

# **Pine Dale Coal Mine-Yarraboldy Extension Community Consultative Committee**

## **Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of Members of the Pine Dale Coal Mine-Yarraboldy Extension Community Consultative Committee (CCC), Held at the Black and Gold Conference Centre, 121 Main Street, Wallerawang NSW 2845 On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2012 at 3.00pm**

**Notice of Meeting:**

It was noted and agreed that all nominated CCC members had received a notice of the meeting.

**Present:**

Mr Howard Fisher – (Chairman) (Councillor of Lithgow Council)  
Mrs Sabina Renson – Local Community Representative  
Mr Peter Barnes – Local Community Representative  
Miss Skye Ellacott – Lithgow Council Representative  
Miss Jessica Heath – Lithgow Council Officer  
Mr Nathan Brown – Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation  
Mr Trevor Brown – Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation  
Mr Hilton Goldfinch – Company Representative (Operations Manager)  
Mr Denis Frew – Company Representative (Director/Secretary)

**Apologies:**

Mrs Sharon Brown – Aboriginal Community Representative (Gundungurra Tribal Council)

**Welcome:**

Mr Fisher referenced correspondence from NSW Government, Planning and Infrastructure, Mining and Industry, advising of the make up of the CCC and welcomed all in attendance.

He advised of his pleasure in being nominated to act as Chairman for the group and thanked the representatives for giving unselfishly of their time to participate. He advised of his wish to run meetings on a consensus basis giving each member the right to express their views.

He introduced a plea that the membership be mindful of the specific terms of reference of the CCC being the Pine Dale Coal Mine – Yarraboldy Extension and requested members to confine their contributions to same and not to seek to use the forum for the airing of views relating to other community or Council related activities. He invited the Company Representative, Mr Denis Frew, to address the meeting.

Mr Frew introduced the Company's Operation Manager, Mr Hilton Goldfinch and thanked the representatives for accepting a role in assisting the Company to satisfy the requirements of the NSW Government, Planning and Infrastructure Department and particularly thanked Mr Fisher for undertaking the role as Chairman.

## CCC

**Guidelines:** The meeting referenced the "Guidelines for Establishing and Operating Community Consultative Committees for Mining Projects" prepared by the NSW Government Department of Planning, included in the Business Papers, that had been circularised to each of the Committee members, addressing:

- Purposes of the committee
- Members of the committee
- Committee meetings
- Responsibilities of the company
- Communication with the broader community

## Correspondence:

1. NSW Government (Planning & Infrastructure) advising of the Approval of Community Consultative Committee Representatives – Noted.
2. Australian Government – Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities advising of the decision under Sections 75 and 77(a) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in October 2011 relating to the Company's proposed action to expand the existing Pine Dale Coal Mine through open cut mining. (Yarraboldy Extension) – Examined in detail and noted, with Mrs Sabina Renson commenting that the sharing of the detail prior to the meeting was most helpful.
3. NSW Government Department of Primary Industries – Office of Water advising of the Department's satisfaction of the Company's rehabilitation management plan following their review – Noted.
4. Lithgow City Council dated 9 August 2011 referencing, with thanks, correspondence dated 28 July 2011 from the Company in regard to the CCC and nominating Miss Skye Ellacott, Council's Team Leader, Development Planning, as the Council Representative. Council also invited the consideration of the CCC to the requirements of a quorum to be achieved for each meeting to proceed.

Following discussion it was unanimously resolved that a quorum would exist by the attendance of at least one Community Representative.

5. Ms Julie Favell (Blackmans Flat Resident).

The meeting referenced correspondence to the Directors of Enhance Place Pty Limited, emailed to Director Mr John Doherty on 5, 7 and 8 January 2012, under the aegis of the Lithgow Environment Group, which was included in the Business Papers.

Mr Frew advised the meeting of the company's views in relation to the detail of the correspondence.

Following discussion the Committee resolved to accept the company's advice and have the Secretary write to Ms Favell accordingly and that such correspondence be included in the Business Papers of the next CCC meeting.

