

MEETING MINUTES



MEETING:	Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee	
LOCATION:	Wongawilli Room, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal, North Wollongong NSW 2500	
DATE:	17:30, Thursday 18 February 2021	
ATTENDEES:	Independent Chairperson Community Representatives Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Representatives (IMC)	Mike Archer (MA) Phil Diamond (PD) Phil Grant (PG) Phil Clunas (PC) Jenny Evans (JE) [online] Noel Lowry (NL) (Wollondilly Shire Council) Viv Twyford (VT) Anita Mulrooney (Community observer) Ben Fitzsimmons (BF) Chris Schultz (CS) Anna-May Fauconnier (AMF)
APOLOGIES:	Ron Zwicker (RZ) (Wollongong City Council) Alex Beccari (AB)	

1	PURPOSE
	<p>The purpose of the DCCC is to provide a forum for open discussion between representatives of Dendrobium Mine, the community, the relevant councils and other stakeholders on issues directly relating to the mine's operations, environmental performance and community relations, and to keep the community informed on these matters. The meeting also includes a discussion on the progress of the Dendrobium Mine Extension Project development application.</p>
2	AGENDA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgement of Country • Welcome/Apologies • Declaration of Pecuniary Interests • Acceptance of minutes of last meeting • Business Arising • Approvals Update • Operational Update • Environmental Update • Community Update • Member Updates • General Business
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	

	We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.
3	WELCOME / APOLOGIES
	<p>Mike Archer (MA) welcomed all members present to the Regulatory Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee (DCCC) meeting, both in person and online. MA issued an apology for Ron and Alex who were not in attendance. JE joined the meeting online.</p> <p>MA introduced a community member who is observing the meeting, Anita Mulrooney. AM has expressed an interest in joining the DCCC. MA introduced the new General Manager Dendrobium Mine, Anna-May Fauconnier. AMF introduced herself to the committee.</p>
4	DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS
	MA declared a pecuniary interest, advising that in his role as Independent Chairperson, he is paid for his time by South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal.
5	PREVIOUS MINUTES
	Approval of the minutes from DCCC meeting (December 2020) were accepted as a correct record of the meeting. Moved: PG; Seconded; VT
5A	BUSINESS ARISING
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTION: Discuss what research has been undertaken into the impact of mining on swamps. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Directional drilling designed to understand hydrogeological changes post mining.</i> ○ <i>Electrical resistivity tomography surveys to measure changes in swamp moisture post mining.</i> ○ <i>Research on the local and regional impacts of mining on the Giant Dragonfly.</i> ○ <i>Research on the local and regional impacts of mining on the Littlejohns Treefrog</i> • ACTION: BF to arrange for an inspection of the Water Catchment and Kemira Valley Coal Loading Facility in early 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>A tour of the coal loading facility will be planned in March for members of the DCCC.</i> • ACTION: BF to ask if the VPO may attend a meeting in early 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The VPO will be asked at a later date. This meeting we had the new GM of Dendrobium attend.</i> • ACTION: BF to work with MA on the proposed DCCC meeting dates in 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Meeting dates have been confirmed and were shared with the group in December 2020.</i>
6	ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL OPERATIONAL UPDATE
	<p>Approvals (BF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approvals within existing mining area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Longwall 18 Subsidence Management Plan submitted 12 August. Approved December 2020.

- Longwall 19 Subsidence Management Plan submitted - 16 March 2020. Application referred to the Independent Advisory Panel for Underground Mining (IAPUM).
- Longwall 21 Subsidence Management Plan approved - 19 December 2019
- Longwall 20 Subsidence Management Plan – further approval required.
- Longwall 22 and 23 Subsidence Management Plan – currently being prepared.
- Dendrobium Mine Extension Project
 - Independent Planning Commission held public hearings in December 2020.
 - IPC determination in February 2021 saw the refusal of the development application.
- **QoN:** who is on the Independent Advisory Panel for Underground Mining (IAPUM)?
 - Members include Jim Galvin, Rae Mackay, Ann Young and Neil McIntyre.
 - The IAPUM was formed following the completion of the Independent Expert Panel's review into Mining in the Catchment.

Operational Update (BF) – AMF

- Longwall (LW) 16 was completed on the Wednesday 4th November 2020.
- LW17 has completed approx. 400 metres of the planned block.
- Development is continuing in maingate (MG) 18 Panel, Corrimal Mains and the Avondale Mains.
- An underground power outage is planned for the 24 February 2021.
- Diesel compressors will be required on site Saturday 6 March 2021.
- **ACTION:** deliver a noise notification to neighbours advising of the compressor use.
- High voltage outages are planned for Kemira Valley on 31 March and 6 April 2021.
- Currently planning stabilisation work along the lower and upper portal road.
- **QoN:** what power lines feed the Kemira Valley Coal Loading Facility?

