

KANMANTOO-CALLINGTON COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (KCCCC)

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DRAFT NOTES TO THE MEETING

25 June 2015

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Attendance and Apologies

Committee Members Present:

Bill Filmer
Allana Vorstenbosch
Garry Duncan
Kathy Schneider Roberts
Harry Seager
Carole Bailey (DCMB)
Steven McClare (Hillgrove Resources)
Alistair Walsh (DSD)
Bob Goreing (Independent Chair)

Apologies:

Fiona Challen

Guests:

- Dr David Simon, Director - Scientific Services Branch, Public Health Services, SA Health
- Greg Tyczenko, Manager Resources and Energy, Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
- Max Brown, Senior Noise Adviser EPA
- Greg Sarre, Manager Strategic Planning & Economic Development, DCMB
- Greg Drew, SA Mining History Group
- Mellissa Muller, Principal Policy Adviser, Community Engagement Team DSD

In addition to the Committee and invited guests, a public gallery of approximately 15 persons was present.

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed the KCCCC and members of the public in the gallery.

2. Confirmation of notes of previous meeting (5 March 2015)

The notes of the previous meeting of 5 March 2015 were accepted without alteration.

3. Action arising from the previous meeting

3.1.Noise

Steve reported that he had investigated the sources of operational noise at night. The most likely sources appeared to be from track dozers conducting rehabilitation work based around the NAF (not acid forming) stock pile. The NAF is located quite high up on the site which may allow noise to carry on still nights. Steve said that this work at the higher levels of the NAF has now been rescheduled where practicable for day shift rather than 24 hours a day.

Alistair and Max Brown (EPA) spoke about the compliance standards for noise. A slide was presented that showed the 10 'noise receptors' which are spots off the mining lease where noise monitoring is done. Alistair said that the receptors fell into two zones or

categories: residential zone (receptor 1) and primary production zone (receptors 2 – 10). The residential zone receptor is located at the southern edge of the Kanmantoo township.

The noise compliance standards for the residential zone are lower than those for the primary production zone. Max explained that this was to both reduce the noise impact on people living in nearby townships and also to allow for land use activities like farming on primary production land.

Alistair explained that noise was subject to quarterly noise monitoring conducted by an independent company (Sonus). Since 2011 there had been 16 rounds of noise monitoring. These have been conducted mainly at night (after 10pm) to ensure that they were measuring primarily the mine's contribution when the impact of 'other noise' sources like traffic was minimal. The noise testing also took weather conditions into account to ensure that measuring was done when conditions were 'conducive' to noise travelling towards particular receptors like the residential zone. This was aimed at making sure the monitoring was fairly representing the noise generated from mine activity and likely to be heard at the receptor.

Recent results of noise measurement were shown on a slide. They were compliant with the standards that were also presented.

A member of the gallery who lives in the Callington area said that they understood and accepted the background noise of mine activity but recently there had been a unique 'thumping' noise at night which had disturbed them.

Steve said that the unusual noise was likely to have been the work on the higher levels of the NAF which was investigated and resulted in this work being confined to day shift. This noise could have carried towards Callington when the weather conditions (i.e. wind direction) were conducive to this.

Steve said that if there were unusually loud noises that community members were experiencing, he encouraged people to call the complaint phone number (available on the Hillgrove website on the contact page) and report it immediately, particularly if it were at night. He said that Shift Supervisors had a telephone with them 24 hours a day and community members should call when they heard the noise so that the mine could assess the situation and respond at the time the situation was occurring.

ACTION: It was noted that in the quarterly noise monitoring program, consideration was given to weather conditions that were conducive to noise travelling towards the residential receptor (receptor 1) located near Kanmantoo. Alistair and Steve were asked to also consider when scheduling quarterly noise monitoring, looking at weather conditions conducive to noise travelling towards Callington with a focus on the residents there.

3.2. Dust

Alistair had presented the results of the analysis of dust levels for the last summer period (conducted by the Department of State Development (DSD)) at the last meeting. He said that he would be happy to present a summary of these again to any community groups on request and answer any further questions they may have. He said that there had been significant improvements in dust management over the past 12 months and this was an area of continual improvement.

Dr David Simon from SA Health told the meeting that his office had recently reviewed the current scientific literature to check for any new toxicology information related to copper levels. This research was conducted as a result of a request for more information on this subject from the last meeting. He said that the results of the research showed nothing new and did not change his view which was presented to the KCCCC in his preliminary report in August 2015 (available on the KCCCC website).

