



Yancoal
Mount Thorley Warkworth Operations
Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Monday 20 May 2019

Attendance

Chairperson

Colin Gellatly

Independent Chair MTW CCC

Company Representatives

David Bennett

Acting General Manager

Gary Mulhearn

Environment & Community Manager

Olivia Lane

Environment & Community Coordinator

Aleisha Tindall

Community Response Officer (CRO)

Community Representatives

Ian Hedley

Community Representative

Adrian Gallagher

Community Representative

Stewart Mitchell

Community Representative

Council Representative

Cr. Hollee Jenkins

Singleton Council

By Invitation

Craig Milton

Policy Manager, NSW Minerals Council

Apologies

Christina Metlikovec

Community Representative

Graeme O'Brien

Community Representative

Minutes

Sarah Purser

1. WELCOME & 2. APOLOGIES; Col welcomed the CCC and confirmed there was suitable community representation to form a quorum for today's Meeting. Col advised that he will write to Graeme to ascertain his ability to attend future meetings.

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / CONFLICT OF INTEREST; *Standing*; Col advised that both he and Sarah are engaged by Yancoal to provide the services of Independent Chairperson and meeting note taker. Hollee advised that she is engaged by a Sub-Contractor that does work for Mount Thorley Warkworth.

4. BUSINESS ARISING - Action Items from the previous Meeting; 18 February 2019

Action; Col asked Gary to invite a representative from the Local Lands Services to attend a future meeting to provide an update on Feral Pest Management and some insight into Weed Management in the area, including what weeds were classed as being Noxious.

✓ Gary confirmed that the LLS officer had been contacted and a request had been made for him to attend a future meeting. Gary felt it would be beneficial for members if this LLS representative could attend the August MTW CCC.

Action carried forward

Action; In response to a query from Ian, Gary to liaise with Jess to see if there are other options available for more natural coloured tubes that might be utilised for future plantings.

✚ The tree guards MTW use for the re-establishment programs are highly visible, solid-walled, pink in colour and made of UV stabilised fluted core flute plastic, these are heavy duty quality and therefore can be re-used.

Why Pink?

✚ Visible light can be split into a spectrum of colours. Green leaves absorb light from the red fraction to drive photosynthesis. Research has demonstrated that the colour pink reflects and focuses the red fraction, concentrating this photosynthetic energy to enhance plant growth

Gary confirmed that this is the science behind why MTW utilise the pink tree guards and Ian was concerned that these tubes had faded from their original colour and that there were quite a lot that are no longer on the trees and had blown across the paddock, he felt if they are to be re-used MTW may need to think about a method to fasten them down to the ground.

ACTION 1: Gary to follow up on Ian's concerns about tree guards that had faded and come away from trees in the off-set planting in quarry.

Action: In response to a concern raised by Ian regarding an incident of dust coming from MTW's crusher, Gary to investigate and respond.

Investigation completed March 2019 in relation to the crusher;

- ✓ Dust suppression was confirmed to be fitted and operating at time of inspection.
- ✓ During the inspection the sprinkler head was operating and the flow of water sufficient to mitigate dust.
- ✓ Water tanks are filled each day and hold sufficient volume for each shift.
- ✓ The unit does not operate when the dust suppression system is not operating.
- ✓ Normal additional dust observations/controls are also implemented (OCE inspections, Community Response Officer Inspections for dust on site boundaries).

Gary acknowledged what Ian had seen at the time of his concern and Ian confirmed that he had provided photos. Ian would have to disagree that dust suppression was being used at the time of this particular incident as there had been dust everywhere and it had been literally blowing away in a plume. Ian acknowledged that the crusher operation had been better since and Gary confirmed that in addition to suppression MTW conduct routine checks for environmental controls, along with the rest of their operational controls on the day. MTW have the CRO's out looking for point source dust emission and feed that information back to the operations as part of the companies normal controls.

Action: Jason asked that the removal of dead trees along Yancoal's road frontage be taken as a priority action to be undertaken by the company.

- ✓ Works have been completed.

Action: Gary to distribute the Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) to the CCC on finalisation.

Gary advised that the SIMP is pretty much at final version but he still needs to check some detail to make sure everything in the EIS is suitably addressed and advised he would work to get the SIMP finalised by the next CCC.

