

Chain Valley/Manning Collieries
Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

2023 Annual Report

CCC project name:	Chain Valley Colliery and Manning Colliery	Reporting period:	January 1 to December 31 2023
Independent chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill	Proponent contact:	Lachlan McWha Environmental Compliance and Approvals Coordinator

1. Executive summary / introduction

The Chain Valley and Manning Community Consultative Committees received Departmental approval to merge into one committee, whilst under the same operator in 2016. The mines assets and operations were acquired from Great Southern Energy to Sev.en Group in December 2022 but retains the trading name as Delta Coal. The collieries provide domestic coal to the nearby Vales Point Power Station via an overhead conveyor. Site infrastructure is located within the Central Coast Council Local Government Area and underground workings are under Lake Macquarie in the Lake Macquarie Council Local Government Area. The site encompasses a footprint of approximately 27.62 hectares and is located 60 kilometres south of Newcastle, in proximity to the town of Manning Park.

At each meeting the committee is apprised of operational activities including environmental performance and land management, monitoring, improvement programs and rehabilitation, local community news, review of Department's Guidelines and the Consolidation Project to combine existing approvals for both collieries into a single Development Consent and to extend mining operations from December 2027 to December 2029, currently pending finalisation of the Planning Secretary's assessment report before being presented for approval by the Independent Planning Commission.

The committee is comprised of:

- Seven local community representatives;
- An elected representative from Lake Macquarie City Council;
- A representative from Central Coast Council;
- Three company representatives, with attendance from other personnel as required;
- One independent Chairperson.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months:

- The committee met four times during 2023, in February, May, August and November.
- attendance at meetings remains consistently high, even in the absence of local government representation.

- There were no site tours undertaken for the period, although the meetings are held on site.
- The committee is an effective one by virtue of the fact that the community representatives are a dedicated, long term group of community minded people, well respected and known within their respective areas. Delta Coal representatives provide informative and productive meetings in response to the members' needs. 2023 was another year without any community complaints, indicative of effective community engagement. It fulfils its purpose under the current Departmental guidelines. All committee members have signed the revised Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interest documents and adopted a Terms of Reference as required by the Department.

3. Key issues

Issue	Actions taken	Next steps
Results of Benthic Surveys in Lake Macquarie	Presentation to the February 2023 meeting	Updates as required
Seagrass monitoring	Presentation to August meeting	Updates as required
Noise reduction at Chain Valley Ventilation site	Cleaning of fan site silencer reducing noise	Maintenance management as required
Calorific value of coal	Presentation to the May meeting	Completed
Chain Valley Colliery Community Advisory Panel EOI	Process followed up with Central Coast Council and confirmed to CCC	Council approved Panel for current term

4. Focus for next 12 months:

- Continued comprehensive reporting on all company operations, including monitoring and environmental performance, any community complaints/ responses and progress of consolidation project
- Any emerging issues and management thereof.

Name of chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill
Date:	January 23 2024