

MEETING MINUTES



SOUTH32 ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL (IMC) APPIN MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING: #66

DATE: 9 August 2023

LOCATION: Menangle RFS
90 Menangle Road, Menangle

ATTENDEES:

Julie Sheppard (JS)	Community Representative
Danny Stewart (DS)	Community Representative
Barry Durman (BD)	Community Representative
Sam Davis (SD)	Community Representative
Michael McGrath (MM)	Community Representative
Cr Matt Deeth (MD)	Wollondilly Shire Council
Chris Schultz (CS)	Illawarra Metallurgical Coal
Rod Mapstone (RM)	Illawarra Metallurgical Coal
Mike Archer (MA)	Independent Chairperson
Maxine Wiseman (MW)	Independent Minute Secretary

APOLOGIES: Barbara Webber (BW), Shane Simpson (SS), Andy Hyslop (AH)

The purpose of the Community Consultative committee is to facilitate and maintain two-way communication between South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC), key stakeholders and residents

It is to promote open discussion on the activities of South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal's Bulli Seam Operations, including underground mining and surface operations of Appin; environment performance and community relations; and to keep all stakeholders informed on these matters.

<i>AGENDA</i>	
	<p>Welcome and Apologies Declaration of Pecuniary Interests Acceptance of Previous Minutes Code of Conduct Questions on Notice Tracker IMC Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operations - Environment - Exploration - Community <p>General Business</p>

<i>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</i>	
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	<p>Meeting opened at 5:00pm. MA welcomed all members and introduced MW as the minute taker. MA issued an apology for – BW, SS and AH MA on behalf of IMC and committee members acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land, Dharawal people, and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.</p>
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<i>DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS</i>	
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	<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. MW is paid as minute taker by MA and the cost is recovered from South32 IMC. There were no other declarations made at the meeting.</p>
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<i>ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</i>	
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	<p>Endorsed by – DS Seconded by – MD</p>
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<i>CODE OF CONDUCT -</i>	
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	<p>Open and constructive participation, open and shared dialogue, do not interrupt and do not speak publicly on behalf of this committee. Immediately notify the chairperson of any potential conflict of interest, ensure confidentiality with committee discussions.</p>
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<i>QUESTIONS ON NOTICE</i>	
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	<p>Site visits to Coal Wash Emplacement Area and Georges River rehabilitation area Postponed until rehabilitation works commence in Georges River. Keep on the agenda with date to be determined at later meeting.</p> <p>MA to forward new CCC guidelines when they are updated. Completed.</p> <p>SD requested update following review of the Mine Subsidence Act The Subsidence team will be invited to brief the committee later in the year.</p>
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	<p>Provide information on predicted subsidence levels for Razorback.</p> <p>Cumulative data was presented Information for other longwalls is available in End of Panel Reports on website Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Documents (south32.net)</p> <p>RM – Figures are the average subsidence across all structures on all properties within the study area that have an address in Razorback. SD – Is there a report for the local region? CS - Comparison for predictions not publicly available. This information is provided to individual landholders. SD – For future longwalls, can prediction be given for any effect or impact on local property?</p> <p>ACTION: SD – review details to which he has access</p> <p>BD – Commented that every household should get a copy of predictions.</p> <p>DS requested timing for handover following North Cliff rehabilitation.</p> <p>CS – The timing for rehabilitation and handover is a long process. Sealing of shafts etc. and getting the rehabilitation area to establish could take 10 years. SD – It was nearly 10 years ago. Where was the hold up? CS - The linkages to the West Cliff workings needed to be investigated. The Resources Regulator will likely issue a direction to start progressing rehabilitation if it is not undertaken in a timely manner. SD –What has been done in the last 8-10 years? CS - There have been a number of studies completed to inform the rehabilitation process.</p>
<p><i>OPERATIONS UPDATE</i></p>	
	<p>LW709</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commenced February 2022 • 400m remaining. • Completion planned for September 2023 • Extraction plan approval for LW709-711 on 29th July 2022 <p>SD - Has there been any subsidence claims? RM – Subsidence claims are handled by Subsidence Advisory. MD - Understand that a claim to be investigated on subsidence from 708A & 709 from Council. Do you know where the claim is on Menangle Road?</p> <p>ACTION: Provide update on subsidence claim with WSC</p>
<p><i>ENVIRONMENT UPDATE</i></p>	
	<p>Brennans Creek Dam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dam level is currently approximately 9.7m • Discharge was occurring at approximately 0.5 ML/day due to reduced dam level, however will be ceasing for a period. • BCD discharge electrical conductivity (EC) is currently 2.16 mS/cm, pH 8.9. • Test of emergency warning system scheduled for 15 August. <p>Question: Why is there an increase in EC? CS - The increase is due to lower rainfall.</p>

Water Treatment Plant

- 205 ML has been discharged through LDP 40 (25.85 ML in February, 27.61 ML in March, 44.4 ML in April, 46.3 in May, 28.7 in June, 32.9 in July).
- Blending of permeate and BCD water trials are being undertaken.
- Final study of brine discharge to Marley Place is underway.

