

#### SITE INSPECTION & LOCALITY TOUR NOTES

Project: Russell Vale Revised Underground Expansion Project

Meeting Location: Project Site and surrounding area

 Date:
 Friday, 16 October 2020

 Time:
 9:00am - 1:00pm

**ATTENDANCE** 

Commission Panel: Professor Alice Clark (Panel Chair)

Professor Chris Fell AM Dr Peter Williams

**OIPC:** Brad James Principal Case Manager

Ben Porges Student Planning Intern

Applicant: Warwick Lidbury CEO, Wollongong Coal

Devendra Vyas Associate Vice President, Jindal Steel & Power (Australia) Pty Ltd

Eladio Perez Group Environment and Approvals Manager (Acting)

Richard Sheehan Environment and Approvals Manager, Wollongong Coal

Robert Faddy-Vrouwe Environmental Coordinator, Wollongong Coal

Glen Hamilton Surveyor, Wollongong Coal

David Holmes Principal Environmental Consultant, Umwelt Gabriella Allan Principal Environmental Consultant, Umwelt

Community: Nic Clyde Lock the Gate Alliance

Kay Osborn Protect Our Water Alliance - POWA

# **LOCATIONS & KEY FEATURES**

#### 1) Russell Vale Golf Club

Opening Statement and introductions. A safety briefing and induction was completed by all attendees. The Applicant provide drone footage and an overview of the application and Project site.

### 2) Truck Driver Rest Area

The Panel observed the proposed truck transport route including weighing station. The Applicant clarified that the purpose of this location was to provide routine checks on truck upon entering and exiting the site. The Applicant pointed out the location of the existing noise berm to the south and the proposed noise wall location to the north. The Applicant confirmed that the water used for washing the trucks as part of their entry and exit of the site was to be from recycled water from the Russell Vale Plant. The Applicant also clarified that there will be no issues with the queuing of trucks and that the parking area at the bottom of the site was large enough to take trucks off the road prior to entering the facility.

#### 3) Seam Entrance

The Panel observed the existing Wongawilli Seam entrance at this location. The Panel also observed the compressor shed, ventilation fans, a wash bay, laydown areas, control rooms and a workshop. The Applicant clarified the height differences between each seam and orientation.

#### 4) Coal Processing Plant

The Panel observed the existing coal processing plant, surge bin and the truck loading bin at this location.

#### 5) ROM Stockpile

The Panel observed the stockpile and RV1 Stockpile Conveyor at this location. The Panel observed existing dust suppression systems at this location.

#### 6) Coal Loading Area

The Panel observed the stockpile as well as the surrounding berms. The Panel was also able to observe the weather activated dust control sprays, truck loading area and the proposed dry processing plant. The Applicant clarified that weed controls implemented for the Project would be undertaken in accordance with the weed management plan. The Applicant confirmed that recycled water would be used for the dust control systems and watering down of trucks. The Applicant also confirmed that the Project would not be overly invasive on the surrounding public areas. In response to a query from the Panel, the Applicant states that the summer winds came from a NNW direction, with the stronger and less common wind coming from the wester direction off of the escarpment.

#### 7) Escarpment Area

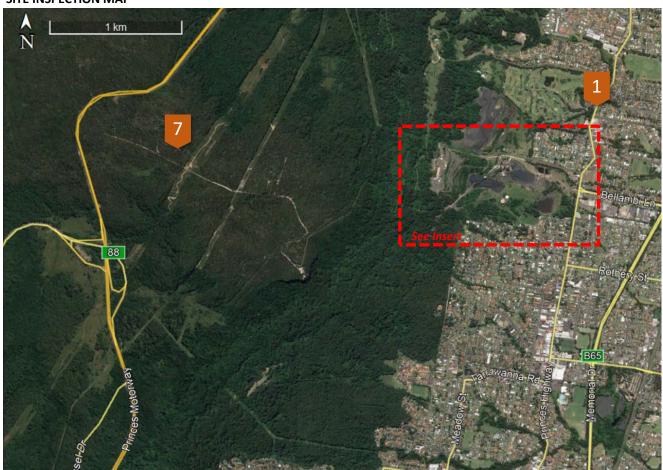
The Panel travelled to the top of the escarpment where they then walked to swamps PCc2 located above the first workings of the Wongawilli seam. Prior to arriving at the swamp, the Panel observed a monitoring station. The Applicant confirmed that the station was used to monitor weather. At swamp PCc2, the Applicant clarified the use of water monitoring systems was to monitor the quality and quantity of surrounding ground water in in the swamp, as well as several other landmarks used by ecologists which provide way-finding and consistency in their measurements. The Applicant confirmed that they have maintained such data and records of the swamps since 2011. The Applicant also provided clarification on surface rainwater and runoff, stating that the swamps are defined by a rocky edge which slows down the runoff process in the swamps. The Applicant provided further clarity on the topic of subsidence, explaining the slow process of substance accumulation and their expected impacts of subsidence on the seams.

The Panel returned to the Russell Vale Golf Club and the Site Inspection concluded.

#### 8) Broker St

The Panel observed the existing residential area to the north of the Project site. The Panel observed the interface between Broker St and the Project site.

## SITE INSPECTION MAP



### **Map Insert**

