

Meeting Minutes
Stratford Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Thursday 17 May 2018

Attendees:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	Ryan Fenning	MidCoast Council
Norm Bignell	CCC Member	Cr Karen Hutchinson	MidCoast Council
Philip Greenwood	CCC Member	Michael Plain	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd
Kevin Lowrey	CCC Member	John Cullen	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd
Anthony Berecny	CCC Member	Gavin May	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd
Richard Clarke	CCC Member		

Guests: Nil

Paul De Szell	MidCoast Council Director, Community Spaces & Services
Lindy Hepple	MidCoast Council Community Coordinator

1. Site Tour

No site tour was undertaken at this meeting.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:07am.

Apologies: Nil.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared that she is the Independent Chair, approved by the Secretary of the Department of Planning & Environment and a member of the Mine Subsidence Board.

The declarations of the Stratford CCC members remain current.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 8th February 2018 were confirmed.

Moved: Anthony Berecny; Seconded: Philip Greenwood.

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting**1. Stratford Extension Project**

SCPL provided an update on progress for the commencement of Stratford Extension Project.

Mr Plain advised the Development Consent SSD-4966 for the SEP was commenced on 4 April 2018 and the existing Development Consents had been surrendered. Mr Plain advised a new suite of Environmental Management Plans for the SEP had been prepared and approved by the Department

of Planning & Environment with the exception of the Water Management Plan which had some final comments to address. Mr May provided information on the progress and timing for transitioning back to Stratford. Work in the Bowens Road North cutback has commenced and construction of the Avon North Open Cut is proposed in the next month. Employees will progressively transition from the Duralie Coal Mine.

Mr Greenwood asked about the management of noise impacts and monitoring. Mr May advised work would initially commence with day shift only, followed by an afternoon/evening shift. The proposed production rate would be approximately 1-1.5mtpa which is less than originally approved for the SEP. Mr Plain advise a second real-time noise monitor would be introduced near the Stratford Village. Attended monitoring would also be undertaken monthly.

Cr Hutchinson asked if SCPL would be using mining contractors and if new employees were required. Mr May advised Ditchfield contracting, who have previously been engaged at the Stratford Mine, would be undertaking the initial construction works. Mining operations would then be undertaken by the existing Duralie Coal Mine employees with a staged transition to Stratford. The current focus is to maintain the existing workforce.

Cr Hutchinson asked what was proposed for the Duralie Mine. Mr May advised coal mining at Duralie was expected to be completed by September 2018 and would then transition to a crew on day shift undertaking rehabilitation and waste rock rehandle work.

2. **Action Item 1:** SCPL to provide a short presentation on interpreting noise graphs at the August 2018 CCC meeting.

Next Meeting. SCPL to confirm availability and attendance of noise consultant for presentation.

3. **Action Item 2:** SCPL to include new relevant sections in the CCC presentation for the Stratford Extension Project Environmental Management Plans and provide to the CCC members for comment prior to the May 2018 meeting.

New slides have been added to the CCC presentation to include new relevant sections for the Stratford Extension Project Environmental Management Plans. Refer to the CCC presentation.

4. **Action Item 3:** The Chair to invite Paul De Szell to the May 2018 CCC meeting to address the Committee on the allocation of community enhancement contributions from Stratford Coal.

Mr De Szell (MCC) presented the Stratford CCC with information on the Stratford Coal community contributions which have been made to Mid Coast Council (formerly Gloucester Council). Mr De Szell advised it had been difficult to find records of the allocation of previous funds provided by Stratford Coal, however he confirmed that there was approximately \$55,000 currently held by Council.

Mr De Szell advised a committee had been established to allocate the Stratford contributions via a similar structured program to the Stronger Communities Fund. A guideline for this program had been prepared for the Duralie Coal funds and the same was proposed for the Stratford Coal funds with the draft to be provided to the CCC members for comment. The program would include

annual advertising and allocation of funds based on a financial year. As such status reports would be able to be provided at the August CCC meetings each year.

Cr Hutchinson advised there was a strong interest from the CCC for a transparent process for the allocation of community enhancement funds including the contributions to the Education Support Program.

Mr Lowrey stated there should be a focus on allocating community enhancement funds to the communities which are directly impacted by mining operations such as Stratford.

Mr Plain advised that ongoing community enhancement funds would be provided through both the Stratford Coal and Duralie Coal Development Consents.

Annual Action Item: *MidCoast Council to provide an annual report each August on the spending of the Stratford Coal community enhancement contributions made to Council.*

5. **Action Item 4:** The Committee to discuss and set future meeting dates for the Stratford Coal CCC.

The Committee confirmed the preference for future CCC meetings to be held at 9am on Thursdays.

6. Correspondence

Correspondence is listed in the CCC meeting agenda.

The Chair advised a response had been received from the Secretary for DPE regarding the Stratford CCC Annual Summary Report.

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

SCPL presented the Company Reports and Overview of Activities:

1. Progress at Mine: SCPL advised no operations have occurred during the previous quarter with the exception of some Codam reclaim work. The CHPP is continuing to receive and process Duralie ROM coal. Construction works for the Stratford Extension Project have commenced.
2. Environmental & community activities including monitoring and community programs: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*. Items discussed by exception:
 - a. The committee discussed the Stratford Coal monitoring data. The committee discussed the new biodiversity management slide.

Mr Greenwood asked if a commitment could be made to preserve the roadside vegetation along the Glen Road which now passes through the biodiversity offset area. Mr De Szell advised this is a council road and there is no plan for the removal of the vegetation. The committee agreed to the suggestion of a future meeting at Duralie to inspect the offset areas.

8. General Business

1. Stratford Annual Review 2017

Mr Plain advised the Stratford Coal Mine Annual Review for 2017 had been finalised and issued hard copies to CCC members.

2. Cr Hutchinson advised there had been recent community interest in the church at Craven which is on Yancoal land. Cr Hutchinson asked if SCPL was open to discussions on the management of the Church.

Mr Plain advised the church was not heritage listed, however it was considered as part of the heritage significance of Craven Village. The committee discussed the potential options and difficulties for the renovation or relocation of the church. Mr Plain advised he would provide further information on the heritage significance of the building at the next meeting.

New Action Item 2: SCPL to provide information on the heritage significance of the Craven Church and potential options for long-term management.

No further business.

Next Meeting date: Proposed 9:00am on Thursday 9th August 2018 at the Stratford Mine Site. A site inspection will be undertaken at the August meeting.

Meeting closed at 10:36am.

Summary of Action Items from this meeting

1. ***New Action Item 1:*** SCPL to provide a short presentation on interpreting noise graphs at the August 2018 CCC meeting.
2. ***New Action Item 2:*** SCPL to provide information on the heritage significance of the Craven Church and potential options for long-term management.
3. ***Annual Action Item:*** MidCoast Council to provide an annual report each August on the spending of the Stratford Coal community enhancement contributions made to Council.