

**MINUTES OF THE MT OWEN COMPLEX**  
**COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Friday 20 June 2008 at Mt Owen Mine**

**1. Glendell / Mt Owen Site Inspection**

The meeting participants undertook a site inspection of the Mt Owen and Glendell Mines prior to the formal meeting.

**2. Opening of Meeting**

Meeting opened by Mary Robinson at 12:15pm.

**Present:**

Community: Gillian Holmes, Jenny Marshall, Deirdre Oloffson, Alec Schiemerer, Michael Spitteri, Wendy Williams

Singleton Council: Mary Robinson (Chairperson), Val Scott, Brian Thomas

Mt Owen Mine: Bob Butcher (TPL), Ben Clibborn (XG), Linda Dunn (TPL), Tony Israel (XG), Ashley McLeod (XMO), John Watson (XMO), Trevor Wells (XMO), Peter York (TPL)

**3. Introductions**

Bob Butcher the Statutory Mine Manager for Theiss and Ashley McLeod Operations Manager Xstrata Mt Owen was introduced to the group.

**4. Apologies**

Apologies for the meeting were received from Patricia Bestic.

**5. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests**

Mary Robinson asked Committee members to declare any pecuniary interests. There were no such declarations from the Committee.

**6. Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Friday 15 February 2008 were accepted as a true record of that meeting. Moved Jenny Marshall, seconded by Alec Schiemerer.

## **7. Update on the implementation of key Mt Owen Consent Conditions and Community Projects – John Watson (XMO)**

John Watson provided the CCC with an overview of key Mt Owen Consent Conditions. Key points of the presentation were provided in a PowerPoint presentation and included;

### **Consent Conditions**

- Bimonthly monitoring results up to the end April 08 are now available on website
- Detailed Summer Noise Report now available via Mt Owen Website, Autumn Report planning to be available in June/July 08
- Development Consent Compliance Audit report submitted to DoP (report available on website).

### **Flora and Fauna**

- Flora and Fauna Management Plan and BOS audit report by Owen Nichols completed and sent to DoP. No major non-compliance but a series of recommendations were made.
  - Publish overview of BOS and FFMP works
  - Investigate role of fire
  - Review frequency of monitoring Flora/Fauna
  - Understand the link between seed rates and establishment success
  - Develop agreed completion criteria.
- Report outcomes to be discussed at the annual FFAC meeting planned to be held to be held 11 July 2008. Reps from DoP, DECC, Forests NSW, DPI-MR and HEL invited to attend meeting.

### **Biodiversity Offset**

- Biodiversity offset area long term security agreement – planning agreement submitted to DoP for review, rezoning proposal for the BOS currently being developed for submission to Singleton Council.

### **Monitoring of Oloffson Residence**

- Due to the necessity for Deirdre Oloffson to leave the meeting early John Watson briefly mentioned the installation of noise and dust monitors at the Oloffson residence which is currently underway.
- He also mentioned the Community meeting planned for 6pm at Glennies Creek Hall (detailed below) and stated that the meeting would be a forum for people to ask questions with Ben Clibborn, Linda Dunn, Tony Israel, Peter Roser, John Watson, Trevor Wells and Ashley McLeod attending. Those stakeholders interested but unable to attend have the option of a private visit by mine staff at a mutually agreeable time. Val Scott apologised as she will be unable to attend the meeting.
- Deirdre Oloffson left the meeting at 12:30pm

### **Social Involvement/Community Engagement**

- Mt Owen Complex Newsletters distributed in February and June, including feedback form in February.
- Community Meeting planned for Monday 20 June 2008
- Reps from Xstrata Mt Owen, Glendell and Thiess in attendance

- Part of the XMO Engagement Strategy for 2008
- Mt Owen Complex Coal MSDS – placed on website

### **2008 Plan Initiatives**

- Mt Pleasant Horse Sports Day –\$5K
- Mt Pleasant Annual School Contribution \$5K
- Contribution to Singleton Council B4U Drink – Think Program \$6.2K
- Safety Glasses Initiative with SHS - \$1K
- National Tree Day - \$500

### **Ravensworth Homestead**

- Restoration work has commenced since the last CCC meeting.
- Inspection of property to be undertaken by the Hunter Heritage Network meeting and the CCC in the latter half of 2008
- Potential options for use of the property are being considered by XMO.

## **8. Review of Environmental Performance**

Linda Dunn provided an overview of environmental performance since the last meeting:

- Monitoring results were shown graphically with results being interpreted by Linda Dunn

### **Air Quality – High Volume Air Sampling – Total Suspended Particulates**

- Linda commented that there were a couple of elevated results for the period from February to May 2008. Results on these days were similar across the different monitoring locations and generally correlated with the PM<sub>10</sub> data on the corresponding sampling day.
- 12 month rolling averages for all monitoring locations are well within compliance criteria.

