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## Austar Coal Mine

### Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: Daily Meeting Room – Austar Main Administration Building, Middle Road, Paxton  
 Time: 9:38am – 10:30am  
 Date: 24 March 2021

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
William Farnworth (WF)	Austar Coal Mine
Councillor Mark Lyons (ML)	Cessnock City Council Representative
<b>Apologies</b>	
Michael Gorman	
John Rayner	
Peter Sturrock	
<b>Copy of minutes</b>	
Councillor Bob Pynsent	Mayor of Cessnock City Council
Mr Joel Fitzgibbon MP	Federal Member for Hunter
Mr Clayton Barr	State Member for Cessnock
Mr Matthew Sprott	NSW Department of Planning & Environment
Ms Valerie Phillips	Librarian, Cessnock City Council

<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
	MMH – Opened the meeting 9:38am and welcomed the CCC. Apologies are noted above.
<b>2</b>	<b>Declaration of Interests</b>
	MMH asked for any changes to previous declarations of interest. Declarations of interests remain current for all members
<b>3</b>	<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b>
	The minutes of the previous meeting were considered representative of that meeting. AS moved, ML seconded.
<b>4</b>	<b>Business Arising from Previous Minutes</b>
	MMH - Final Mine subsidence survey for Bellbird South – will discuss in presentation
<b>5</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
	As listed in Agenda. Additional correspondence: Austar Coal Mine CCC Chair's Annual Report – Lodged 17 March with DPIE.
<b>6</b>	<b>Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints, Community Support</b>

	<p>Detail in presentation.</p> <p>MMH - What about the environmental positions – will they stay?  WF –environmental positions will probably stay, there is expressions of interest out to employees to give their preferences on whether they are redeployed, or take redundancy packages.</p> <p>ML – will all surface structures go? What will the final landform look like?  CM – no coal is left on site, final landforms will be designed, will do capping studies and final landform designs are yet to be finalised. This will be done as part of the detailed closure plan.</p> <p>AS – what about the railway?  WF - Austar owns around 9kms of rail.  ML-There are a lot of opportunities associated with the rail corridor.</p> <p>AS – are there zoning issues as well?  CM – yes, all things we need to look at in the closure planning process.  ML – Cessnock is going through the LEP process in the next few years, so it is good timing for potential synergies.</p> <p>AS – will the exploration licence lapse?  WF- still working through what will happen with the EL.  MMH – was the measured subsidence on Sandy Creek Rd of 819mm within predictions?  WF – yes. This was shown on the graph in the presentation.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>General Business</b>
	<p>As per presentation</p> <p>AS - Will rehabilitation cease at Aberdare Emplacement area as this was not your mine?  CM - We will continue to rehabilitate it. There is reject at CHPP that can be used to continue this or we will redesign the landform to be safe, stable and non-polluting We have a mining lease over the area and will need to rehabilitate it before lease relinquishment.</p> <p>ML – where to from here with CCC?  MMH – we need to continue to meet – quite a lengthy process and lots to be done. If we need an extraordinary meeting, anyone is able to request that.  CM – added that there will be a lot of activity to report as we move to closure.</p> <p>AB – Will demolition occur only from Mon – Fri daytime?  CM – at this stage I believe we will operate under construction noise guidelines (daytime hours Mon – Fri, half day Saturday)</p> <p>AB – will security patrols continue?  WF – yes, and may increase as there are less people on site.</p> <p>MMH – do Community Support Programs (CSP) and sponsorship stop?  CM and WF – Yancoal’s corporate CSP is ongoing and supports organisations in the Hunter Valley. The Austar CSP ceased in 2020, with the transition to Care and Maintenance.</p> <p>AB – what will happen to rehabilitated land at lease relinquishment?  CM – potential land ownership has not been determined at this stage.</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>Meeting Dates</b>
	22 September 2020.
<b>9</b>	<b>Meeting Closed</b>
	MMH – Thanked the CCC and declared the meeting closed at 10:30am.

Recorded: Julie McNaughton 24 March 2021