

Record of Meeting – MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation Community Consultative Committee

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| Date | 16/03/2023 |
| Time Start | 12:04 pm |
| Time Finish | 13:31pm |
| Location | Mount Pleasant Operation – Thiess Meeting Room |
| Minutes | Stacey Rundell [SR] |

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| Opening of Meeting | Meeting opened at 12:04pm |
| | Chair: Wej Paradise [WP] |
| | Community Consultative Committee Members: Llewellyn Bates [LB] Trevor Parkinson [TP] Jonathan Moore [JM] |
| 1. Apologies | Tim Troon [TT] Tony Lonergan [TL] Sharon Pope [SP] |
| | Guests: |
| | Government Department Representatives: Nil |
| | Muswellbrook Shire Council: 1. Theresa Folpp [TP] |
| | Mount Pleasant Operation: Ngaire Baker [NB] Richard Bailey [RB] Chris Lauritzen [CL] Andrew Reid [AR] Richard Ali [RA] Sandy Lettice [SL] Mariah Lane [ML] Stacey Rundell [SR] Meg Bowman [MB] |

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| | <p>Thiess: Brodie Morrison [BM]</p> |
| Declaration of Pecuniary Interests | <p>The Chair requested that Members disclose if they have any pecuniary interests: [WP] The chair receives payment from MACH Energy to chair the CCC meeting as per the CCC guidelines</p> |
| Safety Share | <p>[RB] Be aware of uneven ground during your visits to Mount Pleasant and when walking around your home/property. In late 2022 there was an injury onsite where an employee stumbled on uneven ground and fell to the ground, landing on a sharp rock.</p> |
| 2. Previous Minutes | <p>[WP] Concerns regarding minutes from the previous meeting, 15th December 2022. Regarding committee members' contact with media and previous recording was unclear. Referencing guidelines regarding communication with broader community, also added to previous minutes comments. Current guidelines (under review) set in 2019, referencing Section 6. The guidelines for committee members are encouraged to discuss concerns and disseminate information relating to the project with stakeholder groups where appropriate the independent chairperson may provide briefings to stake holder groups and chairman must report back to committee the outcomes of these briefings. With the agreement of the whole committee the committee may agree to release statements and other information to the media or adopt other methods to disseminate information.</p> <p>Only the independent chairperson can speak publicly on behalf of the committee, individual committee members may make comments to the media or in public forums on behalf of themselves or on their stakeholder groups but not behalf of committee.</p> <p>If there is any disagreement between any members of the committee, such information should be kept confidential, and the independent chairperson will have the final say on the matter. If the committee or independent chairperson decides the matter discussed in the meeting be kept confidential, the members must protect confidentiality and refrain from discussing the matter with other parties outside the committee.</p> <p>The name credentials and if members agree contact details, forms, means of consulting must be published in a prominent position on the proponent's website and requests from the public for items to be included in the committee's agenda may be directed to individual committee members.</p> <p>[RB] The intention was that the committee members should not speak on behalf of the committee. A committee member was approached by the media to comment on behalf of the CCC. I understand he is not able to do that, but may comment on, interact or communicate on his own behalf his own view.</p> <p>[WP] With changes made to previous minutes, they are accepted as a true record.</p> |
| 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes | <p>[WP] One item regarding the type of tree species recently planted at the front gates to Mount Pleasant.</p> <p>[AR] We have an extensive list of tree species we plant around the site, the species at the front entrance to Mount Pleasant are Eucalyptus and Acacia.</p> |

4. CCC Community Update

[LB] Approximately one month ago, on the western side of the dam wall there was a small excavator digging holes. What was the operator doing?

[SL] Yes, there was an excavator working in this area. We have been trialing mechanically pulling the boxthorn weed from the ground, we will cover in more detail in the Land Management update today.

[LB] What is the pipeline installation adjacent to Bengalla Link Road?

[RB] If we have too much water onsite, we can pump water through that pipeline into the Hunter River.

[TP] When is the Rosebrook Bridge works expected to commence?

[NB] This is being conducted by Muswellbrook Shire Council, they are also closing Wybong Road during the period of works from March until August 2023.

[TF] We haven't seen any movement regarding wind farms wanting to use Wybong Road, there are two projects nearing approval, 'Hills of Gold' and 'Winterborn'. We have heard that access agreements have been signed. Do you have any updates?

[RB] I can confirm we (MACH Energy) have not signed any access agreements.

[TF] We thought there was a risk the department might approve them before the company has completed what they need to do to satisfy Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC).

[RB] Chris Lauritzen has spoken to Sharon Pope and confirmed that MACH Energy will follow MSC's lead in this matter.

[JM] There was an orange plume in the sky on February 9th at 1:45pm. There wasn't a strong wind, so it was possible to manage onsite. How did the mine manage the situation?

[AR] We were blasting in a high area of the pit with clay ground and ground water present in blast area. We had anticipated some plume; all our blasts are monitored by drone and video. It was level one, of a five-level system so it was very minor. The plume dispersed within the 500m radius of return release gap for blasting.

[JM] We noticed a lot of mowing along Bengalla Road up to the entrance of the Bengalla Mine. Is that MSC or something Bengalla Mine carry out? It is very impressive, and we would like to see mowing continue along Wybong Road to the Mount Pleasant Operation entrance as well. Mowing would also assist with fire danger/control, once or twice a year, wider mowing of this area would be welcomed.

[NB] It has been challenging to secure the appropriate workforce required to carry out this mowing. We have not completed the mowing up to the fence lines due to the contractor's time constraints, however, I will investigate further options and take your suggestions on board.

