

**AGENDA  
UHMD**

**UHMD Joint Working Group Meeting - Land Management**

**UHMD Resource Centre, Upstairs of the Town Square Shopping Centre  
Suite 1, 159 John Street, Singleton NSW 2330**

**Thursday 20 October 2016: 1.00pm - 4.00pm**

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- 1. Welcome and apologies**
- 2. Minutes and actions of the previous meeting 21 July 2016**
- 3. Update on current projects**
- 4. Presentation - Grazing study**
- 5. Draft rehabilitation reporting for 2015**
- 6. Rehabilitation awareness and promotion project - update**
- 7. Communication Initiatives update**
- 8. 2016 UHMD Annual Forum**
- 9. Perception Survey update**
- 10. General business**

# DRAFT MINUTES

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

Thursday 21 July 2016: 9.30am - 11.15am

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### Present

Bill Baxter (Chair)  
Bruce Devonport  
Dee Murdoch  
John Drinan  
Simon Francis  
Jason Desmond  
Nigel Charnock  
Digby Short  
Wendy Bowman  
Andrew Darnell  
John Trotter  
Ron Fenwick  
Andrew Rode  
Greg Sullivan  
Craig Milton

Rio Tinto  
Singleton Council  
AECOM  
Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group  
NSW Department of Primary Industries  
The Bloomfield Group  
Glencore  
Ashton Coal  
NSW Mine Watch  
BHP Billiton  
NSW Department of Resources and Energy  
UHMD - Community Representative  
NSW Minerals Council  
NSW Minerals Council  
NSW Minerals Council

### Apology

Donna McLaughlin  
Cameron Archer  
Rebekah Gomez-Fort  
Julie Thomas  
Sean Constable  
Neil Griffiths  
Jo Powells  
Jim Morgan  
Jan Davis  
Tim Roberts  
Glenda Briggs  
Matthew Newton

BHP Billiton  
Tocal Agricultural Centre  
NSW Department of Primary Industries  
Muswellbrook Coal  
Upper Hunter Shire Council - Scone  
NSW Department of Primary Industries  
NSW Department of Primary Industries  
Wybong Action Group  
Hunter Environment Lobby - Maitland  
The University of Newcastle  
NSW Department of Primary Industries  
NSW Department of Trade and Investment

**Note:** Jo Powells is to be removed from the list and replaced with Helen Squires (Resource Management Officer - Agricultural Land Use Planning, NSW Department of Primary Industries)

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## **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed attendees and noted apologies. The Chair also recognised Andrew Rode's contributions to the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue and the JWG - Land Management in particular. The Working Group endorsed the Chair's comments and expressed their appreciation and thanks to Andrew.

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

The minutes for the 11 May 2016 meeting were confirmed.

## **3. Working group performance, relevance and strategic discussion**

Group members were consulted as to what the future of the UHMD groups might be as there has been a noticeable drop off in member attendance in the other two groups. Feedback received from the Land Management JWG was that this group in particular works well as there is a healthy mix of community, regulator and industry representatives and the projects undertaken by the group continue to have relevance within the industry and wider community.

A Steering Committee proposal was raised as to whether it may be beneficial to merge the Land Management and Water JWGs as they have a considerable amount of overlap in content and membership. An additional proposal was to reduce the frequency of meetings to twice a year, but no final position will be considered until the re-survey of community sentiment is undertaken.

There was in principle support from the JWG - Land Management to merge with the Water JWG in conjunction with an ongoing effort to communicate the activities and projects of the UHMD that are seeking to improve community understanding and awareness of the issues being examined. Such an approach would also be complimentary to the proposed mine tours for school children that Bob Mackie is currently arranging. If any members have any feedback on this could they kindly provide to Greg Sullivan or Craig Milton.

### **ACTION:**

- **NSWMC to consider the benefits of merging the Land Management and Water JWG to encourage greater involvement and productive discussion.**

## **4. Update on current projects**

Andrew Rode provided an overview of current projects, in particular the voids projects which have been completed.