5. OUT OF SESSION CORRESPONDENCE:

- ✓ Previous Minutes February 2019 Meeting (email 12/4/2019)
- ✓ Agenda & Business Papers (6/5/2019)

Gary confirmed that Travis Bates had emailed advice of his transfer to another role within Yancoal and noted that Travis had been a valued member of the MTW CCC for some time and would be missed in this space. Stewart had been disappointed to hear of Travis' transfer at such short notice, he has had many dealings with him over time, and felt it would have been nice to know of this a few weeks prior to the February CCC Meeting so Travis could have been thanked in person for all his efforts by the CCC. Stewart noted that Travis had been the last original C&A Community Relations person still here on staff and that he had found Travis to be very helpful to community. Adrian agreed that Travis was very much the go to man and Hollee asked if a thank you could be sent to Travis to show appreciation for his accessibility over the time. Col felt that it would be appropriate for this to come from the committee as a whole.

ACTION 2: Col & Gary to formalise correspondence on behalf of the CCC representatives to acknowledge and thank Travis for his contribution to the CCC forum.

6. **CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES;** Col noted that the Minutes for the Meeting 18 February 2019 had been circulated and following the comments period close had been updated to Endorsed by Chair. Stewart asked that a correction be noted where the subject of discussion had been around a Prickly Pear infestation in the vicinity of Wallaby Scrub Road and the Village of Warkworth, not African Love Grass as recorded in the Minutes. The February Meeting Minutes were formally confirmed at today's meeting.

7. PROPONENT REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - Presented by David Bennett

PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT:

- ✚ MTW has maintained strong production performance in Q1 2019.
- ✚ Mining continued in Warkworth and Mount Thorley Operations.

Mount Thorley Operations (MTO)

- ✚ Dragline 102 commenced digging in MTO South in May.

MTO has been quite good production wise with the Draglines pretty much completely on track. Dragline 102 is in the southern end of MTO digging the final strip of that southern corner of the loop, it is anticipated that task will take around 12 months and at this point in time that is all the material MTW have scheduled for that Dragline.

Come this time next year, that southern end of MTO will have been excavated down to the final coal seam. There will be coal trucks in there periodically as the Dragline exposes coal and mines that out. There will also be a bit more drill and blast operation. As time goes on that Dragline will get deeper in the sequence and in about 12 months that will be all of the coal mining out of MTO.

Warkworth

Year to date material movements, truck waste, dragline waste and coal production are on target. It was anticipated by end May that MTW will be on plan for coal mining and waste mining against their forecast and budget.

- ✚ Coal processing and train loading normal operations
- ✚ Exploration activities have continued within the current leases ahead of mining.

Gary identified these areas via mapping and added that MTW are also conducting exploration of the deeper seams within the Pit and some down in Mt Thorley. An aerial geophysical survey is planned over the western part of mining leases whereby a helicopter flies at about 30 metres in height and collects the magnetic signature off the earth and that is looking for intrusions, geological features through the resource.

- ✚ The visual bund has been extended to the west along Putty Road to the former Wallaby Scrub Road intersection, this has been mulched and MTW will get vegetation in, this bund fits in well with the existing one.
- ✚ North Out Of Pit Dam (NOOP); trial blasting was conducted in April and will continue in May. Long Point residents have been advised of road closure changes.
- ✚ In June Dragline 103 will return from MTW's shutdown pad where it has been for about two months and will spend the next several months excavating the lower seam in West Pit.
- ✚ Dragline 101 is in the North cutting the north strip whilst DL 102 and DL103 continue to dig.

David explained that around 10 years ago MTW would move 3/4 of its waste with the Dragline, that dynamic has totally changed with MTW likely to go from three Draglines, to two in about 12 months time, and then potentially one Dragline down the track. The company is now more reliant on truck and shovel mining systems to reach annual waste and coal targets.

David noted also that MTW has parked up some equipment over the period as well, including three older DC Komatsu Haul Trucks and MTW are looking at maintaining current truck numbers. David added that going back some 5 to 6 years ago there had been 90 Haul Trucks at one point, numbers then hovered around 80 for a while and now sit at 73 which he feels will be a fairly steady state as the year goes on.

MTW are maintaining enough stripping in advance to enable the Draglines to do what they need to do which is maintaining coal feed ahead of the coal plants. MTW are working towards a target of 18 Million ROM tonne for this year.

David confirmed that MTW continue to maintain a workforce around the 1,300 number and have other programs in place on the mine site whereby Contractors that are utilised by the company are able to get a full time role within MTW's business now.

Over the last 6 months, in the Mining Team alone, MTW have moved over about 45 people that had been long term contractors in the business and who are now receiving all the benefits of fulltime employment with Yancoal. With Yancoal now having that program in place, David felt it was a good thing to be able to do for the individuals involved potentially going on to pick up full time employment.

