

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

10am Friday 21 November 2008 at Mt Owen Mine

1. Glendell / Mt Owen Site Inspection

The meeting participants undertook a site inspection of the Ravenswoth Homestead and Glendell Mine prior to the formal meeting.

2. Opening of Meeting

Meeting opened by Val Scott at 11:30am.

Present:

Community: Allan Noble, Jenny Marshall, Deirdre Oloffson, Wendy Williams.

Singleton Council: Sarah Roberts, Val Scott.

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

3. Introductions

Val Scott Elected as Chair Person – Nominated by Sarah Roberts.

4. Apologies

Apologies for the meeting were received from Patricia Bestic, Alec Schmierer, Brian Thomas, Godfrey Adamthwaite.

5. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

Val Scott 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 20 June 2008 were accepted as a true record of that meeting. Moved Jenny Marshall, seconded by Val Scott.

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

Mt Owen Operational Performance Update

- Ashley McLeod reported the following;
 - The management of the Ravensworth East Pit has now been handed over to Glendell Mine from 1 October.
 - Planned 60 hectares of rehabilitation at Mt Owen in 2009.
 - The civil works on the upper Bettys Creek Diversion are almost complete with final rehabilitation works commencing in December 2009.
 - Stage 3/RW Pit – expected completion of mining in early 2009. The voids will then be utilised for long term water and tailings storage for the Complex.
 - An estimated 13 million ROM tons of coal will be fed through the CHPP next year from Mt Owen, Glendell and Ravensworth East.

Glendell Mine Operational Performance Update

- Tony Israel reported on the following;
 - The 2008 recruitment drive is scheduled to be completed by December 2008. This has been in line with mobile fleet deliveries to site such as excavators and trucks.
 - During the mine visit, the Arties Pit and the Bayswater pit area were viewed, it was explained that the Bayswater pit will be completed in early 2009.
 - Geotech drilling works to establish a 200 ML dam will commence next year, this dam will make Glendell self sufficient for water and is part of the project approval.
 - The Glendell infrastructure construction is almost complete with the next CCC meeting planned at the new facilities.
 - Glendell is currently trialling amber lighting plants to minimise impact on the community.
 - Tree screening along the highway – project is in place to carry out further tree planting. This project will not commence until after Christmas.

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

- Monitoring results up to the end of August 08 for Mt Owen and October 08 for Glendell are available on the website, next batch for Mt Owen will be available before the end of November.
- Detailed Winter Noise Report now available via the Mt Owen Website, Spring Report will be available in December 08
- Following the new Glendell approval all existing programs and strategies apart from the Mt Owen specific Flora Fauna Management Plan have been resubmitted to DoP with the inclusion of Glendell requirements, there were only minor changes required to the plans, they included:
 - Environmental Management Strategy
 - Noise
 - Air Quality

- Blasting
- Water
- Environmental Monitoring Program
- Feedback was received from DoP on draft EMP's resubmitted in April 2008
- Xstrata Mt Owen are preparing to resubmit plans in December 2008

Flora and Fauna

- Meeting of the annual Flora Fauna Advisory Committee meeting in July 08
- Reps from DPI-MR, and Hunter Environment Lobby attended the meeting
- Discussed outcomes of the Biodiversity Offset Strategy (BOS) and Flora Fauna Management (FFMP) Plan audit held in late 2007
- Recommendations from the meeting was that no changes be made to the current FFMP or BOS Strategy

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 in December 2008

Social Involvement/Community Engagement

- Mt Owen Complex Newsletters planned for distribution in December 2008.
- Stakeholder Consultation has continued throughout the second half of 2008
- Community meeting held at the Glennies Creek Hall on the 23rd June 2008. 12 residents attended.

2008 Plan Initiatives

- Community Projects supported throughout the year:
 - Contribution to Singleton Council B4U Drink – Think Program \$6.2K
 - National Tree Day - \$500
 - Singleton Council – Community Programs Creating the Future \$7K

Update on Community Projects – Yorks Creek/Glennies Creek Rehabilitation Projects

Yorks Creek Project:

- Partnership between local indigenous group and earthmoving contractor (Yarrawalk and Jupp Earthmoving)
- Last earthworks planned for 2008 to commence late November
- Revegetation works completed in October 2008 - 2 aboriginal employees retained by contractor
- Remaining revegetation works to be completed in early 2009

Glennies Creek Project:

- Conservation Volunteers Australia 6 week stint completed early November.
- Again focussed on weed control and revegetation works on Glennies Creek from the bridge and up to the north.
- Project to be completed in first half of 2009.

8. Review of Environmental Performance

Peter York provided an overview of environmental performance since the last meeting:

- A map of monitor locations was handed out
- Monitoring results were shown graphically with results being interpreted by Peter York

Air Quality – High Volume Air Sampling – Total Suspended Particulates

- Peter commented that there was one elevated result for the period from June to October 2008. These results are from non selective routine monitoring.
- 12 month rolling averages for all monitoring locations are well within compliance criteria.

