

Draft Meeting Minutes
Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Duralie Mine Site
Thursday 21st August 2025

Attendees:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	Rod Williams	CCC Member
Robert Carter	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Brian Eastoe	CCC Member
Graham Chase	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Noel Smith	CCC Member
Jarrad Galvin	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Matthew Clinch	CCC Member
James Hughes	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd		
John Cullen	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd		

1. Site Tour

The site tour was cancelled due to wet weather.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 12:33 pm and welcomed Robert Carter, Acting Environment and Community Superintendent. Mr Carter provided a brief introduction to the Committee.

Apologies: Mr Drew Morris, Mr James Harris, Mr Ryan Fenning.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared that she is the Independent Chair, approved by the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

The declarations of the Duralie CCC members remain current.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 13th of February 2025 were confirmed.

Moved: Brian Eastoe; Seconded: Rod Williams.

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

1. **Ongoing Action Item:** *The CCC's print media to be drafted following each CCC meeting and provided to the committee for comment prior to finalising and submission by DCPL under review by Chair.*

Ms MacDonald-Hill confirmed to the committee that at the last meeting the committee had agreed not to continue this process and therefore the action is no longer relevant.

2. **Annual Action Item:** *MidCoast Council to provide an annual financial report each November on the spending of the Gloucester and Great Lakes components of the Duralie contributions made to Council.*

6. Correspondence

Chair noted the correspondence as listed in the agenda with the addition of Mr Galvin sending an email regarding the Stratford Coal Community Support Program on 18/8/25.

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

1. Activities at the Mine: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Cullen presented an overview of activities for the first half of the year. Most work has been contractor-based, including rock recovery from the quarry for the reconstruction of Coal Shaft Creek, rehabilitation of the rail siding, and construction of a new drop structure.

Mr Eastoe asked about the Coal Shaft Creek reconstruction project and if the creek would be reinstated with a natural look rather than a straight drain. Mr Chase said that a number of technical specialists will have input into the design which has yet to be finalised however a straight drain is not expected.

2. Environment & Community Activities including monitoring and community programs: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Carter presented an overview of the environmental reporting. Mr Eastoe enquired as to what changes had been made to the management plans. Mr Carter agreed to provide a summary of recent management plan updates and timings to the CCC.

Mr Eastoe enquired about what is the premises plan of the Duralie Coal Mine. Mr Carter explained that the premises plan defines the boundary of the Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) area and agreed to supply a copy of the plan.

Mr Carter provided an overview on water management and monitoring. Mr Eastoe enquired if AD02 was still a declared dam and Mr Carter confirmed that while the dam has been dewatered it remains a declared dam. Mr Chase advised that as part of closure works the dam will be reduced in size or removed and de-declared.

Mr Carter informed the group of a recent site visit by the Resource Regulator as part of an industry-wide Targeted Assessment Program (TAP) on decommissioning activities. Mr Williams asked about the role of the Resource Regulator compared to the EPA. Mr Carter explained that the Resource Regulator regulates against the Mining Act and has a focus on mine safety and rehabilitation, while the EPA's role is centred on regulation against the Protection of the Environment Operations Act (POEO Act) with a focus on other environmental aspects such as water, air quality and noise impacts.

Mr Hughes provided an overview of the completed and planned rehabilitation works, including the status of the pest management program which was recently put on hold due to adverse weather conditions.

New Action Item 1: Mr Carter to provide a summary of recent management plan updates and timings to the CCC.

New Action Item 2: Mr Carter to supply a copy of the premises plan (with the emailed minutes)

3. Mine Closure Planning: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Chase provided an update on the mine closure timeline and mine closure planning. Mr Williams asked how many people would be likely to be on site during the monitoring and maintenance phase with Mr Cullen confirming those arrangements have yet to be determined and will be based on the site requirements which could fluctuate with time.

Mr Eastoe asked about the property divestment strategy and committee members expressed concern that if divestment was not coordinated it could have negative impacts on the valley. Mr Chase responded that Yancoal is several years away from finalising its strategy. Mr Eastoe then asked when land and other properties would be sold. Mr Galvin advised that this matter had previously been raised and it was agreed that once a divestment strategy is resolved a representative from the corporate property team would attend a CCC meeting to present to the group. The Chair advised this is an open invitation and remains current. The committee requested that the invitation be extended again to seek a corporate representative to provide an update on the divestment strategy.

New Action Item 3: Representative from Yancoal Corporate to be invited to attend a CCC meeting and provide an update on the future divestment strategy.

Mr Chase updated the status of the detailed mine closure plan and the approval process, the final land use and the back filling of the Weismantel void.

Mr Eastoe asked why the Weismantel void is being backfilled. Mr Chase responded that this is for long term water management and to improve the overall performance of the rehabilitation. Mr Eastoe then asked where the material for backfilling was coming from. Mr Chase advised it would be rehandled from unrehabilitated and rehabilitated areas.

4. Community Complaints: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Carter presented an overview of community complaints with no complaints received in the first half of the year.

5 Community Programs: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Galvin presented on Community Programs. The 2026 Community Support Program (CSP) opened on 18th August 2025 and will close on 26th September 2025. The 2026 Education Support Fund (ESF) will open on 17th November 2025 and close on 30th January 2026.

6. Recruitment Update: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Galvin provided an update on recruitment for mine closure activities at Duralie. Mr Williams asked if the employment was specifically to cover closure activities. Mr Cullen confirmed this was correct.

7. Stratford Renewable Energy Hub Updated: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Galvin provided an update on the SREH. Yancoal submitted a Response to Submissions Report in May. Government agencies have since provided comments and Yancoal is preparing additional information to address them.

8. General Business

There was no further General Business.

9. Proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule

2026 proposed Meeting dates:

- February 12th
- August 13th

Meeting closed at 2:02 PM.

Summary of Action Items from this meeting

1. ***New Action Item 1:*** Mr Carter to provide a summary of recent management plan updates and timings to the CCC.
2. ***New Action Item 2:*** Mr Carter to supply a copy of the premises plan.
3. ***New Action Item 3:*** Representative from Yancoal Corporate to be invited to attend a CCC meeting and provide an update on the future divestment strategy.