

Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee
Summary of Meeting No 19
Held at East Murray Community Centre
10:00 am Tuesday, 3rd June 2008

Attendees:

Garry Wardle (Senior Mining Engineer – Minerals Resources Group (MRG)),
Hans Bailiht (Sen Assessment Officer – MRG)
Kevin Burdett (Mayor - DCKEM),
Trevor Bennett (Riverland Development Corp),
Gale Pfitzner (landowner),
Gerard Bosch (Manager Exploration, Australian Zircon NL (AZC)),
Paul Mannix (Environmental Officer, AZC),
Ken Donaldson (GM Operations, AZC).

1 Apologies:

Ted Tyne (Director, MRG), Peter Smithson (CEO – DCKEM), Adrian Pederick (Member for Hammond), John Berger (Murray Mallee Strategic Task Force), Brenton Lewis (Murraylands Regional Development Board), Damian Berger (Mallee Coorong Natural Resource Management Group), E. F. Francis (landowner), Grant Dixon (landowner), Kevin Heidrich (landowner), Darren Eatts (landowner), Ann Crouch (landowner), David Barr (landowner), Rodney Tonkin (landowner), Jim Wilton (CEO, AZC).

Garry Wardle chaired the meeting in the absence of Ted Tyne who unavailable due to urgent Ministerial obligations.

2 Minutes and Action Items

The distributed minutes of the previous meeting (No 18) held 1st April 2008 were accepted without amendment.

Action Items

- PIRSA to distribute CDs and hard copies of Mindarie C MARP to MMCCC members on completion of PIRSA review.
Copies have been sent out to those members that requested them.

3 Business arising

There was no business arising.

4 Project Update

- **Summary of operations**

Gerard Bosch introduced Ken Donaldson the new General Manager – Operations for the Mindarie mine, Ken was previously the Plant Manager at Mindarie. Ken gave a brief update on the project status including:

- Employees from the mineral processing area have been undergoing accreditation training on equipment.
- AZC expressed concern at the number of employees leaving the operation after obtaining accreditation on mine equipment and moving to other mining sites.
- Production has been regularly achieving operating rates of 550 to 600 tonnes per hour, but not maintaining full plant availability. One train of mineral product per week is being dispatched (~700 tonnes per train), at full production three trains per week is anticipated (~2000 tpw).
- A local earthmoving contractor, De Ionno Bros from Murray Bridge, has been engaged for earthmoving works including trucks, loaders, scrapers etc. The D11 dozers and excavator are part of AZC's inventory.
- The mining pit has progressed across Knight's Well Road and the road reserve area has been reinstated and the road undergoing reconstruction according to DCKEM Council specifications.
- The mining pit is moving west at a rate of approximately 20 metres per day, mining cells about 100m wide by 40m advance and approx 20 m deep. Drilling and sampling takes place in front of the advancing face and block modelling techniques are used to determine mining cut-off boundaries.

- **Approvals outstanding**

The draft Mining and Rehabilitation Program (MARP) for the next strandline, Mindarie C, has been distributed to MMCCC members and some comments have been returned. Comments may be returned to either Hans Bailiit of PIRSA or Gerard Bosch of AZC.

A suggestion was offered that AZC provide landowners with an information sheet describing the management practices that will be utilised in the rehabilitation of their land. AZC will investigate the provision of this document, utilising Rural Solutions expertise.

There is currently no information on road closures in the MARP. Approval is required from DCKEM for closures and reinstatement must be in line with Council Guidelines for reconstruction and compaction.

- **Environment / Safety incidents**

Paul Mannix, Environmental Officer – AZC, described the environmental incidents that occurred since the last meeting.

A number of these incidents related to incorrect placement and operation of topsoil/subsoil stockpiles. For the meeting’s information, Paul tabled AZC’s “Soil Dig & Reuse and Vegetation Clearance Procedure” and related permits that describe the procedures to be carried out when handling soil and vegetation removal/reinstatement and the relevant responsibilities of AZC employees and supervisors.

At the last meeting it was mentioned that the rehabilitation of the eastern end of the strandline may be progressed to a stage where the land may be available for the landowner to seed this season. Whilst overburden in this area has been returned and contoured, there is still some work to be done to smooth out the final landscape prior to spreading subsoil and topsoil. AZC aspire to completing this in time for sowing.

The meeting was told of the availability of a “scraper board” device that is in use locally. This apparatus may be dragged over paddocks behind a tractor to remove ruts and furrows and provide a “billiard table finish”. AZC will investigate the availability of this machine.

5 General Business

AZC underlined their commitment to promoting their activities to the local schools and participated in a careers night at the Murray Bridge school recently. AZC gave a presentation on their activities at Mindarie and on mining in general. PIRA were invited to attend but did not have sufficient notice to organise a presentation. John Mignone, PIRSA Mineral’s Community Education Program Manager is always on the lookout for these opportunities. He may be contacted on 08 8338 6493.

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, 5th August 2008.

Signed.....
Chair

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