

Attendance

Chairperson

Dr. W.E.J. Paradice (WP)

Independent Chair

Community Representatives

Tony Lonergan (TL)

Community Representative

Trevor Parkinson (TP)

Community Representative

Jonathan Moore (JM)

Community Representative

Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC)

Darryl Marshall (DM)

Councillor - MSC Alternate

Company Representatives

Mick Redman (MR)

General Manager - Operations

Chris Lauritzen (CL)

General Manager - Resource Development

Lisa Richards (LR)

Environment & Community Manager

Kylie Sercombe (KS)

External Relations Officer

Richard Ali (RA)

Land & Property Officer

Sandy Lettice (SL)

Land & Property Officer

Thiess Representative

Peter York (PY)

Environment & Community Superintendent

Apologies

Llewellyn Bates

Community Representative

Theresa Folpp

Environmental Planning Officer - MSC

De-Anne Douglas

Deputy Mayor & Councillor - MSC

Meeting Minutes

Sarah Purser (SP)

1. Welcome

WP opened the meeting at 10.03 a.m. welcoming all to the first MACH CCC Meeting of the year. Members were provided with a hard copy of today's meeting presentation.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

Led by LR.

3. Apologies

Advised and recorded.

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Standing Declarations; WP is remunerated by MACH for Chairing the CCC Meetings, as is SP for preparing the Meeting Minutes. TL is a member of the Denman Aberdeen Muswellbrook Scone Healthy Environment Group (DAMSHEG). WP advised the CCC declaration of interest forms are to be confirmed on an annual basis.

5. Safety Share

MR noted that fatigue is a key contributor to both light and heavy vehicle incidents and accidents. MR confirmed that fatigue is managed on site via various measures however MACH were evaluating technology in response to a single fatigue incident. WP thanked MR for this timely reminder.

6. Minutes of the previous Meeting held 11 December 2025

The Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and are available via the Documents Section on the Company website.

<https://machenergyaustralia.com.au/community-consultative-committee/>

7. Matters Arising from the previous Minutes

MAC CCC Terms of Reference (ToR); WP confirmed the ToR was circulated to members on 6 March 2026 and LR advised hard copies were available for attendees at today's meeting. WP provided an overview of the ToR, including but not limited to; confirmation of official proponent, stakeholder and community members including alternates, meeting frequency is quarterly with forward dates set for the following year at the December meetings and the meeting minutes process. WP asked if members had any matters to raise regarding the ToR, nil were put forward.

8. Chairs Report - Wej Paradise

Letter from the Secretary of NSW Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (DPHI) & Chair Persons Fact Sheet 19 February 2026; WP advised this correspondence had been sent to all Chairs for dissemination to CCC members and he had done so on 6 March 2026. WP advised that State Significant Projects are required to have a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) in place and Chairpersons are selected from a panel that are available to view on the Department's Portal. In response to a query from TP, WP advised the DPHI CCC Guidelines for State Significant Projects have always been in place, with the latest update being June 2023.

WP advised the DPHI Secretary's letter had been in response to a meeting held with a group of committee members in January 2026, TL confirmed he had viewed this meeting online. WP noted some key discussion areas included, but were not limited to; engagement of an independent minute taker, the proponents responsibilities, and provision of information/reports as these had differed across the various CCC's. TL felt that common templates would bring uniformity to the reporting requirements for proponents. WP noted there had also been acknowledgement around commercial information and confirmed the CCC is not a decision making body. WP advised the spirit of a CCC forum is for proponents to share information with community and stakeholder members and vice versa.

WP noted advice from the DPHI was that the ToR and Chairpersons Guidelines are to be signed off once per year, members agreed to take today's meeting discussion as confirmation of the CCC's annual review and assessment.

TP noted the provision for joint CCC meetings and queried the value of these. WP explained joint meetings may come about in circumstances where two mines share property and/or infrastructure. MR clarified that CCC members may request a joint CCC meeting if there is value or an overlap of interests to discuss.

TP advised his preference was to talk to the community in town and that he had been uncertain about what details he is able to share from the CCC Meetings. WP confirmed members can discuss matters raised and responses, however they are not permitted to speak on behalf of, or take an official position of the CCC, inclusive of interaction with the media. TP was encouraged to share the MAC CCC Meeting Minutes given they contain detail of what is discussed within this forum.

