

Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee Minutes (Final)

Meeting Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee **Date** 16 October 2025
Time 5:30pm

Venue Dendrobium Mine, Dendrobium Nebo Room

Independent Chair Deborah Palmer (online)

Attendees Phil Diamond, Community Representative
 Jenny Evans, Community Representative
 Franca Facci, Community Representative
 Phil Grant, Community Representative
 Anita Mulrooney, Community Representative
 James Newton, Community Representative
 Matt Rubbi, GM³
 Chris Schultz, GM³
 Mira Speer, GM³
 Ron Zwicker, WCC (online)
 Yvonne Walker, Minutes

Apologies

Cr Benn Banasiak,
 Wollondilly Shire Council
 Phil Clunas, Community Representative
 Simon Thomas, GM³

Item	Action item	Responsibility
1	Address the topics in the document prepared by FF on LW19A EoP report in future meetings.	GM ³ / CS
2.	Organise for the CCC to inspect the Wingecarribee Swamp	MS
3	Use the RFS Community Complaint channel to request a site inspection of the fire trail along Benjamin Road, and to encourage a broader review of local fire trails.	PD
4	Provide a slide with 5 years of greenhouse gas monitoring data at the December meeting.	CS
5	Provide a response in relation to percentage ownership by JSW Steel of GM³, and any information relating to interest by GM³ in WRC leases.	ST / GM ³
6	Identify areas of particular interest for the catchment inspection	PD
7	Organise for the CCC to inspect the catchment after the inspection of Wingecarribee Swamp has been completed	MS
8	RSVP to MS for the Christmas Celebration on 27 November 2025	All

Item	Discussion Point
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair welcomed all CCC Members and gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair thanked everyone for attending and appreciated their attendance.
2.	<p>Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apologies were received from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr Benn Banasiak, Wollondilly Shire Council Phil Clunas, Community Representative Simon Thomas, GM³.
3.	<p>Declaration of interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26 August – Email from DP to the CCC – draft August minutes for comment 26 August – Email from AM to the CCC – no changes required to minutes 4 September – Email from DP to the CCC – final August minutes 21 September – Email from DP to the CCC – draft October agenda for comment 28 September – Email from DP to the CCC – advice re Annual Report availability and link 8 October – Email from DP to the CCC – final October agenda and August minutes 16 October – Email from DP to the CCC – attending online due to travel delays
5.	<p>Questions on notice / Business arising from previous minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Action Item 1: Address the topics in the knowledge share document prepared by FF in future meetings.</u> <p>Underway. October question: What is an acceptable level of subsidence?</p> <p>The Southern Coalfield Inquiry and the Independent Expert Panel (2019a) provided advice on defining subsidence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Subsidence effects are the defacement of ground such as horizontal and vertical movement, curvature and strains. Subsidence impacts are the physical changes to the ground caused by subsidence effects, such as cracking and buckling of strata. Environmental consequences are then identified, for example, as a loss of surface water flows and standing pools. <p>The Dendrobium Approval (DA 60-03-2001) Schedule 3 Conditions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 define what is an acceptable level of subsidence effects, impacts, and consequences at Dendrobium Mine.</p> <p>The Subsidence Management Plan (SMP) provides a detailed description of these effects, impacts, and consequences and must be approved by the NSW Government prior to any mining. The SMPs are prepared in accordance with Schedule 3 Conditions 7 and 8 of the Consent.</p> <p>Several mine design alternatives are assessed when developing an SMP, using a team including environment, community, mining expertise, independent reviews, and consultation with Government experts, including the Independent Panel. Alternatives considered include variation in the number of longwalls and orientations, lengths, and setbacks of the longwall from key surface features.</p> <p>The SMP manages subsidence through avoidance (e.g. Lake Cordeaux, Wongawilli Creek,</p>

