

CHARBON COAL PTY. LIMITED

ABN 71 064 237 118

A subsidiary of

Centennial Coal Company Limited



CHARBON COLLIERY: COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 18/12/07

Present: Grant Watson (Charbon Mine Manager), Mary-Anne Crawford (Group Environmental Manager), Matt Gray (Charbon Environmental Co-ordinator), Esmae Martens (Chairperson, Council Representative), Ron Leo (BigRim Open Cut Contractor), Maralyn Bennett (Rylstone District Environmental Society – Community Representative), Alan Jackson (Community Representative).

Apologies: Les Dawson (Community Representative)

- 1) Members were welcomed to the Committee and the agenda reviewed.
- 2) Previous minutes from the Committee Meeting on the 7/5/07 were accepted after noting changes. Maralyn raised the question on the size of the aquifer in which water is sourced from to be used on the site and the amount of water extracted. Grant discussed the licence for extraction of water along with monitoring of the water levels using flow meters. Matt highlighted that a hydrogeologist has been contracted to study the hydrogeology of the area. A report on water usage will be included in the Annual Environmental Management Report.

Maralyn also noted that the extent of the coal reserves were not included in the last meeting minutes. Grant discussed the current consent for the Southern Open Cut being 2 years and 6 years for the Underground Operations. Grant also discussed the potential expansions using a map but highlighted that these were subject to the DA approval.

3) Business arising from previous minutes – Maralyn raised the question of the future plan for mining once the resources have been exhausted. As highlighted above Grant discussed the potential expansion for the mine.

4) Review of Southern Open Cut Consent by Matt Gray
Matt – provided an explanation of the SOC and associated areas. In terms of the DA consent an explanation of the major points was given. A copy of the Habitat Plan will be provided to Esme as requested. Esme also raised the issue of low frequency noise which will be investigated.

5) Review of 2007 YTD Key Environmental Data by Matt Gray

- EPA Licence – Water

There was one exceedance which consisted of a TSS exceedance from LDP 2 – the TSS level was 796 with the Licence Limit 50. Small discharge of turbid water after storm previous evening. No discharge from LDP 3. Small volume and extensive natural filtering downstream would indicate no material harm to the environment. The issue was investigated with floccing of dam waters being undertaken to allow discharge of compliant waters to give adequate capacity to cope with storm events. 2 non-conformances (did not monitor water at LDP 2 daily when discharge on two separate days)

WMS – Water Management System now in place at LDP 2

- Noise – Noise monitoring had been undertaken generally on a 3 monthly basis as outlined in the SOC Consent Management Plans. All results obtained in 2007 complied with consent limits.
- Dust – Dust monitoring has been undertaken on a monthly basis as outlined by the SOC consent management plans. All results obtained in 2007 complied with consent limits.
- Blasting – All blast results to date have complied with licence requirements.

6) Review of Community Complaints/Issues over the last 6 months – 7 Community Complaints had been received in 2007. The complaints were:

- In relation to a "plume of dust" hanging over the Southern Open Cut. A complaint was received at 8.00am and 8.50am on the 7/8/07. The complainant notified the EPA via the pollution line. No dust was exported offsite. The open cut was inspected and the resident's property visited and it was deemed that the "dust plume" had dispersed with minimal dust visible by 10.00am on that same day.
- In relation to dust being visible at the Southern Open Cut. The complaint was received at 8.15am on the 8/8/07 with the resident informing the EPA via the pollution line. The issue was investigated and the dust was deemed to be due to the persistent calm conditions causing it to hang in the atmosphere. No dust was exported offsite. The BigRim contractors were consulted along with RST on methods of improving dust suppression.

- In relation to dust at the Southern Open Cut. The complaint was received on the 28/8/07 with the resident notifying the EPA via the pollution line. The issue was investigated and deemed found to be due to a drill rig working on a high ridge causing dust to be visible. Still conditions caused the dust to hang in the atmosphere and thus to be visible offsite. No dust was exported offsite. The BigRim contractors were consulted along with RST on methods of improving dust suppression.
 - In relation to noise coming from the mine site. The complaint was received on 03/11/07 at 4.36pm via email and stated that noise described as that of a “diesel truck” could be heard the night before preventing the resident from sleeping. The resident did not phone the Mine Manager or Environmental Coordinator, as he did not want to bother them. The issue was investigated and it was found that the Bradford Breaker had been running with a damaged trunnion increasing the level of noise from 10.30pm to 11.00. Oil was applied to the peccant part thus reducing the noise to a low level. At 2.00am the trunnion collapsed and thus noise was heard over a large area with an increased level of volume. The Breaker was finally turned off at 6.00am.
 - In relation to whether a resident could make a complaint at any time. The complaint was received on 7/11/07 at about 20.15 with the resident enquiring on whether a complaint could be made at any time. The resident was later contacted and stated that they were “testing the system”.
 - In relation to the noise of a bulldozer at 6.30am when consent says operations between 7.00am and 6.00pm on Saturdays. The complaint was received by the EC at 6.45am on the 15/12/07. Investigation revealed dozer walking to job ready for 7.00 start. Issue yet to be resolved.
- 7) Review of Mining over the Past 6 Month Period – Open Cut Mining has continued in the SOC and underground mining in the 900 area over the last 6 months. The total production for the 2007 calendar year was 1168 301 t of which 566 575 t came from the southern open cut and 601 726 t from the underground operation. For the next six months 273 783 t is planned to be mined from the southern open cut and 331 360 t from the underground operation.
- 8) Rehabilitation and Blasting – Matt indicated that rehabilitation was ongoing for the southern open cut and native seed collecting had commenced.

Rehabilitation will be discussed further at the next meeting. In relation to blasting Matt indicated that all blasting is monitored and gave the example where monitoring is carried out at a local resident's premises. Also highlighted was that all blasting carried out has been within the licence limits.

9) General Business – there was no additional business tabled.

10) Next meeting – Monday 17 March 2008 at 10:00am at Charbon Colliery.