### **ACTIONS:**

- **NSWMC to update the UHMD website with current project information.**

## **5. Grazing study**

The grazing study draft report was discussed. Dee Murdoch offered to liaise with Neil Griffiths to improve the readability of the document.

### **ACTIONS:**

- 1. NSWMC to arrange for Neil Griffiths and Yvette Scorgie to present at the next meeting on blood tests and grazing results**
- 2. Neil Griffiths is to enquire into the possibility of obtaining additional ACARP funding.**

## **6. Draft rehabilitation reporting**

NSWMC is still awaiting Anglo American's final figure to complete the report. Andrew Rode has estimated

a figure using available data.

Andrew Rode explained that the 2014 D and 2015 A figures were not matching due to corrections made by companies to their final figures. Further, the figures for F have dropped in the most recent year due to some clearing of land as part of the Bulga Optimisation Project.

## 7. Rehabilitation awareness and promotion project

Andrew Rode provided an overview of the work being undertaken with DRE, specifically the draft rehabilitation booklet.

Several members advised that much of what is known as leading best practice procedures in land rehabilitation today had their origins as more 'gut feelings' known by those undertaking rehabilitation work in the past, and are now widely supported through scientific studies.

## 8. Other business

Members were encouraged to attend the *Future of Agriculture* event being organised by the Singleton Chamber of Commerce and the Singleton Council.

Andrew Rode distributed a copy of the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue poster for industry members to display across mine sites to promote the UHMD and its activities.

Bruce Davenport suggested that it would be timely to hear from DRE on the Hunter Regional Plan.

Nigel Charnock advised that it would be good to hear from the Department of Planning regarding an update on the Synoptic Plan as it's been five years.

### ACTION:

- **NSWMC to distribute digital A4 and A3 copies of the UHMD poster to all Land Management members.**
- **NSWMC to contact DRE for an update on the Hunter Regional Plan.**
- **NSWMC to contact Department of Planning for an update on the synoptic plan.**

## 9. Next Meeting and Meeting Close

The next meeting will be on 20 October 1:00pm - 4:00pm

The meeting closed at 11:15 am

### Actions arising from meeting on 11 May 2016 UHMD Land Management Joint Working Group Meeting

Action	Responsibility	Status
1. Welcome and Apologies		
2. Minutes and actions of the previous meeting		
3. Working group performance, relevance and strategic discussion		

NSWMC to consider the benefits of merging the Land Management and Water JWG to encourage greater involvement and productive discussion.	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>4. Update on current projects</b>		
NSWMC to update the UHMD website with links to the five voids projects, subject to publishing approval.	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Partially completed</b>
<b>5. Grazing study</b>		
Neil Griffiths to present at the next meeting on blood tests and grazing results	<b>theresource</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Neil Griffiths is to enquire into follow on ACARP funding	<b>theresource</b>	<b>On going</b>
<b>6. Draft rehabilitation reporting</b>		
<b>7. Rehabilitation awareness and promotion project</b>		
<b>8. Other business</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NSWMC to distribute digital A4 and A3 copies of the UHMD poster to all Land Management members.</li> </ul>	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NSWMC to contact DRE for an update on the Regional Plan</li> </ul>	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NSWMC to contact Department of Planning for an update on the synoptic plan.</li> </ul>	<b>NSWMC</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>9. Next meeting and meeting close</b>		

UHMD Joint Working Group - Land Management  
Agenda Item 3

**Update on current Projects**

**Grazing Study**

Refer to Item 4.

**Rehabilitation Reporting**

Refer to Item 5.

**Rehabilitation awareness and promotion**

Refer to item 6.

**Biodiversity Reference Sites**

At this stage, it has been decided not to proceed with this project due to a lack of involvement from possible candidate companies, in addition to low interest from external stakeholders and other community members.

**Beneficial reuse of voids**

A series of reports and recommendations examining the beneficial end use of voids were commissioned by NSWMC, with expert mine void practitioner Dr Cherie McCullough of Golder Associates undertaking the review. Dr McCullough investigated void use across the globe and Australia and identified many examples of positive uses for mine voids that could potentially be applied in the Upper Hunter, such as agriculture, horticulture, recreation, entertainment, waste management and irrigation.

