

ABEL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
Meeting #13

Tuesday 22nd February 2011 at 5.00 pm

Abel Underground Mine Administration Building

MINUTES

1. **OPENING & WELCOME:** Chairman, The Hon. Milton Morris AO
2. **PRESENT:** Mr Milton Morris (Chairman), Mr Alan Brown, Mr Brad Ure, Mr Allan Jennings, Ms Keren Halliday (Bloomfield), Mr Matthew Blackham, Mr Tony Sutherland, Mr Adam Heeney, Ms Michelle Darcy (mins) and Mr Phillip Brown.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Mr Terry Lewin and Mr Andrew Pace.
4. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**
 - 4.1 *Previous Minutes 15 November 2010 were confirmed by those members present.*
5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**
 - 5.1 *Business Arising.*
Dealt with in Reports below.
6. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
Nil
7. **COMPANY REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES:**
 - 7.1 **Development update**
 - 7.1.1 **Abel Program 2011**

Mr Matthew Blackham provided a presentation on the mine progress - see attached presentation. He said that the performance so far this year had been reasonable. Slower production was due to ongoing machine issues. A reconditioned machine is due on site to assist development of Panel 5.

Mr Blackham said production was down in January/February 2011 due to Christmas breaks.
 - 7.2 **Monitoring and Environmental Performance**

Mr P Brown presented a report on environmental monitoring - see attached presentation.

He said the decline in the number of bird species identified and the general number of birds in the area had been found to be most likely due to cattle disturbance of dams, drought, change in weather or even "chance".

Mr Jennings asked how long does the Open Cut still have for production and Mr Brown replied that there was 20 months production left which would be completed end 2012.
 - 7.3 **Community Complaints and response to complaints**

No Complaints received over last three months.
 - 7.4 **Website Information/Meeting Minutes**
 - 7.4.1 **Website Information**

No comments.
 - 7.4.2 **Meeting Minutes**

Mr P Brown apologised for the delay in circulating the minutes of previous meeting.

Revision History					
Edition	Revision	Comment	Author	Date	Authorised by:
1	0	Draft Minutes	M Darcy	23 February 2011	
		Approved Minutes		2 May 2011	M Morris

7.5 Information provided to the Community and any feedback

No comments.

7.6 Subsidence Management Plan Update**7.6.1 Area SMP 1 Update**

Mr T Sutherland gave an update including subsidence monitoring. Refer to Attachments. He mentioned that subsidence was low due to a geological feature preventing removal of all planned coal in Panel 2.

Mr Sutherland said that Daracon had undertaken reparation of areas where there was subsidence (in cracking 100-150 mm).

7.6.2 Area SMP 2 Update

Mr T Sutherland said that the submission for SMP 2 would be lodged in March 2011 (put back from December 2010).

7.6.3 Downcast Ventilation Shaft Update

Mr T Sutherland gave an update. Mr M Blackham said that the Bondor Panel Shed built over the shaft had reduced fan noise significantly.

7.6.4 Proposed Upcast Ventilation Shaft

Mr T Sutherland gave an update. Refer to Attachments. He said the shaft would be located 210m away from the downcast shaft and would utilise an existing bush track off John Renshaw Drive.

7.7 Rehabilitation of Drill Sites – Perception and Responsibility

Mr Alan Brown raised a major concern about the processes and responsibilities in place for the reparation of drill sites. The access road to his property (and all properties surrounding his) had been used for machinery to access the drilling site and had become corrugated and gauged. Repairs to the road verges had been unsatisfactory with a noxious weed (noogoora burr) found growing in the rehabilitated area.

Mr A Brown asked the question of what were Abel's obligations in a situation such as this and he would like clarification of the steps/procedures that need to be taken in possible future similar situations. Mr Brown said that what should have been a simple repair has now become a major problem.

Mr Phillip Brown said that Abel would carry out further repairs and take all measures to remove the weed. Mr Alan Brown said he was worried the weed would still pop up due to the heavy rainfall received since the road was repaired.

Mr Milton Morris said going forward Abel will need to question suppliers about the origin of soil used for repairs. Mr Blackham agreed and asked that Mr Phillip Brown locate a certified "clean source" of soil/material as a matter of urgency.

Mr P Brown said a new procedure will be put into place whereby he will be required to sign off on any reparation work and the materials used for all drilling sites.

8. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

Mr A Brown will report on the development of clean up/repairs to his property's access road at the next meeting.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

10. NEXT MEETING

10.1 The next meeting of the Abel Community Consultative Committee was set down for Monday 2 May 2011 to be held at the Abel Underground Mine Administration Building at 5.00 pm.

The meeting was declared closed at 5.45pm by the Chairman.