



MAXWELL INFRASTRUCTURE

Maxwell Infrastructure Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Time and date: 10:00 AM on Wednesday 2 December 2020

Location: Maxwell Infrastructure Board Room

Attendees: Jennifer Lecky – Chairperson
Peter Horder – Community Representative
Sharon Pope – Muswellbrook Shire Council
Rob Hayes – Malabar Resources
Alex Newton – Malabar Resources

Apologies: Stephen Ward – Muswellbrook Shire Council
Robert Halloran – Community Representative
Mark Bowditch – Community Representative
Ron Baxter – Community Representative
Donna McLaughlin – Malabar Resources
Teresa Coleman – Malabar Resources

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	Visit to the Maxwell Underground Project Mine Entry Area	All
7	Lunch	All
8	Update on the Maxwell UG Project	Donna McLaughlin
10	Environmental performance and management plans	Alex Newton
11	Community – Complaints and Recent Sponsorships	Alex Newton
11	Reports, submissions and correspondence	Chairperson
12	General business	Chairperson

11	Next meeting	Chairperson
12	Meeting close	Chairperson

1. Housekeeping and safety

Rob Hayes provided information on housekeeping and safety.

2. Welcome - attendees and apologies

Meeting opened at 10:00 AM.

Apologies received.

3. Declaration of pecuniary interests

None.

4. Confirm minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.

5. Actions from previous meeting

Action 1: *Peter Horder noted that there were still people within the community that believed the Maxwell Solar Project was actually a wind farm and made reference to a neighbour that had approached him asking about the wind farm at the Maxwell Infrastructure site. Robert Hayes committed to having someone from Malabar contact the neighbour to discuss.*

Rob Hayes confirmed that Malabar had spoken to a neighbour of the concerned resident to confirm that there was no wind farm proposed for the Maxwell site.

Action 2: *Jennifer Lecky questioned if it was possible to visit the location of the Maxwell Underground Project. Donna McLaughlin noted that this would be possible and committed to organising a site visit as part of the next CCC meeting*

A site visit was included within the agenda for the current meeting.

6. Visit to the Maxwell Underground Project Mine Entry Area

Members were provided with a tour of the site by Alex Newton, including a visit to a recent tree planting area on the Maxwell Infrastructure site and the Maxwell Underground Project mine entry area.

7. Lunch

8. Update on the Maxwell Underground Project

Rob Hayes summarised the status of the Maxwell Underground Project, noting that the project was currently being assessed by the Independent Planning Commission. Malabar is hopeful for a determination before Christmas. Following that, a period is required to allow for management plans to be prepared before construction can commence. Alex Newton provided statistics following closure of the public submissions phase, with the majority of submissions being in favour of the project.

In response to queries raised during the site visit, Rob Hayes provided some further detail on the layout of the mine entry area footprint, plus an overview of the mining techniques to be employed, with reference to figures included in the Environmental Impact Statement.

9. Environmental Performance and Management plans



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Rob Hayes provided detail on the Official Caution from the Resources Regulator on 8 October 2020 for late submission of the Rehabilitation Cost Estimate and for rehabilitation of areas not being consistent with the Mine Operations Plan. Noting that the Resources Regulator has extended the deadline for submission of the Rehabilitation Cost Estimate until 8 January 2021.

Rob Hayes noted that the EPA has advised that disposal of Mixed Waste Organic Outputs (MWOO), otherwise known as OGM (Organic Growth Medium) currently stockpiled on site, can now be disposed of onsite. This is following the gazetting of 30 October 2020 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Amendment Regulation 2020*.

Alex Newton provided an overview of the rehabilitation activities conducted over the past 3 months, this included the planting of 36,000 trees. Weed control, management of feral species including dog trapping on buffer land and kangaroo culling has been undertaken. Annual ecological monitoring has also been undertaken to assess progress against rehabilitation objectives.

Peter Horder queried if the dog trapping etc is a co-ordinated effort with other organisations, such as other mines. Malabar committed to confirm (**ACTION 1**). Response: It is confirmed that this is the case.

Alex Newton provided a summary of the PM₁₀ concentrations as monitored at the TEOM on Thomas Mitchell Drive, and noted that all concentrations were significantly lower than the assessment criteria.

Alex Newton advised that no complaints had been received in the past three months.

Alex Newton provided an overview of recent community-related activities, including:

- Sponsorship of the PCYC Humble Homes program.
- Sponsorship of Muswellbrook High School NAIDOC Week activities.
- Sponsorship of the Muswellbrook Primary School Colour Run.
- Sponsorship of the Denman Junior Rugby League Football Club.

Jennifer Lecky advised that the provision of the yarnning circle at St James' Primary School has been very well received.

10. General Business

Sharon Pope advised that RMS were consulting on the Muswellbrook bypass and that comments on the preferred option are required by 18 December 2020. It was requested that a link to the website be provided in the minutes (**ACTION 2**). Link provided below.

<https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/new-england-highway/muswellbrook-bypass.html>

11. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next CCC meeting would be held on Wednesday 10 March 2021 at 10:00 AM.

12. Meeting Close

Jennifer Lecky thanked members for their participation and the meeting was closed at 1:00 PM.