx. 1.5km from the pit boundary.
- AF commented that theft is on the increase around the Glencore mining businesses in the area, including a stolen light vehicle from Bulga and persons exhibiting threatening behaviour (weapons including firearms). SG confirmed that the vehicle theft was the subject of a police chase. There was general discussion between AF, SG, RB & BA around police response and stolen equipment.
- AF stated there were no noise exceedances. AF commented that noise impacts were below what was predicted in EIS and less complaints received than previous years. Older equipment has noise attenuation added to reduce impacts and 10 new mining trucks to be delivered soon, which are far quieter.
- AF stated there were no blast exceedances for 2023. One higher result near South Wambo at Harris property, however still in compliance with licence conditions. Investigation showed that the meteorological conditions contributed to the wavefront reinforcement and therefore the elevated overpressure.

	<ul> <li>LD presented summary statistics for rainfall and inventory. Water transfers between UWJV and Wambo continue, including for water cart and CHPP use.</li> </ul>	
	• SV presented Community Update advising that the last newsletter was distributed and an information night held in November 2023. AF commented that VPA meetings were on going with the next VPA meeting scheduled for 16 February 2024. AF suggested that UWJV feature the biodiversity offsets in the next newsletter. LA and JD agreed that it would be a good idea.	
	ACTION: SV to include Biodiversity Offsets in next newsletter	
	• SV presented the Cultural Heritage Update including the community event held in December 2023.	
	<ul> <li>SV presented a summary of the programs invested in throughout 2023 (summarised in presentation) and commented on the feedback received from those programs and outcomes reached.</li> </ul>	
	• LA asked if the Minimbah Teaching Place was being used. AF commented that it is. BA also commented that they held a recent Mental Health First Aid Course there.	
7.	General Business (LA)	
	• Presentations to be sent through to Cr Adamthwaite at to Singleton Council.	
	• JD suggested the rehabilitation inspection be undertaken in cooler weather, with plenty of notice for date. LA recommended pencilling in for the August 2024 (Q3) meeting, further details to be provided.	
	No other CCC members had general business to share.	
	Next Meeting (LA)	
1	The next meeting will be held on site on <b>Tuesday 7 May 2024</b> , commencing at 9am and will include a tour of the creek diversion.	
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	include a tour of the creek diversion.	

# Action Register:

Date	Action	Responsible
14/11/2024	Share wildlife camera footage in Q2, 2024 (modified from Q1, 2024)	PJ
14/11/2024	Conduct creek Diversion Tour in Q2, 2024	PJ
14/11/2024	Identify data for water taken from Wollombi Brook and communicate to AF who will then distribute to CCC members. SV awaiting information from UHMD.	SV
6/2/2024	Present information regarding BCT and offsets to CCC at Q2, 2024 meeting	AF
6/2/2024	Provide website address for rehabilitation program to CCC	LD
6/2/2024	Conduct site inspection to view rehabilitation work after the Q3, 2024 meeting	LD
6/2/2024	AF to provide Offset Maps to the CCC	AF
6/2/2024	Include Biodiversity offsets in next Newsletter	SV