

# MEETING MINUTES



## SOUTH 32 ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING: # 53

LOCATION: Menangle Fire Station

DATE: 11 May 2021

ATTENDEES:

Mike Archer (MA - Chair)  
Shane Simpson (SS)  
Sharyn Cullis (SC)  
Sam Davis (SD)  
Michael McGrath (MM)  
Barry Durmam (BD)  
Peter Chaffer (PC)  
Danny Stewart (DS)

ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL:

Rhiannon Wright (RW – South32 Community)  
Liam Stower (LS – South32 Community)  
Chris Schultz (CS – South32 Environment)  
Simon Pigozzo (SP – South32 Environment)  
Peter Quinn (PQ - Operations)

APOLOGIES:

Noel Lowry (NL – Council Representative)  
Brad Watson (BW – Appin General Manager)

1	<b>PURPOSE</b>
	<p>The purpose of the Community Consultative Committee is to facilitate and maintain two-way communication between South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC), key stakeholders and local 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; environmental performance and community relations; and to keep all stakeholders informed on these matters.</p>
2	<b>AGENDA</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome, Acknowledgment of Country and apologies</li> <li>• Declaration of Interests</li> <li>• Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes / Business Arising from previous Meeting Minutes</li> <li>• Questions on Notice Tracker</li> <li>• Update from South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mountbatten Property</li> <li>▪ Dendrobium Mine Extension Project</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Future Appin Extraction Plan</li> <li>○ Environment</li> <li>○ Appin Ventilation and Mine Access</li> <li>○ Community</li> </ul> </li> <li>• General Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2021 meeting dates</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Meeting close</li> </ul>
3	<b>WELCOME / APOLOGIES</b>
	<p>MA opened the meeting at 4:00pm, welcoming Peter Quinn, Engineering Mining Manager at IMC, and noting an apology from Brad Watson and Noel Lowry. MA provided the Acknowledgement to Country – "Illawarra Metallurgical Coal and the Community would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet this evening, the Dharawal People, and pay our respects to Elders past and present and emerging."</p>
4	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS / CORRESPONDENCE</b>
	<p>MA declared he receives payment from South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC) to fulfil the role of Independent Chair. It is a requirement of the Government CCC Guidelines that this be noted and stated in the minutes at every meeting. No further declarations were noted by the committee.</p>
5	<b>PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING</b>
	<p>RW apologized for the cancellation of the Biobanking site tour which was meant to take place prior to today's meeting. An inspection of the site took place prior to the meeting, which deemed the track unsafe due to weather. The tour will be discussed through the meeting and rescheduled. SC would like it recorded that the previous minutes lacked some conversations from the previous meeting and didn't attribute all comments to a committee member. SC would like to make sure this takes place in the next minutes. RW confirmed that the minutes would be updated to attribute who the questions on notice were raised by, as this is usually the case and missed on this occasion. RW requested that should a committee member want their conversation recorded to request it be minuted, as previously discussed. RW also requested that all feedback on the minutes be sent through prior to the next meeting in line with the CCC guidelines.</p>

### Questions on Notice from previous meeting

**Q.** The committee requested information relating to the Mount Batten House Consent condition be presented.

**R.** This was completed throughout the presentation.

**Q.** DS requested to understand the amount of coal distributed to BlueScope from both Appin Mine and the Bulli Seams Operation.

**R.** IMC typically sell between 1.5 and 1.8Mt per year to BlueScope of which about 2/3 is Appin and 1/3 is Dendrobium. DS asked how much coal remains after distribution to BlueScope? The committee was advised that all figures for coal related to Bulli Seam Operations and Dendrobium can be found within the Annual Review located at <https://www.south32.net/our-business/australia/illawarra-metallurgical-coal/documents>

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### *ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL UPDATE*

#### **Mount Batten Property**

RW provided an update on the current repairs at Mount Batten. At the Main house, IMC continue to replace damaged timber throughout the roof. The Appin Men's Shed are working on the restoration of the timber doors and windows for the stable and the roof framing and sheeting is now completed on the stable.

The Committee were advised that the Bulli Seams Operations Consent, states; 'Illawarra Coal will manage and conserve the Mountbatten Group in a manner consistent with its heritage values and in accordance with the Conservation Management Plan (CMP)' and 'monitor, notify and manage the effects of subsidence and/or blasting on potentially affected heritage items (including the Mountbatten Group)'

CMP Section 5.5 Owner's requirements as reported by Niche Consulting: 'The mining uses in the vicinity of the site are expected to continue until 2045. Until that time, it is intended to mothball the buildings. During this period of operation IMC will undertake conservation works to the stable and main roof in the Main House. Finding a compatible use for the buildings and undertaking conservation works as soon as practicable is the preferred alternative to assist their conservation.'

