

CHAIN VALLEY COLLIERY and MANNERING COLLIERY

Venue:	Chain Valley Colliery		
Date:	16 / 08 / 17	Time:	2pm
Meeting Topic:	Community Consultative Committee		
Participants:	<p>Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MM) – Chair John Oakes (JO) – Community Andrew Whitbourne (AW) – Community Bob Brooks (BB) – Community Paul Maky (PM) – Community Wade Covey (WC) – LakeCoal Kathleen Lee (KL) – LakeCoal Craig Shales (CS) – LakeCoal</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Ben Johnston (BJ) – LakeCoal Ian Carr (IC) – Community Neil Wynn (NW) – Community</p>		

Agenda Items

No	Item
1.	MM declared the meeting open at 2:07pm.
2.	<p>MM welcomed the committee and declared her interests, no change from previous meetings. Apologies received from Neil Wynn (Community), Ian Carr (Community) and Ben Johnston (LakeCoal). MM noted no representation from Central Coast or Lake Macquarie City Councils.</p> <p>Action - MM/WC to follow up with both councils to ascertain who will be attending in the future.</p>
3.	Minutes confirmed for previous combined CCC meeting (24/05/2017) were moved by PM and seconded by JO.
4.	MM provided an overview of the correspondence since the last meeting.
5.	<p>BB advised that he wanted to talk in general business regarding the noise from Mannering Colliery.. WC advised BB that he would be presenting on the noise management actions later in the presentation and that he could discuss it then. BB explained that multiple residents had approached him about the noise coming from the site.</p>
6.	WC provided an update on the actions from the previous meeting.
7.	<p>PM and JO confirmed attendance at VPA/Community Fund information sessions held at Chain Valley Bay and Summerland Point Hall, positive feedback received and quality of proposals. PM commented that Sharon Moore from the Council was excellent in presenting the information which was informative and easy to understand. AW explained that it was a disappointing turnout at Mannering Park but was still positive.</p> <p>JO suggested that applicants submit draft applications well before date of closure to ensure complete application. JO commented on difficulty on getting quotes from multiple providers. WC suggested that applications with only singular quotes should include evidence to suggest a reasonable effort was made to achieve more quotes. JO agreed.</p>
8.	WC provided an overview of the Community Fund timeline on screen. WC advised that the projects were due to be selected by the end of the year.
9.	In response to NW's query at previous meeting, WC advised water depth at Chain Valley Bay had an average depth of 4-5 metres.
10.	<p>WC confirmed that the survey pins at Kingfisher Shores had been installed by LakeCoal Surveyors. WC advised that the pins used were not copper but stainless steel coach screws. WC advised that the pins were installed in consultation with Crown Lands who are the landowner in the area. WC advised that LakeCoal recognised that it could consult better with the local community in this area in future when undertaking these type of works and that LakeCoal had committed to improving its consultation in the future.</p>
11.	<p>WC provided an operational update to the CCC members. Key points explained included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link road Project completion on 7th August • CVB1 miniwall to commence this coming Friday or over the weekend. • Commissioning of the Mannering site had been underway since 7 August.

12.	<p>BB asked if the noise conditions currently being experienced would be better or worse than full production. WC advised that during commissioning phase, less coal is used and comes from a stockpile of development coal in UG bins. WC explained that a constant flow had been used where possible to get an understanding of the noise profile on site. WC explained that the sites next round of compliance monitoring was scheduled for 22nd August. WC advised that it had been put back to ensure that full scale production was assessed.</p>
13.	<p>WC explained that the mine design in the Northern Mining area had been finalised and that North Mains development had recommenced. WC explained that LakeCoal had invested significant capital into the site equipment during this recent miniwall move ahead of mining in Chain Valley Bay.</p>
14.	<p>BB explained that during recent meetings with the power station he was advised that they had also spent a significant amount of money on the power station upgrading it. BB explained that he writes an article in the local newsletter and wanted to know if LakeCoal would be willing to provide information about the value of reinvestment in the local area for his next article.</p> <p>Action – WC to follow up with LakeCoal management regarding BB's information request.</p>
15.	<p>WC provided an update on proposed future mining activities for LakeCoal:</p> <p>WC advised that the Multi-seam mining feasibility Investigation study and Extraction Plan for Chain Valley Bay was lodged with DP&E since the last meeting. WC advised that DP&E had engaged an external subsidence expert (Jim Galvin) to peer review technical aspects of the application. WC explained that LakeCoal had undertaken extensive consultation with both DP&E since the last meeting and that DP&E had recently approved the first section of the CVB1 miniwall. WC explained that the site was still awaiting a safety related approval from DRE before the miniwall could commence. WC explained that approximately 25mm - 140mm of vertical subsidence had been recorded along the foreshore area of Chain Valley Bay from the 1980's to present as a result of historical underground workings in the area (Wallarrah Seam and Great Northern Seam). WC explained that the subsidence was still continuing to occur on the foreshore albeit at very low rates. WC explained that the results around the 140mm mark were as a result of direct pillar extraction in the Wallarrah seam beneath the foreshore. WC explained that the MSMFI modelling that had been undertaken for the proposed Fassifern Seam miniwalls (CVB1 to CVB3) indicated that it was very unlikely that the foreshore areas would be impacted by LakeCoal's proposed mining in Chain Valley Bay. While LakeCoal is not predicting to have any impacts on the foreshore it has committed to an extensive subsidence monitoring program to confirm/validate its predictions. Survey monitoring frequency will be weekly for the first period and go back to monthly. WC explained it was likely that residents will see an increased presence of our surveyors over the next 12 months.</p> <p>MM asked about the partial approval of CVB1. WC explained that DP&E and Jim Galvin had requested additional information from LakeCoal to assist in validating the key parameters in the subsidence modelling in the technical report. WC explained that the information was related to strength and integrity of overlying strata above the mining area. WC explained that LakeCoal had committed to obtaining the relevant information to assist DP&E with the approval of the remainder of</p>