JS – What is permeate?

CS – Permeate is clean water from water treatment plant.

JS - What quantity of brine is being transported?

CS - About 13 or so trucks depending on the day. An indicative volume is 240,000 litres per day.

DS – 240,000 litres a day from each site?

CS – Yes. This will depend on plant operating hours and the brine concentration.

DS – What is the condition of the creek where the brine is discharged?

CS – Allans Creek is a tidal creek and is also engineered with concrete walls.

CS – The brine study is looking at the potential impacts of brine discharge on the creek and modelling dispersion. This was reviewed last year. Additional sampling is being undertaken.

SD – Will the results be presented to this group?

CD – The results can be provided when the study is completed.

JS – Tahmoor has just got approval to discharge brine underground.

CS – There is no opportunity to put brine underground at Appin as it will migrate into the water management system.

Rehabilitation Management Plan

- Rehabilitation Management Plan and revised rehabilitation objectives were submitted to the Resources Regulator at the end of June.
- Plan has been updated on the IMC website.

Annual Reviews

- Annual Review is being prepared and will be submitted to the regulatory agencies and be available on the IMC website by 30 September.

EPL Variation

- Annual Return reporting period has been amended to financial year.
- Variation has been submitted for incorporating LDP 40 limits in EPL, reviewing ecotoxicity monitoring requirements and amending Total Nitrogen limits for LDP 24.

Georges River Rehabilitation

- Previously advised that remediation will be commencing on Pools 39/40.
- Issues associated with landholder access required a change in plan.
- Pools further to the north are now planned to be remediated first (Pools 54, 56 and 57).
- REF has been completed.
- Works expected to commence in September.

North Cliff Rehabilitation

- Rehabilitation Execution Plan revised based on feedback received.
- Planning for commencement of shaft sealing and power line removal underway.

Nepean River Gas Zones

- Six recorded in July, down from twelve in June. No new gas zones.

JS – Regarding the gas zones when do expect there won't be any?

CS – It is hard to say. It could be years. Gas zones may cease or reactivate.

JS - What is the difference now?

CS – There is a significant difference in gas zones along the river with a reduction in gas flows. Mining operations have moved away from the river and any reactivation would be unlikely to be mining related.

NRAR Enforceable Undertaking

- NRAR and IMC agreed to enforceable undertaking.
- IMC is currently in advanced talks with local Aboriginal groups to develop a suitable water-related community project.
- The project will ensure responsible management of water resources in the catchment area.

RM – Discussions with local Aboriginal group as part of enforceable undertaking. Once approved will start implementing and report back to the regulator.

SD - Is it up to you how to use the money?

RM - Will be meeting all requirements with the focus on water and water management.

SD - Did you do a broader community consultation in the area?

CS - We had already advanced a program that we will use.

MD - What do you hope to achieve?

RM - The project will ensure responsible management of water resources in the catchment area.

CS – IMC has applied for a license for surface water extraction.

LW905 END OF PANEL REPORT

Background

- Longwall 905 commenced on 25 September 2022 and was completed on 28 February 2023. It was the final panel extracted in Appin Area 9 and the first panel to be completed under the new Longwall 709 to 711 and 905 Extraction Plan. The new Extraction Plan has resulted in some changes to monitoring and reporting.
- Longwall 905 has a void length of 858m and a width of 325m including the installation headings and first workings.
- Major features surrounding Appin Area 9 are the Nepean River to the South, Harris Creek to the East, steep slopes on Razorback Range over LW905 and built features around the Douglas Park community.

Overview

- Mine subsidence from Longwall 905 was measured using a range of survey techniques – GNSS (*Satellite*), 2D and 3D survey monitoring.
- Includes Nepean River Closure lines, Main Southern Railway, various bridges and roads in the area.

Nepean River – measured closure

- Total closure at Nepean 9I and 9J-Line both measured within the order of survey tolerance for Longwall 905.
- Mining-related movements, not measurable outside of survey tolerance.

Harris Creek cliff line – measured closure

- Longwalls 901-905 maximum measured closure of 43mm.
- Less than maximum predicted closure of 50mm.
- Southern end of the cliff line developed the greatest closure – Nepean River confluence generally reduces towards the northern end.

