

**MANDALONG MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2021**

Mandalong Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project Name:	Mandalong Mine	Reporting Period:	January - December 2021
Independent Chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill	Proponent Contact:	Jeffrey Dunwoodie

1. Executive Summary

The Mandalong Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was established in 1998 following a Commission of Inquiry into the then State owned mine. Centennial Coal purchased the mine in 2002 and subsequently became part of Banpu Public Company in 2010. Mandalong Mine is an underground longwall operation located on the western side of Lake Macquarie near Morisset and west of the M1 Motorway, approximately 130 km north of Sydney and 50 km from the Port of Newcastle. It supplies up to 6.5 million tonnes of coal to the domestic power and export markets.

The Committee operates in accordance with the Department of Planning and Environment's 2019 Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects.

The committee is comprised of:

- five local community representatives, three of whom are members of the Mandalong Community Association (MCA) with two designated alternates;
- one Lake Macquarie City Council elected representative;
- two Mandalong Mine representatives, with attendance from other personnel as required;
- one independent Minute Taker;
- one independent Chairperson.

The committee has been in operation for over two decades and attendance numbers at all meetings remains high. Fortunately, the 2021 meeting schedule managed to avoid any impact from Covid-19 restrictions, although no site tour was undertaken as a consequence. There was one guest speaker to the February meeting, Centennial's Group Manager Stakeholder Engagement, who spoke on Banpu's Sustainability and Strategic Plan and the Mandalong Community Fund. Meetings were held in February, June and October. Recruitment of additional members to represent the areas west of the lake as mining operations move in that direction were held in abeyance until the Covid-19 situation improves. However, preliminary discussions with residents potentially impacted by the mine's operations are ongoing.

For the reporting period, the committee's interest has been on the Mandalong South Surface Site construction, tree planting at the site entrance, the capacity of Mandalong Road to withstand increased traffic volume with adequate safety and increasing noise complaints throughout the year.

As the Mandalong Valley is subject to flooding, discussion also took place on the progress of the lidar survey flood modelling and the review of the flood modelling undertaken previously by Umwelt. This is a regular agenda item to each meeting.

A brief on the Mandalong Community fund was presented to the Committee at the February meeting with Centennial's proposal to seek a modification to vary the consent condition that vested the establishment of the fund of \$500,000 with the Lake Macquarie Foundation to that to be administered by the Mandalong Community Consultative Committee. The variation to the modification would seek to add Dora Creek and Wyee to the areas of Morisset and Mandalong as mining operations move in that direction and replace the \$500,000 cap to a \$50,000 per annum contribution for the productive life of the mine. This proposal was very well received by the committee who will be actively engaged in the development of a charter, governance, application guidelines and eligibility criteria throughout the ensuing year.

The committee received an invitation from Banpu Energy to join a stakeholder reference group for the underground pumped hydro energy storage project. The company has received a research grant to conduct research into the potential use of underground coal mines as a reservoir for pumped hydro storage. One member of the committee was nominated by the remainder to participate and report back on the project.

Interest and discussions on current modifications in other Centennial operations around Lake Macquarie were also discussed during the reporting period. These included the Newstan Extension project, the Northern Coal Logistics Project and Myuna coal haulage on public.

Other topics of discussion for the reporting period also included:

- subsidence and increased ponding - potential flooding impacts to property and infrastructure
- remnant ponding remediation
- general environmental management and monitoring
- remediation of Aboriginal grinding groove site
- management of Centennial owned land; weed management and property sales
- Covid-19 response
- Rural Fire Shed land transfer
- approvals update and proposed modification to reorientate and reduce number of longwalls
- Mandalong South Surface Site infrastructure
- 33kV Powerline, Substation and TransGrid updates
- current mining status
- exploration activities
- community complaints
- broader community engagement and sponsorship.

The committee enjoys the benefit of comprehensive pre-meeting reports prior to every meeting, covering current mining status, exploration, environmental monitoring, planning approvals, community consultation and land management. Centennial also provides a further report and PowerPoint presentation at each meeting on the mine's production, geological updates, subsidence results, environmental monitoring and extraction plan updates, upcoming projects and sponsorship. Interaction between all members is cordial. The committee functions well and meets its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- Strict adherence to Covid-19 requirements and the timing of committee meetings worked well for the committee which met February, June and October during the reporting period.
- No site tours took place during the year because of Covid-19 restrictions.
- There were no joint CCC's held for this period, although the committee is kept well informed of other Centennial operations around Lake Macquarie as stated above.

3. Key issues

The main topic of committee discussion throughout 2021 was mainly the Mandalong South Surface Site construction.

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
traffic from Mandalong South Surface Site construction	Additional road safety signage, road pavement, enforceable road safety and speed limits, hours of operation, induction for all contractors to Centennial Mandalong. Additional morning peak hour survey undertaken at request of CCC. Traffic count to include vehicle movements per hour.	Ongoing. Reported to June 2021 meeting. Traffic counts graph included at each meeting during construction.
Tree planting at Mandalong South Surface Site CCC request for additional information	List of species provided and an explanation of the Miyawaki Technique provided at February meeting.	Progress to be included in future meetings.
Land transfer for Mandalong Rural Fire Shed	Land transfer completed.	MCA Committee members to liaise with Council on potential use as a community hub. Centennial to support where applicable.
Flooding management and remediation	Pre and post mining depth, pre and post hazard category and public roads included in flood modelling	Progress information to be presented to committee as it becomes available. Committee informed of delays with model.

Noise complaints Mandalong South Surface Site	<p>Increasing noise complaints from fans as year progressed. Ventilation fan diesel generators turned off in May with connection of 33kV powerline</p> <p>Investigation by consultant identified noise from fans is audible, within compliance</p> <p>Update letters provided to Mandalong South residents October 2021.</p>	<p>Acoustic engineer engaged to identify further mitigation.</p> <p>Fan Blade Pass Frequency identified as dominant factor to audible noise.</p> <p>Further mitigation is being investigated and will be reported to February 2022 meeting.</p>
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4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2022 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- site inspections of interest on progress of construction of the Mandalong South Surface Site.
- Mandalong Rural Fire Shed and potential opportunities.
- updates on Centennial owned land; property sales, land management and remediation, including flood mitigation.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed or are in the process of being so, to the committee's satisfaction.

Committee Meeting minutes and presentations are available on the website within two weeks of each meeting.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	March 1 2022