

ABEL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE Meeting #41
9th September, 2019
Abel Underground Mine Administration Building
DRAFT

1. OPENING & WELCOME

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared the meeting open at 3:00 pm. A special welcome was given to Ms Tara Dever, CEO, Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council.

2. PRESENT

Ms Margaret MacDonald-Hill (Chairperson), Mr Terry Lewin, Mr Brad Ure, Ms Tara Dever (Mindaribba LALC), Mr Greg Lamb (Bloomfield Group), Mr William Farnworth (Donaldson Operations) Mr Phillip Brown (Abel Mine Environment & Community Relations Superintendent) and Mr James Benson (Abel Mine Environment & Community Coordinator) (minutes).

2.1 APOLOGIES

Mr Allan Jennings, Mr Alan Brown and Clr Melanie Dagg (Cessnock Council),

3. PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no changes to the previously declared pecuniary interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms MacDonald-Hill advised that the previous minutes referenced a September date which is to be corrected to read March. Minutes of the Abel CCC on 4th March 2019 were confirmed by Mr Lewin and seconded by Mr Ure.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Black Hill Road repairs and speed limit

Mr Brown advised that there had been no news from Subsidence Advisory NSW. Mr Ure stated that the road is continuing to deteriorate.

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

5.2 Controlled RFS burn

Mr Benson advised that two dates were set to conduct a hazard reduction burn but did not go ahead due to weather conditions. Mr Benson will reassess with the RFS in the coming months.

5.3 Summary of Donaldson Conservation Trust

Refer to environmental presentation below.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

as per Agenda

7. COMPANY REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

7.1 Abel Mine Update

Refer to presentation

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

7.2 Environmental Update

Refer to presentation.

Mr Brown discussed the difference between an Exploration Lease (EL) and an Assessment Lease (AL).

Ms MacDonald-Hill asked if there are multiple seams at Abel. Mr Farnworth confirmed there are multiple seams.

Mr Ure asked why the currently mined areas are not excluded from these and what is the difference with this.

Mr Brown stated that works can still be assessed and conducted within the previously mined areas and these ALs continue to give the ability to assess the resources within the lease.

8. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Nil

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr B Ure asked about Dog Baiting and if Donaldson will be conducting any in the near future.

Mr Benson stated that there are plans to conduct Spring Baiting coordinated by the local Land Services.

Mr Lamb advised that Bloomfield will also be carrying out a feral animal control program.

Revision History

Edition	Revision	Comment	Author	Date	Authorised by:
1	0	Draft Minutes	J Benson	13/09/2019	

Ms MacDonald-Hill formally asked if Ms Dever would like to become a member of the Abel Community Consultative Committee. Ms Dever confirmed this.

Action: Chair to send Ms Dever the necessary documentation to initiate the approval process through the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

10. NEXT MEETING

16th March 2020 at 3:00pm with a tentative date of 14th of September 2020 second meeting.

As this was the last meeting for the year, Ms MacDonald-Hill thanked all members for their involvement throughout the year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

The meeting was declared closed at 3:50 pm by the Chair.