

01.03.2023 Fiona Hartin to CCC Committee – Email regarding upcoming road works on Bengalla Road commencing on 2 March 2023

01.03.2023 Fiona Hartin to Jeff Drayton – Email requesting completion of Code of Conduct and Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest Forms

21.03.2023 Fiona Hartin to CCC Committee – Email regarding upcoming roadworks on Bengalla Road.

17.04.2023 Fiona Hartin to CCC Committee- Email regarding commencement of roadworks on Bengalla Road.

23.05.2023 Fiona Hartin to CCC Committee – Email agenda, newsletter, presentation and draft minutes from the 22 February 2023.

24.05.2023 Jeff Drayton to Fiona Hartin – Email- Apology for the 24 May 2023 CCC Meeting.

24.05 2023 Fiona Hartin to Jeff Drayton – Email- Acknowledgement of apology to the Meeting.

7. REPORTS FROM CCC COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Report from Llewellyn Bates:

- At the turnoff to old Bengalla Road what are the earthworks? [CW] The works are being undertaken by Mt Pleasant Mine. The works are to remove/enclose a water pipeline and culvert box for safety reasons underneath the corridor owned by the Australian Rail Track Corporation.
- Can you comment on traffic management at Bengalla Road? With regards to traffic control and delay on the Bengalla Road works due to construction, it depends what time of day you come through the road works area, and if you hit the change of shift or not. [GM] What is being done now is the traffic lights are manned during shift change. This allows most of the traffic to flow through reasonably efficiently.
- With wide loads it can take longer to get to town. Not sure why you would close Wybong Road at Rosebrook Creek and Bengalla Road closed at the same time? [CW] There was/is room for improvement with the coordination of road works around Bengalla Mine with MSC and other mines. We do have meetings with MSC to coordinate road works from time to time.
- When do we expect the Bengalla road works to be completed? [CW] During first quarter 2024.
- Appreciate the mowing and whipper snipping being done on the road edges. On dusk there are kangaroos so lots of people appreciate this.

Report from Theresa Folpp (TF):

- The MSC sustainability team have been looking at air quality and they have been taking photos. I appreciate that Bengalla is in compliance with air quality, but because of the cold weather and the inversion there seems to be a thick layer of dust over the mine of a morning and also Mt Arthur and Mt Pleasant. I appreciate this is a Shire wide issue. [CW] With an inversion you can have water in the air and dust particles can bind to the water vapour/droplets so when the sunlight hits the dust particles the

light can diffract. [CH] We have had good seasons over the last 3 years and we are coming into a dry season like in 2019 when we were in drought. It is something we need to work on. We need to make sure we stay within our consent conditions and are there other things we can do as well from a dust suppression perspective. [LB] I could smell something in the air recently. [CW] There are obligations for mines regarding cumulative impact. One of the things we have done in response to that obligation is to establish a quarterly meeting with other nearby mines to discuss environmental impact. At the meeting we may discuss initiatives we could implement. All mines are aware of the issue and we are employing all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise that impact. [TF] It tends to be Mt Pleasant and Mt Arthur that have spontaneous combustion issues? [GM] We have a little bit. [CH] Normally it is associated with high sulphur, and it mixes with water and it generates heat. For us it is the Wynn seam at the bottom of the pit. And it is the top plie and we try and suppress any identified issues. During the wet, we have had some spontaneous combustion on our stockpile. Our response was to recirculate the coal. We also have temperature monitors to manage spontaneous combustion. For Bengalla generally it isn't an issue.

Report from Jonathan Moore:

Would like an update on the road and how it is progressing. Where did the instruction come from to complete the Road repair works? It didn't seem that the road was failing so what is the reason for the extensive repair. [CW] We can share the slides on the road presentation later in the meeting and we can address the questions.

[JM] We watch the agricultural operations and things seem to be happening there with plantings and tractor movements. It seems to be a positive farming operation along with the balance of the open cut coal mine. [CH] It is good to see the lucerne and the ground being worked. There is still some learnings on the timing of crops. We are happy there is some improvement and we have more to get. [JM] The other positive is how neat the entrance from Denman Road is as you turn onto Bengalla Road.