The UHMD held a Community Workshop in Muswellbrook in late 2015 which was well attended. The report on the Workshop is attached.

NSWMC has discussed the establishment of a multi-stakeholder voids committee with a long term outlook with the Deputy Secretary DRE. The Deputy Secretary was cautiously supportive of the concept and it is the intention of NSWMC to further test the idea with the other senior bureaucrats and both the Minister for Resources and the Minister for Planning. NSWMC has also discussed the concept of long term planning for final use of voids with the Member for Upper Hunter Michael Johnsen MP who was supportive of the concept and suggested that the UHMD should contact the Department of Premier and Cabinet seeking all of government support for the idea.

**FOR INFORMATION**

UHMD Joint Working Group Land Management Meeting  
Agenda Item 4

### **Presentation - Grazing Study Update**

A presentation will be provided to the JWG by a representative from DPI.

### **Issue**

As the grazing study progresses, some potential follow on projects have been identified.

### **Background**

#### *Update on grazing study*

An ACARP progress report has recently been submitted (see attached). An excerpt of the reports summary is provided below:

*This project continues to have strong interest and support from all involved. Considerable interest was shown by media following presentation of interim results at the 2016 Mine Rehabilitation conference held in Singleton in April. This was followed by a similar presentation at a national mine rehabilitation workshop in Adelaide in May.*

*Final results from the first batches of steers at both Mt Arthur and Hunter Valley Operations showed an advantage in weight, fat cover and value to steers grazing the rehabilitated mine pastures. This is consistent with the amount of pasture biomass available at each site during the study period. While these results are encouraging it is important to note that they reflect the age and quality of the rehabilitation work being monitored and do not indicate quality or outcomes from other mine rehabilitation work.*

*A new batch of steers was introduced at Mt Arthur in March. The HVO site is currently waiting on lessees to arrange for new steers for that site.*

*Seasonal conditions continue to influence pasture growth and livestock performance. Good rain and associated pasture growth occurred in December and January but near record low rainfall has been received since then.*

#### *Potential grazing study follow on projects*

Neil Griffiths (DPI) has suggested that there may be some opportunity for further studies post the completion of the grazing study. A couple of options included:

- Surveying farmer attitudes towards mining, particularly as a result of outcomes of the grazing trials.
- Experimentation of newer introduced pasture species on rehabilitated land. This would help identify the best species for rehabilitation for use in grazing.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the working group:

- Note the presentation
- Provide any suggestions / feedback on the progress of the grazing study.
- Provide any suggestions for follow-on work post completion of the grazing study.

### **FOR INFORMATION**

UHMD Joint Working Group Land Management Meeting  
Agenda Item 5

**DRAFT REHABILITATION REPORTING FOR 2015**

**Issue**

The draft rehabilitation figures for 2015 have been collated.

**Background**

The draft rehabilitation figures for 2015 are presented in the table below. The figure for 'E' still requires verification by Anglo American, nevertheless, some interesting aspects of the most recent data includes:

- The rehabilitation to disturbance ratio has dropped to 0.6:1. This is due to an increase in the amount of land newly disturbed rather than a decrease in the amount of land newly rehabilitated.
- The increase to the amount of land newly disturbed is predominantly due to the establishment of the Bulga Optimisation project.
- Some reconciliation and correction of figures has occurred from 2014 to 2015. That is why 2014D does not equal 2015A.

