



Wilpinjong Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee



Extraordinary Meeting Minutes – Session 1

1. PRESENT

Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Date & Time:	29 June 2026
Venue:	Wollar Stores	Minute Taker:	Sally Mayberry (SM)
Committee Members:	Bev Smiles (BS), Kieren Bennetts (KB), Councillor Katie Dicker (KD), Brian McDermott (BM), Kim Peach (KP), Rod Pryor (RP), Daniel Holm (DH), Bill Vatovec (BV)		

2. APOLOGIES/ABSENT

Apologies:	Lisa Menke, Mayor Des Kennedy, Mark Eaglesham & Clark Potter
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3. WELCOME

Lisa Andrews – opens meeting at 10:02am
Acknowledgement of Country

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Lisa Andrews – Independent Chair approved by Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (DPHI), engaged by Peabody Wilpinjong to Chair
Kieren Bennetts – Manager Environment & Community, Wilpinjong Coal
Bev Smiles – Community Member (Resident)
Katie Dicker – MWRC Councillor (alternate for Des Kennedy)
Brian McDermott – Community Member (Lessee of Peabody pastoral land and former resident)
Kim Peach – Community Member
Rod Pryor – Community Member (Wollar Progress Association/Resident) [MWRC Councillor]
Bill Vatovec – Compliance Manager, Wilpinjong Coal
Daniel Holm – Square Peg Social Consultancy – independent external consultant, engaged by Peabody Wilpinjong to conduct Social Impact Assessment

5. INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT TO THIS MEETING

At the Wilpinjong Coal CCC on 3rd June 2026, it was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting with consultant Daniel Holm to review the updates to the Social Impact Assessment Management Plan and discuss the Social Impacts for the proposed Continuation Project.

This meeting is to review the updates to the Social Impact Management Plan, including consideration of WCPL CCC comments and how these have been addressed in the revised Plan Initial discussion of social impacts based on perceptions of the Continuation Project (Wilpinjong Coal proposed Pit 9 and 10 extension).

6. SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT— DANIEL HOLM

DH shows a presentation, which tabulates page references for comments, responses and actions. A hard copy of the SIMP, with comments from the community, is handed out to all present. The hard copy document is used to reference against DH's presentation of comments and proposed actions. DH talks through each comment in order.

Minutes directly related to individual comments within the SIMP are formulated within the table that DH of Square Peg Social Performance's presentation, from this meeting the table is modified to include two new columns, to assist with capturing discussions: Item number, and CCC Minutes. The CCC Minutes column reflects the dialogue in this meeting. This table is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

Discussion regarding the lack of consultation regarding the changes to the SIMP from 2024 and previous version – ie. Updating with new information, between the community consultation, original versions being approved and in the opinion of some CCC members, not meeting conditions of the WEP. Further discussion about the intent of this meeting, regarding the content being presented today against the expectations of the community members (specifically the historical chronology of SIMP updates).

Question: *Are we agreeing to adopt an updated version of the SIMP?*

Answer: *We are reviewing the current SIMP, with proposed amendments.*

Discussion regarding the SIMP, WEP versus MOD 3 changes – chronology, intent.

BS: *The original SIMP stated that by 2025, the mine would ramp-down. Regardless of whether the conditions stated that mining would continue, the SIMP stated that employment would ramp down – that was interpreted as a lower impact to the community compared to current levels of dust, vehicle movements, noise.*

DH clarifies the intent of his presence today, which is to review and respond to comments in the draft SIMP.

11:36 am – Blast from WCPL felt. Discussion held regarding the blast.

LA requests clarification regarding the information that forms appendices to the approved SIMP – if approved?

DH agrees that would be sensible, to provide context for the new SIMP.

MTK was not in attendance at this meeting but had shared some points to review, which were distributed in hard copy to all present at the meeting, and were discussed during the meeting.

The next steps will be for DH to update the SIMP with these comments and changes.

