



# Wilpinjong Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee



## Meeting Minutes

### 1. PRESENT

<b>Independent Chairperson:</b>	Lisa Andrews (LA)	<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	13/12/2021, 11:00 AM
<b>Venue:</b>	Orient Hotel Mudgee	<b>Minute Taker:</b>	Shonni Goonrey (SG)
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Colin Faulkner (CF), Bruce Hughes (BH), Ian Flood (IF), Bev Smiles (BS), Jacques du Toit (dT), Kim Peach (KP), Brian McDermott (BM), Scott Lillis (SL) & Clark Potter (CP)		
<b>Invited Guests/Observers:</b>	Josh Frappell (JF) & Denise Williams (DW)		

### 2. APOLOGIES/ABSENT

<b>Apologies:</b>	Cr Des Kennedy (DS), Lisa Menke (LM) & Kieren Bennetts (KB)
<b>Absent:</b>	

### 3. WELCOME

Committee members gathered for the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) meeting for Q4 December 2021 at the Orient Hotel, Mudgee. LA opened the meeting at 11:00AM and welcomed all attendees.

### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Lisa Andrews – Independent Chair approved by Director General of Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E), engaged by Peabody  
 Jacques du Toit – General Manager, Wilpinjong Coal  
 Shonni Goonrey – HST Administrator, Wilpinjong Coal  
 Josh Frappell – Environmental Advisor, Wilpinjong Coal  
 Clark Potter – Senior Environmental Advisor, Wilpinjong Coal  
 Kieren Bennetts – Environment & Community Manager – Wilpinjong Coal  
 Ian Flood – Manager Project Development and Approvals, Wilpinjong Coal  
 Scott Lillis – Community Member (Former Resident)  
 Brian McDermott – Community Member (Lessee of Peabody Pastoral land and Former Resident)  
 Kim Peach – Community Member and Lessee of Wollar General Store  
 Bev Smiles – Community Member (Resident)  
 Cr Des Kennedy – Mayor Mid-Western Regional Council  
 Bruce Hughes – Community Member (Resident)  
 Lisa Menke - NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service  
 Colin Faulkner - Community Member (Resident), has entered into a noise agreement with WCPL.

## 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FINALISED MINUTES

### ACTION ITEMS

ACTION LIST			
Number	Action	Whom	By When
1.	Waste management from demolition program (including asbestos removal) to be addressed at every CCC meeting, and notification placed at Wollar Store when conducting asbestos removal in the Wollar township	IF	Ongoing
2.	Communicate project modifications to the CCC.	IF	Ongoing
3.	Attended noise monitoring reports to be available in hard copy at each CCC meeting.	KB	Ongoing
4.	Confirm if the old Bakery and old General Store has fuel tanks in the ground. IF confirmed that the selections of houses to be demolished does not include the old Bakery and General Store, item on hold until such time that these properties are selected.	IF	On hold
5.	Arrange formal notification signage noting timeframe of the closure at the General Store.	IF	Completed
6.	Blast event of 19 <sup>th</sup> of July, does it coincide with any complaints	KB	Next meeting
7.	Include daily average on monthly discharge graphs	KB	Next Meeting
8.	Define the area of the mine currently disturbed	KB	In Presentation
9.	Consultation with CCC regarding the SIMP community event	IF	Next Meeting
10.	Confirm what happens to mail held for greater than 14 days at Mudgee Post Office	IF	In Presentation
11.	Does Australia Post need to be provided with additional addresses for RFS?	IF	Next Meeting
12.	Follow up with Troy from RFS regarding refuelling for RFS, consider Peabody's liability if supplying fuel after the store closes.	IF	Next Meeting
13.	Detail production tonnes for the last 12 months and what is the remaining LOM? (Previous 12 months production tonnes - 14.5MT & remaining LOM - 83MT)	KB	Next meeting
14.	Print out notices of what is required regarding new mailboxes- include list of current residential addresses.	IF	Completed
15.	KB reminded that next meeting will be on site, please send through points of interest for the Site visit.	All members	ASAP
16.	LM to confirm if animal bypasses be included in the next stage of the Munghorn upgrade.	LM	Completed
17.	Confirm next meeting Monday 13th Dec 11am- Meeting at the Oriental Hotel Mudgee, followed by lunch.	SG	Completed

Issue raised by BS regarding the June 2021 finalised minutes. LA advised that BS had picked up that her question regarding the Wollar Release Area had not been recorded correctly, making the following comments in relation to Action Item 6 of those minutes:

*BS wasn't asking if Peabody was consulted on the Wollar Release Area, but was the company directly involved in the industry consultation on the Competitive Allocation Guidelines. The response recorded in the October 2021 minutes was that NSWMC participated in the drafting of the competitive allocation process. BS sought clarification whether that involved representatives of member companies, including Peabody, or just NSWMC staff - that was the line of her question.*

This question was forwarded to Peabody, who provided the following response:

*Peabody along with other NSWMC member companies, engaged in industry consultation through the NSWMC during the Governments drafting of the Competitive Allocation process there was no industry consultation we are aware of in relation to the Wollar Release Area.*

This was accepted and will be amended in the finalised minutes.