	<p>the block. WC explained that the additional information would assist LakeCoal in determining if any further modifications to the mine design would be required for blocks CVB2 and CVB3.</p> <p>BB asked why the mining design was under so much scrutiny. WC advised that the Department and LakeCoal are aware of the sensitive nature of historical impacts along the foreshore and this is the reason why the Department and their independent experts want to ensure that the modelling and the technical assumptions being used are as accurate as possible.</p> <p>WC provided an overview of the mine design changes in Chain Valley Bay since the investigations commenced back in 2016. BB asked if the shortening of the miniwalls had an impact on the mine life. WC explained that the shortening of the miniwalls meant that the approved mine life would be shortened by approximately 12 months.</p>
16.	<p>WC showed the revised mine plan for the northern mining domain. WC explained that MW13 was planned for extraction in mid 2018.</p>
17.	<p>WC provided an update on coal haulage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition period moving away from trucks in the short term until export from VPPS was resolved. • CVC stockpile almost removed. • CH Traffic Management Plans draft sent out for comments. Feedback received from CCC and LMCC. <p>BB noted that coal is also coming in to VPPS from Airlie. BB questioned plans of exporting surplus coal. WC explained that LakeCoal was committed to exporting off the VPPS stockpiles and that all truck movements would remain internal within the VPPS site. WC confirmed no trucks would be going out the front gate and that the existing back gate onto Construction Road would be used.</p>
18.	<p>WC detailed water quality results from CVC monitoring site. MM questioned large variance in faecal coliform results. WC explained that dry conditions can lead to increases in faecal coliform ratios but as a precaution LakeCoal had arranged for its existing wastewater systems to be cleaned out. WC advised that the site had seen a slight rise in suspended solids results however investigations have indicated that the it is due to algae build up on the discharge point grates. WC explained that he had engaged plumbers to clean the grates in the coming weeks. BB asked WC what quantity of water goes through monitoring system. WC advised 2.3GL of water / year. BB asked if this was potable water that is discharged from mine? WC advised that the high salinity in mine discharge would require reverse osmosis plants to make water potable, however is not feasible due to large surface ponds needed etc for waste product. CVC is looking at reducing needs of potable water in dust suppression by introducing chemical suppression using environmentally inert additives.</p>
19.	<p>WC detailed water quality results from MC monitoring site, no exceedances noted.</p>
20.	<p>WC provided an overview of noise monitoring results for CVC & MC. No noise exceedances recorded on monitoring equipment.</p>
21.	<p>WC provided an update on the latest round of seagrass monitoring:</p> <p>WC advised that the majority of transects were showing improved seagrass abundance.</p> <p>One control transect however had a 25% reduction in seagrass, WC located on aerial imagery and</p>

