

Mount Pleasant Operation News

Community & Employee Newsletter - December 2021

Issue 9



Aboriginal Community Development Fund Partnership

The MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Aboriginal Community Development Fund (ACDF) supported an ambitious project with the Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC) to record the stories of members of our local Aboriginal community.

Referred to as the Oral History Project, "In Our Own Words," also features members of the ACDF, Uncle Glen (Bing) Morris, Aunty Patricia (Jean) Hands, Malcolm Franks, and Renee MacDonald.



Biomass planting update

Above: Pictured from left, Technical Officer Kate Wright with Lead Researcher Dr Fabiano Ximenes checking on the progress of the tree planting on land donated by MPO in late 2020.

Right: Taken in November 2021, this image shows the remarkable progress of the Biomass trial. Pictured from left, Technical Officer Jessica Sheehan, MPO Technical Services Manager Paul O'Loughlin, Lead Researcher Dr Fabiano Ximenes (measuring trees) and Department Primary Industries Research Officer Cath Carney.



Update on Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project

MACH Energy prepared the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project Submissions Report, which responded to all submissions received on the Project and included some additional technical advice. The Submissions Report was submitted to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in early July and made publicly available on its website.

As the Project assessment process continues, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has provided MACH Energy some requests for additional information (RFIs). MACH Energy is progressively preparing responses to the RFIs as they arise.

Copies of the Submissions Report and MACH Energy's responses to RFIs can be found on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website:

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/26611>



Tailings to Topsoil site trial underway

In collaboration with University of Newcastle, the first site trial planting for the Tailings to Topsoil Research Project is underway at MPO. Pictured, Blackrock's Hayden and Jason Willis, Research Associate – Centre for Bulk Solids and Particulate Technologies, Newcastle Institute for Energy and Resources, University of Newcastle planting the Sticky Hop Bush, Couch and Malley.

In brief, the Tailings to Topsoil project is providing an alternative solution to tailings disposal in mining operations by transforming suitable tailings into a soil additive. The project is in partnership with Muswellbrook Shire Council, Bengalla Mining Company, Jord International and Australian Coal Association Research Program.



CCC check new Rail Loop progress

Members of the MPO Community Consultative Committee (CCC) are joined by rail loop project representatives and members of the operations team during a tour to view the viaduct and new rail line.



World Environment Day @ Singleton High School

Thiess Environment & Community Officer, Michelle Eckersley, pictured far left and MPO External Relations Manager Ngaire Baker, second right, were invited to participate in World Environment Day activities at Singleton High School by the Year 12 Leadership Group.



JV members visit offset properties

During a recent site meeting and tour of the rail loop project, members of the Joint Venture (JV) management committee hit the road for a tour of the MACH Energy offset properties in Cassilis. First stop was the refurbished Llangollen Shearing Shed on Wahrane. The group, pictured with members of the MACH Energy team at their next stop, St Antoine.



Cultural Awareness Training for the Upper Hunter

Cultural Awareness training was organised by local Aboriginal businessman Steve Fordham through a successful application to the MPO ACDF. Sessions were well attended by a cross section of the community from Singleton, Muswellbrook and Scone, the Muswellbrook group is pictured above.

Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Procurement Forum

MPO joined other local mining companies at the Annual Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Procurement Forum in Muswellbrook, due to Covid a second session in Singleton was postponed until 2022.



Collaboration sees Aboriginal trainee join MPO CHPP



Pictured above from left, Protech's Business Development Manager Kurt Gidley, Nikki Cox and Sedgman's step-up supervisor Jae Lumby.

What started as an idea, led to a conversation, followed by months of planning and logistics and a collaboration between MPO, Sedgman, Protech and Dreampath Recruitment. The result was the recruitment of a local Aboriginal trainee, Nikki Cox as an Operator Maintainer Trainee at the MPO Coal Handling Processing Plant (CHPP). Under the direction of CHPP operators Sedgman, Nikki and all future trainees will gain valuable industry skills whilst being mentored by the experienced Protech and Dreampath teams.



