



# BENGALLA MINE

## COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

### Minutes of Meeting No. 113

**Location:** Bengalla Boardroom  
**Date:** Wednesday 24 February 2016  
**Present:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Clr Malcolm Ogg	CCC Chairperson
Jonathon Moore	CCC member
Noel Downs	CCC member
Jo-Anne Scarini	Bengalla Mining Company (General Manager)
Jim Randell	New Hope Group (General Manager)
Ian Neill	Wesfarmers Resources (General Manager Development)
John Campbell	Bengalla Mining Company (Manager Technical Services)
Craig White	Bengalla Mining Company (Environmental Specialist)
Daniel Reinhard	Bengalla Mining Company (Environmental Advisor)
Debbie Day	Bengalla Mining Company (Community Relations)

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#### **Meeting opened: 4.00pm**

Prior to the formal commencement of the meeting, Jo-Anne Scarini provided an update on the divestment of Coal & Allied's 40% share of Bengalla. That transaction will complete on 1 March and advised that the joint venturers decided that Bengalla will manage itself - the operator will become the manager.

Jo-Anne introduced Jim Randell, the interim incoming General Manager as at 1 March and Ian Neill, the incoming interim Managing Director.

Malcolm Ogg, on behalf of the CCC, thanked Jo-Anne for all her work and welcomed Jim Randell and Ian Neill to the CCC.

- 1. APOLOGIES:**  
Chris Knight - DoP
- 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**  
Moved.
- 3. OTHER BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/ACTION LIST**  
Nil.
- 4. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**  
Nil.
- 5. CORRESPONDENCE**  
Nil

**6. COMMUNITY REPORT**

Debbie Day presented information on Bengalla's community involvement for the period November 2015 to January 2016.

- Bengalla continues to engage with the community. A number of events and major sponsorships were supported by Bengalla over the reporting period as outlined in the presentation slides.
- Bengalla Community Support Team sponsorships and donations were listed for the period.
- An update was provided on upcoming events.

**7. MODIFICATION 2**

Craig White advised that Bengalla has had consultation with Muswellbrook Shire Council over the Modification 2 and in particular in relation to the overburden emplacement area facing Muswellbrook.

During the process of obtaining SSD-5170 Development Consent on 3 March 2015, Council asked Bengalla to improve its final landform outcomes and a commitment has been made to seek to improve an area of the overburden emplacement area to introduce some undulation at the top of the overburden area as it presents to Muswellbrook and Denman Road.

It was noted that SSD-5170 requires Bengalla to establish high density woody vegetation from Wybong Road to our current infrastructure area.

Craig presented a video showing the mine life for the next 24 years, the development of the vegetation and also shows the changes to the landform outcome. Advice was sought from a Visual Impact Consultant during the process.

Craig advised that Bengalla was endeavouring to achieve an acceptable outcome for the Council with minimal disturbance of the existing rehabilitated areas.

Jonathon Moore raised two community concerns:

1. The community would not like to see the rehabilitation area disturbed to achieve Council's objectives; and
2. one of the main concerns for the community has always been the height of the overburden emplacement area and would now be concerned that the height would be raised in some areas for a better look. The people in the community that he is speaking to have no comment to make about the shape of the final landform, they see it as acceptable and they are very impressed with the amount of effort that Bengalla has gone to do the rehab.

Following the presentation, Jonathon commented that from the presentation he could see the benefit of the visual improvement which would only affect a small area.

Clr Ogg advised that Council's priority is to achieve the best outcomes for the entire community and that is the reason for looking at the changes.

Noel Downs advised that the aboriginal community understand that once you dig up the ground that the height will be changed. Their preference is that it looks as much like the original landscape as possible as part of the mythological story telling involves the landform. The Aboriginal Land Council would like to see the original landform replicated.

Jo-Anne Scarini advised the application will be submitted to the Department and then after its consideration will go on public exhibition for comment.

**8. DRY CREEK**

John Campbell provided an update on the Dry Creek project including the culvert installation, civil works on CW1 dam, pump station AND 66/22kV transmission line noting that the Project is on track for a September 2016 completion.

**9. B10 HERITAGE CLEARANCE**

Craig White advised under the SSD-5170–there was a number of management plans including the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan which required approval before entering the area. It was previously identified that there was a high value site which the company denoted as B10. Consultation occurred with 27 Aboriginal parties and a methodology was approved by the Department of Environment and Heritage to salvage the artefacts within the area and elsewhere on the site. Work commenced with between 2 and 5 registered aboriginal parties on site each day identifying the artefacts as well as six archaeologists. Many artefacts were recovered and those artefacts are now being catalogued by the consultant and they will be put on the AIMES database. We took the opportunity to undertake known artefacts over the remainder of the disturbance boundary. Those artefacts are also being catalogued and placed on the AIMES database. The salvage occurred through September/October 2015.

