

## Maxwell Community Consultative Committee – Annual Report 2022

<b>CCC / Project Name:</b>	Maxwell CCC	<b>Reporting Period:</b>	March 2021 to March 2022
<b>Independent Chairperson:</b>	<b>Lisa Andrews</b>	<b>Proponent Contact:</b>	<b>Donna McLaughlin</b>

### 1. Executive Summary

The Maxwell Underground project is located in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales, east-southeast of Denman and south-southwest of Muswellbrook. The site is approved to extract a maximum of 8 million tonnes of run-of-mine coal per year over a period of 26 years.

The site consists of the following areas:

- Underground area comprising the proposed area of underground mining operations and the mine entry area (MEA) to support underground mining and coal handling activities and provide for personnel and materials access;
- Maxwell Infrastructure (formerly Drayton mine) comprising previous open cut mining areas, existing coal handling and preparation plant (CHPP), train load-out facilities and rail loop, Antiene rail spur and other infrastructure and services; and
- Proposed transport and services corridor between the underground area and Maxwell Infrastructure comprising the proposed site access road, covered overland conveyor, power supply and other ancillary infrastructure and services.

The area within and surrounding the site, which has previously been known as Mt Arthur South, Saddlers Creek and Drayton South, has long been identified as having a significant in-situ coal resource. Prospecting for coal commenced in the late 1940s, with exploration intensifying during the 1960s and 1970s. Open cut coal extraction and mining activities commenced at Maxwell Infrastructure in 1983 and ceased in October 2016. The previous open cut mining area is currently in the rehabilitation phase of the mine operations.

The development consent for State Significant Development 9526 (Development Consent SSD 9526) was granted on 22 December 2020. The development consent was modified on 19 November 2021 to allow for the repositioning of infrastructure primarily at the MEA and realignment of a section of the site access road. The site also incorporates the development formerly authorised under the Maxwell Infrastructure Project Approval (PA) 06\_0202. Development Consent DA 106 04 00 for the existing rail loop and Antiene Rail Spur was granted on 2 November 2000 and is still current. The development for the Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project (SSD 9526) was formally commenced under the Development Consent on 5 July 2021 which included the requirement to establish a community consultative committee, noting that this could be combined with the existing Maxwell Committee.

Malabar Resources also had an exploration licence for Spur Hill and operated a separate Ministerial Community Consultative Committee, following the acquisition of the Drayton South site by Malabar Resources, the Spur Hill CCC was combined with the Minister's approval with the Maxwell CCC. This provided genuine community representation of the local area and of broader stakeholder interests represented.

Accordingly, the merged committee became the Maxwell CCC and had its inaugural meeting on 21 September 2021. The CCC operates in accordance with the Department of Planning & Environment's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Development (January 2019). The committee membership consists of:

- Five local community representatives
- One Muswellbrook Shire Council delegate
- One Stakeholder Group representative (Muswellbrook Business Chamber)
- One Coolmore/Godolphin representative (in accordance with the specific condition of approval)
- Three company representatives; and
- One Independent Chairperson.

The Antiene Rail Spur committee comprises of the Maxwell CCC members and the Mt Arthur CCC members. This committee meets on a bi-annual cycle and meetings are alternately by the Independent Chairpersons of the Maxwell CCC & Mt Arthur CCC (in June and December).

The Maxwell CCC meetings are held quarterly in February, May, August & November with attendees receiving a comprehensive presentation from the proponent. An extraordinary meeting was held in February 2022 when the proponent briefed the committee of its intention for two modifications for the Maxwell Project:

- re-orientation of the longwall panels in the Woodlands Hill, Arrowfield and Bowfield Seams, resulting in a minor increase in the approved underground mining area extent;
- reduction in the width of some of the initial longwall panels in the Woodlands Hill Seam; and
- repositioning of the upcast ventilation shaft site and associated infrastructure.

Topics of discussion during the normal reporting period for the existing Maxwell site included:

- Management of COVID-19 on site
- Update on the Spur Hill Underground Metallurgical Project
- Spur Hill 2D Seismic Lines
- Update on the Maxwell Underground Metallurgical Mine
- Mining Lease Applications
- Mine Entry Area Modification
- Modification 2 Overview and scheduling
- Environmental Performance
- Rehabilitation Update
- Management Plans Update
- Landform Evolution Modelling Update
- Cattle Grazing Trial
- Rainfall Events and Sampling
- Air Quality Monitoring and Data
- Independent Environmental Audit
- Annual Environmental Management Report
- Targeted Assessment Program on Landform Assessment
- Community/Sponsorships
- Complaints (Nil).

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community, the Council and the company. It functions well and accordingly, fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

## **2. CCC activities over last 12 months**

- The committee met in December 2021, February 2022 (Extra-ordinary) and March 2022.

- Attendance at the meetings is high, with the occasional apology due to competing commitments of volunteers.
- Members receive an extensive presentation from the proponent regarding its environment monitoring results and future for the Maxwell site (including modifications).
- There are joint CCC's held with Mt Arthur for the Antiene Rail Spur.

### 3. Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as:

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Actions Taken</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Modifications for Maxwell Project (re-orientation of the longwall panels; reduction in the width of some of the initial longwall panels; and the repositioning of the upcast ventilation shaft site and associated infrastructure.</b>	The proponent called an extra-ordinary meeting to inform the CCC of its intentions, prior to submitting the applications.	CCC to be kept informed of the modification process.
<b>Modification application for mine entry</b>	The proponent provides an update on this application at each CCC	Ongoing.
<b>Environmental Monitoring</b>	The proponent provides detailed information of its environmental monitoring on site and its commitment to meeting legislative and regulatory compliance.	Ongoing presentations to CCC.
<b>Management Plans</b>	All management plans continue to be reviewed/updated in accordance with regulatory requirements and new approvals.	CCC kept informed of approval of Management Plans by DPE.
<b>Spur Hill Underground Metallurgical Project</b>	The proponent provides a detailed presentation to members at each CCC on its geophysical works/surveys being undertaken in this area under its exploration licence.	
<b>Maxwell Underground Metallurgical Mine</b>	Updates provided on the approved Maxwell Underground Mine, longwall panels	

#### 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:

- Continued updates on the progression of the Modifications before DPE.

Continued updates on the recent Maxwell

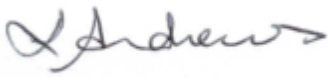
- Continued updates provided on monitoring and environmental performance.
- Continued updates on the rehabilitation of the site.

This is an exemplary CCC. The company are dedicated to presenting thorough information to members who are appreciative of this commitment. There are usually two site inspections undertaken every year, however, this was restricted due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Glencore is proud of the work they are undertaking on site. The feedback from CCC members is very positive.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed.

CCC minutes are available on the project website.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	29 April 2022