



Wilpinjong Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee



Q3 Meeting Minutes

1. PRESENT

Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Date & Time:	11 September 2024
Venue:	Wollar General Store	Minute Taker:	Sally Mayberry (SMb)
Committee Members:	Ian Flood (IF), Bev Smiles (BS), Kieren Bennetts (KB), Clark Potter (CP), Kim Peach (KP) <i>[left at 2pm]</i> , Brian McDermott (BM), Tian Oosthuizen (TO) <i>[left at 1.50pm]</i> , Erynn Mayall (EM)		
Invited Guests/Observers:	Katie Dicker (KD) is attending as a community member as Council is in caretaker mode. <i>[left at 2.26pm]</i>		

2. APOLOGIES/ABSENT

Apologies:	Cr Des Kennedy, Lisa Menke, Maata Te Kira, Rod Pryor
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3. WELCOME

Lisa Andrews – opens meeting at 1:04pm. Welcomes EM, Environmental Coordinator with WCPL.
Acknowledgement of Country

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Lisa Andrews – Independent Chair approved by Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (DPHI), engaged by Peabody Wilpinjong
 Ian Flood – Manager Project Development & Approvals, Wilpinjong Coal
 Clark Potter – Senior Environmental Officer, Wilpinjong Coal
 Kieren Bennetts – Manager Environment & Community, Wilpinjong Coal
 Bev Smiles – Community Member (Resident)
 Katie Dicker – MWRC Councillor (alternate for Des Kennedy)
 Brian McDermott – Community Member (Lessee of Peabody pastoral land and former resident)
 Kim Peach – Community Member
 Grant Purcell – NP&WS delegate (alternate)
 Mark Eaglesham – General Manager, Wilpinjong Coal
 Rod Pryor – Community Member (Wollar Progress Association/Resident)
 Erynn Mayall – Environmental Coordinator, Wilpinjong Coal

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes from 3 June 2024 CCC were finalised and sent to members via email on 27 June 2024.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FINALISED MINUTES

Review of action items from last meeting:

1.	Confirm if the old Bakery and old General Store has fuel tanks in the ground <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The General Store is scheduled to be removed in this years' demolition plan 	IF	Complete
2.	Council to be contacted regarding fencing the unfenced boundary of the waste transfer station in Wollar Visual screening bunds are utilised rather than fencing. Property owners are responsible for fencing	IF	Ongoing
3.	Provide the camp related increase in effluent and management of effluent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expected estimated increase 32,000L per day; 11.6ML per year based on full capacity of the camp Treated by irrigation to land in accordance with WCPL Environmental Protection Licence 	KB	Closed
4.	Break down the taxes, royalty and rates to State and Local government and provide an overview of publicly available tax contributions <i>within the bounds of standard commercial confidentiality provisions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to break down any further 	IF	Closed
5.	Check previous notes in relation to SIMP discussions (April 2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extraordinary meeting on 23 April 2018 in relation to SIMP IF confirmed that demolition is planned for all houses owned by Peabody (if they are currently vacant and unable to be rented. Most of the discussion concentrated on the toilets (remaining open), lighting, signage, school numbers & RFS numbers. Future comments can be raised by the community in the next Social Impact engagement process. 	LA	Closed
6.	Nominate focus areas for the upcoming Independent Environmental Audit to LA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everything is included within the audit; stakeholders are asked if there are any areas of concern or focus within the audit scope 	CCC Members	Closed
7.	Provide clothing sizes (inclusive of shoes) and focus areas for CCC site tour to LA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not relevant due to cancellation of the site visit (not enough numbers to undertake) 	CCC Members	Closed

7. CORRESPONDENCE IN AND OUT

Correspondence in/out:

- 11/6/24 - Email to members with the draft minutes from the meeting for review. As well as the presentations.
- 27/6/24 Email to members with finalised minutes.
- 28/8/24 Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda, Correspondence Report & site requirements for the meeting.
- 3/9/24 - Email to members requesting RSVPs for CCC.
- 6/9/24 - Email to members postponing the site inspection and moving CCC to Wollar meeting room.

LA advised that KD & KP needed to leave early, so invited IF to commence with the Properties and Approvals update. See attached presentation. IF informed members that he is leaving WCPL and that this will be his final Wilpinjong CCC.

WEP – Mod 2

- DPHI approved on 3 July 2024
- Management Plan updates have commenced
- The camp construction has begun
- Map shown of the eastern section of ML1795 that has been removed from the SD

WEP – Mod 3

- The scope has been amended to reduce the ROM Coal to <16MT (instead of 34MT)
- Reduces the amount of ground disturbance (400ha to 160ha) and the need for relocating the rail
- Ulan/Wollar Road proposed to be relocated in one section to run parallel to the ARTC rail line. There will be no overpass or underpass; there will be a boom gate (per current state)
- Powerlines cut through the modification area and will require relocation to the north of the rail line

Discussion about the scope amendment including the change in the extension timeframe (the timing of mining will change between pits, if the Mod is approved)

Question: Will the power poles be WCPL assets?