	<p>Sandy Creek Waterfall, high significance archaeological sites), management (e.g. implementation of Trigger Action Response Plans), minimising (e.g. reduced extraction height to a maximum of 3.9m) mitigation (e.g. installation of supplementary habitat features for impacted fauna), and remediation (e.g. infilling of cracking on the fire road network).</p> <p>SMP objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Avoiding and minimising impacts to significant environmental values where possible 2. Implementing TARPS to identify, assess, and respond to impacts 3. Carrying out mitigation and remediation works in a manner that protects to the greatest practicable extent the environmental values of the area 4. Achieving the Performance Measures outlined in the Development Consent and SMP approval, to the satisfaction of the Secretary; and 5. Monitoring and reporting effectiveness. <p>The group discussed whether the government intends to revise the requirements or performance measures of the Subsidence Management Plan.</p> <p>The proponent representative advised that this is not yet known, but any future changes would be complied with.</p> <p><u>Action Item 2: MS to organise an inspection of Wingecarribee Swamp in 2025.</u></p> <p>On hold until land holder access has been granted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Action Item 3: MS to ascertain where the approval of the mountain bike track Black Run through the Mine Consent is up to, and report back.</u> <p>The Mount Kembla mountain bike trails located on GM³ land have received endorsement from the GM³ Board. Discussions will be undertaken with National Parks and Wildlife to negotiate mutually acceptable terms for the use of the land.</p> <p>GM³ noted the project has already been approved via a development application. The lands owned by National Parks and Wildlife, which also applied for and holds the development approval. GM³ are one of the landholders, and it is not a GM³ project.</p> <p>PD asked whether GM³ would be liable if people were injured on the bike trails.</p> <p>GM³ advised this would be part of the commercial negotiation process.</p> <p>JF stated their strong dissatisfaction with the Board’s decision to grant access to the land without what they considered to be adequate consultation or input from residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Action Item 4: PD to provide photo of oversized vehicle without a guide observed on 18/8/2025 to MS</u> <p>Complete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Action Item 5: ST to check with the courier company whether they were required to have a guide for the oversized vehicle observed on 18/8/2025</u> <p>Complete. Findings reported back to PD by MS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Action Item 6: PD to advise LF if there are specific areas that should be reviewed for fire prevention measures</u>
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	<p>PD indicated he is unfamiliar with the fire trails but would like a general understanding of the status of all fire trails. There is particular concern about the fire trail along Benjamin Road.</p> <p>CS advised prescribed burns are done by the RFS and the RFS liaises with GM³ about any that are undertaken on GM³ properties or in the vicinity of GM³ operations. RFS website has an option to make a community complaint about specific areas of concern. Suggest this may be an avenue PD could use. https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/about-us/contact-us/complaints</p> <p>ACTION: PD to use the RFS Community Complaint channel to request a site inspection of the fire trail along Benjamin Road, and to encourage a broader review of local fire trails.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Company and other reports</p> <p>6.1 Operations</p> <p>The operations update was provided by MR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mine operations have continued in Area 3C. • Longwall 22 production has continued since commencing on 10 August 2024. Still due for completion November 2025. • Roadway development has now been completed at MG21A in preparation for extraction of LW21A. • Development continuing at Corrimal Mains, MG23 gate road, and Figtree Mains (temporarily paused for conveyor upgrades) • There will be some additional traffic movements in October and November 2025 associated with the movement of pre-installation equipment. <p>6.2 Approvals</p> <p>The approvals update was provided by MR.</p> <p><u>Longwall 21A</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidence Management Plan approved 9 July 2025. • GM³ addressing SMP approval conditions. <p><u>Longwalls 24-29</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidence Management Plan for six longwalls in Area 3C is currently with Government agencies for review. • Longwalls have been designed to be setback from an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site of high significance and other significant surface features including Wongawilli Creek. <p>Interactive mining map is available on the GM³ webpage at the link below. https://community.gm3.au/dendrobium-mine</p> <p><u>Mod 11 Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submissions were received from Government agencies and Wollongong Council (8) and individuals (24) • A response is being prepared. <p>6.3 Environment</p> <p>The environment update was provided by CS.</p>

