

Gloucester Exploration Project COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC)
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MINUTES OF MEETING

Date:	22 April 2016	10:00am
Venue:	Gloucester Arts Centre	
Present:	<i>Chairperson:</i> Lisa Andrews (LA) <i>GRL:</i> Bob Corbett (RC) <i>Great Lakes Council:</i> Cr Karen Hutchinson (KH) <i>Gloucester Council:</i> Cr Jim Henderson (JH)	<i>Community Reps:</i> Ray Dawes (RD) Steve Robinson (SR) Trevor Sansom (TS) <i>NSW Trade & Invest:</i> Julie Moloney (JM) <i>Minutes:</i> Christine Oakes
Apologies:	Keith Ross Brian Clifford Anthony Berecry Ian Jackson (due to resignation - see correspondence)	
Non-attendance:	NIL	

1. Opening of Meeting

LA declared meeting open at 10:14am.

LA declared that she is an independent chairperson who has been appointed to this CCC by the Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy, Mr Anthony Roberts MP.

LA sent around an attendance sheet for completion and asked those present to make any changes to their contact details if necessary.

2. Apologies

Ian Jackson, Keith Ross, Brian Clifford & Anthony Berecry.

Moved: Jim Henderson

Seconded: Ray Dawes

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The following item was inadvertently omitted from the draft minutes:

1. For inclusion in Project Update:

Keith Ross response to question on whether GRL intended to operate the mine if granted a lease or to sell it off.

Response:

Current shareholders have a record of establishing new mines in the Hunter Valley and Gunnedah Basin and continue to operate them and this is also the current intention with the Rocky Hill Project. We are coal miners. However, all shareholders always retain the individual right to deal with their shareholding as they see fit at any time.

The following provides clarity to comments previously minuted in General Business:

- LA asked participants to submit membership forms. She advised she would like to expand numbers of committee, possibly the local Business Chamber. She will peruse the completed forms and get in touch with members of the community to ascertain their interest in coming on board. That is, keep historical members of the committee but consider the addition of other interested groups/people.
- LA would like to set meeting schedule for 2016. Proposes to have bi-monthly meetings. Therefore next meeting mid-April.

Jim Henderson requested his apology be minuted for the February 2016 meeting.

Previous Minutes accepted:

Moved: Karen Hutchinson

Seconded: Ray Dawes

4. Business Arising

Actions dealt with:

1. RC sourced email distributed by Grant Polwarth dated 20/4/2015 to all CCC members. Now included in correspondence.
2. Link between two web sites activated for friendly user access.
3. LA provided Key Insights with individual member contact details.
4. GRL website updated for accuracy.
5. Draft minutes not loaded to date. Now previously reported omission and edit has been made RC will upload to website.
6. AGL has been contacted in relation to continuation of their CCC and this information is contained in correspondence.

In regard to the response to Q2 on page 5 of the previous minutes regarding the state of repair of local properties, photographs were handed to the Chair by Ray Dawes of these properties. LA tabled for discussion.

Following discussion the Chair acknowledged the photos tabled related to overgrown properties and therefore not an issue for this CCC, however, it is obviously an issue of concern to some members of the community. Referred to GRL for its consideration

