# MEETING MINUTES

**MENANGLE ADVISORY PANEL**

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| MEETING: | # 14 | | |
| LOCATION: | Menangle RFS | | |
| DATE: | 1 Aug 2023, 6.00pm | | |
| ATTENDEES: | Community Representatives | Jim Arentz | (JA) |
| | | Michele Arentz | (MA) |
| | | John Potter | (JP) |
| | | Andrew Cameron | (AC) |
| | | Robert Dunstan | (RD) |
| | | Christine Halfpenny | (CH) |
| | | Shane Morgan | (SM) |
| | | Annette Morgan | (AM) |
| | | Michael McGrath | (MM) |
| | | Martin Scott | (MS) |
| | Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC) Representatives | Rod Mapstone | (RM) |
| | | Lachlan Cunningham | (LC) |
| | | Chris McEvoy | (CM) |
| | Independent Chair | Kate Kernaghan | (KK – Factotum Communications) |
| APOLOGIES: | | Michael Reardon-Small | (MRS) |

| | ***PURPOSE*** |
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| | The Menangle Advisory Panel (MAP) provides a forum to enable regular two-way communication between representatives of Menangle and Douglas Park residents and Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC) about the Company's proposed ventilation and mine access project at 345 Menangle Road.<br>The MAP provides a practical and helpful connection to residents for IMC through the members who have self-nominated to be on the Panel and voluntarily give their time. |
| | ***AGENDA*** |
| | 1. Welcome, apologies and declaration of interest<br>2. Acceptance of minutes<br>3. Previous actions<br>4. IMC Primary Works Update<br>5. Community and communication<br>6. General Business |

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| 1 | ***WELCOME / APOLOGIES / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST*** |
| | **KK** opened the meeting at 6:00 pm<br>Traditional Owners acknowledged and respects paid to Elders past, present and emerging.<br>No declarations of interest offered. Note: Independent Chair KK is remunerated by IMC. |
| 2 | ***ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES*** |
| | MAP #13 meeting minutes accepted without change |
| 3 | ***ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING*** |
| | **(AL) Drop hard copies of maps to MRS and JA.**<br>Done. Action closed<br><br>**(LM) Investigate reinstating billboard.**<br>Project team have confirmed they will erect the new sign near main entry along Menangle Road.<br><br>**(RM) Source the blasting video played previously and show it again.**<br>Video played for MAP members. Action closed<br><br>**(AM) Draw attention to the specific air quality forecast data she would like to see compared.**<br><br>**(CM) Chis to provide a comparison of forecast air quality data and actual data.**<br><br>**(LC) Investigate whether MAP members can observe (outside safety exclusion zone) initial blasts.**<br>LM will update once more is known about the first few blasts, exclusion zone etc. |
| 4 | ***IMC PRMARY WORKS UPDATES*** |
| | **Siteworks**<br><br>• Assembly of temporary headframe<br>• Foundations for winder house completed<br>• Sediment pond completed<br>• VS8 finishing collar construction<br>• VS7 being deepened to 12m for foundations<br>• Structural steel assemblies being laid out on construction pads<br>• Sinking stays are now onsite ready to be suspended in the shaft as the working platform once the pre-sink gets down to a depth of 50m.<br><br>**SM:** Please confirm construction hours of operation<br>**LC:** Mon-Fri 7am – 6pm, Sat 7am – 1pm. Inaudible work is permissible outside of these hours.<br>**SM:** Recommends Site Foreman be reminded of limitations to audible work out of hours. |

**Recent Activity**














**MS:** Questions whether the spoil balance will be able to be retained onsite.

**LC:** Confirmed spoil will be used to create the visual bund around the site perimeter. Approx 3.5m high with tree plantings on top.

**MS:** When will plants go in to replace the trees removed?

**LC:** Advice suggests optimal time for planting is in a month or so as the weather warms for spring.

**MA:** Can wattles be avoided given their short life spans?

**Action: CM** to circulate detail on proposed planting species before they are planted.

**MS:** Will there be pre-blast tests?

**LC:** The initial test will be a smaller scale blast, used to check actuals against blast modelling. Each blast will learn from the previous and be adjusted as part of an iterative process.

**SM:** How far down until a water table is reached? Is there risk to the supply of the creek?

**LC:** Currently working in clay and shale layer. Based on investigations, there are water layers at depths of about 16m, 30m and 70m.

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**Air Quality**

The results of the Site Hive onsite monitoring system were shared and discussed. The system has three monitors across the project site used as a guide to alert the project team to peaks in noise or air quality conditions.

