



Yancoal
Mount Thorley Warkworth Operations
Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Monday 12 August 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

Patrick Kirkwood

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

Hunter Local Lands Services

Apologies

Jason McCallum

General Manager

Graeme O'Brien

Community Representative

Minutes

Sarah Purser

1. **WELCOME & 2. APOLOGIES;** Col welcomed the CCC and advised a resignation had been received from Christina, effective immediately. Gary circulated a thank you card for Christina for attendees to sign. Col advised he would initiate a group discussion regarding seeking new community representatives in General Business.

3. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / CONFLICT OF INTEREST; *Standing Declarations*;** Col advised that both he and Sarah are engaged by Yancoal to provide the services of Independent Chairperson and meeting note taker. Ian and Adrian noted that they are on the MTW VPA Committee. Hollee advised that she is engaged by a business that does sub-contract work for companies that work for Yancoal.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

Action Carried Forward - Gary advised he will work to have MTW's Social Impact Management Plan finalised prior to the next CCC Meeting scheduled for 25 November 2019.

Action Items from the 20 May 2019 Meeting

Action; 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.

✓ **Completed;** The cleanup of old tree guards in the Southern Biodiversity area has been addressed by MTW.

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

✓ **Completed;** Gary circulated a thank you card for members to sign for Travis and advised the company will organise a gift as well on behalf of the CCC.

Action; In response to a query from Stewart, MTW to confirm the RL height for the overburden side of West Pit.

✓ **Completed;** MTW advised their current approval allows for a final height of RL190 on the eastern crest (CD Dump). The current dump height (CD Dump) is approximately RL185 and Lidar Survey shows compliance.

Stewart queried if RL190 will be the final landform and Gary confirmed that is the approved final height for the CD dump, he added that the landform does tend to undulate when going around different areas. Stewart asked if MTW had plans to push the overburden back into the Pit from the top of CD Dump and David explained the intent is to rehabilitate that area when it reaches RL190 or thereabouts.

Action; Gary to circulate the Publication "Mine Dust and You".

- ✓ **Completed;** Mine Dust and You Fact Sheet was sent to CCC members 12 August 2019 as a weblink and with PDF print of the webpage. Gary advised he also had hard copies in hand for the CCC at today's meeting. Members provided feedback that this publication was last updated 4 May, 2017.

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

- ✓ **Completed;** Update at today's meeting.

Historical Heritage Funding

Gary advised he had put through an enquiry with Singleton Council representatives Rean Lourens (who has subsequently left Council), Gary Pearson and Council Heritage Advisor Russell Rigby of the consultant firm RPS seeking an update. Gary ascertained that one project has been funded through the scheme so far and was able to confirm that MTW's financial responsibilities to the fund had been met. In follow up to occur with Council about programs going forward, Gary has been directed to make contact with Mary-Anne Crawford, he advised Stewart there were to be talks with the Cultural Heritage Advisory Group (CHAG) around those.

Gary confirmed that the CHAG has remained in place as a consulting body for some of the Management Plans and our funds. Stewart felt there had been little consultation for a couple of years and Gary explained that there had been no real changes to report on, other than the Wallaby Scrub Road archaeological investigation that CHAG members had been invited to attend. Stewart felt field inspections were not really a meeting and Gary confirmed that there will be consultation through that process as is required.

Great North Road Funding

Stewart asked if there was an update on the Great North Road Funding and Gary advised he had been in contact with Wesley Warren who is the Director of the Convict Trail Project requesting the status on this.

Gary confirmed a number of programs had been put forward which also have to be sent to the Department for endorsement. Gary noted that the **Convict Trail Project** are the organisation that come up with projects for the Great North Road which are sent to the Department of Planning. Stewart asked if all of the \$200,000.00 funding will go to the Convict Trail Project and Gary confirmed that is correct. Gary advised if someone has a project or an idea to be considered for the Great North Road, the process would be to talk to Wesley Warren of the Convict Trail Project as they are the group that has been engaged to administer the types of projects that are going to be selected.

ACTION 1: In response to discussions around the Historical Heritage Funding; Gary to provide Stewart & Ian with contact details for Wesley Warren - Director of the Convict Trail Project in relation to the submission of projects/ideas for the Great North Road.

5. OUT OF SESSION CORRESPONDENCE:

- ✓ Previous Minutes May 2019 Meeting (email 8/7/2019)
- ✓ Agenda & Business Papers (29/7/2019)
- ✓ Yancoal 2020 Apprenticeship Opportunities (4/7/19)

6. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES;

Col noted that the Minutes for the Meeting 20 May 2019 had been circulated and following the comments period close had been updated to Endorsed by Chair. The May Meeting Minutes were formally confirmed at today's meeting.

BY INVITATION: Hunter Local Lands Services (LLS)

Presentation on LLS Land Management Activities

Ian Turnbull - Regional Weeds Officer & Matt Kennedy - Biosecurity Officer

Col advised Ian and Matt were in attendance in response to the **Action**; *LLS 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 added the LLS will present on their activities in the wider area and on how MTW are working in with them. Ian and Gary felt that this presentation had been informative and Col thanked Ian and Matt for coming along saying that the CCC appreciated their time.

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

PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT

✚ Mining production continued in Warkworth and Mount Thorley Operations.

✚ Dragline 102 commenced digging in MTO South in May.

David confirmed DL102 is operating intermittently whereby it runs for a while then stops. At the time of the May Meeting David noted that DL102 was at the crest, being the natural surface level. That dig was completed in late June and DL102 was parked up while MTW removed the coal to the next bench down and drilled and blasted that area.

DL102 is back in digging now and is anticipated to do this work for the next three months, then there will be another delay before re-commencing on a start/stop basis, rather than a traditional Dragline method where typically they continuously dig. In response to a query from Ian, David felt that it will be sometime in the first half of 2020 that machine will be finished and there are no further digs planned for DL102 at this stage.

