

**SPUR HILL UNDERGROUND COKING COAL PROJECT  
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT MERTON VINEYARD, DENMAN  
ON WEDNESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 5.30PM**

PRESENT	NAME	ORGANISATION
	Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH)	Independent Chairperson
	Fiona Webber (FW)	Community Representative
	John Sowter (JS)	Community Representative
	Brett Keeping (BK)	Group Representative - Vignerons & Vineyards (arrived at 6.14pm)
	Les Jones (LJ)	Community Representative
	Wayne Seabrook (WS)	Spur Hill Management Pty Ltd (SHM)
	Joe Sorbara (JSb)	Malabar Coal – Chief Financial Officer
	Cr Stephen Ward (SW)	Muswellbrook Shire Council
	Nick Butler (NB)	Division of Resources & Geoscience
<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Minute Taker
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Aaron Moon (AM)	Community Representative
	Noel Downs (ND)	Group Representative - Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council
	Susan Pickersgill (SP)	Community Representative
	Tim Wolfgang (TW)	Community Representative

**The CCC meeting was opened at 5.40pm.**

<b>WELCOME</b>	The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting and introduced Nick Butler, Senior Communications Advisor, Communication and Government Services with the Department of Planning and Environment as well as Joe Sobara ("JSb"), Chief Financial Officer of Malabar Coal.	<b>NB introduced himself to the CCC and confirmed the Department's commitment to providing a representative on this CCC.</b>
<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. SW children attend St Joseph School (Item Community Involvement)</b>
<b>CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>	The minutes of the previous meeting of 14 June 2017 were confirmed.	<b>Moved: FW Seconded: JS</b>
<b>BUSINESS ARISING</b>	Acquisition of Drayton Mine assets.	
<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	Nil	
<b>PRESENTATION ON PROJECT</b>	<p><b>Drayton Assets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It has been about four months since Malabar announced its intention to acquire the neighbouring Drayton Assets.</li> <li>The exact timing of the handover is uncertain as it relies on various third party/government approvals/actions.</li> <li>Malabar's engineering and operational representatives are preparing for handover of the assets, so are frequently on site at Drayton.</li> <li>Rehabilitation at the site continues. WS will bring an aerial map of the rehabilitation on the Drayton mine site to the next meeting.</li> <li>Malabar will rehabilitate the areas that they don't need. (The facilities that will be</li> </ul>	<p><b>A hard copy of the presentation was provided to all present. Questions were asked and answers provided throughout the presentation.</b></p> <p><b>WS to bring aerial map to next meeting.</b></p>

	<p>retained include; administration buildings, workshops, wash plant, rail loop, and train load-out).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Malabar also intends utilise some of the final voids resulting in an improved final landform for the Drayton mine site.</li> <li>• Drayton’s extensive geological data and models are being combined with Malabar’s Spur Hill geological data and model.</li> <li>• As Malabar will be making use of the existing infrastructure (some of which has been in place for up to c. 30 years), this will simplify certain aspects of the development application and Environmental Impact Statement.</li> <li>• The location of the entry to the future underground mine and transport route to the existing infrastructure are still being studied by Malabar’s technical team.</li> </ul> <p><b>Muswellbrook LEP Review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SHM is in discussion with the Muswellbrook Shire Council in regard to the Council’s draft LEP.</li> <li>• A key product from the mine is soft coking coal for steel production. Hence there is a life-of-mine supply need. Also, prices are currently strong.</li> <li>• The project will offer long term employment opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Merton Vineyard – Small Forest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atsuko, the winemaker, has taken out some more awards with her wines and also featured in the in-flight magazine of one of Japan’s major airlines.</li> <li>• Merton’s viticulturalist, Liz Riley has been announced as a finalist in the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology 2017 awards.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Involvement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A list of recent community involvement was tabled which included a number of donations to sporting, educational, business, agricultural and community groups.</li> </ul> <p><b>No complaints registered since the previous CCC meeting.</b></p>	<p><b>See details in attached electronic presentation.</b></p>
<p><b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b></p>	<p>MMH tabled questions from AM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When will the Environmental application be submitted?</li> <li>• What is the time frame for the mine to open? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Construction phase</li> <li>o Mining phase</li> <li>o I ask this as many locals are keen for local employment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Answers:</b>  WS advised that SHM plan to submit the application in the first half of next year (2018). It will probably take 12-18 months to be assessed, so potentially mid 2019 for the commencement</p>	

	<p>of construction. The mining of coal will depend on the time taken to develop the access to the target coal seam.</p> <p>Once operational, the mine will create a few hundred new jobs. More will be engaged during the construction phase. SHM are keen to employ as many locals as possible.</p> <p>FW asked what the mix of employment will be (permanent/casual/contract.)</p> <p>WS advised that SMH are planning that the operational workforce model will be predominantly 'owner-operator'.</p> <p>JS enquired whether Malabar staff were recently on Wolfgang's property.</p> <p>JSb replied that environmental staff were on site.</p>	
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	The next meeting of the CCC will take place on Wednesday 15 November 2017 commencing 5.30pm at the Merton Vineyard, Denman.	

***With Brett Keeping's late arrival due to a previous commitment, WS provided BK with an overview of the presentation at the end of the CCC meeting.***

***Meeting closed at 6.16pm with MMH thanking all CCC members for their attendance.***

## **ACTION ITEMS**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>
1	Place regular advertisement on CCC meetings in the Denman News	Ongoing (WS/MMH)
2	Aerial map of rehabilitation area at Drayton Mine	WS