DS - What about the railway, are they still being monitored?

CS – Yes, will cover in upcoming slide in the presentation.

Longwall 905 Impacts

- No new gas zones identified during extraction within Nepean River.
- Previous longwalls reported gas zones, observed to be active during LW905.
- Monitoring continues monthly.
- Size and intensity of gas releases have decreased since first reported.

Groundwater

- No declines in groundwater pressure measured at any monitoring boreholes during Longwall 905 extraction.
- Effects of mining on groundwater are monitored through several multi-level vibrating wire piezometers within Appin Area 7 and 9.
- Except the highest sensor, all were sheared due to Longwall 904.
- Additional monitoring bore (S2537) was installed near S1941 in 2021.

DS – Where is the bore hole?

CS – Between Menangle and Razorback Range.

SD - A number of bores not operating because of mine subsidence. What is the relationship with these bores and the groundwater? There are bores that were damaged during 905 extractions.

SD - No decline in groundwater pressure – there is apparently a discrepancy.

ACTION: CS to investigate apparent discrepancy

- No groundwater level TARPs were triggered during the review period.
- Monitoring bore S1941 located directly above LW904 and was affected by subsidence.
- LW passed beneath the bore in August 2021.
- All sensors were sheared except the shallowest at 65m deep and inoperable.
- Groundwater in Hawkesbury Sandstone was slightly higher during LW905 compared to the previous 12 months. This is due to high rainfall during 2022.

SD – It went through the water table, there were water issues there.

CS – Previously said there was no decline in groundwater pressure – the water level in Hawkesbury Sandstone is slightly higher.

SD – Requested further explanation on water pressure and water levels.

ACTION: CS to provide additional information on water pressure and water levels

Private Property Inspections

- Post mining inspections of four properties over the LW905 mining area.
- Recorded key observations of private bores and dams.
- Collection of in-situ water quality parameters and water samples for laboratory analysis.
- No significant changes in water quality or bore performance was noted in three of the four properties.
- One borehole in a recent sampling event showed an increase in dissolved and total iron was recorded.
- Samples of the concentration of other metals were similar to previous inspections including pre-mining inspections.
- No reported increase in iron staining or colouration during sampling.
- Elevated iron is not uncommon in bore water and is not necessarily a mining effect.

- Following the passage of LW902 bore water salinity and pH increased slightly.

BD – Did any property have any damage?

CS – I have no knowledge of any damage.

BD – If you have no knowledge why is it in the report?

CS – This presentation is a summary for the CCC. More detail will be provided in the End of Panel Report that will be uploaded to the website.

ACTION: CS to provide link to report once it is uploaded

Surface Water Quality

- Surface water quality is collected monthly by the IMC Environmental Field team.
- Sites have specific water quality TARPs, defined by the Water Management Plan.
- Sites are compared with upstream and downstream reference sites to measure any non-mining related changes to water quality. (e.g., weather events (run-off) and other land uses).
- No surface water TARPs were triggered in the Nepean River or surrounding tributary sites during the LW905 monitoring period.
- Water quality improved over recent years due to higher rainfall 2020 – 2022.

Aquatic Ecology

- Aquatic Ecology Sites assessed to determine the extent and nature of observed impacts on aquatic health of the area, including impacts of subsidence-induced rock-fracturing.
- No changes to aquatic ecology indicators were detected.
- Only minor gas releases on the Nepean River, no measurable effect on macroinvertebrates, fish or macrophytes (aquatic plants).
- A full assessment of any changes will be undertaken after monitoring in late 2023.

Infrastructure: Main Southern Rail

- Monitoring and reporting is undertaken.
- No measurable movement was detected during extraction of LW905.
- No impacts on safety or serviceability of the railway during extraction.

Infrastructure: Menangle Road

- Localised minor heave and cracking developed during LW904
- IMC is working with Wollondilly Shire Council to undertake minor repairs.

DS – Obviously started to impact when LW903 went through.

MD – Warning signs were erected on the approach to the crest on Menangle Road.

SD - The whole area needs to be repaired.

