

**ABEL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE Meeting #42
16th March, 2020
Abel Underground Mine Administration Building
DRAFT**

1. OPENING & WELCOME

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared the meeting open at 2.57 pm.

2. PRESENT

Ms Margaret MacDonald-Hill (Chairperson), Mr Terry Lewin, Mr Brad Ure, Mr Alan Brown, and Mr James Benson (Abel Mine Environment & Community Coordinator) (minutes).

3. APOLOGIES

Mr Allan Jennings, Mr Greg Lamb (Bloomfield Group), Mr William Farnworth (Donaldson Operations) Mr Phillip Brown (Abel Mine Environment & Community Relations Superintendent).

Members of the committee wished Mr Phillip Brown a speedy recovery from a recent health illness.

4. PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no changes to the previously declared pecuniary interest.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Abel CCC on 9th September 2019 were confirmed by Mr Ure and seconded by Mr Lewin.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 Black Hill Road repairs and speed limit

Mr Benson advised that there was no update from the previous meeting. Subsidence was recently identified adjacent to the road on Meredith Road and was notified to Subsidence Advisory NSW.

Action: Mr Brown to follow up with Subsidence Advisory NSW regarding status of proposed works to Blackhill Road.

6.2 Controlled RFS burn

Mr Benson advised that no controlled burns occurred over the summer months due to elevated bushfire activity. Slashing along the Avalon Estate APZ occurred at the start of the Bushfire Danger period in September 2019. Mr Benson will reassess with the RFS in the coming months.

6.3 Feral Animal Control

The feral animal control program proceeded as scheduled in spring and was successful.

6.4 Tara Dever membership

Membership application forms have been provided to Tara Dever for completion. A response is still outstanding.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

as per Agenda

8. COMPANY REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

8.1 Abel Mine Update

Refer to presentation

Mr Benson provided an update to the Abel operations. The site remains in Care and Maintenance and continues to focus on keeping the site secure and infrastructure maintained.

8.2 Environmental Update

Refer to presentation.

Mr Benson provided an update to the environmental operations at the mine.

The Resource Regulator have issued a Section 240 Notice to Abel to update the Mining Operations Plan (MOP) to provide further detail around a Closure Strategy in the event Abel was to move from care and maintenance into closure.

| Revision History | | | | | |
|------------------|----------|---------------|----------|-----------|----------------|
| Edition | Revision | Comment | Author | Date | Authorised by: |
| 1 | 0 | Draft Minutes | J Benson | 23/3/2020 | |

Dust levels over the summer period were elevated and closely reflected bushfire activity and smoke haze at the time.

Mr Brown sought clarification on the reporting of dust exceedances and when they occur to regulators.

Mr Benson outlined that dust levels above the compliance limits are reviewed at the time and may not be reported if the review determines elevated levels are due to extraordinary events. Compliance limits for dust excludes extraordinary events such as bushfires, prescribed burning, dust storms, etc. All dust levels are reported in the Annual Review and provided to regulators.

9. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Nil

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr Ure asked about the timing of the Mine Closure Strategy and if it would be available for the next CCC meeting.

Mr Benson noted the Mine Closure Strategy and updated MOP would most likely not be approved by the Resource Regulator at the time of the meeting. Mr Benson will provide an outline of the Mine Closure Strategy at the next meeting. This will be included in the next meetings presentation.

Mr Lewin clarified that any mine closure, when it occurs, would be a staged approach.

Mr Benson confirmed that closures of mine sites are typically staged, citing Tasman Mine as an example.

11. NEXT MEETING

14th September 2020 at 3:00pm.

The meeting was declared closed at 320 pm by the Chair.