

Community Consultative Committee



Members of the Operation's Community Consultative Committee (CCC) are always keen to tour site following each meeting. Meeting regularly to discuss progress and community feedback, the membership of the committee includes near-neighbours, community members, local Council and State-appointed Chair Dr Wej Paradise.



Operational readiness

MACH Energy's General Manager Operations Phil Price (pictured) is busily preparing site for the removal of top soil, and drilling and blasting activities in the coming months.

"The activities will be conducted in accordance with the Development Consent and our environmental management plans," he said.



Employment

There are more than 200 workers busily completing construction activities at the Operation. Each of the Principal Contractors who have been awarded work are responsible for recruiting their work force. Those seeking work at site should contact the relevant contractor directly, as follows:

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| • Blackrock Industries – fencing, general labour | • Tobiah - clear and grub |
| • Hardy Bros - earth works | • Yore Irrigation – Hunter River pumps and pipeline |
| • Farrelly Construction Services - Mine Infrastructure Area | • BGC Contracting - rail |
| • FKG - Wybong Road upgrade | • Vision Control Systems – power lines and switch gear |
| • Calibre DRA Joint Venture - Coal Handling Preparation Plant | • Pumps and Pipeline Services (PPS) |

Alternatively you may request their contact details by phoning **MACH** Energy's Community Hotline on **1800 886 889**.

Community Hotline

If you would like to know more about **MACH** Energy's Mount Pleasant Operation please call our Community Hotline on:
1800 886 889

MACHEnergy

GPO Box 94 | Brisbane QLD 4001
ABN 34 608 495 441

1800 886 889
info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au



Erection of structural steel excites team

Bulk earthworks continue to dominate the workload at the Mount Pleasant Operation. Since commencing in late November 2016 crews have erected steel structures for a workshop in the Mine Infrastructure Area; finished part of the mine and light vehicle pavements; continued construction of the haul road; cleared the stockpile area for the Coal Handling Preparation Plant; commenced dams and erected perimeter fences.

Project Director Heather Parry was excited by the prospect of mobilising additional contractors in the coming months.

"Site is starting to take shape and our workforce continues to grow to reflect the progress we have made to date," she said.

"We can already see the early results of our hydro-mulching efforts across the batters and banks which we apply as soon as possible to reduce dust."

MACH Energy's Managing Director Scott Winter makes regular visits to site from Brisbane and remains in awe of developments with each visit.

"The locals who work on this project are extremely proud to be associated with an operation that is progressing so well within a short period of time," he said.



With thanks ...

Despite relentless attempts from those who challenge the future of our Operation we continue to develop the Mount Pleasant Operation. Those living in the area have always embraced the future of the Operation with many of you providing positive submissions to our recent Modification. Managing Director Scott Winter said a significant number of submissions valued the boost that the Operation had provided to the local economy and opportunities it had presented.

"It was extremely humbling to read what businesses or individuals valued from the Operation to date. Quite a few local businesses recognised the injection of confidence the Operation provided due to mine closures and other domestic economic matters," he said.

"Despite on-going failed attempts to stop our work, construction is progressing as planned."

"Those driving these campaigns are completely disconnected from our mining footprint and don't appear to have any regard for how energy is generated for a reasonable cost to the broader community.

"Coal will remain an active part of the energy mix that will allow alternative energy sources to become affordable and available for more consumers."

Preliminary overburden removal and coal extraction at the Mount Pleasant Operation commences in the coming months.

Singleton Cultural Spectacular



About 1000 members of the community joined the Singleton Cultural Spectacular on 19 August 2017. Aboriginal culture was showcased through food demonstrations, craft and live music, with the evening culminating in a fireworks display after Len Waters’ story-telling session through the stars.

Local netball sponsorship

A few of you may have noticed **MACH** Energy’s Managing Director limping around town a few months ago. Determined to relive high school memories, Scott Winter’s temporary wobble developed after joining the Muswellbrook 12 years’ representative netball team during a training session. “I’m a huge Netball fan and my daughter Ashlyn is a rep player, so I was quick to respond to a request to sponsor the local team. Little did I know they would push me so hard around the court,” he said.