9. Community Feedback

TL queried a peak in PM₁₀ dust levels recorded in Muswellbrook between 9.00 to 10.00 and 10.00 to 11.00, asking if operations had stopped given most monitors had been high. LR explained that weather conditions had been becoming extremely still overnight and the presence of an inversion tends to hold dust over the top, then if there is a shift in wind that can push dust over monitoring.

TL had received feedback from a community member raising concern that the black material in road works looks like weathered coal and MR responded that this is often referred to as carbon by Project Mangers.

TL was concerned if there was going to be an increase in water travelling down the northern drain line and queried if there was to be a new catchment area. LR advised a full flood assessment had confirmed there to be no increase in offsite water impacts and as MACH build up there sediment dams and containments are put in place as these works progress. MR added that there had been a lot of work done in the design work to ensure there is no adverse downstream impacts. TL clarified he was talking about a big cutting that can be seen on the northern side of Castlerock Road from Kayuga Road. LR confirmed that it would not have been water coming off a mine site in the area TL described. MR offered to spend time out of session with TL to provide further clarity and noted that LR would be taking the CCC through drainage maps during the presentation on the Northern Infrastructure Works Project - Water Infrastructure at today's meeting.

TL queried building works in the north and MACH confirmed there are two sediment dams and a clean water diversion drain, to the west are two clean water diversion drains. TL believed that was the area he had enquired about.

In response to a query from TL, MACH confirmed that the Northern Link Road is in both consents, as had been their advice at previous meetings. CL further explained that water management is described in both consents, DA 92/97 is an older plan, whereas there is more detail contained in SSD 10418. LR confirmed the requirement to have all sediment laden water contained therefore MACH needed to create a Water Management Plan in association with managing the sediment dams.

JM said he had been impressed with the slashing conducted along Wybong Road. MR confirmed that MACH had undertaken that work and JM commended the company for doing a very good job that had really tidied up that area.

10.Environmental Performance

Reporting Period; December 2025, January and February 2026

Rainfall during the reporting period had been below average. 2025 rainfall was 691.8mm which was approximately 77.0mm above the long term average.

LR detailed one notifiable environmental incident in relation to sediment affected water that had been released from site following a significant 35mm rainfall event on 2 February 2026, confirming notification reports had been provided to the EPA, DPHI and DCCEEW. LR described two non-notifiable environmental incidents along with MACH's investigations and undertakings in response.

Regulator Interaction

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI)

LR detailed the updated Management Plans that were with the DPHI for approval.

Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Annual Return was submitted 27 February 2026. An EPA inspection on 6 February 2026 had focused on project areas. MACH had received requests for information based on an increase in complaints received direct to the EPA during January and February 2026.

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)

Annual compliance report for EPBC Approval 2011/5795 was submitted 24 February 2026. EPBC Audit by DCCEEW was conducted 26 February 2026. LR confirmed positive feedback had been received from the on-site and off-set audit, and that DCCEEW had been impressed with MACH's rehabilitation. JM was positive about this good report.

Rehabilitation; 28 hectares of rehabilitation was completed in 2025 and there are 15 hectares of planned rehabilitation for 2026. Rehabilitation in mining areas is targeting White Box Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland.

MACH presented areas that had been rehabilitated by year from 2019 to 2025 via aerial mapping and confirmed rehab is quite tight behind active dump areas. PY noted that a lot of focus had been on rock drains and the Geofluv landform that can be seen from Muswellbrook. PY advised the CCC that geo fabric was being put down that goes under the rock drains in case members should receive any queries from the community about the work MACH was undertaking in that area.

Dust Shutdowns; In accordance with Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) Condition O3.4, there had been three adverse condition dust shutdown periods on 1 February 2026.

Monitoring; Blast vibration results were well below criteria. Noise monitoring had been within criteria. Dam monitoring and inspections had identified no issues.

Monitor Relocations; The northern meteorological and dust monitoring station (APF-4) relocation project was underway in advance of operations progressing to the north. Mobile noise monitor (N-B09) had been relocated to the north of the RFS on Dorset Road.

11.Applications and Approvals

Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project; Following the NSW Court of Appeal decision MACH Energy had been granted leave to Appeal to the High Court. CL confirmed that MACH had submitted documents in accordance with the timetable and that the High Court will come out with their response in due course. To answer a query from TP, CL explained this is the approval that goes out to 2048.