The Committee would like it recorded that they move for the business to repair the timber on the outside of the main house and re-paint the building. RW advised she has previously provided this request to the Project Team and will do so again on behalf of the committee. It was noted that RW did a tour of the Main house and the condition of the outside timber and rendering in some areas would require a lot of work which has not been approved in the budget for the initial stage. Should this change the committee will be provided an update.

SD and SC would like it recorded in the minutes they are unsatisfied with the response regarding the painting of the house. SD would also like to note he doesn't believe IMC are trying to find a compatible use for the property as mentioned by Niche Consulting in their report.

RW said a compatible use is not written within the consent conditions, however, should a use for the property become available that falls within a safe category then this will be discussed with the Committee. SD would like the committee to be involved in this decision-making process when available as the committee has been told it would be used in previous years. RW advised this would be taken under consideration for future planning.

### **Dendrobium Mine Extension Project Update**

LS provided an update on the Dendrobium Mine Extension Project;

- South32 has commenced proceedings in the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales, seeking a judicial review of the Independent Planning Commission's (IPC) assessment of the Dendrobium Mine Extension Project.
- NSW Legislative Council also resolved to support the project as State Significant Infrastructure (SSI)
- It is important that we continue to explore all options in relation to the Dendrobium Mine Extension Project

PC asked who makes the final decision on the approval. LS stated that State Significant Infrastructure designation gives the Minister the ability to make a decision on the project. South32 will continue to work with the NSW Government

SC would like to note that there is an approval difference between a State Significant Infrastructure Project and a State Significant Development Project. SC would like more information regarding Mark Latham's amendment put forward to Parliament. RW suggested that IMC will provide updates on South32 comments, however, was unable provide updates or extracts from political members in the IMC update. SD offered to send a link of the transcript to the committee.

### **Appin Area 7 update**

RW advised that mining of Longwall 708B commenced in late April 2020. It had progressed about 1,637 metres as at 10 May 2021. There is approximately 550 metres until completion expected in Q4 2021.

### **Appin Area 9 update**

RW advised as of the 7 April 2021, Appin Mine has completed extraction of Longwall 903. LW904 to commence in May.

### **Nepean River Gas Zones**

RW advised as of late April, 11 Gas zones were active. All are associated with Area 9 besides one Area 7 Gas Zone 10. No new zones were recorded.

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### **APPIN FUTURE EXTRACTION PLAN**

RW provided an update on the upcoming Appin Extraction Plan submission to government. Illawarra Metallurgical Coal received Project Approval from the Government on 22 December 2011 for current and proposed mining of the Bulli Seam Operations for the next 30 years.

Bulli Seam Operations longwalls in Areas 7 and 9 approved through Extraction Plans are planned to be completed by end of 2023. Submission to the Department for secondary approval to happen in May 2021. This will consist of an additional three Longwalls 905, 710A and 711.

Landowner Engagement to commence, week commencing 10 May and continue for 6 months with Individual meetings taking place with potentially impacted landowners.

SC requested a copy of the indicative map provided when the Project Approval was granted in 2011. RW will provide a copy of this with the minutes, however, wanted to note that the Mine Plan changes frequently and as it does landowners in the area are informed.

PC requested more information on why the Mine Plan has been reduced consistently to the East. RW took this on notice.

There was also a discussion about whether two longwalls operated at the same time. PQ advised that while there may be occasions that both longwalls are operating at the same time, generally they were operated at separate times.

**Environmental Water Project Update**

CS provided an update on the construction of the Appin North water treatment plants, which is progressing:

- Pipeline construction has been completed
- Temporary WTP is anticipated to be producing permeate in early May 2021
- Permanent WTP is anticipated to be producing permeate in November 2021

A licence variation request has been approved and a new date for completion of permanent plant has been extended to 30 November 2021. There is a new licence discharge point LDP 40, which would discharge at the same point as LDP 10.

An update was also provided to the Georges River Stakeholder Group Meeting held 29 April 2021.

**Brennans Creek Dam**

Overflow from Brennan Creek Dam occurred around 21 March 2021 following significant rainfall (over 250 mm in 8 days) and continued until approximately 17 April 2021. Overflow also commenced on 7 May 2021. SC asked if IMC were in compliance and CS confirmed they are.

Discharge continues with no dilution (current EC is 1.2 mS/cm, pH 8.6) and dam level is currently at 12.5 metres.

