

MAXWELL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 September 2023

Via Zoom * & in attendance on-site at Maxwell

GROUP	NAME	ORGANISATION
CCC MEMBERS PRESENT	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
	Jennifer Lecky (JL)	Community Representative
	Stephen Ward (SW)	Community Representative
	Brian Atfield (BA)	Community Representative
	Mark Bowditch (MB) *	Community Representative
	Michael White (MW)	Coolmore / Godolphin Representative
	De-Anne Douglas (DD)	CEO Wanaruah LALC
	Theresa Folpp (TF)	Muswellbrook Shire Council
MALABAR REPRESENTATIVES	James Johnson (JJ)	General Manager; Development & Operations
	Donna McLaughlin (DM)	Manager Health, Safety, Environment & Community
	Teegan Rutter (TR)	Community Administrator
	Alex Newton (AN)	Environment & Approvals Coordinator
APOLOGIES	Peter Horder	Community Representative
OTHER	Sarah Purser (SP)	Independent Minute Taker
1. Welcome and Introductions	LA opened the meeting at 11.06 a.m. welcoming all. Acknowledgement of Country by LA.	LA
2. Apologies	Advised and recorded.	LA
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests	<i>Standing Declarations</i> ; LA is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the Department of Planning & Environment (DPE), and engaged by Maxwell to Chair this Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting. MW is a consultant and representative for Coolmore and Godolphin. SP provides secretarial services as an external contractor to Maxwell.	LA
4. Confirm Minutes of Previous Meeting	LA confirmed the finalised minutes of the previous CCC Meeting held 21 June 2023 were emailed to members on 24 July 2023.	LA
5. Business Arising from the Meeting held 21 June 2023	<p>Item 1: Share the bush tucker species list with Muswellbrook Shire Council.</p> <p>✓ Completed by DM.</p> <p>Item 2: Provide detail on how the seismic program is conducted and the method for generating and transmitting the seismic signal.</p> <p>✓ Presentation by JJ at this meeting.</p> <p>Item 3: Ascertain if Climate Change was taken into account for modelling.</p> <p>✓ DM advised that contact with Christopher Waygood (Principal Mine Closure Specialist for WSP) had confirmed that climate change had not been taken into consideration in the Assessment Report, however the initial modelling undertaken by SRK did look at vegetated and non-vegetated landforms. DM confirmed the second scenario would be a more conservative analysis, given that in climate change there would still be vegetation present. MW thanked DM for responding to his query, adding another</p>	LA

	<p>consideration around climate change is the potential for wet weather variations to also be extreme, not just desiccation due to dry conditions. DM confirmed that a 1 in 100 year rainfall scenario had been used for the landform modelling.</p> <p>Item 4: Advise timing for Stage 2 Water Management Plan</p> <p>✓ DM confirmed the Water Management Plan review had commenced in August 2023 and was anticipated to run through to November 2023.</p>	
<p>6. Correspondence Report</p>	<p>22/6/23; Email from Maxwell with invitation to NAIDOC event. Forwarded to CCC members 23/6/23.</p> <p>29/6/23; Email from Maxwell advising that the Antiene Rail Spur Application was on public exhibition with DPE today. Forwarded through to members of both committees for their information.</p> <p>14/7/23; Email to members with the draft minutes for review.</p> <p>21/7/23; Email to members with the finalised minutes.</p> <p>24/7/23; Email to members with V2 of the finalised minutes.</p> <p>9/8/23; Email to members with the Malabar Community Newsletter – August 2023.</p> <p>4/9/23; Email to Maxwell CCC members with meeting notice and agenda for this meeting, plus briefing sheet on the Revised CCC Guidelines.</p> <p>12/9/23; Email to members with video conferencing link for this meeting.</p>	<p>LA</p>
<p>7. Update on Spur Hill Project and Maxwell Mine James Johnson (JJ)</p>	<p>Spur Hill Exploration Update</p> <p>Preparations for the 2D seismic programme are progressing with work planned for late October, early November 2023. Archaeological and ecological surveys have been completed - final reports received. JJ confirmed the Seismic contractor and geophysicist consultant has been engaged. The Assessable Prospecting Operations (APO) application is awaiting approval from the NSW Resources Regulator. JJ advised that Malabar has various agreements in place with landowners for access and data acquisition and explained the next steps to be undertaken by Maxwell.</p> <p>JJ provided a detailed overview on the equipment and processes involved when conducting this program. TF queried if this exploration program is for underground mining only or also being conducted for potential open cut. JJ responded that the data has been around underground mine plans. JJ noted that Maxwell need to get a significant amount of data with the first focus on structure and seam profile, subsequent programs will get additional data to analyse coal quality and gas prior to making any final mine plan decisions.</p> <p>In response to a query from MW, JJ identified the locations of Spur Hill, Maxwell's and Mt Arthur Coal's Exploration Licences (EL's). JJ provided an overview of the EL7429 seismic work. JJ acknowledged a key element is where the EL's join. MW thanked JJ for his explanation.</p>	<p>Slide 3</p> <p>Slide 4</p>

