



**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD AT LIDDELL COAL**  
**Tuesday, 12 May 2009**

PRESENT: Colby Crane (Singleton Shire Councillor - Chairperson)  
Jennifer Lecky (Muswellbrook Shire Councillor)  
Craig Flemming (Muswellbrook Shire Council)  
Brian Thomas (Singleton Shire Council)  
Julie Clydesdale (Community Representative)  
Stephen Oliver (Community Representative)  
Michael Spiteri (Community Representative)  
Tony Galvin (Liddell Coal Operations)  
Mark Howes (Liddell Coal Operations)  
Jane Hetherington (Liddell Coal Operations)

**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The meeting opened at 9:24am.

**2 PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARATION**

2.1 Nil

**3 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

3.1 The Minutes of the Community Consultative Committee Meeting held on 28 October 2008 were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved by Colby Crane, seconded by Julie Cylesdale.

**4 BUSINESS ARISING**

***Action Items from Previous Minutes:***

4.1 A targeted weed spraying program was conducted over the Hillcrest property in February and March 2009 over a number of days. Weeds are an ongoing issue on the Hillcrest property and weed spraying is planned prior to winter 2009 for areas onsite that are difficult to access especially in wet weather.

4.2 Connecting power from the main power line nearby to the Rural Fire Brigade shed on the Upper Hebden Road was estimated to cost between \$30,000 - \$40,000. The option of solar power to provide limited light in critical areas was discussed. The Committee

agreed that the provision of mains power was expensive but resolved that Mark Howes and Steve Oliver will investigate other options for power supply.

- 4.3 Liddell Coal Update newsletter was distributed to the local community in February 2009. No feedback from the community on the newsletter was received. The next issue is due in Quarter 3 of 2009.
- 4.4 Steve Oliver is now a member of the CCC, having been appointed by Muswellbrook Shire Council. Colby Crane welcomed both Steve Oliver and Michael Spiteri, recently appointed to Liddell Coal's CCC as community representatives. Julie Clydsdale has retained her position as a community member.
- 4.5 The Hebden Wild Dog Association advised Liddell Coal that it would conduct aerial baiting program over the Hillcrest property/Mountain Block area on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2009. Ground trapping and baiting is being investigated and is planned to be conducted in the area in the coming months.
- 4.6 John Watson (formerly Mt Owen Operations) advised he had discussions with Ross Clydsdale of the Hebden Community Hall Committee regarding future plans for the Hall and requested a proposal letter, including relocation or reconstruction costs etc. No reply has been received to date. Julie Clydsdale indicated that she would raise to issue with Ross Clydsdale.

## 5 CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 Muswellbrook Shire Council sent a letter to Liddell Coal advising that no nominations were received for community representatives for the CCC and for Liddell to nominate any potential community representatives as soon as possible. (Another letter was also received from Muswellbrook Shire Council advising the Committee of the appointment of community representatives). Copies are attached to these minutes.

## 6 COMPANY REPORTS

- 6.1 A review of Liddell Coal's Operations was presented by Mark Howes. The following items were discussed:
  - Safety Performance;
  - Production Performance;
  - Mining operations;
  - Environmental Performance, including;
    - Community complaints;
    - Air Quality;
    - Environmental Incidents;
    - Blasting;
    - Noise;
    - Water;
    - Weed Management;
    - Rehabilitation.
  - Community Involvement
- 6.2 Julie Clydsdale indicated that night time noise is an issue and has disturbed her sleep. She stated that she does not want to move and wants to stay in the house. The noise has lessened recently, and Tony Galvin said that the operation has been modified in

the Entrance Pit where the operation has been dumping at lower levels, reducing the noise impacts offsite. The Entrance Pit is planned to be finished in the next two months which will reduce noise emitted from the overall site operations. There are also plans to construct a bund adjacent to the railway dump area which will help to reduce noise impacts. Jennifer Lecky stated that Mt Arthur Coal are installing rubber on dozer tracks to assist in reducing noise. Julie Clydsdale asked whether there was night time work on the nearby railway upgrade, and it was confirmed that this was correct. Mark Howes provided an explanation of the results from the Sentinex continuous noise monitoring unit that is set up adjacent to Julie Clydsdale's residence.

- 6.3 The mining contractor (Hunter Valley Earthmoving) who operates the mobile plant, will be replacing all reversing beepers when they have scheduled maintenance with new broad band beepers that produce less intrusive noise.
- 6.4 A question was asked if it was feasible to analyse samples of dust from dust deposition gauges to determine the composition. Mark Howes stated that it has been undertaken at one other site and this was to determine the amount of coal in dust deposition gauges from microscopic examination, however the results were very crude.
- 6.5 Julie Cylesdale questioned if the donation made by Liddell Coal to the Hebden Wild Dog Association was above the contribution required to be made by all local landholders. Mark Howes commented that this would be investigated further.
- 6.6 Brian Thomas commented that it was hard to read some of the graphs in the presentation. Liddell Coal would send out a copy of the presentation with the minutes to the CCC members.
- 6.7 Craig Flemming commented that the dust deposition figures in the presentation were meaningless and that it would be more beneficial to see the dust trends by including long term dust graphs. Liddell Coal will include long term dust deposition graphs in the next meeting presentation.

## 7 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 7.1 Colby Crane advised the CCC that she has put in her resignation at Singleton Shire Council to relocate to WA for a job opportunity. She advised that it would be her final CCC meeting and that she will be replaced on the CCC but is currently unaware of her replacement.
- 7.2 Craig Flemming commented that the CCC meetings are held infrequently and suggested that they could be held more frequently if agreed by the Committee. Liddell Coal's development consent requires meetings to be held at least twice per year. It was resolved by the Committee that the frequency of meetings be left unchanged at six-monthly intervals.
- 7.3 Brian Thomas commented after the last meeting there was a delay in receiving the minutes and requested that the new minutes be distributed to the CCC members within two weeks, then allowing the CCC members one week to review and provide comments. Liddell Coal will send out minutes to CCC members within four weeks of the meeting date.

## 8 BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

***Actions to be addressed before the next meeting:***

- 8.1 Mark Howes and Steve Oliver to investigate alternatives of power supply for the Rural Fire Brigade shed on the Upper Hebden Road.
- 8.2 Julie Clydsdale will discuss the feasibility of relocation/reconstruction of the Hebden Community Hall with Ross Clydsdale.
- 8.3 Liddell Coal will inform Director General of appointment of new CCC members.
- 8.4 Liddell Coal will include long term dust deposition graphs in future CCC presentations.
- 8.5 Liddell Coal will send out presentation with minutes to the CCC members.
- 8.6 Liddell Coal will have the community newsletter distributed in Quarter 3 2009.
- 8.7 Liddell Coal to investigate whether the donation made to the Hebden Wild Dog Association is above that amount contributed by the local landholders.

**9 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting is set down for Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at the Liddell Coal Operations office.

The meeting concluded at 11:22am. A site tour was conducted at the completion of the meeting.