

MINUTES

Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Joint Economic and Social Development Working Group Meeting

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

Wednesday 12 June 2019, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Attending

Ngairé Baker (Chair)	Mount Pleasant Operation
Brett Wild	Branxton Greta Chamber of Commerce
Craig White	Bengalla Mining Company
Josh Harris - via teleconference	Glencore
Leah Scheepers	BHP
Mike Kelly	Muswellbrook Business Chamber
Tony Chadwick	Singleton Shire Council
Sue Gilroy	Singleton Business Chamber
Damien Butler - via teleconference	The Bloomfield Group
Bob Mackie	theresource
James Barben	NSW Minerals Council
Craig Milton	NSW Minerals Council

Apologies:

Deirdra Tindale	BHP
Scott Fittler	Yancoal
David Gatwood	Upper Hunter Shire Council

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed all attendees and noted the apologies. Mr. Chadwick advised that Ms. Bobsien had left Muswellbrook Council and would provide contact details for Aleksander Mitreski, Muswellbrook Council's Acting Economic Development Manager, to the Dialogue secretariat to follow up.

ACTION:

- **Dialogue secretariat to invite Aleksander Mitreski to join the Working Group.**

2. Minutes and Actions from Previous Meeting

The minutes were accepted by members with actions from the previous meetings noted.

3. Discussion: Mining Procurement Information Hub

Mr. Milton provided an overview of the project plan, noting that an information request had recently been distributed to industry members seeking an overview of their procurement process as well as any relevant links, fact sheets and other resources that the Dialogue could host on the website.

Members queried whether contractor information would be provided on the hub, with agreement that key contractors such as Thiess should be included as they are heavily engaged across a number of Upper

Hunter sites. The Chair noted that she was due to meet with Thiess shortly and would follow up this matter.

Mr. Kelly tabled a document titled the Hunter Region Procurement Toolkit, developed in partnership between the Hunter Business Chamber, AI Group and the NSW Department of Industry, which has listed government entities, basic requirements and other considerations in a 4-page A4 booklet.

Members clarified that we are seeking to target both new and existing business entrants to assist them in accessing opportunities to grow their businesses and provide a better opportunity to understand their concerns and interact with the mining sector.

ACTION:

- **Dialogue secretariat to seek procurement information from Thiess and any other relevant contractors if identified.**
- **Dialogue secretariat to review the Hunter Region Procurement Toolkit.**

4. Discussion: Mining Procurement Business Events

Mr. Milton provided a brief overview of the current business events plan. Members agreed that the Singleton event was a clear opportunity to co-facilitate and that Thursday 12 September worked well.

Members discussed the Muswellbrook event noting that Tuesday 13 August would be preferable (note: this was changed from 6 August shortly after the meeting as there was a clash with the NSWMC HSEC Conference). Mr. Kelly noted that attendance of businesses at Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce breakfast events are generally mining-related. The MCOC Board is meeting the following day to lock in the next quarter of events.

Members queried whether these events would be sponsored by the Dialogue as they are generally ticketed events, with between 40 to 80 persons attending. These events will be promoted and targeted to the member businesses. Members agreed the Muswellbrook RSL would be the most appropriate venue for a larger audience.

Members discussed the format for the events, noting that it would be good to get an informative update from each mining operation/company in attendance regarding:

- A simple snapshot/overview of their operation/s or company
- Any future projects/plans/expansions
- Procurement process and tendering opportunities - how to get involved and where to go/who to speak to

ACTION:

- **NSWMC to revise business events plan and finalise commitment request from industry members.**

5. Summary of the House Inquiry Report 'Keep It in The Regions'

Mr. Milton provided an overview of the House Inquiry report recommendations most relevant to the Joint Working Group, noting the industry members had discussed developing a gap analysis of the recommendations, industry actions to address them, and what is still required.

6. Update from other Dialogue Working Groups/Committees

Mr. Barben provided an overview of the other Working Group projects, with the environmental projects generating discussion amongst members.

Members noted the economic parallels with the Pilot Pathway to Final Land Use project, which is seeking to improve mechanisms to modify consents/plan to help industry progress to post-mining land uses. Members noted the AGL process may be a useful case study for how this may be undertaken at a regional-wide scale.

Members discussed the Buffer Land reporting project and queried whether there was any consideration for an additional phase to this project beyond reporting? Mr. Barben noted the Synoptic Plan Review process is the right space to deal with potential buffer land use cases. This project is simply to better

understand how much land we have and highlight opportunities for interested third parties.

7. Update on Communications Activities

Mr. Mackie provided an overview of the Dialogue's communication activities, with Mr. Milton providing a summary of the community survey results. Members were interested in the school mine tours program and the Dialogue's attendance at regional shows.

8. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

9. Next Meeting and Close

The meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

Actions Arising from Meeting

Action	Responsibility	Progress
Working Group Membership		
Dialogue secretariat to invite Aleksander Mitreski (Muswellbrook Shire Council) to join the Working Group.	Dialogue secretariat	Completed
Procurement Information Hub		
Dialogue secretariat to seek procurement information from Thiess and any other relevant contractors if identified.	Dialogue secretariat	Completed
Dialogue secretariat to review the Hunter Region Procurement Toolkit.	Dialogue secretariat	Completed
Procurement Business Events Plan		
Dialogue secretariat to revise business events plan and finalise commitment request from industry members.	Dialogue secretariat	Completed