

MAXWELL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 May 2024

In attendance on-site at Maxwell and via Video Conferencing

GROUP	NAME	ORGANISATION
CCC MEMBERS PRESENT	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
	Brian Atfield (BA)	Community Representative
	Stephen Ward (SW)	Community Representative
	Mark Bowditch (MB)	Community Representative
	De-Anne Douglas (DD)	Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council (LALC)
	Theresa Folpp (TF)	Muswellbrook Shire Council
MALABAR REPRESENTATIVES	James Johnson (JJ)	General Manager; Development & Operations
	Donna McLaughlin (DM)	Manager Health, Safety, Environment & Community
	Teagan Rutter (TR)	Community Coordinator
	Alex Newton (AN)	Environment & Approvals Coordinator
APOLOGIES	Chris Donohue (CD)	Land & Property Coordinator
	Michael White (MW)	Coolmore / Godolphin Representative
	Sue Pickersgill (SP)	Community Representative
	Peter Horder (PH)	Community Representative
OTHER	Cr Jennifer Lecky (JL)	Community Representative
	Sarah Purser	Independent Minute Taker
1. Welcome and Introductions	LA opened the meeting at 10.01 a.m. welcoming all to the Maxwell CCC. <i>Acknowledgement of Country led by LA.</i>	LA
2. Apologies	Advised and recorded.	LA
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests	<i>Standing Declarations</i> ; LA is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the DPE, and engaged by Maxwell to Chair this CCC meeting SP provides secretarial services as an external contractor to Maxwell. LA confirmed all members had completed the NSW DPE CCC Governance Forms.	LA
4. Confirm Minutes of Previous Meeting	LA confirmed the minutes of the previous CCC meeting held 22 February 2024 were finalised on 19 March 2024.	LA
5. Business Arising from the Meeting held 22 February 2024. Action Items	Ongoing Action ; Members to forward "Community Questions" 14 days in advance of scheduled meetings. LA confirmed no questions had been put forward and that members are welcome to submit these in General Business at today's meeting.	LA
6. Correspondence Report	Emailed to Maxwell CCC Members by LA:- 12/3/24; Draft Minutes for the Meeting 22 February 2024 for Member review. 19/3/24; Finalised Minutes to Members. 28/3/24; Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project Annual Review for 2023. 10/5/24; Meeting Notice and Agenda for this Meeting. 25/5/24; Reminder for this Meeting.	LA

<p>6. Correspondence Report</p>	<p>Emailed to LA by TF:- 5/4/24; Muswellbrook Shire Council's (MSC) resolution that it's representative will be the Environmental Planning Officer and that Councillors could apply to be a community representative:</p> <p><i>A. The Environmental Planning Officer being Council's representative at mine Community Consultative Committee meetings in accordance with the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Guidelines (June 2023);</i></p> <p><i>B. The General Manager writing to the Minister for Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure (DPHI) seeking a change to the Guidelines, or the interpretation of the Guidelines, by DPHI staff, to enable more than one Council representative, composed of Councillors and Council staff, to be Council's representatives at CCC meetings; and</i></p> <p><i>C. Council to nominate the Councillor Representatives and the nominated Councillor to write to the relevant mines seeking to be accepted as Community Representatives at the relevant mine CCC.</i></p> <p>LA and Malabar were supportive of this request given MSC are a major stakeholder and represent the constituents for both residents and employers in the area. LA recommended a change to the Maxwell CCC ToR to accommodate MSC's request and all members were in favour of this action.</p> <p>ACTION 1: LA to update the Maxwell CCC ToR to include the Environmental Planning Officer as MSC's representative and an additional position, as a community representative, be available for a MSC Councillor. The ToR to be ratified at the next CCC Meeting.</p>	
<p>7. Exploration Licence Update</p>	<p>Spur Hill (EL7429) Exploration The 2023 2D seismic data collection has been interpreted by Maxwell. This informed Maxwell's planning for the 2024 exploration, which includes; four 2D seismic lines and non-core drill holes. All work will take place where there are existing landholder agreements in place. Field work is anticipated for September and October 2024 (weather dependent).</p> <p>EL9497 and EL9498 Exploration JJ provided an overview of some reductions to the 2024 exploration program that had been triggered by the 2023 desktop studies and interpretation of the Spur Hill seismic data, in relation to 2D seismic lines and non-core drill holes. JJ noted he had spoken previously regarding the purpose of the EL's being to identify connectivity between the Maxwell Underground and Spur Hill. All activities are planned to take on Malabar owned land. Field activities are also expected to take place around September and October 2024.</p>	<p>Slide 4</p> <p>Slide 5</p>
<p>8. Update on Maxwell Underground Mine</p>	<p>JJ provided an update on the Maxwell Underground Mine schedule that is reviewed at each CCC meeting.</p> <p>Access Road & Conveyor Trace; Sealing of the main access road is well underway with 6.5 kilometres to go, these works are anticipated for May and June 2024 (weather dependent). Manufacture of the overland conveyor traces are nearing completion.</p>	<p>Slide 7</p> <p>Slide 8</p>

