



Managed by Rio Tinto Coal Australia

**Hunter Valley Operations (HVO)
Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting
Thursday 23 March 2017**

Attendance

Chairperson

Colin Gellatly (CG) Independent Chair HVO CCC

Community Representatives

Charlie Shearer (CS) Community Representative
 Brian Atfield (BA) Community Representative
 Neville Hodgkinson (NA) Community Representative
 Hollee Jenkins (HJ) Singleton Council

Company Representatives

Tom Lukeman (TL) General Manager HVO
 Mark Townson (MT) Mining Manager HVO
 Andrew Speechly (AS) Environment and Community Manager

Presenters/Observers

Daniel Solomon (DS) Environmental Advisor HVO
 Leah Scheepers (LS) Community Relations Specialist
 Jaime Flynn Community Engagement Officer - DRE

Apologies

Di Gee (DG) Community Representative
 David Love (DL) Community Representative
 Thomas Holz Land and Property Manager

Meeting Commenced 13:10

1. MINUTES

The minutes from the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meetings held on the 24th November were confirmed by Colin Gellatly (CG) and were adopted by the committee.

HJ requested that her apology for her absence, communicated to MT prior to the meeting, be noted in the CCC minutes on the 24th November 2016. DS committed to revise the minutes to reflect this.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS/CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND CORRESPONDANCE

None to report.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Action 1; HVO to present the results of the employee breakdown

AS presented the cost breakdown.

- ✚ HJ wanted to know if there was an established benchmark or aim for local employment? As a councillor local employment is a top priority, other than the VPA is there any additional security for employment. Is there going to be a concerted effort towards ensuring jobs are given to locals? It would help with fatigue management.
- ✚ AS mentioned the local procurement process, but final employment decisions normally come down to an individual's personal choice of where they want to live.
- ✚ NH commented that not everyone wants to live in singleton, due to health issues. However employment should be based on merit not location.
- ✚ TL stated that large contracting companies were required to source the majority of their employees from within a 1hr radius from site.
- ✚ HJ commented that in the last round of traineeships only 1/11 were local, traineeships should be local. Wondered if more emphasis could be put on Programmed?
- ✚ TL stated that the concern is noted. The 1hr requirement will be maintained.
- ✚ HJ stated that Mt Arthur had more rigorous local employment policies.

Action 2; TL to provide further information on C&A accounts payable

TL explained that Rio Tinto utilises electronic procurement software called Quadrem which provides an interface between the Rio Tinto Procurement (RTP) team and vendors. The software works on a subscription basis whereby; the more the system is used (number of transactions), the more the company is required to pay, which can be cost prohibitive for smaller companies. If companies are accruing excessive fees a work around can be reached with the local site based RTP team.

AS tabled the tender for Carrington Stud. Explained that Thomas Holz was sick and would present on the Coal and Allied tendering process at the next CCC meeting.

4. COMPANY REPORTS

Sale of Coal and Allied

TL spoke to the sale of Coal and Allied to Yancoal. TL said it was likely that the sale would not occur until the later part of the second half of the year. Yancoal buys all of Coal and Allied's obligations, and would be require to honour all obligations.

- ✚ NH queried how the sale relates to environmental approvals.
- ✚ AS explained that the licences are owned by the premises (HVO or MTW) not Rio Tinto and will be retained post sale as the sale is a share buy.
- ✚ NH asked whether the government was concerned with the sale.
- ✚ TL explained that there were other mines operating within NSW under the same ownership.
- ✚ NH asked if there would be any additional environmental conditions imposed by the government following the sale
- ✚ JF clarified that the consent remains the same, regulations remain the same and the government has an obligation to protect the environment regardless of owner. JF committed to following up further with the Department of Industry.

Action #1: JF to determine if there are additional regulatory considerations due to ownership changes.

Update on Feral Pest Management

An overview of feral pest management activities undertaken since the last CCC meeting was presented. In summary;

- 1080 baiting targeting wild dogs and foxes. Use of ejector baits. Summer program just finished.
- Feral Pig Shooting undertaken with 92 pigs euthanized YTD.
- 6 Feral cattle removed

DS explained that the cattle escaped onto the mine site following a traffic accident a few years ago, the livestock were injured; they were rounded up and taken to the abattoirs.

CG asked CS if there had been any issues lately with pigs. CS responded only Kangaroos.

Update on Recent Audits and Inspections

AS provided an update of some recent audits that have occurred at HVO;

- EPA Inter-Agency Audit Program – Dam Safety
- EPA Site Visit
- Penalty Notice – Parnells Dam
- HVO Independent Audit

HJ queried the reporting requirements when an issue/incident is identified during an audit

AS explained that the reporting requirements are the same regardless of inspection.

AS described the new Wandewoi Offset and the re-establishment works which would be undertaken shortly.

BA queried why the offset has to be on the southern side of the range as the area is good cattle grazing land.

