

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.

Trial for Successful tree growth

A programme has commenced at Bengalla mine to trial the best method for establishing dense woody vegetation on the rehabilitated area facing Muswellbrook and Denman Road.

Thirteen hectares of rehabilitated land at Bengalla mine has been prepared and sown to establish grey-box ironbark woodland which is local to our ecological communities.

Bengalla's Environmental Advisor Laurel McGinnity said: "The trial will compare two methods commonly used in coal mine rehabilitation on two separate areas of rehabilitation. The first trial method will use a bulldozer with a rear mounted attachment to loosen

up the soil by ripping deep furrows. A tractor with a fertiliser spreader will spread tree seed on the ripped areas. When it rains the ripped furrows will catch water and minimise the amount of seed washed away.

Method two will use a tractor with three attachments, harrows, vacuum seeder, and a stippled roller. As the tractor drives across the trial area the harrows will loosen the soil. The vacuum seeder will then evenly dispense the tree seed onto the soil. Lastly the roller will lightly cover the seeds and press them into the soil."

Sourcing the correct native seeds is essential for the trial as is the right people to carry out the work. Bengalla engaged Singleton Earthmoving who has the expertise and

equipment suitable for this trial.

Bengalla CEO, Cam Halfpenny said: "Bengalla's objective under its development consent is to revegetate the entire face of its rehabilitated land exposed to Muswellbrook and Denman with high density woody vegetation. This trial is important to ensure we are successful in achieving that objective.

Bengalla recognises how valuable it is that we use land in sustainable ways so it is available for other uses after mining. Over the life of Bengalla mine, we will continue to manage impacts on our land by undertaking rehabilitation and other land management programmes."

Following completion of the trial, Bengalla will monitor the trial areas for the next 12 months following which the successful method will be used to revegetate the existing rehabilitated land.



Pictured: Chris Bennett Singleton Earthmoving and Laurel McGinnity, Environmental Officer Bengalla mine discussing the trial.

Bengalla Mine Community Consultative Committee Update

Dry Creek project nearing completion

The Dry Creek Diversion Project is nearing completion. Most areas disturbed during the construction have now been rehabilitated.

The clean water diversion levee west of the Bengalla mine was completed early November with the installation of culverts under Bengalla Link Road allowing clean water to travel unimpeded from Wybong Road to the Hunter River.

The CW1 dam is completely finished with rehabilitation completed in October.



Rehabilitated western diversion levee

Mains power will be connected to the CW1 pump station on 29 November (scheduled Ausgrid cutover date) which post-commissioning will make the Dry Creek Diversion fully operational.

Once operational, advancement of the Bengalla Mine can proceed through Dry Creek, with clean water upstream of the mine diverted west of the operation and into the Hunter River.

Support for Mangoola Fire Brigade

Bushfire season is upon us and Mangoola Fire Brigade is working hard to ensure the public is bushfire aware.

Mangoola Fire Brigade has been preparing itself for the season with training conducted every Monday night which not only involves bushfire training but also structural fire and motor vehicle accident training. Whether it is during training or on the ground fighting fires, it is essential that crews stay hydrated and this season the Mangoola Fire Brigade has been given a boost by the donation of 2400 bottles of water by Bengalla Mining Company.

Captain Darren Russell said: "The drinking water supplied to Mangoola Brigade by Bengalla mine is invaluable, as the Brigade need to fund their own drinking water and

this donation has been greatly appreciated.

The safety of our crew is always top priority and hydration for a firefighter is a must. It is surprising how much water you drink to keep hydrated when you are out on the job, without noticing it is very easy to go through 10 bottles yourself."

Bengalla CEO, Cam Halfpenny said: "Mangoola Fire Brigade provides a vital community service to our area and we are pleased to be able to support them through the bushfire season. The volunteers of the fire brigade make themselves available to respond to emergencies and we are grateful for their contribution."



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

Bengalla Environmental Complaints Hotline number: 1800 178 984

www.bengalla.com.au