

Ulan Coal Mines Community Consultative Committee – Annual Report 2021

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| CCC / Project Name: | Ulan Coal Mines | Reporting Period: | March 2020 to March 2021 |
| Independent Chairperson: | Lisa Andrews | Proponent Contact: | Robyn Stoney |

1. Executive Summary

The Ulan Coal complex is located approximately 1.5 kilometres from Ulan Village, within the Mid-Western Regional Council Local Government Area. The project area is located approximately 38 kilometres north-east of Mudgee in New South Wales. The company, Glencore operates both underground and above ground mining operations for thermal coal. The mine is one of the longest established in the central west of NSW, having been operational for over 20 years.

A Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was established in 2002 and operates in accordance with the Department of Planning & Environment's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Development (January 2019). The committee membership consists of:

- Five local community representatives
- One Mid-Western Regional Council delegate
- Three company representatives; and
- One Independent Chairperson.

The meetings are held quarterly March, June, September & November and attendees receive a comprehensive presentation from the proponent. Topics of discussion during the reporting period included:

- Briefing on the results of the Annual Review
- Monitoring and Environmental Performance (water monitoring & discharge, environmental incidents, community complaints, etc)
- Progress reports on all mining activities (Ulan West, Open Cut, Ulan Underground and East Pit)
- Updates on Modifications
- Extraction Plans
- Goulburn River Diversion Remediation
- Biodiversity Offsets
- Exploration Program
- Mining Operational Plan
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Rehabilitation; and
- Community Sponsorship program.

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community, the Council and the company. It functions well and accordingly, fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- The committee met in March 2020, June 2020, September 2020 and December 2020. The opportunity was provided for CCC members to participate via video-conferencing, which some did. As is often the case when engaging in this forum, some difficulties were encountered, however, generally the committee was still able to function appropriately.
- The CCC receive a comprehensive presentation on the project's environmental monitoring and compliance.
- An extraordinary meeting of the CCC was held via video/tele-conferencing on 6 April 2020 to inform the members of the company's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Glencore were very proactive in the community in minimising the spread of the virus. Financial support was provided to local health services to assist in its preparations.
- Community Newsletters are prepared and distributed with briefings provided to CCC members on the proposed Bungaba Exploration Program.
- Information provided regarding kangaroo culling, wild dogs, foxes and feral animal control.
- The CCC continues to receive requested water data information and clarification.
- The CCC received an update on the Independent Auditors Review.
- The CCC received a presentation on the Annual Report.
- The CCC provided input and recommendations for its top "Community Projects" for funding and support from Glencore as part of its Community Development Plan.
- The CCC received information on the project's Irrigation Management Requirements.
- The CCC received information requested regarding Koala Habitat in and around the project site.
- The CCC were advised that Exploration Licence Application (ELA) 5992 submitted on 13 February 2020.
- The CCC were advised of an erosion hole incident and repair works.
- The CCC were updated on the Extraction Plan Reviews/Amendments
- Attendance at the meetings is high, with the occasional apology due to competing commitments of volunteers.
- One community representative resigned in March 2021. At this stage there is no intention to recruit for an additional members as the CCC still meets the guidelines. This may be reviewed at a later date.
- There were no joint CCC's held.

3. Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as:

| Issue | Actions Taken | Outcome |
|---|--|--|
| Water data and monitoring information | Community representative requesting water data | Requests made and information provided to CCC. |
| Proposed exploration (Bungaba area) | Consultation with the local community has commenced, with information sessions and newsletters. | Ongoing presentations to CCC. |
| Possible water supply to proposed Bowden's Silver Mine | The EIS for the project nominates possible water supply source from Ulan. No formal arrangement in place and not feasible from MWRC's point of view. | Ongoing. |
| Amenity Issues (Noise & Dust) | Ongoing discussions and information provided by the company at each CCC. | Ongoing. |
| Site Inspection | Scheduled for September 2021. | Planned. |
| Community Workshop to discuss Mining Closure Options | A CCC workshop was held in for October 2020 to discuss mining closure options. | Following its success, it was agreed that a workshop would be held annually. (Planned October 2021) |
| UCML Bushfire Management Plan | Following a coal train fire between Sandy Hollow & Muswellbrook a GIPA application was made to obtain further information. | Consider possibility of implementing a coal stoppage policy on severe and catastrophic fire danger days. |
| Resource Regulator promotional video | UCML were involved in the Resource Regulators video which contained site footage. | Link to video sent to CCC members. |
| Water access for RFS trucks | Investigate whether a converter fitting to a STORZ can be left at the UCML standpipe to allow water access for RFS fire trucks. | Under investigation. |

4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2021 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

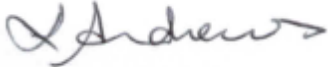
- A site inspection in September 2021.
- Proposed workshop with CCC on Mine Closure Options
- Updates on the proposed Bungaba Exploration Program.
- Continued updates on environmental monitoring of the site.
- Continued updates on Community Support Program.
- Continued requests for water data and monitoring information.
- Continued updates on the progress of mining operations.
- Continued updates on Biodiversity Offset management.
- Continued updates on Modifications and proposed expansions.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

With the ever changing department and agencies names (state and federal), associated contact details and variant roles - it is very difficult for the lay-person (and chair) to remain up to date and informed in relation to regulatory compliance, licencing, legislative requirements etc. It would be helpful if DPIE could assist chairs by providing a list of agencies/departments, contact information (email) and a brief summary of which specialities are administered/reviewed/audited by each group - especially in relation to the review of Annual Reports, Water (ground, surface, etc) Management Plans, Site Audits, etc.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed.

CCC minutes and presentations are available on the website.

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| Signature of Chair: |  |
| Date: | 23 April 2021 |