

Record of Meeting – Community Consultative Committee

Date	02 October 2019
Time Start	12:22pm
Time Finish	14:54pm
Location	Merriwa CWA Hall, Merriwa
Minutes	Lesley McLoughlin [LM]

Opening of Meeting	Meeting opened at 12:12pm.
	Chair: Wej Paradise [WP]
	Community Consultative Committee Members: Llewellyn Bates [LB], Jonathon Moore [JM], Rod Upton [RU],
	Apologies: 1. Mayor Martin Rush 2. Tim Troon [TT] 3. Trevor Parkinson [TP]
	Government Department Representatives: Nil
	Muswellbrook Shire Council: Nil
	Mount Pleasant Operation: Ngaire Baker [NB], Lesley McLoughlin [LM], Richard Baily [RB], Chris Masters [CM], Andrew Reid [AR], Ian Webber [IW], Chris Lauritzen [CL]. Guests: Ms Rhiannon Jaeger-Michael & Mrs Elizabeth Moore.
	Thiess: Peter York [PY]
Declaration of Pecuniary Interests	WP requested that Members disclose if they have any pecuniary interests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [WP] Receives payment to chair the CCC to meeting for the 03.10.19
Safety Share	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [RB] Number of brown and black snakes on site. Awareness for employees on site with toolbox talks and safety shares. Everyone be aware around your homes and on properties etc.
2. Previous Minutes	The Minutes from the previous meeting June 20th, 2019 were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Moved by [JM] seconded by [LB].
3. Matters Arising	NIL.
4. Applications & Approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Significant Development (SSD) Application will be known as the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project (The Project);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Conceptual Project Development Plan for the Project was presented to the NSW Division of Resources and Geoscience yesterday – first formal step in SSD process;• Consultation with other Government agencies and the community will now be ongoing (including preparation of a Social Impact Assessment [SIA] Scoping Report); <p>[WJ] Asking if we (CCC Committee) are involved?</p> <p>[CL] Yes, the Consulting Company “Just Add Lime” & Lead Consultant Rachel Mass will be working with MACH Energy representatives and you will be contacted regarding your involvement.</p> <p>[WJ] Have they done work around this area before?</p> <p>[CL] Yes, Racheal Mass is a very experienced social scientist and has conducted several SIA's.</p> <p>[LB] Chris, what is the disturbed area on the map, can you confirm what this is?</p> <p>[CL] Confirmed this is a new dam (SW corner of the area).</p> <p>[LB] If you put a dam there will it stop water coming through?</p> <p>[CL] Yes.</p> <p>[JM] Concerned with the mine development with the water catchment, which will impact the water flowing into his property ‘Gilgai’. The impact of doing the damming in the southern catchment. We would be very concerned, certainly would like to discuss this further.</p> <p>[CL] Won't be built for some years.</p> <p>[RB] The current consent has a condition addressing this.</p> <p>[CL] We may need another water storage facility, there may be a desire to build earlier in the SSD post approval period. Will need to talk about this going forward.</p> <p>[JM] Another large dam built, is removing the catchment of our southern area. It flows through one spot, which we had series of eight dams that rely on. It is a significant impact.</p> <p>[CL] We will consult in detail with JM and LB.</p> <p>[JM] Is there a timeframe you can confirm?</p> <p>[CL] Not certain, but clearly, we would not commence until after the SSD approval. We will provide some clarification when water demand modelling is available.</p> <p>The SSD would also relinquish currently approved disturbance area in the north west of the area.</p> <p>[WP] What do you mean by relinquish?</p> <p>[RB] Where Chris is talking about relinquishing part of the approved disturbance area in the northwest of the project area, not relinquishing any part of the</p>