	<p>speculated stormwater runoff from headland.</p> <p>BB questioned who the authority was to report this to. WC explained that the internal process was to review and investigate the occurrence first. WC also explained that it was a control site not impacted by CVC. WC explained that he had contacted the monitoring consultant to try and determine the root cause of the decline.</p> <p>Action – WC to provide feedback to the CCC on the affected control site seagrass result.</p>
22.	<p>WC provide an overview of the 2017 bathymetric results for the Subsidence Monitoring Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WC explained that an average of 600-700mm subsidence within lake has occurred over MW7-12 • WC advised that the bathymetry results indicated upto 1m subsidence around centre of MW9. • Advised further bathymetric assessment would be undertaken in 2018 and that this data would be used to update the subsidence model. • WC explained that there had been subsidence recorded under the link road. • Survey markers and “shared pathway” along foreshore still not finalised, WC awaiting final location of proposed pathway
23.	Craig Shales joined meeting at 3.20pm.
24.	WC provided an overview of the air quality monitoring across CVC and Mannering. No substantial changes to air quality results from previous periods.
25.	WC presented the details of 2017 biodiversity monitoring program. WC advised that the biodiversity score for 2017 was 80% which is consistent with previous periods.
26.	No environmental incidences to report since last meeting. One noise complaint was received from resident on Tall Timbers Road since the last meeting. WC and CS detailed actions taken personally to identify and eliminate the source of noise (dozer on stockpile clearing room for anticipated production). JO, CS and BB engaged in conversation about various industrial noise sources in area (freight trains, power station venting, machinery) being more pronounced during different wind directions.
27.	<p>WC gave update on current environmental approvals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MC tonnage being applied to increase from 1.3Mt to 2.1Mt • CVC seeking approval to truck coal from VPPS for export. • Our Energy Group flaring unit update, still awaiting to lodge DA to council. Size confirmed as ~ 2 x shipping containers high, no flames would be visible however heat haze would most likely be. BB asked if there would be visual impacts. WC explained that the site was still waiting to see the infrastructure proposed however this would be assessed in any DA application. • UG mine gas abatement project – WC explained that LakeCoal was looking to access existing UG mine gas make for potential flaring and power generation on the surface. • Great Northern Seam first workings project, desktop searches (title searches) underway. WC explained that the GN seam coal would most likely be brought to the surface at CVC

	<p>then trucked for export.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rail loader loop update. Still conceptual at the moment however a working group has been established to drive the project.
28.	WC provided an overview of the environmental reporting completed since last meeting.
29.	<p>WC provided an update on the noise mitigation report at Mannering Colliery. WC explained that LakeCoal had engaged Atkins Acoustics and had completed the majority of recommendations from the preliminary noise mitigation report required under the consent. WC explained that LakeCoal was currently assessing options for the installation of a real time noise monitor in the Macquarie Shore Retirement Village. WC sought advice from BB and JO regarding a suitable location for real time noise monitor closer to residential. JO and BB suggested within “the village” and that LakeCoal should discuss it with the owner.</p> <p>Action – WC to follow up with the owner on a Monday regarding the installation of a real time noise monitor in the Village.</p>
30.	<p>WC provided a more detailed description of the Noise Mitigations at MC that had been completed since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of temporary acoustic barriers adjacent the rotary breaker • Decommissioning of the former raised reject conveyor and reject bin. • Installation of a noise attenuated/lined reject chute and concrete bunker. • The existing conveyor belt screening around the transfer house was repaired and fixed in situ to reduce noise impacts passing through loose conveyor. • Site audit of conveyor rollers • Installation of a coal valve on the stockpile to reduce equipment operating times in the area • Trialling a rubber tyred loader instead of a dozer for stockpiling activities to eliminate track slap impacts. <p>WC, CS, BB had general conversation of noise levels reducing due to operational improvements such as quacker reverse alarms and rubber (impact) rollers on conveyors. BB advised that he had been approached by community members from the village about the noise from Mannering. WC advised that the site was planning on undertaking compliance noise monitoring on the 22nd August and that this information would be used to inform the noise mitigation report.</p>
31.	WC gave update on rising sewer main design, confirming that Wyong Council was pushing for CVC to create own rising main before feeding into public gravity fed system. WC explained that LakeCoal had requested an extension from the EPA for the installation of the rising main. No feedback received to date.
32.	<p>WC provided an overview of the community projects since last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LakeCoal continued sponsorship of Mannering Park school fete. • WC asked for feedback on new fencing around playground, BB noted that local preschool centre can now use facility and they had created a scrap book of the area.
33.	<p>General business updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local MP Yasmin Conroy toured facility, Pat Conroy was due the following week.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WC gave update on CHB jetty, engineering reports were currently being peer reviewed to assess feasibility of either refurbishment or demolition.
34.	<p>MM sought members' preferences on having contact details displayed on website. MM suggested members' names only and further details upon request from CVC placed on website. CS proposed the CVC switch as contact number. WC recommended website shows name and area the committee member is from, then contact LakeCoal switch board.</p> <p>Action – WC to provide updated table for inclusion on the Website.</p>
35.	General discussion about future of power station in conjunction with renewable energy sources.
36.	<p>MM declared next meeting to be 22nd November 2017 -to be confirmed.</p> <p>Plans were made for CCC members to have UG visit at next committee meeting.</p> <p>Action – WC to advise members of requirements for UG visit. Exact time TBC. Possibly 12nn meeting start to have UG visit during afternoon shift (production).</p>
37.	MM declared the meeting closed 4:45pm.

DRAFT