MEETING MINUTES

MENANGLE ADVISORY PANEL

MEETING:	# 17	
LOCATION:	345 Menangle Road, Menangle	
DATE:	6th May 2024 @1pm	
ATTENDEES:	Community Representatives	Jim Arentz (JA) Michele Arentz (MA) Michael McGrath (MM) Martin Scott (MS) Michael Reardon-Small (MRS)
	Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC) Representatives	Antony Leone (AL) Lachlan Cunningham (LC) Kyle Brown (KB)
	Independent Chair	Kate Kernaghan (KK – Factotum Communications)
APOLOGIES:	John Potter (JP) Christine Halfpenny (CH) Andrew Cameron (AC) Rod Mapstone (RM)	

	PURPOSE
	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. 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, declaration of interests 2. Endorsement of previous minutes 3. Questions on notice/actions 4. Sale Announcements 5. Project update 6. Community update 7. General Business

1	***WELCOME / APOLOGIES / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST***
	KK opened the meeting at 1:08 pm Traditional Owners acknowledged and respects paid to Elders past, present and emerging. Apologies from Christine Halfpenny, John Potter and Andrew Cameron. Welcome to Kyle Brown, Health, Safety, and Environment Site Officer from South32. No declarations of interest offered. Note: Independent Chair KK is remunerated by IMC.
2	***ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES***
	MAP #16 meeting minutes accepted without change
3	***ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING***
	Project Timeline / Program **RM / LC** to prepare for the next MAP meeting, a project timeline that articulates impact junctures on the schedule to date to explain the discrepancy between the schedule that appears in the consent approval and where the project is currently up to. The timeline will also provide a revised forward indicative plan to help MAP members understand the timeframes the project is now working to. Original indicative timeframes put forward in the AMVA Submissions Report (Table 3-5) is available on the IMC Community Portal. These were affected by approvals and road works activities that needed to be completed prior to shaft sinking works commencing. An updated Project timeline and schedule was presented by LC with Project completion (shaft commissioning/practical completion) by Q3 2026. Enquiry on shaft sinking rate averages – LC indicated ~4m/day average per shaft. **Site Tour** **RM –** to look into arranging a site tour to coincide with next MAP meeting. Site Tour arranged for 6 May 20204, however due to wet conditions, the tour had to be postponed. Action remains open pending LC's availability for a revised tour date. Aiming for a Monday as this seems most convenient across the board for MAP members.
4	***SALE ANNOUNCEMENT***
	IMC Sale Announcement • On 29 February 2024, South32 announced that it had entered into a binding agreement to sell IMC to an entity owned by Golden Energy and Resources Pty Ltd (GEAR) and M Resources Pty Ltd. • Bluescope Steel have pre-emptive rights to counter the offer. They are within a 60day period considering this option. • The sale is expected to complete in H1 FY25, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions. • South32 will continue to own and operate IMC until completion and has agreed to provide transitional services to IMC for up to six months following completion of the transaction. • For now, it is business as usual for IMC. • Over the coming months we will work with the buyer, our workforce, the local community, government, customers, and suppliers to support a successful transition of ownership. • Details of the sale found here: **ASX Announcement**

Buyer Overview

- GEAR and M Resources are established participants in the Australian metallurgical coal industry, with a strong commitment to environmental and safety standards, who are well positioned to continue Illawarra Metallurgical Coal's contribution to the local steel industry and the Illawarra and Macarthur regions.
- GEAR's current major investments include a 59 per cent interest in Stanmore Resources Limited, an Australian domiciled and listed metallurgical coal producer with operations in the Bowen Basin in Queensland, and a 50 per cent interest in Ravenswood Gold, a significant gold mining operation located in north-east Queensland.

RUC Sale Announcement

- On 26 March 2024, Redpath Australia announced that it had signed a share purchase agreement to acquire RUC Mining – our principal contractor.
- The sale is expected to complete in June 2024, pending regulatory approvals.
- Redpath and RUC have stated that they remain committed to ensuring there are no disruptions to operations and that current projects will continue business as usual.
- Details of the sale found here: RUC Mining Contractors signs share purchase agreement with Redpath

5 *PROJECT UPDATE*

CONSTRUCTION

Site Works

- Global Soil Solutions has been engaged to undertake tree planting. The soil has been prepped and fertilised and over 1000 plants planted. A maintenance contract is in place to ensure they establish. Mulch has been difficult to source – eventually supplied from 4.5hrs north.
- Sediment pond water level being dropped to ~5 ML to maintain freeboard.
- Borehole for electrical power down to 560m. This is the first of 3 x 350mm steel cased boreholes. The first 2 are for power, the third is for datacomms cabling. The weight of the cabling has required specialist installation from a local Wollongong company.
- Two 46T transformers are in. These will facilitate a 66KV step down to 11KV.
- Quiet work is being undertaken out of standard construction hours, e.g. office work, maintenance, fitting electrical systems and shaft preparation.