BENGALLA OPERATION UPDATE

[GM] 22-week plan shown. There has been some dry weather which has helped with production. Our availability of trucks has been slightly lower than we had planned. We have had 3 new trucks arrive and a 9800 excavator which also should arrive shortly and then it is a 10-week assembly. [TF] Does Bengalla have enough people? [CH] We struggle to get enough. We have onboarded a lot of people so far, the Production team has onboarded 250 people in the last 18 months. We have had turnover of around 100 people. Our plan for 2023 was 785, with the growth work the plan is to go to 820 people and we are well progressed on this. Our approach as always to hire locally, with 90% of our workforce local. We are also reducing the proportion of people on contracts as are increasing our permanent workforce from 55% to 80% permanent Bengalla employees which should assist with retention. [TF] What sort of traineeships generally would we offer? [GM] Operator traineeships occur through Programmed our contracting company. [TF] And the apprenticeships are more skill based? [GM] The apprenticeships are more trades based and we offer scholarships as well. These are for Engineering students. We have increased the number of apprenticeships and scholarships we offer. We have also had the Polly Farmer Foundation students on site for a careers presentation and we will have work experience students come to site over the coming months. [LB] Why does Bengalla lose people to further down the valley. Is it because they are moving closer to home? [GM] Sometimes. COVID may have caused some people to have a

reset on life, pursue a sea change or do something different. If we do lose people to other mines' it is usually because of location. [MO] It is my observation that the ongoing commitment Bengalla has shown to the local community is well known and respected.

PROJECTS

[CW] We are seeking approval from Regional NSW to drill on exploration licence area 9431. When we lodge the REF we will need to undertake consultation. [CH] Bengalla's current approval cease in 2039 and our current Life of Mine plan concludes around 2034-35-66. For us to secure approval to mine beyond our current extraction limit we need to start the work now and that is why we have secured the exploration licence 9431. We are interested in the land towards AL19 which is to Idemitsu and potentially taking Bengalla out to 2050. There is considerable interaction that will need to occur over the coming years. There are not a lot of drill holes to date in or near the exploration licence area (only 2). [JM] I thought the coal seams would go deeper and would there be a possibility to go underground. Is there a capacity to continue open cut? [CH] We are open to both options, and it depends on the resource. Over the next 2 years we will be seeking land further to the west of the exploration licence area to AL19 and to understand the resource. Then there will be approvals processes to complete that include community consultation. Successful conclusion of the approvals processes will underpin Bengalla's future. This region is the best in the world for coal and the benefits flow into the region. Local mines generally sit at the bottom of the global cost curve. Good infrastructure is in place. There are mining impacts but there are positive benefits as well. Last year coal was the largest export earner for Australia. BMC is spending 400 million dollars over the next few years to support the growth of Bengalla. [JM] There is a possibility you will find good coal once you complete the drilling program. [CH] Yes there is that possibility.

Bengalla Link Road (BLR)

We sought approval and was granted approval to realign BLR to the west of the discharge dam as we are going to mine through the BLR. We have completed detailed design. The topography in this area is challenging. We are seeking to maintain a 100km/hr speed environment on the BLR. To do that the road construction requires that we extend our approved disturbance area. So, we need to seek approval to do the further disturbance. We are in the process of doing seasonal ecological surveys in the future disturbance area and we are starting to form a view on what the impact looks like. We will start as soon as Modification 6 is approved, and any subsidiary approvals are secured.

Bengalla Link Road pavement upgrade.

BMC has an obligation to maintain Bengalla Link Road from Denman Road to our mine entrance road. MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) the operator of Mount Pleasant Mine has an obligation to maintain the roads from our mine entrance to their mine entrance road. We also have other obligations along with other mining companies to maintain and upgrade Thomas Mitchell Drive. BMC has recently contributed \$1 million dollars towards this upgrade.

