

4. Report on Drayton's Environmental Performance

James Benson presented a report on Drayton's environmental performance for the period since the last Community Consultative Committee meeting.

A map of Drayton's monitoring locations was displayed.

4.1 Enquiries and Complaints

One complaint was recorded since the last CCC meeting. Complaint received from a Scone resident regarding the odour of Sulphur Dioxide at her house 30km from Drayton. The complainant was provided with the status of spontaneous combustion at Drayton and told that coal mining had ceased and there were no current outbreaks of spontaneous combustion at Drayton.

4.2 Rainfall History

Rainfall from in September was well above average, October was average and November slightly above average.

4.3 Blasting

There was only two blast in the reporting period with neither blasts exceeding the airblast overpressure of 115dB(L) or 5mm/sec.

The last production blast occurred on the 19th of September.

JL asked about what happens with the Drayton Mine Closure and why is blasting required. Are there any alternate landforms or landuses proposed at Drayton.

JB mentioned that blasting will be required during the rehabilitation of sustainable highwalls and that the current final landuse remains as livestock grazing and woodland areas. There is potential for alternate landuses such as renewable energy or industrial uses although planning approvals would be required before this could be progressed.

PH asked if Nathan Tinkler was going to start up Drayton South as he spoke in favour on the Drayton South project at the recent Planning Assessment Commission public meeting.

DP responded noting that Nathan Tinkler spoke as an individual at the public meeting and has not purchased the Drayton South Mining Lease.

DP provided an outline as to where the Drayton South approval process was up to including the recent Planning Assessment Commission public meeting and the expected determination from the PAC early in 2017. Regardless of this decision, Drayton are continuing to meet rehabilitation commitments and will continue to do so along with environmental monitoring.

GD suggested that even if the Drayton South Project was to be approved, Anglo American would not mine the area as they have publicly said Drayton South is for sale and they are actively selling all coal assets.

4.4 Air Quality

The HVAS (high volume air sampler) and TEOM (tapered element oscillating microbalance) results were discussed. For the reporting period, Drayton recorded levels below the annual mean limit for *Total Suspended Particles* (HVAS) and below daily limits for PM₁₀ at the sites TEOM. The historic mean for TSP at Lot 22 was shown with 2016 being average of the past 16 years and the same as 2015.

4.5 Attended Noise Monitoring

Independent Attended Noise Monitoring results for evening and night periods were displayed for the past three months. Drayton's acoustic consultant completes evening and night monitoring on a monthly basis. Daytime monitoring is completed quarterly. All monitoring results showed compliance with both evening and night-time noise criteria at each location.

4.6 Water Storage

Water storage levels and capacity for the period were viewed, and Drayton is currently storing approximately 7,980 ML and has a storage capacity of approximately 16,650 ML. This includes the South Pit East Void. As mining has finished in that void, it is now used for additional water storage. Current storages are more than adequate to contain water flows into the system without discharge. Drayton's water management system is a closed system. Drayton does not discharge water and the only water brought to site is potable water.

4.7 Waste Management

Waste recycling and disposal figures for the past three months were viewed.

JB noted that the waste quantities were similar to the previous period with the exception of scrap steel that had increased due to site clean up work and oil filters had been reduced due to minimal maintenance activities.

5. Reports and Submissions

JB sent correspondence to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment seeking approval for Jennifer Lecky to be the independent chair of the Drayton CCC. Correspondence from the Department was received during the period approving Jennifer Lecky as the independent Chair. This correspondence included mention of following the recent '*Community Consultative Committee Guidelines*'.

Jennifer Lecky noted that she attended the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue meeting where a presentation was provided on the new '*Community Consultative Committee Guidelines*'. Jennifer said she was planning to apply to be on the list of Independent Chairs that can chair CCC's.

GD asked if he should seek interest from other community members in the Pamger Drive area to be community members on the Drayton CCC. It was agreed that new members were welcome.

JB noted that the new guidelines request that community members of the CCC should be representatives from community groups.

James Benson also sent correspondence to the Muswellbrook Shire Council seeking a representative from council to attend the Drayton CCC. The two existing council representatives did not run for council in the recent Local Government Elections therefore a new representative/s were sought. Council provided feedback indicating that this decision will be made at a councillor meeting in November and feedback will be provided after this meeting.

Darren Pisters provided an update as to the status of the Drayton Mine operations and the Drayton South Project.

Currently Drayton is in Closure mode where there is only 10 employees and several contractors onsite who are maintaining infrastructure and conducting rehabilitation activities. A rehabilitation tender is currently being evaluated for works to conduct the remaining earthmoving rehabilitation over the next 3 years. The site is only operational between 7am and 5pm, 5 days a week with security presence onsite at all other times. This is planned to change once major rehabilitation works recommence in early 2017.

6. Drayton South Update

The Drayton South Project is currently awaiting the outcome from the NSW Planning Assessment Commission (PAC). Public meetings were held in November with written submissions currently being reviewed by the PAC. A determination recommendation is expected in early 2017.

7. General Business

Matt Lord was introduced to the Committee. Matt will be the new Environmental Superintendent taking over from James Benson who will be leaving Drayton at the end of January. Matt has previous experience working on Mine Closure and his focus will be the Closure of the Drayton mine site.

8. Next Meeting

CCC meeting dates for 2017 to be confirmed. Drayton will confirm and send invitations to all members.

9. Actions from Meeting

Drayton to confirm and send invitations to next CCC.

10. Meeting Close

Jennifer Lecky thanked members for their participation and the meeting was closed at 16:20 hrs.