

**ABEL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE**  
**COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC) Meeting #50**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> December 2025**  
**Abel Underground Mine Administration Building**

**1. OPENING & WELCOME**

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared the meeting opened at 1.02pm.

**2. PRESENT**

Ms Margaret MacDonald-Hill (Chairperson), Mr Terry Lewin, Mr Alan Brown, Mr Allan Jennings, Mr Brad Ure (Remote), Mr Greg Lamb (Bloomfield Group), Mr Chris Knight (Bloomfield Group), Mr Phillip Brown (Abel Mine Environment & Community Relations Superintendent) and Mr James Benson (Abel Mine Environment & Community Coordinator) (minutes).

**3. APOLOGIES**

Mr William Farnworth (Donaldson Operations, Mining Engineering Manager)

**4. PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

There were no changes to the previously declared pecuniary interests.

**5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the Abel CCC on 9 September 2024 were confirmed by Mr Allan Brown and seconded by Mr Alan Jennings.

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

As per agenda.

14/10/24 – email PB to CCC feral animal control notice  
18/2/25 – email MMH to DPHI Chair's Annual Report  
1/4/25 – email Onward Consulting P/L to MMH on IEA  
9/4/25 – email MMH to CCC on IEA  
2/5/25 – email MMH response to Onward Consulting P/L  
Plus one additional  
7/10/2025 – email PB to CCC feral animal control notice

**8. COMPANY REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES**

**8.1 Abel Mine Update – Phillip Brown**

*Refer to presentation.*

The mine continues in care and maintenance with general maintenance and water management being the primary activities in the past twelve months.

APA no longer use infrastructure at Abel as the construction of a gas pipeline between Seahampton and Kurri Kurri has been completed. The section of pipeline through Donaldson land has been rehabilitated.

Donaldson and Abel Coal Mines are in the process of being acquired by the Bloomfield Group. The transaction is set to take place later this month. Further discussions in Sections 9 and 10.

**8.2 Environmental Update – Phillip Brown**

*Refer to presentation.*

No Complaints during the reporting period.

Abel Environmental Protection Licence was submitted in September with three administrative non-conformances reported.

- Dust monitor losing power for three hours in the twelve month period;
- Surface water samples were not taken as the sites were dry; and
- Ground water samples were not taken as access to site was restricted due to road works on John Renshaw Drive.

Abel Coal Mine had a 3 year Independent Environmental Audit earlier in the year that found 2 Corrective Actions and 5 Opportunities for Improvement. Full Report can be found on the Yancoal Website.

A review of historical boreholes over the last twelve months has resulted in a number of boreholes being signed off by the Resources Regulator as rehabilitation is complete.

Revision History					
Edition	Revision	Comment	Author	Date	Authorised by:
1	0	Draft Minutes	J Benson	5/12/2025	
2	0	Final Minutes	J Benson	15/12/2025	

**9. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Mr Lewin inquired about what properties were included in the sale to Bloomfield.

Mr Phillip Brown outlined that the properties associated with Abel and Donaldson Mines including those on Black Hill Rd are included in the sale. Properties associated with the Tasman Mine on George Booth Dr will be retained by Yancoal.

Mr Alan Brown asked Bloomfield Coal what their plans were for the site?

Mr Chris Knight provided a summary of the transfer with Bloomfield having planned to conduct a review of the existing operations, plans and procedures once they take ownership. They are committed to following through with closure of the operation when that decision is made.

The transaction also includes a portion of land owned by Yancoal associated with the Ashton Mine adjacent to the Rix's Creek Mine.

Mr Lewin asked if the Development Consent transfers across to Bloomfield Coal.

Mr Knight noted that existing approvals including the Development Consent, EPL, Mining Leases and Rehabilitation commitments will be transferred across to the Bloomfield Group.

Mr Phillip Brown stated that the Donaldson Conservation Fund has been finalised with all commitments completed.

**10. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Ms MacDonald-Hill confirmed the CCC will continue under Bloomfield and therefore it is timely that she step down as the Chair of the Abel CCC, having taken over from Milton Morris 10 years ago. She has enjoyed Chairing this committee and appreciates the time everyone on the committee has taken to make it a successful one.

Mr Lewin thanked both Ms MacDonald-Hill and Mr Phillip Brown on behalf of the community members for all their diligence over time. The environmental and community outcomes for the sites has been a great result.

Mr Alan Jennings echoed the sentiments of Mr Lewin to thank Mr Phillip Brown and Ms MacDonald-Hill.

Mr Phillip Brown said that he will continue working for Yancoal at Ashton. He has thoroughly enjoyed working with all the community member as well as Mr Milton Morris and Ms MacDonald-Hill.

**11. NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting will be advised by the Bloomfield Group next year.

**The meeting was declared closed at 1.26pm by the Chairperson.**