✚ DL103 returned from shutdown during June and commenced digging in West Pit.

✚ Coal processing and train loading normal operations.

✚ Exploration activities have continued within the current leases. Aerial geophysical survey successfully completed over western part of mining leases.

NORTH OUT OF PIT (NOOP) DAM

✚ North Out of Pit Dam (NOOP) works will commence in 2019.

✚ NOOP will provide improved water security / balance position at MTW.

✚ There will be infrastructure and test blasting initially.

Gary explained MTW are still doing works in and around this big dam and NOOP still remains on plan to be commenced this year. Gary confirmed that MTW had let the CCC know about updates to their Blast Management Plan that were due to doing some test blasts in an area that he identified on mapping.

In addition, Gary showed the CCC where road closures were necessary as a result of these test blasts. Gary advised that MTW's mining fleet will dig that and David explained that this is about 2 Million BCM and to put that in context if MTW were to run that as a 24/7 operation they would probably have the work completed in around three months but David felt the works could stretch out over longer than that.

ROAD CLOSURE MANAGEMENT

As a result of an audit, 30 unused signs were identified along the Golden Highway, Putty and Charlton Roads. Gary confirmed Council will pull these signs out in the coming weeks, so passersby will see a change out there. Gary felt that this was a good outcome to have come from community member feedback. Ian made note that he had counted 19 signs when travelling over the hill.

2019 OPERATIONAL DOWNTIME YTD

Gary acknowledged there had been challenging wind conditions that had been heavily affecting MTW. MTW has had over 1,313 hours of downtime YTD.

NOISE MONITORING YTD

Gary advised MTW had 33 nights YTD which were above their noise trigger and explained that the company goes out and reacts to the triggers from these real time noise monitoring stations and changes operations in response to noise alarms. MTW also conduct routine monitoring without those triggers and Gary noted that Pat Kirkwood, in attendance today, is one of MTW's Community Response Officers (CRO's) that are out doing that good work on a 24/7 basis. Gary confirmed that by modifying their operations to bring noise down MTW had been able to successfully achieve that on each of these occasions and are out there looking all the time to see that they are compliant.

REHABILITATION / DISTURBANCE 2019

✚ MTW Rehab history –seeded and stable:

- ✓ 2019; 80 Ha planned
- ✓ 2018; 100 Ha
- ✓ 2017; 124 Ha
- ✓ 2016; 85 Ha

Gary noted there had been some recent media about rehab progression and he explained the Resources Regulator (RR) had given MTW notices about this. Gary said this was disappointing for MTW as they do a large amount of rehab and clarified what the RR was actually talking about was the progression to final vegetation outcomes (native woodland).

✚ MTW has trialled a staged approach using cover crop and weed control prior to sowing final seed mixes.

Gary advised that MTW have approximately 150 hectares of what they call Stage 2 seeding where they have been doing a large amount of cover crop and weed maintenance, resulting in the grass that can be seen on the slopes. MTW have been treating and trying to eradicate the weeds on those slopes for the past few years and acknowledged that has not proven to be fully successful, so MTW have moved on to Stage 2.

✚ Final ecosystem seeding was already planned in 2019 (60Ha) -progress to native woodland.

MTW are preparing a response to the RR and will provide all that detail via an independent study, where they will engage someone to report on how the company is progressing against their Mine Operations Plan; Rehabilitation Management Plan targets.

Ian asked how MTW felt they were progressing against their targets and Gary responded good, there has been 100 hectares in 2018 and 124 hectares in 2017 of stabilisation completed. Gary acknowledged that it can be hard to see the results as a lot of the seeding has really small saplings or seedlings. These are not out of tube stock as MTW have found they get a stronger rehab outcome on this type of material with seeding. Gary said to an untrained eye it looks like there is just grass but a Rehab Specialist will go in and be able to identify each species.

Ian asked if it was possible that MTW were spending too much time trying to get rid of grasses such as Rhodes as he feels that these will be back next year anyway. Gary advised MTW are not just concentrating on Rhodes but other species as well, he explained that one reason MTW do that first approach is that they are able to use machinery to do broad scale weed treatment, now they are going into the second stage of the seeding there will be backpack spraying and MTW are going to do that from now on.

Ian would rather see grass established, whether it be Rhodes or any other species and Gary advised MTW do have a lot of grasses, not just Rhodes. Adrian agreed that there can never be too much coverage and feels there is an issue around that.

REHABILITATION

- ✚ Rehabilitation target for 2019 = 80 ha seeded
- ✚ 35ha ready to seed at the end at present in CD Dump, North Pit North and Woodlands
- ✚ Seeding delayed waiting for construction of new contractor seeding equipment that will allow for single-pass seed bed preparation/seeding.

Gary explained MTW had hoped there would be some technology to get greater efficiencies about flow ability of seed through the seeder but that looks like it will not come about now, so MTW will conduct a two pass which is their normal approach. That seeding will be happening from July through to September, and that is for both Stage 1 and Stage 2 seeding.

- ✚ Key works for Quarter 3 2019 (July-September)
 - 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

Ian asked how much of the seeding is anticipated to reach the full height and said that he felt MTW would not seed in areas where they are dumping. Gary confirmed that is right and identified the crest of MTW's dump showing where this was progressing along and advised that the seeding is all at a much lower level i.e. on the low wall side. Gary also identified the top of the hill noting that this area will stay disturbed until it is built up to final landform. Ian feels that is the area having the most impact on these windy days as there is just bare dirt up there.

Gary advised MTW are having 64 hectares of extra disturbance this year and that they will rehab 88 hectares, he confirmed that the company continually monitor disturbance and rehab.

Ian asked how long it would be for MTW to have the CD Dump to the full height of RL190 and grass growing along the top of that ridge. Adrian agreed it would be good to know when that area may be covered. David felt this would be around the next four months but would provide detail back and Gary added that this ridge will continue along.

