

**Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee
Summary of Meeting No 18
Held at East Murray Community Centre
10:00 am Tuesday, 1st April 2008**

Attendees:

Ted Tyne (Director, Mineral Resources Group (MRG)), CHAIR,
Garry Wardle (Senior Mining Engineer - MRG),
Kevin Burdett (Mayor - DCKEM),
Peter Smithson (CEO – DCKEM),
Damian Berger (Mallee Coorong Natural Resource Management Group),
John Berger (Murray Mallee Strategic Task Force),
Gale Pfitzner (landowner),
E. F. Francis (landowner),
Jim Wilton (CEO, Australian Zircon NL AZC),
Gerard Bosch (Manager Exploration, AZC),
Paul Mannix (Environmental Officer, AZC),
Julieanne Goode (PB Senior Environmental Scientist),
John Waters (Radiation Protection Consultant).

1 Apologies:

Trevor Bennett (Riverland Development Corp), Brenton Lewis (Murraylands Regional Development Board), Adrian Pederick (Member for Hammond), Serge Caplygin (Program Leader Mining Regulation – MRG), Grant Dixon (landowner), Kevin Heidrich (landowner), Darren Eatts (landowner), Ann Crouch (landowner), David Barr (landowner), Rodney Tonkin (landowner).

2 Minutes and Action Items

The distributed minutes of the previous meeting (No 17) held 5th February 2008 were accepted without amendment.

Action Items

- AZC will give a presentation on dust management and monitoring techniques at the next meeting. Done this meeting.
- AZC to follow up alternate two-way channel possibilities. AZC still investigating alternate channels and units for contractors and monitoring disturbance to locals. AZC have procedure for radio use in pit area – part of induction process.

3 Business arising

There was no business arising.

4 Project Update

- **Summary of operations**

Jim Wilton, CEO and Acting General Manager Operations – AZC gave an update on the current status of the project.

- Since start-up the ore mined and product railed from site has tripled.
- There is a full complement of 85 employees employed at the mine, plus another 15-20 locals working as casuals.
- Mining personnel are undergoing accreditation training for mining equipment including trucks, dozer and excavator.
- Ken Donaldson (previously Plant Manager) has been appointed to the position of General Manager Operations, replacing Phil Baillie.
- There has been a number of school visits to site, including teachers and students from East Murray School, Craigmores High and Salisbury TAFE College.
- Total water usage to date of 0.5 GL is well under the expected usage due to the success of the water recycling program.
- An overflow of a tailings dam wall occurred on night shift Sunday 23rd March 2008. The water level rose and overflowed the bank allowing the water to escape and cut a channel in the dam wall. Water ran through the hardstand area around the offices, workshop, laboratory and water storage pond. One and one half day's production was lost due to the ensuing cleanup. PIRSA and WorkSafe SA staff inspected the site.
- The mine has been regularly operating at rates of 550 tonnes per hour up to 600 tph. The mine has been dispatching one train of product per week (~700 tonnes per train), at full production three trains per week is anticipated (~2000 tpw).
- A trial utilising scrapers to haul ore from the pit has been undertaken without much success, ore is now being removed using an excavator and dump trucks to load the ore from the pit and deliver it to the primary concentration plant. The use of an excavator has been found to be more accurate in separating the ore from the waste.
- **Approvals outstanding**

There are no outstanding approvals. The Mining and Rehabilitation Program (MARP) for the next strandline Mindarie C will be discussed as an Agenda Item.

- **Environment / Safety incidents**

Paul Mannix, Environmental Officer – AZC, presented a comprehensive report on the total incidents to date.

- Paul explained how the soil profiles were determined utilising the EM38 and plotted on a map issued to scraper operators to determine which areas were to be excavated to certain depths and where they would be stockpiled for later use in the rehabilitation of the area. A suggestion was put forward for the continued monitoring of the soil structure of the stockpiles and also following the subsequent replacement over the mined out area. This could be compared with the original pick up by the EM38.
- It is planned to have the pit area adjacent to the railway line rehabilitated to a condition suitable for the farmer to seed in time for this season's crop.
- Paul discussed the use of crusting agents to prevent erosion of soil stockpiles and loss of soil from open ground.
- **Dust Management**

John Waters, who is a specialist consultant acting as the Radiation Protection Officer until an AZC officer can be trained, gave an overview of the types of dust and the effect on the respiratory system and environmental dust exposure and limits. His handouts are attached.

John also mentioned the sampling methods employed by AZC, including continuous radioactive monitoring with dosimeters, deposition gauges sited around the mines, high volume glass filter samplers taking one week of sample. All samples have the amount and type of dust determined and the amount of alpha activity.

AZC is compliant with EPA guidelines for respirable dust. There have been some non-conformances with environmental dust levels, usually found to occur on days with high wind velocity. John's assessment is that this was predominantly a function of a regional event, not specific to mining activity. Continuing investigations on the non-conformance readings will be undertaken.

- **Mindarie C Mining and Rehabilitation Program**

Julieanne Goode, Senior Environmental Scientist from Parsons Brinckerhoff delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the development of the MARP for the Mindarie C strandline. This is basically an extension of the MARP for the Mindarie A2 strandline, currently being mined, with more sophistication included in the form of an environmental impact and risk assessment.

The aim of the MARP development is to show continuous improvement as experience is gained from ongoing mining operations and management plans are updated to include the new enhancements.

The timing for the development of the MARP is to have a draft for review by PIRSA by week ending 11th April 2008. After PIRSA has reviewed the draft it will be distributed to Committee members for comment.

MMCCC members comments should be forwarded to:
Hans Bailiht – Senior Tenement Assessment Officer (PIRSA)
Ph: 8463 3107 or email: bailiht.hans@saugov.sa.gov.au

5 General Business

There was no general business

6 Action Items

- PIRSA/AZC to distribute CDs and hard copies of Mindarie C MARP to MMCCC members on completion.

7 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the East Murray Community Centre @ 10.00am on Tuesday, 3rd June 2008.

Signed.....

Chair

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