BS states that she expects, should MOD 3 be approved, that a new SIMP would be produced, with reference to a growing document that doesn't reflect its ultimate usability.

7. NEXT MEETING

Meeting schedule:

- ~~4 March 2026 (postponed to 25 March 2026)~~
- ~~3 June 2026~~
- ~~29 June 2026 – Extraordinary meeting SIMP~~

• 2 September 2026 (with site tour and earlier start) • 9 December 2026	
Meeting Closed:	12 noon
Next Meeting:	10am Wednesday 2 September 2026, WCPL camp – including site visit

2024 SIMP Review - 2025 comments

Legend

	Proposed change adopted
	Comment accepted but alternative text proposed
	No change

Item number	Reference	Comment	Response	Action	CCC Minutes
1	p.6	Deletion of text. Comment: This is incorrect. Schedule 2 c15 Note: Under this consent the applicant is required to rehabilitate the site This consent will continue in all respects other than the right to conduct mining operations, until rehabilitation of the sitehave been carried out satisfactorily.	The proposed deleted statement does not invalidate the note in condition 5, schedule 2. It asserts that the consent enables extraction of ROM coal until 31 December 2033.	No change.	
2	P.6	Not applicable to WEP	This is a proposed Modification to SSD-6764, ie the WEP. Other modifications are discussed in the SIMP.	Update with new text from Modification Report: WCPL is proposing to modify Development Consent (SSD-6764) for the Wilpinjong Coal Mine to facilitate extensions to the existing Pit 8 (Pit 8 Extension) within Exploration Licence 9399 and development of associated supporting infrastructure. If approved, this Modification (MOD 3) would provide	

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				access to additional ROM coal resources to augment coal production and require an additional six months of mining operations to backfill the final voids and shape the final landform (i.e. until 30 June 2034).	
3	p.9	This map should include Mod 2 and Mod 4	Noted.	Accept proposed change	
4	p.12	This version of the SIMP was completed before Mr Lars Daniel Holm was endorsed by the Secretary WCM CCC and Wollar Community were not consulted	The author was endorsed by the secretary 21 November 2024. The review was subsequently carried out and provided to WCPL 13 December 2024. The WCM CCC and Wollar Community have been consulted on and provided comments on the content of the SIMP.	No change.	It was noted that the date on SIMP v4 September 2024 is incorrect.
5	p. 14	Change of condition 12 to condition 14	Correct	Accept proposed change.	
6	p.17	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS. Insertion of footnote "Cumbo RFS was formed in October 2023 including Wollar district and Wollar based RFS volunteers"	Noted and accepted throughout.	Accept proposed change.	
7	p.19	Change Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted.	Accept proposed change.	
8	p.20	Insertion of - closure of the Wollar General Store in 2021 - closure of Wollar Public School in 2025	Noted.	Accept proposed change.	
9	p.20	Insertion of "the"	Appears to be typographical error	No change.	

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Item number	Reference	Comment	Response	Action	CCC Minutes
10	p.20	Removal of bullet point	For correctness suggest retaining bullet point but change tense.	Change text to: WCPL's support for continued access to services via the Wollar General Store, including basic household supplies, fuel, postal services and access to ablution facilities, until the store's closure in 2021.	
11	p.20	Comment: The extensive demolition of residences in Wollar Village because of lack of maintenance investment has impacted on the village history and character	Comments is noted, however it is inappropriate to discuss causal aspects here.	No change.	The CCC discussed the negative impact on the village history and character. Some members shared their views that Peabody's maintenance practices and demolition of dwellings had contributed to this negative impact.
12	P.20	Comment: Maintaining the quality of housing stock is the purpose of Wollar community identification of the need for a property maintenance and management program being included in the SIMP	Comment is noted. This section does not discuss mitigation measures.	No change here.	
13	p.21	The construction of temporary workers accommodation under Mod 2 services employees from out of region. This has not contributed to permanent housing supply in Mudgee or the region.	Noted. Provision of camp facilities may however reduce demand for permanent housing or tourist accommodation, thus reducing the risk of crowding out permanent residents on	No change.	

