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Austar Coal Mine

Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: Boardroom – Austar Main Administration Building, Middle Road, Paxton
 Time: 9:31am – 10:13am
 Date: 26 February 2020

Name	Representative
Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH)	Independent Chairperson
Ashlee Baker	Community Representative
Alan Smith (AS)	Community Representative
Carly McCormack (CM)	Austar Coal Mine
Julie McNaughton (JM)	Austar Coal Mine
John Rayner	Community Representative
Brian Wesley	Austar Coal Mine
Michael Gorman	NSW Police Service (Cessnock)
Justin Peterkin	Mining Engineering Manager
Apologies	
Peter Sturrock	Community Representative
Councillor Mark Lyons (ML)	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

1	Welcome
	MMH – Opened the meeting 9:31am and welcomed the CCC. Apologies noted Apology that the Agenda was distributed late.
2	Declaration of Interests
	MMH asked for any changes to previous declarations of interest Declarations of interests remain current for all members
3	Confirmation of Previous Minutes
	The minutes of the previous meeting were considered representative of that meeting. AS moved, JR seconded.
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes
	MMH asked how Austar supports RFS workers while they volunteer, and if there is a policy on releasing workers to volunteer with RFS or SES? CM – Yancoal has a Community Service leave policy in accordance with Fair Work Australia. Yancoal also made a donation to RFS of \$200,000. MMH – JM to send AB ecological monitoring report – this was sent on 27/11/19
5	Correspondence
	CM – Update on Austars operations, 24 January 2020 (to be discussed further below)
6	Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints, Community Support

	<p>BW – Update on operations and transition to Care and Maintenance</p> <p>AS – Asked if Austar will be doing further exploration in the Stage 3 area?</p> <p>BW – Responded not at this stage, further plans may require exploration in the future.</p> <p>AB – Do you have an estimate of how many people will be out of work?</p> <p>BW – Most employees will move to other sites such as MTW and ACOL, or take voluntary redundancies. There will be a few people (unclear how many) that will be made redundant.</p> <p>AS – how much of Aberdare Emplacement area has been rehabilitated?</p> <p>CM – around a third. The rest will be left uncapped during Care and Maintenance to be used for future operations.</p> <p>AS – Interesting that there is no change in Orange drainage line with the rain.</p> <p>CM – GW level is around 3m lower in this area since the incident. The rains occurred after the last monitoring round, so it will be interesting if there is any change going forward.</p>
7	General Business
	<p>MG – equipment moved to surface – is safety and security from vandals being considered?</p> <p>BW – manning will be 24/7. Security was a consideration in developing manning levels. Have made provision for additional security patrols. We are mindful of the risk. Will be doing a Broad Brush Risk Assessment which will include security.</p> <p>JP – Austar also needs to be mindful of people trying to access remote areas and cutting live cable, which is another reason security will be maintained.</p>
9	Meeting Dates
	<p>MMH – as the operation is moving to Care and Maintenance, propose moving to 6 monthly meetings. The committee agreed to move to six monthly meetings with the option that any member can request an extraordinary meeting in between, should the need arise. MMH will contact the other committee members to make sure that this is acceptable to all.</p> <p>2020 proposed meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 26 August 2020
9	Meeting Closed
	<p>MMH – Thanked the CCC and declared the meeting closed at 10:13am.</p>

Recorded: Julie McNaughton 26 February 2020