Adrian said that this type of area is a big problem when trying to control dust, he feels that MTW are already struggling in the current windy conditions and Gary noted that the crest is only one part, acknowledging that the whole pit is a disturbed area. Ian asked if the high dump will go the full length of the pit and David confirmed that is correct, other than some areas that will be ramped down to the natural topography. Gary added that there will also be the flyover road.

ACTION 2: In response to a query from Ian; MTW to provide feedback on the anticipated time frame for the CD Dump to reach final approved height of RL190 and subsequent timing anticipated for seeding that area.

Stewart queried an un-vegetated area that he felt was a big percentage of MTW's total lease and asked if the Regulators show concern about large areas of bare land being potential sources of dust. Gary advised that MTW have a process where they indicate how much they are going to disturb and rehab in a particular area and the RR follows that. Gary explained the height and geometry of the pit, noting that the centre of the pit stays relatively similar as it is at depth, so this indicates the amount of disturbance that will normally progress along with the mine.

Ian felt MTW's disturbed area is a much larger footprint than it ever was and David responded that this would be smaller due to MTW having rehabilitated two Tailings Dams; TD1 in the north and they are also halfway through the process of rehabilitating TD2.

David added if you look at Mount Thorley the company is actually getting a lot of rehab on the south side and that will continue to progress to the west as well. MTW are not doing any more disturbance in Mount Thorley as that Pit is finished. Warkworth is progressing at its nominal rate, so David would suggest a lot of the grassed areas in there are now much more geometric in shape and that there is greater coverage than there was in the past

Stewart asked if MTW has figures on how much land west of saddle ridge, heading towards Wallaby Scrub Road and beyond, has been stripped. Gary identified this area on mapping and confirmed that he could obtain those figures for Stewart. Stewart asked if that stripping was for the mining modification that MTW had advised the CCC about and Gary confirmed they are able to mine in the northern part of that area that is to the west of the former Wallaby Scrub Road. Stewart felt there had been a lot of tree clearing on that western side, not only for the Fire Trail, but also for MTW's water management. Gary confirmed that MTW are permitted to do water management, in addition to the mining, as part of what the Department has allowed. Stewart asked if that area is all included in MTW's total disturbance figures and Gary confirmed that is correct.

ACTION 3: In response to a query from Stewart, Gary to seek the figures on how much land has been pre-stripped in the northern area, that is to the west of the former Wallaby Scrub Road.

MTW WEED MANAGEMENT Q2 2019

MTW Operational Areas & Southern & Northern Biodiversity areas; Gary provided an extensive overview of weeds targeted in MTW operational and biodiversity areas, along with presenting pictures taken by their Weed Management Contractors. Gary confirmed that MTW conduct this on a year on year basis.

Ian noted that Rhodes Grass had been identified as a weed but he does not see it that way as it is particularly good at holding sandy soil together and has been used to stabilise roads. Gary responded that Rhodes grass doesn't give the biodiversity outcome that MTW are seeking and that it does have a tendency to take control. Stewart asked if MTW felt that African Love Grass is an invasive species and Gary agreed that it would be described as aggressive or invasive and confirmed that MTW are treating this as they are seeking a different vegetation outcome for the biodiversity areas by returning to a native ecosystem.

Biodiversity areas; infill planting; Gary presented pictures of Warkworth Sands Woodlands (WSW) plantings that are underway in the small quarry and Ironbark Woodland (IBW) plots showing advanced growth in the Putty Road Offset. Gary advised MTW are getting some good hits with their tube stock and these areas will look better and better as the years go on as a result of this infill planting.

VERTERBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT

Gary provided detail around baiting areas in MTW's off-set areas and in adjacent buffer lands to the pit and an overview of what was targeted and timing. Gary explained that this is inclusive of the coordination of vertebrate programmes with LLS and adjoining landholders, that ensures programs are undertaken at the same time across the broader Hunter Valley area. Adrian asked if there was anything to report at the Putty Road Biodiversity area and Gary was sure there would be vertebrate management undertakings there.

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

- ✚ EPL 1976 Annual Return Report (MTO) submitted 30/5/19 to the EPA.
- ✚ Correspondence sent to DPE 4/6/19 to surrender historic development consents DA300-9-2002i -Warkworth Open Cut Mine Expansion, and DA34-95 -Mt Thorley Mine. This is a requirement of the current development consent conditions of SSD-6464 and SSD-6465. DP&E approval received for surrender of MTO Development Consent DA34/95 and other historical consents. Awaiting DPIE approval for surrender of DA300-9-2002i.

Gary explained that MTW have to surrender their old development consents under the conditions of their new project approval from 2015. Stewart queried why it took so long for MTW to surrender these and Gary explained the process contains a requirement to seek land owner consent, so as part of that process MTW had to go through Council in effect because there was some land that they owned as well.

Stewart asked if those were in relation to the old 2002 consents and if these are still current, or were they to the new conditions. Gary confirmed these were to the new conditions and that the previously approved operations are embodied into the new EIS and that is the reason MTW had to surrender the old consents as they are already wrapped up in the new approval.

Stewart had thought that would happen automatically once the new approval was given and Gary responded that there is a condition to surrender development consents and there is a procedure that happens, he confirmed that MTW were now at the tail end of that process. There is one more to have surrendered and the Department has that information, so MTW are now waiting on their response.

- ✚ DPIE letters received 27/6/19: Annual Environmental Review: Amendment and resubmission requested by mid Sep 2019. Biodiversity Plans Reporting: DPIE indicate satisfaction.

Gary noted that the Department of Planning is now called the Department of Industry & Environment (DPIE) and they have asked for some further detail on groundwater information from the annual Review which MTW has to provide.