Item number	Reference	Comment	Response	Action	CCC Minutes
			lower incomes, or affecting the tourism industry.		
14	p.21	Deletion of: Of note, construction of Pit 8 and the Ulan Wollar Road Relocation...	Noted.	Accept deletion.	Discussion about chronology of mining and road construction, and the increase in workforce during 2018-2019. It is accepted that this sentence will be deleted.
15	p.21	Footnote insertion: to complete rehabilitation requirements	This footnote is consistent with the condition.	No change.	Discussion about the wording of the footnote and clarification about mining licence conditions (i.e. to which date is mining approved) versus the date that rehabilitation should commence/be completed.
16	p.21	Deletion of footnote: 'The proposed Mod 3 discussed above...'	Modifications to existing approvals are relevant to discuss, and are correct with the 'if approved' qualifier.	No change.	The original SIMP anticipated employment ramp-down from 2025. Clarification was sought given the anticipated MOD 3 approval and continued employment. BS noted that Version 4 was updated to remove the 2025 ramp-down reference under the WEP, as it now sits between the WEP and potential MOD 3 approval.

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Item number	Reference	Comment	Response	Action	CCC Minutes
					<i>Discussion centred on the chronology and intent of the SIMP, WEP and MOD 3 changes. It was noted that the original SIMP indicated the mine would ramp down by 2025. Regardless of consent conditions, this was understood to mean reduced community impacts, including dust, vehicle movements and noise.</i>
17	p.22	Insertion of: and Wollar Recreation Ground..Mudgee Local Aboriginal Lands Council has acquired a number of Crown Land properties adjacent to Wollar Village through a successful Lands Claim process.	Noted.	Accept.	
18	p.22	Insertion of: Wollar Public School has now closed and Wollar General Store. Comment: These social impacts are directly related to the WEP and depopulation of the Wollar district.	Noted.	Revise text: The Wollar Public School closed in 2025.	
19	p.22	Insertion of: Wollar community has requested that all mine-owned property be placed on the property market as part of the Mine Closure Plan.	Request is noted and would sensibly be considered in the social aspects of the mine closure plan.	No change.	
20	p.22	Deletion of: As outlined in section 4.1.4...	Noted. The original text with footnote is factually correct.	Footnote revised and moved to main text: The Wollar	It was agreed that the footnote would be

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		Insertion of: Wollar General Store has been deemed not economically viable and WCPL has not continued to support its existence. The existing operator decided to no longer continue under the financial support arrangements provided by WCPL. The General Store closed in December 2021.		Store closed at the end of December 2021 and the CCC was informed.	removed and incorporated into the body text. The wording will also be revised to state that the Wollar Store closed at the end of December 2021 and that the CCC was informed.
21	p.23	Comment: Mudgee Local Aboriginal Lands Council has aspirations to attract and support more Aboriginal people moving to Wollar	Noted. However, it would be inappropriate to include this content without it being expressed by the relevant stakeholder directly.	No change.	It was agreed to delete the second paragraph on page 23.
22	p.23	Change of 2033 to 2031	Noted.	Accept	
23	p.23	insertion of: The approval of the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone in 2024 has provided new employment opportunities in the region.	Noted. Alternative text provided with reference.	Suggest inserting: The region is located in the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ), and is host to a large number of proposed projects, providing potential construction employment opportunities, as well as attendant social impacts and benefits (pwc, 2024).	
24	p.25	Comment: This objective needs to be met through a property maintenance and management program that is regularly reported to WCM CCC	Noted.	No change here.	
25	p.25	Deletion of: Where construction of a shed...	Noted.	Accept.	

