

## Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project Name:	Tarrawonga Coal	Reporting Period:	2020 (calendar year)
Independent Chairperson:	David Ross	Proponent Contact:	John Hamson / Tian Oosthuizen

### 1. Executive Summary

It was an active year for the CCC with four standard CCC meetings taking place as well as a joint CCC meeting (as part of the Boggabri-Tarrawonga-Maules Creek complex of coal mines) requiring the attention of committee members. Yet, due to the pandemic, it was also a frustrating year for the committee with members having to hold two of the meetings via videoconference and have one joint CCC meeting cancelled. While it was important to maintain conversations across the group, even via videoconference, the quality of internet reception for many and the inability to successfully hold genuine group discussions via video meant that meetings had to be stripped right back.

These issues provided for much discussion with the mine responding to a number of questions and actions, as requested.

The CCC, while populated by committed civic leaders, continues to struggle with finding enough affected community people interested to join the CCC. Consequently, there are few community members on the committee (although the CCC has been well supported by both Gunnedah and Narrabri Shire Councils).

### 2. CCC activities over last 12 months

There were four CCC meetings held during the year with the few members that the committee has attending most meetings. Where members could not attend meetings, the committee risks being very low on numbers. Indeed, it is worthwhile observing that it is becoming progressively more difficult to find new members to join the Boggabri-Tarrawonga-Maules Creek (BTM) complex of coal mine committees.

A joint CCC was held in May via a combination of video- and teleconference with representation from this committee. While it was important to attempt to bring the three committees together, it was extremely difficult to run in a productive manner due to the poor technology. Nevertheless, the Department was able to attend in order to answer questions that community members had on an array of topics.

### 3. Key issues

As part of the review into the key issues discussed throughout 2020, feedback was also sought from CCC members at our May 2021 meeting. These are:


- CCC representation
- Management of blasting
- Covid practices

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<b>Issue</b>	<b>Actions Taken</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
<b>CCC representation</b>	<p>Efforts continued to be made during the year to explore how the number of community members on the CCC could be increased. This included advertising for members, which had no success.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the resignation of two stalwarts from the community has been a blow for the committee.</p>	<p>While approaches are being directly made to community members, it is anticipated that increasing representation will remain a challenge for the committee throughout 2021.</p>
<b>Management of blasting</b>	<p>Due to complaints across the wider region, members were interested to understand how the mine managed blasts including timing and notifications of the public.</p>	<p>A presentation will be given in the new year on how blasting is managed</p>
<b>Covid practices</b>	<p>Once the pandemic commenced, members were very interested to find out about what practices the mine had put into place to ensure that work could continue as productively as possible, minimizing interruptions.</p>	<p>Members will continue to receive updates into 2021.</p>

#### **4. Focus for next 12 months**

- Planned Activities that have been discussed include a site visit as well as a presentation on the management of blasting
- Other issues that are to be explored through 2021 continue to include biodiversity, air quality and noise
- Finally, as observed in previous Tarrawonga CCC annual reports, representation continues to remain a challenge for the committee. This has remained an issue since I (David Ross) took over as chair approximately five years ago.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	12 <sup>th</sup> June, 2021