- ✚ The Resources Regulator approved MTW's Mining Operations Plan Amendment B 11/6/19. This amendment permits 3 x exploration boreholes / groundwater piezometers outside of the development consent footprint of the Warkworth Continuation Project.
- ✚ MTW recently submitted a number of updates to management plans to DPIE 31/7/19; Environmental Management Strategy, Air Quality Management Plan, Noise Management Plan, Blast Management Plan, Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan. Gary noted that MTW have to do routine updates to Management Plans to keep them current.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Community Member Feedback

Ian Hedley

Blasting concern on Wednesday the 7th of August 2019

Ian felt the impact from this blast was pretty obvious and his question is how does something like that happen when there was a howling westerly wind and the shot was directly west of the Mount Thorley Industrial area.

Gary advised that both he and MTW's General Manager had called Ian to say that blast had not been normal and that was not how the company operates, they apologised and advised they were investigating the blast. Gary had also explained to Ian about what MTW's processes are, he confirmed that MTW always look at the weather conditions in terms of forecast and also in terms of the current conditions at the time of the shot.

MTW have blast permission pages that will indicate if it is suitable to let off a shot based on what current weather conditions are, along with a long history of firing shots over many years. Gary added for context that MTW fire some 300 blast per year, in 2018 it was 282, and in 2017 it was 311 shots, MTW use the same set of protocols on all occasions and typically do not have these type of issues.

Gary explained that logical expert process, or set of rules, was followed on the 7th of August and the shot was let off in conditions that had said it was alright for blasting under these blasting permission pages, this would have been from a distance point as well as in relation to dispersion. Gary confirmed that something strange happened in relation to that particular shot and there was no doubt about that.

Ian questioned how MTW could say it was permissible to set that blast off and asked if they had data on the wind speed and direction at the time of the shot. David could confirm that the wind speed was less than 8 metres per second when MTW went go with that blast, he was certain of this as that is the trigger when it goes over to himself as Mining Manager to decide to fire that shot or not.

David confirmed that MTW look at both wind speed and the wind direction. As an example; MTW had fired a much smaller shot earlier on the 7th of August when there had been more north in the wind and these conditions had pushed it across the back of Charlton Ridge heading into the Mount Thorley Pit. David noted there was not very much variation in the direction of the wind between that earlier shot and the one MTW fired around 1.00 p.m.

Ian feels it keeps going back to MTW needing to change where their weather station is located because the company's readings were different when compared to his monitoring system which had indicated that the wind was blowing directly to the west all of that day.

Ian said that he was pulled up on the road on the 6th of August and the wind had not been nearly as strong as on the 7th, but it was westerly. Ian was parked next to MTW staff and could hear the whole commentary as they fired what he thinks were two parting shots and then the company reps said they were going to call it off because it was too windy. Ian does not understand why then on the next day, when the wind was a lot stronger, MTW fired it. Gary reiterated that MTW do blasting based on permissions and Ian would like MTW to bring all of their findings, including their wind speeds to the next meeting and discuss it then because Ian's data differs.

Adrian acknowledged that MTW make decisions to blast based on their data, noting that August and September are typically windy periods, he felt that MTW may just not have had the right window of opportunity as he feels it would be difficult to predict if the wind conditions are going to remain suitable after a blast. Ian felt that at the time the decision was made to fire the wind was building and Gary acknowledged that wind has potential to build up more after a shot. David believed that the wind had potentially changed direction after the shot and Ian felt that was not in line with his monitoring data.

David noted that MTW had another blast they were going to fire two days later on the morning of the 9th of August and this was a go around MTW's blasting protocol but they called that one off because the wind direction on that day changed and swung around more to the west. David advised that MTW would have done the same thing with the blast on the 7th if data that indicated a potential change in wind direction had been available to them at the time because that was a much bigger blast and that is the protocol the company follows.

David reaffirmed the point Gary had made around the number of blasts MTW fire each year and confirmed that MTW absolutely do look into all of their MET data going forward. David said there was another good example of MTW reacting to weather data whereby they did not load any explosives in the southern end of Mount Thorley, where DL102 is located, for a six week period because that data had indicated to them that they would not get a window of opportunity to let a shot go and so as not to put themselves in a position where they had to fire.

David said that MTW do take blasting seriously and have protocols in place. The outcome of the blast on the 7th of August was not what MTW are about and clearly not the way they want to do business with their near neighbours. Gary added that MTW would normally expect to see dissipation as that is the typical behaviour of the dust cloud. Ian asked why MTW are reluctant to use balloons to get wind direction, he feels this may assist in determining where dust has potential to go and Gary responded it is just not part of their process.

Ian's biggest concern is around potential health issues, he feels that it is very unhealthy for anyone that may be in the path of dust from a blast and questioned who knows what damage that may be doing to people. Ian said it is not acceptable for people working in the area to be exposed to that type of thing and was also concerned that this may be dumped on MTW's own people, he feels health is the important thing and that is first up.

General dust concerns

Ian's second issue is that he has a business to run and showed pictures of machines that were scheduled to be exported in August. Ian noted these pictures show that this equipment had already been cleaned down and also indicated the amount of dust that is deposited all through his workshop, over newly painted equipment and over newly purchased in. Ian said this has a cost to his business as well and is concerned MTW is operating at the cost of other people.

Ian said his business had been operating for 40 years in January and he intends for this business to continue for another 40 years, but he is not sure they can continue like this. Ian said there are dust issues every time they want to send equipment out and it could not possibly be sent to a customer without being cleaned again.

Gary clarified that he understood Ian's concern was that had happened over many months, not just in relation to the incident on the 7th August but in general, and noted that it had been a really windy period in the whole Valley. Ian was concerned about dust controls potentially not being undertaken at night as he feels that it tends not to be so windy then.

Gary confirmed that MTW are doing night controls and are actively looking at dust monitors that are even closer to their operation than the OEH monitor in the Mount Thorley Industrial Estate. If the company gets an alert they go out and inspect these and make changes to their operation, he reiterated that MTW make sure they are doing the right thing and that is their process.