Dr Simon pointed out that the amount of copper in the air was small as a proportion of the dust load. This could be calculated by dividing the total dust load (which was monitored) by the levels of copper found in assayed samples available from the site.

Dr Simon made the point that the human body normally obtained the copper it needed through food rather than breathing it in. A community member spoke about high levels of copper recorded in her rainwater tank and gutters. Dr Simon encouraged the community to take advantage of the Hillgrove rain water testing program which was available to all community members living within 5 kilometres of the mine site. He also spoke about the need for de-sludging of tanks at least once a year and regular maintenance of gutters etc. Dr Simon raised the point that high copper levels in tank water can normally be tasted (astringent taste) before levels get high enough to cause health issues.

Hillgrove staff led a discussion about occupational exposure standards for copper and other things, and how dust levels and samples were collected from workers using 'dust pumps' attached to their shirt collars. These testing devices were then sent to an accredited laboratory for analysis. The meeting was told that there had been nothing of concern identified that could harm workers at the site identified through this process other than quantity of exposure in certain occupations. The meeting was directed to the Safework SA website for more information like testing criteria and the heavy metals tested.

The Chair said that a suggestion from the last meeting about using dust load monitoring tape to test the dust composition had been followed up with the EPA and DSD. The conclusion was that although it may be possible, it was unlikely to provide any more useful information given the very low levels of copper in the dust sample (as explained earlier by Dr Simon).

A question about the rationale for a triangular design for dust monitoring was raised at the last meeting with particular regard for why there was no dust monitor in the north-west corner of the mine site. Steve said that there were very few people living to the north-west and that the design was based on average prevailing wind direction, location of townships and topography. He showed a map / diagram demonstrating this. It was noted that the EPA and DSD had been involved in the design process. More information is available on the Hillgrove website.

A question was raised by the community as to whether there was a marked improvement in community health over winter months when dust was less. It was noted that there was no specific data on this question but Dr Simon said that small particles (PM 2.5) from sources like combustion heaters had long been a concern for health and work was currently being done to review the standards for these.

3.3.Reports

The Chair reported that:

- the 2014 KCCCC Progress Report had been forwarded to Hillgrove Resources and copied to the Director of Minerals, DSD
- the 2015 Premier's Award submission had been completed and submitted. He said that while the submission was not successful in winning the Premier's Award, the main purpose was to promote the work of the community and in particular the master planning group to a broader audience and that he felt that had been achieved.

Issues

4. Project update from Hillgrove Resources

The meeting was informed that Greg Hall, the CEO and Managing Director, had left Hillgrove and that Steve McClare had been appointed to this position.

Steve said that the focus for Hillgrove going forward was based on simplifying and consolidating its structure with the Kanmantoo Copper Mine as the key focus. He said that the corporate (head) office size and location was being reviewed with the potential for the company to become South Australia based.

Steve presented a summary of rehabilitation and native vegetation work currently being conducted at the mine. He showed examples of trials being run using the resources of their long standing plant propagation facility and seed bank.

Landform structures were now taking shape and Steve said that this would form the foundation for discussions with the Committee as to the opportunities to incorporate the community's master planning ideas into final landscape.

Steve spoke about the relationship between factors like the economics of the mine (cost of production, results from exploration programs and the price of copper etc) in determining the life of mine. He said that the mine currently had approval to operate until 2019. Steve presented a diagram that showed that copper reserves provided confidence through to 2019 and perhaps to about 2021 under current conditions. Any future mining beyond this time was dependent on results from further exploration and subsequent mine life extension approvals. Steve pointed out that any such approval for extension beyond 2019 would include a requirement for community consultation.

Steve showed a summary of the current exploration program which included work around the historical Wheal Ellen site, detailed gravity surveys to the north of the main pit, one exploration drill hole to the north of the main pit and a helicopter radiometric survey across a wider area.

Steve drew particular attention to the results from the 433 metre deep reverse circulation hole drill hole to the north of the main pit. Steve said that he was drawing attention to this program in the spirit of transparency and because he was particularly aware of Hillgrove's commitment to paying special attention to E Odorata habitat and Lomandra Effusa communities to the north of the pit.

Steve stressed that the results from this exploration hole provided only a trigger for more exploration work in the area. He said his intention at this time was to flag future community consultation once the full extent of the main pit was defined. This was in line with a commitment made to the community at the time of the original mine approval (2007-2009).

