



# BENGALLA MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE



## Minutes of Meeting No. 111

**Location:** Bengalla Boardroom  
**Date:** Wednesday 26 August 2015  
**Present:**

Name	Affiliation
Clr Malcolm Ogg	CCC Chairperson
Jonathon Moore	CCC member
Kevin Leckie	CCC member
Jo-Anne Scarini	Bengalla Mining Company (General Manager) (joined the meeting at 5pm)
John Campbell	Bengalla Mining Company (Manager Technical Services)
Craig White	Bengalla Mining Company (Environmental Specialist)
Alissa Stark	Bengalla Mining Company (Environmental Advisor)
Debbie Day	Bengalla Mining Company (Community Relations)

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### Meeting opened: 4.00pm

#### 1. Rehabilitation tour

Due to wet weather, rehabilitation tour postponed to another date.

#### 2. APOLOGIES:

Noel Downs

#### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved

#### 4. OTHER BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/ACTION LIST

An update was provided on the cattle trial.  
No further business arising.

#### 5. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Nil

#### 6. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

#### 7. COMMUNITY REPORT

Debbie Day presented information on Bengalla's community involvement for the period May to July 2015.

- 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.
- It was noted that the Bengalla Undergraduate Scholarship and the Engineering Scholarship as well as Apprenticeship recruitment was in progress.

- Bengalla Community Support Team sponsorships and donations were listed for the period.
- Upcoming events were outlined in the presentation slides.
- Information was provided on the Local Procurement Policy.
- Community Development Fund supported projects listed on the presentation slide.

#### **8. MODIFICATION 1**

Craig White advised the Committee that Bengalla is seeking a modification to its development consent.

The Modification is seeking approval to facilitate the following activities which are required following detailed design work:

- Alterations to various water management infrastructure components including:
  - Utilisation of the Satellite Pit as a temporary dirty water catchment dam;
  - Relocation of the Staged Discharge Dam Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme staged discharge release point;
  - Construction of clean water diversion levees in locations other than those already approved; and
  - Revised locations for the proposed relocation of the Hunter River and Washery Dams.
- Additional locations for the siting of the Explosives Storage Facility; and
- The placement of fill from the excavation of Clean Water Dam 1 adjacent to it.

It was noted that the modification application is on public exhibition until 7 September, 2015.

#### **9. MODIFICATION 2**

Craig White advised that Bengalla has had extensive consultation with Muswellbrook Shire Council over the new development consent and in particular in relation to the overburden emplacement area. Council has 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. Bengalla is undertaking some modelling which will be taken to Council to agree on the outcomes following which Modification 2 will be lodged.

Jonathon Moore commented that there may be some concern from the community with the proposal to raise the height of the overburden area in some places to introduce the undulation.

Craig White advised that Bengalla would be engaging with the community to inform them of the modification and that the footprint of the area to be raised is small compared to the overall emplacement area.

A fact sheet was provided to the committee.

Jo-Anne Scarini joined the meeting.

#### **10. MONITORING RESULTS**

Environmental monitoring review for period May to July 2015 was presented by Alissa Stark:

- 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> as well as TSP data 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 was an exceedance over the criterion at one location in June. The exceedance was further discussed under Environmental Incidents. All other readings were nil noise non-compliances for LAeq 15 minute and LA1, 1minute during the period.
- Blast Monitoring
  - Bengalla remained in compliance with all consent limits.
- Water Usage:
  - Water use for the reporting period was 199.29ML.
- Progressive Rehabilitation
  - Bengalla target is 20 hectares to be seeded for 2015. To date 8.7 hectares has been shaped with 10.8 hectares seeded.
- Complaints:
  - Year to date, Bengalla has received 17 complaints by 11 complainants.
- Environmental Incidents:
  - During the period Bengalla had five environmental incidents being:
    - Hydrocarbon spill of approximately 50L;
    - Noise non-compliance occurred on 28 June at an attended monitoring location on Roxburgh Road. At 10.15pm, Global Acoustics, our contractor, whilst doing attended monitoring, advised that we were in exceedance of our noise criteria. Bengalla's noise management plan requires that within 75 minutes of the first notification or first alarm that corrective action is taken. As they are required to do, Global came out to the site two hours later and indicated that the monitor was still reading above criteria. Bengalla personnel were sent out to the real time monitor and those readings indicated that Bengalla was close to but not exceeding the criteria. Subsequent to that, 12.40am, nearly the entire site was shut down. At 2am our real time monitor triggered red whilst everything was still shut down. Bengalla continued to have everything shut down and at 4am the real time monitor triggered again. The Department was notified of the exceedance. The management plan has been adjusted to ensure an improvement in the response to exceedances.
    - On two occasions there was a failure of real time monitoring systems due to communication and power issues. Bengalla has implemented actions to ensure that it is actioned appropriately.
  - Localised blast fume Level 3A on 27 July, 2015. The committee was provided with a Visual NO<sub>x</sub> gases rating scale sheet produced by the Australian Explosives Industry and Safety Group Inc. which details how NO<sub>x</sub> gases from a surface blast