<p>8. Update on Maxwell Underground Mine</p>	<p>Bord & Pillar; Two low height continuous miners are now operating with approximately 110 people engaged on a 24/7 basis. JJ noted production is increasing month on month.</p> <p>Woodlands Hill Drift Construction is continuing, JJ anticipated completion late Q3, early Q4 2024.</p> <p>Ventilation Shaft; Drilling for the ventilation shaft is intended to commence in June / early July 2024 and will finish with the shaft fully lined ready for mining around March 2025.</p> <p>Recruitment; Maxwell have commenced a recruitment campaign with billboards now live at Newcastle Airport, Muswellbrook, Mudgee and Lithgow. LA queried if Maxwell are only recruiting for underground mining, or for a whole range of staff. JJ confirmed this is for a wide range but on the most part this will be for underground i.e. Operators and Trades, with the "New to Industry" component as well. Additional professional Management Staff are required to run the operations i.e. Superintendents and Engineers who are specific to underground longwall development operations. Maxwell have also updated their website and are working to recruit the 200 people required for the longwall operation.</p> <p>Actioned Post Meeting; LA provided the CCC with Malabar Resources 5 June 2024 Media Release regarding launching the recruitment drive for more than 200 Team Members.</p> <p>Mine Entry Area (MEA); JJ identified via mapping how the MEA is progressing, he indicated the areas that have been finished where shaping and seeding has been completed. JJ provided an overview of the Ventilation Shaft works undertaken by Maxwell.</p> <p>TF queried what the dam located beside the ventilation shaft pad will be used for. JJ responded that dam is for sediment during construction, as well as in operations, and will capture any run off from the pad when it is in operation. TF asked if that dam would also be used for any water that may come out of the hole during drilling. JJ confirmed the drilling process will have its own dam and explained the process for dewatering shafts and water transfer back to MEA dams via established pipelines.</p>	
<p>9. Management Plans & Environmental Performance</p>	<p>Environmental Non-Compliance</p> <p>DM provided an extensive background to a Show Cause Notice Maxwell had received in relation to an alleged non-compliance under conditions of the EPBC Approval 2018/8287. DM explained this related to an incident of two dams overflowing following significant rainfall in March 2022. Maxwell had followed their reporting protocols, notifying the DPE, EPA and downstream water users. Both the DPE and EPA had been satisfied with response to the incident and that there had been no material impact to the environment.</p> <p>Due to an oversight Maxwell had not reported this to the DCCEEW at the time of</p>	<p>Slide 10 Slide 11</p>

