Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting
Date: 17 September 2026
Venue: On-Site at MACH Energy Mount Pleasant

Attendance	
Chairperson	
Dr. W.E.J. Paradice (WP)	Independent Chair
Community Representatives	
Tony Lonergan (TL)	Community Representative
Trevor Parkinson (TP)	Community Representative
Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC)	
Darryl Marshall (DM)	Councillor - MSC Alternate
Theresa Folpp (TF)	Councill - Staff
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
Sandy Lettice (SL)	Land & Property Officer
Richard Ali (RA)	Land & Property Officer
Thiess Representative	
Ashlee Cox (AC)	Environmental Advisor
Apologies	
Jonathan Moore (JM)	Community Representative
Llewellyn Bates (LB)	Community Representative
De-Anne Douglas (DD)	Deputy Mayor & Councillor - MSC
Meeting Minutes	Sarah Purser (SP)

1. **Welcome**
   WP opened the meeting at 10.00 am welcoming all to the third 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. DM advised he would confirm with DD that he is to become the primary Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC) Representative for the MACH Energy Mt Pleasant Mine CCC. WP recommended that MSC confirm this in writing.

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 called for any other declarations, nil were put forward.

5. **Safety Share**

   MACH had another good quarter in respect to safety. MR noted many would be familiar with tipping over a wheelbarrow when transporting oddly shaped items and talked about the importance of loads being an appropriate fit and size to the method of transport. MACH had been reviewing signage to improve intersection safety for light vehicles on site. As a positive safety update, MR reported that there had only been two lost time injuries across circa 8 million work hours.

6. Minutes of the previous Meeting held 11 June 2026

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.

Today's site inspection had been postponed due to a number of member apologies and was to be re-scheduled.

8. Chairs Report - Wej Paradice

WP advised there were no further updates since his report at the previous meeting.

9. Community Feedback

On behalf of MSC TF advised that at Council's August Ordinary Meeting, the resignation of Derek Finnigan, General Manager, had been accepted. Shaelee Richards had been appointed as the acting General Manager until a permanent replacement is found.

WP queried if there were any further updates in relation to negotiations around road use for Over-Size-Over-Mass (OSOM) equipment movements to EnergyCo's Renewable Energy Zones. CL confirmed that MACH had exchanged contracts with EnergyCo for a lot at the intersection of Wybong and Kayuga Roads and anticipated that would become the property of EnergyCo towards year end. This subdivision that EnergyCo were in the process of acquiring is to provide the turning radius required for OSOM loads. MR noted that if this area is not treated effectively, there may be dust impacts on MACH's Wybong/Kayuga monitor. MR advised the challenges for the nearby operations will be the interaction of OSOM movements in relation to how these will interrelate with; change of shift times, road closures for blasting, and emergency access requirements.

10. Environmental Performance; Reporting Period; June, July, August 2026

Rainfall Data

MACH presented rainfall for June 16.6mm, July 12.2mm and August 27.6mm. Apart from May being quite a wet period, monthly rainfall had been consistently below average.

Environmental Incidents

LR advised there had been no notifiable environmental incidents during the reporting period. LR confirmed that MACH report non-notifiable environmental incidents to ensure ongoing improvements to operations. TF queried the Ground Disturbance Permit (GDP) breach that had occurred on the Northern Access Road on 26 June 2026. LR advised there had been some topsoil pushed outside of the ground disturbance area during works on a ring road and this had been located fully within MACH's land.

Environmental Monitoring

Environmental monitoring had been conducted during the reporting period with no exceedances recorded. MACH's environmental monitoring is available on the company website. A new dust and MET station were being installed on Dorset Road, the new dust monitor will be located behind the Fire Station.

Regulator Interaction

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI)

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

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

Salvage reports had been submitted to Heritage NSW and Registered Aboriginal Parties notified. Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit's (AHIP's) had been extended to December 2032.

Resource Regulator (RR)

The RR conducted an onsite inspection in relation to the Tailings Storage Facilities (TSF) Targeted Assessment Program (TAP). MACH's Rehabilitation Cost Estimate had been accepted by the RR.

Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Notice of variation had been received from the EPA for Environment Protection Licence 20850 reporting. LR explained this goes to all coal mining operations and is a standard variation to holders of Environment Protection Licences. MACH had provided information to the EPA in response to a request for information in relation to blast fume, the EPA had assessed there to be no issue. MACH received a Notice of variation for EPL 20850 from the EPA in relation to the boundary change submitted for inclusion of Castlerock Road and exclusion of parts of the Northern Link Road.

Officers from the EPA attended a site familiarisation in August. During August a EPA "Bust the Dust" inspection had been conducted and that had gone well. MACH had responded to a request from the EPA to complete a dust survey, LR noted this had been conducted with all mining operations. LR advised that Mark Doran had been assigned to MACH as the primary contact.

MR noted that the EPA had conducted a Community Drop-In Session in Singleton on 14 September 2026 that had provided an opportunity for an interactive group chat with a number of different departments in attendance. Residents were able to ask questions and seek further information about the Bust the Dust campaign.