can be assessed. Every mine in New South Wales is required to rate every blast in terms of post blast fume. The A in 3A means that it was localised. John Campbell discussed the results from the blast and the believed cause of the incident. A full report from Orica will confirm why the incident occurred. Actions from the findings are being implemented.

- Actions from May meeting:
- Investigate options that would be feasible to attach to the dust gauges to discourage birds from landing and contaminating the data. Bengalla engaged its consultants, AECOM, to conduct a trial which is now in progress. Some results will be available at the November meeting however results over a six month period will provide a more conclusive indication of success.
- Investigate cause of elevated 24 hour average TSP level of 135ug/m<sup>3</sup> recorded at the HV1 (Wybong Road East) on 17 April 2015. Todoroski Air Sciences investigated the reading using data from the Bengalla HVAS monitors, Upper Hunter Air Quality monitoring network as well as the meteorological data from the Bengalla weather station. The results indicate that HV1 would have been downwind of the Bengalla operations for approximately 9.4% of the time. Based on the data Bengalla's contribution is estimated to be 9.4% of the total 24 hour average of 135ug/m<sup>3</sup> which is 12.7ug/m<sup>3</sup>. There was also evidence to suggest the filter paper had been contaminated by rain.

## 9 REPORTS FROM CCC COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Jonathon Moore reported:

- Community commenting on the speed at which Bengalla is progressing;
- Fire season coming up, would there be tidying up along Wybong Road. Craig White advised that as part of the Dry Creek project there would be a clearing along the southern edge of Wybong Road, approx. 25-30 metres in width to construct the project which will assist with bush fire reduction.
- Concern over people dumping rubbish along Wybong Road.
- With regard to the Rural Fire Service, if there is a residence that is vacant, pink tape is placed on the gate to indicate uninhabited however this also encourages theft and vandalism, in particular Property 1131. The incident was reported to John Flood Real Estate.
- Jo-Anne Scarini advised that there would be increased activity on Wybong Road from the Dry Creek Project as well as roadwork commencing with the Mt Pleasant Project which may assist with some of the Wybong Road concerns.

Kevin Leckie tendered his resignation from the Bengalla Community Consultative Committee, effective 26 August 2015.

Jo-Anne Scarini thanked Kevin for his time and commitment to the CCC.

It was noted that Alissa Stark had resigned from Bengalla. Clr Ogg thanked Alissa for her contribution.

Clr Ogg provided an update on a meeting with the Department of Planning looking into how Community Consultative Committees are functioning. A discussion paper will be on public exhibition providing opportunity for the company and CCC to have input.

## 10. CCC NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

- The August newsletter was approved by the Community.

- Suggested newsletter articles:
  - Scholarships and apprenticeships
  - Dry Creek Project – Community Reference Group
  - Rehab visit

**11. 2015 MEETING DATES**

Wednesday 25 November 2015

Meeting closed at 5:30pm

**Attachments:**

- Meeting Presentations slides.

**ACTION LIST**

**Meeting No. 111– Wednesday 26 August 2015**

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTIONED BY</b>
1	Follow up on management of vacant properties	J Scarini
2	Reschedule rehab tour	D Day