

## South Galilee Coal Project Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

**2 August 2010**

**Date:** Monday 2 August, 2010

**Location:** Alpha Town Hall, Alpha

**Meeting Commenced:** 6.40 pm

**Meeting Concluded:** 8.30 pm

**Attendees:**

Mark Bouffler	AMCI
Colleen Fish	MET Serve
Sherri Taylor	Landholder
Lee Clews	
Beryl Dyer	Barcaldine Regional Council
Aloma Everingham	
Judy Acutt	Alpha Merchandise
Warren Gleeson	Landholder

**Apologies:** Les and Kayleen Leishman, Brant Bettridge

### **Declaration of Financial or Other Interests:**

No CRG members are aware of any financial or other interests that they hold that may involve a conflict of interest by their membership on the CRG.

**Next Meeting:** Date to be confirmed following release of Final Terms of Reference in approximately 2 months.

### **Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

1. Groundwater assessment methods for mining impacts
2. Final Terms of Reference review

**Chairperson Name:** Colleen Fish (MET Serve)

**Notes:**

Item No.	Discussion / Issue Raised	Response	Action	Responsibility
1	Mark Bouffler welcomed everyone and gave a presentation on the South Galilee Coal Project. Colleen Fish presented information on the EIS approval process.	Nil	Nil	NA
2	Need a more reliable power supply for Alpha. Will need additional power if the town increases in population.	Additional power supply will be necessary for mining to progress in the region. Options from Lilyvale substation and access to proposed coal fired power stations are currently being assessed.	No actions are currently available to AMCI.	NA
3	Need a reliable water supply for the town. Currently use groundwater which is not likely to be sustainable or at sufficient volume if the town increases in population.	AMCI have applied for allocation from the proposed Connors River Dam. It was suggested the Barcardine Regional Council should contact Sunwater if they would like some of the allocation.	Colleen called Beryl Dyer and passed along information that Sunwater has received interest for over 50% of the Connors River Dam allocation already. Beryl was going to pass that information along to the BRC who had relevant contact details for Sunwater.	Colleen Fish / Beryl Dyer
5	What are the potential impacts to groundwater supply and quality from mining?	Groundwater baseline studies are currently being undertaken, but actual impact assessment will not be undertaken until there is a mine plan to assess.	Colleen Fish proposed to provide information on the type of groundwater assessment work that will be undertaken for the SGCP, and potential impacts and present this information at the next CRG meeting.	Colleen Fish

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6	What is the timing and when will a commitment be made that the mine will definitely go ahead.	AMCI has invested a significant amount of money into the exploration and feasibility studies to date. While this does not mean the mine will definitely go ahead, it does prove they are serious about developing this resource. Unfortunately the timing of a decision to commence mining is dependent on many factors, some outside AMCI's control – most significantly are the associated infrastructure projects (rail, power, water supply, port capacity).	AMCI will communicate with the CRG and the community as soon as any definite decision on the mine progressing has been made.	AMCI
7	What are the benefits for the community of Alpha and surrounds from having all these potential mining impacts? Relevant issues are Power and Water supply / Medical and Education facilities.	While AMCI accept that Alpha will change and grow to some degree, the currently reported population increase estimates need to be justified. Further assessment into the likely size increase for Alpha is required before an assessment can be made on what additional resources/facilities would be required for Alpha.	AMCI will prepare a Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) as part of the EIS. This will include management and mitigation measures that AMCI propose in response to identified social impacts. The SIMP will be developed in consultation with the relevant parties – including the CRG - once actual social impacts can be quantified.	AMCI and CRG

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8	AMCI should sponsor more local groups.	AMCI has sponsored a number of events in the last 2 years, just a couple of examples are the Bullarama, the Alpha Camp Draft and the Alpha Show.	AMCI's will continue to support local events, but their preference is to support local events that will benefit the majority of the community, rather than individual clubs or sporting groups.	AMCI
9	How is surface water at the mine managed in the event of a natural disaster eg massive flooding and water releases?	Surface water management is one of the focus areas for the EIS and will be addressed in detail as the project develops. Baseline information is being collected on surface water flow and quality.	Information will be provided on the type of surface water assessment that will be undertaken for the SGCP, and potential impacts that will be considered. Colleen Fish can prepare and present information on this at a future meeting (as groundwater study details were agreed to be presented at the next meeting).	Colleen Fish
10	<p>What percentage of employees would be based locally?</p> <p>General discussion about what size town the community would like to see got a definite response - "<i>not another Emerald</i>". General consensus was that some growth and improvement of infrastructure would be good, but still maintaining the small country town atmosphere and sense of community.</p>	No definite decisions will be made on location and accommodation of the workforce until mine planning and approvals are further progressed. AMCI will be assessing the location and accommodation of its proposed workforce as part of the EIS. While the proposal is most likely to be fly-in fly-out, AMCI will assess some housing options for parts of the workforce as the mine plan progresses.	AMCI will communicate with the CRG and the community as soon as any definite decision on the mine progressing has been made.	AMCI

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11	Colleen Fish explained the upcoming draft Terms of Reference public comment period. Who should make comments?	It is up to individuals to submit comments to the Department of Infrastructure and Planning as per the accepted guidelines.	CRG members are encouraged to make submissions.	CRG members
12	Colleen Fish went through the CRG charter.	No concerns were raised about the charter during the meeting.	CRG members to review charter in their own time and respond to Colleen or Mark if they have any concerns.	CRG members