	<b>Rehabilitation</b>	<b>2012 (hectares)</b>	<b>2013 (hectares)</b>	<b>2014 (hectares)</b>	<b>2015 (hectares)</b>
A	Total land area disturbed and not yet rehabilitated at the beginning of the reporting period [4]	17,830	18,098	18,479	20,171
B	Total amount of land newly disturbed within the reporting period	1,163	1,148	1,057	1,424[6]
C	Total amount of land newly rehabilitated[1] within the reporting period (rehabilitation commenced in this period)	895	962	801	856
D	Total land area disturbed and not yet rehabilitated at the end of the reporting period (D = A + B - C)	18,098	18,283	18,736	21,008
E	Total area of rehabilitation at all operations at the end of the reporting period[2]	8,791	9,145	10,023	10,783
F	Annual rehabilitation to disturbance ratio (C:B)[3]	0.77	0.84	0.76	0.60
G	Overall proportion of disturbed land rehabilitated (E/(D+E))	32.7%	33.3%	34.9%	33.9%
	<b>Other Land Managed</b>	<b>2012 (hectares)</b>	<b>2013 (hectares)</b>	<b>2014 [5] (hectares)</b>	<b>2015 (hectares)</b>
	Estimate of the total land held as biodiversity offsets	10,973	13,164	22,607	22,773
	Estimate of the total area of land managed for agricultural use (e.g. grazing, cropping, viticulture)	57,533	60,174	44,252	44,632
	[1] Rehabilitation is defined by the Mining Act 1992 as the treatment or management of disturbed land or water for the purpose of establishing a safe and stable environment.				

	[2] Row E2013 may not equal Row C2013 + Row E2012 as areas that have been previously rehabilitated, then re-disturbed are excluded from the Total area of rehabilitation of all operations at the end of the reporting period
	[3] The rehabilitation to disturbance ratio indicates how many hectares of rehabilitation are undertaken for each hectare of land disturbed during the year. A ratio of 1 indicates that the area of rehabilitation and disturbance in that year are the same.
	[4] Row A(Year) does not necessarily equal Row D (Year -1) because some companies have reconciled their figures and corrected them over time.
	[5] There have been substantial changes in the amount of 'Other Land Managed' between 2013 and 2014 because: (i) significant increases in additional offset areas have been established, and (ii) because some of the land previously identified as being used for Agriculture is now being used for mining purposes or biodiversity offsets.
	[6] The increase in land newly disturbed in 2015 is predominantly due to the establishment of the Bulga Optimisation project.

## FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

UHMD Joint Working Group Land Management Meeting  
Agenda Item 6

## **REHABILITATION AWARENESS AND PROMOTION**

### **Issue**

NSWMC has commenced a collaborative initiative with DRE on rehabilitation that focuses on rehabilitation not only in the Upper Hunter, but across NSW.

### **Background**

The first initiative of this collaboration is the production of a booklet and accompanying digital materials that will explain the rehabilitation regulatory framework in NSW, promote best practice examples of rehabilitation undertaken by mining operators and highlight the innovation and research that is underway in this space. It is intended that the booklet and accompanying online materials will be launched by Minister Roberts and the NSWMC CEO. NSWMC intends for this to be the first of a series of projects under this collaborative partnership with DRE.

The booklet would be split in three parts:

- Part 1: The rehabilitation legislative and policy framework, the rehabilitation bond and its assessment (including relinquishment), rehabilitation plans, the objectives of rehabilitation and the role of DRE in regulating rehabilitation. This section will be led by DRE.
- Part 2: Best practice rehabilitation - this section would consist of a series of case studies - probably four or five. The case studies would be provided by NSWMC member companies and would cover a range of different forms of rehabilitation - for example, agricultural land, restoration of ecological communities and community use. NSWMC will lead this section with assistance from the Centre for Balanced Land Use at University of Newcastle (UoN).
- Part 3: Innovation and research - this section would showcase some of the rehabilitation research that is currently underway as well as some of the innovative trials taking place. This would be a joint effort between NSWMC (providing some information on pilot studies), DRE and the CRC CARE (Contamination Assessment and Remediation of the Environment) which is now based in Newcastle at UoN. The CRC specialises in developing cost effective ways to solve contamination problems. It has received global recognition for its work and works closely with industry and government.

A second draft of the booklet currently exists. The next step in this project is for DRE, NSWMC and industry members that have contributed case studies to the booklet to review the draft booklet and provide final feedback to enable production of the publication version. The International Centre for Balanced Land Use, led by Professor Richard Bush, has been assisting with the compilation of the the case studies and the booklet itself.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the JWG note the progress on the rehabilitation booklet.

