

Duralie Community Consultative Committee (CCC) – 2025 Annual Report

CCC project name:	Duralie Coal Mine	Reporting period:	January 1 to December 31 2025
Independent chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill	Proponent contact:	Tom Kirkwood, Environment and Community Superintendent

1. Executive summary / introduction

The Duralie Community Consultative Committee was established in 2003 with the approval of the Duralie Coal Mine Consent. The mine is located on The Bucketts Way between the villages of Wards River and Stroud Road within the MidCoast Local Government Area. As coal extraction from the site ceased in December 2021, the meeting cycle was subsequently reduced from quarterly to biannual with a further review anticipated during 2026 when detailed mine closure plans are finalised.

The Committee is currently comprised of:

- five local community representatives;
- One MidCoast staff representative and a staff alternate;
- Two Stratford Coal representatives with attendance from other personnel as required;
- One independent Chairperson.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months:

As stated in previous reports, mining activities have ceased at Duralie and mine closure planning is well underway. Demolition and decommissioning, future land use, final void and growth opportunities remain the committee's main interest.

The committee held two meetings for the reporting period, in February and August, with site tour options and an extra tour in November outside of the normal meeting cycle.

The February tour visited the Weismantel Pit, Clarevale Pit and pasture restoration. The meeting discussed the operational milestones achieved; the PAF rehandle successfully completed late 2024 and the reclaim rock from the quarry for the Coal Creek reconstruction project.

At the August meeting, the MidCoast Council Catchment Management Coordinator was invited to update the committee on his work, however, was unable to attend because of the extreme weather conditions experienced in the area. He will be reinvited to attend a 2026 meeting.

The rail siding removal, progress on the rock recovery from the quarry for the creek reconstruction, pest management, a visit from the Resource Regulator and the Targeted Assessment program for mine closure activities were discussed and in response to an enquiry from the committee, an explanation provided on the roles of the Resource Regulator and the EPA.

Committee members remain focused on potential land use options and opportunities for the area to remain sustainable, retaining population, employment and tourism values. As both the Duralie and Stratford mines move to closure, the members are keen that the company continues to engage with the broader, local community. This appears to have been partially achieved by Yancoal’s informative community newsletters distributed in June and December, website updates and the appointment of specialist staff engaging with the individual committee member and the community at large on rehabilitation, mine closure, timelines and recruitment opportunities available.

As mentioned in earlier reports, the proposal for the Stratford Renewable Energy Hub (SREH) is not within the scope of this committee, however members remain interested in the project and what it may offer for employment opportunities, property values, alternate land use options and plans for future divestment of currently mine owned property. Such discussion also raised the question at a 2024 meeting when information provided had disclosed the MidCoast Council LGA was not included in EnergyCo’s renewable energy zones. A further invitation ensued for a Yancoal Corporate representative to attend and discuss the future divestment of mine held land.

Committee presentations are responsive to the interests of the committee and include general environmental management and monitoring, operational activities including decommissioning, land management and rehabilitation activities, potential use of voids and final land use options, complaints, company reports and community sponsorship. There were no community complaints during 2025.

During 2025, the downward trend in attendance numbers continued. This may be attributed to the information available on the company website and in the newsletters, however it does not ascribe to the Stratford Committee as yet. It is anticipated the Duralie committee will meet biannually with a further review in the second half of 2026 when detailed mine closure plans are likely to be finalised and the potential for a further reduction in meetings and potential to merge with Stratford CCC. All mines and presentations are available on the company website within two weeks of each meeting.

Updates to the Terms of Reference, noting changes to membership and meeting schedules were sent to the committee in September 2025 and will be confirmed at the February 2026 meeting.

3. Key issues

Issue	Actions taken	Next steps
Mine Closure Planning	<p>Ongoing consultation with CCC and broader community on mine closure planning via website and newsletters.</p> <p>Investigation of future land use and</p>	<p>Ongoing liaison will support preparation of detailed mine closure planning and guide future consultation with all key stakeholders.</p> <p>Further invitation extended to Yancoal Corporate representative to attend February 2026 meeting.</p>

	employment opportunities.	Future proposals and information will be discussed with the CCC as it evolves.
MidCoast Council Annual Financial Report on Community Enhancement Funding	Comprehensive Report provided by Council to CCC.	Ongoing annual action.

4. Focus for next 12 months:

- Engage with Yancoal and the broader community and other specialists as required on post mining planning and options in accordance with regulatory requirements.
- Address any emerging issues of the committee.

Name of chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill
Date:	February 10 2026.