

BENGALLA MINE

Community Consultative Committee Update

The Bengalla CCC Newsletter...

The material in this issue of the Bengalla Mine Community Consultative Committee (BMCCC) newsletter has been selected by the CCC representatives.

The BMCCC is comprised of community representatives and representatives from Bengalla Mine including the Chief Executive Officer. This newsletter aims to inform interested community members on matters discussed during CCC meetings.

Fire management

Bengalla mine is surrounded by vegetation that builds up over time and becomes fuel for fire. Bengalla mine is bordered by sealed roads and has several roads and tracks across the site that can act as a fire break to prevent the fire from spreading to other areas of the site or to other properties. Fire-fighters can use these tracks and roads to access the fire.

Bengalla regularly slashes around buildings and access roads so that the vegetation in these areas is less likely to ignite. If a fire does start in these areas, the reduced fuel loads will likely result in better fire control.

These slashed areas also allow egress from the fire and access for fire-fighters.

In addition, Bengalla is committed to slashing the verge of Wybong Road along its boundary.

Bengalla has a number of power lines around the site that supply power to infrastructure areas. Power lines can spark due to strong winds or fallen tree limbs. Bengalla regularly inspects the powerlines and undertakes maintenance including clearing overhanging trees and slashing the vegetation under the powerlines.

Vehicles at Bengalla mine are required to carry a working fire extinguisher so that if a fire starts it can be controlled.

Other on-site emergency resources include firefighting equipment at infrastructure areas and on water-

carts and trained firefighting personnel.

In March 2016 a fire ignited on land owned by Bengalla, which was attended to by the local fire service. Bengalla provided two water carts to supply additional water to the fire trucks. The local fire service extinguished the fire.

In December 2016 a fire started north of Wybong Road and moved south, eventually crossing Wybong Road onto Bengalla owned land. The fire was attended to by local fire services police, and watercarts and personnel from Bengalla.

Bengalla will, in May, meet with representatives of the Wybong Rural Fire Service to discuss approach and involvement in emergency response.



Fire along Wybong Road in December 2016

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Biodiversity Offset properties

The Bengalla Mining Company (Bengalla) development consent requires acquisition of land and commitment to implementing a biodiversity offset strategy to mitigate and measure biodiversity impacts related to mining operations.

The Bengalla offset areas comprise four properties totalling 6,216 hectares located in the Upper Hunter Shire.

The Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BOMP) outlines the land



Offset Property: Black Mountain

management, pest management, fire management, ecological management and legal commitments required under Bengalla's consent. Bengalla has undertaken all management commitments outlined in the draft plan during 2016, including:

- flora and fauna ecological surveys throughout summer and winter;
- two 1080 ground baiting operations targeting wild dogs,
- an aerial 1080 baiting program organised by Hunter Local Land Services;
- an 8-week pig trapping program, including sand pad monitoring and motion camera survey;
- weed spraying targeting specific noxious weeds;
- general site inspections; and
- fire management operations, including fuel load reduction burning and fire trail upgrades.



Offset Property: Merriwa River



Offset Property: Kenelea



Bengalla COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

10am - 2pm Saturday 14th October 2017 Muswellbrook Showground



Bengalla Mining Company extends a warm invitation to the community to attend our Open Day.

With a large range of displays and activities for all the family, enjoy a free BBQ, entertainment and go behind the scenes on a guided bus tour of Bengalla mine.

The minutes and presentations from CCC meetings are available for public viewing at the Muswellbrook and Denman Libraries. If you have an interest in any of the topics discussed at the CCC and would like further information on this topic or in future newsletters, please contact one of the members listed below.

If you wish to attend a Bengalla CCC meeting, or would like an issue raised by one of the Committee members, please contact any of the members listed below:

Mr Malcolm Ogg (Chairperson) Ph: 6543 4583 Mr Noel Downs Ph: 65431 288

Mrs Llewellyn Bates Ph: 6547 9170 Mr Dennis Burton Ph: 6543 2730

Mr Cam Halfpenny (Bengalla CEO) Ph: 6542 9500 Mr Jonathon Moore Ph: 6547 9164

Mrs Debbie Day (Bengalla) Ph: 6542 9500 Mr Craig White (Bengalla) Ph: 6542 9500

Clr Rod Scholes (Muswellbrook Council) Ph: 6549 3700

Bengalla Environmental Complaints Hotline number: 1800 178 984

www.bengalla.com.au