

Community Consultative Committee (CCC) – Annual Report 2024

CCC project name:	Western Region CCC	Reporting period:	January – December 2023
Independent chairperson:	Deborah Palmer	Proponent contact:	Peter Smith, Centennial

1. Executive Summary / Introduction

The Western Region Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was established as a platform for discussion and consultation between Centennial Coal, the local community, and key stakeholders in response to the Project Conditions of Approval for mining operations in the Central West region of NSW.

Since 2014, the CCC combines the previously established Angus Place, Springvale and Western Coal Services CCCs to facilitate a single channel of communication regarding current operations in the area.

In 2024, the CCC convened four meetings to discuss key operational updates, environmental performance, regulatory approvals, and community concerns. This report outlines the key activities and discussions.

2. CCC activities over the last 12 months

Number of meetings

Four meetings were held throughout 2024:

- 12 March 2024
- 11 June 2024
- 10 September 2024
- 10 December 2024.

All meetings were conducted in person at Springvale Colliery.

Minutes of each meeting are published on the project website at:

www.centennialcoal.com.au/operations

Attendance

- Engagement from stakeholders remained strong, with active participation from community representatives, Lithgow City Council and Centennial.

Changes in membership

- James Marshall and William Olson resigned from Centennial. Their roles have been replaced by new Centennial representatives, Peter Smith for Stakeholder Engagement and James Armstrong and Lara Mudie will represent the Angus Place Operation. Dennis Wallace has been replaced by Kyle Egan as the Mine Manager for Springvale Colliery. Makenzie Denley now represents Western Coal Services and Lidsdale Siding.
- Joe Smith resigned from the committee in June 2024, and the CCC is seeking to recruit an additional community representative to fill the vacancy.

- Following the local government elections in September 2024, Cr Ray Smith replaced Cr Maree Statham as the Lithgow City Council representative.
- Continued efforts will be made in 2025 to recruit more community members, particularly from areas directly impacted by mining operations.

Site visits

- An underground site visit of Springvale was discussed. The CCC at its December 2024 meeting agreed that a site visit aboveground would be more practical and of interest to the members.

Meetings overview

March 2024 meeting

- Updates on Angus Place West Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- Discussion of underground sealing project at Angus Place to manage mine water inflows.
- Updates on Springvale water management processes and coal extraction figures.
- Overview of reporting requirements at all sites.

June 2024 meeting

- Progress update on Angus Place Modification 9.
- Review of groundwater trigger exceedances at Springvale and steps taken to mitigate impacts.
- Discussion on Clarence to Wallerawang Pipeline Project specifically its water security benefits, and environmental considerations.
- Return and Earn Program initiated at the Springvale operations, diverting recyclable waste from landfill.
- Presentation on Banpu's renewable energy focus and Centennial's sustainability plans.
- Overview of reporting requirements at all sites.

September 2024 meeting

- Completion of underground sealing project at Angus Place to prevent flooding of future mine areas.
- Presentation on Western Region Mines Rescue Competition hosted by Centennial at Angus Place.
- Updates on Springvale Longwall 429, which began operations in March 2024.
- Consultation on Modification 10 for Angus Place, proposing long-term water discharge solutions.
- Overview of reporting requirements at all sites.

December 2024 meeting

- Updates on Angus Place West EIS lodgement, expected in Q1 2025.
- Overview of monitoring results and incidents/complaints at all sites.
- A review of the Terms of Reference was undertaken. Amendments agreed to be made to update the membership to reflect recent changes.

- The CCC also gave verbal agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for CCC members.

Effectiveness review

The CCC effectively facilitated discussions on mine operations, environmental monitoring, and regulatory compliance. Key highlights include:

- Water management strategies at Angus Place and Springvale.
- Regular updates on modifications (MOD 8, MOD 9, MOD 10).
- Clear reporting on environmental considerations including dust, noise, and rehabilitation efforts.
- Continued engagement on regional water security initiatives, such as the Clarence to Wallerawang Pipeline Project.
- Efforts to expand community representation on the CCC.

3. Key issues and actions taken

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Water management at Angus Place	Underground sealing project completed; monitoring ongoing.	Continued assessment of Angus Place West EIS.
Groundwater trigger at Springvale	Investigation report prepared; regulators notified.	Ongoing monitoring to prevent exceedances.
Springvale air quality exceedance	Dust control measures implemented; ongoing compliance monitoring.	Continued tracking of PM10 and TSP levels.
Recruitment of additional CCC members	Community outreach conducted	Run EOI process to recruit two new community members

4. Focus for the next 12 months

The CCC will continue to:

- Monitor mine operations and environmental performance, ensuring regulatory compliance.
- Be consulted on the Angus Place West EIS and upcoming modifications.
- Review ongoing environmental strategies developed by Centennial, including dust mitigation, water treatment, and rehabilitation efforts.
- Facilitate site visits to enhance CCC understanding of operations.
- Continue recruiting and engaging two new CCC members to ensure diverse representation from the surrounding communities.

Name of chairperson:	Deborah Palmer
Date:	23 January 2025