

Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee Minutes (Final)

Meeting Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee **Date** 5 December 2024

Time 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Venue Dendrobium Mine, Dendrobium Nebo Room

Independent Chair Deborah Palmer

Anita Mulrooney, Community Representative
 Franca Facci, Community Representative
 Jenny Evans, Community Representative
 Phil Clunas, Community Representative (online)
 Phil Diamond, Community Representative
 Phil Grant, Community Representative
 Mat Reh, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal
 Chris Schultz, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal
 Antony Leone, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (online)
 Mira Speer, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal
 Luca Franceschini, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal
 Yvonne Walker, Minutes
 Melynda Kensey, Observer, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

Apologies

Cr Benn Banasiak,
 Wollondilly Shire Council
 James Newton, Community Representative
 Ron Zwicker, Wollongong City Council
 Simon Thomas, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

Item	Action item	Responsibility
1	Send the link to the Wingecarribee Swamp Project to the DCCC once formally approved	MS
2	Report any issues with squealing train brakes at the time they occur	DCCC
3	Check the algorithm relating to complaints reporting	MS
4	Send community complaints 1800 number to DCCC	MS
5	Put together some items / themes that require explanation from LW19A EoP report	FF
6	Check possibility of having a meeting at Mines Rescue in conjunction with an underground tour	MS
7	Update DCCC re faulty noise monitor	LF
8	Circulate opportunity to input into the draft Annual CCC report to the DCCC for comment / endorsement before sending it to DPFI	DP
9	Discuss and organise another inspection of the swamp in 2025	DCCC / MS

Item	Discussion Point
1.	<p>Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair welcomed all CCC Members and gave an Acknowledgement of Country. The Chair thanked everyone for attending and appreciated their attendance. All participants introduced themselves briefly.
2.	<p>Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apologies were received from:

- James Newton, Community Representative
- Simon Thomas, GM3
- Ron Zwicker, Wollongong City Council
- Cr Benn Banasiak, Wollondilly Shire Council.

3. **Declaration of interests**

- The Chair declared a pecuniary interest, advising their time as Independent Chairperson is paid for by GM³. YW is paid as minute taker by DP.
- The Chair requested any updates on pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.
- There were no other declarations made at the meeting.

4. **Business update – AL**

- 29 August 2024 was the sale completion date.
- Currently in a Transitional Services Agreement period with South32 (to approx. Feb 2025) – to ensure a smooth transition from South32 systems and processes to GM3.
- Community team changes:
 - Rod Mapstone has left the business – introducing Melynda Kensey as our Principal, Corporate Affairs.
 - Termira (Mira) Speer will lead the DCCC and all community-related matters for Dendrobium Mine.
 - Antony Leone will continue to lead the team as Manager, Corporate Affairs.
 - Total team of 5.
- PD – Expressed a concern that the Indian company that has bought into the mine is the owner of WRC Russell Vale and Wongawilli, and feedback from other CCCs is that compliance may not be their top priority. AL – clarified that they have bought into GM3. They do not have a say in relation to Illawarra Metallurgical Coal.

5. **Questions on notice / Business arising from previous minutes**

- Question on Notice 1: How soon after the collapse of the longwall cavity is it considered safe for people to walk / camp on the land above?
CS: Underground mining does not make walking or camping inherently unsafe. Potential subsidence impacts are managed through approved management plans. The timing varies depending on factors including mine location, geology, longwall panel geometry, depth of cover / overburden. Generally, once the longwall face is at least 400 metres past a feature, all subsidence that will happen, has.
- Question on Notice 2: What number and percentage do the Illawarra coastal upland swamps located in the GM3 area of interest, which are classified as 'threatened ecological community' make up of the total upland swamps in the greater Sydney and Illawarra area?
CS: approximately 2.1% of all upland swamps in the Illawarra / Sydney area are within the Dendrobium Consent Boundary. It was noted the mapping may not have been field verified in many locations outside the Boundary.
- Action Item 1: ST to review debris at the rail bridge personally
Completed. Closed.
- Action Item 2: ST to confirm the length of LW22.
MR advised LW22 is 2252m in length. Closed.
- Action Item 3: CS to send notification to the CCC when the LW19A EoP report is online for review.

Completed. Closed.

- Action Item 4: CS to compile a 'Ready Reckoner' outlining regulatory bodies and their function for DCCC members.

CS prepared this and feedback was that it was a very useful reference document for DCCC members. Closed.

- Action Item 5: CS to send link to the Wingecarribee Swamp Project to the DCCC once formally approved.

This is still awaiting formal approval.

Action 1: MS will send this link once formal approval has been received.

- Action Item 6: ST to speak with Pacific National to check if any of their carriages currently have issues with squealing brakes.

