



The discharge was reported by a resident and the sprays were turned off, halting the discharge. It was noted that the resident who reported the discharge expressed dissatisfaction with the discharge being ceased after being advised that the water should not be harmful to cattle.

Water quality of the mine water discharged was discussed. PS and PF advised that the water was saline but not very dissimilar to surface waters normally found in the area. It was noted that no environmental harm was caused by this uncontrolled discharge but that it was a clear breach of Drayton's environmental licence conditions. The mine self reported the incident to DECCW and followed up with a detailed report of the causes and expected consequence of the discharged. DECCW has asked for further information which Drayton will provide. The mine is yet to be advised whether or not DECCW intend to issue a fine or prosecute the company for this infringement.

RB asked if the Dam Safety Committee (DSC) were concerned with the uncontrolled discharge. PS and PF stated that there are no structural issues associated with the discharge as such it was not a matter for the DSC. The integrity of the wall has not been compromised.

A flash flooding event on Pamger Drive was raised by GDB and briefly discussed. PF noted that the flooding event which occurred on an unknown date last year was unlikely to have been caused by the mine and was unlikely to have any connection to the mine water management system. The flooding was likely to have been caused by a high rainfall event in the catchment combined with the large number of farm dams preventing free surface water runoff from the catchment.

## **5. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS OF GENERAL BUSINESS PROPOSED TO BE RAISED**

PH raised coal dust as an issue for discussion. (See general business section for details).

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

## **7. REPORTS**

A presentation was given by PS regarding Drayton environmental performance in the period since the last CCC meeting (Aug - Jan).

Seven complaints were received during the period. Of these, two were recorded as enquires and two were related to non- Drayton activities. Five were related to blasting. One was regarding train noise and one related to dust.

The nature of the complaints received was briefly discussed. One of the blasting complaints received from a Muswellbrook resident was noted to be not Drayton related and believed to not be related to coal mining activity at all though the Drayton blast monitors recorded the event and it was noted to exceed the 120 dB(L) overpressure limit for mining consents.

The dust complaint received from RB was briefly discuss and noted to have been caused by dust from Drayton blast crossing TMD and visible from the NE Hwy.

Blasting during the period caused no exceedances in vibration (>5mm/sec) or overpressure (>115dB(L)).

Rainfall data for the year to date was compared to last year's rainfall pattern and historic averages.

The meeting participants discussed Drayton water usage and capacity to manage water onsite. PF noted that capacity is good with the example of the 2007 storm event given to illustrate the onsite water management capacity. No discharge and no major shutdowns occurred during or as a result of the inundation event.

The Air Quality Management Audit conducted last year by DECCW, DoP and DII were discussed. Findings of the audit included areas for improvement for Drayton. Improvement opportunities noted were:

- Dust management on the ROM stockpile (minimisation of rehandle)
- Haul road watering in some areas neglected in favour of others
- HVAS calibration must be < 2 monthly (Drayton has already introduced a six-weekly schedule for HVAS calibration)

Dust monitoring levels for the period Aug 2010 to Jan 2011 was discussed. One exceedance of the 50ug/m<sup>3</sup> PM10 limit was recorded by the TEOM on one day during January. It was noted that this day was the hottest recorded during the period with a maximum temperature above 42 degrees.

Continuous noise monitoring data from the BarnOwl showed a significant drop in noise levels in December 2010. The reason for the drop was discussed and generally thought to be due to a drop in traffic on TMD due to Christmas contractor leave. It was noted by PF however that Drayton had not decreased production at the time and remained running at full capacity to meet yearly production targets.

Waste disposal and recycling data was presented for 2010.

## **8. SITE UPDATE**

Mine is progressing according to plans.

## **9. SUBMISSIONS**

Nil

## **10. GENERAL BUSINESS**

PH raised coal dust as an issue for discussion. PH stated that dust in his house had been very bad lately and noted that the dust was black in colour so likely to be coal dust not general dust. The problem has developed recently with black dust working into the house under doors and through blinds.

The neighbours of PH (Sharman) have also noted the black dust in their house lately and asked PH to raise the issue at the CCC meeting.

GDB noted that he had not noticed black dust at his house and could not recall ever having trouble with black dust at his residence. General dust of a lighter colour was noted to be an issue periodically.

Recent hot weather and strong winds were discussed.

The prevailing wind direction at the time of the incident was discussed and no agreement was reached. The wind could have been SE or NW at the time. Several different potential sources were discussed based on proximity and location in relation to the affected properties but no consensus could be reached without knowledge of the prevailing wind direction at the time of the incident.

**Action:** PS to investigate the incident including identification of prevailing wind direction and potential source of the black dust.

**When:** Prior to end of April.

**Action:** PH to contact Drayton if this problem recurs to facilitate investigation.

**When:** As soon as possible if the problem recurs.

PF noted that complaints received from residents about noise from train loading activities had given rise to a request from DoP for an independent assessment of noise levels at the affected residence. This request was welcomed by Drayton and is being organised for the cooler months when sound is expected to travel better with less climatic interruptions. An independent consultant is being sought for the work and will need to be approved by DoP. A representative of DoP will also be present for the assessment.

#### **11. DEBRIEF THIS MEETING**

PF - Criticism of the lack of access to meeting minutes from the previous meeting discussed during the Joint CCC meeting will be taken on board by Drayton in preparation for the next meeting. Minutes will be made available to the Drayton CCC members as soon as possible.

LR thanked BL (Drayton) for the phone call reminders prior to this meeting.

#### **12. NEXT MEETING**

Next Meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011

The meeting closed at 7:00 pm.

#### ***Meeting Dates***

*The following dates are proposed for 2011*

*19<sup>th</sup> of May 2011*

*18<sup>th</sup> of August 2011 (Joint CCC to be held at Drayton)*

*17<sup>th</sup> of November 2011*