Answer: WCPL will pay for the relocation; the powerline will be owned by the energy company

- Reporting is mostly completed
- Overview of the consultation that is planned, and the key next steps
- No revision to the scoping letter will be made as the scope amendment is a reduction in impact

Mod 4

- EnergyCo's easement within WCPL biodiversity offset was approved on 26 June 2024
- EnergyCo have offered to attend the December CCC meeting to provide an update on the project

EL9399

- Inert waste has been moved to central locations, and the waste is being disposed of by external contractors; the timing is determined by availability of the external contractor
- The groundwater monitoring network has four additional sites with two more remaining (pending weather access)
- Some of the groundwater monitors are open holes where water samples and water dipping can occur; others have piezometers installed

Question: Will the groundwater data in the new holes be compared to the existing models and results?

Answer: Yes, that's what the new holes are for. The model will also be re-run with the new modification input, and then will be compared to the original modelling

- Outlines the context of a Cultural Heritage incident that occurred when RAPs were visiting during August 2024
- Outlines future actions to ensure this incident doesn't happen again which includes immediate notification of significant Cultural Heritage finds to WCPL and the development of "No Go Zones" while the full process is allowed to complete

Future SSD application

- Exploration drilling is complete
- Scoping letter is planned for late 2024 (expect WCPL to advise on the position by the December 2024 CCC meeting)

Question: Will the overburden ratio increase?

Answer: Without access to data (relying on personal memory), the strip ratio will increase slightly

Property Management

- Two more houses planned for demolition in 2024
- No more houses are planned for demolition within the Wollar village
- Three houses are planned for demolition on Barigan Road in 2025

Comment: Maruka (pink house at 609 Barigan Road) is a house that the community has been disappointed with the management of since WCPL took ownership.

Weed Control

- Spring weed control has been planned on lease areas – blackberries, sweet briar, St Johns wort, heliotrope, prickly pear as well as any other weeds brought to WCPL attention

RFS

- Turkeys nest dam north of WCPL maintained as full for use as required by RFS.

9. REPORT BY KIEREN BENNETTS

Aerial Photo – August 2024

- Talks to the most recent aerial photo available of the WCPL operations from August 2024
- Southern portion of Pit 8 had begun surface preparations for mining recently; the proposed sequence of mining was presented at the previous CCC meeting.
- BS notes that it was not clear to expect works to begin between last meeting and this CCC meeting.

Attended noise monitoring

- 18 June 2024 WCPL audible at all the attended noise monitoring locations. WCPL was audible at all noise monitoring sites but remained compliant with consent conditions

Comment: The dB(C) is not being reported

Response: It is reported separately in the full noise report; CP shares the exact location within the hard copy report provided.

Update to clarify minutes follow December 2024 Meeting: Clarification regarding the dB(C) – in the actual reporting of the monitoring at each site, there is not reporting of the dB(C) monitoring. The Attended Noise monitoring reports are saying that the process of looking at the dB(C). The real time monitors do not monitor dB(C) as it is what BS notes as the impact to her. In the reports, the dB(C) is not being reported from the perspective of being able to understand how close the noise might be to triggering the required adjustment of the noise compliance assessment (modifying factor of >15). BS would like to know how close the sound is getting to that noted Modifying Factor.

- 23 July 2024 WCPL audible at some of the attended noise monitoring locations but remained compliant with consent conditions
- 19 August 2024 WCPL audible at some of the attended noise monitoring locations but remained compliant with consent conditions

Blast Monitoring

- Compliant with overpressure and vibration monitoring for May, June, July 2024 for the 10, 8, 6 blasts respectively that occurred during that period

Air Quality

- Remains compliant with dust gauges and HVAS and TEOM

Question: With the current modelling with the WEP and the lack of monitoring in the north of the mine, the predictions of dust movement and deposition in the area in the model – how far out do those predictions go? The community notes that there are more dust deposition on private properties. What is the current model predictions for the dispersion of dust? (the distance that it is forecast out)

Answer: WCPL will put together a summary of slides for the next CCC meeting. See Action item 1

Action: BS requested that dust management be raised as an issue for the Independent Environmental Audit.