Members were asked for any feedback from the Company update.

Adrian queried where Dragline 102 may eventually go as it had been on site for many years, he felt it was a last connection to early mining days. David confirmed DL102 is close to reaching 40 years of age, having been commissioned in 1981, and that no decision had been made around that, but there was some potential that it could go to another Yancoal site.

Stewart had noticed dumping on the overburden heap on the eastern side of West Pit getting higher and wondered if the height was over RL190. David believed the height was still at RL180 and could confirm that for Stewart. David added that where those trucks are, right at the top of the eastern side of West Pit, is the final lift on that dump now and that they are pretty much on target.

ACTION 3: In response to a query from Stewart, MTW to confirm the RL height for the overburden heap on the eastern side of West Pit.

Ian asked if the majority of contractors that Yancoal have signed up would be plant operators. David confirmed that there had been some in the maintenance area as well, but not as many as in mining. David will expect that program to be continued to provide more people with that opportunity over time.

Gary confirmed that this program had been received really well and David agreed adding that MTW also bring in new Trainees into the business and there had been a round of experienced operator recruitment as well, along with the opportunity to move from contractor roles as they become available in the mine.

Hollie asked if the Trainees coming into the business are secured via a third party or is Yancoal training direct. David confirmed that Yancoal have a labour hire contract with Programmed who supply contract Operators and of those a proportion are Trainees. David noted that one of their Trainees had been nominated for Hunter Region Trainee of the Year.

David added as an example, that some of these people coming into the business may come from non mining backgrounds as well and will have worked in other professions, so there is no set pattern, but rather Yancoal are looking for people with the right aptitude for what MTW does.

NORTH OUT OF PIT DAM (NOOP)

MTW have completed some trial work for their NOOP Dam and updated Blast Management and Road Closure Plans to enable road closures up in the north part of the Pit. MTW have communicated with Long Point residents around changes to where the road closures are to be. NOOP is part of MTW's north eastern operations where there will be some minor infrastructure along with test blasting.

When MTW get into the excavation of this dam, there will be coal recovered in that footprint and Yancoal's mining fleet will go in there to do that work. To give a sense of the size of this operation David advised there will most likely be an excavator and three or four trucks anticipated to commence around September/October 2019 and he estimated works to be close to finish by the end of 2019 or early 2020.

In response to a query from Ian, David clarified that NOOP is a water storage dam, not tailings. Gary added that NOOP will help with water security / balance position at MTW.

2019 OPERATIONAL DOWNTIME

2019 to date = 686 hours of equipment downtime for dust and over 450 hours for noise.

Operations Controls continue to work with Community Response Officer (CRO) assessments. Gary advised there had been 2792 CRO assessments for MTW's Mining Team and operations have had some that were above their noise trigger but in each case they had been able to modify operations, re-test within the permitted period of 75 minutes, and been acceptable in the follow up measurements.

REHABILITATION

✚ Rehabilitation target for 2019 = 80 ha seeded.

✚ 23.9ha of topsoiling completed to end of April in CD Dump, North Pit North and Woodlands

Gary identified rehabilitation areas via mapping and advised that MTW always carry over some extra prepared areas into each year to enable the company to commence work straight away. MTW have more to release during 2019 and are planning to get to their target of 80 hectares.

✚ Composting progress delayed in Q1 due to EPA suspension of use of Mixed Source Compost. MTW has sourced alternative compost and spreading re-commenced in late April.

Gary explained that not being permitted to use their stockpiles of mixed source compost under the EPA's direction had slowed MTW down slightly as the company has had to bring in additional sources for organic material to assist with their rehab programs. MTW await the EPA's decision on how they may be allowed to use their stock of mixed source compost.

✚ Key works for Quarter 2 2019 (April-June)

- ✓ *Dump releases* in Mt Thorley and CD Dump
- ✓ *Bulk shaping* in Mt Thorley and CD Dump
- ✓ *Topsoiling* in Mt Thorley and CD Dump
- ✓ *Seeding of new rehab* in North Pit North, CD Dump and Mt Thorley;
Seeding of Stage 2 rehab in South Pit North and Mt Thorley

MTW WEED MANAGEMENT Q1 2019

Weeds targeted in operational areas in Q1 2019 were based on the results of the 2018 weed survey. The survey lists Weeds of National Significance (WONS), noxious, environmental and other non-declared weed species identified across MTW, and the survey results prioritises control areas for the company. MTW have already started targeting Mother of millions, Pear species, Galenia, Galenia & Saligna, Saligna (manual), Grasses (Rhodes grass, panic grass and African lovegrass) over quite a few hectares and Gary confirmed that MTW are out there all the time treating these with their Weed Contractors.

