

Ashton Community Consultative Committee (CCC) 2024 Annual Report

CCC project name:	Ashton Coal Operations	Reporting period:	January – December 2024
Independent chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill	Proponent contact:	Phillip Brown, Environment & Community Relations Superintendent

1. Executive summary / introduction

The Ashton Coal Mine CCC was established in October 2002 by the Minister for Planning's approval of an open cut coal mine, an underground coal mine and associated surface facilities approximately fourteen kilometres north west of the town of Singleton within the Local Government Area of Singleton Shire. The mine produces coal for the export market through the Port of Newcastle and currently employs around two hundred and seventy four people.

The committee is comprised of:

- three local community representatives;
- one elected Singleton Shire Councillor representative;
- two Ashton Coal Mine representatives with attendance from other personnel as required;
- one independent Chairperson.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months:

- The Committee met three times during the reporting period, in February, July and October and discussed general environmental management and monitoring, operational and rehabilitation activities, land management and bush fire prevention, community complaints, bi-annual fauna and threatened species monitoring, aboriginal archaeological works, Bowmans Creek geomorphology assessment, road works, subsidence and traffic management, company reports and community support programs.
- Although a very small committee, attendance numbers are consistent with previous years. An established good rapport exists among all members. The currency of the committee's Terms of Reference was confirmed at the October meeting.
- The committee meets on site. There weren't any site visits undertaken during 2024.

3. Key issues

Topics of interest raised by the members remain static as in previous years.

Issue	Actions taken	Next steps
Landcare and property management, including Camberwell properties and amenity	Updates provided on land management works and maintenance of mine owned Camberwell properties	Ongoing updates to be provided to the Committee
Approval and progress of Ashton-Ravensworth Integration - RUMEX Project	Notice of application and referral under Environment Protection Conservation Act to committee.	Ongoing updates to be provided to the Committee
Ashton Community Support Program	Company support and sponsorship within the community, including provision of quick response fire units.	Ongoing updates to be provided to the Committee

4. Focus for next 12 months:

- Continued comprehensive reporting on company operations, including monitoring and environmental performance and any community complaints/ responses and planned activities
- There are no known outstanding issues and these will be addressed when and if they occur.

Name of chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill
Date:	February 10 2025.