

Maxwell Infrastructure Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Time and date: 11.00am on Wednesday 11 December 2019

Location: Maxwell Infrastructure Meeting Room

Attendees: Jennifer Lecky – Chairperson
Gerrit de Boer – Community Representative
Mark Bowditch – Community Representative
Peter Horder – Community Representative
Ron Baxter – Community Representative
Carolyn O'Brien – Muswellbrook Shire Council
Donna McLaughlin – Malabar Coal
Rob Hayes – Malabar Coal
Rebecca Harcus – Malabar Coal

Apologies: Robert Halloran – Community Representative

Planned Meeting Agenda:

| No | Topic | Who |
|----|--|------------------|
| 1 | Housekeeping and safety | Donna McLaughlin |
| 2 | Welcome – attendees and apologies | Chairperson |
| 3 | Declaration of pecuniary interests | Chairperson |
| 4 | Confirm minutes from previous meeting | Chairperson |
| 5 | Actions from previous meeting | Chairperson |
| 6 | Update on the Maxwell UG Project | Rob Hayes |
| 7 | Update on the Maxwell Solar Project | Rob Hayes |
| 8 | Environmental performance and management plans | Donna McLaughlin |
| 9 | Reports, submissions and correspondence | Chairperson |
| 10 | General business | Chairperson |
| 11 | Next meeting | Chairperson |
| 12 | Meeting close | Chairperson |

1. Housekeeping and safety

Donna McLaughlin provided information on housekeeping and safety.

2. Welcome - attendees and apologies

Meeting opened at 10.53 am.

Apologies received from Robert Halloran.

3. Declaration of pecuniary interests

Mark Bowditch declared that he had made a submission on the Maxwell Underground Project.

Carolyn O'Brien and Mark Bowditch declared that Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC) had made a submission on the Maxwell Underground Project.

4. Confirm minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted by Ron Baxter and seconded by Peter Horder.

5. Actions from previous meeting

None.

6. Maxwell Underground Project update

Donna McLaughlin presented on the progress of the Maxwell Underground Project, noting that public exhibition concluded on the 24th of September. Seventy-five percent of submissions received by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) were in support of the Project. This support recognised the many and real benefits the Maxwell Underground Project offers, and the long-term engagement Malabar have had with their communities. Malabar's 'Response to Submissions' report was lodged on 20 November 2019 and is available on DPIE's website.

Drilling works on Malabar land, within EL5460, are planned for early 2020.

7. Update on the Maxwell Solar Project

Rob Hayes advised that the Solar Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was expected to be on public display by the end of the week. Electronic copies would be available from the DPIE website. Hard copies would be available at MSC. An electronic copy on a flash drive could also be provided by Malabar on request.

Mark Bowditch asked when the Maxwell Solar Project was expected to be constructed. Rob Hayes noted that, if the Malabar Solar Project was approved, at least 12 months would be required after approval to establish a connection agreement, after which, construction could commence.

9. Environmental Performance and Management plans

Rebecca Harcus noted that an updated Spontaneous Combustion Management Plan had been submitted to DPIE for approval. A proposed update to the Water Management Plan was also undergoing consultation with DPIE Water.

Donna McLaughlin provided a rehabilitation update, noting that 90 hectares of rehabilitation had been completed in 2019 against a target of 86 hectares. Donna McLaughlin also noted that a spring weed spraying program, spring tree planting program, and on-site dog trapping program had been completed. Cattle had also been introduced to the east tip.

There were twenty-two 24-hour average PM₁₀ results that exceeded impact assessment criteria during the September to November 2019 period. These were attributed to extraordinary regional dust and smoke events. CCC members were provided with a summary of all investigations.

10. Community

No complaints were received during the September to November 2019 period.

Donna McLaughlin discussed community sponsorships and events including: Wakagetti Indigenous Corporation's Kawul Calling Program; Louis Bottomley's NIAS Under 13s New Zealand rugby tour; Muswellbrook Drought Buster Rodeo; Denman Pig Races; Scone Bloom Markets; St Joseph's Intensive Swimming Program; Muswellbrook South Public School Fete; Muswellbrook Public School Annual Presentation; Muswellbrook High School Annual Presentation; Denman Public School Annual

Presentation; Denman Junior Cricket; Aberdeen Fire and Rescue Lolly Run; and the Mt Arthur Wild Dog Association.

11. General Business

Peter Horder asked if anything was known in relation to tree planting on the New England Highway. Nothing was known.

Carolyn O'Brien asked about fire fighting resources at the Maxwell site. Rob Hayes and Donna McLaughlin advised that the site has a Bushfire Management Plan in place. A trailer equipped for fire response is on site, however, the site is largely reliant on local fire services, which have completed a site familiarisation and been provided with a map of existing tracks and gates.

Mark Bowditch asked how known Aboriginal heritage sites would be protected from being driven on by fire services. Rob Hayes noted that significant sites were fenced.

12. Next Meeting

A change to the meeting schedule to allow the Maxwell Infrastructure CCC meeting to align with a potential change to the Joint Rail CCC meeting schedule was discussed. It was agreed to leave the Maxwell Infrastructure CCC meeting at the current schedule since no decision had been made to change the Joint Rail CCC schedule.

It was agreed that the next CCC meeting would be held on Wednesday 11 March 2020 at 10 am.

13. Meeting Close

Donna McLaughlin thanked members for their participation and the meeting was closed at 11:36 am.