

Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee

MEETING MINUTES (Final)



MEETING:	Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee (DCCC)	
LOCATION:	Dendrobium Nebo Room	
DATE:	Thursday 4 April 2024	
ATTENDEES:	Independent Chairperson	Mike Archer (MA)
	Independent Secretary	Yvonne Walker (YW)
	Community Representatives	Vivien Twyford (VT) Jenny Evans (JE) Phil Clunas (PC) Phil Diamond (PD) Phil Grant (PG) Alex Beccari (AB) Anita Mulrooney (AM)
	Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Representatives	Simon Thomas (ST) - General Manager Dendrobium Antony Leone (AL) – Manager External Affairs Rod Mapstone – (RM) Principal Community Chris Schultz (CS) Environment Superintendent
	Apologies	Gary Brassington (GB) – Approvals Manager Ron Zwicker (RZ) Wollongong City Council Michael Banasik (MB) Wollondilly Shire Council Deborah Palmer (DP) – Incoming chair

	PURPOSE
	<p>The purpose of the DCCC is to provide a forum for open discussion between representatives of Dendrobium Mine, the Community, the relevant councils, and other stakeholders on issues directly relating to the mine’s operations, environmental performance, and community relations, and to keep the community informed on these matters.</p> <p>Acknowledgement of Country MA provided Acknowledgement of Country – <i>“We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet this evening, the Dharawal People, and pay our collective respects to Elders past, present and emerging”.</i></p>
	AGENDA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome, Apologies and Declaration of Pecuniary Interests • Acceptance of Minutes of 1 February meeting • Questions on Notice, and Business Arising • IMC Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Operations Update – Simon Thomas ○ Approvals – Chris Schultz ○ Environment Update – Chris Schultz ○ Projects – Rod Mapstone ○ Community Update – Rod Mapstone • General Business • Member Updates
1	WELCOME / APOLOGIES
	<p>Meeting opened at 5:30 pm.</p> <p>MA welcomed all members and introduced YW as the minute taker. MA issued apologies for Michael Banasik, Deborah Palmer, Ron Zwicker and Garry Brassington.</p>
2	DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS
	<p>MA declared a pecuniary interest, advising that in his role as Independent Chairperson, he is paid for his time by South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal. YW is paid as minute taker by MA and the cost is recovered from South32 IMC.</p> <p>There were no other declarations made at the meeting.</p>
3	PREVIOUS MINUTES
	<p>Meeting minutes of DCCC from Thursday 1 February 2024 were endorsed as a fair and accurate summary of the meeting.</p> <p>Moved: AM (with amendments as below) Seconded: VT</p> <p>JE noted two minor amendments: Gas management plan approval was 8 July 2022 but noted on minutes as 8 July 2023 The link to the website re the enforceable undertaking was missing a hyphen.</p>
4	PREVIOUS ACTIONS, BUSINESS ARISING, AND QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
	<p>Provide map illustrating water courses for next meeting – CS showed these.</p> <p>JE – why has Longwall 20 not progressed? ST – due to the viability of the longwall, not related to recent events.</p>

<p>Representative of DPE attendance request MA made contact – they were unable to attend tonight, and we had agreed June. Given that the new chairperson will be in attendance in June for the first time, it is probably not ideal. DPE representative was to be Jessie Evans. This will be organized in future once the new chairperson is embedded. AL/DP to follow up</p> <p>Tour of catchment Catchment closed so have cancelled planned tour and will come up with some other dates.</p>
--

SALE ANNOUNCEMENT	
	<p>Announcement 29 February 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entered into a binding agreement to sell metallurgical coal. • Entity owned by Golden Energy and Resources Pty Ltd (GEAR), and M Resources • Hoping to complete transaction from the new financial year • Subject to a waiver of pre-emption rights by BlueScope – if BlueScope asserts its rights then South32 will sell to BlueScope on the same commercial terms • South32 will continue to own and operate IMC until completion and has agreed to provide transitional services to IMC for up to six months following completion of the transaction • For now, it is business as usual for IMC • Over the coming months we will work with the buyer, employees, the local community, the government, customers, and suppliers to support a successful transition • Details of the sale found here: ASX announcement • Former VPO Peter Baker has decided to leave the business • Jason Economidis has been named as new CEO. <p>Information provided on GEAR and M Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both privately-owned, not listed on the stock exchange. • Gear M Illawarra Metallurgical Coal is what IMC will initially be known as, but the long-term name has not been decided <p>Discussion about the new structure underneath Gear M IMC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a complete transition of employees from Illawarra Coal Holdings (subsidiary of South32) to the new buyer, including the existing management team • Existing supply arrangements will be maintained • All mining-related leases and licences transfer, including the Coal Preparation Plant within the steelworks • Rehabilitation commitments will transfer to the buyer • BlueScope have 60 days to make their decision which would be early May [Correction post meeting – early June]. They are currently doing their due diligence. • There is no firm date on the start of the transition period but likely early FY 2025 • Leases in Area 5 & 6 are no longer state-significant infrastructure due to the South32 decision to withdraw extension proposal. Normal approval processes would apply for the new owner <p>Concern was expressed that the life of the mine will now be extended beyond 2030.</p>
OPERATIONS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LW19A commenced 2 November – forecast to finish mid to late June • LW relocation to LW22 scheduled for June/July 2024 • Development continuing at TG22, MG22 and Pioneer Mains • Car park remediation work commenced in Jan 2024. Expected to continue until May 2024.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KV stockpile wall permanent repairs commenced in January. Construction is ongoing • Gas Drainage Plant construction continuing at VS2/3. Planned commissioning April 2024. <p>Three out-of-curfew deliveries occurred in the last three weeks due to emergency remediation, related to longwall. This is not expected to continue.</p> <p>AMENDMENT:</p> <p><i>AM: Community members have raised concerns that there have been three out-of-curfew deliveries occurred in the last three weeks. The expectation is that deliveries outside curfew would be the exception, not the norm.</i></p> <p><i>ST: Advised that the three recent deliveries were due to emergency remediation, related to longwall. This is not expected to continue.</i></p> <p>Concern was raised about the forecast rain for the coming week and whether the KV stockpile wall would hold. Improvements to the wall have been made and the pumping infrastructure has been upgraded since previous rain events.</p>
--	---