Surface Water Discharge

- Compliant with no exceedances for May, June, July 2024

Operational Downtime

- Approximately 543.5 hours of lost time in digger, loader and dozer hours
- Lost time was due to rain, noise, lightning, fog and dust

Rehabilitation 2024

- A change in expected rehabilitation location is discussed (due to mining sequences)
- Rehabilitation has been transitioned to a mixed species of cover crops with the aim to improve results during seasons

Discussion regarding concern about Pit 8 logs that are visually noticeable. The logs will eventually be moved but for the moment they will remain there until they're moved again. The log stock includes timber salvaged from recent Council roadworks that would otherwise have been chipped

- Rehabilitation to disturbance ratio of 0.3:1
- 7 ha of rehabilitation will be completed using a drone as a trial

Infill Drilling Program:

- Completed in July 2024; 16 holes have been fully rehabilitated so far (cementing followed by rehabilitation)

Question: What's the depth of the drill holes?

Answer: Ranging from 40-60m total depth

NSW HSEC Excellence Awards – Bat Adit

- WCPL won the Environmental Excellence Award
- Bat numbers fluctuate over the year but follow the same trend. There were 1000 bats this month that were counted using the adit which aligns with historic data, despite mining getting closer to the adit

Community Complaints:

- Overview of complaints made recently from noise, dust and odour complaints. Wilpinjong investigated and were compliant with all complaints.
- Community is reminded to provide as much detail of the complaint as possible, to assist with investigating and resolution

Community Donations & Consultation

- Priority areas are per the Social Impact Management Plan with \$24,545 donated in 2024 since the June CCC meeting.

Consultation

- Independent Environmental Audit is planned for October 2024
- Members are reminded to share any areas of concern or focus for the audit with LA

'HAVE A CHAT' 2022 Details

- 1st Thursday of every month between 1:30pm and 4:30pm at the Wollar Store
- Community Complaints Hotline 1300 606 625

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

BS asks, in relation to an article in the recent Gulgong Gossip with Mark Eaglesham, questions arising (WCPL can take on notice if necessary):

1. *With the next expansions, how does WCPL plan to minimise the impact on the community*
 - a. *The minimisation of impacts will be developed through the environmental assessment process associated with future developments.*
2. *Up until now, the noise impact mitigation was to buy out neighbours. The community's understanding is that the lessees of current properties have to sign an agreement to not complain about mining activities; is this correct?*
 - a. *The agreement is for lessees to talk to WCPL about any concerns, but complaints are not recorded on a formal complaint register of private receivers*
3. *WCPL supplies 25% percent of NSW coal generators coal supply. Does WCPL coal supply to Bayswater run out in 2026?*
 - a. *The agreement is based on the amount of energy supplied to AGL; it is not time-based. The intended use of coal must be clear in future SSD applications per government expectations*
4. *Possible negotiations for future extension contract/agreements with AGL*
 - a. *Pending negotiation outcomes*
5. *Coalfire power generation remains important for NSW to 2040; what implications does this have to the WCPL extension applications?*
 - a. *WCPL has to be clear where the coal is going and address the government's Climate Change Assessment Requirements and Greenhouse Gas Assessment guide for large emitters through the environmental impact assessment and development approval process.*
6. *The direct economic contribution was around half a billion dollars. The extreme flood events caused \$3B of damage to regional roads. How is the effect of climate change factored into economic assessments in future assessments?*
 - a. *There is an element of climate change assessment in groundwater modelling but not economics.*
7. *Consulting with various community members and groups are mentioned*
 - a. *WCPL to take on notice what are the members and groups that will be consulted?*
8. *Regular newsletter and website to be released – when is it expected?*
 - a. *These are being developed but they are not yet ready to be released. CCC will be informed.*

BS informed attendees of the RFS 'get ready' weekend will be combined with "Wollar Alive" – WCPL please advise lessees

WCPL notes that Wollar oval will be mown again next week

IF is presented with a thank you gift for his support, honesty and transparency over his almost 10 years with WCPL and the CCC. IF gratefully responds, especially with thanks for the respectful challenges the CCC has brought.

The next CCC meeting coincides with Christmas and WCPL invites the CCC members to a post-meeting Christmas lunch. The CCC meeting will start at 10am at the Mudgee Rugby Club and include EnergyCo's presentation and be followed by lunch.

11. MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2024

Meeting Closed:	3:05pm
Next Meeting:	4 th December 2024 at Mudgee Rugby Club (TBC)

ACTION LIST			
Number	Action	Whom	By When
1.	WCPL to present summary of depositional dust monitoring for the next CCC meeting incorporating the model predictions	KB	Next meeting
2.	Members to share any areas of concern or focus for the audit with LA prior to the audit in October	CCC Members	October 1 2024
3.	WCPL to respond to BS questions (from General Business)	WCPL	Next meeting
4.	WCPL to advise CCC when website goes live and newsletter is available	KB	When available
5.	Ask auditor to review Dust Management procedures/monitoring as part of the IEA review	LA	ASAP