Ian asked why MTW will not put a monitor in the Mount Thorley Industrial area, he understands that this is not part of the companies approval, but felt there should be monitoring in place there. Olivia advised the monitor closest to the Charlton Ridge Crest is the Charlton Ridge Lodgers Pit E-Sampler, with the MTIE DustTrak being located directly west of the MTIE near the Conveyor. Gary said there is an OEH monitor in the Mount Thorley Industrial Estate, and whilst that is not a compliance monitor, MTW use this in the same manner in that they receive alerts and react to alarms off that OEH monitor as well.

Ian noted there had been air quality alerts for Mount Thorley on the 6th, 7th, 8th and 10th of August and that these alerts seem to be happening every day, he has heard responses before that it is cumulative dust that comes from somewhere else and that MTW is not the contributor but he can see where the dust is coming from and he has pictures of the pit which show that there is no argument about this.

Gary noted that he had talked before about how big MTW's disturbance area is and that they control their operational dust as best they can, such as by using water carts. Ian feels the dust that leaves MTW's site is in amounts that are unacceptable. Ian asked how many water carts MTW have and if they are all operational. David advised MTW have 7 water carts and the company mans them up. Olivia added that MTW also use contract water carts on top of their own in other pre-stripped areas.

Olivia acknowledged Ian's photos and said that on Friday the 9th of August she had viewed MTW's pit from the west end and noticed the Power Station was not visible but she could see the end of MTW's pit at the northern end.. This suggested to Olivia that MTW were obviously not the only body potentially contributing. Olivia said MTW are situated at the most north-western end and when there are north westerly conditions, in terms of dust, it does accumulate across the top of MTW's site.

Ian said he is trying to be reasonable and co-exist with MTW, he would just like the company to make some commitment to improving the amount of dust that is generated. Col asked where Ian is up to with the complaint made to the EPA and Ian advised he has a meeting with the EPA on the 13th of August and that they have asked for statements from the people at his workplace. Col acknowledged that is a process that an individual can legally pursue and understands the issue is the differing opinions over the weather conditions at the time of the blast, he asked if there is a way to resolve that.

David confirmed that MTW are working through that internally and they will pull all their data together into a report. This will involve an investigation into the weather conditions at the time that they hit the button on the blast and on what may have occurred subsequently. David reiterated that from MTW's position the blast was clearly unacceptable and as a response to their investigations the company will make whatever operational changes they need so as not to put themselves in that situation. Col asked if MTW could provide the CCC with that report and Hollee said she would like to see an overview of what changes MTW may initiate in response to their findings.

ACTION 4: MTW to provide the CCC with a summary of finding and responses undertaken on completion of an internal investigation of their blast in the afternoon of 7 August 2019

Adrian Gallagher

Adrian raised a concern about dust coming off the Putty Road, he explained there was a ute travelling in front of him as he was coming to this meeting and Adrian had found it difficult to see the road due to the dust that vehicle was throwing up.

Adrian noted that at another mine site, not MTW's, that there had been an incident with a truck operator that had been a bit fatigued and he asked what the company is doing around Fatigue Management Programs. David responded that MTW have a system on their haul trucks called GuardVant which is becoming very much industry standard as a fatigue management tool. David explained it works via a camera on the dashboard scanning the haul truck operators face and that it is looking for eye closure, rapid eye movement and the like.

If in the event someone operating a haul truck may be leading to a micro-sleep an audible alarm will go off in the cab and the seat will vibrate to alert the operator to the fact that they are not concentrating. An email also gets generated back to the supervisor who would have a conversation with the operator about the potential for incident. This real time fatigue monitoring is in place as a secondary defence against operators suffering from fatigue. MTW have a lot of alarms that go off that are there for the wellbeing of their operators. If it is found that some people may have sleep disorders or the like, MTW will take them off the gear for a period of time and provide assistance with things that may help them get sleep at home.

Col noted that there had been a central Control Centre located in Singleton and David confirmed that this Integrated Operations Centre was in place when MTW was combined with Hunter Valley Operations (HVO) and that MTW now have their own Operations Centre that is located on this mine site.

ACTION 5: MTW to organise a viewing of their Dispatch area in conjunction with a future CCC Meeting

Ian asked if MTW have got cameras in the pit that can be viewed from the Operations Centre and David confirmed there are around six cameras; some are fixed and others can move to follow a piece of equipment. As an example; in an emergency MTW can zoom in with the camera depending on where it was and David noted that MTW do not have 100% coverage of the mine site. David added that MTW also have cameras on pieces of equipment that can be logged into from the Control Centre, he explained essentially what MTW have in place is a Fleet Management System.

Ian said his residence is located in the centre of a line of sight whereby of a morning he can see dust on one side and not on the other side, so to him Glencore manages their dust more effectively and asked how they may do this as they are digging the same coal seam, have the same equipment and weather. Gary and David responded that Glencore does generate dust and Ian acknowledged that of course Glencore are going to have blasts and be impacted by windy days but he feels that they don't generate dust like he had shown in his photos at today's meeting.

David feels concerns are often directed to Yancoal and MTW, he believes there needs to be a broader look around the whole of the Hunter Valley. David said it should be noted that a lot of dust comes cumulatively from the entire Valley and there are other operations out there that are potential contributors and it is all on the prevailing wind.

Ian said he was concerned that the Dragline in Loders Pit emits dust out of the top and he felt surely someone in MTW's operations can see that dust and be concerned that may be blowing straight across to Bulga. Gary reiterated at times MTW do have to change operations of the Dragline because of those situations.

Ian showed a photo of what he felt was an unacceptable amount of dust coming out of MTW's pit, he said that this was from a truck driving along and that is why he had asked about water carts. David reaffirmed that MTW have 7 water carts and they are all operational, of course they may temporarily go down for servicing or breakdowns, but MTW do not park up water carts at their operations and they run them at night.

