

Bloomfield Colliery

Community Consultative Committee

Location: Bloomfield Colliery

Time: 10.05 am

Date: 10 March 2025

ATTENDEES	
Name	Organisation
Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
Janet Murray (JM)	Community Representative
Jack Dwyer (JD)	Community Representative
Dennis Thurlow (DT)	Community Representative
Michael Jacobs (MJ)	Community Representative
Brad Donoghoe (BD)	Bloomfield Colliery
Chris Knight (CK)	Bloomfield Colliery
Greg Lamb (GL)	Bloomfield Colliery

Apologies	
Thomas Holz (TH)	Bloomfield Colliery

Absent	
Gary Hamer (GH)	Maitland City Council
Sarah Hyatt (SH)	Cessnock City Council

Item	Issue	Action
1	Welcome & Introductions	
	The Chair opened the CCC meeting at 10:05AM and provided an Acknowledgment of Country. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.	
2	Apologies – TH	
3	Declarations	
	There were no changes to the Chair's previously recorded declarations.	

4	Business Arising													
	<p>The previous CCC was held on 18 November 2024 with the minutes finalised on 6 December 2024. There were 3 action items from that meeting:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="276 420 1136 640"> <thead> <tr> <th>ITEM</th><th>ISSUE</th><th>RESPONSIBILITY</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Provide CCC members scientific report on impacts of smoke from wood fired heaters</td><td>CK</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Provide overview of Independent Environmental Audit at next CCC meeting</td><td>GL</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Advise CCC when EIS is on public exhibition</td><td>CK</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>GL provided a presentation brief of the Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) as per Item 2 above which covered the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of Consent Condition requiring the IEA and submission of report and response to recommendations; • 3 yearly IEA completed in January; • 12 non-compliances identified, all being administrative or low risk only; • No non-compliances were identified as Medium or High Risk; • 140 conditions were reviewed under the Development Approval, EPL and Mining Leases; • List of audit recommendations and Bloomfield response provided; • Key strengths identified during audit included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No exceedances of noise, air quality or blasting impact criteria; ○ Weed control tracked via an online mapping platform; ○ An internal Permit to Modify process established to assess activities against approvals; ○ Implementation of rehabilitation QA/QC process; ○ Cattle grazing monitoring program shows areas suitable for cattle grazing. <p>MJ enquired as to the standard to which the audit was conducted. GL explained that it was prepared the relevant ISO standard as well as DPHI guidelines.</p> <p>JM enquired if Bloomfield conducts noise monitoring following noise complaints. GL responded the Bloomfield conducts noise monitoring routinely when the CHPP is operating a night shift. Regarding the recent Buttai noise complaint, noise monitoring was not carried out as it was toward the end of shift and operations would have shut down before monitoring could be completed.</p> <p>CK added that monitoring equipment is available and staff are trained in order to respond to complaints if required.</p>	ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY	1	Provide CCC members scientific report on impacts of smoke from wood fired heaters	CK	2	Provide overview of Independent Environmental Audit at next CCC meeting	GL	3	Advise CCC when EIS is on public exhibition	CK	<p>1. Complete - Emailed 18/11/24</p> <p>2. Presented this CCC meeting</p> <p>3. To be provided when available</p>
ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY												
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	DT enquired as to what equipment is noisiest. CK responded that no one piece of equipment is most responsible, it depends on weather conditions, dump locations, equipment locations and utilisation etc.	
5	Correspondence	
	<p>As sent out with meeting notice on 3/03/25.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18/11/24 – Email to members with scientific paper on dust speciation (referred to at November meeting). • 20/11/24 – Email from TH with completed governance forms. Acknowledged. • 29/11/24 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review. • 6/12/24 - Email to members with the finalised minutes with presentation. • 24/2/25 – Email to members with copy of finalised IEA. • 3/3/25 – Email to members with Meeting Notice & Agenda for this meeting. 	
6	General update	
	<p>GL provided an update covering the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two community complaints received since last meeting; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 21/11/24 – Blast – Louth Park ◦ 19/02/25 – Noise - Buttai • The biennial grazing monitoring fieldwork completed and waiting on report; • Independent Environmental Audit completed; • 7 Ha of rehabilitation on tailings dam completed; • Dog baiting program completed; • EPA conducted a 5 yearly risk assessment on Bloomfield operations with an overall risk level of ‘1’ (lowest level). 	
6	Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project	
	<p>CK provided a presentation on the Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project progress since the last CCC meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project determined to be a controlled action by DCCEEW; • DCCEEW requested further assessment for Koala and Pied Bat; • DCCEEW required additional assessment of Regent Honeyeater, Gang-gang Cockatoo, Swift Parrot, Greater Glider, Yellow-bellied Glider, New Holland Mouse and Spot-tailed Quoll; • The additional assessment concluded that the Swift Parrot will require offsets; • Assessment will be conducted by DPHI under the Assessment bilateral; • Updated noise modelling shows that three properties will be impacted by noise 3-5 dB above Project Noise Trigger Level. • These properties will receive voluntary mitigation rights if project is approved; • The landowners have been notified. 	

<p>DT asked where the offsets would be located. CK responded that current system they could be located anywhere that the vegetation community exists that can support that species.</p> <p>MJ commented that located locally would be preferable potentially incorporating existing C3 zoning. CK responded that it is not always limited to land zoning and may include purchasing credits from an approved fund or on the open market or establishing a stewardship agreement over a parcel of land. The EIS will likely propose all three methods of offsetting.</p> <p>JM commented that local offsetting is preferable even if the fauna species not recorded there.</p> <p>Some discussion on potential future land use after mining occurred CK commented that plans incorporated industrial zoning, MJ commented that the biodiversity corridors currently in plans should be recognised and maintained through expansion of local C2 environmental zoning.</p> <p>CK noted that when EIS on exhibition members of the public will be able to make submissions on the project.</p> <p>CK provided additional presentation on the Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project moving forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EIS submitted to DPHI pending adequacy review; • Modification to be submitted under Section 4.55 (2); • Project is required to go on exhibition (at least 28 days). Expected from April 2025; • DPHI will publish all submissions and request Bloomfield to respond; • Bloomfield will submit Response to Submission Report to address all submissions; • DPHI will assess the Project Modification based on merits having regard to the economic, environmental and social impacts of the modified project and the principles of ecologically sustainable development; • Project will be determined by DPHI (NSW) and DCCEE (Cwth). <p>JM enquired about the use of electric fleet. CK replied that electric dump trucks are not yet commercially available.</p> <p>BD commented that is a participant in Caterpillar's 'Pathways To Sustainability' program and may assist in trialling electric machines.</p> <p>CK noted that Bloomfield Group has taken over Biodiesel Industries Australia which has a nameplate production capacity of up to 20 million litres per year. GL commented that Bloomfield has plans use biodiesel in some equipment.</p>	<p>Action: CK to advise CCC when EIS is on exhibition.</p>
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7	General Business	
	DT requested a hard copy of the main body of the EIS (minus Appendices).	Action: GL to provide hard copy of EIS to DT when on exhibition.
8	Next Meeting	
	The next meeting is planned for Monday 2 June at 10am meeting with a site tour after the meeting.	
9	Meeting Close:	
	The meeting closed at 11:17am	

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Advice CCC when EIS is on exhibition	CK/LA
2	Provide hard copy of main body of EIS to DT when on exhibition	GL

Acronyms referred to in minutes:

CCC	Community Consultative Committee
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
DPHI	Dept of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
IEA	Independent Environmental Audit
DCCEEW	Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water