Pacific National have advised that there are no current issues. They conduct daily and monthly checks on all trains and there are no reports of issues in the last couple of months. PD: heard the squealing from his balcony a couple of weeks ago, but did not report it. CS reinforced the need to report it, as while regular inspections are undertaken there may be things happening on a particular day to a particular set of wagons and it can be investigated straight away. PD asked whether there was a noise monitor on the railway line and CS advised there is a noise monitor down towards the specific location. PD acknowledged the importance of same-time reporting.

Action 2: PD, DCCC and community to report any issues with train brakes as they occur.

DCCC members reported some difficulty locating the 1800 number.

Action 3: MS to check the algorithm.

Action 4: MS to circulate the link to the 1800 number to the DCCC.

6. Correspondence

- 5/12/24 – Email from RZ to the Chairperson – apology for the 5 December meeting
- 4/12/24 – Email from Chairperson to the DCCC – online meeting link
- 2/12/24- Email from PC to the Chairperson – may attend online. Request for meeting link
- 26/11/24 – Email from the Chairperson to Cr Benn Banasik – December meeting invitation
- 26/11/24 – Email from the Chairperson to Cr Benn Banasik – Background information on the DCCC and forms to complete
- 26/11/24 – Email from the Chairperson to Cr Paul Rogers - – Background information on the DCCC and forms to complete
- 26/11/24 – Email from Chairperson to DCCC – 5 December 2024 agenda
- 19/11/24 – Email from Chairperson to the DCCC – Terms of Reference; welcome to Cr Benn Banasik as a new member and Cr Paul Rogers as the alternative; and 'ready reckoner' of agencies and responsibilities
- 15/11/24 – Email from the Chairperson to MS – QONs from FF
- 14/11/24 - Email from RZ to the Chairperson – apology for 5 December meeting
- 14/11/24 – Email from FF to the Chairperson – 2 QON
- 13/11/24 – Email from AL to the CCC - Longwall 19A End of Panel Report. Request to review the report and submit any QON by 28 November 2024
- 12/11/24 – Email from Wollondilly Shire Council to the Chairperson - Cr Benn Banasik confirmed as the member and alternate delegate, Cr Paul Rogers
- 8/11/24 – Email from Wingecarribee Council to the Chairperson– no representative nominated to the DCCC

- 3/11/24 – Email from Chairperson to the DCCC – response to QON to DHPI
- 10/11/24 – Email from Chairperson to the DCCC – draft agenda for comment and call for QON
- 30/10/24 – Email from Chairperson to the DCCC – final minutes
- 21/10/24 – Email from AM to Chairperson – Apology for absence from October meeting
- 21/10/24 – Email from Chairperson to DCCC – draft minutes for comment by 29/10/24
- 21/10/24 – Email from the Chairperson to DPHI – QON from members
- 14/10/24 – Email from Wollondilly Shire Council to the Chairperson – confirmation of Council representation on the DCCC to be confirmed at the next Council meeting
- 11/10/24 – Email from the Chairperson to MS – forward of email from PD – Debris photos
- 11/10/24 – Email from PD to the Chairperson – Debris photos

7. **Company and other reports**

7.1 Operations

The operations update was provided by MR.

- Longwall 22 production has continued since commencement on 10 August 2024.
- Development continuing at MG21A, Corrimal Mains, and Pioneer Mains.
- Kemira Valley conveyor gantry footing has received remediation works – construction of a gabion wall and drainage to manage water in wet weather.

AM: Have been asked about GM³'s plan to expand the footprint of the pit top – noticed in the annual review there is a planned application to modify the Development Consent.

CS: The modification is not about expanding the footprint of the operation – it's about extending the boundary of the pit top, primarily so slope stabilisation works can be undertaken within the boundary.

7.2 Approvals

The approvals update was provided by CS.

- LW21A Subsidence Management plan submitted 16 November 2023.
- LW22 and LW23 SMP approved 20 December 2022 – variation application for LW23, reducing the width, submitted 14 May 2024 and approved 20 November 2024.

PD: What will the width be now? MR: 200m.

7.3 Environment

The environment update was provided by CS.

- LDP5 flow in Nov was on average 8.31 ML/day (max 9.03ML/d and min 6.9ML/d), which is consistent with previous months. Most of the water pumped out continues to be from Area 3B.
- Targeted Assessment Program – Water undertaken by Resources Regulator. This was focused on end of mine life, although there is no plan for closure at this point.

FF: Where is the water pumped from and where does it go?

CS: Water is pumped out from all underground areas via Kemira Valley, from where is

flows down to licence discharge point 5 at Unanderra.

- LW19A EoP report has been submitted. Link to report on website has been distributed.