<p>8. Update on Maxwell Underground Mine James Johnson (JJ)</p>	<p>Schedule JJ provided an overview of works completed and scheduled to be conducted, including but not limited to the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CHPP recommissioning has been completed. The first coal train went out on 21 June, the second out on 13 September 2023. ➤ Continued construction of Access road - anticipated for completion Q2 2024, and Mine Entry Area (MEA) - targeted for mid-Q3 2024. ➤ Access for both drifts is in progress. ➤ Vent Shaft commences Q1 2024 - anticipated for completed Q3 2024. ➤ Infrastructure, such as; power lines, water management and treatment plant, plus pads are under design and construct. ➤ The workforce for the drifts, as well as bord and pillar are currently on site. <p>The Whynot Seam is in operation and being set up for pit bottom.</p> <p>Longwall Production JJ provided a detailed overview on the manufacture of the longwall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The longwall is on order with manufacturing well underway. ➤ Maxwell will be in attendance for prototype testing in China in October 2023. ➤ The 6 to 8 month line build is anticipated to commence end of 2023, then there will be a shipping time frame. ➤ Additional components are being manufactured by other companies both locally and overseas. ➤ Compatibility testing will be conducted on the surface to make sure all components work together prior to building it underground. <p>TF queried how Maxwell were going with securing workforce. JJ responded the "New to Industry" program had been successful in securing 19 new operators and 4 new trades. In addition, Maxwell has employed some more experienced trades. JJ confirmed that Maxwell are on target for the number of people required going forward.</p> <p>DD is aware that Maxwell employ good numbers of Aboriginal people and is to be commended for this. DD queried how many of the new staff would be deemed local. TF acknowledged that it would not always be possible to engage locals due to the housing shortage and also expressed interest in the percentages of locals employed. MW added an interest in gender balance.</p> <p>ACTION 1: Maxwell to provide a workforce snapshot in relation to residency, gender and indigenous workforce numbers.</p>	<p>Slide 6</p>
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	<p>MEA Earthworks - Access Road Construction</p> <p>DM confirmed the CCC had been out to view this area in December 2022 and suggested another site inspection be conducted in conjunction with the next CCC Meeting, members responded that this would be of interest.</p> <p>ACTION 2: Site Inspection to view the Mine Entry Area (MEA) earthworks to be arranged for 15 November 2023.</p> <p>MEA Earthworks - Woodlands Hill Portal</p> <p>JJ showed the visual difference of the Portal as at 7 June and 1 September 2023. JJ indicated the locations of; the drift construction, transport and conveyor portals to the Woodlands Seam and ventilation. JJ added there will be infrastructure and equipment in place to work the two faces at once. Load Haul Dump machines are taking the loose material out and that is then hauled away. Maxwell will ultimately come in with water, power etc. for the underground.</p> <p>Water Catchment</p> <p>JJ indicated where excavation has commenced to provide a sump to contain all the water that would be captured from a rainfall event. This water will be pumped back to Maxwell's Water Management System.</p> <p>MB noted the previous discussion around a 1 in 100 year flood event and asked in the case of a maximum rainfall event if Maxwell have a peak flow measurement down to the water catchment area. JJ confirmed Maxwell utilised a water volume calculator to ascertain the volume that would come in over a period of 72 hours of rain in a 1 in 100 year rainfall event and sized the sump accordingly. In addition, the pumps are also sized with the capacity to empty the sump. In preparation for any further rainfall events, the water in the sump will be pumped to dams at the Mine Entry Area.</p> <p>TF assumed there would be an evacuation plan in place should water reach the sump and Maxwell confirmed that for an underground there are a range of conditions that provide instructions on when to withdraw people from the mine.</p> <p>MB queried if Maxwell could provide their peak flow and hydrology report. LA asked if this was available online and Maxwell confirmed that a Surface Water Assessment is available on the website. MB was interested if vegetation had been taken into consideration given that can contribute to holding back and slowing down water flow.</p> <p>JJ asked if MB's query related to the area above the portal as that water was being diverted away from the portal and mine entry area. JJ explained the sump down the bottom is for what would potentially come down the ramp. MB clarified his interest was due to another</p>	<p>Slide 8</p> <p>Slide 9</p>
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	<p>operation experiencing a water breach last year, despite having sumps and diversions in place. MB confirmed he is comfortable knowing Maxwell has ascertained the peak water flow and know their limitations and would phone DM out of session to explain the reports that were of interest.</p> <p>Stabilisation JJ confirmed the area is also being stabilised for life of mine, in line with geotech recommendations. In response to a query on how this area is stabilised, JJ advised there is a catch fence around the bench for any loose material, in addition where this is a bit blocky it is being secured by bolting and shotcrete.</p>	
<p>9. Management Plans & Environmental Performance Donna McLaughlin (DM)</p>	<p>Management Plan Updates The Social Impact Management Plan was updated to a new template and to include the MOD2 changes. Rehabilitation Management Plan and Forward Program were updated to include remedial work to erosion areas, drop structures and contours. Work has commenced on the Whynot Extraction Plan with specialist consultants endorsed by DPE for flora and fauna, archaeology, surface water, subsidence and groundwater. DM noted an environmental risk assessment had recently been prepared.</p> <p>MB advised he had been reviewing the Rehabilitation Management Plans and commended Maxwell for doing a very job with these. TF queried if the Extraction Plans are approved by the DPE and Maxwell confirmed that the Rehabilitation Strategy is approved by DPE and the Forward Program is approved by the Resource Regulator.</p> <p>MW noted the current Water Management Plan is referred to as Stage 1 and queried if Stage 2 is only covering Whynot and the first four panels. DM confirmed this will be updated for the Whynot Mine Plan and would need to come back around timing on Woodlands Hill. DM noted that the existing Stage 1 would be superseded by the updated plan so as not to have two.</p> <p>MW queried what the new Water Plan will cover i.e. would the long wall be included as well. DM responded the updates will incrementally go through the numerous stages. MW noted in that case it would be deemed a live document and DM responded that is correct, it will be updated as Maxwell progress with Stage 1 being to first workings, then Stage 2 for Whynot.</p> <p>In relation to a staged approach, MW asked if there is any risk that some of the monitoring locations of subsequent plans and their baselines etc do not get picked up. DM responded that Maxwell will look at the model as a whole and confirmed they do have that baseline in there, the process is updating and refreshing as data becomes available.</p>	<p>Slide 11</p>