Ian queried why Rhodes grass was of concern and Gary responded that is more about the outcome of the rehab, MTW are trying to get back to a native ecosystem and Rhodes grass is not one of those species they are permitted to have in that bushland. Gary added that Rhodes grass also has a tendency to become a mono-culture and whilst it used to be the grass of choice, that is no longer the case.

Ian believed that Council and the RMS utilise this grass to stabilise banks and Olivia confirmed that for that purpose Rhodes grass is effective but in terms of rehabilitation MTW want to restore the ecosystem, not just the ground cover, so this is moving past the point of stabilisation to the next step.

Ian felt that eliminating Rhodes grass was quite a task for MTW, he has this grass pretty much over his whole property and felt that it had become pretty much a natural grass. Gary confirmed there is a mix of pasture species that MTW have to try to control and remove from their lands and part of that is through this program. Stewart asked if it was hard to get rid of Galenia and Gary confirmed that it is, MTW have people out spot spraying with backpacks and the company also uses boom sprayers on wider areas.

Gary added that MTW are now moving to their second phase of rehab which will be planting the tree species and shrubs, also grassing areas to clean up and control the weeds. The backpack spraying is now a more targeted type which is more intensive but what MTW need to do to move to this next stage.

Gary advised that MTW are getting ready for a planting program in the Northern Biodiversity area in Warkworth Sands Woodlands (WSW), have transported some sand over and are conducting weed work ahead of that. Gary identified an area of WSW where MTW were using a bit of a variety of methods to try and grow species, he showed one of the plots that had sand put over and noted the ones without sand did not do as well, therefore the program for this year will be to bring over quite a lot of sand for that 7 hectare area as that is where MTW has seen the best success.

The following weeds were targeted in both the Southern and Northern Biodiversity Areas in Q1; Prickly Pear (*Opuntia stricta*), Galenia (*Galenia pubescens*), Mother of Millions (*Bryophyllum delagoense*), Lantana (*Lantana camara*), Blue Heliotrope (*Heliotropium amplexicaule*) and aggressive or invasive grasses, such as Coolatai (*Hyparrhenia hirta*) and Red Natal (*Melinis repens*).

Gary asked Ian if he had better success targeting Wild pear since sharing MTW's treatment methods and Ian responded that it had been going well but this weed still remains a big problem. Ian said historically there had been battles with Prickly pear and it changes in different weather conditions, so he had noticed there was a lot of it coming up again.

Ian feels that Lantana is also a real problem and is not sure if it should be addressed by National Parks, Council or the RMS. Ian said he is flat out trying to keep on top of Lantana and Gary confirmed MTW are concentrating on this as well.

VERTERBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT

- ✚ Coordination of vertebrate pest programmes with LLS and adjoining landholders to enable programmes to be undertaken at the same time across the broader Hunter Valley area.
- ✚ April Feral Pig 1080 baiting program was conducted across MTW rehabilitation and local biodiversity offset areas: 39 pigs were controlled and Gary identified the control areas via mapping.
- ✚ May 1080 Baiting targeting wild dogs and foxes was underway across MTW operational areas and all Biodiversity Areas.

Business papers provided to CCC prior to meeting

Includes summary of:

Complaints, Incidents, Environmental Monitoring, Rehabilitation, Website Uploads, Community Investment Update
It was confirmed that the Business Papers had been distributed both via email and in hard copies, Gary asked if there were any queries or comments back from members, no feedback was put forward.

MANAGEMENT PLANS / REPORTING

- ✚ Annual Review Report / AEMR as required by conditions of development consent and mining tenements was submitted to the Department of Planning (DPE) and the Resource Regulator (DPE-RR) on 29 March 2019 and will be uploaded to the MTW website when it has been approved.
- ✚ National Pollution Inventory Annual reporting submitted to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) 29 March 2019.
- ✚ Exploration Licence 8824 Activity Application submitted to DPE-RR 26 March 2019
- ✚ Exploration Licence 7712 Annual Exploration Activity and Community Consultation submitted to DPE-RR 26 March 2019
- ✚ Annual Compliance Report for EPBC 2002/629 and EPBC 2009/5081 submitted to the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy (DoEE) and DPE early May 2019

8. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue - Update on Activities

Presented by Craig Milton; Policy Manager, NSW Minerals Council

Members were encouraged to take a look at the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue website;

www.miningdialogue.com.au

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Community Member Feedback

Ian Hedley

Ian remains concerned about the level of dust, whilst he feels the amount coming from mining operations, particularly from trucks, has definitely improved from MTW's previous ownership, the biggest issue now is dust generated by Draglines, in particular the one in Loders Pit, noting that DL102 has 12 months to go. It appears to Ian that there may be good and bad operators, as there can be very similar weather conditions but on some of these days there will be a massive amount of dust out there which is quite horrendous and then other days it is quite acceptable, he wondered if there had been sufficient training for the Dragline Operators on low passes.

