

**Actions arising from meeting on 6 August 2015
UHMD Land Management Joint Working Group Meeting**

Action	Responsibility	Status
1. Welcome and Apologies		
2. Confirmation of Minutes of 8 May 2015		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSWMC to organise a DRE presentation on regulation of mine closure plans and principles, including relating to rehabilitation of voids. 	NSWMC	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSWMC to organise a DPE presentation on strategic and infrastructure planning for the Upper Hunter. 	NSWMC	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSWMC to organise a presentation from OEH on the Upper Hunter Strategic Assessment, when the materials are publicly released. 	NSWMC	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend minutes of 8 May 2015 to note Rebekah Gomez-Fort's apology. 	NSWMC	Completed
3. Establishment of Joint Advisory Steering Committee		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSWMC to discuss the Uni of Newcastle's ARC Linkage proposal with Prof. Bolan to in more detail. 	NSWMC	Completed
4. Briefing from Department of Premier and Cabinet - initiatives in the Upper Hunter		
5. Update on current projects		
6. Preliminary 2014 rehabilitation reporting		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSWMC to provide contextual information for the preliminary rehabilitation reporting data 	NSWMC	Completed
7. Biodiversity reference sites project		
8. Rehabilitation awareness and promotion		
9. Grazing Study - ACARP update report		
10. Engagement of the resource and updating of UHMD communications plan		
11. Other Business		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSWMC to distribute Tim Roberts' presentation on the importance of truffles in seedling and tree growth to the working group. 	NSWMC	Completed

DRAFT MINUTES

NSW Minerals Council UHMD – Land Management Joint Working Group UMHD Resource Centre, Singleton Town Square Shopping Centre, Singleton

Thursday 6 August 2015: 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Present

Tim Roberts	The University of Newcastle
John Drinan	Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group
Bruce Devonport	Singleton Council
Bill Baxter	Rio Tinto
Nigel Charnock	Glencore
Jim Morgan	Wybong Action Group
John Hindmarsh	The Bloomfield Group
Kirstin Blaikie	Anglo American
Dee Murdoch	AECOM
Neil Nelson	Singleton Beef and Land Management Association
Rebekah Gomez-Fort	NSW Department of Primary Industries
Nanthi Bolan	University of Newcastle
Jodie Calvert	NSW Premier and Cabinet
Gill Eason	Singleton Business Chamber
Glenda Briggs	Department of Primary Industries
Greg Sullivan	NSW Minerals Council
Andrew Rode	NSW Minerals Council
Anthony Trimarchi	NSW Minerals Council

Apology

Jo Powells	NSW Department of Primary Industries
Leonie Ball	Singleton Beef and Land Management Association
Julie Thomas	Muswellbrook Coal Company Limited
Wendy Bowman	NSW Mine Watch
Neil Griffiths	NSW Department of Primary Industries
Luke Stevens	BHP Billiton
Sean Constable	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Matt Parkinson	Bayswater Power Station
Digby Short	Ashton Coal

1. Welcome and Apologies

Andrew Rode noted that with the departure of the former chair - Troy Favell from Peabody Energy, a new chair had been appointed - Bill Baxter from Coal & Allied. Bill welcomed attendees to the Joint Working Group – Land Management and noted the apologies.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of 8 May 2015

Rebekah requested that the minutes be amended to note her apology. There being no other corrections, the minutes of the meeting held on 8 May were confirmed with amendment.

ONGOING ACTIONS:

- NSWMC to organise a DRE presentation on regulation of mine closure plans and principles, including relating to rehabilitation of voids.
- NSWMC to organise a DPE presentation on strategic and infrastructure planning for the Upper Hunter.
- NSWMC to organise a presentation from OEH on the Upper Hunter Strategic Assessment, when the materials are publicly released.

NEW ACTION:

- Amend minutes of 8 May 2015 to note Rebekah Gomez-Fort's apology

3. Establishment of Joint Advisory Steering Committee

Greg advised that an Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Joint Advisory Steering Committee (JASC) has been established, comprising three community representatives, three representatives industry and two from local government. The purpose of the JASC is to promote, monitor progress, and provide guidance, advice and oversight on, the operation of the UHMD.

Greg advised that Chair will be David O'Brien (Glencore), and that the other two industry representatives, as well as representatives from the community and local government are yet to be confirmed. It was recommended that the Joint Working Groups and its members provide ongoing advice relating to Dialogue issues to the JASC by contacting its Chair or one of its representatives.