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26	p.25	New private property acquired through successful land claim agreements with Mudgee Local Aboriginal Lands Council is not currently identified.	Noted. These are not within the mitigation on request zone.	No change.	
27	p.26	Deletion / addition of: Two / one	Noted. Change is consistent with previous text.	Accept change.	
28	p.26	Change of Catholic to village	Noted.	Accept change.	
29	p.27	Deletion of: Implement a progressive demolition program... Replace with: property maintenance and management program for all remaining dwellings in Wollar Village.	Noted and alternative text provided.	Accept deletion and replace with: Implement a property maintenance and management program, with options for maintenance, improvement or demolition to be based on professional building advice, assessed on a case by case basis.	Discussion focused on the appropriateness of including demolition as an option for WCPL where the community may consider housing to be habitable or readily capable of being made habitable.
30	p.27	Insertion of: All Deletion of: On the basis of the real estate agencies advice...	These may be of varying status and for varying use. Professional advice may be sensible.	Alternative text: Continue maintenance of Peabody rental properties based on professional building advice.	
31	p.27	Comment: The loss of these services is directly associated with the depopulation of the Wollar district through Peabody property acquisition	This section discusses management measures, not causal mechanisms.	No change.	
32	p.27	Deletion of: The Wollar public school entered a recess... Insertion of: Permanently closed in 2025	This change occurred since the submission of the SIMP.	Accept proposed change.	

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Item number	Reference	Comment	Response	Action	CCC Minutes
33	p.28	Comment: The loss of access to local fuel supplies has caused a significant social and economic impact on residents of Wollar district	This section discusses management measures, not causal mechanisms.	No change.	
34	p.28	Change: WCPL installed post boxes at the closed Wollar General Store. Deletion of subsequent sentences.	Noted.	Change to: "WCPL installed post boxes at the Wollar General Store"	
35	p.28	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
36	p.28	Changed para: WCPL reported to the WCM CCC that Wollar Public School closed in 2025,	Note: the closure occurred after the completion of the draft SIMP	Accept proposed change.	
37	p.30	Comment: This was caused by Peabody acquisition of property and loss of population.	This section discusses management measures, not causal mechanisms.	No change.	
38	p.30	Comment: This commitment has not occurred	Noted, and correct.	No change, however Peabody would deliver on this commitment in the coming period.	
39	p.31	Insertion: Implement a property maintenance and management program for all remaining WCPL owned dwellings in Wollar Village	Noted.	Text as above.	
40	p.31	Deletion of: Communicate and commence demolition program	Noted..	Accept proposed deletion.	It was agreed that the fourth row, in the "Surroundings – residential amenity and character (Continued)" is deleted.

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41	p.31	Deletion of: On the basis of the real estate agency's advice...	Discussed above	Text changed as above.	
42	p.31	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
43	p.32	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
44	p.33	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
45	p.34	Change of tense in footnote	Noted	Accept proposed change	
46	p.36	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
47	p.37	Typographical correction. Insertion of 'd'	Noted	Accept proposed change	
48	p.38	Change of tense: have now been granted	Noted	Accept proposed change	
49	p.38	Change of: Wollar village to district WPA Representatives to members	Noted	Accept proposed change	
50	p.38	Comment: It is not appropriate for a SIMP developed to mitigate social impacts of WCM to recommend actions for the local community Deletion of paragraph	Noted	Accept proposed change	
51	p.38	Insertion of: , as required by Condition 7, Schedule 5 of Development Consent (SSD-6764)	Noted	Accept proposed change	
52	p.39	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS (x2)	Noted	Accept proposed change	
53	p.41	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
54	p.42	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	