Regarding the next part of the BLR upgrade BMC have already completed some resealing on the eastern side of the Hunter River which has had a different design criteria to the western side. This road is carrying extra traffic and there is an opportunity to improve the safety of the road. As part of the upgrade that is why we have had to remove the trees because the pavement is widening. We can do some tree replanting outside the road reserve if required. The road will be upgraded to an 11m carriageway and we also upgrading the drainage to

ensure the road reserve drains properly. Our growth team is responsible for the project and we are completing the project in 4 stages. During construction our purpose is to try and minimise the traffic interruption. There will be a seal put on the road. It needs to cure, and we will also be able to identify any soft spots. There may be areas of indentations from heavy vehicles, if that occurs, we will undertake remediation as required and then a final seal over the whole of the road will be applied.

8. APPLICATIONS AND APPROVALS

[CW] We have an Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) that is required to be circulated to various stakeholders for comment and then the AQMP is forwarded to the Department of Planning and Environment for approval. With the AQMP we had an approval period of around 2.5 years. Bengalla is obligated to minimize visible dust emissions, and to keep air quality emissions below the air quality criteria. BMC sought approval from Government that under certain conditions we can emit dust from site under certain circumstances. We must maintain and operate our equipment in a proper and efficient condition, and they have to be operated in a proper and efficient manner.

The original air quality monitoring network that was established when Bengalla commenced is represented on the map and the red dots are dust gauges on the east side of Muswellbrook and were monitored until December 2022. Most of these are no longer relevant because of the current position of Bengalla mine. Real time air quality monitors are focused on the pit and we are measuring Bengalla dust on a daily basis. Bengalla have established trigger levels and currently if the monitors read over 50 micrograms per cubic metre for 2 hours there is an alarm triggered at dispatch which initiates a response. There also cameras in dispatch which inform the OCE. We also have training and focus from our Production superintendents.

The new network is comprehensive. Each of the monitoring points are located as close as possible to private receivers or in other locations to assist with management of dust. This network will operate 24 hours a day 365 days. From an operational perspective the things we must respond to will be occurring every day instead of every 6 days (run days). Every morning approximately 25 people at Bengalla receives predictive forecasts.

We have recently converted all drills that used a vacuum to suck up the dust and filter it, to water. So the drill is being wet down as you are drilling.

Timing of the new monitors. CEDA is complete and by the end of June we should have ordered the first new set of monitors.

PIPELINE

Update on the Mt Pleasant Interim Discharge Plan. We have a Dry Creek Interaction Agreement with the operators of Mount Pleasant Mine. Bengalla mined through Dry Creek, and the mine is in the middle of Dry Creek at present. We manage Dry Creek including its catchment hence BMC built the clean water dam CW1. We collect water from the clean water catchment within Mt Pleasant in CW1, put it in a pipe and pump it to the Hunter River. Mt Pleasant need to be able to discharge their water from their site to the Hunter River. So, what the parties agreed to do was build a pipeline on a similar alignment to CW1. The interim pipeline is almost finished. What may happen is there will be a discharge dam built by MACH Energy north of Bengalla discharge dam.

9. LAND MANAGEMENT

[CW] Showed Conceptual Final Landform slide. Indicated where our topsoil stockpile and clay stockpile would be relocated.

Bengalla CCC shown a plan of the rehabilitation that would be completed by the end of the year. MSC were focussed on Bengalla establishing a High Density Woody Vegetation (HDWV) area. We have further zones planned to complete this year. Zone 1 area is starting to take off.

The next step for HDWV installation is weed spraying, ripping then planting of tubestock commencing 29 May 2023.

There have been reforms in the rehabilitation space in the last 2 years. The Mining Operations Plan ceased to exist from 2 July 2022. We now have the Forward Plan and the Rehabilitation Management Plan. BMC have to identify to Regional NSW the areas we think we will disturb over a rolling three year period. [CH] Last year we planted 20,000 trees and this year we will plant 60,000. [CW] We plant a lot more than the criterion in case some tube stocks do not take.