	APPROVALS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longwall 19A SMP approved 11 August 2023 • Longwall 21 Subsidence Management Plan approved 19 December 2019 • Longwall 21A Subsidence Management Plan submitted 16 November 2023 • Longwall 22 and 23 Subsidence Management Plan approved 20 December 2022 – developing a variation application for LW23 • Dendrobium Area 3 Gas Management Plant – approved by DPE 8 July 2022 <p>https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mod-9-gas-management- infrastructure</p>
	ENVIRONMENT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underground water balance has remained steady • LDP 5 flow in September was an average of 8.95 ML/day (max: 9.65 ML/d and min: 8.79 ML/d) • Traffic management plan has been submitted. Waiting on approval • Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas MP revision has been submitted to EPA for consultation • Noise monitors have been sent off site for maintenance – anticipated return in six weeks • No noise exceedances in February monitoring • Repairs to Stones Road have been completed and the area stabilised • Sealing of additional sectors of the portal road has been undertaken • Wheel wash on portal road to be trialed • Exceedance of oil and grease criteria at LDP 5 (25 mg/l – limit is 10 mg/l) in February. Suspected laboratory error as at that level, oil and grease should have been visible on the water and it was not. Unable to have retested as no further sample for analysis • Significant delays with OBD power line works due to Endeavour Energy industrial action.

Water balance and LDP 5 Discharge

- Graphs showing water balance and discharge were presented.

Longwall 19A impacts and triggers

- A table of impacts and triggers was presented.

Area 3A Swamp 15a Groundwater and Soil Moisture Triggers

- Graphs showing the impacts and triggers were presented.

Area 3A Sandy Creek Waterfall Valley Closure Trigger

- A couple of survey measurements slightly outside tolerance – more recent measurements have remained stable.

Sandy Creek 21 Aboriginal Heritage Site

- During an inspection undertaken on 26 March 2024, an additional rock fracture and associated rockfall were identified at this site.
- The RAPS and government agencies were notified in accordance with reporting procedures. Previously there had been a small fracture linked to LW19A.

Emissions monitoring methodology

- In FY2024, facilities which emit more than 100,000 tonnes of CO2-e per year will be required to reduce their carbon emissions year on year, under the Reformed Safeguard Mechanism (SGM).
- Appin and Dendrobium are both captured by the SGM and will be required to keep their emissions below a prescribed limit known as the Safeguard Baseline.
- The largest source of emissions for our operations are the fugitive emissions – methane and carbon dioxide from our ventilation fans.
- In preparation for the SGM, IMC undertook a review of the monitoring methodology which found that Periodic Emissions Monitoring (PEM) was a more accurate method for measuring fugitive emissions across our ventilation sites.
- The review of the monitoring methodology found an increase in the fugitive emissions between Continuous Emissions Monitoring (CEM) and PEM. This was largely driven by more accurate measurement of air flow volumes.
- The revised methodology is consistent with the NGER Determination, and the change has been communicated to the Clean Energy Regulator.

PROJECTS**Third Party Coal Processing**

- Following unforeseen closure / business review of Russell Vale Colliery, as reported, IMC are currently assessing available options.

NRAR Enforceable undertaking

[Link to enforceable undertaking](#)

- IMC continues to develop a community project for the EU with the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Several draft projects have been submitted to NRAR and feedback has been provided on these drafts
- The latest draft proposal was submitted on 15 March 2024
- IMC, NRAR, WaterNSW and ILALC will continue to progress the community project
- Additional flow monitoring equipment has been installed at Dendrobium to address the EU requirements around improved monitoring of impacts to surface water.

COMMUNITY

Complaints

Complaints since last meeting: -

- 3 x noise (rail)
- 4 x noise (pit top) – ambulance called for medical event; two related to same event (temporary compressor)
- 3 x traffic (curfew breach)

FY24

- 16 x noise (10 x rail)
- 2 x environment
- 4 x traffic

Community investment

Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

- Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council – Cultural Waterways Project focusing in the Catchment – recognition and integration of cultural knowledge with western science
- New grant application site launched [Community Programs / Community South32](#)

DCEP

- Current balance - \$310,294
- Figtree AFL club - mental health program and player support
- Life Education – supporting the cost of the program that is run within our local public school and pre-schools area of influence

6	<i>GENERAL BUSINESS</i>
	<p>VT (last meeting) – Thanked South32 for how community consultation has been managed during and since Areas 5 and 6 proposals put forward.</p> <p>AB – advised resignation. Thanked South32 for generally being a good neighbour.</p> <p>PC – thanked VT, AB, and MA for their contribution on behalf of the community members.</p> <p>MA – thanked VT and AB for their contribution on behalf of the committee and the community. Noted it has been a pleasure working with the committee. MA thanked South32 for their transparency and dealings, and the committee.</p> <p>RM – thanked VT, AB and MA formally on behalf of South32.</p> <p>Next Meeting: Thursday 6 June 2024 (Dendrobium Nebo Room) at 5.30 pm</p> <p>Meeting close: 6:54 pm</p>