VS7

- Noise monitors installed on South32-owned land (x3).
- Pre-sink activities commenced on 2 April – the team down to 32m already.
- Headframe assembly commenced. Needs to be higher during construction to allow for tipping. Will be significantly lower once complete.
- Sinking stage assembly commenced.
- Main sink due to commence in late August or September 2024.

VS8

- Pre-commissioning of winders.
- Main sink due to commence in late August or September 2024.

BLASTING

RUC, the blasting contractors have proposed a new blasting methodology that sinks the shaft in 4m increments creating a half width 2m platform in the shaft at any given time. This approach requires an adjustment to permissions which has been applied for under two proposals.

- **Proposal 1**: two blasts per day at each shaft.
  The current maximum of one blast per 24-hour period at each shaft does not support efficient shaft sinking and seriously impacts schedule.
- **Proposal 2**: extend blasting hours to Monday to Saturday (from 7am to 10pm) and Sunday (from 8am to 10pm).
  Current blasting hours (Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm; and Saturday from 9am to 1pm) do not support efficient blast cycles – limiting our ability to complete the project early and reduce disruption to community.
  No blasting proposed on public holidays.

Rationale

- Reduces the duration and severity of blasting impacts on the community.
- Shortens the project schedule.
- Facilitates more efficient blasting cycles, using bench blasting where required.
- Full floor blasting used for VS8 but was less efficient on harder rock.
- Bench blasting – only half the face is blasted at a time using 50% of full explosive load.
- Reduces time between blasts but requires two blasts per shaft within a 24-hour period.
- Current approved hours do not support bench blasting method.
- Extended hours will allow boring and charging at night and blasting the following morning.
- Several days per week with no blasts to allow concrete lining and no blasting on public holidays

Sth32 have been operating in accordance with approval conditions and well within the noise and blast overpressure criteria. The team are confident existing and proposed onsite noise attenuation measures, such as acoustic cladded shaft headframe and blast doors, will ensure they continue to meet these criteria.

- Peak overpressure (120 dB) and vibration (10 mm/s) cannot be exceeded at any residence at any time.
- Peak overpressure (115 dB) and vibration (5 mm/s) can only be exceeded 5% of the time at any residence.

Blasting approvals

- IMC will seek approval from the Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure (DPHI) to change the blasting regime via a proposed Modification Application to the Appin Mine Consent.
- The application will be submitted via the NSW Planning Portal.
- At its discretion, the DPHI may put the application on exhibition for public submissions. If so, the timing and duration will be determined by the department.
- While the DPHI assessment and decision-making timeframes are not shared with the project team, it is expected to take several months.
- To support the noise modelling, South32 are currently negotiating land access agreements at two or three properties for additional noise monitoring devices.

ENVIRONMENT

Compliance with environmental monitoring levels demonstrated and presented by KB.

COMMUNITY

Since last meeting:

- 0 x complaints
- 0 x non-complaints
- 2 x enquiries
  - 1 x Appin Mine Plan info request.
  - 1 x Access IMC Land

Community investment:

New grant application site launched *Community Programs | Community South32*

Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

- Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council – Cultural Waterways Project focusing in the catchment.
  The Community Investment in Cultural Waterways Project aims to engage with the Aboriginal community and Traditional Custodians to collaboratively manage land and water resources within the Cataract water catchment area.
  Emphasizing the recognition and integration of cultural knowledge and perspectives, the project seeks to uphold Aboriginal rights and roles as stewards of the land and waterways, while fostering cultural connections and identity.
  The first year will focus on four primary objectives: establishing the ranger unit, engaging the community in management planning, conducting on-site assessments to identify cultural values and risks, and formulating an Aboriginal Cultural and Natural Values Management Plan.
  In the second year, the project will shift its focus to implementing community-approved management actions outlined in the plan.

Community Partnership Program

- Appin Men's Shed – skip bin restoration
- Douglas Park Wilton Football Club – outdoor kitchen set up
- Picton Swim School – electronic score board
- River Road Bus – in-school creative arts program

Indigenous Grants Program

- Applications remain open for 2024

GENERAL BUSINESS

MEMBER UPDATES - Nil

ACTIONS – LC to look for alternate appropriate dates for re-scheduled site tour. Ideally a Monday to suit most.

MEETING CLOSE – 2:17pm

MAP members were taken to a nearby continuous noise monitor and a blasting monitoring site, where they received an explanation on how they operate.

NEXT MEETING – TBC. Approximately August unless MAP members request a meeting earlier.