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Item number	Reference	Comment	Response	Action	CCC Minutes
55	p.43	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
56	p.43	Comment: There is concern in the Wollar community that this is a PR exercise rather than a genuine commitment to mitigating social impacts.	Noted, however this section discusses the community investment procedure.	No change.	
57	p.45	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
58	p.45	Deletion of: Trial the coordination of...	Rather than deleting the text it would be appropriate to update it.	Insert text from footnote 20.	
59	p.45	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
60	p.46	Deletion of footnote	The footnote is correct. Suggest keeping	No change.	
61	p.47	Deletion of footnote "the proposed MOD 3..."	The footnote is correct. Suggest keeping	Add 'if approved'.	
62	p.50	Change of "annual environmental management review report" to "annual review" (x3)	Noted	Accept proposed change	
63	p.50	Deletion of: WCPL identifies properties to be demolished... Insertion of: WCPL develops a property maintenance and management program And WCM CCC is provided regular updates on property maintenance and management	As above.	Change to: WCPL implements a property maintenance and management program, with options for maintenance, improvement or demolition to be based on professional building advice, assessed on a case by case basis And WCM CCC is provided with annual updates on the WCPL property portfolio, including the number of	

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				properties rented, vacant and/or on the market.	
64	p.52	Change performance measure and effectiveness measure to: Maintenance and management of all Peabody properties is continued Maintenance and management of all Peabody I properties is undertaken.	As above	No change	
65	p.52	Deletion of: In the event that the Wollar General Store...	Noted. Suggest keeping text as is and add footnote.	Add footnote: The Wollar General Store closed in 2021.	
66	p.54	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo RFS	Noted	Accept proposed change	
67	p.54	Comment: The Community Investment and Partnership Fund is considered to be a Peabody PR exercise rather than a genuine process to mitigate community impacts from the WEP	Noted. This statement expresses an evaluation of a mitigation/ enhancement measure. It is not appropriate to include here.	No change.	
68	p.56	Change AEMR to AR (x2)	Noted	Accept proposed change	
69	p.60	Deletion of: Of the village of	Noted	Accept proposed change	
70	p.62	Secretary's endorsement occurred after SIMP v4 was finalised	Incorrect as discussed above.	No change	
71	p.74	Deletion of paragraph. Comment: This is not relevant to the WEP	Noted.	Accept proposed change	
72	p. 75	Insertion of: Property acquisition on the mine site through a land agent commenced in 1998 before an exploration licence was granted. The area known as Bungulla Estate had been fully acquired by mine approval.	Noted, however this is difficult to verify.	Accept with insertion "Community members reported that" prior to text.	Accept this change on page 75 in green, with insertion that <i>community has reported</i> that property acquisition on the mine site through

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Item number	Reference	Comment	Response	Action	CCC Minutes
					a land agent commenced in 1998 before an exploration licence was granted. The area known as Bungulla Estate had been fully acquired by mine approval".
73	p.75	Insertion of: and Recreation Ground	Noted.	Accept proposed change.	
74	p.75	Insertion of; To And: and closed in 2025.	Noted.	Accept proposed change.	
75	p. 76	Insertion of: the new Cumbo Rural Fire Brigade including Wollar district and volunteers was established in 2023,	Noted.	Accept proposed change	
76	p.82	Comment: This is no longer relevant. The closed General Store and demolition of houses has impacted on the character of Wollar's main street	Noted.	Suggest inserting: The General Store closed in 2021.	
77	p. 82	Comment: This reinforces the community request for a property maintenance and management program	Noted, however not appropriate to discuss mitigation measures here.	Alternative text proposed: Insertion of comment that the demolition of houses has impacted the appearance of the village.	It was agreed to insert under the second bullet point under Stakeholder inputs on changes to social conditions , 'the demolition of houses has impacted the appearance of the village'.

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Item number	Reference	Comment	Response	Action	CCC Minutes
78	p.83	Comments: Some people have returned and bought property in the area with the understanding that WCM would start ramping down in 2025. The community has had a resurgence of new volunteers and activity. And: See previous comment on resurgence of community activity	Noted, however this section in appendix provides a summary of the SIA findings for the WEP.	No change.	
79	p. 84	Comment: The increased impact on amenity through noise, dust, blasting and spontaneous combustion has caused the population change plus Peabody not maintaining acquired dwellings or being prepared to lease them eg accommodation shortage during construction of Wollar Solar Farm	As above	No change	
80	p.84	Insertion of: Mod 2 approved in July 2024 provides temporary accommodation on the mine site for 100 workers and contractors.	As above	No change	
81	p.85	Comment: Wollar community has had a resurgence of new members living on properties outside Wollar Village	As above	No change	
82	p. 85	Footnote, deletion of: 'entered recess...' And insertion of: Closed in 2025	Noted	Accept proposed change	