Ian advised that he had been away for a month and showed a picture of dust that had accumulated on his enclosed back veranda and advised his whole house was like that.

When specifically talking about Bulga, Ian felt the dust comes from two sources; being from the Draglines where on bad days he can see the dust drifting over and secondly from Blasting.

Ian understand that dust is monitored but from what he has seen this monitoring has been conducted at times where there was no dust and then at other times where there is dust there is no one there. Ian has been out when there has been monitoring conducted and provided examples of one time where it had been so foggy that you could not see and another time it had been raining. Ian noted that conditions were dusty today and that he had not seen anybody out conducting monitoring.

Gary confirmed that MTW's CRO's are out monitoring all the time, they cannot be everywhere at once but they do regular passes around and feedback on a daily basis. MTW are actively conducting this monitoring to try and find those point sources and if there is an issue identified they do change their operations.

Ian noted that he very rarely phones in to complain and if he does it is for good reason such as bad dust and he has had to call recently about dust from the Dragline which he believes is a major source of dust for Bulga.

Ian still believes that the mine needs to be monitoring the air direction above ground level as he has pointed out at previous CCC Meetings. Ian noted that the direction of wind at ground level is not the same as what is above and when there is a blast it travels up to that higher air. Ian would still like this mine to trial some sort of balloon as it could then be seen where the dust may actually be travelling to.

Gary advised that MTW do use a Meteorological Forecasting Tool called Envmet in their blasting planning and preparation process, and this looks at the predicted wind gradients in the atmosphere through a meteorological sounding system whereby this system shoots a sound wave up into the atmosphere and identifies different stratifications of wind directions. Gary confirmed that MTW use data from that system for their predictions, however the only issue is that it provides the prediction at 6.00 a.m. of what the atmosphere is doing over that larger area for the day, so it is not real time but it is the best tool MTW have right now to look at what the conditions are in the upper atmosphere.

Hollie supported Ian's feedback providing the example of being asked by a Jerry's Plains resident to view a blast from their home. Hollie noted that this was not a MTW blast but she had seen what Ian had been describing whereby the blast did exactly the same thing and she had seen it going up and then taking off.

Gary explained that is wind gradients and Ian felt this is the biggest problem at Bulga and wondered if it may be due to the mountain range, he noted that blasts will regularly go up and then the next minute they are travelling back towards the Village.

Ian reiterated that he would like to see more research conducted into wind direction at the time of blasting, he understands that shots cannot be left in the ground indefinitely and there is never going to be a perfect day. Ian noted that when surfaces are wiped down on a regular basis dust is not so noticeable and he appreciated that weather conditions had been very dry, but given the dust that was all over his whole veranda and furniture Ian had felt this had been a lot for one month.

Gary confirmed that MTW monitor for depositional type dust on a monthly basis and the results are in their monthly Environmental Reports. Along with conducting real time air quality monitoring systems MTW have both TEOM's and Dust Tracks which they react to. For example; in terms of if there is additional dust in different directions, that would cause MTW to conduct an inspection and the company will look to see if they need to change any processes.

Ian queried what is an acceptable amount of dust and Gary responded that there will be nuisance dust generated from their operation, given that it is a large disturbed area, and that MTW work to manage this as best they can with their water cart operations, via inspections, their OCE work and their Monitoring Systems. Gary confirmed that MTW react to all of these as a combined system.

Ian asked if this type of dust may be any risk of harm to people's health, he tends to hose the dust off his veranda but he queried if the dust was to be blown would that cause the dust to be a threat. Gary advised there is a publication called "*Mine Dust & You*" that is usually required by the Mining Operator to be sent to people within really highly affected dust areas i.e. very close to the operation and that should provide some helpful information back to Ian in this regard.

ACTION 4: Gary to send the Publication "*Mine Dust and You*" to Ian Hedley.

Stewart felt there had been certain limits in the old Depositional Dust monitoring whereby the allowance was for four milligrams per meter square and two of those were set aside for natural dust not coming from a coal mine, so that effectively meant only two could be contributed from mining operations.

