

# MANDALONG MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2019

## Mandalong Community Consultative Committee Details

|                                 |                         |                           |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>CCC / Project Name:</b>      | Mandalong Mine          | <b>Reporting Period:</b>  | January - December 2019 |
| <b>Independent Chairperson:</b> | Margaret MacDonald-Hill | <b>Proponent Contact:</b> | Jeffrey Dunwoodie       |

### 1. Executive Summary

The Mandalong Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was established in 1998 following a Commission of Inquiry into the then State owned mine. Centennial Coal purchased the mine in 2002 and subsequently became part of Banpu Public Company in 2010. Mandalong Mine is an underground longwall operation located on the western side of Lake Macquarie near Morisset and west of the M1 Motorway, approximately 130 km north of Sydney and 50 km from the Port of Newcastle. It supplies up to 6.5 million tonnes of coal to the domestic power and export markets.

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 normally comprised of:

- six local community representatives, three of whom are members of the Mandalong Community Association with two designated alternates;
- one Lake Macquarie City Council elected representative;
- two Mandalong Mine representatives, with attendance from other personnel as required;
- one independent Chairperson.

With the death of a long term community member last year, full community membership currently stands at five. Steps have already been instigated to replace the vacancy and nominations have been advertised in the local paper.

As stated in previous reporting, meetings are held three times per year with at least one annual site tour, usually to see the progression of the Mandalong South expansion.

The committee has been in operation for over two decades and attendance numbers at all meetings is consistently good. This remains a close knit neighbourhood where all members are very much involved in their community and local environment.

For the reporting period, the committee's interest has mainly focused on the Mandalong South Surface Site construction, the condition of Mandalong Road, including traffic volume and safety, adequacy of signage and pavement damage from mine subsidence. Infrastructure management plans, flooding and water quality have also been discussed, together with Modification 7 for the 33kV transmission line project to the Mandalong South Surface Site, the use of existing cables to improve mobile and internet reception in the area and Modification 8 for the substation and increase in personnel numbers and the expansion of the existing car park to cater for same. Community representatives have raised local employment opportunities, the potential for a community hub (from the old RFS shed) and opportunities for a fresh produce stall. The Newstan Extension project has also been presented and explained to the committee.

Other topics of discussion for the reporting period also included:

- site clearing, both visual and impacts to native flora and fauna, interest in tree species used
- management of wetlands and the impacts of drought
- subsidence and increased ponding - potential flooding impacts to property and infrastructure
- remnant ponding remediation
- general environmental management and monitoring
- management of Centennial owned land, including fireweed
- complaints
- triennial Independent Environmental Audit
- progress of Rural Fire Shed land transfer negotiations between Council and Centennial
- approvals update
- current mining status
- exploration activities
- community complaints
- broader community engagement and sponsorship.

This CCC has the benefit of comprehensive pre-meeting reports prior to every meeting, covering current mining status, exploration, environmental monitoring, planning approvals, community consultation and land management. Centennial also provides a further report and PowerPoint presentation at each meeting on the mine's production, geological updates, subsidence results, environmental monitoring and extraction plan updates, upcoming projects and sponsorship.

With the efforts of all members, this CCC is an effective communication forum between the community, the Council and the company. Minimal complaint numbers confirm this. The CCC functions well and accordingly, fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

## 2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- The committee met February, June and October during the reporting period meetings.
- Attendance at meetings is well attended with occasional apologies because of other commitments.
- A site tour of the Mandalong South Surface Site under construction preceded the October meeting.
- There were no joint CCC's held, although Centennial Newstan Project Manager briefed the committee on the Newstan expansion project at the October meeting.

## 3. Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as the Mandalong South Surface Site construction continues.

| Issue | Actions Taken | Next Steps |
|-------|---------------|------------|
|-------|---------------|------------|

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|---|---|---|
| <b>traffic from Mandalong South Surface Site construction</b> | Additional road safety signage, road pavement, enforceable road safety and speed limits, hours of operation, induction for all contractors to Centennial Mandalong.<br><br>Close liaison with Lake Macquarie Council. | Ongoing.  |
| <b>Land transfer for Mandalong Rural Fire Shed</b>            | Discussions with Lake Macquarie Council and Centennial to progress transfer.  | Subdivision Plans lodged with NSW Land Services. Near completion.   |
| <b>Potential community hub and local produce stall</b>        | Discussed at committee meetings.  | Mandalong Community Association to discuss potential opportunities with Mine Manager.   |
| <b>Land management and remediation</b>                        | Water ponding map and remediation undertaken provided at each meeting.<br><br>Weed control - fireweed management.<br><br>Quality and impacts of stormwater during a rainfall event.                                   | Ongoing.<br><br>Included on Centennial action plan for Centennial owned land, presented to CCC meetings as required.<br><br>Information provided to committee - complete. |


#### 4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2020 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- site inspections of interest on progress of construction of the Mandalong South Surface Site.
- updates on transfer of land for Mandalong Rural Fire Shed and potential opportunities.
- updates on Centennial owned land; property sales, land management and remediation, including flood mitigation.

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.

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| Signature of Chair: |  |
| Date:               | March 25 2020   |