	<p>Rehabilitation Update</p> <p>AN provided an overview of Maxwell's weed and pest control programs undertaken during the June to August reporting period. Maxwell are preparing for their spring tree planting program, this includes slashing, ripping and spraying grass. TF queried where the planting will be conducted and AN advised this will be in the Woodland corridor that extends between the eastern and southern voids.</p> <p>ACTION 3: In response to a query from BA; AN to confirm what chemical is used to manage the Mother-of-Millions.</p> <p>MW noted there had been what looked to be a control burn on Edderton road and queried if Maxwell were conducting any fire mitigation works. DM confirmed that Maxwell are presently looking into burns, and have predominantly slashed boundaries to mitigate the bushfire risks. MW feels many people are a bit anxious about the upcoming fire season. TF assumed that Maxwell would have a fairly new Fire Management Plan and would have consulted with the RFS. DM confirmed that is correct, this plan was done in consultation with the RFS and all maps detail key access points and the like.</p> <p>MW queried if Maxwell have essentially finished surface blasting now and DM confirmed that blasting for the portal area excavation is mostly complete, however monitors have been left in place should there be any further need to blast on the surface (i.e. due to hard surfaces). Whilst there are no blasts planned for now, that may change as the operation progresses. MW asked in relation to the drift construction would that indicate the size of those blasts. DM confirmed that is correct and that they are quite small blasts.</p> <p>ACTION 4: In response to a query from MW; DM to advise when underground blasting commenced.</p> <p>Dust Monitoring</p> <p><i>PM₁₀ at TEOM-1 (Maxwell Infrastructure);</i> This monitor is located on the other side of Thomas Mitchell Drive. Monitoring levels were low in relation to criteria for human health protection. There was a loss of data over two days; one caused by a frozen data logger and the second due to a scheduled calibration.</p> <p><i>PM_{2.5} at TEOM-1 (Maxwell Infrastructure);</i> Very low concentrations recorded for ultra fine particles.</p> <p><i>PM₁₀ at TEOM-2 (Plashett);</i> This monitor is located near the Hunter River at the Plashett property. Monitoring levels were low in relation to criteria for human health protection. A number of investigations into the cause of data gaps ascertained a loose wire to be the issue, this has been repaired, optimising going forward to get better data capture.</p> <p><i>PM_{2.5} at TEOM-2 (Plashett);</i> All were significantly below the 24-hour and annual impact assessment criteria. Small negative values in the</p>	<p>Slide 12</p> <p>Slide 13</p> <p>Slide 14</p> <p>Slide 15</p> <p>Slide 16</p>
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	<p>range are a function of the TEOM instrument at very low concentrations.</p> <p>TF noted there had been some issues with data capture and asked if the company needs to report these to the DPE. Maxwell confirmed this is reported in their Annual Review which is issued to the DPE and EPA. TF queried if these departments had mentioned anything about the data gaps over the last 6 to 9 months and Maxwell confirmed they had not received any feedback.</p> <p>LA understands that when a company conducts their Independent Environmental Audit that these type of issues will come up as a non-compliance and be allocated a risk type e.g. administration. So they will also be recorded there.</p> <p>SW queried the recording of negative values in August from PM_{2.5} at TEOM 2 (Plashett) and AN explained that is something that does occur as a function of the TEOM instrument. The cause of this negative concentration is when the TEOM confuses the water vapour in the air as being particles. Maxwell have a data recording protocol that recommends not to go below -5°C, so therefore those particular negative values were still recorded.</p> <p>TF acknowledged that Maxwell mine is underground and therefore their air quality impacts would be expected to be low and contribution if any very small. TF's concern was that the monitoring from PM_{2.5} at TEOM 2 (Plashett) was trending up to about 6 ug/m³ in June and then there are data gaps in July, so that might not correctly reflect the air quality in that location.