

**Report of the Duralie Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee  
Held Thursday 6 November 2008**

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**Present:** Cl Jan McWilliams, Mayor, Great Lakes Council, Mr T Tersteeg, Mr A Fisher-Webster, Mr G Handford, Ms H Gillard, Mr T Hutchings, Mr J Trotter.  
**Guest:** Mr J Benson  
**Apologies:** Mr D Lanham

Cl McWilliams commenced her term as Committee Chairperson.

**Confirmation of Minutes Of Previous Meeting Held 7 August 2008:**

Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and accepted by the Committee (moved by Mr Tony Tersteeg, seconded by Mr Alan Fisher-Webster).

**Business Arising from the Previous Minutes:**

Nil

**General Business:**

Report on Environmental Monitoring

(comments applicable to results tabled since last meeting)

Mr Tersteeg commented that graphs (ie. pH) were hard to read. Mr Trotter advised that the water graphs showed additional data as a consequence of an increased sampling frequency across multiple sites. Mr Trotter undertook to provide future graphs with a reduced monitoring period displayed in order to reduce visual congestion.

Ms Gillard asked for site description to be included in graph legend. Mr Trotter undertook to provide.

Mr Trotter advised the Committee of the following regarding monitoring:

pH – all sites behaved similarly and were neutral to marginally alkaline.

Electrical conductivity (EC) – ranged from approximately 100 to 1000 uS/cm across sampled sites. Highest EC results from upstream Coal Shaft Creek location as is commonly seen.

Total suspended solids (TSS) – ranged from 1 to 464 mg/l. Highest value recorded was at Site SW6 in June.

Dust deposition – results well under the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) limit for all sites. The annual rolling average for Site D4 (which has been heavily influence by bird dung) has recovered to be sub the EPA limit. Alternative roosts have been installed since the August Committee meeting.

High volume dust – recent results all appreciably less than the applicable EPA limit. Rolling average results indicate an appreciable decreasing trend over the year.

Rainfall – relatively wet September, dry August and October.

Blasting – data on 33 blasts presented. No exceedance of Environment Protection Licence (EPL) blasting limits. However, a blast on 31 October resulted in a possible exceedance of the 120dBL EPL overpressure limit. A report is yet to be produced regarding this blast.

Complaints – two tabled and two verbal (more recent). All noise related. Three from a single complainant.

Note that at this point, Mr Tersteeg raised the subject of the mine compensating Ms Gillard for noise impacts from mining operations. Mr Trotter also advised the Committee of continuous noise monitoring currently being undertaken at a property east of the mine, along Mill Creek Road. The Chairperson asked whether Ms Gillard felt the mine had done enough to rectify her noise problems. Ms Gillard responded that she welcomed the mine's intention to alter their complaint handling service provider and that the mine was "aware" and "open to progress".

### Mine Progress

The selection of the successful contract miner from 2009 on had progressed with Leighton Mining being considered the preferred tenderer. The contract would stipulate the requirement for trucks which were quieter than existing trucks (XQ model).

### Part 3A Application

A newsletter providing information on progress with the Part 3A application (for continued mining beyond 2011) was provided to Committee members. The newsletter indicated that the Project Application and Preliminary Assessment had been lodged with the Department of Planning (DoP).

Mr Trotter advised that a Conceptual Project Development Plan (DPDP) between Duralie Coal and the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) was to be held on 13 November and a Planning Focus Meeting (PFM) was scheduled a week later (20 November). The PFM invitees included Department of Environment & Climate Change, Department of Water & Energy, Gloucester and Great Lakes Councils, Catchment Management Authority and the Roads and Traffic Authority.

Mr Hutchings advised the Committee that workforce at Duralie under a Part 3A approval would increase by approximately 15 persons (not including subcontractors).

### Site Water Management

Mr Trotter advised the following:

There had been no advice received by Duralie Coal from the EPA regarding Duralie Coal's application to vary the EPL to allow for discharge of mine water from site.

Duralie Coal has, since the last Committee meeting, extended the area over which irrigation was possible by the installation of additional pipework, fixed sprays and the ability to operate a travelling irrigator on the unrehabilitated section of the out of pit waste dump.

A Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) has been submitted to the DoP in support of an application to vary the mine's Development Consent to permit the construction and operation of three (3) additional water storage dams (to be known as Auxiliary Dams 1-3).

The Dams Safety Committee had nominated consequence categories for Auxiliary Dam 1 and had requested design documentation prior for their consideration prior to construction commencing.

Site Visit Request

Mr Tersteeg, on behalf of Mr Lanham, requested permission for a site visit the following day by a group led by members of the NSW Farmers Association. This was agreed to by Duralie Coal, however in future adequate notification was requested for any similar visit in order to schedule availability of company personnel to accompany and provide information to visitors etc.

Community Contributions

Mr Handford advised the Committee of advertising this week inviting interest from persons seeking funding from the Great Lakes Council – Duralie Coal Community Enhancement Fund. Advertisements will appear in local papers and applications will close 19 December 2008. Blank application forms for community funding were provided to Committee members present.

Meeting commenced at 10am with a site inspection and closed at 12.20 pm.

Next Meeting:           Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at 10.00 am.