

MANDALONG MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2020

Mandalong Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project Name:	Mandalong Mine	Reporting Period:	January - December 2020
Independent Chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill	Proponent Contact:	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 comprised of:

- five 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.

Although nominations were advertised for a new member to represent the western area of the lake during the year, this was unsuccessful because of Covid-19 restrictions. Discussions with local residents potentially impacted by the mine's surface facilities and operations are ongoing.

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.

Meetings are held three times per year with an annual site tour. Rather than the usual visit to view the progress of the Mandalong South expansion, an underground tour was arranged. Excepting the Local Government representative, all members went on the underground experience and thoroughly enjoyed it.



A guest speaker from Centennial attended the February meeting to brief the committee on seismic activities on Lake Macquarie associated with the Myuna Colliery.

For the reporting period, the committee's interest has mainly focused on the Mandalong South Surface Site construction; tree planting at the entrance to the site, the 33kV transmission line project, the condition of Mandalong Road, including traffic volume and safety, mine subsidence remediation, water quality and flooding.

With the storm event which occurred early February 2020, where 248mm of rain was recorded at Mandalong Mine and caused significant flooding to the mine site and surrounding properties, the committee was given a detailed account of the storm and the intensity of the cell. Discussions were held on the lidar survey flood modelling and once this information is complete, it will be presented to a future committee meeting.

Interest and discussions on current modifications in other Centennial operations around Lake Macquarie were ongoing during the reporting period. These included the Newstan Extension project, the Northern Coal Logistics Project and Myuna coal haulage on public roads. Scope 3 emissions and the trial and use of coal ash from power stations into other products was also discussed.

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; weed management and property sales
- biodiversity offsets
- complaints
- Covid-19 response
- Rural Fire Shed land transfer
- approvals update and proposed modification to reorientate and reduce number of longwalls
- Mandalong South Surface Site infrastructure
- Transgrid mitigation works
- current mining status
- exploration activities
- community complaints
- broader community engagement and sponsorship.

The committee enjoys 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 committee has achieved an effective communication conduit between the community and the company. Complaint numbers remain minimal. The committee functions well and accordingly, fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- Strict adherence to Covid-19 requirements and the timing of committee meetings worked well for the committee which met February, June and October during the reporting period.
- An underground tour of the Mandalong Mine took place in November in addition to the normal meeting schedule, with all members present excepting the Lake Macquarie Council representative.
- There were no joint CCC's held for this period, although the committee is kept informed of other Centennial operations around Lake Macquarie.

3. Key issues

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

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
traffic from Mandalong South	Additional road safety signage, road pavement, enforceable road safety and speed limits, hours of operation, induction for all	Ongoing. Traffic counts graph included at October meeting and will be

Surface Site construction	contractors to Centennial Mandalong. Close liaison with Lake Macquarie Council.	ongoing to every meeting during construction.
Land transfer for Mandalong Rural Fire Shed	Discussions with Lake Macquarie Council and Centennial to progress transfer Subdivision Plans lodged with NSW Land Services.	Transfer complete. No further action required by Centennial. Committee members to liaise with Council on potential use as a community hub.
Potential community local produce stall	Discussed at committee meetings.	Held in abeyance at request of Mandalong Community Association.
Flooding management and remediation	Information from Lidar Survey to be used in flood modelling. Storm event in February 2020 included with post mining results	Information to be presented to committee when finalised. Anticipated early 2021.


4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2021 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.
- 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.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	March 8 2021