AS explained that the land has to meet specific criteria to be an offset, the area chosen would have been related to the species composition present and the area to the north may have been unsuitable.

CS commented that storms appeared to be bypassing the Maison Dieu area, believes that this is caused by mining in the area.

AS as advised that research pertaining to rain shadowing effects concluded that larger variations in elevation were typically required to influence rain patterns.

BA agreed that there were other people in the community that agreed with CS' views and talking about mining leading to less rainfall

NH believes that under SW conditions the pit void coupled with the dump height could lead to rain shadowing effects.

Update on Mining Operations

MT provided an overview of each pit area, along with an update on the truck noise attenuation program.

NH asked how dust was being controlled by dozers working on the bulk push in Carrington

MT explained that the same controls exist for all operators that it is up to the individual to control dust but there are multiple systems (IOC) in place which monitor dust and weather which feedback to OCEs/operators.

HJ asked if near neighbours at Jerrys Plains had been notified of mining starting up in Carrington again.

MT explained that main haul road passes through this area, constantly in use, there should be no discernible difference with the additional work in Carrington.

Update on Rehabilitation

AS ran through the rehabilitation plan for the year.

BA queried the seed species that are used in the aerial seeding mix.

AS explained that it is typically an exotic mixture of pasture seeds suited to the conditions. Whereas rehabilitation tends to be a mixture of both native and exotic pasture species depending on the required rehabilitation outcome.

HVO South Modification Update

AS summarised the HVO South community engagement and feedback.

NH asked if most of the noise complaints stem from truck noise and which community areas call through complaints.

AS confirmed that truck noise was responsible for most complaints and the location of the complaint was very dependent on weather.

HJ commented that the engagement feedback aligns with what she was saying earlier about local employment.

AS confirmed that the feedback regarding local employment was more to do with how to apply for a job rather than Coal and Allied's employment statistics.

NH asked if Coal and Allied were a part of the high school employment forum.

AS confirmed that Coal and Allied often took part and supported the Singleton Professions forum last year. Also Coal and Allied apprentices that had previously taken part in the program visited Singleton High School to discuss their experiences.

CG asked about the timing for response to submissions

TL confirmed that HVO's response should be ready by mid April.

HJ commented that length of timing is important, considering MTW had their response out the next day. Not a good reflection on consultation.

TL was not sure about the timing of the PAC.

5. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE FEEDBACK

- # HJ emphasised that local employment is very important, duty to keep unemployment low.
- # BA thanked HVO for putting on information sessions in Jerrys Plains, was disappointed that more people didn't turn up.
- # CS concerned about dust and noise, can't believe some of the noise received at Maison Dieu, too much burden for people that live not too far away.
- # CG asked if there were any particular times/events which were noteworthy.
- # CS responded there was one particular day, but the phone line was a hassle to use, trying to get onto the right people.
- # BA enquired if there was a direct line that Charlie can utilise.
- # AS responded that it needs to go to a service where we can guarantee 24/7 coverage.
- # HJ asked if a complaint was called through to dispatch instead of the complaints hotline if it would still be counted as a complaint?
- # AS confirmed it would count towards the number of complaints.
- # AS advised that 4 properties in Maison Dieu that would be entitled to mitigation rights under the modification have been offered mitigation prior to approval. AS clarified that this was voluntary.
- # CS disagreed with this option
- # NH discussed his decision to support the HVO South Project, specifically as it related to the Singleton Healthy Environment Group (SHEG). That the issues the community raised during the engagement process matches closely with what SHEG have been working on for years; noise, dust light and water tanks. Government departments allow the mine to operate in a certain way and reports consistently say that HVO is compliant, which was never in doubt.
- # NH remarked that the change in ownership from Rio Tinto to Yancoal and the increase in visibility of Coal and Allied appeared to signal a change of heart. Mitigation of closeby properties will help to reduce community angst.
- # NH stated that the company must acknowledge that CS is so heavily affected by the project, that it will devalue his property and his world renowned dairy. The support for the proposal is conditional, in the past the SHEG has traditionally rejected all proposals but this was a step change to hopefully get more positive outcomes from the project for the local community.

AS put forward a motion to display minutes on the website after they have gone through the period of review by the CCC and endorsed by the Chair, instead of waiting till the minutes are confirmed by the CCC at the proceeding CCC meeting. This was supported by the Chair and the other CCC members.

CCC members were offered a tour of the IOC (Integrated Operations Centre)

NEXT MEETING

- **13th July 2017**
Commencing at 1pm
Meeting Room 1
Hunter Valley Services Building

Meeting Closed

14:25

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

Action	Proposed By	Action Proposed	Accountability
1	JF	JF to determine if there are additional regulatory considerations due to ownership changes	Jaime Flynn

Final

CENTRAL SWITCHBOARD LOCATED AT SINGLETON SHOP FRONT : (02) 6575 5800**INFORMATION LINE : 1800 727 745****COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS LINE – 24 HOUR SERVICE : 1800 656 892****Contact details for CCC Members**

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