

**SPUR HILL UNDERGROUND COKING COAL PROJECT  
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE  
MERTON VINEYARD DENMAN  
ON WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER 2018 AT 5.30PM**

| <b>PRESENT</b>       | <b>NAME</b>                   | <b>ORGANISATION</b>                                           |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|                      | Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH) | Independent Chairperson                                       |
|                      | Susan Pickersgill (SP)        | Community Representative                                      |
|                      | Brett Keeping (BK)            | Group Representative - Vignerons & Vineyards                  |
|                      | Les Jones (LJ)                | Community Representative                                      |
|                      | Wayne Seabrook (WS)           | Spur Hill Management Pty Ltd (SHM)                            |
|                      | Fiona Webber (FW)             | Community Representative                                      |
|                      | Emma Prince (EP)              | Division of Resources & Geoscience                            |
|                      | Donna McLaughlin (DM)         | Manager Environment & Community – Malabar Coal                |
| <b>IN ATTENDANCE</b> | Lisa Andrews                  | Minute Taker                                                  |
| <b>APOLOGIES</b>     | Cr Stephen Ward               | Muswellbrook Shire Council                                    |
|                      | John Sowter                   | Community Representative                                      |
|                      | Noel Downs                    | Group Representative - Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council |
|                      | Tim Wolfgang                  | Community Representative                                      |
|                      | Aaron Moon                    | Community Representative                                      |

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| <b>WELCOME</b>                                               | The meeting was opened at 5.35pm with the Chair welcoming all attendees.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b>                               | MMH advised that there has been no change to her previous declarations. (Appointed by the Minister for Resources and Energy as the Independent Chair of the Spur Hill Community Consultative Committee & holds a position on the Mine Subsidence Board.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>No amendments to previously stated declarations from CCC members present.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>                      | The minutes of the previous meeting of 4 July were confirmed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Moved: LJ<br/>Seconded: SP</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>BUSINESS ARISING (ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING)</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place regular advertisements on CCC meetings in the Denman News.</li> <li>Seek advice from government departments on current and future CCC meeting for the Spur Hill and Maxwell Projects. (MMH explained that there would be no combination of the SH CCC with the existing Maxwell Infrastructure CCC, as the committees were formed under separate Departments; however, should the Maxwell underground project proceed, they may look at combining at a later date.)</li> </ol> <p>Members were reminded that the Maxwell CCC is only one part of the engagement process with the community. Malabar will continue to update members on the progress of the Maxwell Underground Project and the Maxwell Solar Project. Members will also be able to ask questions at the SHCC CCC.</p> <p>The Maxwell Infrastructure CCC is under the Department of Planning and Environment, whereas SHCC CCC is under the Division of</p> | <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Complete – no combination of committees. All members of SHCC CCC have been reappointed for a further two years. MMH thanked EP for her assistance in this matter.</b></p> <p><b>WS advised that the same information was being provided to both CCCs and the website has both presentations for both groups.</b></p> |