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	<p>mining lease. Once that area is given up we would need a new approval to disturb that area. The purpose of doing this is to keep the project disturbance area in line with the offsets that have already been established</p> <p>[JM] Why do you need to build a new coal preparation plant?</p> <p>[CL] We need to add two additional plant modules so that we can wash the additional coal to be produced by the mine.</p> <p>The Project open cut mining would remain within the Mining Leases obtained in support of the currently approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project would increase the mining rate of the MPO in two stages from the current level of 10.5Mtpa ROM to 16Mtpa in 2028 then to 21Mtpa ROM from 2034 onwards. • The maximum mining rate, equipment and workforce would occur >10 years after the Project commences, when the mine is further from town (i.e. distance and emplacement barrier); • The CHPP would be expanded with two additional CPP modules to allow for increased coal processing (may have construction peaks of >500 personnel) • Additional train movements (via Stage 2 rail) would be required to accommodate the increase in coal production; and • The Project would extend the MPO life to approximately 2048 and optimise recovery of coal. • Some approved disturbance would be relinquished to compensate for new disturbance areas; • The Project operational workforce would grow from an average of 330 to a peak of more than 800 personnel – some may be sourced from regional mines as they ramp down production or cease to operate; • Positive flow-on effects for local businesses. • Employee and delivery traffic to increase. • The Project final landform would be higher and more extensive – would incorporate varying topographic relief and geomorphic design principles for stability. <p>[JM] Impressive shaping of overburden, have you been given approval to go higher or hoping to go higher?</p> <p>[CL] We will be building a natural looking landform with macro and micro relief and a variable horizon line so that landform will end up being higher. The approval for that would be part of the SSD.</p> <p>[JM] Didn't realise you were going higher?</p> <p>[CL] We will also have The University of Newcastle</p>
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	<p>working with us to review the landform design.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project is expected to produce coal at a lower cost and produce less Green House Gas emissions per tonne of coal than most competing export thermal coal mines outside Australia, particularly the Indonesian thermal coal mines who are the largest thermal coal exporters. <p>[JM] Do they get the same price? [CL] No, they generally get a lower price per tonne than Australian producers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Scoping Phase consultation to be undertaken to inform MACH Energy's request for EIS environmental assessment requirements (i.e. Scoping Report); Early engagement with relevant stakeholders is a requirement under the NSW <i>Social Impact Assessment Guideline for State Significant Mining, Petroleum and Extractive Industry Development</i> (September 2017) (SIA Guideline); Planned to commence in late October 2019; Engagement sessions will take place with Ngaire Baker & relevant MACH Energy representatives with Consultant Rachel Mass (<i>Social Scientist who specialises in social impact assessment</i>); Seeking to engage a range of stakeholders, e.g. CCC members, MSC, neighbouring residents, service providers, environmental and Aboriginal groups (subject to availability and interest in participating). <p>In the coming weeks, Ngaire will meet individually with all participants and provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the Project; Overview of the SIA process; Provide a consent form to sign, this is to give permission for Rachel to include your feedback in the final scoping report for the SIA; Questions to be asked by Rachel (e.g. potential impacts of the Project etc.); The information gathered will go into the final scoping report for the SIA Report; and Ngaire will then organise formal meetings with Rachel in attendance (last week of October). <p>The SIA consultation meetings will be in the following format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meetings/semi-structured interviews/focus groups/workshops; <p>[WP] IPC, Bylong, knocked on the head for variety of reasons, scope three emissions. You will have to deal with that also? [CL] Yes that is of concern, but MACH has respect for the NSW approval process and is not prepared to</p>
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	<p>criticise the IPC which is clearly a part of that process. Since this SSD will be for a brownfield project, there are significant differences compared with Bylong which was a new mine in a new area.</p>