**Item 16:** Response received from Lisa Menke, NPWS and tabled:

*Unfortunately, I can't provide any advice and refer the committee to Mid-Western Regional Council who are undertaking the works. The animal bypass structure installed across the Wollar Road near Castle Rocks was sited based of the incidence of koala sightings and koala habitat near this location.*

*NPWS are unaware of any further proposed animal crossings in the remaining corridor.*

BH commented that this area should have a reduced speed limit (from 100kph to 80kph). **Action: LA to write to MWRC**

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE IN AND OUT

As per Meeting Notice, emailed on Monday 06/12/2021 with 4 additional items:

- 3/11/21 – Email from IF with MWRC's advice regarding the temporary road closure of Wollar Road. This information forwarded through to members the same day. 12/6/21 – Email to ARTC (new contact) acting to be notified of further rail maintenance.
- 10/11/21 – Email to members with the draft minutes from the extraordinary meeting for review.
- 15/11/21 – Email from BS with proposed amendment to the June 2021 minutes regarding the Wollar Release Area. (See Business Arising.)
- 18/11/21 - Email to members with the finalised minutes
- 18/11/21 – Minutes posted to Col Faulkner.
- 30/11/21 – Email from IF regarding the installation of the mail boxes at Wollar. This email forwarded through to members the same day.
- 6/12/21 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda & Correspondence Report for the meeting.
- 6/12/21 – Same information to Col Faulkner via post.
- 6/12/21 – Email from BH regarding the post boxes. This was forwarded to IF for action/response.\* (This item moved to Item 8 as part of IF's presentation.)
- 10/12/21 - Email to members with a reminder for this meeting and the response from IF regarding the post boxes.
- 13/12/21 – Email from KP with letter to be read to members at the CCC (thanking the community for their support during her 10 year tenure at the Wollar General Store).  
*LA read KP's letter out to attendees.*

## 7. REPORT BY CLARK POTTER

### Presentation Overview of Wilpinjong Coal

- Aerial Photograph- Updated aerial overview of Wilpinjong Coal.
- Environmental Monitoring overview
  - Attend Noise Monitoring
  - Real-time Noise monitoring locations
  - Blast Monitoring locations/ Vibration Monitoring
  - Dust Monitoring
  - Surface water and RO Discharge data
- Operational Downtime
- Environment Management Plan Updates
- 2020/2021 Exploration Program

- Community-Complaints, Donations and Consultation

Attended Noise Monitoring

- Noise monitoring locations presented on a map
- Attended Noise Monitoring from the 1-2 November 2021- Summary of results presented in a table
- WCPL Audible at locations however within compliance
- Machinery in Operation table
- Summary of Compliance
- Current real time noise monitoring locations discussed
- Blast/ Vibration Monitoring- October 2021- Overpressure Monitoring Results and Vibration Results.

Air Quality

- Map of Depositional Dust Gauge Locations.
  - (BH) does the water evaporate? What happens to the reports?
  - (CP) explained you can see the reports on the Peabody website, which has data publicly available. James Heesterman updates and enters every month.
- Depositional Dust Monitoring trends discussed.
- High Volume Air Sampler Locations and sample trends.
  - BH) is there any possibility a high-volume air sampler being situated on Mogo Road?
  - (CP) Discussion around sampler needing power.
- TEOM locations and trends.

Surface Water & Discharge

- Surface Water and Discharge Monitoring Summary and Discharge Data.
  - (BS) discussion around monthly discharge data in October and data for November 2021.
  - (IF) actively trying to increase discharge to EPL limit of 5ML/day, however daily average discharge approximately 3.2ML due to Reverse Osmosis Plant issues with filters fouling and requiring a greater than expected number of cleans.

Operational Down time

- October 2021 Discharge to Wilpinjong Creek.
- Lost time by Pit chart- approx. 6182.99hrs digger, loader and dozer hours from 22 Oct- 7 December 2021.
- Lost time by Event chart- approx. 6182.99hrs digger, loader and dozer hours from 22 Oct- 7 December 2021.
  - (BS) so is it mainly the Wollar monitors that pick up.
  - (CP) discussed that Wollar was the main monitor due to closer proximity to operations in comparison to the Mogo Road monitor.