Noel Downs noted that all sites have a high value for cultural significance and would say that the site is a sacred site rather than a high value site, high value relating to its archaeological significance which has zero value to the aboriginal community other than its value as part of the story telling.

It was noted that a report will be produced but could take up to a year for the report to be finalised.

Noel advised that the artefacts are owned by the State Government and may be returned back to country or they may go to the museum or put into the care and control of a community organisation.

**10. MONITORING RESULTS**

Environmental monitoring review for period November 2015 and January 2016 was presented by Daniel Reinhard.

- Air Quality
  - PM<sub>10</sub>, TSP and dust depositional compliance monitoring data was presented.
  - For the reporting period, annual average and 24-hour average PM<sub>10</sub> were below the Development Consent criterion except for monitoring site PM4 on 7

December 2015 which was investigated by Todoroski Air Sciences and confirmed that Bengalla's contribution was below criteria.

- For the reporting period, annual average TSP were below the Development Consent criterion.
- For the reporting period, annual average and maximum increase dust deposition data were below the Development consent criterion.
- Noise Management:
  - It was noted that there were two exceedances of the attended noise monitoring criteria during the period. The noise exceedances occurred on 10 and 11 December 2015 at two locations. Action for each exceedance was noted in the presentation.
  - Jonathon Moore noted that during January with the milder weather the noise was more obvious and could hear the workings of Bengalla.
- Blast Monitoring
  - Bengalla remained in compliance with all consent limits.
- Water Usage:
  - Water use for the reporting period was 404.12ML.
- Progressive Rehabilitation
  - Bengalla target for 2015 was 20 hectares with 23.49 hectares achieved. The 2016 target is 15 hectares.
- Complaints:
  - In 2015, 29 complaints were reported and one complaint has been reported for January 2016.
- Environmental Incidents:
  - During the period Bengalla had seven environmental incidents being:
    - Three Hydrocarbon spills;
    - One noise non-compliances
    - One dust non-compliance;
    - Spontaneous combustion
    - Water discharge;

The water discharge was discussed in detail. The incident was reported to the EPA and DPE and the Bengalla reports are currently being assessed. Water over the spillway at one dam and outside another dam. The water over the spillway was contained within a period of hours. Testing was done and none of the water that flowed from the dam which was less than 2mg from both dams flowed to the Hunter River. That water was contained on Bengalla owned land and within the project boundary of Bengalla. There is no heavy metals in the sediment and it was noted that it is not unusual to have sediment in a creek.

- Bird Ring trial

Update provided on bird ring trial. It was noted that two contaminated samples were received from the dust gauge without the bird ring and nil contaminated samples collected from the dust gauge with the bird ring fitted which would indicate that the trial was successful.

## 11. REPORTS FROM CCC COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

- Jonathon Moore report:
  - Deterioration of Wybong Road from the Dry Creek Project to the intersection of the Bengalla Link Road. Council is not keeping up with repair of subsidence areas some of which have been in existence for years and is unsafe. Jonathon asked that we all need to be indicating to Council that there needs to be some immediate attention to the serious road defects.

Jo-Anne Scarini advised that the Project had raised it formally with Council and there has been some conversations with Council and the Project. Bengalla was required to do a survey of the road before commencement of the Dry Creek Project so that we understood the condition of the road and then we are required to remediate any significant damage that is caused as a result of the Project. It is Council's responsibility for the road repairs.

- Problem with youth doing burn outs on the country roads in particular Bengalla/Roxburgh/Wybong Roads. Jonathon advised that it is being reported to the Police.
- Lack of shade for dairy cattle on dairy at Thornbro on Wybong Road.
- Noel Downs report:
  - Requested a meeting to be organised between Bengalla and the aboriginal representatives to discuss any changes following the new ownership.
- Cllr Malcolm Ogg report:
  - RMS advised of an upgrade of Kayuga Bridge – further information on Council website
  - CCC guidelines are up for discussion and expect that Bengalla will be contacted for comment.
  - Nominations for a new committee member be called.

## 12. CCC NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

- The February newsletter was approved by the Committee.
- Suggested newsletter articles for May 2016:
  - Divestment
  - Dry Creek Project;
  - Modification 2

Meeting closed at 5:50pm

### Attachments:

- Meeting Presentations slides.

**ACTION LIST**

**Meeting No. 113– Wednesday 24 February 2016**

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTIONED BY</b>
1	Organise meeting with Noel Downs and aboriginal community to discuss any changes post 1 March	D Day
2	Advertise for a new committee member	D Day