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|                                | <p>Resources &amp; Geosciences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discussions ensued regarding the lodgement of the DA for EL7429 and proposed mine entry.</li> <li>▪ WS advised that technical &amp; geological works are still being undertaken, which will take some time. The entry for SHCC is still to be worked out as the previous entry is now redundant. He confirmed that all the coal will be processed at and transported from the existing Maxwell Infrastructure site and not at SHCC site. Raw coal from any future SHCC underground mine would be conveyed to those existing facilities.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                       |
| <b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>          | <p><b>Out</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 24/7/18 - email letter to Minister on Committee members' renewal</li> <li>▪ 7/8/18 - email WS update on Maxwell project to CCC</li> <li>▪ 13/9/18 - email confirmation to CCC on reappointment</li> </ul> <p><b>In</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 7/8/18 - email update from WS on Maxwell project and request for SEARS</li> <li>▪ 6/9/18 - letter from Minister extending CCC members for a further two-year term</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>As emailed with Meeting Notice &amp; Agenda on 19/9/18. No further discussion.</b> |
| <b>PRESENTATION ON PROJECT</b> | <p><b>Spur Hill Project Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2D short seismic project in the north, on land owned by the company, is planned for late October or early November 2018 (EL 7429).</li> <li>• This work is aimed at identification and definition of sub-surface geological structures (e.g. faults &amp; igneous intrusions)</li> <li>• The seismic surveys will use a truck mounted vibration unit to generate controlled vibrations (seismic waves) as it progressively moves along the selected path. These waves will be recorded by surface geophones placed along the route and transmitted to recording vehicles via thin cables.</li> <li>• The program will be conducted in accordance with the relevant approvals, including limiting noise disturbance on adjoining properties to required levels.</li> </ul> <p><b>Drayton open cut rehabilitation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Malabar commenced rehabilitation within a week of taking control of the Maxwell Infrastructure site (formally Drayton Mine).</li> <li>▪ These efforts were accelerated with the appointment of a rehabilitation contractor, so there are now more than 30 people on site.</li> <li>▪ At September 2018, 105 ha have been shaped with 52 ha seeded. DM noted that Malabar have recently changed from their winter pasture mix to their spring/summer mix.</li> </ul> | <b>Coal seams are usually 50-400m deep.</b>                                           |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Malabar are currently looking at putting in dams to improve contours and bringing in cattle to trial grazing on mine site rehabilitation.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Maxwell Underground Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The proposal is to produce high quality coals with at least 75% of coal produced capable of being used in the steel manufacturing industry. The balance would be export thermal coals suitable for the new generation High Efficiency, Low Emission (HELE) power generators.</li> <li>▪ Underground mining means significantly lower impacts than an open-cut mine.</li> <li>▪ The mine's entry has been placed carefully in a valley, c.5km north of the Golden Highway. Accordingly, it cannot be seen from the Highway or the local horse studs, which addresses concerns that were raised in past proposals for the area.</li> <li>▪ Up to 8Mtpa raw coal will be mined and processed to produce up to 7Mtpa of product coal.</li> <li>▪ Applying for a c.26 years of mining in the current DA.</li> <li>▪ The existing Maxwell infrastructure will be utilised.</li> <li>▪ Site access will be via Thomas Mitchell Drive.</li> <li>▪ There will be limited new infrastructure at the underground entry.</li> <li>▪ Freehold land within the application area is owned by Malabar, with the exception of a small area within the transport corridor, which is owned by AGL.</li> <li>▪ There will be minimal impact to existing agricultural activities within the application area.</li> <li>▪ The project will have no direct or subsidence impacts on land used by Equine or Viticulture CIC's, nor the Golden Highway.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planning for Underground Operations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Underground layouts drafted and coal production scheduled.</li> <li>▪ Conceptual layouts for access, MIA and coal transport have been completed.</li> <li>▪ Gateway subsidence modelling has been completed.</li> <li>▪ First stage groundwater modelling completed.</li> <li>▪ Soil studies completed.</li> <li>▪ Agricultural impact assessment completed.</li> <li>▪ Flora &amp; Fauna studies are progressing across the seasons.</li> <li>▪ Other studies have been commissioned including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Aquatic</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <p><b>FW enquired about the "offset" requirements. WS advised that most of the area doesn't encroach in the woodland area. Fauna &amp; flora studies are currently being undertaken, as well as investigations into potential offset on-site. The OEH calculator will be used to determine the offset requirement for the surface disturbance area.</b></p> <p><b>BK enquired on the future of Edderton Road. WS advised that either; 1) the subsidence would be managed, not closed, or 2) a realignment of the road. Mt Arthur to realign its end.</b></p> <p><b>Minimal impact on the Hunter River. The mine has been laid out to not encroach on either the Hunter River alluvials or Saddlers Creek. The biggest water use will be for the processing plant, which will be sourced from existing water and dams on site.</b></p> |
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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Surface water</li> <li>○ Geochemistry</li> <li>○ Transport</li> <li>○ Social Impact</li> </ul> <p><b>Maxwell Underground Schedule</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DM provided a briefing of the milestones to be reached for the Maxwell Underground Schedule, including local community engagement and opportunities for feedback.</li> </ul> <p><b>Maxwell Solar Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WS informed the CCC that Malabar intends to submit a DA for a solar farm (Maxwell Solar Project) as a separate project.</li> <li>▪ Solar EV panels would be located on areas of previous open cut mining disturbance (approx. 70 ha).</li> <li>▪ Installed capacity of around 25MW.</li> <li>▪ Adjacent to a major electricity generating hub in NSW and in proximity to high voltage power lines.</li> <li>▪ The solar farm would generate enough energy to power about 10,000 local homes.</li> <li>▪ As the project is a State Significant Development, the DA will be submitted to DPE.</li> </ul> <p><b>Solar Approval Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The area has previously been mined, so there will likely only be minimal impacts with respect to; biodiversity, heritage, soil &amp; land capability, visual, transport and noise.</li> <li>▪ Access will be via the mine roads from Thomas Mitchell Drive</li> <li>▪ The area is currently within ML CL229 and has been rehabilitated to pasture with some immature trees.</li> <li>▪ The next step is to apply for SEARs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community &amp; Sponsorships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Malabar Coal donated plants for a garden bed out the front of Muswellbrook Public School for National Tree Day on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Volunteers also went to the school to assist with planting.</li> <li>▪ Two defibrillation units were donated to the Upper Hunter Riding for the Disabled and the Wanaruah LALC.</li> <li>▪ \$1000 was donated to Wildlife Aid for National Threatened Species Day. The funding went towards the rescue and rehabilitation of native wildlife.</li> <li>▪ Malabar Coal are funding a Sensory Garden at Muswellbrook Public School.</li> <li>▪ Malabar are also a Gold Sponsor for the Denman Cricket Club.</li> <li>▪ Donations have also been provided to two local primary schools to assist with their</li> </ul> | <p><b>BK enquired if the solar project was viable. WS advised that it was and one scenario was for the Maxwell Underground Project and Infrastructure to consume the power.</b></p> <p><b>CCC members agreed that the proposed solar project was a good idea and that it was encouraging to see a mining company considering renewable energy projects.</b></p> |
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|                         | <p>annual presentation evenings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DM advised of upcoming community information sessions to be held on site and at Jerrys Plains hall. DM will advise MMH of the dates.</li> </ul> <p><b>Complaints Register</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No complaints have been received for FY 2017-2018 or for FY 2018-19 to date.</li> </ul> | <b>DM to advise Open Day dates and venue for distribution to CCC members.</b>                                                                                             |
| <b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b> | Nil.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>NEXT MEETING</b>     | It was proposed that the next meeting of the CCC take place at Merton Vineyard, Denman on Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2019, commencing at 5.30pm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>As this was the final meeting for 2018, the Chair thanked members for their contribution throughout the year and wished them a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.</b> |

***Meeting closed at 6.30pm.***

**ACTION ITEM**

| <b>ITEM</b> | <b>ISSUE</b>                                                    | <b>RESPONSIBILITY</b> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1           | Place regular advertisements on CCC meetings in the Denman News | Ongoing<br>(WS/MMH)   |
| 2           | Advise dates for Maxwell Community Engagement Open Days         | DM/MMH                |