Ian said he would like to see the run sheets for the water carts and Gary asked if Ian had looked at InSite which shows some of the actions undertaken by MTW on a daily basis. Olivia confirmed that data is published, so you are able to log on to different areas and see the down time MTW has had on their machines. Olivia noted that down time generally correlates with an alarm that has been actioned by a CRO communicating back to the Shift Supervisor to mitigate dust and make changes within the Pit. In-Site can be accessed on-line via <https://insite.yancoal.com.au>.

David understood that Ian's concerns were around managing dust appropriately, running water trucks in the night time and shutting down draglines and in response MTW is putting forward a case that the company does address these issues and that equipment does get stopped.

David provided examples of how MTW take dust seriously and manage to their consent conditions:-

- The Dragline had been stopped over the weekend and only dug for around 7 hours over a three day period.
- In the previous week MTW had dozers that were drilling along with a lot of other equipment parked up, including the Draglines.
- MTW called off a blast on Friday the 9th of August.
- CRO's are on the road 24/7 and MTW do make modifications to their operations.

Ian noted that night time air quality readings tend to be higher than during the day and asked what may be the cause of that. Gary responded that would most likely be due weather conditions and Adrian noted that the night air tends to be a bit heavier.

With regard to potential issues around blasting, Adrian reiterated that a possible way around this would be for MTW to be able to judge the window of opportunity, not necessarily what the conditions are when they decide to fire a shot, but how long those conditions are going to stay that way. David feels that MTW does do that and a good example was in the southern end of Loders Pit, when there were some unseasonal winds earlier in the year, whereby the Dragline sat for a period of weeks outside of plan due to MTW choosing not to put explosives in the ground because the forward projection of wind direction and strength meant MTW would not get those shots away.

Olivia noted the blast on the 7th of August was 0.3% of MTW's blasts for a year and Ian said that is not the only blast that has caused concern but just a good example and he could show plenty more, Olivia felt they would not be of the nature of that particular one. Adrian said it was well known that in August and September the region is subject to strong winds and Ian said these winds were forecast a week before that blast, this was on the News, so it should have been known that wind was coming.

Adrian suggested that it would be a good time for another tour of the mine to assist members in understanding the layout, Col and Gary agreed that the CCC had not done that for a while and Gary said he would be happy to facilitate that.

ACTION 6: In response to a suggestion by Adrian, MTW to organise a Site Tour in conjunction with a future CCC Meeting to assist members to understand the mine layout.

Hollee asked if MTW could try to be a bit more proactive rather than reactive. Olivia clarified that the CRO's are not in offices but rather are out on the road 24/7 and Hollee asked if the CRO's are doing all of those inspections then why would the alarms still be going off all the time. Olivia explained that in a typical shift the CRO's do anywhere between 250 to 400 kilometres, the operation is quite large, so for example the CRO's may be down in Bulga Village and therefore cannot be up the other end of site. Olivia said that it is a priority system that MTW utilise in terms of dust management and that is how the alarms work, she reiterated that the CRO's are not able to be everywhere at once.

Hollee understands that but she feels MTW will also have information coming through that will indicate where a trouble spot is going to be, so Hollee would think the CRO's would not be down the northern end if it was felt the concern was somewhere else. Gary noted that regardless of whether MTW get alarms or not, they still do inspections including conducting noise checks, as well as at night, and the OCE's will go around twice doing these.

Stewart Mitchell

Stewart remains concerned about MTW's Blasting Road Closures, he feels that when the road is clear for traffic to go through that road users still understand it to be a 60 Klm/Hr zone but it should revert back to 100 Klm/Hr, so he feels there needs to be signage to indicate when the speed is back to normal.

Gary said that MTW have been talking to the RMS about this matter as the comment about how long the 60 Klm/Hr zone is had come back before. Gary advised that one of the ways MTW reacted to that feedback was to have the 60 Klm/Hr signs covered until they need to do the road closure. Also, there was no end of roadwork sign just past the control point to re-establish speed, so MTW will change that to being 60 Klm/Hr going past MTW workers that are on the ground, then "End Road Work - 100 Klm/Hr". If MTW have people on the ground that may slow travellers down but that is how MTW will work to address the concerns that Stewart has raised. Gary advised MTW had to change some Traffic Control Plans and liaise with the RMS to make that happen.

Stewart had asked previously about the possibility of leaving the Putty Road open when MTW are blasting in the southern end of Mount Thorley, which is 1.5 Kilms from the Putty Road and queried if MTW had not been able to take his feedback into consideration. Gary responded that MTW will have a potential road closure ready to go in the case that weather may cause the blast to move in a different direction and whilst this will be set up, MTW may not need to close the road, but can if necessary.

Stewart noted that it is still always advertised that Putty and Charlton Roads will be closed and that MTW do close both roads. Stewart understood there is a 500 meter exclusion zone, so if the blast is within that distance to a road, the road is to be closed. Gary responded there are two main elements around road closures; one is fly rock and the second is that MTW have to keep additional distances if there may be potential for blast fume as MTW want to have a separation of people from that risk. Post blast MTW will also sweep the roads through with gas monitors to make sure all is clear as well.

Stewart made reference to a blast on Wednesday the 7th of August in West pit that was 3.5 Kilometres from the Putty Road and that MTW had closed both Putty & Charlton Roads. Stewart noted the blast was 2.6 Kilometres from the Golden Highway but that had been left open, however the Putty Road which is almost another kilometre from the blast was closed. Stewart is concerned that MTW may just automatically advertise that both Putty & Charlton Roads are to be closed and that the Putty Road may be being closed more often than it needs to be which creates inconvenience for people that use that road.

