

**METROPOLITAN COAL
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES**

Date: 11/12/19

Time: Commenced – 5:11pm

Location: Metropolitan Coal Mine Meeting Room, Upper Administration, Helensburgh

Attendees:

- Lisa Andrews (LA) - Independent Chairperson
- Stephen Love (SL) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Kane Organ (KO) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Rae O'Brien (RO) – Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Patricia Gauci (PG) - CCC Member
- Allan House (AH) - CCC Member
- Peter Turner (PT) - CCC Member
- Kerrie Belter (KB) - CCC Member
- Lorraine Rodden (LR) - CCC Member

Apologies:

- Jon Degotardi (JD) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Robert Scullion (RS) - CCC Member
- Ron Zwicker (RZ) - Wollongong City Council

Welcome and introductions:

- LA welcomed all members to the meeting, the last for 2019. LA introduce Rae O'Brien, the new General Manager of Metropolitan Coal and invited her to provide background on her career. RO informed the CCC that she has served in various senior roles across the mining industry over the past 25 years. Prior to joining Peabody in September 2018, RO worked across the technical frameworks of Glencore Coal Assets Australia and Centennial's Springvale mine.

Declarations of interest:

- LA declared her position as Independent Chair for the CCC approved by the Director General of Department of Planning Industry & Environment (DPIE) and engaged by Peabody.
- AH declared that his daughter now works for Metropolitan Coal. LA requested that AH amend his declaration form for the record.

Action items from previous meeting:

- Eastern Tributary (ET) site inspection cancelled due to ongoing Total Fire Bans and closures of the Woronora Special Area. To be rescheduled for a future CCC meeting in 2020.

Correspondence (as per email with 4 additional items:

- 12/7/19 - Email draft minutes for review with the LW Map and July presentation.
- 20/7/19 – Email to members with the finalised minutes.
- 22/7/19 – Email to and from Wollondilly Council regarding delegate on this CCC.
- 25/7/19 – Email from Peabody responding to enquiry from journalist at Sydney Morning Herald regarding the Eastern Tributary. This information was forwarded on to CCC members on 30/7/19.
- 17/9/19 – Email from SC regarding a recent media item regarding mining under the Woronoro Dam. This information was forwarded through to members on 18/9/19.
- 11/11/19 – Email from Peabody Australia regarding the handing down of the IEPMC report and attached documentation. Sent to CCC members the same day.
- 14/11/19 – Email from Peabody Australia regarding the appointment of Metropolitan Coal's new General Manager. Sent to CCC members the same day.
- 25/11/19 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda and Correspondence Report for this meeting.
- 2/12/19 – Email from Bob Scullion enquiring about the amount of water being purchased.
- 9/12/19 – Email sent to members with a reminder for this meeting.
- 9/12/19 – Email to members cancelling the site inspection due to bush fire restrictions.
- 10/12/19 – Email from Peter Turner requesting results to date from the Eastern Tributary piezometer bore.

Metropolitan Coal operations update – Stephen Love, Environment & Community Superintendent

A presentation was provided to the CCC with an update regarding:

- Company restructure update and welcoming new Metropolitan General Manager Rae O'Brien.
- Mining update: LW 304 commenced extraction 28th July 2019, LW 305 - 307 extraction plan under review with DPIE, and LW 305 due to commence in March 2020.
- Independent Expert Panel for Mining in the Catchment (IEPMC) part 2 report released 1st November 2019. Losses of water associated with Metropolitan Mine are negligible stating “Negligible reduction to the quality or quantity of water resources reaching the Woronora Reservoir”.
- Media release ‘Shocking’: Mining damage in Sydney’s catchment prompts calls for halt – SMH 27th July 2019. Continuous monitoring since 2012 has shown no evidence of water losses.
- ET stream mapping in 2008 showing pre-existing underflow of rock bar prior to mining
- ETO pool water level and shallow piezometers data before, during, and after rock bar remediation showing pool water levels returning above the cease to flow point.
- Coal Wash Reject (CWR) railing initiative. Metropolitan is currently loading a shipment of 55,000 tonnes of high ash thermal product via rail bound for overseas cement industry. Shipment representing >3,000 truck movements. Metropolitan to continually assess viability/sustainability of this CWR management option.
- Metropolitan Coal’s water consumption runs on recycled water supplied from the site Water Treatment Plant (WTP) having a capacity of ~3ML/day. Sydney Water supplies site bathhouses, kitchens etc and trucked water to Gas Drainage Plant (GDP). Total Sydney Water consumption is approximately 1ML/day. Efforts to reduce water consumption are being implemented by Metropolitan Coal including accurate metering onsite.
- Sponsorship summary for 2019 and reminder of upcoming “Carols in the Burgh”.
- KB asked where CWR is headed via rail. SL explained trains were headed to PKCT and then Vietnam. RO explained ash content is useful in cement applications.

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- AH raised the issue of recent increase in dust at his property. RO highlighted the studies conducted in the Hunter Valley which examined dust. The results from The Office of Chief Scientist Engineer indicate that dust was not the result of railed coal and suggested that Metropolitan Coal could conduct similar testing for potential coal dust. SL agreed this could be conducted if AH desired.
- AH asked if Total Fire Bans (TOBANS) had implications on fireworks at 'Carols in the Burgh'. SL explained that decision to proceed with fireworks would be made in consideration of weather conditions but would contact organisers to clarify safeguards and risk management.
- PG requested clarification of who IEPMC are. SL explained that they were formed as part of the NSW Office of Chief Scientist & Engineer and are not paid for by the mines.
- AH enquired of Metropolitan Coal's aerial monitoring capability (drones) and if there is an ability to monitor vegetation. SL explained that Metropolitan Coal uses drones for stockpile surveys and other surface facility purposes, but technology is not suitable for use in vegetation monitoring.

General business:

PT requested hydrograph from ridgeline piezometer to west of Eastern Tributary. SL confirmed he would attempt to source this in JD's absence.

PT enquired if there are plans for remediation of Pool N. SL confirmed that this was likely, but ET remained priority. Pool N has ceased to flow on occasion but has not dried out the way it had when impacts were first detected in 2012 through to 2014. Water level charts are available in the Annual Review.

AH enquired about the levels of automation at Metropolitan. RO explained that coal mining automation is behind hard rock mining due to inherent safety requirements, however, Metropolitan is ahead of most Australian coal mines with recent installation of cameras on longwall face, improving safety for Longwall operators. Metropolitan are continues to assess available technology and associated policies and procedures.

Meeting Schedule for 2020:

The following dates were proposed in line with the existing schedule:

- Wednesday, 8th April
- Wednesday, 5th August; and
- Wednesday, 9th December, 2020.

Commencement time: 5pm in the Metropolitan Coal Mine Meeting Room, Upper Administration, Helensburgh

Meeting closed: 6:04pm with LA thanking all CCC members for their attendance and contribution throughout 2019. Wishing all a very merry Christmas and happy new year.

Action:

- 1 Metropolitan to reschedule visit to ET Crossing at next CCC Meeting.
- 2 Hydrograph from ridgeline piezometer to be provided to CCC.