4. Briefing from Department of Premier and Cabinet - initiatives in the Upper Hunter

Jodie Calvert from the Department of Premier and Cabinet presented to the working group on the various initiatives the DPC and NSW Government are currently progressing in the Upper Hunter region.

5. Update on current projects

The working group discussed Clint McCullough's presentation on beneficial reuse of voids that was delivered directly prior to the JWG meeting. Rebekah Gomez-Fort wondered whether there was a timeline for when there will be a final mine void in the valley, and it was suggested that the Synoptic Plan may shed some light on this. Jim Morgan said that it was important that there was certainty around mine closure outcomes during the approval process. Bruce Devonport observed that it was important to consider the use of other areas of land surrounding voids. Bill advised that the intended next step for the voids project is for Clint to generate a report specific to the Hunter Valley based on the water-quality information received.

Professor Nanthi Bolan from the University of Newcastle provided the working group with an overview of his proposed ARC Linkage project on voids, and requested that NSWMC consider jointly funding the project. NSWMC agreed to discuss the proposal with Prof. Bolan in more detail.

ACTION:

- NSWMC to discuss the Uni of Newcastle's ARC Linkage proposal with Prof. Bolan in more detail.

6. Preliminary 2014 rehabilitation reporting

Andrew provided an overview of the preliminary rehabilitation, disturbance and land use figures for 2014, noting that the data needs to be verified for consistency prior to public release as there are a number of differences between the 2014 and previous datasets.

Industry members of the working group recommended that contextual information is needed to explain certain figures, as there are many legitimate reasons why the data has changed - for example, land previously used for agriculture may now be used for biodiversity offsets.

ACTION:

- NSWMC to provide contextual information for the preliminary rehabilitation reporting data.

7. Biodiversity reference sites project

The working group discussed the possible basis for a revised biodiversity reference sites project to proceed that focussed on sharing existing company reference site data publicly, to allow a collaborative approach to progressively establishing new reference sites. Andrew noted that a revised scope for the project had not been approved by the Executive Oversight Committee. It was suggested that, should the revised project proceed, Umwelt be contacted to determine the methodology to ensure consistent data across reporting sites.

ACTIONS:

- NSWMC to seek Executive Oversight Committee approval on a revised scope for biodiversity reference sites project.
- NSWMC to contact Umwelt to determine a consistent and applicable methodology for gathering and reporting on reference site information between companies.

8. Rehabilitation awareness and promotion

Andrew provided an overview of the preliminary discussions held between NSWMC and the DRE to consider a scope for a rehabilitation awareness and promotion project, noting that the DRE has already commenced some work in this space and its draft proposal will be provided to NSWMC and the working group when completed.

9. Grazing Study - ACARP update report

The working group discussed and noted the results of the ACARP progress report on the grazing prepared by the DPI.

10. Engagement of the resource and updating of UHMD communications plan

Greg advised that the UHMD Communications Plan is being reviewed and updated with a view to better promoting the work and presence of the UHMD. Mr Shane Davey and Mr Bob Mackie from *theresource* have been engaged by the NSW Minerals Council to prepare and undertake many of the actions identified in the Plan; and noted that the venue for the meeting, the UHMD Resource Centre, has been provided by *theresource*.

Shane provided an update on work undertaken to-date, including building stronger relationships with local print-media and radio stakeholders, so as to build 'a more visible face' for the UHMD in the local area. It was agreed that Shane and Bob will report back to the UHMD on progress made

on a monthly basis.

The working group discussed the merits of, and expressed support for, the initiative, with John Drinan suggesting that the communication plan should seek to have an educative focus, so as to educate the community on mining-related issues as well as promote the UHMD. The working group agreed with this suggestion.

The working group noted the importance of keeping Shane and Bob apprised of UHMD-related developments, and acknowledged that input/feedback from the various JWG's would be of great assistance to the development of communications initiatives. The working group agreed that each JWG should include a standing item at the end of each meeting to consider and provide input/feedback to the resource,

11. Other Business

Andrew advised the working group that the 'Soils Seminar' (that John Drinan and others are involved in organising) will be held at the Singleton Showground Pavilion on 29 October 2015 to mark the International Year of Soils, should anyone wish to attend.

Tim notified the working group that the 6th Mined Land Rehabilitation Conference is scheduled to be held in Singleton in 2016, and that there will be an opportunity for the UHMD or individual members to present/exhibit. Tim also mentioned the importance of truffles in seedling and tree growth, and suggested that a presentation on this topic be distributed to the working group.

ACTIONS:

- NSWMC to distribute Tim Roberts' presentation on the importance of truffles in seedling and tree growth to the working group.

The meeting closed at 4:30pm.