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83	p.86	Comment: There is now competition from the mining industry for labour needed in the renewable energy and housing industry	Noted, however this bullet point relates to cumulative impact relating to construction workforces for the WEP, which has occurred.	Insertion of: “however there is current competition for labour from the renewable energy and housing construction industries” Bylong Coal Project information retained.	It was agreed to amend the proposed additional text. .
84	p.86	Change of 2031 to 2033	Noted	Accept.	
85	p. 86	Comment: This section needs updating with additional Modifications to Ulan Mine	Noted	Accept. Insert: Operations approved to 30 August 2033.	It was agreed that on the bottom of Page 86 – the Bylong Coal Project Cumulative Project Set, Table A7), to retain reference to Bylong Coal Project.
86	p. 89	Comment: The demolition of houses has impacted the amenity and character of Wollar Village And: 4.1.4 Demonstrates that services have not been retained and this SIA criteria has not been mitigated. The residual risk remains at A4	This is an historical assessment, and there is limited value in changing it here. The view is however noted.	No change	
87	p.89	Comment: The demolition of houses rather than adopting a property maintenance and management program has not mitigated the risk it remains at A4 And; Services have not been retained	This is an historical assessment, and there is limited value in changing it here. The view is however noted.	No change	
88	p.90	Comment:	Noted, but not appropriate to include.	No change	

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		This is considered to be a Peabody PR exercise rather than a genuine process to mitigate community impacts from the WEP			
89	p.90	Change of Cooks Gap to Cumbo	Noted	Accept proposed change	
90	p.92	“Why is Wollar and Mudgee included together instead of being separate like Gulgong, Muswellbrook and Singleton?” A.4 Updated Social, Economic & Demographic indicators 2024-Table A13 &A14 – p92. This does not reflect the true status of Wollar when being combined with another town 60+kms away.	This data is available on postcode level. Postcode 2850 includes both Mudgee and Wollar.	No change	It was clarified that the data available for this table is not broken down any further than postcode regions.
91	p.100	Comment: This summary omits the key WPA input requiring a maintenance and management program for all Peabody property.	Noted. This table presents consultation input on the draft SIMP framework, undertaken in 2018.	No change to table as it represents a historical consultation record, however a note acknowledging the CCC input discussion in June 2026 will be inserted: “During the June 2026 CCC meeting, it was noted that the WPA submission to the draft SIMP included requests for a property maintenance and management program”.	The CCC discussed the WPA submission to the draft SIMP in relation to property maintenance and management.
92	Unpaginated	“Was the Community participation plan by DPHI used correctly?” Not all landowners in the area were notified or have any association with WCPL- have a chat, CCC or WPA. In the past WCPL had an old list of all the previous landowners in the area and was told that they need to update these records. Are WPCL keeping up to date with who is in the area or are	This comment is likely not relevant to the SIMP review.	No change.	

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		they replying on have a chat, WPA and CCC to give WCPL that information? The engagement with the community like WCPL says in their SIMP are more reliant on WPCL have a chat, CCC and WPA, not the wider community-landowners (especially those that are not involve with these organisations)			



Wilpinjong Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee



Extraordinary Meeting Minutes – Session 2

1. PRESENT

Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Date & Time:	29 June 2026
Venue:	Wollar Stores	Minute Taker:	Sally Mayberry (SM)
Committee Members:	Bev Smiles (BS), Kieren Bennetts (KB), Brian McDermott (BM) (departs meeting at 1:35pm), Kim Peach (KP) (departs meeting at 1pm), Rod Pryor (RP), Daniel Holm (DH), Bill Vatovec (BV)		

