

MINUTES

NSW Minerals Council

UHMD – Emissions & Health Joint Working Group

UMHD Resource Centre, Singleton Town Square Shopping Centre, Singleton

Thursday 12 May 2016: 9.30am – 12.30pm

In attendance

John Watson (Chair)
John Hindmarsh
John Drinan
Melinda Hale
Julie Thomas
Adam Gilligan
Bob Mackie
Matt Parkinson
Neville Hodgkinson
Gerard Gleeson
Andrew Rode

Glencore
The Bloomfield Group
Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group
Singleton Council
Muswellbrook Coal Company Limited
Environment Protection Authority
theresource
Bayswater Power Station
Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group
Rio Tinto
NSW Minerals Council

Apologies

Digby Short
Sarah Withell
Greg Sullivan
Wendy Bowman
Emma Ridley

Ashton Coal
BHP Billiton
NSW Minerals Council
NSW Mine Watch
Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association

1. Welcome and Apologies

The chair welcomed attendees and noted apologies.

2. Minutes and actions of the previous meeting

The minutes of 12 November 2015 were confirmed.

3. Update on current projects

It was suggested that the letter to the Environment Minister regarding the air quality alerts for the Upper Hunter be followed up. It was suggested that if there was no appetite for this in the Upper Hunter, that a broader Hunter based forecast and/or Lower Hunter forecast be considered.

ACTION:

- NSWMC to follow up letter to Environment Minister regarding an air quality alert for the Hunter.

4. Mine Dust and You factsheet

The working group supported updating the *Mine Dust and You* factsheet. It was suggested that NSWMC liaise with Ann-Louise Crotty at the EPA in updating the factsheet, and that an infographic be developed summarising the key points within the factsheet, after it is updated.

It was also suggested that other relevant reading material is referenced in the factsheet, including the particle characterisation studies, and a recently released report on the health impacts of particulate matter, commissioned by NSW Health and the EPA.

It was also acknowledged that this factsheet is relevant to not only Upper Hunter mines, and that therefore mines across NSW should be involved in the update.

ACTIONS:

- NSWMC to consider developing an infographic to summarise the updated factsheet.
- NSWMC to send the 2015 report entitled '*Review of the health impacts of emission sources, types and levels of particulate matter air pollution in ambient air in NSW*' to the working group.
- NSWMC to engage with industry representatives across NSW, in updating the *Mine Dust and You* factsheet.

5. Weather forecasting promotional material

The working group discussed the development of a weather forecasting video.

ACTION:

- *Theresource* to present a draft script / plan for the weather forecasting project video at the next Industry Working Group meeting.

6. Rio Tinto MTW environment reporting website

Gerard Gleeson provided an overview of Mount Thorley Warkworth's new air quality and noise monitoring website, available at:

<http://insite.riotinto.com/>

7. UHMD Annual Forum Report

The working group noted the feedback from the Annual Forum. It was suggested that some standard summary UHMD collateral be available for download from the UHMD website.

ACTION:

- NSWMC to consider developing and uploading standard downloadable UHMD collateral to the UHMD website.

8. Update on UHMD communications initiatives and media mentions

The working group noted the updates to communications initiatives and suggested that the UHMD have a stronger social media presence (particularly through facebook). Sharing stories on sites such as the Singleton & Surrounds Facebook site was specifically recommended.

Melinda Hale noted that Singleton Council often receives queries from school students about mining for their school projects, and that it would be useful for the UHMD to provide some factsheets that summarise some of the key points.

The working group also discussed the Lower Hunter Particle Characterisation and Dust Deposition studies.

Neville Hodkinson tabled a document outlining World Health Assembly outcomes relating to air quality and health.

ACTIONS:

- NSWMC to promote UHMD projects through social media.
- Melinda Hale to discuss mining factsheet needs with NSWMC and/or *theresource*.
- NSWMC to distribute EPA's presentations on the Lower Hunter Particle Characterisation and Dust Deposition studies to the working group.
- NSWMC to distribute the Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group's document entitled '*World Health Assembly Maps the way forward in 2015*' to the working group.

9. EPA Upper Hunter Air Quality Particle Model

Damon Roddis (Pacific Environment) provided an overview of the Upper Hunter Air Quality Particle Model developed for the EPA.

10. Working group performance, relevance and strategic direction

The working group reflected upon what it had learnt over the past 5 years and considered how and whether priorities and understanding associated with health and air quality had changed over that period.

Some working group members suggested that meeting just once per year would be sufficient.

11. Other Business

Melinda Hale raised a number of activities that Singleton Council supports, that industry or community members could be involved in:

- Assisting with high school grants associated with energy efficiency on 10 June 2016.
- Opportunity for involvement in a community garden at Albion Park to help meet any community service KPIs.

- Being a mentor for high school students in a global environmental congress role play exercise.

**Actions arising from meeting on 12 May 2016
UHMD Emissions and Health Joint Working Group Meeting**

Action	Responsibility	Status
1. Welcome and Apologies		
2. Minutes and actions of previous meeting		
3. Update on current projects		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSWMC to follow up letter to Environment Minister regarding an air quality alert for the Hunter. 	NSWMC	Completed
4. Mine Dust and You factsheet		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSWMC to consider developing an infographic to summarise the updated factsheet. 	NSWMC	In progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSWMC to send the 2015 report entitled '<i>Review of the health impacts of emission sources, types and levels of particulate matter air pollution in ambient air in NSW</i>' to the working group. 	NSWMC	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSWMC to engage with industry representatives across NSW, in updating the <i>Mine Dust and You</i> factsheet. 	NSWMC	Completed
5. Weather forecasting promotional material		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Theresource</i> to present a draft script / plan for the weather forecasting project video at the next Industry Working Group meeting. 	theresource	Completed
6. Rio Tinto MTW environment reporting website		
7. UHMD Annual Forum report		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSWMC to consider developing and uploading standard downloadable UHMD collateral to the UHMD website. 	NSWMC	In progress
8. Update on UHMD communications initiatives and media mentions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSWMC to promote UHMD projects through social media. 	NSWMC	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Melinda Hale to discuss mining fact sheet needs with NSWMC and/or <i>theresource</i>. 	Melinda Hale	In progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSWMC to distribute EPA's presentations on the Lower Hunter Particle Characterisation and Dust Deposition studies to the working group. 	NSWMC	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSWMC to distribute the Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group's document entitled '<i>World Health Assembly Maps the way forward in 2015</i>' to the working group. 	NSWMC	Completed
9. EPA Upper Hunter Air Quality Particle Model		
10. Working group performance, relevance and strategic direction		
11. Other business		