

Bulga Coal (Glencore) Community Consultative Committee

Annual Report – 2019

CCC/Project Name:	Bulga Coal	Reporting Period:	20 / 6 /19 to 31/12/19
Independent Chairperson:	John Turner	Proponent Contact:	Ralph Northey

1. Executive Summary

John Turner was appointed chair of Bulga Coal Community Consultative Committee (CCC) on 20th June 2019. Prior to that time the former chair, Godfrey Adamthwaite, the Singleton Council representative, had stepped down as chair (he remained on the committee). The CCC was then chaired by Teegan Hayward, an employee of Bulga Coal (Glencore).

The CCC is well established with long term representation on the CCC.

One meeting was held under the current chair on 29th October 2019. Prior to that meeting, a workshop was held and the 2019 Community Consultative Committee Guidelines were worked through to ensure all members were aware of their responsibilities. Additionally, fresh pecuniary interest returns and code of conduct agreements were signed and handed to the chair.

At the meeting there was a frank and open discussion on many aspects of the operations and exchange of information. There is good interaction between the proponents and the CCC.

2. CCC Activities of Last 12 Months

This report only deals with the period of the current chair's appointment, viz 20th June 2019 to 31st December, 2019.

The chair had a site inspection and briefing with Bulga Coal personnel as well as some informal meetings with CCC members on 1st August 2019.

The CCC, at its meeting on 29th October, 2019, considered the agenda items, one of which was a show cause letter to the company regarding the earlier meetings chaired by an employee of the company. The company undertook to keep the CCC informed on that aspect, which they did.

At this meeting an invitation was extended to the committee to suggest any other recurrent agenda items other than those suggested in the guidelines. There were no proposals. Also, the committee was asked whether they wanted any change to the

number of meetings per year, presently two. The committee determined to continue with two meetings per year.

The CCC needed at least one additional member. Advertising was carried out in the area. However, the time stipulated in the guidelines was inadvertently abridged. Only one application was received. The chair was asked by the department if the applicant was satisfactory. The chair advised that the applicant was satisfactory, however, sought advice from the department about the abridged time, noting that knowing the locality it was unlikely any other applicants would apply. The Department agreed to the abridging of time to call for applicants.

3. Key Issues

Present dust episodes and potential further episodes associated with Modification 3.

The company has good relations with the local communities and holds frequent activities (barbecues, information days and support of community organisations) which ensure a good interaction between the mine, its neighbours and communities.

4. Focus for Next 12 Months

The CCC members are very concerned with dust emissions from coal operations.

Bulga Coal is part of a complex number of coal mines in the area. Whilst Bulga Coal appears diligent in regard to dust suppression and monitoring, it is difficult to determine sources and responsibility for many dust episodes.

The company will report back to the CCC with methods to determine "ownership" of the dust.

Bulga Coal is seeking approval for Modification 3 which is expected early 2020. The CCC will closely monitor this modification and the ramifications for nearby communities.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	