

**Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee
Summary of Meeting No 12
Held at East Murray Community Centre
10:00 am Tuesday, 6th February 2007**

Attendees:

Ted Tyne (Mineral Resources Group (MRG)),
Garry Wardle (MRG),
Kevin Burdett (Mayor - DCKEM),
Peter Smithson (CEO – DCKEM),
John Berger (Murray Mallee Strategic Task Force),
Trevor Bennett (Riverland Development Corp),
Grant Dixon (landowner),
Darren Eatts (landowner),
Gale Pfitzner (landowner),
E. F. Francis (landowner),
Gerard Bosch (Australian Zircon NL (AZC)),
Jim Wilton (CEO - AZC),
Georgina Tattersall (AZC),
Shaun Cresswell (Mine Manager – AZC),
Serge Caplygin, (Mine Regulation Program Leader - MRG),
Chris McDonough, (Field Crop Consultant – PIRSA Rural Solutions).

Ted Tyne, Director – Mineral Resources Group chaired the meeting and welcomed new AZC personnel Jim Wilton (CEO) and Shaun Cresswell and also PIRSA's Serge Caplygin and Chris McDonough.

1 Apologies:

Adrian Pederick (Member for Hammond), Brenton Lewis (Murraylands Regional Development Board), Damian Berger (Mallee Coorong Natural Resource Management Group), Brian Fullston (landowner), Ann Crouch (landowner), David Barr (landowner), Kevin Heidrich (landowner).

2 Minutes and Action Items

The distributed minutes of the previous meeting (No 11) held 3rd October 2006 were accepted without amendment.

Action Items from the previous meeting.

Action Item: Inspection of rehab trial pits sites from earlier this year (2006). Chris McDonough (PIRSA Rural Solutions) is currently drafting a report. AZC to liaise with Chris to determine timing and organise inspection. AZC to advise PIRSA for promulgation of report to committee members.

Site inspection held 24 October 2006 and yield determinations were carried out. Chris McDonough presenting results this meeting.

Action Item: It was requested that PIRSA approach Kevin Heidrich for access to further evaluate crop yield at the trial pit site on the Mercunda strand. Evaluation of other early rehabilitation sites will also continue.

PIRSA was unable to contact Kevin before area was cropped.

Action Item: A short site visit be arranged to follow the February meeting. PIRSA to liaise with AZC and send out Agenda etc.

Site visits to follow today's meeting with John McGrain, Parsons Brinkerhoff's site manager.

3 Business arising

There was no business arising.

4 Project Update

Jim Wilton gave a brief update on the project's current status:

- There are approximately 20 people on site at the moment, mostly housed in the construction camp.
- Knight's Well road (access to plant site) has been bitumen sealed.
- ETSA Utilities have commenced work on the powerline to Pyap, expected to be complete by the end of March.
- Two D11RCD bulldozers are being fitted out in Adelaide, also the Cat 385 excavator for ore loading duties. They are expected to arrive on site during February along with the loaders and service vehicles.
- AZC was successful in its bid for funding from the Auslink Regional Development Grant for the installation of the product load-out facility. Peter Smithson has been instrumental in facilitating the successful application of this grant. Changes in the scope of the proposed facility, from a planned spur line to a rail load-out facility, have been relayed to the federal authority.
- Induction programs are being conducted for all personnel working on site including contractors and sub-contractors.
- The practical completion of all plant and commissioning is expected in August.
- The Starter Pit for the minesite is scheduled to be excavated at the end of March 2007.
- A number of regulatory approvals have been received, these include approval of the Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan and Development Approval for the MSP and the MARP for the Pyap powerline.

- A comprehensive drilling program for grade control was carried out in the western section of Mindarie A2.

Chris McDonough (PIRSA Field Crop Consultant) gave a PowerPoint presentation on the methodology and results of rehabilitation trials carried out in 2006 and in previous years.

Chris summarised the main findings as:

What we learnt from Australian Zircon Trial, Mindarie 2006

- EM38 land mapping is an excellent tool for indicating zones of different rootzone soil rehabilitation (in conjunction with some soil testing).
- Can better maintain original soil integrity by “quartering” soil transfer piles, minimising lateral mixing of changing soils across strand lines.
- Judging topsoil depth on heavier soils by feel, rather than a set 10cm depth helps maintain topsoil free of cloddy clay problems.
- Replacement and maintenance of topsoil cover absolutely critical, as still problems where topsoil cover left too thin.
- Value of Deep-ripping sandy traffic areas.

Future Work / Considerations

- Use of Calcium Nitrate to fix heavy sodic soils
- Grab extra sand to add to topsoil on heavier soils – build in safety margins for operators
- The findings from this process will be applied to designing guidelines for the rehabilitation of farming soils, with clear instructions for machinery operators, for work on the first strand.

5 General Business

The issue of the timing clash with MMCCC meetings and those of the Mallee Coorong Natural Resource Management Group was raised. The RM group has now moved their monthly meeting to Tuesdays which means Damien Berger will be unable to attend both meetings. Changing the MMCCC meetings back to Wednesday also clashes with regular meetings requiring PIRSA attendance. PIRSA is to consult with Damien to seek a solution.

6 MSP Site visit

Committee members relocated to the MSP site on Knight’s Well road for an inspection of work currently in progress. The group was shown around the site by John McGrane (Site manager) and Chris Beattie (OHS co-ordinator).

7 Action Items

- PIRSA to consult with Damien Berger to seek a solution to the clash of MMCCC and MCNRMG meetings.

Damien was contacted on 09/02/07, apparently this clash of meetings is a “one-off” and after this occasion MCNRMG meetings will return to the regular day and not pose a problem for the future.

8 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the East Murray Community Centre @ 10.00am on Tuesday, 3rd April 2007.

Signed.....

Chair

Date...../...../.....