

ABEL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE Meeting #29

Monday 9th March 2015 at 5.00 pm

Abel Underground Mine Administration Building

DRAFT

1. OPENING & WELCOME

Chairman, Mr Milton Morris.

2. PRESENT

Mr Alan Brown, Mr Terry Lewin, Mr Allan Jennings, Mr Ian Turnbull, Mr Brad Ure, Mr David Gibson, Mr Tony Sutherland and Mr Phillip Brown (minutes).

2.1 APOLOGIES

Mr Greg Lamb and Mrs Alarna Bristow

3. PECUNIARY INTERESTS

3.1 *No pecuniary interests were tabled.*

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 *Previous Minutes 15 December 2014. Minutes confirmed.*

Mr A Brown advised that the attachments to the 15th September 2014 meeting were not available on the website. P Brown advised that they will be updated this week.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 *Business Arising.*

5.1.1 *Community Support Program – Yancoal support*

Mr P Brown advised that Yancoal has provided over \$500,000 for Community Support Programs in 2014.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 *Nil*

7. COMPANY REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

7.1 *Abel Mine Update*

Mr Gibson provided the Abel Mine Update. Refer enclosed presentation.

Mr Jennings asked what the planned production for 2015? Mr Gibson advised the budget was 2.38 Mt but Abel was still aiming for 2.5Mt on a five day week.

Mr Jennings asked if there were still contractors onsite. Mr Gibson advised that Contractors were used for belt moves, long term workers compensation and Long Service Leave.

Mr A Brown asked what the seam thicknesses were in the panels to the north in the lower Donaldson. Mr Gibson advised 2.5m in the lower Donaldson and 1.8m mineable in the upper Donaldson.

Mr A Brown asked where the affected dam was. Mr Gibson advised that it was the Osborn's lower Dam.

A Jennings asked when the panels 28 and 30 will be mined. Mr Gibson advised Panel 28 in April and Panel 30 in June.

A Jennings asked how the mine was going against budget. Mr Gibson advised that Abel was 1.6 klm and 15,000 t behind budget. Mr Gibson advised that there were a number of reasons why

Revision History					
Edition	Revision	Comment	Author	Date	Authorised by:
1	0	Draft Minutes	P Brown	1th March 2015	P. Brown
		Approved Minutes			

performance was down but that an improvement program was being implemented for development.

Mr A Brown asked what the recovery rate was now. Mr Gibson said 75%.

Mr Gibson informed the meeting about Abel's current safety performance of 125 days TRI free.

Mr A Brown asked if the mine was still impacted by the take or pay provisions? Mr Gibson advised that it was still hurting Abel.

7.2 Monitoring and Environmental Performance

Mr P. Brown provided an update on monitoring and environmental performance. Refer enclosed presentation.

7.3 Community Complaints and Response to Complaints

No complaints received.

7.4 Website Information

No comments apart from the issue raised under 4.1 above.

7.5 Information provided to the Community and any Feedback

No comments.

7.6 Donaldson Coal Community Support Program Update

Mr P Brown advised that applications were now being called for the Donaldson Coal Community Support Program.

Mr Ure asked what groups had applied so far? Mr P Brown advised

Mr A Brown asked if the Conservation Trust was still going. Mr Lewin advised that it still was.

7.7 SMP/Extraction Plan Area 4

Mr Sutherland provided an update on SMP/EPA 4. Refer enclosed presentation.

7.8 Subsidence Management Plan Update

Mr Sutherland provided an update on Subsidence Management Plan. Refer enclosed presentation.

7.9 Black Hill Road Undermining Update

Mr Sutherland provided an update on the undermining of Black Hill Road. Refer enclosed presentation.

Mr A. Brown asked from a predictive nature if the damage on Blackhill Road was as Abel thought it would be. Especially in the lower part of the road? Mr Sutherland advised that the subsidence occurred where it was expected.

Mr A Brown asked what the depth of the Tally Dam was. Mr Brown displayed a picture of the dam showing depths of up to 5m.

Mr Lewin asked about the orientation of the panels impact on Blackhill Road and if subsidence had been increasing? Mr Sutherland advised that the new layout would be better in terms of duration of monitoring/road repairs on the road.

Mr A Brown asked if Abel had a policy for the traffic controllers on Blackhill Road. Mr Sutherland advised that the road safety was detailed in the approved Traffic Management Plan. Mr Lewin advised that the response from the road controllers to slow vehicles down was the same at varying speeds.

7.10 MOD4 – Lower Donaldson/Big Ben and Viney Creek mining

Mr P Brown provided an update on the MOD 4 progress. Refer enclosed presentation.

Mr Ure asked if the mine was going beneath the land owned by Coal & Allied again. Mr Sutherland advised that it was being considered.

Mr Jennings asked if there was any update on the sale of the Catholic Land. Mr Lewin advised that the rezoning had progressed through the “gateway and would be readvertised again over the coming months.

Mr Ure asked how negotiations were going with the Catholic Diocese. Mr Gibson advised that Abel would review further mining beneath the Catholic land and the costs and then decide whether to mine or not.

Mr Ure asked if Abel could mine the areas later. Mr Gibson advised that they could subject to approvals.

Mr Lewin commented that the reality was that the land would not be developed for 8 – 10 years.

8. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

Mr A Brown asked when the website would be updated. Mr P Brown advised it would be done by 13th March 2015.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr Lewin asked if Donaldson had a Policy for purchasing land in the Black Hill area such as the Harding’s. Mr Gibson advised that there was no policy. It would be considered on a case by case basis is if it is beneficial or not.

Mr Morris advised that this may be his last meeting. That upon entering his 92nd year it was time to retire. Mr Morris would discuss this matter with representatives from the Department of Planning and Environment.

Mr Morris also advised that he has submitted his Annual Report to Department of Planning and Environment.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Abel Community Consultative Committee was set down for Monday the 22nd June 2015 to be held at the Abel Underground Mine Administration Building at 5.00 pm.

The meeting was declared closed at 5:50 pm by the Chairman.