Gary clarified the criteria to be four grams per metre square per month but that this is on an annual basis. If the reading increased by more than two grams per meter square per month, even if the mine is below limits, they would have a look at it and that is the consent's particular way to capture the overall increase.

Ian asked who had replaced Travis Bates and Gary advised that he is the Environment & Community Manager and the first point of contact at MTW. Gary said that he and his Department are there to respond to community enquiries, complaints and any claims for damage, acknowledging that Travis had been very active in the area of mitigation. In response to a query from Stewart, Gary advised that his role also encompasses the role that Andrew Speechly previously performed and that Andrew is now engaged as Environment & Community Manager at Hunter Valley Operations as a single site.

Stewart Mitchell

Stewart felt that MTW may get some complaints about Dragline 102 particularly around noise and visual impacts, given that it is going to remain in place for 12 months. Stewart feels mostly that any properties that are elevated have been subject to very noticeable impacts from this Dragline since it had been moved and that excessive lighting had been a problem already. Olivia asked if this related to lighting on the boom and Stewart confirmed yes, and that this is at elevation. Stewart added the clanging and banging noise associated with MTW's Dragline operations is quite noticeable even from his residence which is in a more elevated position than the houses in the village.

Gary advised Stewart that MTW are up at that area monitoring and taking a note of that, he acknowledged the Dragline is in a different position to where it was previously located. David noted that whilst this Dragline has got 12 months in that location, that it will be a very stop/start operation, so for a couple of weeks it will be parked up for a period of time and will not be a steady state Dragline.

Ian asked if MTW will commence backfilling on completion of this work and David responded that once the Dragline and the final coal comes out outside of where the tailings facility is going in the south will be backfilled.

Stewart asked for an update on the DPE's approval for MTW to mine west of the former Wallaby Scrub Road and the establishment of the Wollombi Brook Conservation area.

Gary noted at the February meeting he had presented a picture of where MTW were approved to mine and confirmed that the DPE had given approval for MTW to mine west of the former Wallaby Scrub Road and provided the company with relief from the consent condition that requires MTW to have the Conservation Agreement in place for the Wollombi Brook Cultural Heritage Conservation area, for a period of time. Gary explained this was due to issues with a change in processes with the Office of Environment & Heritage for the company to secure that Conservation Agreement.

Gary advised that the DPE understood that situation and that is why they provided the ability for MTW to continue their operations in a small area. Gary added the intent remains the same and that is for MTW to save the land for Cultural Heritage purposes and the onus is on the company to keep working through the process that is available with that Government Agency to get that Conservation Agreement in place. Stewart asked if the DPE would encourage the OEH to prioritise a procedure for companies to apply for Conservation Agreements and Gary confirmed those conversations were being had, noting the situation is not only affecting MTW but other operations as well.

Stewart queried MTW's access and the sale agreement in place for Crown land sections and asked where does the Aboriginal Land Claim sit at this time.

Gary confirmed that MTW has an access and compensation type agreement with Crown Lands to do certain mining activities but it is still Crown land at that point. In addition, MTW have an agreement to purchase that land providing Crown Lands have gone through all of their processes with any crown land issues such as land claims. Stewart asked if MTW had been in discussion with the Aboriginal Land Council people and Gary responded that it is Crown Lands that have to go through their own processes for the Aboriginal land claim as MTW do not own that land.

Stewart asked if the Social Impact Management Plan was not far off as he had received a draft some time ago. Gary confirmed that the SIMP is at an advanced stage but reiterated that he needs to conduct a cross check against the EIS commitments and make sure they have all been satisfactorily addressed, in addition Gary noted that there had been a change of ownership since the initial Draft. Gary will work to get the SIMP squared off for the next CCC Meeting.

Stewart advised that he had emailed MTW saying that because mining in Mt Thorley is 1,500 metres from the Putty Road he felt there should be no reason why the company needs to close this road during blasting events but he had noticed there are still Road Closure advertisements for both Charlton and Putty Roads and asked why does MTW not just close Charlton Road and leave the Putty Road open.

Gary would have to check on the particular blast that those Road closures related to but he could confirm that MTW's Drill & Blast and Road Closure Planning Teams will not enact a road closure if they do not need to. Gary advised this may be the case in certain parts of the pit where it is outside the exclusion zone and therefore they will not need to close the Putty Road, however MTW reserve the right to close if the blast emission has potential to head towards that road and therefore would need to be closed for public safety purposes. Stewart asked if MTW had experienced a blast emission travelling 1 1/2 kilometres and Gary provided an example of MTW having been prepared for a road closure in a certain direction but ended up closing in a different direction because of a change in wind and it is those types of eventualities that MTW have to prepare for.