Air Quality – High Volume Air Sampling - PM10

- June dust levels were low with no exceedances recorded.
- July had one elevated dust reading during the month. There were contributing factors such as a regional dust event at the time and the Mt Owen mine operations were shut down for a period of time.
- There were also one minor exceedance in August with no exceedances recorded in September or October.
- A discussion was held regarding dust management at Mt Owen Complex (MOC) and what actions are taken to minimise dust emissions. MOC personnel explained that a number of strategies were utilised to manage dust, including use of water carts, modifying/reducing operations and working deeper in the mine if available, utilising the real time dust monitoring information and suspending operations if necessary. To improve the understanding of the process, further information regarding the actions taken will be provided at the next CCC meeting.
- 12 month rolling averages for all monitoring locations are well within compliance criteria.

Air Quality – Depositional Dust

- Peter York noted that Gauges D6, D9, D11, D12, D16 and D15 are within residential areas and the 12 month rolling averages for all monitoring locations are well within compliance criteria.

Blasting Results - Mt Owen

- Peter York noted that there was an overpressure exceedance in September 2008 of 118.2dB(L) and in October of 115.2dB(L) which were recorded at the blast monitor on the Cramp property. There was also an exceedance in July 2008 of 115.3 dB(L) which was recorded at the blast monitor on Noble property.

Blasting Results - Ravensworth East/Stage 3

- Peter York advised that all results are well within the limits.

Complaints History by Month and by Issue for 2008.

- Peter York commented on the decline in complaints over the past 12 months. Val Scott asked if this could have been due to residents moving out. John Watson confirmed that for the reporting period data presented there were no significant changes to the residential population surrounding the mine. Alan Noble asked what the purpose of him complaining was. John Watson stated that it triggered an SMS alert to Managers / OCE's and Environmental Personnel and that an immediate assessment of the operations could be undertaken to assist in resolving any potential issue for the resident and the mine. The details of the investigation and any outcomes are then recorded to show what process has been undertaken.

Rehabilitation

- Peter York commented on;
 - Sustainability criteria have been developed for the rehabilitation areas of the Mt Owen main dump
 - 11ha of woodland pasture mix planted on the RL160 dump at Ravensworth East.
 - Bulk shaping contractor commenced work in August. 20 has of Mt Owen Main Dump will be shaped and rehabilitated by the end of December 2008
 - Shaping of Western Out of Pit dump will commence in December.

Environmental Initiatives

- E-Waste recycling Week – 200kg of electrical equipment diverted from landfill to recycling
- Thiess have implemented a Glove recycling trial
- Site tours conducted for University of Queensland and Sydney University Environmental Students
- National Pollution Inventory submitted to the Department of Environment and Climate Change

9. Update on the Glendell Project

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

- Monitor Locations where shown to CCC
- Monitoring results were shown graphically with results being interpreted by Ben Clibborn

Air Quality – Dust Deposition

- Depositional Gauges – results were within compliance criteria

Air Quality Monitoring

- Real Time Dust monitors have now been installed and are operational.
- Monitoring data was well within compliance criteria

Blasting Results

- There was no exceedances for the reporting period.

Complaints

- 12 Complaints have been received year to date. Primarily noise complaints
- Ben Clibborn advised CCC of Complaints Procedure

Community

- Finalised monitoring network for Glendell.
- Cultural heritage consultation undertaken for the Glendell Cultural Heritage Management Plan
- Planning to start rehabilitation works in early 2009
- Tree Screening project along the highway to be extended in area and will commence in early 2009

11. General Business

- Wendy Williams enquired about weed and wild dog control. John Watson informed the meeting there is a dog baiting and weed removal program in place. The next dog baiting program is scheduled for December..
- Wendy Williams noted that fire is an issue and what is in place. John Watson advised that Colinta Holdings are required to maintain areas that they lease in relation to bush fire management. Works are also scheduled in the BOS area during December to minimise risk.
- Deirdre Oloffson enquired about the Health Study that is mentioned in the Glendell Consent and does this include a health study on local neighbours. John Watson advised that there is no requirement in the Glendell consent of that nature. Advised that there is a Dust Health Fact Sheet on the NSW Minerals Council Website for the public to access.
- Linda Dunn mentioned at the start of the meeting that this would be her last CCC Meeting.
- John Watson advised this will be his last CCC Meeting as he will be taking up a position with XCN.
- Val Scott wished John Watson and Linda Dunn all the best
- Tony Israel thanked John for his contribution to the CCC.

12. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting has been scheduled for **Friday 20 March 2009** at Glendell Mine.

Meeting closed – 1:45 pm by Val Scott

Minutes prepared by – Karlee Watling