



BENGALLA MINE

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting No. 146

Location: Bengalla Mining Company Boardroom and Via Microsoft Teams

Date: Wednesday 22 May 2024

Present:

| Name | Affiliation |
|----------------------|--|
| Malcolm Ogg (MO) | Chairperson Community Consultative Committee (CCC) |
| Llewellyn Bates (LB) | CCC Member |
| De-anne Douglas (DD) | CEO Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council (WLALC) |
| Theresa Folpp (TF) | Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC) Officer |
| Jennifer Lecky (JL) | MSC (Councillor) |
| Cam Halfpenny (CH) | Bengalla Mining Company Pty Ltd (BMC) (General Manager) |
| Glenn Meyn (GM) | BMC (Mine Manager) |
| Hayley Frazer (HF) | BMC (Environment and Approvals Superintendent) |
| Fiona Hartin (FH) | BMC (Community Relations Specialist and PA to the General Manager) (minute/note taker) |

Meeting opened: 3.10pm

1. **APOLOGIES:** Jonathan Moore, Jeff Drayton
2. **DECLARATION OF ANY PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS:** Nil
3. **SAFETY SHARE**

GM shared video of truck incident - operator fatigue/ fell asleep with eyes open and not detected by our safety systems and technology. Incident occurred at 6.00am at the end of night shift. Outcome- plan for fatigue management, medical assessment, sharing of the incident/video.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

February Minutes Moved by: [HF] Seconded by: [DD]

5. **OTHER BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/ACTION LIST**

Action 1.

Distribute information/presentation from Cate Sims Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue to the Bengalla CCC. Complete

Action 2.

Await decision from Muswellbrook Shire Council on appointment of One Council Representative to the Bengalla CCC. Subject to MSC meeting resolution. Ongoing.

Action 3.

TF to forward information about the reclassification of roads to CW. Complete.
Ongoing liaison regarding roads.

In addition to upgrading the roads there are a number of other issues. How community is notified. Transport is preparing a plan which will describe those things and are also liaising with the NSW Minerals Council on behalf of the mining industry.

Action 4.

CW will liaise SP regarding wind farms. Complete. [CH] There are issues with Keys Bridge. An independent assessment has been completed and there is some engineering design work to be done.

This will impact a number of people in the area. There is reduced loading as far as transport across the bridge and axle loading. We have guided our fuel providers that they need to reduce the amount of fuel they are carrying. Any further updates will be communicated with the CCC.

Action 5.

CW liaising with SP regarding tyre recycling and \$50,000 payment. BMC have met with Council. An update once discussions are further progressed. Tyre stewardship Australia.

Action 6.

CCC members to review the terms of reference and provide feedback at the next CCC meeting. To be completed

Action 7.

Code of conduct and Declaration of interest forms to be completed by all CCC members. To be completed

Action 8.

Provide a larger map to LB and JM. Complete

Action 9.

RSVPs to DD – attendees for the Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage Training March 26 and 27. Complete. Part of the BMC Environment team attended. De-Anne to update the CCC of further training when it is offered.

Action 10.

HF to follow up on blast results for LB - Request for blast results-17 January 11.11am. February 12.09 Friday 17 February 10.58am. Complete

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Pre-meeting Summary Papers, Agenda, and draft Newsletter emailed, or copies given to the CCC members.

05.03.2024 [FH] email to [LB] Blast results details for dates in January/February 2024 as requested.

07.03.2024 [FH] email to CCC Members. Bengalla Mining operations- Rehabilitation Strategy Consultation Version- Community Consultation Committee

14.03.2024 [TF] email to CCC Committee- Muswellbrook Shire Council Staff response to Rehabilitation Strategy

19.04.2024 [FH] email to [MO] Minutes from Muswellbrook Shire Council Meeting February 2024- with regards to Councils representation on CCC's.

19.04.2024 [FH] email to Cate Sims. Follow up on providing Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Presentation to CCC members.

19.04.2024 [FH] email to CCC members draft meeting minutes February 2024

16.05.2024 [FH] email to CCC Members- Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue presentation and invitation to attend a site tour prior to the May 2024 CCC Meeting

16.05.2024 [MO] email to [FH] Acceptance to attend site visit.

17.05.2024 [TF] email to [FH] Acceptance to attend site visit.

20.05.2024 [LB] email to [FH] Acceptance to attend site visit.