- Littlejohns Tree Frog habitat construction has commenced.
 - Photos were shown of two different habitats.
 - There are 7 sites in different places in the catchment and a range of habitats are being constructed on each site, to review how successful the different types of habitats are.
 - A Littlejohns Tree Frog has already been found in one of the habitats.
- Water Management Plan under assessment by the Department.
- Noise impact assessment continues.
- Reports submitted:
 - FY25 Annual Review (Development Consent) – available on website (<https://gm3.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Dendrobium-Mine-and-Cordeaux-Colliery-Annual-Review-FY25-with-Appendices.pdf>).
 - FY25 Annual Return (Environmental Protection Licence) – available in Annual Review.
 - Annual Rehabilitation Report
 - National Pollutant Inventory Report
- NGRS report assurance underway.
- Weed control in rail corridor planned for November shut down.
- The Logistics team is organising to have the pile of material near the bridge removed, which had been raised at the Pathway Meeting.

PD asked for a regular report on the greenhouse gas emissions as part of the DCCC.

CS questioned the purpose of providing this information to understand what could be provided. PD stated they would like to understand the emissions from the site and how they are tracking. CS advised that the data has been presented in the Annual Review, both monthly data for FY25 as well as data from FY15. The assurance of the FY25 data for NGRS reporting is currently underway.

Action: CS to provide a slide with 5 years of greenhouse gas monitoring data at the next meeting.

- LDP 5 Discharge graph was presented.
LDP 5 flow in May was an average of 9.24 ML/day (max: 9.66 ML/d and min: 8.14 ML/d), which is a slight increase from previous months. Most of the water pumped out continues to be from Area 3B.

Environment – Climate Change

- GM³ is required to meet the requirements under the Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards for climate-related disclosures. These disclosures are required to be submitted by 31 March 2026 (and annually thereafter)
- The package of work undertaken so far includes:
 - A diagnostic session to review current data on climate related processes and disclosures
 - A Climate Resilience Assessment. Eight (8) relevant climate-related risks and opportunities – three (3) physical risks, three (3) transition risks and two (2) opportunities were identified for qualitative assessment.
 - Development of a transition plan.
- A Scope 3 Greenhouse Gas emission assessment was also undertaken. The key categories for Scope 3 emissions were use of sold products (93.5%), waste generated in operations (4.9%), and purchased goods and services (1.2%).

- LW22 Impacts and triggers – graph was presented and a map shown.
The majority of impacts and triggers since the last meeting were rock fractures and soil cracking. Location of impacts shown.
- Area 3C: Swamp 07 Groundwater and Soil Moisture – graph was presented
At measurement points 7-05 and 7-06 there have been no impacts of mining on Swamp 7 to date.
At measurement point 7-07, level two triggers were identified earlier in the year, as discussed in the August DCCC meeting. No triggers since then.
- Area 3C: Swamp 09 Groundwater and Soil Moisture – graph was presented.
No mine subsidence impact to date.
- Area 3C: Swamp 153 Groundwater and Soil Moisture – graph was presented.
No mine subsidence impact to date.

6.4 Projects

The projects update was provided by MS.

NRAR Enforceable Undertaking

- GM³ has received access consent from WaterNSW to undertake the Wingecarribee Swamp Rehabilitation Project, which forms part of the Enforceable Undertaking (EU) set by NRAR. The consent includes conditions, including the requirement to submit an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) before any on-ground works can commence.
- The EMP is currently being developed by ILALC in collaboration with the GM³ Environment Team. Once approved, works on the swamp will commence.
- Civil works for the northern foreshore track upgrades are scheduled to begin in late October, with the site survey nearing completion to confirm fencing boundary lines.
- Recruitment through ILALC has also commenced.
- The full project scope can be viewed at the link below, as previously shared with the DCCC: www.nrar.nsw.gov.au/about-us/compliance/regulatory-responses/enforceable-undertakings/illawarra-coal-holdings-dendrobium-mine

6.5 Community

The Community update was provided by MS.