Offset areas - shown on the map. The strategy in purchasing these properties was to add to the National Park and build native corridors. [TF] This is relevant to the Hunter Regional Plan published some time ago.

Bengalla are continuing with the baiting program. We have completed the Black Mountain controlled burn. We want to continue to decrease the risk of bush fires. The next stage is the Kenalea property controlled burn.

We continue with our pig trapping program at Bengalla, and we have trapped 29 pigs to date. [JM] That is a good thing as there have been pigs on the side of the road. It is good to know that you are controlling them. [CW] There have been good conditions for the last few years. Anecdotally how do you think it is with the pigs? [JM] They are coming and going. [LB] I thought you might have had a higher number than 29. What is the number for wild dogs? [CW] We don't have the report yet.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING RESULTS

Environmental monitoring review for Feb, March and April 2023 (the Reporting Period).

- Air Quality:
 - During the Reporting Period Bengalla was compliant with the air quality criteria.
- Noise Management:
 - For the Reporting Period Bengalla was compliant with the noise criteria.
- Blast Monitoring:
 - For the Reporting Period Bengalla was compliant with the blast criteria.

- Water Usage:
 - Bengalla Mine has extracted 193ML from the Hunter River from 1 February 2023 to 30 April 2023.

[LB] Noticing a drop in the water level in the dams and it is getting dryer.

[CW] shared the Bengalla Water Management System. We are desilting some of our dams. We have been lowering some of our water levels and we have a dredge coming to discharge dam DW1 and some other dams at Bengalla. This project is commencing early June.

- Bengalla Mine did not discharge to the Hunter River from 1 February 2023 to 30 April 2023.
- Complaints:
 - During the reporting period 14 complaints were received - 9 blast, 2 dust, 1 noise and 1 Bengalla Link Road complaint
- Environmental incidents: 0

11. COMMUNITY REPORT

Community slides presented including a summary of the community partnerships and community events held over the last quarter.

- A summary of the approved sponsorships through the Community Support Team include:

Edinglassie RFB
Muswellbrook High School Support Unit
Murrurundi Bushman's Carnival
Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music
Upper Hunter Show School Beef Cattle Week
Upper Hunter Stock Dog Challenge
Murrurundi King of the Ranges
Muswellbrook and District Camera Club
Muswellbrook High School Breakfast Club
Muswellbrook Public School Sport in Schools Program
Muswellbrook Poultry Club
Westpac Charity Golf Day
Scone Grammar School Fete
Total \$25,803

There have been many events that have occurred over the last quarter. These include:

Muswellbrook Art Prize
Bengalla Upper Hunter Show
Easter Family Fun Day
National Cutting Horse Association
Science and Engineering Challenge
Scanlon Shiels- Group 21
Murrurundi Bushman's Carnival

Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue School Tours
Muswellbrook polocrosse Carnival
Hunter Valley Careers Expo
Muswellbrook and District Camera Club Workshop
Muswellbrook Poultry Club event
Polly Farmer Foundation Site visit
Work Experience students onsite
Westpac Charity Golf Day
Denman Day Out
NSW Minerals Council Careers in Mining Dinner
Opening Hunter Beach

12. CCC NEWSLETTER IDEAS

Controlled burns, Bengalla growth, Bengalla Road, employment (scholarship), Apprenticeship recruitment.

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 23rd August 2023 at 3.00pm

Meeting closed at 5:45pm

Attachments:

- Meeting Presentation slides

ACTION LIST

Meeting No. 142 – Wednesday 24th May 2023

ITEM NO.	ITEM	ACTION BY
1	Share the video of the excavator build with the CCC Committee	G Meyn
2	Overview on employment arrangements, scholarship program and apprenticeships. How can Scholarships be accessed?	C Halfpenny/F Hartin
3	Report on the wild dog baiting results	C White
4	Report on the hazard reduction burns	C White
5	Provide an example of the predictive forecasts we receive each day	C White