

Draft Meeting Minutes
Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Duralie Mine Site
Thursday 5th February 2026

Attendees:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	Brian Eastoe	CCC Member
John Cullen	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Noel Smith	CCC Member
Thomas Kirkwood	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Ryan Fenning	MidCoast Council
Graham Chase	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd		
Jarrad Galvin	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd		
James Hughes	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd		

Guests:

Alan Andrews – Manager Tenures, Yancoal Australia
Drew Morris – Catchment Management Coordinator, MidCoast Council
Kristy Peters – Catchment Management Officer, MidCoast Council
Lyndie Hepple – Coordinator Community Development, MidCoast Council

1. Site Tour

No site tour was held.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 12:45pm. Ms Macdonald-Hill noted that an updated contact details form had been circulated to CCC members.

Apologies: Mr Rod Williams, Mr James Harris, Mr Matt Clinch.

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 21st of August 2025 were confirmed.

Moved: Brian Eastoe; Seconded: Noel Smith

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

- 1. 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.*

Ms Hepple was in attendance to present the 2024/2025 report.

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

Item was actioned by Mr Kirkwood, summary provided in presentation.

3. **New Action Item 2:** *Mr Carter to supply a copy of the premises plan.*

Item was actioned by Mr Carter, noted in correspondence.

4. **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.*

Action Item 3 was actioned by Mr Kirkwood with Mr Andrews in attendance to present to the CCC an update on the future divestment strategy.

6. Guest Presentations

1. **Yancoal Future Land Use and Divestment Strategy:** *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail).*

Mr Andrews presented an update on the Future Land Use and Divestment Strategy (FLUDS). The presentation included market analysis, integration with mine closure planning and highlighted the long-term nature of property divestment. Mr Eastoe commented that the presentation provided credible and valuable insight into the overall strategy and Yancoal's transparent approach to divestment. This message would be beneficial being conveyed to the community sooner rather than later. Mr Smith agreed with Mr Eastoe sentiments and noted that he was satisfied with the processes and information provided by the mine. This was followed by a discussion on possible future land uses within the valley.

2. **Duralie-Stratford Financial Report 2024/25:** *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Ms Hepple presented the Duralie–Stratford Financial Report 2024/25. Ms Hepple noted that, following discussions with Council engineers, the bridges were assessed as being in good condition and that the funding provided to MidCoast Council under PA-08-0203 allocated for bridge inspections may be better directed towards road maintenance. The Committee discussed the potential reallocation of these funds and agreed that, if this approach is considered to be in the best interests of the community, the funds should be redirected accordingly. Mr Kirkwood noted that Yancoal would consider the proposal outside of the meeting and would confirm that the proposed use of the funds is consistent with consent requirements.

New Action Item: Mr Kirkwood to confirm Yancoal's position on the use of bridge funds being used for road maintenance.

3. Environmental Projects – Karuah River Catchment: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Morris presented an overview of environmental projects within the Karuah River Catchment, including the Birds on Farms program, the MidCoast River Revival project, and Beyond the Shed – Stage 3.

Mr Morris also introduced Ms Peters, MidCoast Council's recently appointed Catchment Management Officer. It was noted that her focus will be establishing a Karuah Catchment Management Grants program to support on-ground works for landholders, with an emphasis on priority areas within the Upper Karuah and Wards River catchments to improve overall catchment health.

7. Correspondence

The Chair noted the correspondence as listed in the agenda. The chair confirmed the Terms of Reference noting updated membership sent to the members in September as required by the DPHI.

8. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

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

Mr Kirkwood presented an update on mine activities, noting that operations are now focused on bulk earthworks to achieve final landform. A summary of ongoing rehabilitation works was also provided. Mr Eastoe asked whether the first flush system around the dams had been removed and if drainage patterns would be reinstated. Mr Chase advised that the drains around the dam remain in place, and that the first flush drain that was removed had not been previously used, with the landform blended back in.

2. Environmental Reporting and Management: *(refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail)*

Mr Kirkwood provided an update on environmental reporting and regulator activities. Mr Eastoe asked whether additional information could be provided regarding National Pollutant Inventory (NPI) and Australia's National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting scheme (NGERS) reports. Mr Kirkwood advised that further detail on each report is available in their most digestible form within the Duralie Annual Review. Mr Kirkwood also provided a summary of the management plans and their current versions.

Mr Hughes presented an update on Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Management. Mr Eastoe asked what impact the wet conditions had on the infill planting. Mr Hughes advised that the program was postponed until the second half of the year but was able to be completed in November. Mr Kirkwood noted that additional monitoring would be undertaken this year to assess survival rates and determine any follow-up actions. Mr Eastoe asked what methods were used as part of the feral animal control program. Mr Hughes advised that trapping and shooting were employed.

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 closure planning. Mr Eastoe noted that the slides clearly outlined the current status of mine closure planning and how the various aspects are linked.

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

Mr Galvin presented an overview of community complaints with no complaints received in the second half of the year.

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

Mr Galvin presented an update on Community Programs.

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

Mr Galvin provided an update on the Stratford Renewable Energy Hub (SREH), noting that the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) is continuing its assessment of the project. Mr Eastoe asked whether any feedback had been received from the Department. Mr Kirkwood advised that consultation on the project remains between Yancoal corporate and the Department.

9. General Business

Mr Eastoe informed the committee that he had now sold his property nearby the Duralie Coal Mine and relocated from the area.

There was no further General Business.

10. Proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule

2026 proposed Meeting dates:

- August 13th

Meeting closed at 2:21 PM.

Summary of Action Items from this meeting

1. **New Action Item 1:** Mr Kirkwood to confirm Yancoal's position on the use of bridge funds being used for road maintenance.