



MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (MERCUNDA MINERAL SANDS)

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 7 August 2024 held at the Mindarie Site Office

Meeting commenced at 4.00 pm

Present:

Wendy Campana (Independent Chair)

Landowners: Darren Zadow, Jamie Evans, Sharon Francis

Landscape Board Murraylands & Riverland: Andrew Biele

DEM: Greg Tyczenko (via link)

Murray Zircon (MZ): Ken Donaldson, Chrystal Goodhand, Joelle Hentschke, Rohan Calley, Tim Moreton

Apologies:

Apologies were received from: Simon Hilder (MZ), Hans Bailit, Ben Fee (RDA), Fudd Francis (land owner), Graham Hewson (MZ), Steve Cherrett (MZ), Tim Whetstone MP

Scott Reardon, newly appointed CEO of DC Karoonda East Murray, provided an apology via email to the Chair that she did not see until after the meeting.

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Chair thanked members for attending the meeting.

2. Minutes & Actions from the Previous Meeting

The Minutes and Actions of the previous meeting held on 29 May 2024 were received as a true and accurate record.

Updates were provided on the following actions:

- Membership: stakeholder member. The advert did not result in nominations. To be discussed later in the meeting.

- Terms of Reference (TOR) – Greg advised that initial investigations suggest that the Group can adjust its TOR without requiring DEM approval, but further work was being undertaken and further clarification would be provided.
- FAQs/Website: Chrystal Goodhand to address in her update to the meeting
- Emergency issues: To be updated in the Murray Zircon update
- Road maintenance issues: To be updated later in the meeting/or post meeting.
- Tour of Mine: Unable to get support from landowner

3. Project Update

Ken Donaldson advised that MZ were continuing to invest in safe operations, their people and training, and in particular have now completed 5 Emergency Response training sessions for personnel that volunteered to be part of this response team, most recent training being confined space rescue involving use of breathing apparatus, conducted here at the old Mindarie plant.

A visit by the Department for Energy and Mining about the same time as the last MMCCC meeting verified MZ have complied with all the requirements under the compliance directive (a result of more overburden stockpiled than originally anticipated in the PEPR), including:

- hydro seeding of all subsoil and topsoil stockpiles, as per Independent Field Crop Expert recommendations
- an approved Notification of Change in Operations and a revised Program for Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation (PEPR)
- consultation with the landowner to understand any concerns with the revised PEPR.

MZ are continuing to improve production, with July being best month project to date. A result of both higher grade and improved runtimes.

Mining is now adjacent to Jacka Road, which has been closed to allow mining to proceed continuously along the strand, to be opened again once the pit is backfilled and it is safe to do so.

In addition to MZ operating within the allotted water license, they are also improving the use of bore water, improving systems to recycle water recovered from the tails cells.

MZ are now loading their third shipment of HMC, targeting 26kt, which will be their best load yet.

Thanks to the assistance of Kevin and the Mallee View team MZ now have completed rehabilitation of tails cells 1-4, having had final placement of topsoil, clay and chicken manure and been seeded for cover crop. MZ are currently backfilling cell 9, have just halted tailing into cell 11 and are operating into cell 12.

Mr Hailong Xiang has now been appointed to the position of Executive General Manager for Murray Zircon Mining. Graham Hewson still is associated with the Mercunda project in an advisory role and will continue working with parent company on various projects globally.

Emergency Management – CFS Engagement

Discussions had taken place with MZ Steve Cherrett and a meeting had occurred and a tour of fire systems was to be organised. CFS information was further sought and provided.

Jamie advised that progress was being made.

Agreed Actions:

- Presentation provided by Ken to be distributed to members for information or further reference
- Further updates on the emergency management issues to be provided at the next meeting, if required

4. Community Engagement Update

Chrystal Goodhand provided an update on the various promotional activities to secure nominations for the community stakeholder position to no avail.

The FAQs are up on the webpage with potential further questions to be added.

Website upgrades underway and further work planned.

Members of the Consultative Group along with TOR etc to be included on the site. Chrystal distributed a potential pro-forma for members to complete and submit a picture so that the community is aware of the group, its members and role/functions.

Given that tour did not progress discussion took place on whether a detailed presentation could be provided. Ken reminded us of previous presentation and asked for clarification on whether further information was required and agreed to circulate that previous presentation.

Greg mentioned that DEM provide a model community engagement plan that may be of interest to the group. Wendy indicated she was keen for the group to discuss ways of enhancing community engagement/connection/information about the mine and the role of the committee.

Agreed Actions:

- Chair to progress with Members potential ideas of persons she could approach for the community stakeholder member
 - Members to provide information and a photo for inclusion on the site
 - Further webpage updates
 - Ken, Chrystal and Wendy to review initial information provided on the mining operations to determine whether enhancements could be made at a future presentation
- Chrystal and Wendy to consider the DEM community engagement plan model for the preparation of a plan for the group to consider at a future meeting

5. Any Other Business

5.1. Vehicles on Roads – Shift Changeover

General discussion took place on concerns still being raised with members of the group about the times and number of movements. MZ undertook to continue to monitor this noting that in emergency/mining interruptions immediate actions needed to take place that would cause traffic increases, and these are both hard to predict and need to be addressed when they arise.

Agreed Actions:

- MZ will monitor this issue

5.2. Walker Flat Road/East Murray Area Road

General discussion took place on the condition of these roads and it was noted that the Karoonda East Murray and Mid Murray Councils were meeting about the Walker Flat Road with an update on maintenance arrangements to be provided.

Consideration be given to the use of the bitumen road rather than the dirt roads.

Agree Actions:

- Chair to follow up on updates from the Councils re maintenance issues
- MZ to monitor usage of these roads by staff

5.3. DEM Update

The Chair invited Greg from DEM to advise of any update about DEM issues that may be of interest to the group. Greg updated members on changes in organisational arrangements and focus on regulatory activities.

5.4. Landscape Board

The Chair invited Andrew Biele to update members on any matters that the Landscape Board may be addressing that might be of interest to the group.

Andrew advised that there were no key issues relative to the work of the group.

6. Next Meeting

The Chair suggested that the next meeting occur on Wednesday 2 October at 4pm.

Meeting closed at 5.00 pm