

BENGALLA MINE

Community Consultative Committee Update

The Bengalla CCC Newsletter...

The material in this issue of the Bengalla Mine Community Consultative Committee (BMCCC) newsletter has been selected by the CCC representatives.

The BMCCC is comprised of community representatives and representatives from Bengalla Mine including the General Manager. This newsletter aims to inform interested community members on matters discussed during CCC meetings.

Environmental Initiatives Onsite

Bengalla Mining Company continually seeks to improve Bengalla Mine's environmental performance by investigating and adopting, where relevant, reasonable and feasible new best practice measures. Recently BMC has implemented a number of initiatives to minimise dust emissions.

Production Supervisors undertake regular in-pit air quality inspections which consider meteorological conditions, equipment locations and dig material. Where required the Supervisor will modify or cease activities to minimise dust from site. In October 2018 Bengalla commenced undertaking offsite dust inspections. The inspections are generally undertaken twice daily (Monday to Friday) at several off-site locations at Wybong Road, Roxburgh Road, Denman Road and the Muswellbrook Racecourse. The Open Cut Examiner on duty is notified as required by the offsite inspector and will modify operations appropriately.

Bengalla operates five watercarts primarily to control dust from haul roads. In 2018 Bengalla purchased two new replacement watercarts. Operators are also empowered to manage dust at Bengalla. In certain circumstances operators may call for additional watercarts where required for ancillary activities eg exploration drilling and projects.

Two existing water fill points are located in the south of the pit around the ROM and Reject Bin. In early 2019 Bengalla installed an additional water fill point further to the north to shorten the water fill time for the watercarts and to increase watercart utilisation.

Bengalla uses water sprays in a variety of locations, stockpiles, at the ROM hopper and on conveyors. In 2018 Bengalla implemented a spray system around the dragline to manage dust from the dragline operations

BMC recognise and actively manage dust at Bengalla through measures including those described above. This commitment is ongoing as BMC continue to seek reasonable and feasible best practice management techniques to manage dust.



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Bengalla Engineering Scholarship Student– Renee Hirst

Renee, who grew up in Aberdeen, is entering her final year of studies at Newcastle University where she is studying a double degree– Bachelor of Chemical Engineering and Bachelor of Science Majoring in Chemistry. Renee says she was “lucky enough to be the recipient of the Bengalla Engineering Scholarship in 2015.”

Renee explains winning the scholarship was not only invaluable in relieving the financial burden of studying, but it also meant she had the opportunity of 10 weeks of vacation work every summer at Bengalla. “This work allowed me to put my degree to use from the start, and really put into perspective the concepts I was being taught. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity and I thank the team I’ve worked with for the awesome experience” she said.



The vacation work is an integral part of the Bengalla Engineering Scholarship, which offers practical experience, mentorship and support while studying to ensure success. Process engineer at Bengalla, Penny Walker, says Renee’s regular placements back to Bengalla has given Renee the opportunity to tackle a wide range of project work and develop as an engineer who has been a greatly valued and respected member of the CHPP team.

Bengalla Homestead

The restoration of Bengalla Homestead is now all but complete, and has been expertly overseen by Bengalla technician Sam Parkinson, acting as project manager. Bengalla Homestead was built in 1877 by the Keys family, who ran the river flat land for cattle grazing, dairying and crops. The Homestead has had extensions over time by the family, and required extensive work to sympathetically restore it (as seen in picture to the right) after damage caused by termites.

Significant work was also carried out on the servants quarters, situated to the rear of the house, the Summer house (much to the delight of Rosa Reynolds and Richard Keys, and the book keepers cottage.

Rosa, Richard and their family visited Bengalla Homestead in January, and were delighted with the attention to detail and care that has gone into the Homestead. They thoroughly enjoyed revisiting the Homestead and gardens, and reminisced over afternoon tea in the drawing room on life on the farm. They were most impressed with the renovation and keeping of the original features of the home.



The minutes and presentations from CCC meetings are available for public viewing at the Muswellbrook and Denman Libraries. If you have an interest in any of the topics discussed at the CCC and would like further information on this topic or in future newsletters, please contact one of the members listed below.

If you wish to attend a Bengalla CCC meeting, or would like an issue raised by one of the Committee members, please contact any of the members listed below:

Mr Malcolm Ogg (Chairperson)	Ph: 6543 4583	Mr Noel Downs	Ph: 65 431 288
Mrs Llewellyn Bates	Ph: 6547 9170	Mr Dennis Burton	Ph: 65 43 2730
Mr Cam Halfpenny (Bengalla CEO)	Ph: 6542 9500	Mr Jonathon Moore	Ph: 65 47 9164
Mrs Fiona Hartin (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500	Mr Craig White (Bengalla)	Ph: 65 42 9500
Sharon Pope (Muswellbrook Council)	Ph: 6549 3700		

Bengalla Environmental Complaints Hotline number: 1800 178 984

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