Gary explained that sometimes MTW will set up due to the wind direction and speed being such that their permissions will say to consider a road closure. MTW may be blasting quite far away from where the road is but if there was a fume event it may not have dissipated by the time it reached the road. Therefore MTW plan for a road closure, set up traffic controls and put out notifications but may not close the road if it is not necessary in those situations.

Gary added that this really is a precautionary measure because if something did happen and the blast was going to cause an issue MTW cannot act that fast to get a road closure in place as they can when they are set up ready. Gary said he would much rather be discussing this than to receive feedback that there might have been a fume event and someone had driven through it. Gary confirmed that he would look at the exclusion detail and come back to Stewart out of session on the reasons for Putty Road closures.

Ian asked if the dust blowing through the Mount Thorley Industrial Estate on the 7th of August would be considered a fume event, as he felt mines were not allowed to have their dust leave site in those amounts. Gary clarified that MTW are not permitted to have a blast fume event leave site, which is the noxious gasses from the blast, and that there were none of those identified in the blast on the 7th of August.

Stewart said on the morning of the 7th of August around 9.00 a.m., that the Dragline was operating in Loders Pit and the dust coming off that was higher than the boom. Ian said he has similar photos of what Stewart was describing where dust had come out of the pit and clearly the Dragline was the source that generated this. Stewart noted that in the past dust had not been allowed to rise above the height of the wheels on dump trucks so he was concerned MTW are now generating dust that is higher than the boom.

Stewart showed some photos of dust clouds that he felt would be going about 1,000 foot into the area. Stewart asked what stemming methods MTW were using in their blasting to prevent this from happening. Stewart felt most of the extended energy seemed to be going up into the air rather than loosening the ground which he felt was where MTW would want it to, he asked what precautions are being taken to stop that from happening.

Hollee asked if Stewart's dust concerns on the 7th of August would have generated an alert and Gary advised it may not have if it did not reach MTW's closest monitor to the Putty Road boundary, however MTW would react in terms of a dust area forming to reduce their operation and that is the normal way to do this for the Dragline but there may be some dust emergent.

ACTION 7: Col asked MTW to provide detail on dust alerts on 7 August, noting that Stewart had been concerned about dust coming off the Dragline at levels higher than the boom around 9.00 a.m. on that day.

David responded to Stewart's question around Dragline dust stating that MTW have a lot of different processes they undertake in terms of mitigation:-

- MTW will slow the Dragline i.e. operating 10 minutes on and then 10 minutes off.
- Most times MTW will hoist the bucket down, so if the Dragline is sitting high it will throw the dirt down to the bench below and then come back up, whereas in a normal operation the Dragline would typically flick the dirt over the side.
- MTW has had a lot of time this year where the Dragline has been parked up.

Hollie asked if the Dragline operator would see and know that dust was occurring and queried if they have cameras. David said the Dragline operators do not need cameras, they would be in touch with MTW's OCE's who are in contact with the CRO's that work 24/7. David advised on the 9th of August there was a westerly blowing so the call was made to shut down Dragline 101 for a long period of time and that is the way MTW mitigate dust issues.

David added in the case of Dragline 103, which is located just off the Putty Road in West Pit, MTW have set up some sprinkler systems which are showing some success but MTW still lost 50 hours over the weekend as this water system could not mitigate the dust to an acceptable level so it was parked up.

Stewart asked if allowing that sort of thing to happen was considered to be best practice by MTW as it does happen quite frequently and he felt there must be some way the company can mitigate that dust on site rather than to see what had been showed in photographs at today's meeting.

Stewart said MTW had mentioned that when there are temperature inversions that they do shut down equipment, he said there had obviously been an inversion the week before last, as the noise levels at his residence were reading 43 which is way above the 40 limit. Stewart said this noise coming out of the Pit indicated to him that MTW did not close everything down and he explained the noise disturbs their peace of a morning.

Stewart raised the tree planting near the Bulga Bridge on the left hand side coming into the Village. Stewart has brought this up before and believed MTW had said that the reason for planting the trees was to enhance their offsets and Gary confirmed that is correct that MTW have to provide credits based on an ecosystem.

Stewart felt that this was all sorted before the approval was granted and that MTW had been required to declare where their green off-sets were to be and then that allowed for this mine to proceed on that basis, he asked if MTW are now saying that they have to provide additional offsets. Gary explained that there are two requirements for offsets; firstly there is an area or land based hectares of off-set that MTW has to do and secondly there is a species credit which is based on an ecosystem and MTW have to meet both these criteria for their offsets.

To enter into a Conservation Agreement with the OEH for biodiversity there is a requirement to do a Biodiversity Management Process to demonstrate the lands biodiversity value and enter into a 21 year type total fund deposit to bring that land up to the standard of ecosystem required to retire the credits, and that includes outlining the amount of work to be conducted such as planting, weed management and other activities.

Stewart is concerned that the plantings in that area will sterilise what was once good farmland on those river flats as the land used to be a very productive stone fruit orchard when Stewart was a child and it was also used for lucerne growing. Stewart noted that MTW have removed all stock from their properties and there are no agricultural pursuits so he feels MTW have got the land but are not using it effectively. Gary confirmed that MTW are using this area for a biodiversity outcome and that this is a State Government process, he explained that is the land use designated as part of MTW's Development Consent.

Stewart asked if it was MTW that nominated that land to be used as a biodiversity area and Gary confirmed that was part of the commitments in MTW's EIS and Approval, being part of the offset package for the clearing of vegetation that MTW are going to do for their development.

MTW needed to provide the Government with assurances that they would provide an ecosystem of a certain area and quality to offset this clearing that MTW are going to do. Gary noted that is a requirement for all developments now, he understands that not everyone agrees with that approach but that is the approach that is there.

Adrian had noticed a safety issue around the people putting the road work signage out and Gary advised he would have a discussion about how they carry the signs.