### **FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

**UHMD**  
**Joint Working Group Water Meeting – 10 October 2016**

Agenda Item 7

**UPDATE ON COMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVES**

The past months have been active for the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue in terms of delivering communications as per the Communications Plan and the months ahead will also be productive with positive opportunities being finalised.

The UHMD communications activities have focused on its key strategies and tactics consistent with the Communications Plan. Since the last meeting of the Joint Working Groups in July, the Dialogue has been actively engaged in a number of community consultation opportunities.

**Completed events and activities:**

- *HSEC Conference:* The Dialogue was promoted via a display at the NSW Mining HSEC Conference in August. The display as part of the trade show attracted favourable attention from fellow exhibitors and conference attendees alike.
- *Industry promotion:* A UHMD summary poster has been provided to UHMD company representatives to hang in crib rooms, foyers, etc, to provide basic awareness of the UHMD to mining employees. The posters also point to the UHMD website for more detailed information.
- *Video updated:* A new video featuring the Dialogue was launched at the NSW Mining HSEC Conference on August; the video is an update of the Dialogue's messaging and has the potential to be distributed via local websites and through social media.
- *Singleton Show:* The Dialogue was on display at the Singleton Show in September. The UHMD marquee and posters formed a backdrop for the Dialogue to engage with the community. A further 22 surveys were completed and many more show patrons engaged with staff and volunteers manning the display.

**Planned activities:**

- *Media plans:* The Dialogue has also been actively promoting projects with the media; an article in The Land newspaper and a tour of activities with a Newcastle Herald journalist are being finalised. Articles and photos have also been provided for the new industry newspaper - @thecoalface.
- *Upcoming events:* The Dialogue will continue to be promoted through industry and community events. The proposed annual calendar of events includes:

<b>2017 COMMUNITY EVENTS</b>		
<b>Show / Event</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Website</b>
<b>Cessnock Show</b>	<b>Fri 24th to Sat 25th February 2017</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>
<b>Muswellbrook (Upper Hunter) Show</b>	<b>Fri 31st March to Sat 1st April 2017</b>	<a href="#">Link</a>
<b>Tom Farrell Institute Rehab Conference</b>	<b>Date TBC - Late March/early April 2017</b>	<a href="#">Link</a>
<b>Total Field Days</b>	<b>Fri 5th, Sat 6th and Sun 7th May 2017</b>	<a href="#">Link</a>
<b>NSWMC HSEC Conference</b>	<b>Date TBC - Late August 2017</b>	<a href="#">Link</a>

<b>Broke Vintage Fair 2017</b>	<b>Sun 10th September 2017</b>	<b>Link TBC</b>
<b>Singleton Show 2017</b>	<b>Fri 22nd to Sat 23rd September 2017</b>	<a href="#">Link</a>

## SCHOOL BUS TOURS

Schools in the Upper Hunter Singleton/Muswellbrook catchment have been approached for expressions of interest for a regular mine tour program involving Year 5 or 6 and Year 9 or 10 students. The bus tour proposal is included below in more detail.

The aim of this program is to take a systematic approach to educating school children about the importance and value of mining with every student visiting a mine facility twice within their 12 years of secondary study. Interest has been strong with most schools indicating they would like to be involved.

If all schools participate the program would involve up to 18 schools with a catchment of about 1400 students in Yrs 5 and 6 and Yrs 9 and 10 in any given year.

According to information provided by the schools, the breakdown of students by year is:

- Year 5 – 296 students ((120 Muswellbrook area; 176 Singleton) \*note: some schools have combined Yrs 5 /6
- Year 6 – 209 students (62 Muswellbrook: 147 Singleton)
- Year 9 – 460 students (240 Muswellbrook, 220 Singleton) \*some schools have combined Yrs 9 /10
- Year 10 – 440 students (150 Muswellbrook, 290 Singleton)

If the program focused on a combination of Yrs 5 /9 we would be catering for about 760 students while a pairing of Yrs 6 /10 would see some 650 students involved.

