

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

Date: Tuesday 16 November 2021

Time: 3:00pm

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

Attendees:

- Lisa Andrews (LA) - Independent Chairperson
- Stephen Love (SL) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Jon Degotardi (JD) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Kane Organ (KO) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal
- Robert Scullion (RS) - CCC Member
- Kerrie Belter (KB) - CCC Member
- Allan House (AH) - CCC Member
- Peter Turner (PT) - CCC Member

Apologies:

- Ron Zwicker (RZ) - Wollongong City Council (WCC)
- Patricia Gauci (PG) - CCC Member
- David Henry (DH) - Wollondilly Shire Council (WSC)
- Jim Middleton (JM) - Peabody Metropolitan Coal

Welcome and introductions:

- LA opened the meeting at 3pm, welcoming all members to the CCC and thanked attendees for completing a health declaration form prior to the meeting.
- LA announced Wollondilly Shire Council's new delegate, David Henry.

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. No changes to members' previous declarations.

Action items from previous meeting:

- LA declared CCC meeting minutes held virtually on 21 September 2021 were finalised on 11 October 2021 and sent to members.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBILITY
1	CCC members to submit requests for data/information 2 weeks prior to the CCC for response at the meeting. Complete. Chair requested that members submit questions two weeks prior to the CCC, so the responses can be provided at the meeting. Explaining that moving forward this will be a new agenda item. It allows	All (Ongoing)

	<p>requests for information to go through the meeting process which also gets recorded in the minutes. It assists both the company and the members, by allowing information to be prepared in an organised way and not in an ad hoc method. This does not mean that requests for information will be refused outside this process, however, these requests will be considered on their merits. Agreed.</p>	
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- PT thanked Metropolitan for providing requested information

CORRESPONDENCE (as sent out on 4/11/21 with the meeting notice – with 1 additional item, which was just the reminder yesterday.

- 21/9/21 – Email to CCC with presentation, inviting members to participate in the engagement process virtually via email and seeking feedback. Responses received.
- 1/10/21 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review.
- 11/10/21 – Email to members with the finalised minutes.
- 4/11/21 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda & Correspondence Report for this meeting, as well as request for any Community Questions.
- 8/11/21 – Email to member with the health questionnaire and the Zoom link.
- 11/11/21 – Email to members with a reminder to submit completed health questionnaire.
- 11/11/21 – Email from LA to SL with completed health questionnaire. Other questionnaires received or requests for hard copies were forwarded through to SL.
- 15/11/21 – Email to members with the reminder for this meeting.

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

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

- Company and EA
- Mining Update
- CWR Management
- Site Management
- Community Sponsorships 2021

Questions/Comments/Feedback from CCC members in relation to the Presentation:

- RS asked who the biggest customer for coal from Metropolitan has been. SL explained that Bluescope has been largest customer in recent times, with remaining coal sold on spot market to overseas customers
- PT asked when LW 306 would be beneath the Eastern Tributary arm of reservoir. JD responded that longwall would be at this location in January / February 2022
- KB commented that the recent short trucking campaign had been noticed by the community. SL explained there will most likely be a small CWR trucking campaign before Christmas, highlighting that some CWR cannot be transported by rail and Metropolitan will keep the CCC updated, particularly when larger trucking campaigns may commence.
- AH queried recent revegetation works on Camp Creek Gully. SL explained that Coral Trees had fallen during a weather event in early 2020 and site was taking the opportunity to revegetate with native species.

- AH enquired about water quality data on Camp Creek and asked if assistance could be provided in relation to information gathering phase ahead of planned reintroduction of platypuses to the Royal National Park. SL confirmed he has had initial discussions with the lead researcher of the project and is waiting to hear back on specific information/data of interest that Metropolitan may be able to provide. SL and JD confirmed that assistance could be provided with potential vegetation survey and drone footage.
- KB asked if staff and employee numbers onsite have returned to pre-COVID levels. SL indicated that contractor numbers have increased as production ramps up but staffing remains at lower restructured levels.
- KB asked if barriers and security shed could be removed from the mines entrance road. SL confirmed they may still be required in case another surge in COVID cases occurs but would discuss internally if these could be removed.

General Business:

- PT enquired about groundwater transect piezometers T2/T3R/T5. JD explained that a positive water gradient between monitoring boreholes and reservoir remains, with groundwater levels in T5 well above T3R and the reservoir. Metropolitan is currently waiting on a significant rainfall event to assess the groundwater behaviour of the new T3R borehole, which appears to be directly hydraulically connected to the reservoir.
- PT enquired about provision of sensor elevations within groundwater piezometers. JD and SL reiterated that adjustments in sensor elevations mean this information can quickly become redundant, as well as the difference between open piezometers and fixed VWPs, but would consider how this information could be incorporated into the next Water Management Plan.
- RS enquired what implications the emissions commitments at COP26 may have for Metropolitan Coal. SL explained that this was unclear but indicated that demand for coal is currently strong. JD outlined that the current mine approval extends to 2032 and the need for high quality coking coal like Metropolitan's for steel production in the foreseeable future. PT noted coking coal mines would likely be the last to be phased out as part of any transition.

Meeting Schedule for 2022:

- Tuesday 1 March, 2022 commencing at 3pm
- Tuesday 26 July, 2022 commencing at 3pm; and
- Tuesday 22 November at 3 pm.

Meeting closed at 3:42 pm with the chair thanking all members for their participation and contribution throughout 2021. Wishing them all a safe and happy festive season.