



**WAMBO COAL PTY LTD**  
**COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

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Location:	Wambo Coal – Lakes Room
Date:	8 August 2017

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**ATTENDEES:**

Lisa Andrews (LA)	Chairperson
Ron Fenwick (RF)	Community Member
Janet Fenwick (JF)	Community Member
Steve Schmidt (SS)	Community Member
Shane Gee (SG)	Community Member
Dave Thelander (DT)	Community Member
Cr Godfrey Adamthwaite (GA)	Singleton Council Representative
Albert Scheepers (AS)	Wambo Coal – General Manager
Steve Peart (SP)	Wambo Coal – Environment and Community Manager
Harry Egan (HE)	Wambo Coal – Environmental Advisor
Trish Searle (TS)	Wambo Coal – Assistant to GM (minute secretary)

**OPENING:**

The meeting commenced at 9:03am

LA welcomed committee members. LA declared that she has been approved by the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) and is engaged by Peabody to chair the meeting.

LA distributed an attendance sheet and asked the CCC to note any changes to their contact details on the sheet. LA advised that the minutes for the previous meeting were finalised on 30 April 2017.

**APOLOGIES:** Nil

## **BUSINESS ARISING:**

1. RF raised the issue of access to his property without consent during the 2016 bushfire trail pre-summer audit. AS took steps to formally close out this issue and apologised to RF for any inconvenience caused by the two people auditing the trail crossing into RF & JF's property while checking the condition and safety of the fire trail.
2. Bushfire Management Plan – SP advised that Wambo's Bushfire Management Plan is currently being amended and will be discussed with RF and JF before being finalised. It will include clear protocols on dealing with access to neighbouring properties. The protocols will be communicated to the Rural Fire Brigade; however Wambo cannot direct Rural Fire Service personnel.
3. SP advised the CCC that a donation was made to Jerrys Plains School to provide supplies for 'crunch and sip' (vegetables and drinks) morning teas at the school.
4. SP checked that the CCC members' contact information previously distributed is approved to be printed in A3, laminated and put on the noticeboard at the Jerrys Plains Hall. CCC Members approved this proposal.
5. RF enquired when the Annual Review would be distributed. SP will distribute once the DP&E has confirmed nothing further is required. RF will receive a hardcopy of the document and associated appendices will be provided on a USB. Other CCC members will receive the Annual Review on a USB.
6. RF also requested a copy of the 2015 Annual Review.

## **CORRESPONDENCE IN & OUT:**

- 18/4/17 – Email to CCC members with the draft minutes from 11 April 2017 meeting for review/comment
- 30/4/17 – Email to members with the finalised minutes from 11 April 2017 meeting
- 24/7/17 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice & Agenda for this meeting.

Moved that correspondence be accepted by LA, seconded by GA.

## **PRESENTATION**

SP presented a general update on:

- Current operations
  - Overview of Underground and Open Cut (Montrose and Montrose East pits)
- Rehabilitation progress
  - Focus on Montrose East rehabilitation
- Operations summary
- Monitoring summary
- Noise monitoring location update
  - Location of real time, directional and attended units
- Exploration
  - 2017 and ongoing areas

- Reporting / Audits / Plans
  - Independent Compliance Audit Preparation
  - Extraction Plan for LW11-16 approved
  - Blast Management Plan approved-Road Closure MP
  - ARO submitted
  - Noise, AQ, Biodiversity, Water management plans up for review
- Community

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

DT asked about blasting evacuations for the RMS site on the Golden Highway and Golden Highway closure for blasting. SP advised that the RMS site will need to be evacuated and a road closure management plan is underway to cover when it is necessary to close the Golden Highway.

RF had some criticism of the Wambo complaints line (which is manned by a call centre) and some call back issues he experienced. SP was not aware there was a concern with the call centre company and will follow up with complaints personnel to ensure protocols are followed in future.

DT expressed an ongoing frustration with noise levels from the Montrose East Pit. DT stated that he and his family as well as around ten neighbouring families are adversely affected. At this time of year noise levels are audible from Wambo and cumulative impacts from neighbouring mines.

Cool night time temperatures, inversions and wind (strength and direction) are contributing to the audible noise. AS explained that Wambo has a manned noise monitoring system in place. When noise levels are close to compliance then operations are scaled back and machines are shut down if necessary until the environmental conditions allow equipment to work within noise limits. AS went on to say that Wambo has a commitment to minimise the impact on the community however understands at times there will be issues of contention. Under these circumstances, it is important we continue to treat each other respectfully. Wambo is managing the operation to remain within guidelines and approved noise limits. EPA and DP&E Compliance Officers regularly review the noise data and have been in regular consultation regarding community concerns. There was further general discussion about possible approaches to the issue. LA suggested that the meeting move on but for the community to continue to log concerns to the regulatory authority so the Department is aware.

RF asked about noise attenuation of equipment. AS advised a significant proportion of Wambo's fleet is hire equipment so noise attenuation is a very complex issue. That being said, Wambo is committed to operating within its noise limits at neighbouring properties.

SP asked whether the CCC would be interested in more detail at the next meeting on the capping of the North East Tailing Dam (agenda item for next meeting).

GA enquired what the changes from the Mine Subsidence Board to a Mine Subsidence Committee will mean (agenda item for next meeting).

RF asked for clarification on the JV commencement. The CCC was advised that the Glencore JV transition will commence towards the end of 2018 and the United Pit will commence in the first half of 2019. RF then mentioned Glencore's purchase of 49% of HVO and the presence Glencore has in the Valley.

Although SS was unable to attend the two previous meetings SS outlined his ongoing interest in the CCC as both a community member and from his Aboriginal Heritage. He suggested that a meeting be called to allow residents to voice their concerns about noise issues and to understand mitigation measures that Peabody has put in place. Peabody agreed to take this matter on notice for consideration.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 12 December 2017. 9:00am at Wambo.

LA thanked AS for taking the time to attend the CCC and for his contribution to the meeting, which shows Peabody's commitment to the consultation process.

The meeting closed at 11:05am

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. CCC members board to be put on the noticeboard in the Jerrys Plains hall
2. 2016 Annual Review to be distributed to the CCC (plus a copy of the 2015 Annual Review for RF)
3. SP to follow up with the Wambo complaints line personnel to ensure protocols are followed in future.
4. Agenda items for December meeting:
  - a. North East Tailings Dam capping and Mine Subsidence
  - b. Update on the impact of the change from the Mine Subsidence Board to a Mine Subsidence Committee.