Modification 8 to DA 92/97; This had completed the exhibition period and at the time of this meeting submissions were being collated. In response to a query from TP, CL explained this is an old consent, Modification 8 is seeking to extend mining operations to December 2032 and was currently with the DPHI for assessment.

TP confirmed he now had a clearer understanding of MACH's approvals and consents and thanked CL for providing clarity at today's meeting.

CL advised that MACH had been engaging with Energy Co regarding the potential to widen the corner of Kayuga and Wybong Roads to enable transport of wind turbine blades for wind farms proposed in the northern part of the state. CL confirmed this land is owned by MACH and they had been cooperating as much as they could with Energy Co. CL noted that MACH have raised concerns in relation to the large number of over mass movements and that Energy Co would need to give consideration to shift changes, access for emergency services and MACH's requirement to close Wybong Road on occasions for blasting. JM was also concerned about the number of large vehicle movements and there was general discussion around a temporary Muswellbrook bypass being valuable to facilitate these over mass movements.

12.Mount Pleasant Operation Update

The mining sequence had continued with operations progressing west. MR provided MACH's 2026 forecast volumes for total material movement (TMM), Mt. ROM coal and Mt. product coal. MR advised MACH had negotiated a new contract with Theiss to 2032 that provides for the expansion considered under SSD 10418. In response to a query from DM, MR confirmed that MACH purchase equipment that Theiss then operate and maintain.

MR noted approximately 70% of operational employees live locally i.e. Singleton, Muswellbrook and the Upper Hunter, resulting in funds being brought into the local community.

The next stage of expansion (16.5 Mtpa) was in the early stages of construction with commissioning anticipated for August 2026. MR confirmed this increase had been enabled via an expansion to MACH's processing capabilities.

MR provided a pictorial overview of the ROM and product stockpiles, reclaim tunnel and conveyors, noting that a large number of people had been engaged in that project that can be seen when travelling east or west along Wybong Road. MR noted that these works had resulted in many motel rooms being booked in town which was good for the local economy.

Tailings Storage Facility Embankment Raise Project

Earth fill load, haul placement, compaction and testing had continued, including placement of clay key trench on the northern side. MACH had continued installation of new spigot lines.

Northern Infrastructure Works Project

Northern Link Road (NLR)

Culverts had been installed. The load haul dump was at 97% complete and pavement placement was circa 29% complete. MACH had been working on the tie in pieces at the western end of the Castlerock Road alignment and interacting with MSC in relation to traffic to enable works on the other side. Work was ongoing in relation to pavement, sealing and road furniture. In response to a query from TL, MACH confirmed they will maintain access to the road from west through to east. LR advised from community engagement and conversations with bus companies MACH had gone with Option B, that being to keep the road open with diversions in place.

Water Infrastructure

MACH detailed the water management infrastructure that will be required prior to operations moving north of Castlerock Road, along with light vehicle access roads. MACH showed the locations of the three new sediment dams; SD5, SD8 and SD9, detailing the associated infra-structure, the locations of three clean water diversion drains were also provided. There will be a storage capacity and pumping upgrade to existing SD4. MACH reiterated that designs had been fully worked up to ensure that there was no flood risk, particularly to roads and confirmed roads had been improved. MACH noted that encountering rock whilst constructing the dams had been a bonus as they were looking to use this rock elsewhere on site. MR described plans for roadside planting, noting RA and SL will assist with agricultural pursuits on the eastern side of Kayuga Road.

13.Land Management

Priority Weed Control Programs

Land and Property | Priority Weed control programs

Muswellbrook focus; African Boxthorn Program mulching, Mother of Millions and green cestrum along the Hunter River.

Offsets; Sweet Briar and Blackberry.

Species of National Significance

RA explained that MACH have offsets and conservation areas for plants and also focus on restoring and maintaining habitat for species of National Significance such as; the Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot, Greater-long-eared Bat and Spotted Tail Quoll. RA noted that he takes a personal interest in these species as they are important to MACH and therefore so are the works being undertaken to encourage them. RA advised he is always on the lookout for reported sightings noting there is a website where people pin sightings of the Swift Parrot that RA monitors. MACH also adjust the timing for when consultants and ecologist go out to look for these species based on reported sightings and feedback. MACH had sponsored some breeding and releasing of the Regent Honey Eater near Merriwa and Cassilis and believe they are in MACH's offsets.

