

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

Date:	7 th December 2018 10:00 am	
Venue:	Gloucester Arts Centre	
Members:	Independent Chairperson: Community Representatives: DRG Representative: GRL Representatives: Stakeholder Groups: Local Government Delegate: Independent Minute Secretary:	Lisa Andrews (LA) Anthony Berecny (AB), Ray Dawes (RD), Steve Robinson (SR) and Trevor Sansom (TS) Emma Prince (EP) Bob Corbett (RC) Advance Gloucester (Bill Williams – BW) Gloucester Business Chamber (Stuart Redman – StR) Cr Claire Pontin (MidCoast Council - CP) Suella Hannaford.
Apologies:	Brian Clifford	
Non-attendance:	Nil.	

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- 1. Opening of Meeting** LA declared meeting open at 10.02 am and welcomed all members to the last meeting for 2018.
- The Chair asked each member to complete the attendance sheet and make any relevant changes to their contact details.
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- 2. Apologies** Brian Clifford. LA informed the CCC that BC had tendered his apology and asked her to pass on his thanks to members for their contribution throughout 2018 and to wish them a Merry Christmas and happy new year.
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- 3. Declarations** LA declared that she is an Independent Chairperson, appointed by the Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy to chair this committee.
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- 4. Confirmation of Previous Minutes** Previous minutes of accepted:
- Moved:* **RD** *Seconded:* **TS**
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- 5. Business Arising** Application for drilling has not been lodged with the Department.
- The theft of the New Holland 568 Square Hay Baler from the old Wilson’s Property has not been recovered. The insurance assessor recently visited the site.
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- 6. Correspondence** As sent with the meeting notice on 23/11/18 with one additional item:
- 20/10/18 - Email to members with the draft minutes from the CCC meeting held on 3/8/18 for review.
 - 30/10/18 – Email to members with the final draft.
 - 20/11/18 – Email to Minister Harwin seeking his concurrence to the reappointment of all the existing committee members for a further two year term on this CCC.
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- 23/11/18 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice and Agenda for this meeting, also including the Correspondence Report and enclosing the Dust Monitoring results.
 - [5/12/18 – Email to members with a reminder for this meeting.](#)
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7. Project Update
GRL

1. Exploration

The results of the surface mapping activity in the area of Gloucester Tops Road have been passed to Brisbane for Head Office to assess and decide what, if any, further work, is to be done. However, the results seem to indicate that the area is not prospective.

The area at Berrico Rd mapped as part of the same program is more prospective and advice is being sought from Head Office to determine if they wish to proceed with further work in this area and what. AB requested a map of the area in question and RC will organize for a map to be placed on the website. RC explained the location and advised that the program should commence late January/February 2019.

2. Part cancellation of EL 6523

In relation to the application to part cancel EL 6523, RC advised that information requested by the Department was provided on 11 October 2018. EP advised that the part cancellation was close to finalization with a response likely to be provided in the next two weeks.

3. Land Management

RC advised that one of GRL's tenants has carried out a hazard reduction burn on the former Ferris property under permit with all neighbours being informed in advance. Unfortunately, due to a sudden wind change, the fire escaped and entered several adjoining properties, including that owned by AB. The fire burnt slowly for about 2 weeks and following its escape, was managed by RFS. RC regretted the incident and advised that the tenant had not informed GRL of their intentions in advance. Moving forward, the tenant has been advised to notify GRL prior to undertaking any further hazard reduction burning.

AB commented that the fire had affected more properties than just his property and the two now owned by Stratford Coal. The fire burnt out of control towards Waukivory affecting six other properties not adjoining GRL's land. The RFS mapped the extent of the fire, which affected over 600 hectares.

BW informed the meeting that the area in question had not been burnt for 25 years. The fire lingered for 2 weeks and even after 18mm of rain, restarted.

Transgrid requested GRL to carry out some repair work at the Wilson house yard. This was arranged but when the contractor arrived on site, the work had already been completed.

StR arrived at 10.24am.

4. Rocky Hill Project

An update was provided on the Land & Environment Court Appeal. Subsequent to the initial assessment, there has been a change in the Mining SEPP which requires the Court to consider the changes in their determination of the Rocky Hill development application. The changes comprised more stringent cumulative PM10 and PM2.5 criteria and some changes to noise criteria, including the adoption of an increased assumed daytime Rating Background noise level (RBL) from 30dB(A) to 35dB(A). There have also been associated changes to the Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy (VLAMP).

Accordingly, the Court sent out correspondence to all parties involved to have them address the change. RC advised that a series of actions were identified by the Court with the last action due for completion on 14 December. The Court is in recession from 17-12-18 to 28-1-19 inclusive, so it is unlikely that a decision on the application will be received prior to Christmas.

It was noted that the amendments ultimately included in the SEPP had been foreshadowed through prior changes in the National Environment Protection (Air Quality) Measure (NEPM) Guidelines and the introduction of the Noise Policy for Industry. Though identified as not applicable in the Rocky Hill Coal Project EIS, the potential that they would be taken into consideration by the determining authority was recognised by GRL and the implications assessed in its modelling. The change in the SEPP and VLAMP did not change any of the results/conclusions presented in the EIS.

5. Air Quality

RC provided data from the EPA website regarding the recent regional dust storms on 22nd & 23rd November 2018, and the PM10 and PM2.5 levels which recorded that GRL's TEOMs. During these days, PM10 levels in the Hunter Valley were determined to be at "very hazardous" levels (more than twice the NEPM values) but to be in the "very poor" range at the GRL site. PM2.5 levels both in the Hunter Valley and at the GRL site was "good" to "fair" indicating that the smaller PM2.5 particles were not a significant component of the dust.

SR enquired whether the mines would have to modify their mining activities in the event of high dust readings. *It was confirmed that they would.*

RD enquired about PM2.5 levels contained within this dust. RC advised that the PM2.5 levels are more a product of combustion (fuel burning) and not mechanically generated dust, i.e. from the ground.

Action: RC to provide link to the EPA website where this data is available on a daily basis.

8. General Business

- AB asked EP about the recent corruption allegations within the Department that have been reported in the print media. EP advised that some of the matters raised have been referred to ICAC. An independent audit of the Department's policies, processes, procedures and structure is also being undertaken.

- LA advised that she has not received a response to the letter sent to Minister Harwin concerning the reappointment of all current members on the CCC for a further two year term.
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**9. Meeting
Schedule for
2019**

LA proposed that the 2019 meeting schedule continue as per 2018, being the 1st Friday of the month (bi-monthly). **Agreed.**

Accordingly the dates were confirmed as:

- ❖ Friday 1st February 2019 (*AB advised that he would be an apology for this meeting as he will be away.*)
 - ❖ Friday 5th April 2019
 - ❖ Friday 7th June 2019
 - ❖ Friday 23rd August 2019 (changed from the 1st Friday as LA will be away – agreed)
 - ❖ Friday 4th October 2019; and
 - ❖ Friday 6th December 2019.
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There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.40 am with the chair thanking CCC members for their contribution throughout 2018; wishing them a Merry Christmas and happy new year.

NEXT MEETING: 1st February 2019

ACTION ITEM

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Provide location map of recent surface mapping around Berrico Rd	RC
2	Provide link to EPA dust data (<i>complete - see below</i>)	RC

Item 2:

As requested at the meeting, members may obtain daily air quality information by subscribing at: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/aqms/subscribe.htm> or alternatively; doing a web search on “subscribe to air quality updates”. (This is an OEH website.)