<p>5. Operations Update - RB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final roof section was lifted to CHPP Module 2 in late September. • Development of the Pit E&F mining area has continued through the period. • Topsoil stripping has commenced in the Pit E/F area. • The MOD 4 Rail progress sees applications with MSC, ARTC & Ausgrid for minor works. [JM] Will that mean other families coming in to this area for work? [RB] Confirmed, yes it will be a ramp up in the New Year. [JM] Is it one company that has that contract? [RB] In negotiation with one contractor, to manage overall with several sub-contractors. They have a design partner as well to support the work. [WP] When do you plan to have new coal out? [RB] Early 2021. We must sustain production and cannot have a disjoint in production. Design enables us to switch rail back and forth between the old and new loops through commissioning. [WP] In terms of the rehabilitation, what's your plans? [RB] We expect six to eight weeks work to complete the area near Wybong Road and will then move to the area around Pit D by the first quarter of 2020, shaping and key valley lines will be clear. [PY] Hopefully to receive good climate condition soon, for tree planting. [RB] if we don't get a good result we will repeat until we do get a result no matter how many interventions are required. [WP] Seed bank? [IW] Confirmed yes. • Commencing end of 2019. • Module 1 is fully clad with the roof now on Module 2. • As we come to the end of the main CHPP construction the workforce will ramp down. • There will be a decrease in contractors on site, less road traffic, motels will have more vacancies etc, [JM] Do they move on to similar work elsewhere? [RB] Most construction work for large construction companies and have work in different areas. Move on to another project. • First washed coal trial in September. • Washing coal to full production in late October or early November. • The 66kV line relocation around the Pit E/F area is expected to be constructed late this year and into early 2020. • Upgrade of external fencing. [JM] Hope that other mines would take an interest in the GeoFluv design. [WP] Glencore seems to be doing all of this? They would say they are the first ones who have done this.

	<p>[RB] Some of the other mines are trying to retrofit to a bulk shape design and are applying micro relief. Mount Pleasant will be the first in the area to have a fully integrated macro and micro relief design.</p> <p>[CL] Mangoola have done a great job. A very plain landscape to workshop office, which is essentially an older style at the front and more developed drains within the mine.</p>
<p>6. Land Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warrawee / Thorndale - Castlerock Road, Native Seed Harvesting - harvesting completed by Diversity Seeds, Coonabarabran. Approx. 1.5 tonnes of locally occurring native grasses and forb species have been harvested and typically include, Blue Panic, Wallaby Grass, Lemon Grass, Queensland Blue Grass, Windmill Grass, Barbed Spear Grass and Native Daisy. Ongoing maintenance of the properties in preparation for next seasons harvest. Monitoring trees for harvest. • LLS Aerial Vertebrate Cull – Wybong Area September,2019 – covered all MACH owned non mining lease country on 24/9/19 – unofficial tally is 18 pigs, 9 Deer and 2 Foxes. • “Negoa Homestead” – CPR Pest Management continuing to treat for termites – still active. [LB] Cost? [IW] Massive cost, it is under conservation, we could keep it as it has been passed on to MACH Energy. But we will slowly get there. Ongoing expenditure. [LB] Seems like a lot of money. • Stage 4A Demolition - commence on Monday 16th September 2019 – 11 properties along Kayuga, Castlerock Roads and Wilton’s Lane. Neighbours and MSC notified. • Weed Spraying – in conjunction with the MACH’s Environmental Team commenced a property wide weed management program using Enright Land Management. • Bushfire Plans – both Mount Pleasant and Offset’s Bushfire Management Plans updated, and fire trail inspections completed. Additional Fire Trail maintenance to commence on Offsets on 8/10/19. Local an Area RFS provided with copies of the plans. [JM] If there was a fire in our area, do we use your personal number is it Ian Webber? What would be the appropriate contact number [IW] Confirmed yes, Ian mentioned he has his phone on 24/7. [NB] Mentioned it would be preferred to contact our hotline as this will also send out a text message to a group of employees. • Spring 2019 Inspection and Report of the Natural Native Pasture Regeneration Paddocks – scheduled for 14th October 2019 by DnA Environmental – the report