Environmental Management Plans Update

<b>Management Plan</b>	<b>Status (26 October 2021)</b>
Noise Management Plan	Approved

<u>Blast Management Plan</u>	<u>Approved</u>
<u>Air Quality Management Plan</u>	<u>Approved</u>
<u>Water Management Plan</u>	<u>Under review by NRAR, will be submitted to NSW DPIE following NRAR consultation.</u>
<u>Site Water Balance</u>	<u>Under review by NRAR, will be submitted to NSW DPIE following NRAR consultation.</u>
<u>Surface Water Management Plan</u>	<u>Under review by NRAR, will be submitted to NSW DPIE following NRAR consultation.</u>
<u>Groundwater Management Plan</u>	<u>Under review by NRAR, will be submitted to NSW DPIE following NRAR consultation.</u>
<u>Biodiversity Management Plan</u>	<u>Approved</u>
<u>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan</u>	<u>Approved</u>
<u>Historic Heritage Management Plan</u>	<u>Approved</u>
<u>Rehabilitation Management Plan / Mine Operations Plan</u>	<u>Approved</u>
<u>Social Impact Management Plan</u>	<u>Approved</u>
<u>Environmental Management Strategy</u>	<u>Under review by NSW DPIE</u>

- (IF) explained situation that the next updates of the Water Management Plans would go to DPIE Water for review rather than NRAR and this should be a more efficient review process, KB has sought advice from both departments (NRAR and DPIE Water) regarding the current outstanding reviews.

#### Rehabilitation – Josh Frappell

- 256ha reworked to 3 Biometric Vegetation Communities.
- 86ha of new rehab in compliance with the Mine Operation Plan 2021 (MOP).
- Change of amelioration strategy to incorporate organics & biological stimulants in soils.
  - Vermicasts
  - Vermicomposts & liquids

#### 2021 Rehab Wrap Up

- 3100 tubestock planted along Wilpinjong Creek
- 500 tubestock planted adjacent to Wilpinjong Creek discharge point
- Wilpinjong Creek Stabilisation Works
- Habitat Augmentation logs/stags around water retention areas in Pit 5C
- 25ha of drone seeding of Acacias on Duffy Dump – visual dump from Ulan-Wollar Road.

### Disturbance EOY 2021

- Total area disturbed for mining as at Nov 2021 = 2324ha
- Total area rehabilitated across the site = 894ha (some of this are will be re-worked to meet new completion criteria)
- 1430ha of active mining areas and infrastructure – noting that some of this disturbance will remain until closure e.g. ROM pads and infrastructure areas.

### Rehabilitation 2021

- Achieved the 86ha rehabilitation target for 2021 as per Mine Operations Plan (MOP)
- Achieved the 256ha internal target for rework of existing rehabilitation to final Biometric Vegetation Types (BVT)- **Total 342ha**
  - (BS) is that still to get rehabilitated?
  - (BS) with transitioning grazing land, this year would be good, what level of reporting for biometric?
  - (JF) discussed annual monitoring which is reported in the Annual Review
  - (BS) falling timber would be the easiest biometric attribute to achieve
  - (JF) discussed that this was correct, and the operation was salvaging timber from clearing works and also taking timber from the MWRC roadworks in the Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve
  - (BM) How do you administer fertiliser is it a powder? How much, source and time since application?
  - (JF) discussed. Composts used sourced from Young, Worm liquid sourced from Albury – more expensive on mine rehabilitation rates, however heightened benefits in comparison to chemical/synthetic fertilisers, program commenced 2021.

### Rehabilitation 2022

- Target of 43ha rehabilitation target as per the Mine Operations Plan (MOP)
- Internal target of 100ha rework of existing rehabilitation to final Biometric Vegetation Types (BVT) - Total 143ha

### Tubestock Planting 2022

- Landform established in 2010 with shotgun mix of natives
- Assessed as able to be transitioned to a specific BVT (White Box)
- 16ha anticipated to be prepared, seeded and tubestock planted in Spring 2022
  - (BS) asked on specific location
  - (JF) discussed 2010 landform establishment near old Keylah area
  - (BS) so this is a rehabilitated site?
  - (JF) discussed that it was an area previously rehabilitated to Project Approval 05\_0021 conditions and was an area assessed by ecologists able to be transposed to a specific BVT.

### 2021 Exploration Program

- Drilling program completed
- Drillholes completed to date
  - 9 Coal Quality holes
  - 2 Gas Testing holes BS checking methane levels.

