



**Hunter Valley Operations (HVO)  
Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting  
Thursday 24 November 2016**

**Attendance**

**Chairperson**

Colin Gellatly (CG) Independent Chair HVO CCC

**Community Representatives**

Charlie Shearer (CS) Community Representative  
 Brian Atfield (BA) Community Representative  
 Neville Hodgkinson (NA) Community Representative  
 Di Gee (DG) Community Representative  
 David Love (DL) Community Representative

**Company Representatives**

Tom Lukeman (TL) General Manager HVO  
 Mark Townson (MT) Mining Manager HVO  
 Andrew Speechly (AS) Environment and Community Manager  
 Anthony Russo (AR) Project Approval Manager  
 Gerard Gleeson (GG) Environmental Specialist – Systems and Monitoring  
 Michael Lloyd Specialist – Project Approvals

**Presenters/Observers**

Daniel Solomon (DS) Environmental Advisor HVO  
 Joel Deacon (JD) Specialist Cultural Heritage

**Apologies**

Hollie Jenkins (HJ)\* Singleton Council

**Minutes**

Daniel Solomon (DS)

**Meeting Commenced** 13:03

\*HJ notified MT of her absence prior to the meeting on the 24th November 2017 (DS 11/04/2017).

**1. MINUTES**

The minutes from the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meetings held on the 6<sup>th</sup> October and 24 November were confirmed by Colin Gellatly (CG) and were adopted by the committee.

**2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS/CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND CORRESPONDANCE**

None to report.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Action 1; Travis Bates to provide further breakdown of contractor workforce.**

DS: Travis has provided information directly to HJ.

AS: No further breakdown is able to be provided.

CG asked for the committee to be shown the data as shown to HJ.

**Action 1: AS to share the local employment data with the CCC.**

**Action 2; Coal and Allied to allow an additional week in sending out business papers to ensure they arrive with sufficient time to review.**

AS asked if everyone received the business papers in time for this meeting. There was general agreement.

**Action 3; Coal and Allied to provide dates for additional CCC meeting to be held in September.**

DS: the extraordinary meeting was held on October 6th.

**Action 4; HVO to provide overview of Cultural Heritage Management as a focus topic for the next CCC.**

Cultural Heritage management was presented on by Joel Deacon – Specialist Cultural Heritage. An overview of the presentation is provided below

**Action 5: Explore pig trapping options on Charlie Shearers property.**

This was expanded upon in the update on in the feral pest management update. Trapping at Maison Dieu was undertaken on 6/11/2016 and resulted in 4 feral pigs trapped. Work occurring simultaneously on HVO side of river – Comleroi, Lemington South, Archerfield and Cheshunt, resulted in the trapping of 43 feral pigs. CS was asked if there were any further reports of pigs, CS said he hadn't heard anything.

**Action 6: DS to ensure Brian Atfield is emailed an updated contact list of C&A representatives.**

DS: updated contact list is provided on all meeting minutes that are circulated.

**Action 7: C&A to explore options for a new flyover video which shows the mining progression of HVO South Mod 5.**

The 3D model simulation has been under development since the last CCC meeting. A rough version was shown at this CCC meeting and C&A have committed to catching up with CCC members 1on1 to show them through the simulation once it has been finalised.

**Long Term/On-going Actions**

**Action 1; Ensure CCC members without email access are provided with copies of all emails sent to CCC members.**

DS: hardcopies have been provided as requested to those without email access.

**4. COMPANY REPORTS**

Update on Feral Pest Management

An overview of feral pest management activities undertaken since the last CCC meeting was presented. In summary;

- 1080 baiting targeting wild dogs and foxes. Trial of ejector baiting.
- Feral Pig Trapping and Shooting
- Rabbit baiting
- Kangaroo culling
- Opportunistic shooting.

✚ NH queried the lack of dogs and foxes represented in the table of vertebrate pests

✚ DS explained that they are represented in the baiting program, however this just indicates baits taken, not animals killed

✚ AS further explained the use of the ejector baits as targeted specifically for dogs and foxes and providing a lethal dose.

✚ TL provided follow-up information to BA arising from recent BBQ in Jerrys Plains. It was confirmed that the shooting contractor holds the correct licence to allow take of Deer.

Update on Recent Audits

GG provided an update of some recent audits that have occurred at HVO;

- EPA Inter-Agency Audit Program – Dam Safety

- HVO Independent Audit

Both of the audits will be finalised over the coming months, after review by relevant government agencies.

#### Update on Mining Operations

MT provided an update; essentially not much has changed to the distribution of equipment since the last CCC meeting. Electric Shovel 340 is on a planned shutdown. HVO will be hiring 10 trucks next year, six are brand new and four have low operating hours.

- ✚ BA asked if the trucks are the same size as the current fleet, MT confirmed that they are.
- ✚ CG asked if the trucks are attenuated, MT confirmed the hired trucks will not be attenuated.
- ✚ AS advised that HVO have commenced sound attenuating the remainder of its permanent truck fleet.