Complaints since last meeting

- Four community complaints were received since the last meeting. One was related to noise and three were related to traffic.
 - Noise – rail line – screechy/noisy train going towards Kemira Valley. An investigation was conducted but there was no evidence of unusual or screeching noise during the assessments.
 - Traffic – A truck transporting a dozer along Stones Road allegedly caught a powerline. It is unclear whether the truck was associated with GM³ operations, as line spotters were also in place during the activity; however, GM³ covered the cost of the repairs.
 - Pit Top Curfew – complaint received about trucks breaking curfew – identified as a petrol truck and a concrete truck that would have passed through the village slightly before 7:00am. Both companies were reminded of the curfew and the Drivers' Code of Conduct was reissued to reinforce the requirements of the Traffic Management

	<p>Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversize truck without an escort driving up Cordeaux Road – on investigation, this was confirmed. The contractor has been reminded of the need for an escort when delivering to site Five complaints were lodged under a grievance around the vacuum truck operations (3) and personnel movers during the day (2). <p>Community Investment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No DCEP meeting since the last DCCC. Two applications received for consideration at the next meeting – Unanderra Hockey and another for Figtree AFL. GM³ is currently working with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt Kembla Public School – support for 2026 • Wollongong Council – Retort project • Wollongong Council – lighting upgrade to Mt Kembla Oval • Wollongong Council – heritage signage initiative. • Thanks to the partnership with the DCEP and WCC, the pathway / step upgrade between Avon parade and Cordeaux Road has been completed. • GM³ Symbio Wildlife App launch is planned for late October. Mt Kembla Public School, which has been the beta tester of the App over the past two years, will receive free access to both the App and the accompanying teacher resources. • New grant application portal is now in place which is more user-friendly. https://community.gm3.au/grants • As always, if someone has a community project in mind, please get in touch by emailing community@gm3.au
<p>7.</p>	<p>General business</p> <p><u>Ownership of Mine</u></p> <p>The group discussed that the selling of a percentage of the “M” part of the business to Wollongong Resources has been a topic of discussion locally. Clarification was sought on what percentage ownership does WR have of Illawarra Coal? It was noted that it is believed that GM³ has also been interested in purchasing some of the mining leases from WR – is there any information on this?</p> <p>The proponent representatives advised they were not aware of any connection or negotiations relating to existing mining leases.</p> <p>It was clarified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM3 and Wollongong Resources are completely separate businesses with different business owners. • JSW Steel is a partner in GM³ ownership, but hold class B (non-voting rights). The other shares are held by GEAR and M Resources. <p>Action: GM³ to provide a response in relation to percentage ownership by JSW Steel of GM³, and any information relating to interest by GM³ in WR leases.</p> <p><u>Inspection of Catchment</u></p> <p>PD requested that this be planned, as it has been discussed for some time. This is a current action item.</p> <p>Discussion ensued around the last inspection in 2024 which was attended by PD and DP; as it is a time-consuming exercise for GM³ to organise, increased attendance would be ideal.</p> <p>CS advised early in 2026 would be a better time to arrange this visit to avoid the summer</p>

	<p>months.</p> <p>Action: PD to identify areas of particular interest for inspection.</p> <p><u>CS Retirement</u></p> <p>It was noted that CS will be retiring, with the December meeting to be his final attendance. At that meeting, CS will introduce and hand over to his successor. The Chair acknowledged and thanked CS for his significant contribution to the Committee over their tenure.</p> <p>Reminder: Christmas End of Year Celebration 27 November 2025. Please RSVP to MS if you would like to attend.</p>
8.	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Next Meeting: Thursday 4 December 2025 (Dendrobium Nebo Room).</p> <p>Time: 5.30pm.</p> <p>Meeting closed: 7:00pm.</p>