TL queried the limit on wind speed prior to a blast, AC responded that is 8m/sec.

MACH submitted their Hunter River Trading Scheme (HRTS) Annual Performance Report in August.

Indigenous Heritage

Salvage report had been completed and submitted to Heritage NSW, with printed copies sent to Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP's).

Historic Heritage

Kayuga School Excavation report had been completed. The artifacts had been documented, preserved, and provided to Muswellbrook Shire Local and Family History Society as they had expressed an interest in taking those items.

Rehabilitation

There is 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. C8 and C9 Drains had been constructed, D Drain extensions in north rehab had commenced. During previous months MACH had undertaken tree screen planting along Kayuga, Dorset and Castlerock Roads.

11. Applications and approvals

CL noted the first point remains that challenges to mine approvals by well- funded activist groups had continued, this "lawfare" is designed to create uncertainty and shut down the mining industry. MACH Energy's appeal against the NSW Court of Appeal decision was heard in the High Court on 13 May 2026. CL anticipated the verdict may be received in October 2026. In the meantime, MACH Energy continues to operate in alignment with existing approvals and conditions and will explore all options to provide long-term continuity and certainty for its staff, contractors, customers, and the local community.

CL reported that Modification 8 to DA 92/97 had been determined, extending that approval to 2032. MACH thanked the community for the overwhelming support received for MOD 8.

12 Mount Pleasant Operation Update

Operations had been performing well, the mining sequence had continued with operations progressing west. It was anticipated there will be more intensive mining north of Castlerock Road in November 2026. MR advised that as of August 2026 there were just over 700 employees engaged by the operation and was very positive about MACH being able to provide people with jobs.

Project Auxo is a bypass circuit that was effectively complete, with performance testing pending. MACH provided images of the raw coal system load commissioning that had taken place on 9 August, following with the first train loading on 18 August 2026. MR noted this to be a positive milestone, speaking highly about the way this project had been executed from a safety perspective, along with being on time and within budget.

Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Embankment Raise Project; The TSF had reached design height of 6 metres. Works will continue into Q4 to establish the remaining infra-structure. MR noted that this project had been done well and again there had been a good safety performance.

Northern Infrastructure Works Projects

Northern Link Road (NLR); Opened on 6 August 2026 and was another project well executed from a safety, time and budget point of view. MACH provided a pictorial overview of the closure of Castlerock Road and the Dorset Road widening. As part of the Works Deed that MACH entered into with MSC, road works are planned on Wybong Road to upgrade the existing culvert between Logues Lane and Overton Road, this will require the temporary closure of Wybong Road from October to December 2026.

Water Infrastructure; MR advised this project is about managing clean water and capturing dirty water. MR anticipated completion to be in Q4. MACH provided a pictorial overview of SD09 pump pad and SD09 sediment water dam. MR confirmed commissioning of the sediment dams was well in advance. MR noted the Water Infrastructure to be another successful project coming to an end and at its peak the workforce had been the best part of 500 full time equivalents.

MR noted that Auxo, Northern Link Road and northern Water Infrastructure projects had provided a large amount of jobs and money into the community.

13.Land Management

Land & Property

Priority Weed Programs for Muswellbrook included the Winter box thorn program with mulching nearing completion, along with ground spraying of small plants under 1 metre. RA noted the box thorn control using the excavator with mulcher and sprayer had been very successful in treating parent plants. RA advised that the Upper Hunter Weeds Authority had conducted an inspection and been happy with results MACH had been achieving.

Vertebrate Pest Control Programs

MACH provided the control numbers achieved in Muswellbrook for pigs, rabbits and foxes. RA noted pigs had remained prevalent during winter and whilst not as bad as previous years they still were needing control. Control numbers were provided for pigs, deer and foxes in MACH's Offsets.

Offsets Land & Property – Key Activities

- Water Infrastructure; MACH had been carrying out works on the off stream riparian water at Wahrane.
- Housing Refurbishment; Invernisk homestead renovations had been completed and is now tenanted out.
- Bushfire Management; Fire trail maintenance works were underway.
- Weed Compliance & Control; Contractors were preparing for the spring spraying season.
- Fencing; Clear Spring Fencing were working on the St Antoine riparian fence.
- Offset Management Plan (OMP) Revegetation Program; Delta Land Management planted 85 hectares at St Antoine. MACH had prepared their native species list for 2027 to 2030.
- Merriwa East Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA); 120 head of cattle were currently grazing.

MACH Agri – Key Activities

Over 230 hectares of forage cereal crops had been planted. Cattle had been prepared for sale. Weaners had been treated and drafted into weight brackets. The first cut of silage bales had been undertaken.

Two new T-L centre pivots were being built along Kayuga Road at Pastime, being MACH's main centre for cropping. This new infrastructure has the capability of irrigating approximately 36 hectares of productive land. The pivots will enhance irrigation capacity and support increased production opportunities.