#### Update on Rehabilitation

AS provided an update on rehabilitation since last meeting 51.7ha has been rehabbed so far, with the view to meet the target (69.1ha) by the second week of December.

#### HVO South EIS Overview

AR and ML presented on the HVO South Modification 5 – Environmental Assessment Report

Overview:

HVO are currently at the consultation stage as well as preparing the Environmental Assessment for public exhibition.

The main aspects of the proposed modification include:

- Mining depth extension in Riverview Pit from Vaux to Bayswater seam.
- Mining depth extension in South Lemington Pit 2 from Bowfield to Vaux seam.
- Increase in maximum height of Cheshunt overburden emplacement from RL155 to 240 m AHD in the northern section only.
- Ability to increase the rate of mining from 16 to 20 mtpa ROM if required to provide greater flexibility for sourcing coal across the integrated HVO operation.

Avoidance and minimization of environmental impacts is addressed through the following considerations:

- No extension of State-approved disturbance footprint.
- Micro-relief incorporated into overburden emplacement area.
- Overburden height increased to RL240M in northern most area of Cheshunt to reduce visual impact.
- Final void lake further from the Hunter River.
- The proposal is not seeking to extend the current approval period, which is due to expire in 2030.

- ✚ TL explained that there has been and will continue to be a slowdown of operations as HVO extends the consultation process by six months.
- ✚ CS is worried that the dump will block his views of the Wollemi National Park range.
- ✚ ML confirmed that the view of the Wollemi National Park from Shearers Lane will not be impacted by the change in dump height. Special consideration has been given to the current view shed and the majority of the material will be dumped to the north of the emplacement. The addition of the micro relief will help to ensure that the emplacement looks more natural than the current bread loaf shape.

GG went through the mine planning slides, which seek to illustrate the way in which the emplacement may be dumped out; In four (4) x 20m lifts, with a bund created first of the eastern edge to provide protection from noise and dust.

- ✚ CS is concerned that current issues with noise and dust will continue with the new extension plans. GG explained the mitigations and management options for the operation including the 100% attenuation of the haul fleet.
- ✚ CS asked if the dump height will alter the amount of rainfall received in Maison Dieu. AS recalled a similar question at a previous CCC meeting, typically heights much higher than 240 m would be needed to affect rainfall.

- NH asked about pushing more of the material to the North of dump. ML explained that the material can only be placed so high to maintain a suitable outer slope angle.
- NH suggests screening the dump height with mature trees which will drop out the dust, and help protect Maison Dieu from being impacted by the process of building the dump.

ML and AR present on the HVO South Mod 5 animation

- DL is concerned that there is no focus on natural barriers. AS responds that it is unlikely that trees will be able to grow adequately in time to block out 80m of dump height, unless fast growing species are used. CS advised he only wants Ironbarks to be planted, as they are a useful tree. AR suggested that HVO could look at near field planting at near neighbours.
- CS is concerned about increases in black coal dust which settles on his windscreen on still nights. GG states that the modelling indicates that there is no additional impact from the modification, however HVO wish to have discussions with Charlie about how we could improve his experience.

## 5. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE FEEDBACK

- BA thanked HVO for hosting the Jerrys Plains BBQ, remarked that it was unfortunate that more people didn't attend.
- DL raised some issues that he had heard second hand about local businesses trading with C&A. The increase in payment terms and having to contact an external company to talk to accounts payable, as well as having to pay a fee to interact with the company. TL was not aware of the situation DL was referring to with accounts payable, and committed to give an update at the next CCC meeting.

### Action 2: TL to provide further information on C&A accounts payable.

- NH remarked that now was a good opportunity to come up with options that might appease some individuals.
- CS stated that he has a business in Singleton which deals with 3 coal mines and had a different experience with regard to payment terms that he was able to get shorter payment terms with other mining companies.
- CS was concerned about the amount of dust from the new modification affecting houses, properties and crops in Maison Dieu.
- CS hoped that in the future near neighbours would get a better service from the mine than what they are currently getting, and that dust and noise were the main issues over the years. If an operator cannot keep dust down, then they should be let go.

Cultural Heritage Management Presentation  
Presented by Joel Deacon

Joel provided an overview of Cultural Heritage Management at HVO.

CCC members were offered a tour of Chain of Ponds hotel at Ravensworth.

## NEXT MEETING

- 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017**  
**Commencing at 1pm**  
Meeting Room 1  
Hunter Valley Services Building

**Meeting Closed**

14:50

**ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Proposed By</b>	<b>Action Proposed</b>	<b>Accountability</b>
1	C. Gellatly	HVO to present the results of the employee breakdown.	Andrew Speechly
2	T. Lukeman	TL to provide further information on C&A accounts payable.	Tom Lukeman

Final

**CENTRAL SWITCHBOARD LOCATED AT SINGLETON SHOP FRONT : (02) 6575 5800****INFORMATION LINE : 1800 727 745****COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS LINE – 24 HOUR SERVICE : 1800 656 892****Contact details for CCC Members**

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