

Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project Name:	Tarrawonga Coal	Reporting Period:	2019 (calendar year)
Independent Chairperson:	David Ross	Proponent Contact:	John Hamson

1. Executive Summary

It was an active year for the CCC with four standard CCC meetings and a site visit taking place as well as some other regional meetings requiring the attention of committee members. Due to the drought, the associated issues of water capacity at the mine, dust management and local access to mine water points came up regularly throughout the year. These issues provided for much discussion with the mine responding to a number of questions and actions, as requested.

The CCC, while populated by committed civic leaders, continues to struggle with finding enough affected community people interested to join the CCC.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

There were four CCC meetings and a site visit held during the year with a number of members attending each meeting. However, as there have only been three to four community members on the CCC, it does not take much for the meeting to be held with only two community members available.

Due to the coal mine being located within the Boggabri-Tarrawonga-Maules (BTM) Creek complex of coal mines, two joint CCCs were also held (in May and October) with there always being representation from this CCC at the joint CCC. These meetings had presentations from the EPA on topics like air quality.

3. Key issues

As part of the review into the key issues discussed throughout 2019, feedback was also sought from CCC members at our May 2020 meeting. These are:

- Water
- CCC representation
- Dust
- Tree planting obligations


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Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Water	<p>Due to the drought continuing to be a significant concern for the community during 2019, the mine responded to a number of questions about water storage capacity, water management practices as well as the impacts upon staff numbers.</p> <p>This also involved gaining an understanding how the mine would try to stretch out the water available and how staff working hours may need to be reduced by means of a staged approach.</p> <p>Monitoring data provided for each CCC meeting.</p>	<p>These discussions were anticipated to continue throughout 2020 should the drought not break. However, after excellent rains early in the new year, that sense of urgency has been abated.</p>
CCC representation	<p>Efforts continued to be made during the year to explore how the number of community members on the CCC could be increased</p>	<p>It is anticipated that increasing representation will remain a challenge for the committee throughout 2020</p>
Dust	<p>Due to the drought continuing to be a significant concern for the community, the mine continued to update the CCC on its efforts to manage dust whilst minimising water usage. This involved gaining an excellent understanding of the “Dust-a-Side” product, its use on site and the reduction in water usage.</p>	<p>These discussions were anticipated to continue throughout 2020 should the drought not break. However, after excellent rains early in the new year, that sense of urgency has been abated.</p>
Tree planting obligations	<p>Committee members were keen to understand how effective the mine was in meeting its legal obligations in these most trying of conditions.</p> <p>In response, the mine regularly provided updates on the survival rates of their plantings.</p>	<p>Anticipated to continue being raised by members.</p>

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4. Focus for next 12 months

- Issues include how to continue communicating or promoting the achievements of the mine staff.
- Finally, representation will continue to remain a challenge for the committee. This has remained an issue since I (David Ross) took over as chair approximately four years ago.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	24 th June, 2020