### **Air Quality – High Volume Air Sampling - PM10**

- There were no site specific 24hr exceedances for PM<sub>10</sub> during the reporting period.
- There were some results greater than 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at individual monitoring locations.
- Val Scott asked whether the exceedances were reportable
- Linda Dunn explained that the Mt Owen contribution for the results was not greater than 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> after assessing the data at all monitoring locations on these occasions.
- 12 month rolling averages for all monitoring locations are well within compliance criteria.

### **Air Quality – Depositional Dust**

- Linda Dunn commented that the high result for Depositional Dust gauge 15 located to the SE of the mine was likely to be due to localised activity in the vicinity of the gauge as a deposition gauge located closer to the mine showed a lower result for the same period.
- 12 month rolling averages for all monitoring locations are well within compliance criteria.

### **Blasting Results - Mt Owen**

- Linda Dunn noted that there was an overpressure exceedence on 3 May 2008 of 123.6dB which was reported to DECC in writing as required under Mt Owen EPL 4460. A detailed investigation was conducted. The sequencing of a main production and a trim row shot was found to be the most likely cause. Blasting practices have been changed to ensure no repeat of the exceedence.
- John Watson commented that there had been three occasions prior to the exceedence where similar blasting circumstances did not result in elevated results and three subsequent shots being fired with the revised practices in place leading to no further exceedences.
- The DECC issued a warning penalty infringement which was received by Mt Owen 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

### **Blasting Results - Ravensworth East/Stage 3**

- Jenny Marshall questioned the higher results at the Ravensworth Homestead.
- Linda Dunn explained that the Homestead has a higher limit due to it is not being a privately owned residence.

### **Complaints History by Month and by Issue for 2008.**

- Linda Dunn noted that the level of complaints received was lower than for the same time last year.
- The breakdown of complaints received so far in 2008 is 52% dust, 44% noise and 4% blast vibration/overpressure related.

### **Rehabilitation**

- Linda showed some photos of rehab areas depicting eucalypt seedlings germinating from forest topsoil spread on the Mt Owen main dump.

### **Environmental Initiatives**

- A Greenhouse and Energy Efficiency awareness training session was conducted during the reporting period where employees received a show bag with energy efficiency ideas to use at home.
- A survey of the entire workforce was also conducted to identify energy savings initiatives from workforce.
- Some ideas that have already been implemented include:
  - Removing polystyrene cups from site
  - Purchasing recycled plastic pipes for a new haul road instead of galvanised steel
  - Modification of the water heating arrangements in the bathhouse

- There was a general discussion on whether the mine had looked into installing solar hot water and whether it could be added as an initiative. Trevor Wells agreed that the current system had been considered for a possible switch to solar however the economic and potential environmental benefits had to be carefully considered. The ongoing consideration of this idea includes the necessity of boosting with electricity as the use of hot water in mine bath houses is at high demand at shift change.

## **9. Update on the Glendell Project**

Ben Clibborn provided the CCC with an overview on the environmental performance of the Glendell Mine.

- Ben Clibborn noted that 2 real time noise monitors had been installed and the 2 real time dust monitors would be installed shortly in July.
- Monitoring results were shown graphically with results being interpreted by Ben Clibborn

### **Air Quality – Dust Deposition**

- Eastern Depositional Gauges – results were within compliance criteria
- Western Depositional Gauges – results were within compliance criteria

### **Air Quality Monitoring**

- 2 real time dust monitors being installed in July:- 1 in Camberwell and 1 for upstream dust on Glendell land

### **Blasting Results**

- Only 11 blasts to date and nil exceedances.
- Glendell must also monitor vibration at the nearest power pole and railway culvert on the main northern railway line as well as within the community.

### **Complaints**

- Only 1 noise complaint has been received by Glendell to date in the first 2½ months of operation.

### **Community**

- Face to face meetings have been held with 6 Camberwell residences that contacted the mine requesting more information about Glendell.

## **11. General Business**

- Mary Robinson called for General Business to be discussed, and there were no items of general business put forward.
- Mary thanked the mine staff and CCC members and indicated that she would be stepping down as chairperson of the CCC.
- Mary noted that the position would be filled via appointment after the council election.
- Trevor Wells thanked Mary for her contribution to the CCC and wished her all the best.

**12. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting has been scheduled for **Friday 21 November 2008** at Mt Owen Mine.

Meeting closed – 1:15 pm by Mary Robinson

Minutes prepared by – Brooke Lavis