Final details will vary depending on which industry partners are involved and which sites are toured by which schools, but assuming all seven companies (Glencore, Muswellbrook Coal Company, Coal & Allied, BHP Billiton, Bloomfield Group, Peabody Energy and Ashton Coal) participate this would see up to 15 tours (or roughly two per company) with the Yrs 5 / 9 grouping and 13 tours (again, two per partner) with the Yrs 6/10 combination. It is assumed that each tour involves one full bus (50 passengers). Any mine tours associated with community events (e.g. Singleton Show) would of course be additional to these tours.

The Industry Steering Committee discussed the proposal at its teleconference on 7 September. There was in-principle support from members to proceed with the initiative, subject to further analysis being undertaken by NSWMC and theresource to determine the best fit and resourcing required to undertake such activities. The ISC recommended that NSWMC follow up with the UHMD companies not present to seek their support and any other feedback regarding the proposal. Furthermore, NSWMC is to develop a matrix to plot the schools and mines to determine suitable matches and seek further guidance from mines already undertaking tours.

The UHMD has been approached by a Muswellbrook Primary School for a mine tour this term for Stage 3 Years 5 and 6 students who have a unit to complete on the Coal Industry as part of their Science studies. While details are still to be confirmed, the UHMD hopes to use the proposed tour as a Pilot Project for the overall School Bus Tours Program including working with the school to develop materials and information to suit its curriculum.

## **WEATHER FORECASTING PROJECT VIDEO**

Plans are progressing to produce a video promoting the work of the Weather Forecasting Project. Quotes from videographers have been received and are being finalised, Sites for the actual filming of the video are being finalised and Emissions and Health Industry Working Group members have developed the following script/narrative for the video:

*"The Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue was established in 2011 to help mining companies and the local community to work together to address health, environmental and other concerns associated with mining.*

*Mining companies and government regulators recognise that dust emissions from mining activities can be a serious issue if not closely monitored and effectively controlled.*

*The mining industry works very hard to manage air quality each and every day. Minimising dust is a part of daily work procedures at Upper Hunter mines and is the responsibility of all mine workers. Effective air quality management begins with the way a mine is designed, and continues into its operational management, right up to the end of its life through rehabilitation.*

*Each mine operates an extensive network of air quality monitoring stations in and around each mining operation that provide up to date data in real time. These monitoring networks are supported by the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network; an industry funded, government managed realtime ambient air quality monitoring network.*

*One achievement of the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue is the consistent use of weather forecast information to reduce or avoid air quality impacts from Upper Hunter mines.*

*By using weather forecast information, mines plan ahead and make better informed decisions about managing air quality at their operations. If adverse conditions are forecast, measures are put in place to minimise the impact.*

*Such measures include but are not limited to:*

- *Postponing blasting to avoid unfavourable wind conditions;*
- *Closing elevated exposed working areas, and operating only at lower levels;*
- *Limiting traffic to main haul roads;*
- *Wetting dry areas by using water carts;*
- *Reducing vehicle speeds to minimise wheel generated dust; and if necessary,*
- *Ceasing operations until conditions improve.*

*The Upper Hunter's mines are committed to minimising dust impacts on the Hunter community. These initiatives contribute to the region meeting some of the highest air quality standards in the world.*

*The Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Mining and Community Working Together. To find out more, visit [miningdialogue.com.au](http://miningdialogue.com.au)"*

## **FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

**UHMD**  
**Industry Working Group Water Meeting – 20 October 2016**

Agenda Item 8

**2016 UHMD ANNUAL FORUM**

**Issue**

The UHMD Annual Forum is scheduled for 6 December 2016. Feedback is requested from the JWG on the draft agenda.

**Background**

Each year the UHMD holds an Annual Forum to review the year's achievements, discuss topical issues and shape the future work of the Dialogue.

Annexure 1 is the Draft Agenda for the 2016 Annual Forum.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the JWG review the draft agenda and provide feedback.