FF: Is it possible to have a quick briefing on this, as it is still highly technical. CS sought further clarification on this request, and FF indicated that some of the fundamental principles needed further explanation. CS indicated that the presentation that had been prepared for LW19A did not go into detail on these and therefore it was requested that questions on notice be provided so the specific areas of uncertainty can be addressed.

Action 5: FF to put together some ideas / themes that require explanation.

Action 6: MS to investigate whether the DCCC could meet at Mines Rescue, in conjunction with a tour to assist with mining awareness for the DCCC.

- Discussions are continuing with WaterNSW regarding the REF for the Littlejohns Tree Frog habitat.
- Management plan updates are underway – they are being rebranded and reviewed at the same time for currency.

PD: Is there any indication of what will happen beyond 2030? CS: There is no information about this yet.

- Quarterly noise monitoring was undertaken. No results yet.
- Issues remain with one of the noise monitors following reinstallation. LF is following this up.

Action 7: LF to update DCCC re faulty noise monitor.

- A new water level monitor has been installed on the Pit Top sediment pond.
- Upgrades to draining at Ventilation Shaft 2/3 have been implemented and hydromulching of exposed soil has been undertaken.
- Weed removal has commenced at the tunnel subsidence site off Harry Graham Drive. The subsidence occurred in 2023.

PD: Mysore Thorn is still in place along the railway line. LF advised this was sprayed last week.

PD: A coral tree fell off GM³ property and community members had to remove it. Is there any plan to remove the coral trees? CS: not at this stage. AM confirmed that if trees fall onto private property or roads, GM³ can assist to clear them.

- License variation approved to add additional license discharge point. This is over at O'Brien's Drift. Groundwater flows down the drift into the creek.
- LDP5 Discharge graph was shown and briefly discussed.
- LW22 impacts and triggers list and map for the period were shown. A lot of them related to soil cracking and rock movement.
- Area 3C: Swamp 156, 155 and 154 Soil Moisture graphs were shown and discussed. Swamps 155 and 156 both had triggers for levels lower than baseline. Swamp 156 has recovered, in response to rainfall.
- Area 3C Groundwater level graphs were shown and discussed. Groundwater dropped below the baseline at Swamp 155.

7.4 Projects

The projects update was provided by MS.

NRAR Enforceable Undertaking

- Still waiting on approval.
- Once final approval is gained a link will be sent to the DCCC and it will also be available

on the NRAR website.

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7.5 Community

The Community update was provided by MS.

Complaints since last meeting

- One environmental complaint – bus emitting soot. The bus was taken out of rotation to be serviced and is now fixed.
- Two grievances in relation to trucks coming down Cordeaux Road outside of curfew.
AM: Do you think deliveries outside curfew are increasing, or is IMC getting better at communicating it? It seems like they are increasing. MS: I think IMC has improved in our communication to the community. AM: Do you have any data on the frequency? MR: the information unfortunately has not been tracked over time in a way that would enable us to check.

7.6 Community Investment

DCEP

- The new grant application site is now up and running: [link](#).
- Support for the Wests Illawarra Swim Club to purchase new equipment.
- James Newton from the DCCC has been appointed to the DCEP.

GM³

- The Dendrobium team attended a Mount Kembla pathway cleanup and another one is also planned for 18 December 2024.
- PD advised that a new mower has been purchased with support from DCEP that is more robust than the previous one.
- If community members have a project in mind, they can get in touch by emailing <mailto:community@gm-3.com.au>.

8. General business

- DP advised there is a requirement to do an annual report to DPHI and planning to do that in January.
Action 8: DP to circulate opportunity to input into the draft report to the DCCC before sending it to DPHI.
- DP asked the committee whether the following changes could be made to scheduled meeting dates:
 - Move the February meeting back by a week to 27 February 2025.
 - Move the April Meeting forward to 10 April 2025, away from being adjacent to the Easter long weekend.The DCCC agreed to these changes.
- Remaining meeting dates for 2025 for ease of reference:
 - Thursday 19 June 2025
 - Thursday 21 August 2025
 - Thursday 16 October 2025
 - Thursday 18 December 2025.
- PD: Could we please have set another date for a DCCC site visit to the swamp for the

members of the DCCC who were not able to attend the previous tour?

MS: The Mines Rescue tour / course is more important to do first, however another swamp site visit can be organised next year.

Action 9: DCCC to discuss and organise another inspection of the swamp in 2025.

9. **Next meeting**

Next Meeting: Thursday 27 February 2025 (Dendrobium Nebo Room)

Time: 5.30pm.

The Chair thanked the DCCC for their participation and for being a good committee to work with, and wished everyone a safe break.

Meeting closed: 6:31pm.