[WP] *To Note:* Ngaire Baker has circulated a letter from the independent environmental auditors and circulated to CCC members. Some responses received from [LB] and [TP]

[NB] Quote [TP], "it was a good report, doing everything that you (MACH Energy) have to. I see the information all the time, especially when we have site visits throughout the year. You are always open and transparent, and your environment is looked after."

[WP] Has that been circulated.

[NB] No, however, I will do so this week.

[WP] Forward it on and I will circulate. There was a deadline of 6th March, I asked for more time. I think they were onsite.

[AR] It's a six-week period to publish the final report.

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| <p>5. Mount Pleasant Operation Update</p> <p>Richard Bailey</p> | <p>[RB] Regarding the question about the pipeline raised by [LB], we are nearing completion of that work. The discharge pipeline is designed to direct any discharge water from Mount Pleasant around the Bengalla mine and ultimately into the Hunter River. Discharges are only done when necessary and regulated by the EPA under the requirements of the Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme because the Bengalla Mine has mined through Back Creek, our discharge water needs to be diverted around the Bengalla Mine. Both the Bengalla and Mount Pleasant Approvals have conditions to manage this requirement. Our EPA Licence has been modified to enable the work and we have been through the MSC Section 138 process to enable the crossing of a council road.</p> <p>The Mining operation continues to the West with the CHPP Incremental Expansion in planning.</p> <p>We will be removing conduits from the ARTC corridor in May, this will take place near the intersection of Old Bengalla Road with no disruption to traffic.</p> <p>Thiess has worked hard to recruit and install a new rehabilitation crew. The team will be managed by Thiess Mount Pleasant Operation team members and work under Thiess Rehabilitation.</p> <p>I will retire in April and Mick Redman has been announced as my replacement.</p> |
| <p>6. Applications & Approvals</p> <p>Chris Lauritzen</p> | <p>[TF] For the Federal referral of Mount Pleasant's SSD application, we understand that the referral is delayed by a reconsideration process for 18 fossil fuel projects. Is DCCEEW looking at the 18 sites collectively? And is there a cumulative assessment on greenhouse gases?</p> <p>[CL] The DCCEEW will reconsider the projects under the requirements of the EPBC Act and decide whether the referral decision was valid. We understand that is on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>[TF] Does the EPCC Act have anything in relation to greenhouse gases currently?</p> <p>[CL] I'm not an expert on the EPBC Act. I understand that the Minister needs to determine if the approval of the project jeopardises any matters of national environmental significance.</p> <p>What we understand from talking to the Department is the process will prioritise the reconsidered projects in a number of stages. Since our project is ready to go, we expect to be in the first tranche of that process.</p> <p>[CL] Left meeting at 12:28pm</p> |
| <p>7. Land Management</p> <p>Sandy Lettice & Richard Ali</p> | <p>[SL] & [RA] Priority Weed Management Program underway in Muswellbrook and Offset areas including Merriwa, Cassilis and Gunnedah region.</p> <p>Weeds targeted include St Johns Wart, African Olive, African Boxthorn, Blackberry and Sweet Briar.</p> <p>Completed a drone mapping trial in the Muswellbrook area.</p> <p>Trailing mechanical control (5ton excavator with a grab) in the eradication of Boxthorn on the mining lease.</p> <p>A full-time weed sprayer has now been employed for rehabilitation maintenance on site.</p> |

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| | <p>Several projects and infrastructure work are ongoing. This includes housing renovations, fencing, installing safety covers on old wells, fire trail maintenance and livestock water projects.</p> <p>MACH Energy participated in the Hunter Local Land Services local community fauna survey targeting Platypus and Water Rats in the Munmurra River and Cattle Creek.</p> |
| <p>8. Environment</p> <p>Andrew Reid</p> | <p>MACH Energy provided an update on all aspects of Environment, including air quality, management, blasting, noise and operational activities.</p> <p>[WP] Chair raised the progress of the Independent Environment Audit.</p> <p>[AR] The Independent Environment Audit was conducted onsite last week, and the auditors are now consulting various parties' including MSC and CCC. We have provided evidence to their enquiries and the report will be published on MACH Energy website in six weeks.</p> |
| <p>9. External Relations</p> <p>Ngairé Baker</p> | <p>[NB] No community complaints were received for December 2022 and January 2023.</p> <p>Three complaints were received in February 2023. Two related to lighting and one for noise. No exceedances were recorded.</p> <p>The second Mount Pleasant Operation Family Day was held in early March with approximately 500 employees and their families attending. The day includes MACH Energy, Thiess and Sedgman.</p> <p>Sponsorships for a variety of local organisations throughout January and February 2023 include, Muswellbrook nine, Aberdeen three, Scone three, Cassilis one, Merriwa three, Kayuga one, Murrurundi one and Belltrees two.</p> |
| <p>10. General Business</p> | <p>No General Business raised.</p> |
| <p>11. Next Meeting</p> | <p>Date: 15th June 2023 Further Meeting Dates for 2023: 7th September and 14th December Time: Arrive on site for login and PPE at 9.45am Site tour commences at 10.00am - 11.15am: Fines Emplacement Facility and Mining Operations. Meeting Location: Mount Pleasant Operation, MIA Meeting Room</p> |
| <p>12. Close</p> | <p>[WP] On behalf of the CCC, I would like to express our sincere thanks to Richard Bailey for his leadership and commitment to the CCC during his time at the Mount Pleasant Operation. All the best for your retirement Richard.</p> <p>[RB] Thank you Wej. The committee is very important and has a good culture and a consultative way of discussing items.</p> |

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