20.05.2024 [JM] email to [FH] Apology for the site visit and May 2024 CCC meeting

22.05.2024 [FH] email to CCC Members- Agenda,

22.05.2024 [TF] email to [FH] Signed declaration of interest and code of conduct forms

22.05.2024 [HF] email to [MO] Correspondence from Minister Scully

7. REPORTS FROM CCC COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Report from [LB]:

- From the Wybong/Castle rock area how quickly the mine is progressing west. It is easy to see into the mine area. People/travellers are parking in the ditch and walking across with cameras. [CH] Mount Pleasant and Bengalla have had external drones flying over the mine area. [HF] Visual bund- getting soil samples and looking at planting trees along this area.
- How long before Bengalla Link Road will be completed? [GM] Completed by Friday is the plan.

Report from [TF]:

- Council elections are coming up soon. There are only 3-4 Council meetings remain for the current elected council and then will go to caretaker mode. Elections are in September.

Report from [DD]:

- On Monday Blackroo opened our Blackroo Community Haven. Blackroo have received a grant to rent the old Muswellbrook Fire Station. Blackroo now have their own space, they plan to expand the programs and they opened on Monday. Blackroo have done 4 pickups of furniture since Monday. Blackroo also do clothing and everything is free and assist approximately 5 families per week. With our own space we are better able to support families. We have a BBQ trailer and a catering trailer we

can run barista training. We also now have a furniture trailer with a ramp. Clothing bins are at the front. Blackroo are working in with other community organisations for donations. There will be an area for disability services to do art, craft especially for people utilising NDIS. The centre will also be able to work and assist with washing, folding and sorting, shredding etc and the money will go back into their programs.

- Wanaruah- the Development Application was approved and are up to construction certificate. Hoping in 3 months to be breaking soil to build the centre.
- De-Anne will run again for Council.

8. BENGALLA OPERATION UPDATE

[GM] 22-week plan shown. Rain has impacted the mining operation. Stockpiles are full and rail has been impacted. Several low-level recordable incidents/strains have been recorded and significant incidents have been dropping. [TF] The topsoil stripping, are you able to take that straight onto the rehab? [HF] No. The topsoil we stockpile, and the sub soil is in a good location. Ideally if we can place directly onto rehab we do. We are progressing closer to Bengalla Link Road and will need to work on a new western diversion levee.

9. APPLICATIONS AND APPROVALS

[GM] Bengalla Mine Plan shown.

MOD 6

Bengalla is currently preparing a modification to change the consent in which we operate under. We have a recycled water agreement with Muswellbrook Shire Council. We are required to amend our licences to enable us to take this water. We have a scoping letter which has been submitted to the Department of Planning approximately a week ago. We hope to be lodging by end of May or beginning June at this stage. Map of the plan of the pipeline route shared with the CCC. The water will go to our dam precinct. We are also looking at the feasibility of installing a potable water pipeline at the same time for current and future land use. The modification will go to public exhibition and can be discussed further at the August meeting. This is in support of water being delivered to the Sandy Hollow community. The additional water is helpful for us for the process of adding flocculant in the coal handling preparation plant.

Exploration Lease

Site visit to the exploration drilling. Approximately 40 holes to be drilled. BMC current approval takes us to 2039 however we expect to meet this around 2036 timeframe. The exploration drilling is to look at resources beyond this.

AL19

New Hope Group has acquired the AL19 lease. There are some landholder interactions currently occurring. EL9431- which was where the site visit was to today, and then there is a gap area beyond that. There is a meeting shortly with Minister Houssos to discuss this. Malabar – New Hope Group has increased their shareholding to just under 20% with a view that there is a good long-term future. Coal caps finish in June 2024 and royalties increase from 8.2% to 10.8% so this will apply to our contracts with Eraring. [TF] what are the allowable activities in an authority? Are you allowed to explore? [CH] With AL19 there is a

list of commitments made from a New Hope Group perspective around the work that will be done over a 3-year period of time. Some of that includes an analysis of the information. In the area on the western boundary of EL9431 our intention is to secure an ability to explore that.

There are a number of landholders that fall within our zone of acquisition, and we are starting to engage with them as we move forward. There is a connection to land which we acknowledge and respect. We are engaging early to give people time. [LB] Why do you need to redrill on some properties? Is it because technology is better? [CH] It is probably more about accumulating more knowledge. Getting more information before we make a decision to and getting a better understanding of the resource. Are there faults? Underground? What is the quality of the coal? It is about trying to improve our knowledge of the resource which leads to detailed mine planning. Any drilling that needs to there needs to be a lot of engagement with landowners. [TF] Could a map be provided showing the private landowners in the area? [CH] Yes, we can. We have this information available.