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- 5. Correspondence**
- 23/2/16** Email from Ray Dawes with contact details for Michael Ulph (AGL CCC);
 - 26/2/16** Email from Ellen Davis-Meehan of Key Insights regarding the updating of the Social Impact Assessment and advising that she has contacted all CCC members to provide input;
 - 27/2/16** Email from Chair to Michael Ulph with the proposed meeting dates for 2016;
 - 27/2/16** Email from Michael Ulph advising that their meetings are usually held on Thursdays, so can see no conflict;
 - 13/3/16** Email to Gloucester Business Chamber with an application form to nominate to join the CCC;
 - 15/3/16** Email to Advance Gloucester with an application form to nominate to join the CCC;
 - 15/3/16** Email from Advance Gloucester with a completed application form;
 - 15/3/16** Email from Gloucester Business Chamber with its completed application form;
 - 19/3/16** Email to DRE & GRL advising of two items Chair left off the previous minutes (which was covered in Confirmation of Minutes);
 - 19/3/16** Email to Ian Jackson with a copy of the draft minutes, responding to the questions raised;
 - 19/3/16** Email to Dianne Montague from the Gloucester Residents in Partnership Sub-committee of Groundswell Gloucester, with a copy of the draft minutes, responding to the questions raised;
 - 31/3/16** Email from Anthony Berecry confirming that he will be away for the next two meetings;
 - 13/4/16** Email to CCC members with the meeting notice and agenda for this meeting;
 - 19/4/16** Email from Bob Corbett, advising that he located the email (Action Item 1), which was actually sent out by Grant Polwarth on 20 April 2015 to all CCC members;
 - 19/4/16** Email from Ian Jackson, resigning from this CCC.
 - The Chair advised Ian Jackson’s resignation has been accepted based on discussions with him. Chair has advised him that she is happy to receive any questions he may have in the future for tabling at future meetings.
 - Completed nomination for membership forms received from Advance Gloucester (nominee – Bill Williams, Lindsay Fraser as alternate) and Gloucester Business Chamber (nominee - Stuart Carruthers) will be forwarded to the Minister for his consideration and endorsement.
 - Chair advised AGL has advised its CCC meetings are held on a Thursday therefore should no conflict with this CCC.

Moved correspondence accepted:

Moved: Lisa Andrews

Seconded: Trevor Sansom

6. Project Update GRL

RC provided update as follows:

- Brian Clifford has been appointed COO for GRL. There will be a transition from KR to BC over the coming weeks. Therefore BC will be the contact from a corporate level for the Company. BC is also assuming role of MD for AMCI Investments.
- Still awaiting approval for three exploration licences from DRE. JM advised on follow up the previous day and informed the CCC that they are still being processed.
- Awaiting renewal of exploration licences, no exploration or field activities have been or will be undertaken. The Company will re consider its work program in comparison to that submitted with the applications to bring in line when licences are renewed.
- The EIS has progressed. Update on the EIS process has been placed on the website and was presented by RC at the recent Advance Gloucester meeting.

Q: How many people attended the Advance Gloucester invitation night?

A: 40 – 50. A representative from DoP also attended.

- Due to changes in the mine plan, as discussed at the previous meeting, all studies are being revisited. No final reports as yet received. Therefore GRL is not in a position to advise of outcomes at this stage.

Q: How long has this process been?

A: Lodged request for DGRs at beginning of 2012; EIS on exhibition end 2013; responded to submissions in April 2014; still waiting in mid 2015 when GRL identified that it was in discussions with Yancoal; assessment placed on hold until agreement with Yancoal finalised.

Q: When was CCC formed?

A: First meeting February 2007.

Q: DoP representative mentioned at the recent invitation night that GRL was required to submit amended EIS by May 2016.

A: This was not a requirement on lodgement in 2015, however, the company thought this timeframe was achievable.

The recent decision to amend the planned hours of the operation for the project has necessitated change in documentation. However still aiming to submit by end May 2016.

- Discussion took place on community perception in relation to the gravity of company planning and cost involved in a project of this type. RC advised these projects are borne from years of planning and have substantial associated costs. There is a lengthy process undertaken to identify reserves and assess viability of same prior to any commitment to such a project being commenced. If unviable, pre work and costs are lost.

Q: Would it be prudent to put the process on the web site?

A: This information on the EIS process has been available on the web site and amended to state GRL is entering back into the process with the preparation and lodgement of the new EIS.

- Because of GRL interaction with Stratford Coal, Stratford will need to seek modification to its conditions in order to accept GRL coal. This could also lengthen the process.

Q: At the invitation night a question was raised about water from the mine. The Company responded that it was unable to go into details about that issue. Can this question now be responded to?

