

SITE: Middle Road, Paxton NSW 2325 Australia
 POSTAL: Locked Bag 806 Cessnock NSW 2325 Australia
 PHONE: +61 2 4993 7200
 FAX: +61 2 4993 7326
 WEBSITE: www.austarcoalmine.com.au
 ABN 67 111 910 822

Austar Coal Mine

Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: LTCC Meeting Room, Austar CHPP
 Time: 9:40am – 10:27am
 Date: 26 April 2016

Name	Representative
Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH)	Independent Chairperson
David Holmes (DH)	Community Representative
Alan Smith (AS)	Community Representative
Brian Wesley (BW)	Austar Coal Mine
Gary Mulhearn (GM)	Austar Coal Mine
Josh Chadwick (JC)	Austar Coal Mine
Apologies	
Peter Sturrock (PS)	Community Representative
Councillor Cordelia Troy (CT)	Cessnock City Council Representative
Copy of minutes	
Councillor Bob Pynsent	Mayor of Cessnock City Council
Mr Joel Fitzgibbon MP	Federal Member for Hunter
Mr Clayton Barr	State Member for Cessnock
Mr Howard Reed	NSW Department of Planning & Environment
Ms Valerie Phillips	Librarian, Cessnock City Council

Item	Issue	Action	Date
1	Welcome		
	MMH – Welcomed the Committee and opened the meeting.		
2	Declaration of Interests		
	MMH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of the Mine Subsidence Board • Independent Chair of numerous Community Consultative Committee's 		
3	Confirmation of Previous Minutes		
	The minutes of the previous meeting were considered representative of that meeting. DH moved, AS seconded.		
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes		
	Discussed distribution of Community Consultative Committee (CCC) guidelines Discussed Bellbird South current operations GM has supplied drawings to council detailing guard rail on Quorrobolong Road. Quote for work is in progress.		
5	Correspondence		
	In 7/4/16 - Email from GM attaching revised CCC guidelines and extension of time for comment Out 18/2/16 – MMH email to CCC DP&E Guidelines and fact sheet 19/2/16 – MMH email to CCC request for comments on revised guidelines 31/3/16 – MMH email to CCC link and extension from DP&E on guidelines		
6	Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints		
	GM & BW – provided an update on current and proposed underground operations. <u>Current Operations</u> UNDERGROUND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development mining operations continued in the Bellbird 		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
	<p>South area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In-seam drilling has identified the nature and location of geological structures at commencing ends of LWB2 and LWB3, and development operations have provided information at the finishing ends. ▪ Longwall panels LWB2 and LWB3 will be shortened in response. Consultation with DRE and DPE has occurred. An updated subsidence assessment has been prepared which indicates no increase in subsidence predictions across the area (some localised changes to individual features), and management strategies remain appropriate. ▪ Plans showing approved and shortened extents of LWB2 & LWB3 were presented. <p>Bellbird South LWB1-B3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Longwall details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conventional longwall mining method (not top coal caving) • Approx 3.5m extraction height in the Greta Seam • Approx 480-555m depth of cover, longwall void width 237m • Approx lengths 1140m to 1880m (after shortening of LWB2 and LWB3) • Extraction order is proposed to be LWB2, LWB3 with LWB1 last. ▪ Extraction Plan approval will be required prior to extraction. ▪ DPE endorsed the Extraction Plan team on 8 Feb 2016. ▪ The Extraction Plan is in preparation, landholders have been advised and will be further consulted for individual Built Features MPs. ▪ Longwall extraction in Bellbird South is proposed to commence with LWB2 in July 2016 <p>GM noted that all landholders over the Bellbird South area had been provided with a letter advising of the Extraction Plan and also advising of the Austar CCC, and inviting interest in joining the CCC, and that if there were no interest, Austar would intend to continue with our current CCC contingent. There has been no enquiries about the Austar CCC from landholders over Bellbird South since that time.</p>		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
	<p>BELLBIRD SOUTH AREA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Austar is working on the mine plan for the coal resource to the northwest of the LWB1-B3 panels (B4-B7). ▪ Austar will need to lodge a further modification application prior to extracting any additional panels. ▪ Environmental Assessment to support additional panels will be undertaken in 2016 <p>BW discussed possible modification processing time and how should the modification be successful, Austar would progress back to Stage 3 mining area after those panels are completed, potentially that will be 2020.</p> <p>CHPP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Normal operations occurring, albeit at reduced levels with only development coal being produced. Operations will return to normal production levels when longwall extraction recommences at Austar. <p>EXPLORATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nil exploration undertaken since previous meeting. ▪ Exploration program is planned to continue in 2016 and in future years. Austar will be consulting with landholders regarding access for exploration. ▪ A plan showing proposed seismic survey lines and exploration boreholes was presented. <p>Environmental Incidents (16 February 2016 – 26 April 2016)</p> <p>5th March – Water Discharge to Land from No. 3 Shaft Fan Sump</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A sump which collects water from the 3 shaft fans overflowed to ground adjacent to the fan compound. ▪ The overflow was identified during weekend mechanical inspection of the area and actions were then taken for a temporary air pump to pump down the sump and keep the sump from spilling in future. ▪ Spilled water was limited to the area of ground adjacent to the fan compound and did not reach a watercourse. ▪ Actions taken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary pumping arrangements installed to prevent further spill. • Pump was replaced. Communication on the incident provided to workforce 		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
