MACH Energy Australia – Mount Pleasant Operation Annual Report [2018]

Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project	MACH Energy Mount Pleasant	Reporting	Jan – Dec 2018
Name:	Operation	Period:	
Independent Chairperson:	Dr W.E.J. Paradice AM	Proponent Contact:	Mr Richard Bailey

1. Executive Summary

The Mount Pleasant Community Consultative Committee was established as part of the condition of consent by the Minister for Planning's 1999 approval of the Mount Pleasant Operation (Development Application 92/97).

The Mount Pleasant Operation is an open cut coal mining project that is situated west of Muswellbrook, in the Muswellbrook Local Government Area. The project produces high quality thermal coal that is approved to be exported via the Port of Newcastle, and used for the local energy market.

The Committee includes a group of five residents who have an interest in the operations at Mount Pleasant and meet regularly with Mt Pleasant operations and a Muswellbrook Council member to discuss the project's current and future operations. The Committee follows the Department of Planning and Environment's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects. Meetings are held quarterly between the members of the Committee, including:

- Five local community representatives;
- One member from Muswellbrook Shire Council;
- Members from the MACH Energy Australia and representatives from the mine operator, Thiess, depending upon the agenda and issues to be discussed; and
- One independent Chairperson.

Discussions held in the Committee meetings where on numerous topics related to the project, including:

- Future plans for the mine, including updates on Modification 3, Modification 4 and the State Significant Development (SSD) application (Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project);
- Updates on the visual bund and rehabilitation;
- Construction activities onsite including the rail and road systems;
- Updates on the Coal Handling Preparation Plant (CHPP), Train Load Out (TLO) and Run of Mine (ROM) piles;
- Updates on production of coal and the initial train movements;
- Contractors that are working on site;
- Noise, dust, blasting, biodiversity monitoring and management;
- Water management tailing dams, mine water dam, fines emplacement dams;
- Environmental incidents and compliance;

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- Land and property updates, including historic sites and offset management;
- Community complaints, community investment, Aboriginal Community Development Fund;
- Mitigation/ acquisitions granted to properties.

Members of the CCC were invited to participate in the Annual Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Forum held at Muswellbrook Racecourse in November 2018.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- Four CCC meetings were held in 2018. March, June, September, December;
- Muswellbrook Shire Council member Councillor Rod Scholes resigned in March and was replaced by Mayor Martin Rush;
- Strong regular attendance from all members;
- Site visits were conducted for three of the CCC meetings throughout 2018;
- There were no joint CCC meetings held throughout 2018;
- Presentation by James Barben from the NSW Minerals Council

3. Key issues

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Traffic/driving behaviour on Wybong Road	Upgraded signage, addition of new signage and relocation of current signage	Encourage reporting of dangerous or inappropriate driving to MACH Energy. Continued monitoring and reevaluation of signage options and location.
Construction progress/people movement	Site tours, 1:1 visits, regular updates	Construction due to end late 2019. Regular updates to CCC and open communication between community & MACH Energy.
Communication from site	SMS notification of blasting, dust delay shutdowns and any changes to day-to-day operation	New notification system, ongoing open communication between CCC and MACH Energy.

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:

- Site tours to be conducted prior to every meeting.
- Tours of rehabilitated land and offset properties.
- Continued updates on operational status of Mount Pleasant (expected by October 2019)

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Community Consultation Committee Meeting minutes are available on the Mount Pleasant website.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	