A community member asked if the results of the helicopter survey would be made public. Steve said that the results would remain with the company. He said that the raw data was still a couple of months away from being finalised and then interpretation of the results could begin. Consultation would be conducted with individual property owners if further exploration activity was warranted.

Steve said that on a broader scale, he was keen to progressively update and work with the Master Planning Working Party. He said that his aim was to conserve environmental values where possible, ensure that native vegetation programs (including SEB offsets) were designed to encourage large continuous communities and promote community access and stewardship potential in line with how the community sees the area after mining.

5. Master Planning – discussion and community input

In the interests of time, it was agreed that the meeting would hear from Greg Sarre (District Council of Mt Barker) and Greg Drew (SA Mining History Group) and that the Master Planning Working Party would reconvene in 2 – 4 weeks to consider and progress feedback on the Master Plan Discussion Paper.

Greg Sarre reported on progress of the review of the DCMB Strategic Plan. It was recognised that the Council's Strategic Plan was an important consideration in any future master planning for the Kanmantoo Callington area after mining was finished.

Greg said that the process for the review of the DCMB Strategic Plan included an eight week engagement process where the review team had spoken with over 400 people from across district. This included local communities and groups like school children and commuters on buses travelling outside the region. Greg said that the attendance at the Callington workshop was particularly encouraging and significantly higher than other areas as a proportion of the community.

Greg said that the results from the Callington workshop (25th March 2015) showed the importance of encouraging food production, planning for the closure of the mine and its potential impact on local employment, the protection of local heritage, a better coordination between neighbouring Councils, improving public transport including transport for groups like youth, providing more things for young people to do, improving local amenities, encouraging an integration of sporting facilities and developing the potential for tourism attractions particularly around heritage. Greg said that he was currently finalising a formal community engagement report covering submissions (including the KCCCC Master Planning Discussion paper contents) to be presented to Council shortly.

He said that the next step was to start drafting the Strategic Plan. He said that he was particular aware of a concern that smaller communities may get lost in a focus on Mt Barker and that this would be addressed.

He said that the draft Strategic Plan was scheduled to be ready by the end of August 2015 and that there would be an opportunity to comment on this.

Greg Drew introduced himself as a geologist by training who was employed for many years managing mining information and other resources with the (now) Department of State Development. He said that he had a keen interest in mining history and heritage and was involved with the SA Mining History Group.

Greg (Drew) gave a short summary of his knowledge of the Kanmantoo Callington area and its mining history which dates back almost 170 years. He highlighted the importance of the areas mining history with the original settlement in the area in the 1840's being dependent on mining.

He said that the area also hosted the first smelting works in Australia with seven smelters operating between Callington and Nairne.

Greg (Drew) said that the SA Mining History Group was planning a weekend conference / workshop towards the end of the year or in early 2016 and would appreciate working with the KCCCC to present a program that may be of mutual interest.

ACTION: The Chair was asked to invite Greg Drew to future meetings of the Master Planning Working Party to add his knowledge and understanding to their work and to investigate the opportunity to support the SA Mining History Group's weekend event.

ACTION: The Chair was asked to work with Fiona to convene a Master Planning Working Party meeting in the next 2 – 4 weeks.

6. Community Action List (CAL)

An April 2015 version of the CAL will be available on the KCCCC website from tomorrow (see item 7 below) with the June 2015 update to go up soon.

Administrative items

7. KCCCC Website

The Chair pointed out that the new KCCCC webpage was currently the responsibility of Hillgrove and was part of their commitment to supporting the KCCCC. The new KCCCC webpage would be accessible from tomorrow via the Hillgrove website <http://www.hillgroveresources.com.au/> by following the link from the home page.

8. Other business

The Chair said that he had received a written request from Steve at Hillgrove for the Committee to assist with the development of a visual representation of a future landscape for the area as seen by the community. The letter was received yesterday and was previewed by Committee members prior to this meeting.

The letter included a suggestion that Garry Duncan be involved based on examples of his work that Steve had seen and was impressed by.

The KCCCC agreed that this would be a useful reference point for its Master Planning work, the mine's closure plans and other groups like the Council to act as a common reference point.

ACTION: Circulate the letter to the Committee between meetings for closer deliberation. Confirm with Committee members that they support this initiative. Confirm with Committee members that we ask Garry if he is interested in working on this task.

9. Next meeting and close

The next meeting of the KCCCC is to be confirmed but was proposed for Thursday 20th August 2015. The meeting closed at 10pm.