

**Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee  
Summary of Meeting No 15  
Held at East Murray Community Centre  
10:00 am Tuesday, 7th August 2007**

**Attendees:**

Kevin Burdett (Mayor - DCKEM), CHAIR  
Garry Wardle (Senior Mining Engineer - (MRG))  
Peter Smithson (CEO – DCKEM),  
Brenton Lewis (Murraylands Regional Development Board),  
Grant Dixon (landowner),  
Gale Pfitzner (landowner),  
Kevin Heidrich (landowner),  
Gerard Bosch (Manager Exploration, Australian Zircon NL (AZC)),  
Phil Baillie (General Manager - Operations, AZC),  
Paul Mannix (Environmental Officer, AZC),  
Wayne Jaensch (Logistics Manager - Genesee & Wyoming),  
Trevor Kennewell (Adelaide Ops Co-ordinator - Genesee & Wyoming)

Mayor Kevin Burdett chaired the meeting in the absence of Ted Tyne who is in Kalgoorlie representing South Australia at the Diggers and Dealers Conference.

**1 Apologies:**

Ted Tyne (Director, Mineral Resources Group (MRG)), John Berger (Murray Mallee Strategic Task Force), Adrian Pederick (Member for Hammond), Trevor Bennett (Riverland Development Corp), Damian Berger (Mallee Coorong Natural Resource Management Group), E. F. Francis (landowner), Ann Crouch (landowner), David Barr (landowner), Darren Eatts (landowner).

**2 Minutes and Action Items**

The distributed minutes of the previous meeting (No 14) held 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007 were accepted without amendment.

There are no outstanding Action Items.

**3 Business arising**

Trevor Bennett has left the Riverland Development Corp (RDC) and joined the Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED). PIRSA to liaise

with Ken Smith (CEO of RDC) to determine RDC's future representation on the MMCCC.

#### **4 Project Update**

Phil Baillie, General Manager - Operations, AZC, gave a brief update on the current status of the project, highlights include:

- The handover from construction to commissioning is scheduled for late September. The schedule is now getting tight!
- Construction workforce now peaked at over 30 and work hours maximised in an effort to hit the target date.
- All major components of the PCP are now on site with the completion of the thickener being on the critical path for running ore in September.
- The Concentrate Upgrade Plant (CUP) is virtually complete and much of the equipment is now installed in the 5 storey dry plant. The wet Mineral Separation Plant (MSP) construction is progressing steadily.
- The power line from Pyap is now energised and distributing power across the site. Affected landowners have been notified of this.
- Mining activities have slowed as sufficient ore has been exposed and stockpiled to allow commissioning. Mining operations will resume when the in-pit miner arrives from Queensland and will be on a 24-hour basis.
- Approximately 35 of AZC staff are now on site and undergoing induction and training programs. Another 20 are expected over the next 2 months.
- AZC reminds people that they will not be providing or becoming involved in the provision of accommodation but will be posting accommodation information on site.
- The minesite office is now permanently manned and the office telephone number is : 8578 7800.  
The minesite is now using dedicated radio channels to avoid congestion on the public channels.
- Brochures for the Riverland Renaissance Festival, of which AZC is a major sponsor, have just been printed. Parsons Brinckerhoff sponsorship for the Halidon race meeting has been secured and other sponsorship from AZC suppliers is being sought.
- Phil Baillie continues to address local interest groups and the media to promote the mine and the district.
- AZC are in the process of purchasing the remaining mobile equipment, including a water cart, 30 tonne forklift and other items. The water cart will be fitted with a water cannon and may be utilised for local fire-fighting activities.
- AZC will soon be commencing work on the new Mining and Rehabilitation Program (MARP) for the next Mineral Lease(s) and work on the Annual Environmental Report (AER) to PIRSA.

Paul Mannix discussed environmental issues, including

- The monitoring of 20 wells around the site on a fortnightly basis,
- Chris McDonough to survey the trial rehabilitation site on the Crouch land this week,
- Chris has identified sectors of soil types over the pit, which will be stripped by land plane and stockpile for use in rehabilitation,
- AZC will be trialling subsoil stripping using a scraper as some of the subsoil has proved quite hard,
- AZC will retain a significant stand of native vegetation on the southern side of the pit even though it means additional tramping of soil to the far side of the pit,
- Noise levels will be monitored in nearby residences six months prior to mining, during mining and six months after mining has passed.

The question was put as to whether the trial rehabilitation sites had been continuously cropped since the trials. One landowner is still experiencing problems after planting lupins over the site of a trial pit excavated in 2001.

## **5 General Business**

The minesite was inspected on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2007, by Serge Caplygin, Program Leader – Mining Regulation PIRSA, accompanied by Garry Wardle, Senior Mining Engineer. The minesite was found to be in good working order and operations were being carried out in accordance with their Lease Conditions and Mining and Rehabilitation Program.

AZC was asked about their “policy on buying locally” following questions from the public directed to Council. AZC prefers to obtain goods and services from local suppliers where the prices are reasonably competitive.

It was commented that it would help if potential suppliers of goods and services were to make AZC aware of their resources and capabilities.

Council will make reference to this in their next newsletter

Brenton Lewis advised the meeting of recent discussions held with the District Council of Karoonda East Murray concerning Council's land division, the Ponderosa. Residential allotments are available with Council in the process of providing services and infrastructure. He suggested that AZC & Council consider putting together a housing/land package as part of a package to attract employees to the area.

Genesee & Wyoming will put out a publicity campaign prior to the first concentrate train mobilizing. The campaign will highlight road and rail safety issues and level crossings.

**6 Action Items**

None.

**7 Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the East Murray Community Centre @ 10.00am on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2007.

Signed.....  
Chair

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