**Air Quality Exceedance**

Exceedances of air quality criteria were recorded as a result of hazard reduction burning in the area.

**Aquatic Health Monitoring**

The next ecotoxicity sampling and macroinvertebrate monitoring is planned to be completed in May 2021.

**Georges River Remediation Plan**

Approval is being sought for a trial in the catchment area. SC asked for additional information on what is involved in the trial. SD requested information on who will perform the trial and who designed it. These questions were taken on notice.

RW provided a recap on the previous meeting, that IMC are proposing to construct two ventilation shafts (one upcast; one downcast) and mine access facilities at 345 Menangle Road.

IMC are nearing the end of the concept phase, finalising the assessments to sure up designs and move forward. We recently updated the concept design slightly based on early feedback from engineering assessments. This design is likely to be that carried forward by the Project.

Key changes are:

- Ventilation Shaft 8 fan design. It now has a 90-degree angle to increase efficiencies of dispersing the air.
- Ventilation Shaft 7 winder house has shifted to the north of the ventilation shaft. This enables access to all sides of the cage.
- A helipad has been included for emergency use. This change will result in the redesign of the earth bunding in the area.

IMC are continuing to work on the engineering and environmental assessments. These are nearing completion, with final reports expected in the coming month or so. These assessments will confirm designs and planning and enable us to progress to the next step of finalising a modification report.

IMC are continuing to meet with the Menangle Advisory Panel on a monthly basis which is providing feedback and input into the Project. SD requested a list of the Panel members. RW to provide a link to the members and the website when available. The next community update on the Project will contain more project detail, such as the shaft sinking process. Activity at the property is expected to continue for the remainder of the year. The key activity in the coming months is further geotechnical drilling which will mean drill rigs are back on the property for a short period of time.

It is planned a Project Manager will attend the next meeting to discuss the construction method in more detail.

**10 COMPLAINTS**

RW advised there were no complaints received for the Bulli Seams Operations in March and April.

**11 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT**

IMC continue to partner with the Douglas Park Wilton Football Club. At our last meeting we mentioned we were in discussions with the Club to understand how we can continue our support. These discussions have progressed and an application for funds to support the Clubs growth is pending

At the last CPP meeting, the Committee endorsed \$43,485 toward the Life Education Program for the next three years. The next meeting will be held on 13 May 2021.

The application from the Rural Fire Service is on the agenda for discussion. A representative from the group will be presenting on the application at the meeting following questions from committee members at the previous meeting.

**12 GENERAL BUSINESS**

MA raised the topic of the Terms of Reference review for the next meeting in July. The committee has been sent a copy of the Terms of Reference, the Guidelines and Code of conduct for their feedback. Please send feedback via email to MA prior to the next meeting.

SC asked MA if reviewing these documents is a requirement of other committees. MA advised that it is a requirement from government to review the documents every three years. SC asked if the chairs are still holding regular meetings together. MA advised that meetings with all Chairs are held 1-2 times a year.

BD asked if MA would see much change to the Terms of Reference. MA advised that there shouldn't be a lot of change, however, that would be dependant on the Committees interpretation of some items. MA again, encouraged everyone to send through their feedback to him prior to the next meeting. MA reiterated that IMC is an active member of the committee and will also provide their feedback and review the final Terms of Reference. PC, SC and MG requested the documents be sent in hard copy via mail. RW advised she will send these out.

RW asked the committee what their preference would be on re scheduling the tour of the Nepean Biobanking site. The committee agreed to postpone the tour until the September meeting.

DS has requested a change in how the printed maps are displayed. The change primarily focused on the scaling aspect of the maps as he believes these do not line up accurately. RW advised that an alternative scale will be provided to DS for consideration.

**Meeting dates 2021**

- 13 July – Terms of Reference Review
- 14 September – Tour of Biobanking site and shorter meeting
- 16 November – Proposal to move meeting date to 2 November. Agreed by Committee.

**12 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE & ACTIONS**

- SC and DS requested additional information the Georges River Remediation Plan trial
- PC requested additional information on the Extraction Plan Longwall panel configuration and why it is reduced on the East
- SC would like a copy of the original Mine Plan from 2011 Bulli Seams Approval

**12 CLOSE OF MEETING**

Close of meeting at 5:45pm. Next meeting Tuesday 13 July 2021.

RW Will not be in attendance at upcoming meetings for 12 months. LS will represent IMC at the next meeting until a suitable replacement is sought. The Committee wished RW all the best with her forthcoming Parental leave.