Infrastructure: Other

- Nepean Twin Bridge, Moreton and Blades Bridges.
- Water and sewer pipelines and powerlines. Telecommunication cables, survey control marks.
- Douglas Park Railway Cottage heritage site, houses and other associated structures.
- IMC reported slight internal and external wall, ceiling and cornice cracking for two houses during LW905.
- Minor non-mining related impacts including movement of driveway, retaining walls and poly tanks.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One pool reported impacts of several coping pavers lifting off. <p>Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Aboriginal heritage sites. • No impacts to Douglas Park Railway Cottage as reported by the residents of the cottage.
<i>EXPLORATION UPDATE</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently operating 3 x drill rigs • All located within EL4470 and AUTH248 • Drilling to continue around Razorback and Cawdor <p>Seismic Survey</p> <p>3D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to commence late August 2023 • Private property only with land access agreements in place <p>2D – Phase 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to commence November 2023 (TBC) • Public roads and some private properties with land access agreements in place. • Additional information will be made available via fact sheets, letters and website soon. <p>2D – Phase 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commencement and details TBA
<i>AMVA PROJECT</i>	
	<p>Siteworks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly of temporary headframe • Foundations for winder house completed • Sediment pond completed • VS8 finishing collar construction • VS7 being deepened to 12m for foundations • Structural steel assemblies being laid out on construction pad <p>Blast Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VS8 ~August 2023 • VS7 ~late 2023 • Blast exclusion zone for initial blasts • Possible short duration road closures during initial blasts • Traffic controllers on Menangle Road and Finns Road • Traffic sweepers will check no one is in road corridor if closures required • Blast exclusion zone will be reduced as shafts deepen and will be fully confined within the Project boundary • No road closures required at that stage <p>SD – A fact sheet gone out regarding the blasting. Blasting is only happening during the day? RM – During the initial period, one blast per 24 hours per shaft. SD - It is in brochure.</p>

	<p>RM – Yes. SD – Timing was an issue previously during peak times. MD – How long will construction last? RM - It will be at least the next 18 months MD - What are the communications on it? Not many people know about it. RM - There has been extensive community consultation</p> <p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-blasting property inspections – letters sent to landholders within 1km of site • Project Update distributed bi-monthly to about 900 households • Shaft sinking video and fact sheet released • Community Information Session • Pre-blasting notification – letters sent to landholders within 1km of site • Digital updates (email, Facebook, website)
VAMMIT PROJECT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modification required for construction of the demonstration plant • Community consultation due to commence September 2023 • South32 land adjacent to VS2 / EDL Power Station • Specialist Air Quality and Noise assessments are underway Installing a conventional unit in parallel will provide a direct comparison with VAMMIT and assist in informing the wider IMC VAM abatement solution and potentially industry wide uptake. • Conventional VAM has advantages including a smaller footprint, it requires only one combustion chamber, it is easier to maintain and is a proven design.
COMPLAINTS	
	<p>No complaints received since last meeting.</p>
COMMUNITY INVESTMENT	
	<p>IMC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illuminate Wollondilly – next event being held from 15-17 September 2023 • Wollondilly Women in Business – Empowerment Project • Illawarra Women’s Health Centre – Survivor Advocacy Program <p>Community Partnership Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Douglas Park Wilton Little Athletics - \$10,000 training equipment • Douglas Park Community Hall - \$10,000 flooring upgrade <p>Indigenous Grant Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications remain open for FY24 • Please forward any suggestions of groups or ideas
GENERAL BUSINESS	

End of Year Function

- Tentative date and location - invitations and details to be sent

CCC review

- MA provided summary of DP&E five-year review of the CCC Guidelines for State Significant Projects. New Guidelines have been circulated to CCC members.
- New pecuniary interest declarations and codes of conduct agreements need to be signed by all CCC members.
- New Terms of Reference proforma produced by DP&E
- Appin CCC has existing Terms of Reference which is due for review next year. Adopt to new proforma at that time.

Member updates

DS - Question on the shafts - the overburden of spoils will be spread on site, no trucks and dogs coming out?

RM – Not to our knowledge. No plan for it to be moved off site.

DS - Two shafts over 32,000 cubic metres, roughly 90 thousand tons per shaft and all spread on site?

CS - Used to build bunds on site.

DS - Where are we with Mountbatten, what are we doing with the homestead?

CS - There is a heritage assessment, not yet completed.

DS - Nothing been done to property.

CS - Not to my knowledge as we are awaiting the outcomes of the report.

ACTION: Provide update on Mountbatten House.

JS – Revisit interest in Douglas Park trees site. Works are supposed to be continuing. Nepean bio-bank site. Given the significance of the site, it would be sensible to amalgamate or continue to extend the bio-bank site.

CS - We could investigate it. The fencing is being installed to protect the trees. There is not a lot of other vegetation on the property.

ACTION: CS to provide feedback on idea to extend biobanking site.

MEETING CLOSE

Meeting concluded at 6.25pm

Meetings for 2023

Wednesday 11th October at 5pm.

Wednesday 6th December at 5pm.