	<p>the incident, so unfortunately this was an administrative non-compliance. In response Maxwell has made updates to their Pollution Incident Response Management Plan and implemented a number of actions and reporting protocols to mitigate a reoccurrence.</p> <p>LA acknowledged how detailed Maxwell are with all their Management Plans and processes, she felt it was shame that this had occurred. DM agreed they had been disappointed but now have additional steps in place to safeguard the process.</p> <p>Management Plans</p> <p>DM provided detail of the Management Plans that have been updated following approval of the Antiene Modification. Exploration Activities and Minor Surface Infrastructure Management Plan is still to be approved by the DPE.</p> <p>All these plans are available on the Malabar website and DM will provide hard copies to anyone who would like those as well.</p> <p>Whynot Seam Panels 2-5 Extraction Plan</p> <p>Maxwell are looking to submit an extraction plan for the Whynot Seam which is Bord and Pillar mining. DM identified the four panels that Maxwell are focussing on, being 2, 3, 4 and 5, which are well within the approved underground development footprint. Maxwell's target for secondary extraction is to commence in November 2024 once the plan is approved.</p> <p>DM noted that studies such as; Subsidence, Water, Biodiversity and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage were remodelled to make sure they remain consistent with Maxwell's current approvals. All key environmental features are expected to experience impacts consistent or less than the impacts described in the EIS and MOD2 assessments.</p> <p>Rehabilitation Update</p> <p>CD provided an overview of Maxwell's weed and pest control measures. In relation to re-vegetation, there have been 4,000 trees planted within the Southern Offset area in April.</p> <p>Remedial work undertaken includes cleaning out contours and designing the remaining drop structures that need to be widened.</p> <p>LA asked if the tree planting was tube stock and CD confirmed that is correct. DD queried if Maxwell have an allocation of what they anticipate their loss rate for tube stock would be, and CD confirmed that the strike rate is checked a few weeks after planting and Maxwell do follow up watering. After inspections for survival rates, Maxwell will infill plants where required. DM added that Maxwell typically overplant to allow for weather and grazing impacts. DM noted the weather has been favorable due to rain, lessening the need for follow up watering.</p>	<p>Slide 12</p> <p>Slide 13 Slide 14 Slide 15</p> <p>Slide 16</p>
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	<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. All results were significantly below the 24 hour and annual impact assessment criteria. Supplementary data was presented from the BHP Air Quality Monitoring Station for the period 18 to 27 February due to invalid data caused by high negatives. Maxwell had this monitor assessed and a hire unit was installed on 27 February. Insufficient data for 29 March to 10 April was resolved by a replacement hire monitor.</p> <p>AN explained that if one channel i.e. PM_{2.5} is not working, then you cannot calculate the PM₁₀. These issues were reported to the DPE who were comfortable that Maxwell had done all they could to get a replacement instrument in place.</p> <p><i>PM_{2.5} at TEOM-1 (Maxwell Infrastructure);</i> AN noted the same reasons for downtime as above and that data gaps were replaced with the BHP TEOM. All results were significantly below the 24 hour and annual impact assessment criteria.</p> <p><i>PM₁₀ at TEOM-2 (Plashett);</i> This monitor is located near the Hunter River at the Plashett property. This monitor was down on 22 and 23 February due to power being cut by contractors. All results were significantly below the 24 hour and annual impact assessment criteria.</p> <p><i>PM_{2.5} at TEOM-2 (Plashett);</i> This monitor is in the same location and measures PM_{2.5} data. Results again showed there were very low concentrations.</p>	<p>Slide 18</p> <p>Slide 17</p> <p>Slide 19</p> <p>Slide 20</p>
<p>10. Community Update</p>	<p>There were no complaints received by Maxwell in this reporting period.</p> <p>Community Update</p> <p>Malabar provided financial support to the Australian Photographic Society for the Mullins Conceptual Photography Prize and donated new iPads to Milbrodale School to support the growth in their student numbers. Malabar donated the prize money for Singleton RSL Bowling Club's ANZAC Day Tournament. Malabar also donated to Upper Hunter Youth Services, who support young people in the Upper Hunter Region by providing a safe space, guidance and opportunities.</p> <p>DD requested the contract details for Milbrodale Public School. TR will provide.</p>	<p>Slide 22</p> <p>Slide 23</p> <p>Slide 24</p>
<p>11. Community Questions</p>	<p>LA called for any broader community questions and nil put forward.</p>	<p>Slide 26</p>
<p>12. General Business</p>	<p>CCC Feedback</p> <p>TF advised that MSC Staff had provided comments on the Edderton Solar Farm scoping document that had been lodged with the DPE. DM noted that Malabar had received the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for this project.</p> <p>Actioned Post Meeting: LA emailed the link to the SEARs for the Edderton Solar Project to the CCC on 24 May 2024.</p>	

<p>12. General Business</p>	<p>DD provided an update on the Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council (LALC). LALC have had their DA approved for their Community Shed, DD hoped that construction would commence in around three months time. LALC are prioritising land claims and working closely with Crown Lands in this regard. DD is working on plans on what to do with the land, and how it is looked after, when they get that back. DD has secured funding sources for two part time Aboriginal Land Carers and a full time Supervisor.</p> <p>Blackroo Community Indigenous Corporation have secured the old Fire Station to operate the Blackroo Community Haven out of, DD would welcome the opportunity to give CCC members a tour. DD noted in the past they had goods stored in numerous locations, so now everything is in its own space. In addition, this will make it easier to secure more volunteers. This Community Haven also has an area for free activities such as art, games and crafts, giving further opportunities many in the community. DD noted that the Community Haven is open to both indigenous and non-indigenous members of the community.</p> <p>Support items for those in need include; white goods, furniture, household items and clothing, Blackroo work with community to pass items on to people in need. There is now a custom built furniture trailer to assist with distribution of goods. Also a Commercial Catering Trailer that is going to be used to run training programs for community such as Safe Food Handling and Barista courses. DD was congratulated for her work, DM noted that she and TR had been to the Shed opening and felt it was an amazing space.</p> <p>DM advised Maxwell will host their NAIDOC Day on 11 July 2024 and welcomed all CCC members to attend. DM noted that BA had attended this last year and BA responded that it had been a really good event.</p> <p>Actioned Post Meeting: LA emailed the CCC on 31 May 2024 with an Invitation to attend the NAIDOC celebrations.</p> <p>LA said she would like to acknowledge that DD is attending Government House on 24 May 2024 to receive her well deserved OAM. LA hoped that DD will enjoy that celebration and the accolades associated with it. The CCC all congratulated DD for this achievement.</p> <p>LA closed the meeting at 10.52 a.m. thanking all for their attendance.</p>	
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<p>Next Meeting Dates</p>	<p>22 August 2024 at 10.00 a.m. Following meeting proposed for 13 November 2024.</p>	<p>LA</p>
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Action Arising	ACTION 1: LA to update the Maxwell CCC ToR to include the Environmental Planning Officer and an additional Councillor delegate, as nominated by MSC's General manager, to be MSC representatives. The ToR to be ratified at the next CCC Meeting.	
Ongoing Action Item	Community representatives to forward "Community Questions" 14 days in advance of scheduled meetings	