The number of peaks in the data presented raised concerns for MAP members.

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| | **CM:** Most of the peaks in the data have been verified by the supplier as being caused by condensation entering the unit and causing some erroneous data (peaks). The Project team is in discussions with the supplier to resolve the issue.<br><br>Some MAP members also raised concerns on the reliability of the monitors, the data they record, and how the project investigates and uses the data. Questions raised as to whether the monitors should be replaced if they are faulty. Presented data makes it difficult to understand personal impacts (such as potential impacts to tank water).<br><br>**LC:** The real-time environmental monitoring equipment being used aids in the management of construction activities. The system provides real time data on noise and dust, allowing the Project team to manage its activities. Peaks in the data are investigated to determine the cause and source.<br><br>**LC:** Monitoring equipment used to measure compliance (such as in instances where EPA complaints are being investigated) is more sensitive but cannot automatically distinguish between impacts from site activity and external activity. Also, they cannot be accessed in real-time so there is a delay in being able to access and interpret data. The monitoring system in place at the project site is a site management tool and not intended for measuring environmental compliance at a residence.<br><br>Some MAP members indicated the presentation of data in its current format was problematic<br><br>**Action: CM** to reconsider how best to share data. |
| | **Air Quality – Construction Phase**<br><br>Content prepared doesn't address the nature of the request.<br><br>**Action: AM** to clarify what information is of interest to be presented at subsequent meeting. |
| | **Noise**<br><br>The results of daily average of noise levels were discussed.<br><br>**MS:** Does the inclusion of the overnight period in the averaging skew the data?<br><br>**LC:** The base level of background noise in the area is not overly low. Happy to export the data for a smaller time period and adjust the averaging period for discussion. |
| | **Conventional shaft sinking**<br><br>Video played for MAP members to show extent of blasting in a shaft sinking project elsewhere.<br><br>**AM:** Will materials be propelled when blasted? |

**LC:** Blast will aim to break the rock within the shaft, not propel fragments. Initial blasts may generate around 2m of progress per blast. As the project team advance deeper into the shaft, they may be able to adjust for slightly larger blasts to be able to break up around 4m of rock per blast.

**LC:** During construction, the temporary headframe will be built slightly higher to make room for the tipping equipment. Once the shaft is complete, the permanent height will be reduced to 25m.

**MA:** what is the height of the current structure that's on site?

**LC:** 16m.

**Blast management**

**LC** provided an overview of the key elements of upcoming controlled blasting activities and blast management.

- VS8 ~ August 2023
- VS7 ~ late-2023
- Blast exclusion zone for initial blasts
- Possible short duration road closures during initial blasts
- Traffic controllers on Menangle Road and Finns Road
- Traffic 'sweepers' will check no one is in road corridor if closures required
- Blast monitoring and additional targeted attended monitoring at selected properties
- Adaptive management – each blast will consider previous blast monitoring results
- Robust, heavy-duty blast cover during pre-sink
- Acoustically designed headframe doors during main sink
- Blast notification signs

**MM:** What is the plan for timing blasts to minimise impact on local traffic (ie avoiding peak hours and school runs)?

**LC:** Will have control over the broad time of day the blasts will take place to avoid impactful periods. As the blasting progresses further down the shaft, the exclusion zone will be contained entirely within the site boundary.

## 6 *COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATION*

**Complaints**

No complaints relating to the project have been received since last MAP meeting.

**Community investment**

**IMC**

- Illuminate Wollondilly – Premier Partner 3 years; next event 15-17 September 2023
- Wollondilly Women in Business – Empowerment Project
- Illawarra Women's Health Centre – Survivor Advocacy Program

**Community Partnership Program**

- Douglas Park Wilton Little Athletics - $10,000 training equipment
- Douglas Park Community Hall - $10,000 flooring upgrade

**Indigenous Grant Program**

- Applications remain open for FY24

| 6 | *GENERAL BUSINESS* |
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**Housekeeping**

Members to reverse park vehicles along the fence line so emergency vehicles can access the rear of the building

**Meeting Close**

7:30pm

**Next meeting**

Tuesday, 17 October 2023 @ 6pm (TBC)

**Actions:**

**CM** to provide a comparison of forecast air quality data and actual data.

**LC** to investigate whether it's appropriate for MAP members to be present (outside a safety exclusion zone) on site when the first of the blasts is conducted.

**CM** to consider how best to share air quality and noise updates with MAP members at future meetings.

**MA** to clarify what air quality information is of interest to be presented at subsequent meeting.

**CM** to circulate detail on proposed planting species before they are planted.