A: As previously discussed, the company does not have final reports on recent studies, therefore outcomes are not yet available.

- RC did advise however that the magnitude of the groundwater inflow is similar to that identified in the 2013 EIS. A water balance that looks at the volume of groundwater and surface water inflows and the volume lost or used in the mining operations will determine whether there is an excess of water to be managed. If there is too much water we will need to manage in another way.

Following further discussion on water issues and water storage, RC advised that GRL had committed, from very early in the project, to back filling the final void with overburden so there it won't be a large water storage in the landscape and there will be an early re-establishment of the old groundwater profile.

- General concept of the sealed haul road to Yancoal was well received by the community however coal will be crushed to a certain size on site.

Q: Will this crushed coal dump be sprayed?

A: The coal will come out of the pit and go onto a ROM stockpile then into a breaker station straight to a coal bin from which trucks will be loaded. Dust sprays will be present on the ROM stockpile.

Q: Will trucks be covered ?

A: Covering loads is not currently proposed as the sized coal will be moist on loading. Whether or not covering of loads or other methods are required will be determined based on the outcomes of the modelling and monitoring.

Q: Is there a cut off price with coal where GRL would find it uneconomic to continue the operation? Would GRL continue with its rehabilitation after closure?

A: Unsure of cut off price and also unsure where the coal market is going. GRL can only rely on forecasts from marketing personnel.

The Rocky Hill coal is of very high quality coking coal (scarce resource) which is used in the manufacture of steel. The coal quality makes for a high value product particularly when blending with lower quality coals.

Q: What is the timing on commencement of the project? How long is GRL expected to be in the area if approved?

A: The schedule has the mine having a mining life of 16 years; with approximately 12 months prior for set up. Following the completion of mining, approximately 3 years will be required to backfill the final void and rehabilitate the remaining areas of disturbance. The company will be seeking approval for a 21 year life.

Q: Will amendments be required to the Stratford washery for it to process or handle Rocky Hill coal.?

A: This is one reason why arrangements with Yancoal were progressed. Facilities at Stratford are suitable also for washing Rocky Hill coal without issue. The ability to be able to share infrastructure between the sites is a positive.

Q: How does GRL plan to deal with remaining coal that is not committed to export?

A: All coal will be exported. Expectation is to produce 13Mt of product out of the CPP. 95% of this amount is anticipated to be coking coal.

- Lengthy discussion took place on possible impact on the Stratford and Craven communities as a result of GRLs amended mine plan. Question was posed on a public meeting being held at Stratford. The Chair discounted a public meeting being held, however, advised that DPE is very keen on community consultation and recommended the community make a submission following the exhibiting of the EIS requesting a public meeting. These meetings would be independent of CCC meetings and are generally arranged by DPE to provide them a chance to hear people's thoughts.
- Discussion took place on what GRL would do if Rocky Hill refused. In conclusion, RC advised the company has other ELs in the area and a substantial amount of money has been spent on looking at these areas. These decisions would be made at Board level.

Q: Is Rocky Hill coal high in Sulphur?

A: No.

7. General Business

7.1 The Chair tabled a letter handed to attendees from Knitting Nannas (Gloucester Loop) on arrival at the meeting. The Chair will liaise with RC to compile a response.

KH requested noting in minutes that she did not accept a letter from the group stating she would view the letter from other participants when tabled at the meeting, however was happy to table the correspondence jointly with the Chair.

7.2 RD asked the Chair if he should pursue members of the aboriginal community for representation on the Committee? LA advised she would be happy for this group to contact her and to discuss their involvement.

7.3 A suggestion was raised in regard to RC putting an update in the local paper. The chair advised not a lot to report on at present. It would be preferred to provide community with information on milestones.

RC advised the EIS process is a work in progress. It is GRL's intention to establish an information centre once EIS goes on exhibition.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11:29am. **NEXT MEETING: 3 June 2016**
