APPIN VENTILATION AND MINE ACCESS PROJECT
MENANGLE ADVISORY PANEL (MAP) MEETING #22 MINUTES

LOCATION:	**Online via Microsoft Teams**
DATE:	Thursday 12 Feb 2026 @ 4pm
ATTENDEES:	**Chairperson** Kate Kernaghan (Factotum Communications) **Community Representatives**: Martin Scott, Michele Arentz, Jim Arentz, Michael Reardon-Small, and Andrew Cameron. **GM³ Representatives**: Chris McEvoy (Approvals & Community Specialist) Antony Leone (Superintendent Environment & Community)
APOLOGIES:	John Potter, Christine Halfpenny and Michael McGrath.

	Purpose
	The Menangle Advisory Panel (MAP) provides a forum to enable regular two-way communication between representatives of Menangle and Douglas Park residents and GM³ about the Company's ventilation and mine access project at 345 Menangle Road. The MAP provides a practical and helpful connection to residents for GM³ through the members who have self-nominated to be on the Panel and voluntarily give their time.
	Agenda
	1. Welcome / Declaration of interests 2. Acceptance of previous minutes 3. Questions on notice/actions 4. Project update - Construction - Environment - Community 5. General business 6. Next meeting/s
1	**Welcome / Declarations of interests**
	KK opened the meeting at 4.08 pm after supporting MAP members to join online. Traditional Owners acknowledged and respects paid to Elders past, present and emerging. No declarations of interest offered. Note: Independent Chair KK is remunerated by GM³.

2	**Acceptance of previous minutes**
	MAP #21 meeting minutes accepted without change
3	**Questions on notice/actions**
	Action Closed – AL: Checked the GPS tracking with the lived experience of MAP members in the meeting and found a discrepancy. Looking at changing distributors.
4	**Project update**
	Construction Sitework: - Visual bund construction from shaft spoil ongoing and is almost at the designed height. Stage 1 (Northern end) will be finished and prepared for landscaping around Q2 2026. - New switchyard (running power underground) is operational. - Civil works for the fan switch rooms, transformer skids, and fan ducting foundations began in February 2025 and are ongoing. - Replacement sapling tree plantings (approx. 2-3m high) near Finns Road intersection occurred in Nov 2025 and have established nicely. - MS – How does the current timing compare to the original plan to be finished by end of 2026? - AL – Road aspect at the start of project delayed the project schedule, along with some initial teething problems fining rhythm with initial blast operations. - New completion estimates are VS8:end of 2026, and VS7:mid 2027 meaning practical completion around the end of 2027. VS7: - Main sinking operations are continuing at ~170 m depth. - This represents approx. 29% complete (422m depth remains to be blasted). - Blasting will continue throughout the project until a depth of ~590m is achieved. - Extension for 24/7 blasting is approved. VS8: - Main sinking operations are continuing at ~300 m depth. - This represents approx. 54% complete (253m depth remains to be blasted). - Blasting will continue throughout the project until a depth of 550m is achieved. - Extension for 24/7 blasting is approved. **Environment Monitoring** No exceedances for environment monitoring data for dust, noise, or water release issues. There was one complaint in January re: blasting noise. A community member contacted a staff member directly, reporting experiences of “rumbling” and vibration within their residence over the preceding two weeks. Multiple dates and times were provided, and the reported impacts included disturbance to a household pet.

	An investigation was undertaken to assess the reported times against operational activities. A review of blasting records confirmed that most of the reported dates and times coincided with shaft blasting. Detailed analysis of vibration and noise monitoring data confirmed that all blasting activities were conducted in compliance with approved limits. Following further engagement, the community member advised that they have not noticed any additional blast related disturbance in the past two weeks. On this basis, no further investigation or additional monitoring is proposed at this time, with the matter to remain under observation should future concerns be raised. The complainant was satisfied with the outcome.
	Community update Community Newsletter: - December update included in the Appin Mine Community News. Future AMVA updates will be incorporated into the regular GM^3 Community Newsletter (rather than stand-alone, as previous) due to the steady state of construction. **Action:** AL to drop copies of the next Community Update (due in March) to JP at the village to put in the common room. Appin Mine Clean Up Aus Day Event: - Tuesday, 24 February 2025 - Location: Menangle (TBC – suggested locations welcomed) Community Partnership Program extension: - GM^3 has extended the Appin Mine Community Partnership Program (CPP) for a further 10 years. - Established in 2004, the CPP is a voluntary, tonne-based community funding program (0.03c/saleable tonne). - The program is overseen by a community-led Board with company representation. - CPP contributions will be CPI-indexed from 2026, providing long-term certainty. - Since inception, the CPP has delivered 210 grants totaling over $3.3million across Wollondilly and surrounding communities. Community Partnership Program funding updates: - Appin Historical Society: The CPP has endorsed funding to support Stage Two of the grave's restoration project at St Bades Church. This stage includes restoring damaged headstones, gentle cleaning to preserve fragile inscriptions, and installing weather-resistant QR-coded educational signage. - Youth Solutions: The CPP has endorsed funding to support ARTucation, a four-part workshop series delivered in schools and other learning environments. ARTucation uses artistic expression to facilitate important First Nations cultural learnings within a context of drug and alcohol education and harm-prevention messaging. - St James Anglican Church Menangle: The CPP has endorsed funding to assist with sound, production, and staging costs for the Menangle Carols on the Hill.

5	**General business**
	General QandA from MAP members: - Raised on behalf of John Potter: A request to re-share the artists impression of the finished (operational) AMVA site. This is to help residents of the nursing home understand the likely finished height of the VS7 and VS8 shaft towers (ie – lower than the current temporary structures which are in place during blasting). **Action**: AL to point John / his fellow residents to suitable materials to meet this interest. NB following meeting AL provided links to proposed visualisations from Project website: https://community.gm3.au/appin-mine-ventilation-and-access and click HERE - Raised on behalf of John Potter: A request to understand what will happen to the waste water from bathhouses once the site is operational. - AL – Grey water will either be treated onsite and re-used for things like flushing , onsite irrigation or trucked offsite. NB following meeting AL has provided link to Modification Report that details the sewage treatment proposed onsite (Section 3.7.9, click HERE) - MRS – How does the delay in shaft completion affect the underground operations? Will the underground activities need to stop while the AMVA project is completed? - AL – The longwall operations are continuing and making adjustments as required until AMVA becomes operational including things like underground booster fans. The underground team are currently working in starting LW711B which will take around 12 months to work towards Finns Road. Operations are buffering away from Razorback slightly, shortening longways from around 1km in length to more like 750m. Landholders will provided updated longwall timings as soon as possible if there are any material changes. Site Tour: - Proposing another site tour in March with the Appin Mine CCC, to be held on a weekday – any preferred time between 9am – 3pm (tour will take approx. 1 hour) - Proposed dates and availability discussed with Thursday 26 March early afternoon looking like the timeslot that suited most in attendance. **Action**: AL to confirm Site Tour date and time. General agreement to retain the alternating online / in person meeting format. The next meeting (MAP#23) was scheduled for June in person. Given the opportunity to see each other Face to face in March, MAP members agreed to move the Juny meeting to an online format (a Thursday at 4pm – exact date TBC). KK to provide support for any MAP members who would like a practice run joining virtually. **Action**: KK to confirm MAP #23 online meeting date and time. MEETING CLOSE – 4:40pm
6	**Next meeting**
	NEXT MEETING – **4pm Thursday 11 June 2026. Online – Via Microsoft Teams.**