

# Bloomfield Colliery

## Community Consultative Committee

### Meeting No. 48

Location: Bloomfield Colliery

Time: 10.02 am

Date: 02 June 2025

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
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
Amanda Blackwood (AB) <i>online</i>	Maitland City Council
Sharon Turnbull (ST)	Bloomfield Colliery

<b>Apologies</b>	
Thomas Holz	Bloomfield Colliery
Greg Lamb	Bloomfield Colliery
Damien Butler	Bloomfield Colliery
Gary Hamer	Maitland City Council

<b>Absent</b>	
Sarah Hyatt (SH)	Cessnock City Council

<b>Item</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	
	The Chair opened the CCC meeting at 10:02AM and provided an Acknowledgment of Country. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Apologies</b> – as listed.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Declarations</b>	
	There were no changes to the Chair's previously recorded declarations. There were no changes noted by community or company members.	

4	Business Arising										
	<p>The previous CCC was held on 10 March 2025 with the minutes finalised on 31 March 2025. There were 2 action items from that meeting:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="272 357 1141 501"> <thead> <tr> <th>ITEM</th><th>ISSUE</th><th>RESPONSIBILITY</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Advice CCC when EIS is on exhibition</td><td>CK/LA</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Provide hard copy of main body of EIS to DT</td><td>GL</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>JM was unable to view the submissions on the Department's website. CK opened the website to show JM how to access. BD suggested that using an old browser may be the problem, as he couldn't see it until he used a newer one.</p> <p>JM enquired about how many cattle Bloomfield currently holds. CK responded that there are currently around 100 head grazing at Bloomfield Colliery on rehabilitated mining land.</p> <p>DT asked for clarification of the wording 'analogue pastures'. CK responded advising that they are areas that are undisturbed by mining and reflective of surrounding cattle grazing pastures.</p> <p>JM asked what the Rehab Risk Assessment was that was listed as an issue for the Resources Regulator as part of the agency advice for MOD 5. CK explained Bloomfield have an existing rehabilitation risk assessment which identifies potential risks to the rehabilitation process and provides the required controls we have in place for rehabilitation and environmental risks eg erosion control.</p> <p>JM enquired if it is possible to include the Bloomfield CHPP in the site tour today due to the recent Buttai noise complaint. BD responded that the CHPP had completed washing at the CHPP the previous Friday, and it may be a couple of months before they are required to wash again. Everyone was still welcome to visit the CHPP while it wasn't running. MJ added that he had previously felt vibrations at his home while the CHPP ran. CK noted that the CHPP can be viewed as part of today's site inspection.</p> <p>MJ asked about the social impacts included in the EIS noting that there was an annual community fund as part of the original development. MJ enquired how this fund, noting the requirement had lapsed after 10 years, was distributed. BD noted the Bloomfield Foundation and recent funding around the Maitland area. ST noted that Bloomfield advertises foundation recipients in the Hunter River Times and @ The CoalFace magazine. LA mentioned that The Bloomfield Group distributes a quarterly newsletter containing Community involvement content.</p> <p>DT, JM and MJ then asked to be added to the distribution list for the Newsletter.</p>	ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY	1	Advice CCC when EIS is on exhibition	CK/LA	2	Provide hard copy of main body of EIS to DT	GL	<p>1. Complete</p> <p>2. Complete</p> <p>Action: CK / GL to supply details of Bloomfield Foundation contribution to the community at the next meeting.</p>
ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY									
1	Advice CCC when EIS is on exhibition	CK/LA									
2	Provide hard copy of main body of EIS to DT	GL									

<b>5</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	<p>As sent out with meeting notice on 26/05/25 with 1 additional item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18/11/24 – Email to members with scientific paper on dust speciation (referred to at November meeting).</li> <li>• 20/11/24 – Email from TH with completed governance forms. Acknowledged.</li> <li>• 29/11/24 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review.</li> <li>• 6/12/24 - Email to members with the finalised minutes with presentation.</li> <li>• 24/2/25 – Email to members with a copy of the finalised IEA.</li> <li>• 26/05/25 - Email to members with Meeting Notice &amp; Agenda for this meeting.</li> <li>• 2/6/25 – Email to members advising that site inspection will proceed (pending weather).</li> </ul>	
<b>6</b>	<b>General update</b>	
	<p>CK provided an update covering the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No community complaints received since the last meeting.</li> <li>• A summary of the Annual Review Report will be provided at the next CCC meeting</li> <li>• The Annual Rehabilitation Report and Forward Program has been submitted and is available on the website. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Seven hectares were rehabilitated, which is three more than the four that had been committed to.</li> <li>○ Another 8 hectares have been shaped and are ready for rehabilitation and pasture establishment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The 2024 biennial grazing monitoring fieldwork has been completed, and a report has been prepared and presented. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The key criteria of the rehabilitated pasture have been exceeded.</li> <li>○ The rehabilitated land can support beef cattle grazing.</li> <li>○ Soil properties and pasture productivity exceed those on undisturbed land.</li> <li>○ Healthy livestock produced indicates well-balanced and high pasture quality.</li> <li>○ Overall, a good report.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project</b>	
	<p>CK provided a presentation on the Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project progress since the last CCC meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submissions for the Bloomfield MOD 5 closed on 20 May 2025, with 232 submissions made. 202 were in support, 28 were in objection, and 2 were comments.</li> <li>• Agency Advice—13 in total. RFS and CHPR (previously BCT) and Maitland Shire Council (MSC) hadn't made a submission yet. AB will follow up. AB advised that MSC had reached out to Cessnock Council to collaborate.</li> </ul>	

	<p><i>Post Script – Advice from AB (MSC):</i></p> <p><i>Maitland City Council was missed in the original exhibition period, which concluded on 20 May 2025.</i></p> <p><i>The Department has given Council until 13 June 2025 to make a late submission</i></p> <p><i>A number of internal staff have been sent a referral for comment, and it is expected that a submission will be sent in by the new deadline.</i></p> <p>Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project moving forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bloomfield will submit the Response to Submission Report to address all submissions in early July 2025.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• The Project will be determined by DPHI (NSW) and DCCEEW (Cwth).</li> </ul>	
<b>7</b>	<b>General Business</b>	
	DT reiterated JM's comment that anyone who is politically active and wanted to make a submission was hampered by the timing and deadline for submissions to the MOD 5 exhibition due to the federal election. CK advised that Bloomfield did not control the timing of the MOD 5 exhibition, and it is solely controlled by DPHI. The exhibition period was 4 weeks.	
<b>8</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>	
	The next meeting is planned for Monday, 13 October 2025 at 10 am	
<b>9</b>	<b>Meeting Close:</b>	
	The meeting closed at 10:40 am with LA thanking everyone for their attendance. Members were invited to stay for the site inspection.	

#### ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
<b>1</b>	Supply presentation on the Bloomfield Foundation's contribution to the community at next CCC meeting.	CK
<b>2</b>	DT, JM, and MJ will be added to the distribution list for the Bloomfield Newsletter.	ST

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
MSC	Maitland Shire Council