Cr Hollee Jenkins

Hollie asked if MTW could provide an update in their next Business Papers on Apprentices; how many were hired and where did they come from. Hollie understood that sixteen 17 year old boys from Singleton who got through to interview stage with Glencore did not even get an interview with Yancoal and that these boys had been long term residents and some were near neighbours.

Hollie asked if MTW could bring the CCC up to date about where they are up to with the investigations into an Underground Mining Facility and in response Gary provided the following update.

MTW are still very much in the concept feasibility stage. There is a Team dedicated to looking at this and the exploration is part of that. MTW are continuing to drill and their budget for next year has an allocation for MTW to go on with drilling and examining the resource. As that work happens MTW will look at other phases such as quality of coal, building geological models, geotechnical, and all of those matters that are associated with an underground study, so that work is progressing this year and will progress next year. MTW's exploration licence that was recently applied for over the Mount Thorley lease goes down to the Bayswater seam so MTW will drill into that.

Membership

Col advised that there are now four community members being Ian, Stewart, Graeme and Adrian - with Neville as an alternate and Col felt Neville may be able to be added in as a full member. Col will advise the Department of Christina's resignation and noted there is now the option to advertise again and seek some new members. Col said there is an allowance for 7 community members and was interested in feedback from CCC members.

Adrian responded that to get an idea on what is going on out there he would like to see positions advertised to get someone local. Stewart would like to think the other committee members would have a say in who might be selected if it is going to be advertised locally and Gary explained the process is that the applicants will go to Col and then on to the Department for their approval. Ian agreed that membership should be advertised as there is probably a lot of people that would have interest in the CCC. Col added there is a benefit in numbers in the case that people are unable to attend.

ACTION 8: MTW to advertise that nominations are open for appointment of up to two community members for the MTW CCC, per the CCC guideline process.

Ian noted that talks about Yancoal meeting and introducing themselves to the people of Bulga had been going on for many years and he still gets asked from time to time about this. Ian feels some rumours could be resolved if community had an opportunity to have discussions with MTW's team. Gary confirmed that MTW are still talking about community engagement and what the format is going to look like.

Col noted that at a recent Mining Conference he had been on a panel about community involvement and whilst the CCC's are one method for community engagement they are fairly structured, he felt the strongest message that came out of this conference was that the more the companies engage directly with the community, the more effective the communication. Col feels Ian is right that this has been talked about for a few years so he would join community members in encouraging the company to try and have something in place before year end and he felt that would send out a good message.

Members put forward suggestions based on their experience of other mines community engagement:-

- ✓ To provide company updates such as about what the company has done and what are the next steps e.g. their 6 months mine plan and these could be presented via displays on notice boards.
- ✓ Share information about Community Funding (CSP); who can apply and what is that process, also who have been the recipients of company funding.
- ✓ To have company representatives available that are able to answer questions and to make the event more about interaction rather than a formal forum.
- ✓ The provision of a BBQ or meal tends to make this quite a social occasion.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

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. Gary provided detail of organisations that have been awarded support in the first application program for 2019.

Gary felt that it was worth mentioning that this year MTW are supporting Singleton Schools Learning Community which is a physical wellbeing project that is happening across all 11 schools in the local area. Teachers are learning some methods to deal with mental health resilience, identifying if students have issues and ways to incorporate this into the way students learn. There are 345 teachers involved and there has been a massive investment of time from them. MTW is a major funding partner and at their first meeting today there had been great energy in the room with the teachers being very enthusiastic. This program will start over a two year period and it is hoped that there will be a really positive outcome for the teachers and also the students.

Gary advised the next Community Support Program is open for applications now and will close on the 4th of November 2019, he asked members to spread the word to the wider community about this program.

For information please visit <https://insite.yancoal.com.au/community> or email mtw.csp@yancoal.com.au

Adrian felt Yancoal's CSP was just the type of thing that should be shared during a meeting with community, so they know where this funding goes. Gary said MTW are actively telling their own people about this program so they can also spread the word out to their networks. Adrian feels the CCC members may share information to one person at a time but if MTW were able to gather a crowd to start sharing this type of thing that goes on that would be of great benefit.

Hollie noted that a Newsletter had been distributed in the past and Gary said that MTW had also been considering doing that again, particularly if MTW need to advertise as that would be an additional method of letting people know instead of just relying on newspapers.

10. NEXT MEETING

Monday 25 November 2019 : 2.00 to 3.30 p.m. at MTW Boardroom

Action Carried Forward - Gary advised he will work to have MTW's Social Impact Management Plan finalised prior to the next CCC Meeting scheduled for 25 November 2019.

Action	Page	Actions arising from this Meeting
1	2	In response to discussions around the Historical Heritage Funding; Gary to provide Stewart & Ian with contact details for Wesley Warren - Director of the Convict Trail Project in relation to the submission of projects/ideas for the Great North Road.
2	5	In response to a query from Ian; MTW to provide feedback on the anticipated time frame for the CD Dump to reach final approved height of RL190 and subsequent timing anticipated for seeding that area.
3	6	In response to a query from Stewart, Gary to seek the figures on how much land has been pre-stripped in the northern area, that is to the west of the former Wallaby Scrub Road.
4	9	MTW to provide the CCC with a summary of finding and responses undertaken on completion of an internal investigation of their blast in the afternoon of 7 August 2019
5	10	MTW to organise a viewing of their Dispatch area in conjunction with a future CCC Meeting
6	11	In response to a suggestion by Adrian, MTW to organise a Site Tour in conjunction with a future CCC Meeting to assist members to understand the mine layout.
7	12	Col asked MTW to provide detail on dust alerts on 7 August, noting that Stewart had been concerned about dust coming off the Dragline at levels higher than the boom around 9.00 a.m. on that day.
8	15	MTW to advertise that nominations are open for appointment of up to two community members for the MTW CCC, per the CCC guideline process.