

**Maxwell Infrastructure Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Time and date:** 2.00pm on Wednesday 4 July 2018

**Location:** Maxwell Infrastructure Meeting Room

**Attendees:** Jennifer Lecky (JL) – Chair  
Peter Horder (PH) – Resident  
Gerrit DeBoer (GD) – Resident  
Ron Baxter (RB) – Resident  
Rob Halloran (RH) – Resident  
Mark Bowditch (MB) – Councillor  
Rob Hayes (RH) – Malabar Coal  
Donna McLaughlin (DM) – Malabar Coal  
Dee Elliott (DE) – Elliott Whiteing  
James Barben (JB) – Minerals Council

**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	Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue update	James Barben
7	Social Impact Assessment for the Maxwell Project	Dee Elliot
8	Maxwell Project Overview	Rob Hayes
9	Environmental performance	Donna McLaughlin
10	Reports, submissions and correspondence	Chairperson
11	General business	Chairperson
12	Next meeting	Chairperson
13	Meeting close	Chairperson

**1. Housekeeping and safety**

DM provided information on housekeeping and safety.

**2. Welcome - attendees and apologies**

Meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

**3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests**

Nil pecuniary interests declared.

**4. Confirm minutes from previous meeting**

Minutes were accepted by GD and seconded by RB.

**5. Actions from previous meeting**

There were no actions from the previous minutes.

**6. Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue update**

JB provided an overview of the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue including the structure, key dialogue projects that have been undertaken and the priorities for 2018.

PH asked for examples of how you can utilise mine voids at the end of mining. JB noted that they could be used for many things such as water storage, movie sets, recreational lakes or housing development.

JL noted that AGL had launched the Liddell Innovation Project and were seeking proposals from businesses and organisations who see potential value in the Liddell site and resources, and who are looking for the opportunity to develop new business ideas. JB noted that AGL were part of the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue.

**7. Social Impact Assessment for the Maxwell Project**

DE provided an overview of the Social Impact Assessment for the Maxwell Project. DE noted the main object of the assessment was to:

- Identify and understand potentially affected people.
- Identify social impacts and assign a level of assessment.

DE noted that a Community Newsletter containing a survey had been sent to the near-neighbours and will be provided to CCC members to fill in and share within the community.

JL questioned how long the construction phase of the Maxwell Project would take. RH noted that Malabar Coal were still working through the detail however two years would be a realistic estimate from when the approval is granted till when the site would be producing coal. RH noted that we would be utilising some of the existing infrastructure on site.

JL questioned how coal would be transported back to the Maxwell Infrastructure site. RH noted potentially with the use of trucks in the initial stages then possibly by conveyor.

GD questioned whether there would be any noise issues associated the load out bin (referring to a previous issue regarding a humming noise coming from the trains) and PH noted that there had been issues with the dust suppression sprays at the coal plant. RH noted that we would capture any learnings from the past to ensure we have appropriate controls in place.

JL noted that it would be good to see an equine centre as the final land use. DE noted that it was ultimately up to the landowner however all options should be considered. JL also noted that the community should be engaged regarding where money should be spent under any voluntary planning agreement with council.

DE noted that one issue they would be looking at was housing and local employment.

MB noted that he was happy to see the reduced lighting, noise and dust impacts associated with the Maxwell Project proposal.

## **8. Maxwell Project Overview**

RH provided an overview on the progress of the Maxwell Project including consultation and recent studies. RH noted that the proposal for an underground coking coal mine meant low environmental impacts.

## **9. Report on Drayton's Environmental Performance**

DM provided an overview of the sites rehabilitation performance which included the following key points:

- Rehabilitation contractor were currently undertaking rehabilitation on site.
- Malabar Coal had made some improvements to the rehabilitation process which included the use of gypsum, biosolids and mulch.
- Malabar Coal had reviewed the pasture and woodland seed mixes to better target species likely to occur in the area.
- Malabar Coal has completed 27 hectares of pasture rehabilitation.

DM suggest a visit to inspect the rehabilitation later in the year. All members agreed.

DM noted that an elevated 24-hour average TSP result was recorded on 13 April 2018. DM noted that this was investigated and the monitor was found to be downwind of the operations for only 4 per cent of the day. DM noted that the levels were unlikely to be a result of operational activities and that the leasee had been feeding cattle near the monitor.

DM noted that an elevated 24-hour average PM<sub>10</sub> result was recorded on 19 and 20 March 2018. No operational activity was occurring on site during these days.

DM noted that an elevated 24-hour average PM<sub>10</sub> result was recorded on 15 April 2018. DM noted that this was investigated and the monitor was found to be downwind of the operations for less than 1 per cent of the day. DM noted that the UHAQMN also recorded elevated readings at Muswellbrook on this day, indicating a regional dust event. MB agreed and said that this was consistent with data he had seen from other mines CCC meetings.

DM noted that no audible noise was identified from Maxwell Infrastructure during the monthly attended noise monitoring survey. DM also noted that there had been no complaints received since the last meeting.

## **10. Reports, Submissions and Correspondence**

DM noted that the Annual Environmental Management Report was submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) in March 2018. DM also noted that DPE had requested some further information be included in the report and that a copy of the updated report would be provided to all CCC members.

DM noted that Malabar Coal were starting to review the existing management plans and would present any updates at the next meeting.

**11. General Business**

DM questioned if everyone was happy with how they received the correspondence for this meeting. All members agreed.

**12. Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next CCC meeting would be held on 12 September 2018 at 10.00 am.

**13. Meeting Close**

JL thanked members for their participation and the meeting was closed at 3.15pm.