

**Notes of Briefing from the Proponent**

<b>This meeting is part of the determination process</b>	
<b>Meeting note taken by:</b> Jorge Van Den Brande	
<b>Date:</b> 26/06/2018	<b>Time:</b> 12:00 pm
<b>Project:</b> Mount Pleasant Coal Mine – MOD 3 Extension of Mine Life	
<b>Meeting Place:</b> IPCN Offices at 201 Elizabeth Street, 2000 Sydney, NSW	
<p><b>Attendees:</b>            Commission Members: Alan Coutts (Chair); Peter Williams and Prof. Zada Lipman            Commission Secretariat: David Koppers (Team Leader) and Jorge Van Den Brande (Planning Officer)</p> <p><b>Mach Energy</b>            Ferdian Purnamasidi - Managing Director            Darren Yeates - Chief Operating Officer            Chris Lauritzen - General Manager, Resource Development            Stirling Bartlam - Consultant            Josh Peters - Consultant</p>	
<b>Meeting Purpose:</b> The purpose of the meeting was for the proponent to explain the proposal and comment on the Department's assessment report.	
The proponent briefed the Commission on the matters below:	
<p><b>Current Situation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There have only been construction activities and stripping of overburden undertaken at the site. It is anticipated that the first coal will be mined in October, initially for the domestic market, and later for export.</li> <li>• The rail loop that will be removed in 2022 has already been fully constructed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Modification Proposal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal seeks an extension of project life by six years to recoup investment in purchasing the mine and building the current infrastructure.</li> <li>• Includes an extension of the Eastern Out of Pit Emplacement Area (OEA) main emplacement to provide additional capacity and remove need to emplace waste in the South West Emplacement.</li> <li>• If the modification is approved, the project will increase its construction work force, which will mainly be sourced locally.</li> </ul> <p><b>Submissions and Consultation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early submissions raised major concerns on the final landform design the original project proposed. A redesigned final landform includes early revegetation of the eastern face with native tree species, replicates with existing topography and natural landform, and facilitates an improved final landform when viewed from Muswellbrook.</li> </ul>	

- Modification 3 submissions were mostly lodged by Bengalla employees; however, these have already been withdrawn.
- Proponent has a Community Consultative Committee in place and has regular contact with Muswellbrook Shire Council.
- Proponent has contacted the Hunter Thoroughbred Association twice for consultation, however there has not been a response to date.

#### **Future proposals**

- A separate modification (MOD 4) is currently under assessment with the Department. It proposes the location for the new rail loop and resolves the land-use conflicts between Bengalla and Mount Pleasant.
- Proponent expressed that this modification proposal is critical as it provides investor confidence and a six-year time frame for preparation and determination of a future SSD application for deeper seams, while undertaking operations if this modification is approved.

#### **Updates to the EIS**

- Specialist studies were undertaken to contemporise the environmental assessments, which included noise and blasting, air quality and greenhouse gas, a water balance review, biodiversity and road transport.

**Documents:** Power Point presentation

**Outcomes/Agreed Actions:** Proponent will come back to the Commission on the execution status of the Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) and its Community Contribution \$500,000 payment.

**Meeting closed at:** 01:00 pm