Stewart asked what is the situation with dust leaving the property and is that of serious concern these days as this had been in the past, he felt the old rule was that a mine would not blast if there was potential for dust to leave the site.

Gary confirmed that MTW have to report if they have a dust plume of a certain colour that reaches their boundary in that state and because of this MTW monitor every single blast by taking photos, videos and personally watching them, he confirmed the company is actively doing this so they can manage blasts, along with monitoring and managing dust.

Stewart asked why MTW can't plan so that the plume does not leave the property and Gary advised that MTW are permitted to have the Putty Road closed and to have the blast plume cross from Warkworth to Thorley and vice versa, and that is not considered to be a leaving of the property if the road is closed, because in effect MTW are staying within the same overall mine and are excluding the public from the road. Gary clarified also that on other parts of MTW's property there is not that same benefit, so they cannot have a plume of a certain colour leaving the mine site in those other directions.

Stewart asked where MTW had received consent for a potential plume to travel between Warkworth and Thorley and Gary responded that this is in MTW's Blast Management Plan which has been approved by the Department of Planning. Stewart asked if the Department of Main Roads was happy with that arrangement and Gary responded yes, MTW has Occupation Licences for this, so the company has permission to close the road for blasting under those circumstances per their approved Blast Management and Road Closure Plans.

Stewart felt things have changed as in the old days Mount Thorley was on one side and Warkworth on the other and it was a breach of consent for dust to travel from one site to the other, he felt this had been watered down so that MTW now have permission for this. Gary responded that this is only when MTW have a Putty Road closure in place and the company is not permitted to do that if that closure isn't in place. Stewart felt by saying MTW are not permitted to do it means that the company could control those blasts and Gary responded that if MTW had a blast plume of a certain colour crossing the Putty Road and a Road Closure was not in place the company would have to report that to the EPA.

Stewart asked in relation to MTW's blasting being confined to the south-west corner of Mount Thorley Operations if the company is going to attempt to keep the Putty Road open or will it continue to be closed. Gary advised that would depend on blast exclusions and MTW's Drill & Blast are very good at planning their blasts and doing everything required, including a risk assessment type process, and they will not close the Putty Road unless they need to.

Stewart is thinking along the line of inconvenience to the public and said he had received positive feedback from the community in response to MTW undertaking the reduction of the 60km/hr speed limits. Stewart felt that if road closures could be minimised to further improve traffic ability and create less inconvenience to the travelling public, not just locals but there are quite a lot of road users that come out of western Sydney, that would be all the better and a lot of people would be happier then.

Gary confirmed that MTW does work to minimise road closures and if a potential blast is away from where the company would need to close the Putty Road from a safety point of view then they won't unless weather conditions are such that the emission from the blast has potential to go towards that area.

Stewart asked if MTW can still blast if the meteorological conditions are not right and Gary responded that they look at both the weather conditions and also the prediction tools for the upper atmosphere in the morning and then just before the actual blast they will look at conditions again. Gary noted that included in considerations are the risk of the shot and potential plume generation, noting that MTW cannot have shots sleeping for too many days in a row as then the risk of a plummy type emission increases, so MTW have to take in a lot of factors into account before they make their decision to blast.

David added that in regard to blast planning MTW actually look weeks in advance and provided the example of winds being predicted for a following week, so they may just drill down but none of the holes would be loaded until MTW has what they believe are favourable conditions to fire that shot, so that is another tool the company uses. David also noted that Dragline 102 in the southern end of Mount Thorley had been delayed for some six weeks before MTW fired blasts out there as a response to unfavourable conditions.

Stewart asked what the situation was now with Coal & Allied and could Yancoal's connection with Hunter Valley Operations (HVO) be explained.

David advised that when Yancoal took over, MTW and HVO had been more or less sister mine sites with shared Management/Personnel across the two, and now there is pretty much very little to almost no connection between the two sites. HVO is being looked after under a Joint Venture arrangement between Glencore and Yancoal and working under their own Development Consent.

Gary advised the Coal & Allied company still exists as Yancoal purchased this from Rio Tinto and that is how the sale went through. Gary clarified that Coal & Allied owned the tenements and the like for MTW and this purchase was of just one of Coal & Allied entities, and that is why there is still C&A on some of MTW's licences and permits because of that.