will available on the MACH Energy Portal. • New Paddock Assessment Tool – working well, is proving much more user friendly and more reports are being provided by Licensees. • Stage IV of the Langollen Shearing Shed Project – next stage is scheduled for Q1, 2020 – tanks and plumbing. • Offset Weed Management - Spring spraying of Briar and Blackberry scheduled to commence in coming weeks. MACH Energy have been approached by the Upper Hunter Weeds Authority to participate in a trial drone spraying program. • Mount Pleasant Weed Management – Enright Land Management commenced Boxthorn Spraying at Broomfield and Boxfield on Monday 30th September 2019. • Fencing Projects – Mount Pleasant – Wybong Road, Overdeen, Rosebrook, Collins Lane and CW2 Clean Water Drain. • Fencing Offsets – Baree Station (2.2km), Kuloo Station (3.2km)

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	<p>Dalkeith (2.8km) Hampshire (2km) and about to commence 2km with Pitlochry (yearly agreement). Replaced 2km internal boundary fence between Burnbrae and Wahrane.</p> <p>[LB] Mentioned new fencing looks good.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle Yards – New cattle yards at Boxfield, Castlerock Road. • 2019 LLS Feral Vertebrate Cull Merriwa – carried out between 3rd and 5th September with mixed success due to climatic conditions (high winds and dust). <p>[JM] Any comment or feedback of dogs? Only over a short period of time, never seen the dogs. More than one dog, thinking that the baiting work.</p> <p>[IW] Confirming no dogs on Ariel shoot?</p> <p>[JM] Asked if there was any dogs spotted on Mount Pleasant?</p> <p>[IW] No, but we do have a lot of pigs.</p> <p>[JM] Acknowledge, very good community project. To be involved with local land services is very appreciative.</p> <p>[IW] Cameras are set out, so hopefully we can see what has taken the bait.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle Creek Bore and Solar Array – Stage 2 scheduled to commence on 8th October, 2019 – additional troughs and associated pipe lines. <p>[JM] How deep do you need to go?</p> <p>[IW] 82 metres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bores – conversion of two existing bores from electrical supply to solar at Blackrock – this will be an ongoing process through 2020 at Blackrock and St Antoine. Proposed two new bores in 2020 one at Warrawee, Gunnedah to service the Beesons Road side of the property and the second bore on St Antoine at 2 Mile Creek to allow for future Riparian Zone fencing. • Sundries – various new tanks, troughs and water lines have been installed on Wahrane, St Antoine and Blackrock. • Vertebrate Culling September 2019 • The properties covered included -Broomfield 1,3, and 4, Boxfield, Watts North and South • Thorndale North and South, Warrawee, Glenmore, Woodburn and Cropps with 18 pigs, nine deer and two foxes culled in 1.5hrs of flying.
<p>7. Environment</p>	<p>Noise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly attended noise monitoring conducted; • All noise monitoring results compliant; • Thiess Compliance Assessment Tool (CAT). To be presented at next meeting (PY) <p>[AR] Attended noise monitoring graph shows low frequency mining noise continuum at lower sound levels and over long periods expressed as LAeq. Short sharp noises are seen to be higher frequency and are shown as LA(1) which is 1% of the time</p> <p>[LB] Is that over a 24hr period?</p> <p>[AR] Over a 15-minute period.</p> <p>[LB] Notice the noise is loud at night. The noise is always coming over the top.</p> <p>[PY] During certain conditions, the weather conditions enhance the noise. The noise travels further, due to temperature inversions. This is when the temperature of the air increases with elevation, and sound waves bounce back down to the ground. Low frequency noise is heard in the background and trying to minimise tones that are intrusive. We made a conscious decision to limit mining in winter in E and F Pits due</p>