2. APOLOGIES/ABSENT

Apologies:	Lisa Menke, Mayor Des Kennedy, Mark Eaglesham, Clark Potter, Councillor Katie Dicker
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3. WELCOME

Lisa Andrews – opens meeting at 12:28pm

Clarifies that this meeting is Session 2 for the day, which is a separate meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Lisa Andrews – Independent Chair approved by Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (DPHI), engaged by Peabody Wilpinjong to Chair

Kieren Bennetts – Manager Environment & Community, Wilpinjong Coal

Bev Smiles – Community Member (Resident)

Katie Dicker – MWRC Councillor (alternate for Mayor Des Kennedy)

Brian McDermott – Community Member (Lessee of Peabody pastoral land and former resident)

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Rod Pryor – Community Member (Wollar Progress Association/Resident) [MWRC Councillor]

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Daniel Holm – Square Peg Social Consultancy – independent external consultant, engaged by Peabody Wilpinjong to conduct Social Impact Assessment

5. INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT TO THIS MEETING

The Wilpinjong Coal CCC on 3rd June 2026, agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting with consultant Daniel Holm to review the updates to the Social Impact Assessment Management Plan and discuss the Social Impacts for the proposed Continuation Project.

KB clarifies that this meeting is to look exclusively at the impact of the proposed Continuation Project, which would be a new SSD, under Part 4 of the EP&A Act. There will be a social impact assessment as part of the EIS for this Continuation Project. A presentation is shown that outlines the scope of the project, includes a map of the proposed project.

The workforce access route will potentially be directed through Wollar Road, which raises questions regarding impact on the community.

The existing production rates are expected to remain akin to current rates, which is indicative in the naming of the 'Continuation Project'. WCPL are not seeking to increase their approved extraction tonnage; they are seeking to continue to extract coal within the current approved limitations.

Question: *What is the economic analysis based on?*

Answer: *Present value, capital.*

6. SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT – DANIEL HOLME

DH shows an overview of the Wilpinjong Continuation Project at a high level. DH has been engaged to record the social impacts, following the Social Impact Assessment Guidelines, published by the NSW Government.

The process of SIA is designed to answer three key questions

1. What are the social impacts associated with the project?
2. How might those impacts be experienced, and by whom?
3. What can be done to mitigate negative impacts

There are three phases to an SIA – which include scoping, main and SIMP. We are currently at the scoping phase.

There are 8 different categories to an SIA: community, way of life, surroundings, health and wellbeing, livelihoods, accessibility, culture, decision making systems.

The initial questions to ask include what impacts do you anticipate from the Project? – to you, your community, the broader regional community. The CCC consultation (this meeting) is the first opportunity to share the perceived impacts of this project. This is not the only opportunity to share impacts – later this year, there will be further SIA consultation at a broader scale.

The high-level overview of the presentation delivered today by KB, should be considered for sharing community impacts.

Question: *Is SIA consultation with Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC) with staff of council, or elected representatives?*

Answer: *That is not presupposed at this point; pending direction from MWRC*

Question: *What is the life expectancy of Pit 8, related to Pit 9?*

Answer: *Mining in Pit 9 will continue while Pit 8 is being mined for a period.*

Comment: *Wollar Village will be surrounded by mining when both Pits 8 and 9 are being mined concurrently, which has many impacts to the Wollar district community.*

Community member commentary of the social impact of the proposed Continuation Project (to be numbered throughout these minutes):

1. Health and wellbeing impacts of being surrounded by a coal mine, including mental health impacts are passionately noted.
2. Taking the government policy as being the mitigation of social impacts is not the highest standard to lean upon, as it does not adequately reflect the nuisance factor to the health and wellbeing of the community.
3. Weighting of the SIMP and assessments, is that there is greater benefit to those outside of the immediate mine location where the impact was felt. The community suffers the detrimental aspects, with no benefits of the project (that are weighted in the decision making of project approval).

