

Bulga Coal Community Consultative Committee

Annual Report – 2021

CCC/Project Name:	Bulga Coal Community Consultative Committee	Reporting Period:	Annual 2021
Independent Chairperson:	John Turner	Proponent Contact:	Ralph Northey

1. Executive Summary

Concerns about dust and air quality were not as significant as in previous years and mine data verified a reduction of dust possibly because of changed climatic circumstances during the year. However, there were some noise concerns raised.

The CCC also expressed some concerns about the manner in which the Singleton Council applies funding to community projects from funds received from coal mines under their VPA obligations. The mine and the Council member of the CCC addressed these issues.

The mine provided funding for the Minimbah Teaching Place for use by the Wonnarua people to educate their children on the Wonnarua culture and for the general use of the public.

There is continuing goodwill between the mine and the CCC.

2. CCC Activities of Last 12 Months

Face to face meetings were held this year which I believe, with these types of committees, is desirable.

One meeting was held on site and one in the community of Bulga.

Although a mine inspection was scheduled by the mine it did not proceed because of CCC members not being available.

There were no joint CCC meetings held.

3. Key Issues

Issue	Action Taken	Next Steps
Application of VPA payments paid to Singleton Council	There were significant discussions on the changes to how these funds and those of other coalmines who are obliged to participate are allocated by the Council. The main concerns were that the local communities where the coal mines are located receive their fair share of funds from the Council's accumulated fund.	The company and the Council representative on the CCC outlined the process and the CCC will be watching to see a fair allocation of funds.
Noise	There was an increase in noise complaints resulting in the company having significant shutdowns of equipment. The weather may have been a factor in this problem.	The company is monitoring the situation.

4. Focus for Next 12 Months

There will be the two planned CCC meetings.

I expect the CCC to concern itself about community assets arising out of the application of funds from the Council from mine payments. There are a number of proposals and these are being established with a view of having a post mining asset.

The company has essentially re-established the previous inter-community relationships which have been side lined because of Covid.

Signature of Chair:	Signed John H. Turner
Date:	24/01/2022