There will be a staged transition of MACH Agri Livestock to offset properties from 2027 and this will be aligned with the conclusion of existing licence arrangements. A staged approach will enable effective planning, stakeholder coordination and operational adjustments. The implementation process will ensure continuity of livestock operations while meeting biodiversity, regulatory and long-term land management commitments.

TL queried the status of offsets, MACH confirmed these had all been finalised and were in place.

14.External Relations

Community Complaints per Month by Type; June to August 2026; LR noted the trend for an increase in noise complaints during the colder seasons.

Complaints by Complainant; January to September 2026; As reported at previous meetings, the majority of complaints had been from a single complainant with acquisition rights. MR noted there had been active conversations regarding acquisition and/or mitigation.

Stakeholder Engagement

- MACH had conducted ongoing stakeholder engagement with local neighbours and businesses, including residents in Kayuga, Aberdeen and Muswellbrook. Community Update Flyers had been distributed to near neighbours providing information on the Northern Link Road Works – Updates No. 8 and No. 9, and Wybong Road Works – Update No. 1.
- Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce; MACH's team attended monthly meetings and the Chamber Business Awards at Two Rivers in June.
- Aboriginal Community Development Fund (ACDF) Committee Meeting was held in June.
- Community Newsletter; distributed throughout the local community in August.
- Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue (UHMD) School Tour; Year 9 students from St Joseph's High School visited the operation in June. LR noted that MACH run these tours more as an education program and careers day for the High School students, with group sessions conducted by different teams members such as environment, geologists and blast people, this provides students with a greater scope of the roles available in mining. For the younger students MACH focus more on technology and alignment with the STEM program subjects.
- Mount Pleasant NAIDOC Event was held in July, with a performance by Biliirr Collective.
- Health, Safety, Environment & Community (HSEC) Conference was held in Pokolbin over three days with MACH representatives in attendance.

Local Events

MACH representatives attended a range of local events, including;

- Muswellbrook Public School Rock and Water Program
- Festival of the Fleeces, Merriwa
- Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) Cultural Day
- Upper Hunter NAIDOC Awards
- School NAIDOC events across the Upper Hunter

MACH had sponsored the audio-visual equipment for the Aberdeen St Joseph's School Musical "Beauty and the Beast". LR and KS spoke positively about the high standard of this musical and that this had provided a wonderful opportunity to meet the students.

MACH had been one of the major sponsors for the Aberdeen Highland Games, LR noted that there had been really good engagement with the organising committee who had expressed a great deal of appreciation.

Sponsorships 2026

LR noted that the list of sponsorships for 2026 had continued to grow, MACH have an active Sponsorship Committee in place that meet quarterly, or more frequently if needed.

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

Sponsorships include:-

- Hunter Stockman's Challenge
- Scone Junior Football Club
- Scone Junior Rugby Union Club
- Merriwa Cricket Club
- Firefighters 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
- Dolly's Charity Cancer Appeal Singleton
- St Josephs Catholic College Aberdeen
- Upper Hunter Stock Dog Challenge
- Muswellbrook Polocrosse
- Aberdeen and Scone Lions Club
- Westpac Helicopter Upper Hunter Charity Golf Day
- Denman Public School
- Merriwa Pony Club
- Aberdeen Public School
- Cassilis Pony Club
- King of the Rangers
- Scone Campdraft
- Jerrys Plains Rodeo
- Bunnan Polocrosse
- Cassilis Rodeo
- Muswellbrook Ladies Tackle
- St Joseph’s Primary School Merriwa
- Scone Public School P&C
- Cassilis Springtime ball
- Merriwa Polocrosse Club
- Muswellbrook Junior Cricket
- Upper Hunter Where there’s a Will
- Carols in the Vines – Two Rivers
- Singleton Cancer Appeal
- Merriwa Golf Club
- Muswellbrook Public School
- Aberdeen Bushman’s Campdraft
- Scone Touch Football.
- NSW RFS Merriwa River Fire Brigade
- Belltrees Public School P&C

LR noted that in an effort to support the local radio station MACH had taken up some media advertising. MACH had then been offering their radio time for community to advertise local shows and events. LR advised the groups that had taken up this advertising offer had been extremely grateful to get some radio air- time.

15.General Business

TL asked if MACH were able to provide the number of carbon credits they have in relation to Safeguard Mechanism Credits (SMC's). MACH responded that their Commercial Department gathers that information and therefore did not have that in hand. MACH confirmed their Commercial Department complete the National Greenhouse & Energy Reporting (NGER's). TL queried how MACH monitor methane and CL responded that NGER's have a standard and there are two methods to measure this, confirming that MACH comply with the relevant legislation.

It was proposed that the next meeting commence with a Site Tour to view the TSF Embankment Raise given this had been of interest to LB and JM, and a potential drive through the Northern Infrastructure works.

WP thanked members for their attendance and involvement at today's meeting.

WP closed the meeting at 11.08 am and MACH provided lunch and refreshments for attendees.

16. Next Meeting Date

10 December 2026

9.30 am to 10.30 am – Site Tour
10.30 am to 11.00 am – CCC Meeting