Working together to help Wybong Rural Fire Service

Representatives from MPO, Glencore's Mangoola and Bengalla Mining Company, pictured above with Wybong RFS Captain, Jonathan Moore, joined forces to assist the Wybong Rural Fire Service obtain their first bathroom and shower facility.

Rail Loop Project teams up with local suppliers

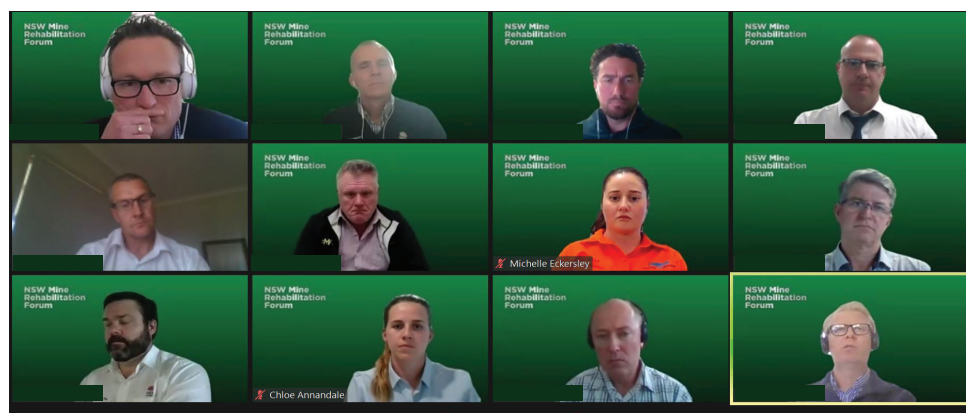
Pictured from left, Rail Loop Project, Logistics Manager David Avis, with PPW Scone's Quality Assurance Manager Garth Moseling. David



said the Project was working with as many local suppliers as possible and they were extremely pleased with the quality of workmanship from PPW who supplied 104 x 12 metre ground mounted structures and 56 x 6 metre curved structures for the new conveyor system.

Regulator Forum features MPO Rehabilitation

MPO was invited as one of only two mining companies to present at the NSW Mine Rehabilitation Forum, a virtual forum with more than 300 attendees held recently. MPO's Former Senior Environmental Advisor Chloe Annandale joined with Thiess (MPO's mining services contractor) Environment & Community Officer Michelle Eckersley to present the implementation of geomorphic design and the QA/QC processes in establishing final landforms at MPO.



We would like to wish our employees and community members a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Rail Loop Project team pink up MPO



It was pink hi-vis all round at MPO in October as the Rail Loop Project, pictured, and Operations teams raised much needed funds for National Breast Cancer Awareness through a raffle and pink morning tea.



Supporting Muswellbrook rep netball

Despite Covid putting a stop to their State Championships, the Muswellbrook Rep team still managed to smile and took the opportunity to keep their skills up when restrictions allowed.



Men's health recognised

Members of the MPO CHPP and Operations team attended Singleton Business Chambers Men's Health Breakfast, from left, Lee Lesley, Brydon Brown, Rodney Brammer, Chris Forbes, and Paul O'Loughlin.

Golfing for a cause



Our golfers are always willing to support a worthy cause and this year they were fortunate to play in the Westpac Rescue Charity Golf Day at Muswellbrook. Two teams took to the course, the Rail Loop Project team, and the MACH Energy Operations team. The winners on the day had to be the Westpac Rescue Helicopter for the tremendous work they do in our community.

Tennis players rebound on new court

We were thrilled to be able to help local tennis club, Olympic Park with the resurfacing of one court. Club President, Tony McTaggart said the new court is finished and it looks fabulous. He said, it's our Number One court and is used for kids' tennis coaching.



24/7 Operation

The Mount Pleasant Operation operates on a 24-hour, seven day a week roster.

Contact Us

Please contact the following FREE CALL numbers 24 hours a day, seven days a week if you have any questions or concerns.

Community Hotline – 1800 886 889 | Blasting Hotline – 1800 931 872 | General Enquiries – 1800 931 873

Our goal is to respond to your community feedback as quickly as possible.

Further information, including blast times and location can be found on our website

www.machenergy.com.au or by emailing info@machenergy.com.au

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