



MAXWELL INFRASTRUCTURE

Maxwell Infrastructure Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Time and date: 10:04 AM on Wednesday 10 March 2021

Location: Maxwell Infrastructure Board Room

Attendees: Jennifer Lecky – Chairperson
Peter Horder – Community Representative
Ron Baxter – Community Representative
Robert Halloran – Community Representative
Stephen Ward – Muswellbrook Shire Council
James Johnson – Malabar Resources
Donna McLaughlin – Malabar Resources
Teresa Coleman – Malabar Resources

Apologies: Sharon Pope – Muswellbrook Shire Council
Mark Bowditch – Community Representative
Robert Hayes – 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	Update on the Maxwell UG Project	James Johnson
7	Environmental performance and management plans	Donna McLaughlin
8	Community – Complaints and Recent Sponsorships	Teresa Coleman
10	Reports, submissions and correspondence	Chairperson
11	General business	Chairperson
11	Next meeting	Chairperson
12	Meeting close	Chairperson



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1. Housekeeping and safety

Donna McLaughlin provided information on housekeeping and safety.

2. Welcome - attendees and apologies

Meeting opened at 10:04 AM.

Apologies received.

3. Declaration of pecuniary interests

None.

4. Confirm minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted by Robert Halloran and seconded by Cr Stephen Ward.

5. Actions from previous meeting

Action 1 *Peter Horder queried if the dog trapping etc is a co-ordinated effort with other organisations, such as other mines. Maxwell committed to confirm.*

Response: It was confirmed in the previous meeting minutes that Maxwell coordinates the management of wild dogs with neighbouring mines and power stations. Donna McLaughlin confirmed that Maxwell had recently attended meetings organised by Local Land Services and the Mt Arthur Wild Dog Association to discuss wild dog management. Donna McLaughlin also noted that dog trapping was occurring on Maxwell buffer land.

Action 2: *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.*

Response: A link was provided in the previous meeting minutes.

6. Update on the Maxwell Underground Project

James Johnson discussed the status of the Maxwell Underground (UG) Project noting that the Independent Planning Commission approved the development consent in December 2020. A copy of the development consent was provided to all CCC members present.

James Johnson noted that Maxwell are currently working on the next stage of approvals for the Maxwell UG Project which included the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation approval (federal approval) and two mining lease applications. Maxwell is anticipating a determination on these approvals in March 2021. A Mining Operations Plans and construction environmental management plans are also being drafted to meet the development consent conditions.

James Johnson noted that the tenders for the construction phase had been issued and were currently being evaluated. It is anticipated that construction will commence around mid-2021. The first body of work involves the construction of a 10km access road to the mine entry area. Mining is expected to commence around the end of 2023 and early 2024.

Jennifer Lecky asked how the solar farm was going. James Johnson explained that options are being looked at with major suppliers.

Donna McLaughlin provided an overview on the status of the environmental management plans.



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Jennifer Lecky asked if entry off Edderton Road was for emergency and rural access only. Donna McLaughlin confirmed that this was correct and that all mining related traffic would enter the site via Thomas Mitchell Drive only.

Donna McLaughlin provided an overview of Malabar's current Community Consultative Committees (CCC's) noting that the Maxwell UG Project development consent also requires a CCC. Donna McLaughlin noted that Maxwell were seeking to combine CCC's to:

- Streamline information provided to the community.
- Provide consistent information across all projects.
- Provide CCC members with an update across all projects and the long-term strategy.

It was noted that the Maxwell UG Project development consent provided an option for combining CCC's upon approval from the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE).

Donna McLaughlin asked if the CCC would be open to the idea of combining the Spur Hill and Maxwell CCC's. All members present were generally in agreement. It was noted that this was discussed at the last Spur Hill CCC meeting in February 2021. Donna McLaughlin asked if it would be ok to trial a combined meeting in June 2021 with both CCC's. All members present were generally in agreement. It was agreed that the next meeting would be a combined meeting with the Spur Hill CCC (**ACTION 1**).

It was noted that the development consent requires the CCC to be undertaken in accordance with DPIE's CCC guidelines. These guidelines require the appointment of an independent chairperson. The Independent Chairperson would coordinate the application process for committee members including the requirement to invite Coolmore and Woodlands studs to the committee.

Ron Baxter asked about the timing of a combined CCC. Donna McLaughlin indicated that we would look to combine the CCC's after the June CCC meeting. It was also noted that the meetings would likely continue on a quarterly basis however the venue may rotate between the Maxwell Infrastructure site and Merton Vineyard.

7. Environmental Performance and Management plans

Donna McLaughlin provided detail on the rehabilitation cost estimate (RCE) submitted to the Resource Regulator in January 2021, which was an update from the previous version submitted in 2015. The RCE included works completed by Maxwell during 2018 and 2019. The RCE is still under review by the Resource Regulator.

Donna McLaughlin outlined the recent Targeted Assessment Program (TAP) on rehabilitation landforms conducted by the Resource Regulator on 2 March 2021. The assessment reviewed the landform design, execution of the plan, verification and monitoring practices. The TAP found that the existing contour banks and drop structures were stable. It was suggested by the Resources Regulator that Maxwell consider landform evolution modelling to show long term stability.

Jennifer Lecky asked about the sublease area with Mt Arthur Coal as this area was prone to spontaneous combustion. Donna McLaughlin responded that rehabilitation of the sublease area was the responsibility of Mt Arthur Coal.

Donna McLaughlin mentioned that the 2020 Annual Environmental Management Report was being prepared. Once finalised, a copy would be sent to all CCC members and made publicly available on the Maxwell website.



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Teresa Coleman discussed the rehabilitation activities conducted on site over the last 3 months which included 12 hectares of land being prepared for tree planting within the woodland corridor. Planting is scheduled to occur in late March. Teresa Coleman noted that weed spraying had continued across the site and 20 nest boxes had been installed on woodland rehabilitation to promote fauna habitats.

Teresa Coleman mentioned that the cattle grazing trial has continued with 17 steers arriving on site in December 2020.

Peter Horder asked if Maxwell were approached to protect Koala's. Donna McLaughlin replied that Maxwell had not been approached directly however Maxwell has a requirement to establish biodiversity offset areas under the Maxwell UG Project development consent.

Donna McLaughlin 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.

8. Community – Complaints and Recent Sponsorships

Teresa Coleman reported that no complaints had been received in the past three months.

Teresa Coleman provided an overview of recent community-related activities, including:

- Sponsorship of PCYC Christmas trees and decorations to families within Singleton and Muswellbrook.
- Donation to the PCYC Christmas Food and Toy appeal
- Sponsorship of the Aberdeen Fire & Rescue Santa Lolly run
- Sponsorship of Roohaven Wildlife Sanctuary
- Sponsorship of the Upper Hunter Education Fund
- Sponsorship of Denman Pony Club Show Jumping Championship

Teresa Coleman discussed upcoming community events, including:

- Warrior Disability Services site visit and tree planting experience
- Blue ribbon sponsor at the Upper Hunter Show for the interbreed cattle event and supreme grand champion bull and heifer
- 10 family day passes to the Upper Hunter Show donated to Muswellbrook South Public School
- Jerry's Plain Cup race day to be held at the end of April

10. General Business

No General Business

11. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next CCC meeting would be a trial combined CCC with the Spur Hill CCC, to be held on Wednesday 9th June 2021 at 10:00 AM.

12. Meeting Close

Jennifer Lecky thanked members for their participation and the meeting was closed at 10:41AM.