

# MINUTES

## NSW Minerals Council

### UHMD – Emissions & Health Joint Working Group

UMHD Resource Centre, Singleton Town Square Shopping Centre, Singleton

Wednesday 20 July 2016: 1.00pm - 3.00pm

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#### In attendance

John Watson  
Melinda Hale  
John Drinan  
Sarah Withell  
Wendy Bowman  
Adam Gilligan  
Neville Hodgkinson  
Andrew Rode  
Greg Sullivan  
Craig Milton

Glencore  
Singleton Council  
Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group  
BHP Billiton  
NSW Mine Watch  
Environment Protection Authority  
Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group  
NSW Minerals Council  
NSW Minerals Council  
NSW Minerals Council

#### Apologies

John Hindmarsh  
Julie Thomas  
Gerard Gleeson  
Digby Short  
Bob Mackie

The Bloomfield Group  
Muswellbrook Coal Company Limited  
Rio Tinto  
Ashton Coal  
*theresource*

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## **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed attendees and noted apologies.

## **2. Minutes and actions of the previous meeting**

The minutes of 12 May 2016 were confirmed. Actions are listed on the following page.

## **3. Update on current projects**

- Air Quality Forecast - This is a five year 2014-19 project. NSWMC have lined up Yvonne Scorgie and Matt Riley to present to the JWG at a future meeting. Adam Gilligan advised that the EPA is undertaking supplementary work looking at exceedences and will talk to this as well.
- Mine Dust & You Fact Sheet - Once an update is received from Pacific Environment, and with feedback from groups, the fact sheet will be passed on to the EPA and other government agencies. The NSWMC will aim to provide a poster.

## **4. Promotion of weather forecasting project**

The working group discussed the weather forecasting video and p

Feedback was also provided from the group on the draft script, which included:

- There is no reference to 'miners' on an individual level - minimising dust is the responsibility of each person as well as the mine.
- The term 'very seriously' lends itself to the industry being reactionary. The script simply needs to say
- There needs to be a recognition of where the Dialogue has come from in terms of the industry journey.
- Managing dust and emissions is business as usual now as part of standard mining industry procedure.

A copy of a revised draft script is included at the end of the Minutes after the Action items.

Issues with the Synoptic Plan and Upper Hunter Regional Plan were also raised. The Synoptic Plan is a matter for Premier and Cabinet. The Upper Hunter Regional Plan now has a gap as a result of not addressing mining locations that the Synoptic Plan discussed and will need to be followed up with the Department of Planning.

Adam Gilligan advised that the EPA is developing a short video on Air Emissions in the Hunter that will provide information on all the contributing factors to Hunter Air Quality. The video will likely be an animated video similar to EPA's 'Air Quality in the Sydney Basin' video that can be found on their 'Air' page: <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/air/>

### **ACTIONS:**

- **NSWMC to rewrite the draft script incorporating the working group feedback and distribute for final comments.**
- **NSWMC to share the EPA 'Air Quality in the Sydney Basin' video link (see above)**
- **NSWMC to follow up the progress of the Synoptic Plan and Upper Hunter Regional plan with DPC and the Dept of Planning respectively.**

## **5. Release of new health impact report about particulate matter in NSW**

Andrew Rode summarised the key points in the report. The group felt the report was well received and is consistent with findings over the past years.

A 2014 workshop on diesel emissions was raised as being extremely helpful in demonstrating the relativity of where diesel emissions fit in the context of all Upper Hunter Valley activities. Prof Wayne Smith from NSW Health spoke at the workshop and would be a great contact to determine the feasibility of a study looking into the sources of diesel emissions.

**ACTION:**

- **NSWMC to invite Wayne Smith (NSW Health) to the next JWG Emissions and Health meeting in October to speak on a potential sources of diesel study. If Wayne is unavailable, seek Ben Scalley (NSW Health) as an alternative.**

## **6. Other business**

The Chair noted the contributions of Andrew Rode to the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue and the JWG thanked Andrew for his years of service to the initiative and commitment to driving the many successful project the group has undertaken.

The Future of Agribusiness event held by Singleton Council and Singleton Business Chamber was discussed and members were encouraged to attend on 26 July.

Neville Hodgkinson tabled a document for the JWG regarding the Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group's (SSHEG) proposal for upcoming projects. The proposal was discussed in detail and will be distributed to JWG - Emissions and Health members for ongoing discussion.

**ACTION:**

- **NSWMC to distribute the SSHEG Proposal document to JWG - Emissions and Health members.**

Meeting closed at 2:30pm

**Actions arising from meeting on 20 July 2016  
UHMD Emissions and Health Joint Working Group Meeting**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>1. Welcome and Apologies</b>		
<b>2. Minutes and actions of the previous meeting</b>		
<b>3. Update on current projects</b>		
<b>4. Promotion of weather forecasting project</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSWMC to rewrite the draft script incorporating the working group feedback and distribute for final comments.</li> </ul>	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Completed - see Agenda item 5 in meeting papers</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSWMC to share the EPA 'Air Quality in the Sydney Basin' video link.</li> </ul>	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Completed - included in minutes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSWMC to follow up the progress of the Synoptic Plan and Upper Hunter Regional plan with DPC and the Dept of Planning respectively.</li> </ul>	<b>NSWMC</b>	
<b>5. Release of new health impact report about particulate matter in NSW</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSWMC to invite Wayne Smith (NSW Health) to the next JWG Emissions and Health meeting in October to speak on a potential sources of diesel study. If Wayne is unavailable, seek Ben Scalley (NSW Health) as an alternative.</li> </ul>	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Complete - Wayne Smith unavailable and has left NSW Health, Ben Scalley engaged and may attend a future meeting.</b>
<b>6. Other business</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSWMC to distribute the SSHEG Proposal document to JWG - Emissions and Health members.</li> </ul>	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Complete - included in minutes.</b>