APPIN VENTILATION AND MINE ACCESS PROJECT
MENANGLE ADVISORY PANEL (MAP) MEETING #21 MINUTES

LOCATION:	**Online via Microsoft Teams**
DATE:	Thursday 9 Oct 2025 @ 4pm
ATTENDEES:	**Chairperson** Kate Kernaghan (Factotum Communications) **Community Representatives**: Martin Scott, Michele Arentz, Jim Arentz, Michael Reardon-Small, Michael McGrath, Andrew Cameron and Christine Halfpenny. **GM³ Representatives**: Quinton Wilkinson (Project Director) Antony Leone (Superintendent Environment & Community)
APOLOGIES:	John Potter

	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 4.05 pm Traditional Owners acknowledged and respects paid to Elders past, present and emerging. No declarations of interest offered. Note: Independent Chair KK is remunerated by GM[3].
2	**Acceptance of previous minutes**
	MAP #20 meeting minutes accepted without change
3	**Questions on notice/actions**
	Action Closed - KK: to circulate an online meeting invite for MAP#21 and cancel the booking at the RFS venue. Completed. **Action Closed –** AL: Drop off hard copies of Community Newsletter and AMVA Project Update to the retirement village (Durham Green). Completed. AL dropped off to John Potter. **Action Closed** – AL: Check the GPS tracking for the distribution company re missed delivery at Burrells Road (Arentz's). Completed – GPS indicated they went Burrell's, looking at changing distributors. **Action Closed –** AL: JP requests a printed colour printed map of longwall mining activities to refer to. Completed – Map of current longwalls included in the Community newsletter that was dropped off by AL.
6	**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 in late 2025 and prepared for landscaping. - New switchyard (to run power underground) is operational. - Civil works for the fan switch rooms, transformer skids, and fan ducting foundations began in February 2025 and are ongoing. - Topographical issues along the fence line near Finns Road have meant saplings haven't been able to thrive. More mature plants are planned to be planted in the gap. VS7: - Main sinking operations commenced in April and are continuing at ~100 m depth. - Blasting will continue throughout the project until a depth of ~590m is achieved. - Blasting is no longer audible at this depth meaning the noise mitigations measured designed into the project are being effective.

	VS8: - Main sinking operations commenced in April and are continuing at ~200 m depth. - Blasting will continue throughout the project until a depth of 560m is achieved. - Blasting is no longer audible at this depth. **Environment Monitoring** No exceedances for environment monitoring data for dust, noise, blasting or complaints issues. There was one exceedance discharge where a lag between compliant test results being returned from the lab and changing conditions at time of release meant the pH level was slightly outside the prescribed range (8.7 against a limit of 8.5). Prior samples taken days earlier were fully compliant, so results were processed on standard turnaround rather than urgent analysis. Once the elevated pH result was received, discharge was stopped immediately and the sample was re-tested, confirming the pH. The exceedance did not pose a risk to downstream water quality, but it was formally reported to the NSW EPA. Corrective actions implemented: - pH will be adjusted with acid dosing prior to future discharges. - All discharge samples will now use fast-turnaround lab testing (next-day results). - Daily field pH checks will occur during discharge campaigns.
7	**Community update**
	There was one community enquiry about the reversing alarms in use at night. The team have replaced the tonal alarms with the less tonal but compliant “quaking” alarms and will look for opportunities to limit site movement overnight. Community Newsletter issued in September 2025: LINK HERE. This and other updates are published on the project webpage if anyone needs to refer back. **AC / MA –** no hard copies received at addresses in Burrells Road again. **Action:** AL to check the GPS for the distribution company / consider changing distributors. Community Partnership Program: - CPP has endorsed an application from the Appin War Memorial requesting $13,000 to support the design, planning, construction, landscaping, permits, and signage for the memorial. - The CPP has endorsed a $5,000 grant to the Douglas Park Parents and Citizens Association to purchase three Felton Park settings for the Douglas Park Public Primary School playground. Applications are open for the Community Partnership Program: LINK HERE.

	GM³ Sponsorships: - GM³ are sponsoring the Arts Alive Event in Wollondilly Shire. - GM³ are matching convoy donations up to the value of $50,000. - GM³ are supporting the Appin Walks Together for Mental Health event as a cause close to the organisations heart and workforce.
8	**General business**
	GM³ have decided to rent out the property at 30 Finns Road as its no longer required for project use. This is now privately leased by tenants with no association with the project. GM³ are currently considering feedback from CCC / MAP members on what the preferred end of year arrangements should look like. Some prefer dinner, others prefer alternatives. **Action:** AL will communicate what the end of year plans are once settled. General agreement to retain the alternating online / in person meeting format The next meeting (MAP#22) scheduled for February 2026 will be hosted online. KK to provide support for any MAP members who would like a practice run joining virtually. The subsequent mid-year meeting in 2026 (MAP#23) will likely be in person again. This meeting structure can be reviewed if its isn't working, or additional meetings can be called on a needs basis if urgent matters arise.
9	**Next meeting**
	MEETING CLOSE – 4:35pm NEXT MEETING – **4pm Thursday 12 Feb 2026. Online – Via Microsoft Teams or Zoom.**