

CHARBON/INGLENOOK COMBINED COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2018

Charbon/Inglenook Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project Name:	Charbon Coal Mine & Inglenook Exploration Project	Reporting Period:	January - December 2018
Independent Chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill	Proponent Contact:	Greg Brown Thomas Dubois

1. Executive Summary

The Charbon/Inglenook Community Consultative Committee (CCC) is a unique consultative committee as it is a Government approved combination of two committees established at very different stages of mining and the approvals process. The Inglenook Project exploration committee was established by the Minister for Primary Industries at the end of 2010 whereas the Charbon Coal Mine is approaching end of mine life with underground mining and open cut mining completed in 2014 and 2015 respectively. Coal mining has occurred at the Charbon site since 1920. The original Charbon CCC began in May 2004 and became a subsequent condition of consent for later approvals.

The release of the Department of Planning and Environment's new Community Consultative Guidelines for State Significant Development in late 2016 and the move of the Division of the then Resources and Energy into the Planning and Environment Cluster the following year provided a timely opportunity to merge the two committees into one because of the many synergies between them; both are part of Centennial Coal operations, shared the same Chair, similar membership and meeting schedule and the communities are closely related, both in physical proximity and foundation of their social fabric. All parties supported the merge, membership remained the same and the first joint meeting was held in October 2017.

The committee meets biennial and alternates the meeting venue between the Charbon Colliery and the Inglenook Project Office at Running Stream. The Charbon Colliery is located approximately four kilometres south of Kandos in the Mid Western Regional Council Local Government Area and the Inglenook Exploration Project covers four leaseholds in the Running Stream Ilford area, mainly in the Lithgow City Council Local Government Area.

The Committee operates in accordance with the Department of Planning and Environment's 2019 Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects.

The committee is currently comprised of:

- ten local community representatives, two of whom are members of the Running Stream Water Users Association and one from the Rylstone District Environment Society;
- one Mid Western Regional Council elected representative;
- two representatives (elected and staff) from Lithgow City Council;
- four Centennial representatives, with attendance from other personnel as required;
- one independent Chairperson.

Meetings are held twice a year with an annual site inspection, with the option of an extraordinary meeting if required.

The tenure of the committee remains consistent with good attendance numbers at the meetings. A strong kinship exists amongst the members, most are long term residents of the area and as such, the adjoining villages form a close knit community. They are interested in the rehabilitation of the Charbon Colliery and the progress of the Inglenook exploration program.

For the reporting period, the committee's interest has mainly focused on the progressive rehabilitation being undertaken at Charbon, trespass and safety concerns around the Kandos State Forest access road, a proposed modification on water transfer to Airly operations via rail transport and potential impacts, the possible use of coarse reject material from Clarence used for void rehabilitation, results from the Inglenook exploration drilling program and progress of access agreements.

Other topics of discussion for the reporting period also included:

- general environmental management and monitoring, including aquatic ecology, flora and fauna, noise, air quality, surface and groundwater, erosion control
- management of Centennial owned land, weed control and feral animal management
- community complaints
- approvals update and progress on Charbon mine closure activities
- Charbon Annual Review
- baseline environmental data collection for Inglenook
- exploration activities
- broader community engagement and sponsorship.

The committee is provided with a comprehensive powerpoint presentation of activities as part of each meeting. The CCC remains an effective communication forum between the community, the Councils and the company. A good rapport exists amongst all the members and it functions well. Accordingly, the committee fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- During the reporting period, the committee met in March and November with an Extraordinary meeting in December to discuss the proposed water transfer between Charbon and Airly.
- Attendance at meetings is well attended with rare apologies because of other commitments.
- A site visit of the progress of the rehabilitation at Charbon was conducted after the March meeting.
- There were no joint CCC's held.

3. Key issues

As mining has ceased at Charbon, the focus is mainly on the rehabilitation activities but also interactions with the Airly and Clarence operations and future plans for the Inglenook exploration project.

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Trespass and safety issues on Kandos State Forest access road through Charbon mining lease	Prior site inspection by committee to identify problem. Centennial in discussion with relevant authorities on appropriate road closure.	Ongoing.
Baseline metrological collection	Committee suggestion to include collection of rainfall for Inglenook from Mudgee as well as Lithgow and Running Stream.	Implemented.
Land management	Feral animal control - notification to landowners and coordination with Local Land Services	Ongoing.


4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2019 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- site inspections on rehabilitation and mine closure
- review of community newsletters.
- updates on proposed transfer of water to Airly.
- updates on coarse reject placement from Clarence.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed or are in the process of being so, to the committee's satisfaction.

Committee Meeting minutes and presentations are available on the website within two weeks of each meeting.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	March 29 2019