

**Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee**  
**Summary of Meeting No 8**  
**Held at East Murray Community Centre**  
**5:00 pm Monday, 10 April 2006**

**Attendees:** Kevin Burdett (Mayor - DCKEM), Garry Wardle (Mineral Resources Group (MRG)), Erik Lock (MRG), Peter Smithson (CEO – DCKEM), John Berger (Murray Mallee Strategic Task Force), Damian Berger (Mallee Coorong Natural Resource Management Group), Brenton Lewis (Murraylands Regional Development Board), Grant Dixon (landowner), Darren Eatts (landowner), Gale Pfitzner (landowner), Kevin Heidrich (landowner), David Barr (landowner), Gerard Bosch (Australian Zircon NL (AZC)), Peter Hinner (AZC), Johann Jacobs (AZC), Steve Wickham (AZC), Ilona Schultz (AZC), Peter Woods (Parsons Brinckerhoff), Steve Barnett (DWLBC), Chris McDonough (Rural Solutions SA), Brian Fullston (landowner), Ann Crouch (landowner), E. F. Francis (landowner).

**Apologies:** Ted Tyne (MRG), Mark Bell (Riverland Development Corp), Michael Vowles (landowner).

Kevin Burdett (Mayor - DCKEM) chaired the meeting in the absence of the ill Ted Tyne, Director – Mineral Resources Group. Kevin welcomed members and observers attending for the first time and invited each to introduce themselves to the Committee.

## **1 Minutes**

The distributed minutes of the previous meeting of 22 February 2006 were accepted without amendment.

## **2 Business Arising**

### **Action Items from the previous meeting.**

1. The matter of landowner representation had been raised at previous meetings as the initial mining area changed from Mercunda to Mindarie. This is to be discussed as an Agenda Item.
2. Concerns had been raised by several Committee members as to the water usage of the project and the effect that moisture introduced with tailings may have on groundwater salinity.

Steve Barnett (DWLBC) and Peter Woods (Parsons Brinckerhoff) will give presentations on these matters at the following public meeting.

3. Damian Berger was endorsed as the representative of the Mallee Coorong Natural Resource Management Group on the MMCCC.

### **3 Committee membership**

Following discussion on the matter it was agreed Mindarie strandline landowners Fullston, Crouch and Francis be welcomed as additional Committee members. This increases the Committee landowner membership from the 4 permanent + 1 transient, as originally nominated in the Terms of Reference, to a total of 8.

The Committee requested the Chair to seek endorsement of this amendment to the membership numbers at the public meeting to follow. This was subsequently endorsed.

Michael Vowles, Loxton strandline landowner wishes to relinquish his seat on the Committee as he will not be affected by operations in the near future and will be happy to keep abreast of proceedings through the delivery of the Committee minutes.

### **4 Mining and Rehabilitation Program**

Parsons Brinckerhoff is currently developing the Mining and Rehabilitation Program (MARP) for the Mindarie strandline for submission to PIRSA Mineral Resources Group (MRG) for approval. A Preliminary Draft has been presented to MRG for early comment. This will be returned to AZC within two weeks with comment and advice towards the development of the final MARP, which, after perusal by MRG, will be distributed to MMCCC members for comment.

The complete volume of the MARP runs over 375 pages. It was agreed that a hard copy of the main text of the epistle (150 pages), together with a CD of the complete MARP would be distributed to MMCCC members.

A complete hard copy volume would be made available for public viewing at DCKEM offices, with another full copy held at the East Murray Area School.

It is anticipated that the MARP may be ready to be made available to MMCCC members in four to six week's time. This would allow two weeks for members to peruse and make comment prior to the scheduled June meeting. If the MARP is in a position to be released earlier, then the June meeting may be brought forward to accommodate a timely approval. This meeting may conflict with farmers seeding operations and it was suggested that an evening timeslot was appropriate, at say 7.30pm.

The question of discussing the MARP with the media was raised. It was agreed that any media query must be directed to the Chair, Ted Tyne, Director - Mineral Resources, as per the Committee's Terms of Reference. The MARP will become a public document once approved by the Minister and will be published on the PIRSA website.

**5 General Business**

The likelihood of further rehabilitation trials was mentioned. AZC are keen to do further trials on dust control measures in summer by trialling spray on polymers, irrigated cover crops etc. It is anticipated another rehabilitation trial "pit" be established to coincide with the current crop. Details are not available at this stage.

The Murraylands Regional Development Board has set aside funds (\$3,500) towards the establishment of a weather station for the Mindarie area. This funding allocation will lapse if not utilised before 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006. The weather station will require matching funding from other sources.

A weather station has been installed on Darren Eatts land which is monitored by the River Murray Catchment Water Management Board with results collated on their website.

AZC stated their current progress towards development:-

- signed financial agreements with the Commonwealth Bank,
- committed to detailed design,
- ordered long lead items and plant eg D11 dozers,
- contracted Parsons Brinckerhoff to develop MARP,
- expect construction at Mindarie MSP to commence July 2006,
- employment selection for the above in June 2006,
- mining to commence in the first quarter of 2007,
- expected life on current reserves in excess of 12 years.

The Murraylands Regional Development Board is seeking tenders for the installation of broadband coverage of the area. They thanked AZC for their letter committing to the project's planned utilisation of this feature.

**6 Next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the East Murray Community Centre @ 10.00am on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2006. This meeting may be brought forward if the draft MARP has been made available to members with time for perusal. Also a change of the starting time from 10.00am to 7.30pm may be made if this conflicts with seeding operations.

The Committee Meeting closed at 6.00 pm. A light supper was provided by the Parents and Friends of the East Murray Area School and sponsored by Australian Zircon. Thanks to those organisations for an enjoyable meal.

A Public meeting followed the Committee meeting with presentations from AZC, MRG, Parson Brinckerhoff, Rural Solutions SA and DWLBC. This meeting commenced at 7.00pm and closed at approximately 10.00pm.

Signed..... Date...../...../.....  
Chair