</p> <p>AN confirmed that off-site dust emissions from Maxwell are negligible, however Maxwell could potentially supplement their data set with the Government run monitor (Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network) that is located across the road. Whilst all agreed that Maxwell would not be a major dust contributor, members felt it would be helpful to see that extra data set. LA suggested an overlay in a different colour would be useful to identify the two different monitors. TF acknowledged that the Maxwell dust monitors had been tripping so using the monitor from across the road to compliment the data would be good from a community perspective.</p> <p>ACTION 5: For future dust monitoring reporting, AN to overlay data from the Government run monitor that is located opposite the TEOM2- Plashett monitor.</p>	
<p>10. Community Update Donna McLaughlin (DM)</p>	<p>No complaints were received in the reporting period.</p> <p>Sponsorships & Donations ✓ Donated for the MCCI -Great Cattle Dog Muster event.</p>	<p>Slide 18</p> <p>Slide 19</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Muswellbrook South Public School – Green Team. Provided and assisted with planting 10 fruit trees, topping up worm farms, and filling 2 garden beds. ✓ Mackenzie Day from DSHJRLFC - 2023 tour of UK/France. 	
11. Community Questions	LA called for questions from the community, nil put forward.	
Update - Antiene Rail Modification	<p>DM provided an update on the Antiene Rail Modification, including an overview of submissions received during the public exhibition period.</p> <p>Actioned Post Meeting by LA</p> <p>LA advised the CCC via email on 19 September 2023 that advice had been received from DM that the DPE has approved the Antiene Rail Modification.</p>	
12. General Business CCC Member Feedback	<p>BA thanked Malabar for the invite to the Naidoc day held on 12 July 2023 and advised that this had been a great day. JL advised that she always enjoys the Maxwell CCC presentations, JL has known these people for a long time and finds them very diligent.</p> <p>LA provided the CCC with a briefing on the revised Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Developments - June 2023. LA highlighted some key changes relating specifically to this CCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Terms of Reference are to be specific to this Committee. ➤ WHS Risk Assessment to be completed for term of CCC. ➤ Members to complete the updated "Code of Conduct" and "Pecuniary Interest" forms at the first CCC meeting of every year. ➤ Joe Fittell is the Department's Assessing Officer for the Maxwell CCC. <p>ACTION 6: LA to circulate the Terms of Reference to members with the 13 September 2023 Meeting Minutes.</p> <p>ACTION 7: LA & DM to complete the Risk Assessment for Members.</p> <p>LA closed the meeting at 11.46 a.m. thanking all for their attendance.</p>	
NEXT MEETING	<p>15 November 2023</p> <p>10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. - Site Tour</p> <p>11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. - Maxwell CCC (including lunch)</p>	LA

ACTION ITEMS

ACTION	ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY
Ongoing	Members to forward "Community Questions" 14 days in advance of scheduled meetings.	Community Representatives
1	Maxwell to provide a workforce snapshot in relation to residency, gender and indigenous workforce numbers.	DM
2	Site Inspection to view the Mine Entry Area (MEA) earthworks to be arranged for 15 November 2023.	DM
3	In response to a query from BA; AN to confirm what chemical is used to manage the Mother-of-Millions.	AN
4	In response to a query from MW; DM to advise when underground blasting commenced.	DM
5	For future dust monitoring reporting, AN to overlay data from the Government run monitor that is located opposite the TEOM2- Plashett monitor.	AN
6	LA to circulate the Terms of Reference to members with the 13 September 2023 Meeting Minutes.	LA
7	LA & DM to complete the Risk Assessment for Members.	LA/DM