# METROPOLITAN COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2018-2019

## **Metropolitan Coal Community Consultative Committee Details**

CCC / Project		Reporting	
Name:	Metropolitan Coal	Period:	March 2018 to March 2019
Independent		Proponent	
Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews	Contact:	Stephen Love

## 1. Executive Summary

Metropolitan Coal Mine is one of the oldest continually operating coal mines in Australia and has been part of the Helensburgh community for 129 years. With its location amongst residential areas and the national park in Helensburgh, Metropolitan continues to meet its environmental monitoring requirements and community expectations in a sensitive region.

The committee members continue to receive informative presentations from staff on the mine's operations and compliance with conditions of approval, including:

- Findings of the Independent Environmental Audit and Annual Review.
- Regular updates on the Independent Expert Panel on Mining in the Catchment and Metropolitan's contribution in the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment.
- Updates on Extraction Plan & Long Wall modifications.
- Noise monitoring and mitigation improvements, including the implementation of low-noise idlers.
- Air quality results.
- Groundwater monitoring results.
- Trucking of Coal Wash Rejects (CWR) and beneficial reuse options.
- Updates to the Water Management Plan (WMP), including the stream remediation plans for Eastern Tributary and Waratah Rivulet.
- Consultation regarding the consideration and assessment of options for the heritage powerhouse.
- Complaints register; and
- Its community investment program in the region.

The Community Consultative Committee (CCC) operates in accordance with the Department of Planning & Environment's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Development (January 2019). The committee membership consists of:

- Five local community representatives
- One stakeholder group representative (National Parks Association)
- One Wollongong City Council delegate
- Three company representatives
- Peabody Australia Public Relations Manager; and
- One Independent Chairperson.

I am pleased to report that Peabody Energy continue to consult with the community at a high level with three meetings held over the calendar year, being April, August and December, with good attendance by members.

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community, the Council and the company. It functions well and accordingly, fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

### 2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- Two community representatives and the Independent Chairperson attended the Independent Expert Panel for Mining in the Catchment at Fairy Meadow on 28th February 2019 to provide input as part of the consultation by the panel of coal mining CCC's in the Illawarra region.
- The last site inspection of the mine was undertaken in December 2017.
- Attendance at the meetings is high, with the occasional apology due to other commitments.
- There were no joint CCC's held.

### 3. Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as:

Issue	Actions Taken	Outcome
Noise	The company operates in accordance with its approved Noise Management Plan.	Noise complaints are presented at each CCC.
	All noise complaints are recorded and staff take appropriate action at the time they are reported.	Some community representatives attend meetings with residents and the company.
Mitigation works to surface conveyor belt to reduce noise	Metropolitan has implemented progressive installation of low noise idlers to surface conveyors in 2018.  Metropolitan will remodel/remeasure site noise in 2019 to quantify improvements.	Individual results have been significant. Implemented continual improvement to site noise when purchasing new equipment.
Dust	The company operates in accordance with its approved Air Quality Management Plan.	Dust monitoring results are presented at each CCC.
Coal Wash Reject Emplacement Trucking	In 2018 to date, more than 67,000 tonnes of CWR, has resulted in the equivalent of 5,000 fewer truck movements through Helensburgh.	Ongoing investigation of opportunities for railing CWR off-site.
	Emplaced ~20% of CWR underground.	
	In 2019, a project team will assess performance of Emplacement Plant.	
	This potential change will increase efficiency and volumes emplaced underground.	
Project Coal Trucking	Metropolitan was recently approached by a company to supply product coal for	Following the closure of Coalcliff and Corrimal

	energy production at its plant in Bomaderry.  DP&E approved this request and as a result, Metropolitan updated its Traffic Management Plan, in consultation with the CCC, for the amended truck route to Bomaderry.	Cokeworks, this has provided another supply option for this resource.
Eastern Tributary Update	Metropolitan continues to provide updates on the remediation of the Eastern Tributary.  An amendment to the projects Water Management Plan was required as well as updates to its Stream Remediation Plan to continue remediation works.	Metropolitan commenced remediation activities in February 2019.
Historic Powerhouse	Metropolitan Coal recently commissioned an assessment of the structural integrity of the historic powerhouse building which concluded that it would be uneconomical to repair.  The company is currently consulting stakeholders to discuss the future of the building including the CCC.	Metropolitan has commissioned an industrial archeologist to undertake historical documentation of the building.

#### 4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2019 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- A site inspection.
- Continued updates on environmental monitoring of the site.
- Continued updates on the remediation of the Eastern Tributary.
- Continued updates on Community Support Program.
- Continued consultation and updates regarding the future of the Historic Powerhouse building.
- Continued updates on the findings and recommendations of the Independent Expert Panel for Mining in the Catchment.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed.

CCC minutes and presentations are available on the website.

Signature of Chair:	X Andrews
Date:	28 February 2019