Environment Update (CS)

- Underground water balance is relatively stable.
- Licence Discharge Point (LDP) 5 water flow in October was an average of 6.45 mega litres per day (ML/d) (max: 6.99 ML/d and min: 2.96 ML/d).
- Directional noise monitor is being progressed. Equipment has landed on site from Poland. Testing of the equipment is underway. It is expected that the system will be established and functional in April 2021.
- Noise monitoring was undertaken 10-11 November 2021. There were no identified breaches of the conditions of consent. Noise monitoring was also undertaken in early February. No results have been received.
- Rail noise monitor was vandalised on 4 February 2021. Parts of the monitoring device were stolen. It will be repaired ASAP.

- PC asked where the water that is drawn from the mine is discharged? CS advised that the water is pumped from storages at Dendrobium and pumped into Allans Creek. CS advised that the water quality is monitored and recorded in the 14-day report.
- PD added that brine from the Appin WTP is added to the Dendrobium dewatering line.

NOTE: environmental data can be viewed online by downloading the Dendrobium 14 Day Report.

- CS discussed the recent impacts associated with LW16 and LW17 which have been identified by the field team. Monitoring will continue, and impacts reported to the relevant government agencies as they're identified.
- The Independent Environmental Audit was discussed. The audit was completed in October 2020. The DCCC provided advice to the audit team, through email and an interview.
- The audit found four non-compliances, five administrative non-compliances and three observations.

The audit has been provided to the NSW Government and will be made available online when approved by the Department.

- An update on the Spring Monitoring Report was provided to the DCCC. The monitoring found that there are no long-term impacts associated with the event.
- The November monitoring showed that improvement in stream health (as identified in the August report) had been maintained and stream health in downstream sites was similar in stream health to the upstream sites.
- A copy of the report has been shared with the DCCC.
- PD asked if South32 had been fined by the EPA for the incident? CS advised that a determination is yet to be communicated to South32.
- PD asked if a follow up inspection had been undertaken. CS explained that this was the purpose of the spring monitoring round.
- PG asked if South32 cleaned up other rubbish which had washed into the creek from public and private lands? CS advised that some household/industrial rubbish was collected from the waterways.

Community Update

- Dendrobium has received 68 complaints since the last meeting. The primary reason for complaints were noise related followed by traffic concerns. A number of complaints have also been received regarding the proposed car park.
- A request was received to communicate to the DCCC that there have been 19 movements over the last 6 months at the pit top during night time curfew (these movements are those identified through investigation as not being production critical).
- The mine is actively working on addressing noisy activities to limit impacts to site. These efforts will be supported by the implementation of the directional noise monitoring system.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints are responded to within 24 hours, investigated and action taken where required. NOTE: community call line (1800 102 210) is resourced 24/7; complaints and enquiries are also able to be submitted via email to illawarracommunity@south32.net • The Mount Kembla pathway group held their first meeting for 2021 in February. • The group has raised concern for the proposed mountain biking trails which align with a portion of the memorial pathway. The next meeting is planned for May 2021. • Clean up Australia Day is planned for the 2 March 2021. Employees from Dendrobium and the IMC's Regional Operations Centre will be cleaning areas around the site. • A concern has been raised regarding dust by a local resident. Dust sampling is planned. • Community investment through the Dendrobium Community Enhancement Program (DCEP) continues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wollongong Heritage Collections Inc – Yesterdays Stories received \$19,000. ○ Western suburbs pool received \$31,920 for a pool cover. To be installed during the swimming off-season. • For more information on the DCEP or how to apply, visit https://www.south32.net/our-business/australia/illawarra-metallurgical-coal/documents <p><u>Dendrobium Mine Extension Project Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Independent Planning Commission (IPC) held public hearings from 2 to 4 December 2020. • Nearly 2,000 submissions were received, with roughly 50% supportive of the mining proposal. • The IPC refused the development application on 5 February 2021. • South32 is now considering its options regarding the determination.
7	MEMBER UPDATES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VT asked if South32 would be considering a resubmission with an amended mine design? VT also asked that South32 provide the DCCC with updates as soon as they are known. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It was advised that South32 is continuing to consider its options regarding the IPC determination. Updates would be provided to the DCCC, ASAP. • PG asked if the decision by the IPC meant that the coal resources was sterilised and no longer able to be mined. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The coal resource is not sterilised. The IPC refused South32's application to mine the coal resource in Areas 5 and 6. • PD discussed the findings of the IPC and agreed with the IPC determinations, especially regarding the environmental impacts and the Project deemed "not in the public interest".
8	GENERAL BUSINESS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed the community survey which had been distributed recently. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VT advised that a copy of the results would be shared with South32.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed the community Facebook page which has been set up regarding the carpark, and other aspects of the mine. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members advised that it was an open forum and all residents were encouraged to participate. ○ PG advised that he has not been accepted as a member of the group. VT advised that she could support PG participation in the forum should it be required. <p>Next Meeting Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 April 2021 • 17 June 2021 • 19 August 2021 • 21 October 2021 • 16 December 2021
9	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTION: deliver a noise notification to neighbours advising of the compressor use. • QON: what power lines feed the Kemira Valley Coal Loading Facility?
10	MEETING CLOSE / NEXT MEETING
	<p>Meeting close: 19:00</p> <p>Next Meeting: 15 April 2021</p>