The team’s Coach Sally Comerford was extremely excited by the news that **MACH** Energy had offered to sponsor her team. “It was quite a memorable moment to receive the call from Managing Director Scott Winter. He is clearly passionate about Netball and supporting locals,” she said. “This kind of support will contribute to costs associated with being a representative player.” “Uniforms, accommodation, bus hire and entry fees are amongst the costs linked to competing at this level.” Competition began in January and the team continues to achieve great results on the court. The final match for 2017 was played late August ahead of semi-finals which commence soon.

If you would like to provide support to Muswellbrook Netball Association, please phone Sally on 0409 717 484.



Construction of an intermediate rail solution is progressing as originally agreed with stakeholders, including those interfacing our Operation, the local Council and State regulators. Early engagement of these parties has allowed our intent to always remain clear; we seek a timely solution that allows production to continue for everyone. Work is also progressing well on the future product transport solution.



Blackrock Industries, one of our first contractors to site and an Aboriginal business kick-started at the Mount Pleasant Operation, presenting Scott Winter with a didgeridoo in mid-March.

Strategic review of Aboriginal Community Development Fund

A review of the strategic direction of the Aboriginal Community Development Fund is attracting immense support from the Fund’s committee members. An intensive two-day workshop revisited the objectives of the ACDF and highlighted local issues that can be targeted through meaningful partnerships.

Committee Chair Deirdre Heitmeyer said committee members offered a range of community experiences so the focus of the workshop discussions were strategically linked to supporting local and real concerns.

“Committee members are being empowered to tackle these issues by becoming sponsors for particular programmes,” she said.

“This ensures that the voices of the partners are brought back to the committee where more informed decisions can be made. This collaboration is of vital importance in tackling the issues.

“The committee is committed to forming partnerships or supporting initiatives that enhance the health and well-being of Aboriginal people in the area.”

The Fund is amongst the community benefits identified in 2005 as part of the Native Title Agreement with the Wonnarua People, as represented by Victor Perry.

Each year approximately \$640,000 is available for programmes that benefit the Upper Hunter Valley Aboriginal communities.



‘2Rivers’ Managing Director Lorraine Riggs (back, left) facilitated workshops with the Aboriginal Community Development Fund (ACDF) committee earlier in the year (absent Brad Franks).

Noise

MACH Energy has prepared a contemporary operational Noise Management Plan for the Mount Pleasant Operation in accordance with our Development Consent. The NMP was submitted to Department of Planning and Environment and was approved in June 2017. **MACH** Energy will continue to conduct construction and operations to achieve the relevant Development Consent DA92/97 criteria. This includes various noise control measures, as well as a substantial noise monitoring program. Real-time noise monitoring undertaken as part of this program provides live 24-hour feedback on noise performance, which allows proactive management to minimise noise emissions.

FAST FACTS

Modification and State Significant Development processes

- The Development Consent for the Mount Pleasant Operation was originally issued in 1999 following a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement and Commission of Inquiry. Since that time the conditions of the Development Consent have been updated on two occasions, in 2011 and most recently in 2017. This included significant update of the Development Consent conditions to meet contemporary standards.
- The validity of the Mount Pleasant Operation Development Consent was recently challenged by opponents of mining in the NSW Land and Environment Court. The court found (July 2017) that the Mount Pleasant Development Consent is in force.
- The current Modification that **MACH** Energy has proposed primarily includes two components: an extension to the time limit on open cut mining to 22 December 2026; and extensions to the Eastern Out of Pit Emplacement to facilitate a final landform more consistent with the characteristics of the local topography and to provide extra waste rock capacity in the Eastern out of Pit Emplacement.

- **MACH** Energy has also commenced work on a State Significant Development Application for the continuation of operations beyond 2026. The current modification would allow production to continue while the application and approval process for the SSD is finalised.