

**MOOLARBEN COAL OPERATIONS - COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING No. 37**

**Date:** Tuesday 14 June 2016  
**Time:** 4:08pm  
**Location:** Moolarben Coal Open Cut Administration Meeting Room 2, Ulan  
**Attendance:** Independent Chairperson  
Lisa Andrews (LA)

Community Members

Andrew Palmer (AP)  
Annette Riley (AR) (Ulan Public School)  
Bev Smiles (BS) (Mudgee District Environment Group)  
David Stokes (DS)  
Julia Imrie (JI)

Moolarben Coal Operations

Steve Archinal (SA)  
David Gibson (DG)  
Timothy Oliphant  
Graham Chase (GC)  
Trent Cini (TC)  
Michelle Cavanagh (MC)

Apologies

Scott Fittler (SF)

Absent

Aleshia Lonsdale (AL) (Mudgee Local Aboriginal Council)  
Max Walker (MW) (Mid-Western Regional Council)

## 1. Introduction and Welcome

Lisa Andrews (LA) announced her appointment as Independent Chairperson of MCO Community Consultative Committee (CCC) following John Turner's resignation. LA and all attendees provided an introduction including their roles on the CCC.

LA confirmed she receives a fee from Moolarben Coal Operations (MCO) for chairing the CCC meeting.

## 2. Apologies

Scott Fittler.

## 3. Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from Meeting 36 were confirmed by AR and seconded by DS.

## 4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Responses provided to action items from meeting 36.

**Meeting 36 Action 1** - MCO to provide a copy of Independent Environmental Audit to CCC members on USB.

Provided on USB to all attendees of the CCC in meeting 37.

**Meeting 36 Action 2** – MCO to report back on Groundwater Management Plan Revision.

GC advised the Groundwater Management Plan is currently under revision with submission to the DP&E anticipated in October 2016. GC confirmed the revision will be completed internally with expert input.

BS requested a presentation on the Water Management Plan.

**Meeting 37 Action 1** – MCO to provide a presentation on Water Management Plan to CCC once approved, including information on how water inflows are calculated.

**Meeting 36 Action 3** – MCO to confirm whether soft rollers would be utilised for the Conveyor from OC4 to the CHPP.

GC advised soft rollers are not being used on the overland conveyor.

## 5. Correspondence

A hard copy of the Agenda, CCC Presentation and Annual Review Presentation was provided to all meeting attendees.

A USB with a copy of the MCO Independent Audit was provided to all attendees.

Correspondence to the CCC since meeting 36 included the following:

- 18/5/16 – Email from John Turner advising that he had resigned as IC of the CCC.
- 30/5/16 – Letter from Yancoal advising that the Department of Planning and Environment had approved the nomination of Lisa Andrews as Independent Chair of the Moolarben CCC.
- 31/5/16 – Email from Chair to CCC members with an introduction and meeting notice & meeting agenda.
- 12/6/16 – Email from Chair to CCC members with a copy of the Membership Form for completion.
- 13/6/16 - Email from Bev Smiles with completed membership form.
- 13/6/16 - Email from Julia Imrie with completed membership form.

Correspondence was confirmed by LA and seconded by JI.

## **6. CCC Update Presentation**

GC provided an update on community interaction, visitors to site, donations and recent MCO achievements.

GC provided an update on operations and exploration, environmental monitoring, rehabilitation, community complaints, approvals and Underground Project update.

**Meeting 37 Action 2** – MCO to add locations of surface water monitoring points to presented water graphs.

GC advised monthly monitoring results are available online.

BS queried whether there will be additional train movements from underground coal production. GC confirmed there would be additional trains with an increase following commencement of Longwall operations; likely in late 2017.

BS questioned the number of apprentices taken on by MCO per year, and whether they are offered permanent roles. SA advised 4 new apprentices would be taken on in 2017, giving a total of 16 apprentices at MCO. Following completion of the apprenticeship the standard recruiting process is undertaken for vacant roles.

## **7. Annual Review**

A presentation on the 2015 Annual Review was provided.

BS questioned with the addition of Stage 2 whether MCO has one consolidated Project Approval. GC advised that MCO operates under two Project Approvals.

BS questioned whether any Modifications were being prepared. GC confirmed no Modifications have been submitted.

BS questioned the difference between ROM and product coal. TO advised approximately three quarters of extracted (ROM) coal is product.

AR questioned whether a Cultural Heritage Officer is employed by MCO. GC confirmed.

**Meeting 37 Action 3** – MCO to investigate feasibility of MCO Cultural Heritage Officer attending Ulan Public School to share cultural heritage knowledge with students.

Jl questioned the regional groundwater reduction amount, groundwater inflows and about the site water balance calculation. GC confirmed the amount is bore-dependant. Groundwater is reported in the annual reviews.

GC advised that there is real-time data for some bores in the area available on the Department of Primary Industries, Water website. These show a recent climate related (non-mining) reduction in levels.

DS questioned whether seed used for rehabilitation is of local provenance. TC confirmed that MCO employs local seed collectors to harvest seed from MCO properties.

BS noted the final landform Open Cut 4 void location is in close proximity to the Wilpinjong Coal Extension Project proposed final void. GC confirmed that discussions regarding the common boundary had commenced.

**Meeting 37 Action 4** – Provide hard copy of Annual Review to Jl.

## **8. General Business**

LA acknowledged that a site tour and provision of Project information was provided prior to commencement of the CCC meeting.

BS questioned whether MCO has experienced any spontaneous combustion of coal in MCO stockpiles. GC confirmed no spontaneous combustion has been reported at MCO.

BS requested an update on the Drip Deed. GC confirmed the time for Option 1 has expired. The progression of the Deed is currently sitting with the State Government.

**Meeting 37 Action 5** – GC to provide update on Drip Deed upon receipt of additional information from the State Government.

**Next Meeting:** 6 Sept 2016 - 4pm.

*Meeting Closed at 5:42pm*