

**Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee  
Summary of Meeting No 13  
Held at East Murray Community Centre  
10:00 am Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2007**

**Attendees:**

Kevin Burdett (Mayor - DCKEM), CHAIR  
Garry Wardle (Senior Mining Engineer - Mineral Resources Group (MRG)),  
Serge Caplygin, (Mine Regulation Program Leader – (MRG)),  
Chris Koufalias (Project Manager - (MRG)),  
Peter Smithson (CEO – DCKEM),  
Adrian Pederick (Member for Hammond),  
Damian Berger (Mallee Coorong Natural Resource Management Group),  
Trevor Bennett (Riverland Development Corp),  
Grant Dixon (landowner),  
Gale Pfitzner (landowner),  
Gerard Bosch (Manager Exploration, Australian Zircon NL (AZC)),  
Shaun Cresswell, (Mine Manager (AZC)),  
Georgina Tattersall, (Environmental Scientist (AZC)),  
Tamara Nicolle, (Mine Geologist (AZC))  
Wayne Jaensch, (Logistics Manager - Genesee & Wyoming).

Mayor Kevin Burdett, in the absence of Ted Tyne, chaired the meeting and welcomed new attendees Wayne Jaensch of Genesee & Wyoming and Tamara Nicolle, mine geologist from AZC.

Mayor Burdett advised the meeting of the recent death of stalwart committee member Brian (Flea) Fullston and expressed remorse that Brian, who always displayed a positive and co-operative attitude and was tremendously supportive of the project and the benefits to the local community, would not be around to see the project finally come to fruition.

**1 Apologies:**

Ted Tyne (Mineral Resources Group (MRG)), Brenton Lewis (Murraylands Regional Development Board), John Berger (Murray Mallee Strategic Task Force), Darren Eatts (landowner), E. F. Francis (landowner), Ann Crouch (landowner), David Barr (landowner), Kevin Heidrich (landowner).

**2 Minutes and Action Items**

The distributed minutes of the previous meeting (No 12) held 6<sup>th</sup> February 2007 were accepted without amendment.

Action Item from the previous meeting.

**Action Item:** 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.

### **3 Business arising**

There was no business arising.

### **4 Project Update**

Shaun Cresswell, Mine Manager AZC, gave a brief update on the current status of the project, highlights include:

- ETSA Utilities have completed work on the powerline to Pyap.
- Two D11RCD bulldozers have been fitted out in Adelaide, also the Cat 385 excavator for ore loading duties and have arrived on site.
- Topsoil and subsoil stripping for the Starter Pit has commenced. Stockpiles will be sprayed with polymer this week to stabilise and prevent erosion. Dozers have commenced digging in the Starter Pit. Heavy equipment is currently being manned on a single 12-hour shift basis with the second shift planned as operations come on line.
- Foundations/floor for the concentrate upgrade plant are being poured.
- Steel erection for the PCP (primary concentrator plant) has commenced.
- Council was the successful applicant for the Auslink funding as such an application can only be made through local government. AZC have changed the scope of the Project and that change of scope requires Federal Government approval.
- Employment – advertisements have been placed in local and regional newspapers for 30 positions with the company. Employees will be required to be accommodated within a 75 km radius of Mindarie as part of AZC’s fatigue management policy for 12-hour shift workers. This radius includes regional centres such as Loxton, Berri, Barmera, Waikerie, Blanchetown, Swan Reach and Karoonda.
- AZC manned a stand at the prestigious Karoonda Fair where locals showed considerable interest in employment opportunities. Select Industrial has been contracted to manage employment matters and can be contacted through Shaun on 8150 7019.
- Engineering services are being managed by J R Robbins & Associates who have established a local office in Mindarie.
- The practical completion of all plant and commissioning is still on schedule for August.

General discussion on matters relating to project status followed.

A number of regulatory approvals have already been received; these include approval of the Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan, Development Approval for the MSP and the MARP for the Pyap powerline. The most recent approvals include the EPA licence to operate and the gazettal of the water usage approval pursuant to Section 128 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. It was suggested that the issues of Approvals be made an Agenda Item.

Mining of the western half of the Mindarie A2 strandline is expected to take about eight to ten months through the ramp-up period, this will be followed by the mining of the western part of the adjacent Mindarie C strandline before mining returns to the eastern half of the Mindarie A2 strandline. It is anticipated the draft Mining and Rehabilitation Programs for the management of the Mindarie C lease will be lodged with PIRSA for approval in the second half of 2007.

Knights Well Road will be out for approx five months while mining of the western half of Mindarie A2 takes place. Similar interruptions will occur in future years when the mining of Amiens and Mindarie C take place.

AZC attended a recent meeting of the Murray Darling Natural Resources Management Board that discussed the draft water allocation plan for the prescribed wells area and gave a presentation on the project in general and the planned water usage.

The Committee asked that examples of active community engagement, eg participation in the Karoonda Fair etc, be included in their project update. AZC have plans to include articles in local newspapers and the Advertiser and also a flyer in the Karoonda newsletter. Once operating, open days on site and school visits will be undertaken. It is planned to construct a viewing platform overlooking the operation for visiting groups.

Wayne Jaensch of Genesee & Wyoming (Australia) spoke about rail issues. G&W operates over nearly 5,000 kilometres of track, providing intrastate haulage of bulk commodities (including grain, steel, gypsum, and minerals) to key industries as well as short haul shunting and terminal operations. G&W has approximately 200 employees, 77 locomotives, and 575 wagons. Operations include; Penrice train, Gypsum Resources at Thevenard, bulk grain movements throughout SA, train control for the Tarcoola – Darwin rail line, narrow gauge operation at Onesteel's Whyalla operations.

Approximately 200,000 tpa of Titanium and Zircon products will be railed to Adelaide in containers. This will require three trains per week for 50 weeks of the year. Rail wagons will be loaded with product containers by forklifts and the train shunted along the main line, there will not be a branch line. Train movements will be co-ordinated with grain train movements.

G&W will embark on a communication campaign to inform the public of increased traffic on the line and hence across local train crossings. There will also be an upgrade of signage at the crossings. G&W operates their track on a "fit for purpose" basis and train loads, speeds and timetables are varied to suit local conditions.

**5 General Business**

The question of Internet access was raised – the project is currently committed to satellite link – other systems will take too long to install and will be too costly. AGILE has addressed this committee but were unable to meet the required schedule. The satellite link will provide phone access – cost of installation of phone towers is prohibitive.

The matter of visibility at the intersection of Knights Well Road/Wanbi Walkers Flat Road was raised. As this is a Council matter it was referred to Council for action.

**7 Action Items**

None.

**8 Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the East Murray Community Centre @ 10.00am on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

Signed.....  
Chair

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