

Ulan Coal Mines Community Consultative Committee

ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024

CCC / Project Name:	Ulan Coal Mines	Reporting Period:	March 2022 to March 2024
Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews	Proponent Contact:	Lucy Stuart

1. Executive Summary

The Ulan Coal complex is located approximately 1.5 kilometres from Ulan Village, within the Mid-Western Regional Council Local Government Area. The project area is located approximately 38 kilometres north-east of Mudgee in New South Wales.

Ulan is one of the longest running coal mining operations in New South Wales and produces thermal coal for export. The Complex consists of two approved underground mining operations, (Ulan Underground which commenced production in 1986 and Ulan West which commenced production in 2014) and an open cut coal reserve. Ulan Surface Operations manages coal preparation and rail loadout activities. The total area of land managed by Ulan is approximately 19,086 hectares.

A Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was established in 2002 and operates in accordance with the Department of Planning's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Development. The committee membership consists of:

- Five local community representatives
- One Stakeholder Group (Mudgee Business) representative
- One Local Aboriginal Land Council representative
- One Mid-Western Regional Council delegate (& alternate)
- Three company representatives; and
- One Independent Chairperson.

The meetings are held quarterly and attendees receive a comprehensive presentation from the proponent. Topics of discussion during the reporting period included:

- Briefing on the results of the Annual Review
- Monitoring and Environmental Performance (water discharge, Water Electrical Conductivity, Water pH, Environmental Incidents)
- UCMPL Reports and Overview of Activities
- Progress reports on all mining activities (Ulan West, Open Cut, Ulan Underground and East Pit)
- Environmental Incidents
- Community Complaints
- Progress of the Project
- Updates on Modification 6 – Longwall Extension
- Approved Operations Exploration Program
- Ulan West Continuation Project – Exploration Drilling 2024
- Ulan West Continuation Project – Environmental Field Studies
- EL 9419 - Exploration
- Airborne Electromagnetic Survey (AEM)

- Biodiversity Offsets
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Rehabilitation
- Community Investment
- 2024 Community Investment Program; and
- Community Sponsorship Program.

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community, stakeholder groups, 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

- The committee met in March 2023, June 2023, September 2023, November 2023 and March 2024 in person and online.
- The CCC receive a comprehensive presentation on the project's environmental monitoring and compliance.
- Community Newsletters are prepared and distributed with briefings provided to CCC members on the proposed Ulan West Continued Operations Update.
- Information provided regarding kangaroo culling, wild dogs, foxes and feral animal control.
- The CCC continues to receive requested water data information and clarification.
- The CCC received an update on the Independent Auditors Review.
- The CCC received a presentation on the Annual Report.
- Attendance at the meetings is high, with the occasional apology due to competing commitments of volunteers.
- The CCC received a presentation by the Independent Chairperson on the Department of Planning's revised guidelines for SSD CCCs; outlining the changes and providing an opportunity to reinforce the objectives of the CCC and role of members. The members of the CCC have developed a specific Terms of Reference for this committee as well as completed the necessary governance forms (Pecuniary Interest Declarations and Code of Conduct), which will be reviewed annually.
- There were no joint CCC's held.

3. Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as:

Issue	Actions Taken	Outcome
Water data and monitoring information	Community representative requesting water data	Requests made and information provided to CCC.
Proposed Ulan West Continued Operations Project Modification (MOD 6). Previously known as the Bungaba Project.	<p>Updates provided on the assessment of MP08_0184-Mod-6;</p> <p>Consultation with the local community has commenced, with information sessions and newsletters including environmental assessment of: surveys, water resources, air & noise, greenhouse gas & energy, subsidence & economic assessment.</p>	<p>Ongoing presentations to CCC.</p> <p>Currently at Response to Submissions Stage with DPHIE.</p>
Social Impact Assessment for Mod 6	Community feedback with local landholders, residents and other interested key stakeholders.	Ongoing.
Long Wall Changes	Information provided at each CCC on status of long wall progression in terms of geology.	Ongoing
Ground Water Modelling & Independent Water Studies	<p>Ground Water model is calibrated every 2 details.</p> <p>Discharges limits are set by EPL/EPA.</p>	Information and responses provided to CCC when requested.
Exploration	<p>Updates provided on EL9419 at each CCC.</p> <p>Drilling works are proposed in the southern area of EL8687.</p>	Ongoing.
Seismic Survey & Aerial Electromagnetic Survey	Equipment will be used to undertake survey works.	Keep community informed of activities.

4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2024 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

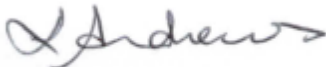
- A proposed site inspection in September 2024.
- Updates on the proposed Ulan West Continued Operations Project, especially in relation to environmental studies.
- Continued updates on environmental monitoring of the site.
- Continued updates on Community Support Program.
- Responses to requests for water data and monitoring information.
- Continued updates on the progress of mining operations.
- Continued updates on Biodiversity Offset management.

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.

Review of Effectiveness of the CCC

In accordance with the revised CCC guidelines, it is deemed that the CCC operates effectively. The proponent provides comprehensive presentations, ongoing notifications, timely responses to requests and completion of action items. There have been no concerns raised by CCC members.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	30 April 2024