- 23 Coal Structure Definition holes, includes 2 holes was tested for reactive ground
- Hagstrom Drilling conducted drilling works
- Measured Group conducted the field geology works
- Weatherfords conducted the field geophysical works
- 100% above ground sump methods were used
- Coal quality analyses were completed by ALS Laboratories
- Cementing of boreholes and site rehabilitation delayed due wet weather (wet ground conditions) and COVID.

### Community complaints

- Confirming that there were no complaints received at all for either the 16<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
  - (BS) complained to site regarding spontaneous combustion smell as well as to the EPA, the EPA stated that Kieren Bennetts (KB) went out to check but couldn't detect any odour. BS stated that he would not have been able to get to the location because of the flooding on the Goulburn River. There must have been something going on if the mine staff went out to check.
  - (IF) discussed that he and KB were checking something else in the village and couldn't detect any odour. They did not go out to the location of the complaint.
  - (BS) thought it was interesting that site came out. Stated that spontaneous combustion odour travels on air currents and is a hard thing to pick up. Stating that the odour could be smelt in the car when driving past the mine. Questioned if Pit 8 had Spontaneous Combustion issues.
  - (IF) clarified that the reason for the response was that they were out for another reason, discussed that there has been some spontaneous combustion in the Pit 3/7 area, however nothing in Pit 8.
- (BS) Do you have to book for "Have a Chat"
  - (IF) No just turn up, if there are any concerns KB & IF mobile numbers on the signs at the store
- (CF) Lack of communication, went to have a chat and discussed with CP and KB want to burn the Blackberries along the creek as a hazard reduction. He will submit it to head office of rural fire brigade.
  - (CP) did not recall Col's conversation and has not attended 'Have a Chat' for an extended period – possibly 18 months or longer (IF) stated that hazard reductions were the responsibility of the RFS and not Peabody. Discussed that after 'Have a Chats' the environmental team have a meeting to discuss any actions and concerns to work through, possibly the burn had slipped through the handover meeting, however is an RFS issue. IF further discussed the area CF wanted to burn, Peabody was waiting for a contractor to get a drone out of China which is capable for spraying along the creek lines to control weeds.

## **8. REPORT BY IAN FLOOD**

### **Presentation overview**

- WEP
- Wollar Resource Area
- Property Management

### **WEP – SIMP community event**

- Consider potential ideas for a community event next year

### **Wollar Resource Area**

- Competitive Allocation Process
  - Peabody was the only company to express interest

- NSW government has cancelled the competitive allocation process
- Revised application process
  - Application process has changed to an Operational Allocation
  - (BS) enquired about map shown, seeking clarification of the blue area and where the red area overlaps. (IF) The blue line demarcates the WEP Project Approval boundary (which extends beyond the ML boundaries allowing for activities such as relocation of powerlines and roads that don't require an ML to complete. (BS) there is another area to NW are you thinking about expanding? (IF) under the WEP we have completed relocation of the powerline and roads in this area and it is close to the NP boundary so it is unlikely to be a viable area. (BS) stated that it would have been good to have the mining lease map.
  - Restricted to 33% of existing titles.

### **Property Management – Australia Post**

Ongoing mail service & addressing comments from BH raised in correspondence:

- Mailboxes installed.
- 2 labels per address provided to label mailboxes.
- Mailbox standards:
  - BH reiterated his concerns, raised in his email (6/12/21) advising that the community were not happy with the post boxes located on the bottom row as they are difficult to access, especially for people that are aging to get down and get back up again; asking whether Australia Post has a standard height requirement.
  - IF informed the CCC that the Contractor is happy with the mailboxes.
  - Sophia from Australia Post – advised that there is no applicable standard and that the Australia Post Delivery policy states *...customers are encouraged to have a larger letterbox that is secure and protects the mail from weather to enable the driver to leave larger articles that do not require a signature. Signature articles will be carded for collection....*
  - (BS) asked if Peabody could raise the boxes on a platform to assist with access. (IF) advised that this was possible and will be addressed in early 2022.
  - (BH) also enquired whether Peabody could look at wheelchair access as the boxes may interfere with access to the toilet? (IF) Explained that there is plenty of room for wheelchair access and the toilets will still be available for use – the breezeway will be completely open once the store windows are secure as close to 31 December 2021 as possible.

### **Ongoing mail service**

- 14 day collection limit
- only applies to parcels delivered to the Mudgee office
- Customer is provided with 2 notices in that period
- After the 14 days parcels are returned to the sender
- Private Mailboxes. BH stated that the boxes are a good size
- No time limit on collection, until mailbox cannot physically accept mail – then mail will be returned to Mudgee Office.

