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Austar Coal Mine

Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: LTCC Office, Austar CHPP
 Time: 9:35am – 10:15am
 Date: 14 May 2014

Name	Representative
Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH)	Independent Chairperson
Peter Sturrock (PS)	Community Representative
David Holmes (DH)	Community Representative
Councillor Jeff Maybury (JM)	Cessnock City Council Representative
Gary Mulhearn (GM)	Austar Coal Mine
Carly McCormack (CM)	Austar Coal Mine
Apologies	
Alan Smith (AS)	Community Representative
Dave McLean (DM)	Austar Coal Mine
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 & Infrastructure
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		
	<p>JM -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of the Mine Subsidence Board <p>JM – Called for minute silence for the two men fatally injured in the accident at Austar Coal Mine, which was observed by the CCC.</p> <p>MMH -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of the Mine Subsidence Board • Member of the Minister’s Arbitration Panel • Independent Chair of numerous Community Consultative Committee’s <p>MMH noted recent Newcastle Herald media articles which criticised the CCC process, and she had been mentioned by name in those articles. MMH also disclosed that the company pays a professional fee for her role as chair of the CCC.</p> <p>MMH offered to the CCC that she would be happy to stand down if there were any concerns regarding her impartiality as the Committee Chair in light of the media articles.</p> <p>DH – Thanked MMH for being open, and noted it is too early to know so standing down is unnecessary, however if we do have concerns we will raise them. Asked if media articles could be distributed.</p>	MMH to email media articles to all committee members.	14/05/14
3	Confirmation of Previous Minutes		
	The minutes of the previous meeting were considered representative of that meeting. PS moved, DH seconded.		
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes		
	<p>Meeting regarding the Sharing the Benefits Agreement has occurred with landholders since the previous meeting.</p> <p>Predicted subsidence lines have been added to the subsidence graphs.</p>		
5	Correspondence		
	Emails to Austar on mine tragedy on behalf of all CCC members. Individual emails sent 16/4/2014 from MMH, DH & PS. Email from AS on 17/4/2014.		

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6	<p>Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints</p>		
	<p>GM – provided an update on current operations.</p> <p><u>Current Operations</u></p> <p>Underground</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longwall A7 was completed on 19 April 2014. • Development mining continued in Stage 3. • On Tuesday 15 April 2014 an incident occurred in the development mining area whereby two mine workers were fatally injured as a result of a rib collapse. • An investigation by the Mine Safety Office of the NSW Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services (DTIRIS) to determine the cause of the incident is ongoing. • Austar & Yancoal’s thoughts are with the families and friends of our deceased co-workers at this difficult time. We are continuing to offer support to both families and to our employees and contractors. • Longwall move to A8 is in progress. LWA8 is planned to commence mid June 2014. <p>GM – Yancoal has set up a trust fund to enable employees and local businesses to donate to the victims of the Austar tragedy. Local businesses have been calling to see how they can assist.</p> <p>Kitchener SIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulk earthworks to reshape construction site to stable and free draining landform complete • Site improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Removed sediment from all dams and drains ○ Western sediment basin filled in, area now drains to water storage dam ○ Diversions to keep clean water from entering dirty water system • Drainage works continuing, construction of rock chutes • Preparations for seeding in Spring still to commence • Work on automated pump stations from sediment basin and water storage dam to Kalingo Dam continuing <p>Rehabilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area 12 – Grass establishing well • Aberdare Reject Emplacement Area – Grass establishing well 		

Item	Issue	Action	Date
	<p>CHPP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHPP - shutdown period for maintenance <p>Environmental Incidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No environmental incidents 12 February – 13 May 2014 <p><u>Environmental Monitoring Update</u></p> <p>Subsidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring survey undertaken in March 2014. Graphs of subsidence measurement presented • Subsidence results are within predicted levels, currently at approximately 225mm for Stage 3 (LWA7) • 450mm maximum subsidence predicted at completion of LWA7 <p>Air Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual average PM₁₀ is well below Annual Average Maximum Criteria at both locations in 2014 • Deposited dust gauge D5 (south of 3 Shaft) returned a high result of 5.2 g/m².month for March. The annual average result for D5 is currently above maximum criteria 4 g/m² because Jan-Feb 2014 results were contaminated, therefore were not usable. A visual investigation of surrounding area revealed no reason for increased dust level. D5 gauge result to be reviewed in future months. All other gauges deposited dust below maximum criteria. • 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. • General trends in Bellbird Creek, Quorrobolong Creek and Coney Creek presented. • Groundwater levels were presented on a graph. <p>Noise</p> <p>Since last CCC meeting (12 February to 13 May 2014)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measured noise was compliant with noise limits for March & April monitoring results <p>Vibration</p> <p>Since last CCC meeting (6 February to 5 May 2014)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor V7 – 345 Quorrobolong Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 event – 1.2mm/sec • Monitor V8 – 159 Coney Creek Lane <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4 events – all <2mm/sec 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note: all events were below the level where cosmetic structural damage may occur of 15mm/sec <p><u>Community Complaints</u></p> <p>Since last CCC Meeting (12 February to 13 May 2014) - No complaints</p>		
7	General Business		
	<p>Community Sponsorships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cessnock Mayoral Academic Scholarship - Austar Mining / Technical Scholarship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation Night held on 8 April 2014 – awarded to Alexander Gregg studying Mechanical Engineering at Newcastle University Nulkaba Public School - sponsorship for the fundraising annual fair 2014 Slater & Gordon Golf Championship - Golf tournament for Westpac Helicopter at Cessnock Oaks Kurri Kurri Football Club - sponsorship for the 2014 season Bellbird Park Bowling Club - Womens invitation triples - Austar Black Diamond Triples Cessnock Rugby Leagues Club - sponsorship for the 2014 season Shamrocks Football Club - sponsorship for the 2014 season Ellalong Woodchop Championship- sponsorship for 2014 Ellalong Woodchop Hunter Valley Steamfest 2014 – supplied coal to support the event <p>Other</p> <p>MMH - Issue with emails not going through to all recipients</p> <p>GM – Austar have recently changed individuals email addresses. Will distribute new email addresses.</p>	GM to distribute new Austar email addresses to committee members	14/05/14

Item	Issue	Action	Date
8	Next Meetings		
	Meeting dates for 2014 agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 August 2014 – 9:30am • 12 November 2014 – 9:30am Next Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 August 2014 – 9:30am LTCC Office, Aустar CHPP 		
10	Meeting Closed		
	MMH – Declared the meeting closed at 10:15am and thanked all for attending.		

Recorded: Carly McCormack 14/05/2014

Confirmed: To be confirmed at next meeting

Chairperson – Margaret MacDonald-Hill