Question: *In the Scoping Report, what kind of assessment did DH land on, in order to deliver the SIA within the scope?*

Answer: *It's not a static assessment, it's based on the 8 categories and the people impacted and at what level of impact that collates to form the scope*

BS The main scoping report and SIA scoping report incorrectly state that the CCC was offered input into the scoping report in the March 2026 quarterly meeting. This meeting is the first time the CCC has had the opportunity to have input into the scoping report. There is concern that there is ongoing reference to things that don't occur, e.g. SIMP Version 4.

Meeting suspended at 1:10pm

Recommenced at 1:17pm

BS: *In the scoping report, there is reference to Cooks Gap Bushfire Brigade, there is concern about the lack of updating to reflect local changes. The Cumbo RFS was formed in 2023 and covers all of Wilpinjong mine and property*

BV *apologises for the interruption and provides context. WCPL take the valid points on board and want to make a point of listening with intent to make positive changes to the SIA approach.*

DH *asks that if WCPL were to update the scoping report, what would the CCC like to see?*

- The wording of 'offer to CCC to provide input into the SIA scoping report' is incorrect, as there was no offer.
- Referencing in Figure 7, of Cooks Gap (rather than Cumbo Bushfire Brigade)

BS noted that the SIA scoping report identified 13 potential social impacts missing a number of important issues

4. To continue losing volunteers to the local bushfire brigade has a major impact on the safety of community, and general social management of the community
5. More loss of volunteers affects the capacity of managing and maintaining community amenities eg. buildings, by reducing the size and reach of the community, as well as threatening community safety
6. Continue loss of surface flows to Wollar Creek, including increased salt load (especially affecting property owners downstream)
7. Cumulative impact of other mines
8. Social impacts of climate change on the locality
9. Potential loss of prime agricultural land

Question: *With the workforce, there's an increase to 705 persons (from 625 in the current WEP), but the production rate does not change. What roles would be included in the significant increase in workforce? With consideration for the 'benefits' of the project, the employment numbers should be clarified between long term employees versus construction workers.*

Answer: *A balance of maintaining current production, as well as concurrently building up the construction of the proposed mine.*

10. The fact that MOD 3 was seen as a stepping stone to a bigger expansion of the mine
11. Methodology used for the noise assessment report – other than the people already having an agreement with WCPL, nobody else is going to be impacted by the 'noise'. BS notes that the 'noise' should include a nuisance factor, as the noise is already a nuisance to the community
12. Any further loss of private property and landholders
13. Araluen would be emptied out, which would impact active volunteers in local groups
14. The village feels deserted enough with the demolition of recent buildings and loss of permanent residents. Wollar is mainly acting as a dormitory now to support mine workforce. The Drive in Drive Out aspect limits social cohesion
15. It was expected that by now (2026), the mine impacts would be minimising as the mine winds down; with expectation that people would choose to start moving back to the community during this wind down/impact from mining
16. Expectation that there will be facilities within the community that can be used
17. WCPL applied for a new exploration licence ELA7005, which happened unexpectedly – no pre-warning to the CCC that there was consideration for this to occur. This was a non-transparent action
18. The ongoing piece by piece changes of mining approvals and associated management plans. The decision-making systems have a social impact, regarding the constant unknowns and changes that are not within the control (or transparency) of the community, to make informed future decisions and rest easy

19. BSAL identification is not a transparent process, as there is no opportunity for the community to have any input

Question: *Is this the extent of the community consultation?*

Answer: *There will be further opportunities to make comment*

7. NEXT MEETING

Meeting schedule:

- ~~4 March 2026 (postponed to 25 March 2026)~~
- ~~3 June 2026~~
- ~~29 June 2026 – Extraordinary meeting SIMP~~
- 2 September 2026 (with site tour and earlier start)
- 9 December 2026

Meeting Closed: 1:54pm

Next Meeting: 10am Wednesday 2 September 2026, WCPL camp – including site visit