Bengalla Link Road.

We have just completed resurfacing on Bengalla Link Road and now just waiting online marking which is planned for Friday. This will then mean this section is complete.

10. LAND MANAGEMENT

[HF] Rehabilitation preparation involves sowing some cover crop to improve the soil quality.

Pest management control. Wild dog baiting and pig trapping program. In 2023 63 pigs trapped and culled on the offset properties and our buffer land. There have been very few wild dog sightings. Numbers seem to be stagnant. First round of baiting commenced end of April. There are more foxes than dogs taking the baits.

Weed management is reported every year in our Annual Review report. We are mostly targeting noxious weeds- African box thorn, St Johns Wart, prickly pear and lantana. These are also our target for this year.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING RESULTS

Environmental monitoring review for February, March and April 2024 (the Reporting Period).

- Air Quality:
 - Criterion - 24 Hour PM10. During the Reporting Period Bengalla was compliant with the 24-hour PM10 air quality criterion. There were two (2) all-source criterion exceedances recorded by the monitoring network. Following investigation, the results were revised for Bengalla only contribution to below the 24 hour criterion.

Operational downtime- Since the last meeting in February the amount of downtime in relation to dust. The cumulative amount of downtime from February to April for trucks and excavators. This time is just for dust. Summary of total down time for each month shared with the CCC.

- Noise Management:

- For the Reporting Period Bengalla was compliant with the noise criteria. There were 2 exceedances in the noise monitoring however noise criteria do not apply due to invalid weather conditions (inversion) as defined in the mines development consent SSD-5170.
- Blast Monitoring:
 - For the Reporting Period Bengalla was compliant with the blast criteria.
- Water Usage:
 - Bengalla has extracted 1798ML from the Hunter River from 1 July 2023 to 30 April 2024. Rainfall was below the long-term average for February and March, and above the long-term average for April during the reporting period.
 - Bengalla Mine did not discharge to the Hunter River during the reporting period.
- Complaints:
 - Since the last meeting, 7 complaints have been received - 2 blast vibration, 3 air quality, and 1 for noise.
- Environmental incidents: 0.

12. 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 includes:

- St James Primary School- Sponsorship of breakfast club.
- Denman and District Heritage Village- Purchase of cabinets and storage shelving
- Muswellbrook Pre-School Kindergarten- Blue Bus training
- Scone High School Upper Hunter Teacher Librarian Group- Author/Illustrator visit to local schools.
- Sandy Hollow Motorfest- Raffle prize for Westpac Rescue Helicopter

There have been many events that have occurred over the last quarter, these include:

- International Women's Day morning tea
- National Cutting Horse Association Autumn Spectacular
- Upper Hunter Veterans Golf Association Championships
- Bengalla Upper Hunter Show
- School beef cattle competition, NSW Women in Mining Awards
- 50th Muswellbrook Art Prize
- Upper Hunter Youth Services Family Day
- Sandy Hollow Charity horse Ride
- Lake Glenbawn Field Archery Event

13. CCC NEWSLETTER IDEAS

Ideas include- Moving of tiger orchids, update on completion of work on Bengalla Link Road, approvals, update on future of Bengalla, scholarship recipients.

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 28th August 2024 at 3.00pm.

Meeting closed at 4:30pm.

Attachments:

- Meeting Presentation slides.

ACTION LIST

Meeting No. 146 – Wednesday 22nd May 2024

| ITEM NO. | ITEM | ACTION BY |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 1. | Number of down times associated with trigger alarms. Add dragline data for CCC Presentation | HF |
| 2 | Demonstration of noise inversion to be presented at next CCC Meeting | HF |
| 3 | Find out the diameter of the pipe and report back to the CCC (LB) | HF |
| 4 | Reach out to Dee to arrange a visit to the exploration drilling. | FH |
| 5 | List of the intent of work for AL19. Share this information with committee | CH |
| 6 | Add AL19 as an agenda item to update all at each CCC meeting | HF |
| 7. | Show a map of private landowners within the area that will be impacted. | HF |
| 8. | Report on Engineering/Bengalla Scholarship recipients for 2023 | FH |
| 9. | Provide an update on the Minister Houssos visit | CH |