Vertebrate pest control programs

RA detailed pest management programs for foxes, pigs and deer in MACH's offsets, including control numbers. RA explained the operation of the pig trap which can be viewed remotely and the gate can be closed via a mobile phone. RA advised the fox is a very detrimental pest, therefore MACH have increased their control measures. The other main pest is feral pigs, RA acknowledged these were having an impact and important to MACH's neighbours, therefore control is undertaken via various measures. TL queried the total hectares for MACH's offsets in general and RA responded approximately 20,000 hectares.

Revegetation & Planting Program

85 hectares of White box, grassy box gum woodland is to be completed in 2026. Seed sourced with local provenance and propagated in the nursery.

Eagle nest located at "Claire Park"; RA noted this sighting to be a positive note to share given an eagle nesting indicates that this is an undisturbed environment, in addition the wedge-tailed eagle is recognised for biodiversity credits.

MACH Agri; Key activities included; the purchase of 300 head of sheep and fencing in preparation for their arrival. Speed tilling paddock preparation had been carried out at Pastime. Cropping paddocks sprayed with foliate. Irrigation capacity is being developed to increase productivity. Fodder sales had continued. Oats were being planting into newly established cropping paddocks. JM was positive about this activity and the results MACH Agri had been achieving.

14.External Relations

Stakeholder Engagement - Sponsorship & Community

- Ongoing stakeholder engagement with local neighbours and businesses including residents in Kayuga, Aberdeen and Muswellbrook.
- Community Update flyers for the Northern Link Road works distributed to near neighbours (December and January).
- The General Manager Operations and team members attended Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce meetings each month.
- MACH representatives attended local sporting matches and community events.
- ACDF Committee Meeting held in December 2025.
- MACH representatives participated in the Blackroo Community Food and Toy appeal, including Christmas present wrapping for Aged Care and local families.
- December Community Christmas Newsletter distributed.
- MACH representatives attended numerous local school presentation days in December.
- MACH supported and attended Two Rivers Carols in the Vines in December.
- Major sponsor for the Muswellbrook Council New Years Eve event, with team members attending a great night.
- MACH representatives attended the Hunter Mining Club Luncheon in Singleton in February.

Sponsorships December 2025 to February 2026

MACH Energy's sponsorship program provided support to 91 organisations in 2025.

2026 Sponsorships include:-

- Muswellbrook Rams Junior Rugby League
- Top Gun Breakaway Roping Scone
- Scone and District Netball
- Merton Living Denman
- Merriwa Show
- Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces
- Sandy Hollow Motorfest
- Hunter Warbirds Scone
- Hunter Stockman's Challenge
- Scone Junior Football Club
- Scone Junior Rugby Union Club
- Merriwa Cricket Club
- Fire-fighters for the Burns Unit Ball Scone
- Aberdeen Highland Games
- Olympic Park Tennis Club Muswellbrook
- Scone Junior Rugby League
- AusIMM Women in Mining NSW
- Merriwa Rodeo
- Scone Girl Guides
- Merriwa Race Club
- Denman Rugby League Football Club
- Upper Hunter Show
- Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce Business Awards
- Aberdeen Golf Club
- Murrurundi Rugby League Football Club

Mount Pleasant Operations - Family Days; MR advised these community days for MACH's workforce will be held on 3 and 17 May 2026 with invitations extended to members of the CCC and other groups the company works with in town. *Actioned Post Meeting;* KS emailed an invitation to the CCC on 13 March 2026.

Complaints per month by type; LR provided an overview of complaints during the reporting period and detailed the distribution of complainants, these predominantly had not been from a very diverse range. In response to a query from WP, LR detailed issues around dust in relation to both mining and construction activities as a result of wind storm events that had impacted on the whole area. There was a general discussion about wind in December 2025 and January 2026 being so strong that the group had seen trees coming down on fences and shed/house roofs being lost.

15. General Business

DM queried MACH's total rehabilitated area and PY anticipated this would reach 180 hectares by year end 2026. Members agreed that a Tour in conjunction with the 17 September 2026 Meeting would be of value to view construction progress of the Tailings Storage Facility Embankment Raise and the Northern Link Road. WP thanked members for their attendance and involvement at today's meeting. WP closed the meeting at 11.42 a.m. and MACH provided lunch and refreshments for attendees.

16. Proposed Meeting Dates

11 June 2026 | 17 September 2026 | 10 December 2026