	<p>to more noise being created.</p> <p>[LB] You can hear the dozers tracks.</p> <p>[PY] Anywhere we can take that tone of noise out we will.</p> <p>[JM] We've had these discussion for years, we certainly appreciate everything you say about noise. When we look at the graph dogs and bird are by far the extreme. Lewellyn has every right to discuss this.</p> <p>We are trying to make a point to a mining company that this concerns us, we want you to appreciate that. It is frustrating that dogs and birds are more of a noise. It is the background noise created by mining is a concerned by neighbours and concerns to those who reside in Muswellbrook. Such as a dozer, which are the annoying sounds.</p> <p>[WP] Do you have equipment in place?</p> <p>[PY] Permanent locations which are real-time and continuous for management purposes and trigger levels.</p> <p>[WP] Is there an instrument that records all the time?</p> <p>[RB] Yes, records every five minutes 24/7, 365 days.</p> <p>[WP] What happens when that alarms?</p> <p>[PY] Use as a management tool. Cannot use continual data for compliance as it not an approved methodology. 15-minute readings are standard.</p> <p>[WP] Are there issues with continual instruments?</p> <p>[PY] No, good to use for management of noise on-site.</p> <p>[WP] Does it provide similar value?</p> <p>[PY] Looks at frequency of noise, direction from where the noise is coming, and working towards identifying equipment generating that noise, if it's a haul truck and correlation with GPS location.</p> <p>[WP] Do you think continuous monitoring is better than standing there with an instrument in terms of compliance?</p> <p>[PY] Person standing there with a microphone identifying what is making noise can do so easily. It is more accurate. Using acoustic engineers, building machine learning, theory around when you have a noise trace that is repeatable over time, curvature, other noise it will be different. It will look for that shape and classify it as a mining noise</p> <p>Blasting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 17 blasts between 1 June 2019 and 31 August 2019;• All blast results within relevant criteria and compliant. <p>[LB] Not concerned with the blasting on Mount Pleasant. You may feel something.</p> <p>[RB] Would you rather have blasts together? not instantaneous, but within a few minutes of Bengalla and Mount Pleasant blast? Or would you rather have two at separate times in the day?</p> <p>[LB] Would be better if there were close together.</p> <p>[RB] We are coordinating with Bengalla on Blasting.</p> <p>[JM] Pleased to see mines working together. It's good and if Bengalla could do a blast and Mount Pleasant does a blast three minutes later.'</p> <p>[LB] When we've experienced horrendous winds, how long do you decide to shut down. How much consultation is done before you decide to shut the mine down?</p> <p>[AR] The mine OCE continuously assesses conditions throughout every shift. The previously disturbed areas are exposed, and we are using dust suppressants and other application methods.</p>
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	<p>[RB] We have weather prediction within 24 hr ahead, supervisor will progressively be shutting down equipment. We pre-emptively shut down equipment. We can't commence operations until 24 hour rolling average returns to below the compliance value and wind direction is within limits. We commence shutting down well before the monitor reaches that level. Also, once we are shut, we are shut, the wind blows through and tears the wind up especially the finer material of top soil, and we continue to work to minimise. We are looking at aerial application of polymer to try and seal as much as possible.</p> <p>[JM] It's so visual, and we appreciate the message received from Ngaire to let us know that the Mine has shut down.</p> <p>[LB] If the council knows, locals can ring the council to be informed.</p> <p>[NB] Notifies a multiple of public offices, such as local MP, Muswellbrook Shire Council.</p> <p>[JM] Reassuring us that you have all watercarts visually on these days.</p> <p>[LB] a lot of comment of the dust on site but where are the watercarts?</p> <p>[PY] EPA, Department of Planning, Wybong Road for first flight of regulatory drone to monitor what we are see what we are doing on site.</p> <p>Constantly regulators are reviewing our performance day and night.</p> <p>Air Quality Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No air quality non-compliances for 2019 YTD; • MPO total dust shutdown hours YTD – mining fleet (excavator + haul trucks) 804 hours and production drilling 280 hours; • Water carts operational throughout day and night shifts, prioritising high traffic areas; • CHPP measures including water sprays, luffing (obstruction) of stacker, multiple CCTV monitors, two hourly walkthroughs by supervisors during adverse weather conditions; • Dust suppression polymers used on site; and • MACH Energy support of ACARP and University of Newcastle studies ongoing. <p>Independent Air Quality Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of Planning, Industry & Environment (DPIE) received two written requests for an Independent Review in accordance with Schedule 4 condition 3 of DA 92/97 for the Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO); • The Independent Review will consider relevant impact assessment criteria for Mt Arthur, Bengalla and the Mount Pleasant Operation for air quality; • A draft scope is still in consultation with DPIE, landowner(s) and mining companies. <p>[JM] Galenia wasn't mentioned? It is a concern?