	<p>Subsidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No subsidence surveys completed since last meeting. <p>Air Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual average PM₁₀ has been well below Annual Average Maximum Criteria at all locations in 2016 to date. ▪ Annual average deposited dust has been below Annual Maximum Criteria for all locations in 2016 to date. ▪ Graphs of air quality monitoring data were presented. <p>Water Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ pH and EC graphs were presented. ▪ pH and EC monitoring within Environment Protection Licence limits for 2016 to date. ▪ General trends in Bellbird Creek, Quorrobolong Creek and Coney Creek presented. <p>Groundwater Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Groundwater levels were presented on graphs. ▪ Groundwater levels for 2015 were shown, an update including 2016 results will be shown in the Q3 CCC Meeting. <p>Noise</p> <p>Since last CCC meeting (16 February to 26 April)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Measured noise was compliant with noise limits from 16 February 2016 to 26 April 2016. <p>Vibration</p> <p>Since last CCC meeting (16 Feb 2016 to 26 April 2016)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitor V7 – 345 Quorrobolong Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 events >1mm/sec <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All <2.8mm/sec ▪ Monitor V8 – 159 Coney Creek Lane <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil triggers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will be relocated to Bellbird South area prior to longwall extraction <p>Note: all events were below the level where cosmetic structural damage may occur of 15mm/sec</p> <p>Vibration monitor V8 is planned to move to Bellbird South.</p>		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
	<p>Community Complaints</p> <p>Since last CCC meeting (16 February 2016 to 26 April)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 x community complaints were received during this period. ▪ Odours/fumes from Austar premises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 March 2016 - complaint was received (via EPA) regarding odours/fumes, potentially due to spontaneous combustion, from the Austar premises generated from waste materials being imported onto the site. The EPA required the submission of a report outlining the issue, detailing the material involved and outlining actions being taken to manage the situation. • Actions taken - The entire area was then pushed down with a dozer, soaked with water and compacted. There was no remnant heat nor odour at completion. Inspections have confirmed no further issue. A report was provided to the EPA on the issue and actions taken – Nil further action required. ▪ Noise complaint received in Ellalong area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 March 2016 - a resident complaint was received due to noise in from the No. 3 shaft area. Reported as much louder than usual compressor noise. • Investigations found a fault with a fitting on the nitrogen plant dryer. • Actions taken – isolated the faulty fitting which fixed the noise and contacted the resident to provide feedback. 		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
7	General Business		
	<p>Mining Lease Application No. 521 - CHPP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a requirement of Section 6 of the <i>Mining Act 1992</i> that a mining purposes lease is in place for all mining purposes defined in the Mining Act by 15 November 2017. ▪ To satisfy this requirement, Austar Coal Mine lodged an application for a mining purposes lease to the DRE in February 2016 for a parcel of Austar owned land used for mining purposes by the CHPP. ▪ Mining purposes on this lot include coal stockpiles and handling, rail spur, tailings dams and water management. Austar are also approved in this area to emplace coarse reject in this area in the future. There is no coal extraction proposed within the mining lease application area. ▪ A plan showing the Mining Lease for mining purposes was presented. ▪ The DRE have acknowledged receipt of the mining lease application. Austar published a notification of the mining lease application in the Sydney Morning Herald and Newcastle Herald on Monday 11 April 2016. <p>Workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Austar Coal Mine is preparing to increase our workforce to support commencement of longwall operations. ▪ Austar has been able to offer positions to 55 personnel from Donaldson Coal Mine affected by recent announcement by Yancoal for that mine to be placed on care and maintenance. <p>Revised Community Consultative Committee Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Department of Planning and Environment is revising the CCC guidelines and has invited comment. ▪ Copy of the guidelines were distributed to CCC members. <p>Sponsorships –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hunter Valley Steamfest 2016 ▪ Cessnock Rugby League Football Club 		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kurri Kurri Rugby League Football Club ▪ Shamrock Soccer Club <p>Mayoral Scholarship Awards 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Austar offers the Mining Technical/Engineering Scholarship ▪ Presentation night is Tuesday 10 May 2016 <p>Austar will be commencing more formal Community Support Program in 2016 (yet to be finalised).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local community groups will be invited to submit applications throughout the year, with closing dates to be advertised on the Austar website as well as The Cessnock Advertiser. ▪ Applications for funding will be considered once in 2016, then two times per year in subsequent years. ▪ A group consisting of Austar employees and a selected representative from the community will assess applications against a set of criteria and provide independent recommendations on allocation of funds. Funding allocations will be announced as soon as practical after the submission dates. <p>Other Nil</p>		
8	Next Meetings		
	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 August 2016 – 9:30am Location TBA 		
10	Meeting Closed		
	MMH – Declared the meeting closed at 10:40am and thanked all for attending.		

Recorded: Josh Chadwick 26/4/2016

Confirmed: To be confirmed at next meeting

Chairperson – Margaret MacDonald-Hill