

Russell Vale Community Consultative Committee (RVCCC) – Annual Report

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| Russell Vale Colliery | Wollongong Resources | Reporting period: | FY 2023-2024 |
| Independent chairperson: | Mike Archer (until end May 2024). Post May 2024 Donna Rygate. | Proponent contact: | William Vatovec Wollongong Resources |

1. Executive summary / introduction

The Russell Vale Community Consultative Committee (RVCCC) continued to operate as a representative group for the communities close by the Russell Vale Colliery in the northern suburbs of Wollongong, NSW.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months:

- The RVCCC met on three occasions at approximately three-month intervals. The February 2024 meeting was cancelled at short notice following unexpected changes to Wollongong Resources business circumstances. The meeting was not re-scheduled.
- Meetings were held at the Colliery and were generally well attended. Most committee members maintained a good attendance record.
- The RVCCC is only moderately successful in establishing and maintaining good working relationships between the proponent and committee members representing their communities. There are encouraging signs the incoming chairperson and new company representative at CCC meetings will foster more trust between the parties.
- Two new community representatives were recruited to the RVCCC during the FY 23-24 following two resignations.

3. Key issues

| Issue | Actions taken | Next steps |
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| Russell Vale Colliery is situated within the northern suburbs of Wollongong and most concerns arise from impacts on the community and environment – dust, noise, traffic, visual amenity, water quality | Monitoring and reporting of those operational activities that generate environmental or community impacts. Considerable investment in managing the retention of and quality of run off water from the site. Regulation around truck movements. | Continuing those regulatory activities that reduce environmental and community impacts. |
| Changed business state for Wollongong Resources | In February 2024 there was considerable speculation around the long-term future of Wollongong Resources. | A more fulsome understanding of the future of Russell Vale Colliery as Wollongong Resources adjusts to a |

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| | There was minimal communication to the RVCCC until the May 2024 RV CCC meeting when the new Acting CEO explained in some detail the potential business options that face the Russell Vale Colliery's future. | significant restructure and changes to key personnel. |
| Reassurances around ongoing commitments to regulatory requirements – safety, environment, community impacts | The RVCCC continued to query environmental, safety and community impacts. | Wollongong Resources provided reassurances relating to the areas of concern at the May meeting of the committee. |
| Reassurances around site rehabilitation in the future | Much speculation surrounds recent structural changes within Wollongong Resources and the RVCCC is keen to get reassurances from the proponent that there is long term plans and funding for site rehabilitation when that becomes necessary. | Wollongong Resources provided reassurances relating to the areas of concern at the May 2024 meeting of the committee. |
| An understanding of staff changes | The RVCCC was not briefed on those changes until the May 2024 meeting. A briefing was provided on the significant changes that have been implemented. | A better understanding of who will be responsible and accountable for future key activities that impact the environment, safety and community. |

4. Focus for next 12 months:

- Adjustment to a new chairperson and new company representative(s) at future meetings.
- A more fulsome understanding of the future of Russell Vale Colliery as Wollongong Resources adjusts to a significant restructure and changes to key personnel.
- Continued monitoring and assessment of mining impacts on the environment and community amenity.

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| Name of chairperson: | Mike Archer (retired end May 2024) |
| Date: | 3 June 2024. |