

Bulga Coal Community Consultative Committee Annual Report 2023

Independent Chairperson: John Turner OAM

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1 Executive summary/introduction

The Bulga Coal Community Consultative Committee (CCC) meets twice a year in the Minimbah Teaching Place. Minimbah is an Aboriginal Teaching and Keeping Place and was a collaborative effort between the Wonnarua and Indigenous community and four Glencore sites.

The CCC is functioning with the minimum number of community members following the resignation of one community member during the year due to him leaving the area. Advertisements will be made for new members; however it is observed that the mine operates in the area made up of two small villages and enticing new members could be difficult.

The CCC works well with considered concerns and observations made.

The company provides significant information to the CCC and always has a number of employees available at the meeting who provide comprehensive information to the meeting.

Dust remains a significant factor to the CCC discussions, however, the CCC is mindful that because of the number of mines in the area it is difficult to determine the origin of the dust.

2 CCC activities over last 12 months

Number of meetings: two

Attendance at meetings: All CCC community members attended both meetings as well as the nominated company representatives.

Effectiveness: The company provided specialist employees at each of the meetings to assist the CCC which improved the effectiveness of the meetings.

Site visits: Nil, however the CCC did not express a need for such a visit and the information provided at the meetings by the company is of a high quality for the CCC to gauge the workings and other activities of the mine.

Additional consultation activities related to the CCC: The company hosted 4 barbeques in the villages of Broke and Bulga, to bring the communities together and be informed. The CCC are invited and attend the barbeques.

3 Key issues

Issue 1: Dust remains an issue – see above. The Department of Planning and Environment and the Environment Protection Authority are also very active in regards to dust reduction.

Issue 2: Although the CCC has the requisite number of community members it is believed another community member would be desirable. Prior attempts to recruit nominations from the small communities affected by the mine has proved difficult, however attempts to secure a new member/members will occur shortly.

4 Focus for next 12 months:

The committee will continue to meet twice a year.

Discussions on rehabilitation and final landform have been emerging in recent meetings as the mine is actively carrying out such work and it is expected that the CCC will have a continuing interest in post mining land use.

John Turner OAM

Independent Chairperson, Bulga Coal Community Consultative Committee