## Annexure 1 - Draft Agenda

<b>Where</b>	Muswellbrook Race Club – Skellatar Park/15 Racecourse Rd, Muswellbrook NSW 2333	
<b>When</b>	Tuesday 6 December 2016, 8.30 for 9am to 3.00pm	
<b>Event Run Sheet</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
<b>8:30am</b>	Arrival and networking. Coffee, tea, muffins available	
<b>9:00am</b>	Welcome from MC (10 mins)	Di Sneddon
<b>9:10am</b>	Year in review. Focus on events/activities in the past year (20 mins)	Greg Sullivan, NSW Minerals Council
<b>9:30am</b>	Presentation (30 mins)	Prof. Richard Bush, International Centre for Balanced Land Use, The University of Newcastle
<b>10:00am</b>	Voids project update/or Department of Planning speaker (30 mins)	Department of Planning, mine voids expert
<b>10:30am</b>	Panel discussion - Voids (30 mins)	Professor Richard Bush Mike Kelly, Muswellbrook Chamber President UHMD Chair John Richards, Wayne Bedggood, Mayor, Upper Hunter Shire Michael Johnsen, Upper Hunter MP TBC - Dept. of Planning, Community member from Joint Advisory Steering Committee
<b>11:00am</b>	Break - Morning Tea (20 mins)	
<b>11:20am</b>	Presentation - Rehabilitation Bond Estimation methodology	Dr David Blackmore
<b>11:50pm</b>	Case study - Calculating Rehab Costs using the DRE methodology(30 mins)	Consultant - Andrew Sutton?
<b>12:20pm</b>	UHMD Perception Survey Results Presentation	Ruth McLeod, Hunter Research Foundation
<b>12:50 pm</b>	Lunch (40 mins)	
<b>1:30 pm</b>	Working Group Updates	JWG Chairs - 10 minutes each
<b>2.00 pm</b>	Small group discussion forum - Broader Future Plans for UHMD (30 mins)	In table groups - facilitator at each table
<b>2.30pm</b>	Plenary Discussion - Broader Future Plans for the UHMD (30 mins)	Facilitator
<b>2.55</b>	Summary and wrap up	Facilitator
<b>3.00pm</b>	Close	

**UHMD**  
**Joint Working Group Water Meeting – 20 October 2016**

Agenda Item 9

**Update on UHMD Perception Survey Project**

**Issue**

NSWMC has engaged the services of the Hunter Research Foundation (HRF) to conduct an interview based survey of current and past participants in the UHMD. Interviews have now been completed and the Hunter Research Foundation has begun evaluating the responses.

**Background**

Following discussion at both the Industry Steering Committee in April 2016 and the Joint Advisory Steering Committee in June 2016, the possibility of undertaking a fresh survey of UHMD participant perceptions and sentiment was canvassed with the UHMD Executive Oversight Committee.

The Executive Oversight Committee gave approval for a qualitative survey to be undertaken within a budget of \$25,000. The decision on any larger scale quantitative surveying was deferred until after the results of the qualitative survey are available.

NSWMC undertook some initial scoping work to assess what would be involved in a more detailed resurvey of UHMD participants and other stakeholders. The methodology for the survey undertaken in 2010 involved detailed interviews conducted with approximately 90 stakeholders representing a cross-section of the community and associated stakeholder groups. The interviews gathered both quantitative and qualitative data. It is not considered that repeating the original methodology exactly would be either feasible or necessary.

NSWMC sought proposals from suitably experienced providers to conduct qualitative research. Proposals were received from the Melbourne based Australian Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility (ACCSR) and the Hunter Research Foundation (HRF). The proposals were somewhat similar with HRF substantially less expensive. HRF are a well-respected local Hunter entity with substantial experience in conducting this form of work. The methodology being used for the 2016 perception survey involves 40 interviews of approximately 20-30 minutes duration. The interviews contained some quantitative questions to enable comparison of responses. The interviewees were drawn from community, industry and other stakeholders (including state and local government).

As well as providing valuable information on UHMD participant perception and sentiment, the survey is intended to provide information that will inform the need and scope for any additional more quantitative style survey work that may later be required.

Interviews began in early September and were completed by mid October.

Results of the survey will be presented to all stakeholders at the 2016 UHMD Annual Forum.

**FOR INFORMATION**

**UHMD**  
**Joint Working Group Water Meeting – 20 October 2016**

Agenda Item 10

**General business**

There is no paper for this item