The Committee noted that the opportunity was always available to any member of the Blackmans Flat/Lidsdale community to contact any member of the CCC in relation to matters considered pertinent to the Pine Dale Yarraboldy project and on the recommendation of Mrs Sabina Renson, it was agreed that the company would issue a "flyer" to the residents advising of the CCC representatives and of the company's hotline number.

## Reports:

The meeting noted the Ground Water, Depositional Dust, HVAS and Meteorological Monitoring Report – Pine Dale Mine – November 2011, prepared by RCA Laboratories.

Mr Hilton Goldfinch spoke to the report.

Following contributions and questions from the community representatives the meeting resolved to accept the report and agreed that the report should continue to be copied each month to the Lithgow City Council.

The Chairman commended Mrs Renson on her very thorough review of the report.

## General Business:

### 1. Rehabilitation Management Plan

The meeting noted the company's obligations in relation to restoration and continuing rehabilitation as addressed in Section 6 of the company's Mining Operations Plan and Section 55 of the Project Approval 10\_0041 as posted on the company's website. The Chairman enquired as to the status of restoration in relation to the company's Enhance site. Mr Frew advised that the restoration activity had been undertaken to the satisfaction of the Department of Minerals and Resources and the landowner however, such activity would remain under review for a further few years prior to the relinquishment of the mining lease.

Mr Trevor Brown advised of Gundungurra's involvement with the restoration at the Enhance site and the Pine Dale Mine site.

### 2. Complaints

Mr Hilton Goldfinch advised that no complaints had been received in the past month and that the company's website was being updated on a month by month basis in relation to same. It was noted that the company's hotline number had been communicated to households within the community.

### 3. Other

- The Chairman invited the company's representative to advise the meeting of the company's plans relating to its Stage 2 Development.

Mr Frew in response advised that an application had been submitted to the former State Government, in February 2011 under the terms of Part 3A of the Planning Act however the company has been advised of the new Government's review of planning matters and that the company's application will fall under the terms of new guidelines. The company is addressing the finalisation of its application and is expected to lodge same within months and ideally have the support of Government to proceed into the area at the back of Yarraboldy referred to as Stage 2 Development, following review.

- The Chairman invited the Gundungurra representative to address the meeting. Mr Nathan Brown advised of their involvement with Enhance Place for the past two years and of their expected involvement in the future in relation to collection of seeds and bush regeneration. He also advised that their area of activity extends from Goulburn to Lithgow.
- Mr Trevor Brown advised that the Gundungurra Tribe were addressing a business opportunity in tourism in the Leura/Katoomba district. He tabled two brochures promoting Gundungurra's activities.
- Mrs Sabina Renson advised of her experience in observing Enhance Place management personnel and that she had found them to be extremely cooperative and innovative in the manner in which they addressed the exposure to issues such as noise and dust and requested that it be noted they were "good neighbours".

Mr Peter Barnes, on being asked, advised that he had found Enhance's management "reasonable to deal with".

- Miss Skye Ellacott asked as to the expected date of commencement of production. Mr Frew in response advised of the expectation being at the end of January/early February.
- Mrs Sabina Renson advised the meeting that she may in fact be leaving the district prior to the next planned meeting, with her and her husband having sold the family home, and invited support for her together with Mr Peter Barnes to discuss the merits of nominating a replacement representative, prior to her resignation which would be coincidental with her leaving the district. Following discussion it was agreed that any nomination via Mrs Renson and Mr Barnes would be advised to the company for submission to the NSW Government Department of Planning for consideration.

4. Next Meeting

The Chairman advised, in accordance with the guidelines, that the next meeting would be in July 2012 and that he would arrange for the Secretary to canvas the membership in June 2012 inviting them to put forward matters considered appropriate as Agenda items and coincidentally advise of the proposed July meeting date.

**Closure:** There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.50pm.

Signed as a true and correct record:



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Chairman