

## **MINUTES**

### **Meeting of the Wongawilli Colliery Community Consultative Committee Tuesday, 30 October 2012**

**Held at Wongawilli Community Hall, West Dapto Road, Wongawilli**

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#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Col Gellatly	- Chairperson
Katrina McDonald	- Community Representative
Kevin Roots	- Community Representative
Peter Turner	- Community Representative
Ron Zwicker	- Wollongong City Council
Rhys Brett	- Operations Manager (NRE)
Dave Clarkson	- Group Approvals Manager (NRE)
Chris Irving	- Environment & Community Manager (NRE)
Mat Campbell	- Environment and Community Relations Manager (NRE)

Col Gellatly declared the meeting open at 6.30 pm.

No apologies received.

#### **MATTERS ARISING:**

1. Dave Clarkson was to investigate volume of water when driving out. Response was provided directly to Peter Turner to his satisfaction. Written details to be provided within next couple of days.
2. Site-specific conditions regarding operation of trains and stockpile will be provided at this meeting.
3. Shuddering noise allegedly from trains. Katrina investigated and advised that the noise was from coal coming down the chute. Chris advised that since the last meeting, a metal chute on one of the towers was removed. The noise could not be identified and will continue to be investigated.
4. Coal train covers. To be addressed in presentation.
5. Register of complaints. Have had no complaints since last meeting. Data yet to be uploaded to website.
6. Report on dust gauges to be provided in presentation.

#### **COMPANY REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES:**

**Group Approvals Manager – Dave Clarkson**

Dave Clarkson gave a report as per the attached presentation.

There have been no changes. Plan for proposed Avon longwalls 1 to 6 has been sent to Sydney Catchment Authority. No concerns yet raised about the swamps.

### **Environment & Community Manager, Wongawilli – Chris Irving**

Chris Irving gave a report as per the attached presentation.

Peter Turner asked about the monitoring line over longwall 15. Dave advised there were no monitoring lines. There will be a visual impact assessment on swamp 46.

Longwall 15 has just completed. *End of Panel* report to be placed on website.

Peter asked whether swamp 46 was a swamp of significance. Dave: this is not yet known – a characterisation has been requested from Biosis.

The quarterly subsidence management status report (No. 10) for 19 July to 19 October will be completed at the end of the week. This covers all longwalls.

Dust gauge data was explained. NRE's depositional dust average is 4 g per m<sup>2</sup>; even in instances where 4 g has been exceeded, the annual average has been approved.

Col Gellatly: why was it higher in August 2011? Chris: Have not explored the reason. Security cameras have been installed on site. In future, the cameras will take a photo each day of the weather activity. Peter: is it a measure of quantity? Yes.

Chris explained the dust analysis spreadsheet, which provides an idea of the sources of dust and to determine the coal content. Peter asked how do we track anything under 2.5 micron. Dave: we do not.

Stockpile monitor. Peter: how do we set the limit to 90 mg? Chris: this is set by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and is contained in the project approval. An additional site will be installed in the Wongawilli heights area.

Peter asked if there is any encouragement to apply best practice requirements. Chris: there is no penalty, however, NRE is committed to investigating alternate measures.

Col requested a report on the issue of best practice controls.

Covering of train carriages: this is not seen as a practical control for dust emissions at Wongawilli. One problem is that NRE does not own the carriages. To cover carriages would be expensive and difficult, however, the option is not being dismissed.

Current practice is use of a wetting agent. Use of a surface crusting agent currently under investigation.

Peter asked about the practicality of having monitoring points between Wongawilli and the port. Chris advised that monitoring gauges will be located on NRE's line but unsure about the remainder. Peter requested a report to compare Wongawilli to the Hunter Valley situation.

Question raised re operations on a Sunday. NRE can load from the bins 24/7 on a Sunday. Records kept of all train movements and security cameras are located on site.

Kevin Roots asked whether we could contact the train operator to question the driver's use of the horn.

**COMMUNITY ISSUES:**

Nil.

**ACTIONS ARISING:**

- Best practice controls to be investigated and a report provided to the next meeting.
- Report to be provided to compare Wongawilli with the Hunter Valley in relation to dust emissions and covering of coal carriages.
- Contact to be made with National Rail requesting information on use of the trains' horn and the possibility of inviting a representative to attend the next meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 5 February at 6.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm.

Attachments

- Copy of presentation that was made to the meeting.