Stewart asked if MTW could provide an update on what is happening about the Historical Heritage Funding. Gary confirmed that with regard to the Great North Road Conservation Trust, he had been speaking to Wesley Warren who is one of the Project Directors but had not had any conversations around the Historical Heritage Funding.

Gary advised that Singleton Council is administering the Historical Heritage Funding and Stewart felt they are not necessarily making the decisions on where the funds go. Stewart believed that there is a Singleton Heritage Advisory Committee who he felt would probably be involved and Hollee confirmed that is correct and believed that Val Scott would be on that. Stewart was interested to know what stage this was up to and why there were possible delays. Gary advised he would need to make contact with Singleton Council to be able to respond to Stewart as Council had only more recently taken over that fund as well.

ACTION 5: Gary to make contact with Singleton Council to seek an update on where the Historical Heritage Funding is currently placed.

Cr. Hollee Jenkins

Hollie said she was happy to hear that there had been some permanent positions being transferred over and that was very promising for those people who want to make this part of the world their home rather than being transitional workers, she felt that this was a very good start.

David confirmed that it is still early days with a lot to do in that space and MTW have the vision of getting to a point of whether it be a Trainee or a Contractor in the Mining Team, that ideally someone should be at MTW for two years or less before they have that opportunity to transition over, so that is the goal the company is working towards.

Ian made reference to the community of Bulga and the neighbouring residents there and asked if there were any plans for Yancoal to meet up with them as this has been in discussion for a year or more. Ian said that generally there is a good feeling out in the community, the Tavern has been a marvellous success and a great focus for the locals. Adrian added it had also been a great success with the not so locals and tourists as well.

Ian added the Tavern has become popular for all sorts of events and there had recently been a Community Fund Raiser that drew a massive crowd and the \$12,000.00 that had been raised on the day helped to assist with the purchase of a mobility device for a local person. Ian was very proud of the success and contributions raised at this event and noted that the Tavern certainly was a very big part of that. Ian feels the timing is right now for Yancoal to have some community engagement and Gary confirmed that the company is still thinking of timing that in with the finalisation of the Social Impact Management Plan. Col asked that Gary take this feedback on board.

Col advised that there is a requirement for the Chair to put in a Report to the Department of Planning about the undertakings of this Committee and that document had been circulated with the Business Papers. Col asked if any members had any comments on this report to please send those to both Gary and himself so that feedback may be incorporated.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

- ✓ Yancoal is the major sponsor of the University of Newcastle's 2019 Science and Engineering Challenge.
- ✓ MTW has been in partnership with UoN for this great event since 2000.
- ✓ Over 10,000 students have participated since its inception.
- ✓ This year the event will be held 12-14 June 2019 at the Muswellbrook Sports Centre.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

The MTW Community Support Program has commenced for 2019. MTW supported numerous community groups through 2018 and continue to do so into 2019. The following organisations have been awarded support in the first application program for 2019:

- ✚ University of Newcastle Scholarship Program
- ✚ Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter –2019 Singleton Art Prize
- ✚ Singleton Schools Learning Community –Visible Wellbeing Project (Mental Health Program for teachers and students in all Singleton schools)
- ✚ Singleton Business Chamber –2019 Singleton Business Excellence Awards
- ✚ Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service –Hunter Valley Mining Charity Rugby League Competition 2019
- ✚ Greta Branxton Rugby League –Sport Equipment
- ✚ Newcastle & Hunter Combined Schools ANZAC Service –2019 Singleton ANZAC Service
- ✚ Singleton Theatrical Society –Platinum Sponsorship 2019 Production of ‘Les Misérables’
- ✚ Mindaribba Warriors Rugby League –Bronze Sponsor
- ✚ Singleton District Girl Guides –Shade Shelters
- ✚ Singleton Council –Fireworks Display at ‘Christmas on John Street 2019’

The Community Support Program for 2020 will call for applications in Q4 2019.
Closing date TBA. For more information please email mtw.csp@yancoal.com.au

10. NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting; Monday 12 August 2019
2.00 to 3.30 p.m. at MTW Boardroom

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

Action	Page	Description
1	2	Gary to follow up on Ian's concerns about tree guards that had faded and come away from trees in the off-set planting in quarry.
2	2	Col & Gary to formalise correspondence on behalf of the CCC representatives to acknowledge and thank Travis for his contribution to the CCC forum.
3	4	In response to a query from Stewart, MTW to confirm the RL height for the overburden heap on the eastern side of West Pit.
4	8	Gary to send the Publication "Mine Dust and You" to Ian Hedley.
5	11	Gary to make contact with Singleton Council to seek an update on where the Historical Heritage Funding is currently placed.