</p> <p>[IW] It is definitely there.</p> <p>[AR] Addendum – Yes, it's a high priority weed identified I the weed management plan on site entry road, main vehicle tracs and around infrastructure.</p>
<p>8. Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder engagement with local neighbours regarding noise monitoring results. • Initial Stakeholder engagement discussion with near neighbors and businesses regarding Social Impact Assessment (SIA) to be

	<p>undertaken in late October.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participated in Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Procurement Breakfast in conjunction with MCCI.• Newcastle television news (NBN) filming the GUNDI Program story on site.• General Manager and members of the operations team attended the Hunter Research Foundation Upper Hunter Economic Breakfast Presentation and the monthly Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce Meeting. <p>[JM] Do you feel the chamber of commerce in Muswellbrook is strong and active?</p> <p>[NB] Yes, by far they receive around 70 people for their breakfasts. Very proactive. I find them extremely pro-active, launching a new initiative for Muswellbrook. Very willing to work with the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participated in NAIDOC community events.• Attended the Women in Resources National Awards organised by NSW Minerals Council.• Attended the Muswellbrook NAIDOC Family Day, sponsored by MACH Energy.• Attended AusIMM Hunter Meeting, "Mates in Mining" topic, sponsored by MACH Energy. <p>Sponsorship of the following community organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with Bengalla & Mangoola to fund the building of a toilet facility for the Wybong RFS. <p>[JM] Wonderful idea and thanked Ngaire Baker for three mines to work together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Muswellbrook, Singleton and Small School NAIDOC Week events.• Muswellbrook & Scone Riding for the Disabled.• Aberdeen Public School Shade Sail Project.• Merriwa Junior Camp draft.• Westpac Charity Golf Day.• Upper Hunter Wildlife Aid.• Muswellbrook Junior Cricket 2019/2020.• Denman Pony Club 2019 Ribbon Day, bags of feed, caps and water bottles.• Merriwa Agricultural Show - Post Splitting Competition.• Muswellbrook Public School Presentation Night.• Merriwa Primary School Horse Sports Competition.• Muswellbrook Firies Santa Christmas Lollie Run.• Hunter Wayila Aboriginal Corporation Koori Rugby League Knockout Competition.• Westpac Charity Rugby League Competition – Mount Pleasant Phoenix team.• Denman Pig Races and• Merriwa RFS – Range X Event for all emergency services teams.• Complaints report – [WP] Do you break down each individual caller. <p>[WP] What is the main complaints?</p>
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	<p>[NB] Noise, dust. Will add extra column to where they are coming from. Have a list of number of people calling for the month.</p>
<p>9. General Business</p>	<p>[WP] Requested items relating to general business to be raised:</p> <p>[LB] Dust, culminative if it's this time of the year? Also, gravel trucks, we can hear coming around the corner. Several trucks in a group.</p> <p>[RB] Bringing rock size in preparation for drains.</p> <p>[LB] Lighting plants, appears to be lighting plant shining through on the house. Can it be tipped?</p> <p>[RB] Range of ways that we attempted to alter the lighting plant.</p> <p>[NB] same lightning, not extra but possibly have moved or trees have moved.</p> <p>[IW] There is a gap where the light shines through.</p> <p>ACTION – To follow up on lighting plant impacting on Lewellyn Bates property.</p>
<p>10. Next Meeting</p>	<p>Date: 12th December</p> <p>Time: 9:30am</p> <p>Location: Mount Pleasant Operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tour @9.45am • Meeting 11am – 1:00pm • Christmas Lunch @ Hunterbelle 1:30pm to pre-order lunch.
<p>11. Close</p>	<p>Meeting closed at 2:54pm</p>

END OF RECORDS