

Draft Meeting Minutes
Duralie Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting
Duralie Mine Site
Thursday 13th August 2026

Attendees:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	James Harris	CCC Member
John Cullen	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Noel Smith	CCC Member
Thomas Kirkwood	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Rod Williams	CCC Member
Graham Chase	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd		
Jarrad Galvin	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd		
James Hughes	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd		

1. Site Tour

A site tour was held prior to the meeting which visited the Weismantel Pit observation area and Clareval Pit southern batter bulk shaping.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 1:35pm.

Apologies: 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 5th of February 2026 were confirmed.

Moved: Noel Smith; Seconded: Rod Williams

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

Item was actioned by Mr Kirkwood who confirmed Yancoal had no objection to the proposed use of funds.

New Action Item: The Chair to advise council Yancoal had no objection to the proposed use of funds.

6. Correspondence

The Chair noted the correspondence as listed in the agenda. The Chair also referred to the Committee's Terms of Reference noted at the February 2026 meeting and advised they remain current other than an update to reflect membership. In accordance with DPHI requirements, any further changes will be reviewed in 2027.

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 update on mine activities, noting that operations are focused on bulk earthworks in the Weismantel Pit. Closure activities are also progressing with the dewatering of the Main Water Dam in preparation of the reconstruction of Coal Shaft Creek.

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

Mr Kirkwood provided an update on environmental reporting and management activities. Mr Williams asked if the Main Water Dam would be decommissioned. Mr Kirkwood explained that under Dams Safety Regulation 2019 (NSW) it would go from being a declared dam to a de-declared dam following a detailed design process informed by experienced dam safety engineers and acceptance by Dam Safety NSW.

Mr Kirkwood highlighted the recent NSW Resource Regulator visit as part of the Targeted Assessment Program (TAP) which focused on surface and groundwater management measures on site. Findings from the TAP are expected to be received within the coming months.

Mr Kirkwood provided an overview of the Feral Animal Control Program that was currently underway. Mr Harris asked whether baiting was being undertaken. Mr Kirkwood advised that baiting was not a currently used control method and trapping and shooting were the current preferred control methods.

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

Mr Chase provided an update on mine closure planning and outlined the refined final landform design for the Duralie Mine. He explained that refinements were required due to the site not being developed to its originally approved extent and the proposed backfilling of the previously approved Weismantel Void.

Mr Chase presented the predicted outcomes associated with the refined final landform, including future land uses comprising of grazing land, native vegetation and water storage areas. Mr Chase also outlined the proposed next steps in closure planning, including the staged review and update of relevant environmental management plans.

Mr Williams queried the land use restrictions associated with areas of native vegetation compared with biodiversity offset areas. Mr Chase explained that biodiversity offset areas are subject to specific obligations and restrictions tied to the property title, whereas rehabilitated native vegetation areas are managed in the same manner as any other native vegetation.

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

Mr Kirkwood 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 an update on Community Programs. Mr Galvin noted that the Community Support Program (CSP) will open on 17th August and close 15th September. Mr Galvin also explained that the Stratford Coal Education Support Fund (ESF) will open on 23rd November and close 29th January with this year being the last year of funding for the program. Mr Williams asked whether interest in the ESF remained strong. Mr Galvin advised that approximately 13 applications were successfully funded during the previous funding round.

Mr Galvin added that Community Support Program applications will now be submitted online through the GoodGrants portal. He noted that assistance would be available for applicants requiring support with the online application process.

6. Stratford Renewable Energy Hub Update: *(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) granted approval for the proposed project in July. Mr Galvin noted that the project now required federal approval and further commercial assessment from Yancoal.

Mr Smith asked about the implications of the proposed Stratford Renewable Energy Hub for the approved final landform at Stratford and the approvals that would be required to facilitate the project. Mr Kirkwood advised that depending on the final scope of the project, a modification to the Stratford Mining Complex development consent would likely be required. Mr Williams asked what the federal assessment process would involve. Mr Chase explained that the assessment would consider Matters of National Environmental Significance, including potential impacts on biodiversity.

8. General Business

The Chair noted Mr Brian Eastoe's departure from the Committee following his relocation from the local area.

The Chair proposed writing to Mr Eastoe on behalf of the Committee to thank him for his commitment and valuable contributions since joining the committee almost two decades ago. All present Committee members supported the proposal and acknowledged Mr Eastoe's considerable service and contribution to Committee discussions.

Action Item: The Chair to write Mr Eastoe thanking him for his service to the committee.

There was no further General Business.

9. Proposed 2027 Meeting Schedule

Proposed meeting dates:

- 18 February 2027
- 19 August 2027

Meeting closed at 2:14 PM.

Summary of Action Items from this meeting

1. ***New Action Item 1:*** The Chair to advise MidCoast Council that Yancoal had no objection to the proposed reallocation of bridge inspection funding being directed towards road maintenance.
2. ***New Action Item 2:*** The Chair to write Mr Eastoe a letter thanking him for his service to the committee.