### **Property Management – Weed Control**

- PPH has commenced annual weed control program targeting; Sweet briar, Blue heliotrope, blackberry – some dense areas of St Johns wort



- Will focus on known areas of concentration and include Wollar Village. (BS) the joint program for St Johns Wort beetle release had a really good effect during the last major infestation, mentioning that she has raised this issue with Moolarben & Ulan CCCs, stating that if everyone did it together this time it would help. (BH) try get landholders involved in it as well. (IF) will contact LLS to discuss options

### **Closure of Wollar Store**

- Discussion around the closure of Wollar Store.

### **RFS**

- (IF) WCPL open to support a potential solution, will catch up with Troy in the new year, regarding fuel supply.
- (CF) – at a recent RFS meeting it was discussed as an option to install a pod in the Wollar Shed.

## **9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- LA read out a letter from KP to members, thanking community for support during her 10 year tenure at the store.
- (BS) commented further on the noise report, referring back to the project conditions of approval and the new noise policy for industry and the low frequency noise measures of dB(Z). Requesting the consultant that completes the attended monitoring report on the low frequency compliance? Seeking if it is required to be reported? CP confident that it is covered in the reports - will highlight areas. KB to provide a summary as part of the noise reporting to the CCC.
- (BS) Annual emissions reporting indicate there has been an upward trend. How are you going to reverse the trend? (Question taken on notice). Further asking if spontaneous combustion is part of the emission?
- (BS) Asked if the trains were back on regular movements. Sandgate points got flooded. (IF) loss of signalling issues, Peabody has had rolling issues due to rain etc. (BS) stated that the community don't seem to be getting any notifications from ARTC regarding maintenance.
- (BH) personally thanked KP for her efforts as well as on behalf of the Wollar Progress Association.
- (CF)- Weed control issues, privet and blackberries around Wollar village (IF).
- (BS)- Water release at the highest approved level, with the rain in the mines all discharge their limits ~50ML into Goulburn River which can increase flooding over the Ringwood Road crossing. Can Wilpinjong give the community notice when site is up to the 5ML limit? It is a public road. But the area will experience a whole heap of issues if there is water coming down - just want to highlight this as an important concern. KB to include as an item in the quarterly combined mines meeting.

### **Meeting Schedule for 2022:**

It was agreed to hold quarterly meetings in 2022, commencing at 1pm:

- Monday 7 March 2022 (including site inspection)
- Monday 6 June 2022
- Monday 5 September 2022; and
- Monday 28 November.

### **Meeting Closed:**

12:24pm with LA thanking all members for their participation and contribution throughout a challenging 2021. Wishing all a safe and happy festive season.

**ACTION LIST**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Whom</b>	<b>By When</b>
<b>1.</b>	Waste management from demolition program (including asbestos removal) to be addressed at every CCC meeting, and notification placed at Wollar Store when conducting asbestos removal in the Wollar township.	IF	Ongoing
<b>2.</b>	Communicate project modifications to the CCC.	IF	Ongoing
<b>3.</b>	Attended noise monitoring reports to be available in hard copy at each CCC meeting.	KB	Ongoing
<b>4.</b>	Confirm if the old Bakery and old General Store has fuel tanks in the ground. IF confirmed that the selections of houses to be demolished does not include the old Bakery and General Store, item on hold until such time that these properties are selected.	IF	On hold
<b>5.</b>	Investigate blast event of 19 July 2021 and whether it coincided with any complaints (check date).	KB	Next meeting
<b>6.</b>	Include daily average on monthly discharge graphs.	KB	Next Meeting
<b>7.</b>	Consultation with CCC regarding the SIMP community event.	IF	Next Meeting
<b>8.</b>	Enquire whether Australia Post need to be provided with additional addresses for RFS.	IF	Next Meeting
<b>9.</b>	Follow up with RFS regarding refuelling for RFS, consider Peabody's position of supplying fuel after the store closes.	IF	Next Meeting
<b>10.</b>	Detail production tonnes for the last 12 months and what is the remaining LOM?	KB	Next meeting
<b>11.</b>	Send through points of interest for the site visit.	All members	ASAP
<b>12.</b>	Write to MWRC regarding reducing speed limit on Wollar Rd, Munghorn upgrade area.	LA	Next meeting
<b>13.</b>	Consider joint program for mitigation of St Johns Wort with a beetle release with LLS, NPWS, Peabody & neighbouring land holders.	IF	Next meeting
<b>14.</b>	Follow up notifications of rail maintenance/shut downs from ARTC.	KB/LA	Next meeting
<b>15.</b>	Raise issues at the next combined Mines Meeting regarding water release impact.	KB	Next meeting