

Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee

MEETING #19 MINUTES (WITH CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REDACTED)

THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2020

CONFERENCE ROOM 2

DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS

1301 HAZELDEAN ROAD, ELLINBANK 3821

ATTENDEES

Ms Susan Lloyd (Chairperson), Latrobe Valley community

Mr Roland Davies, Latrobe Valley community

Mr Ron Mether, Latrobe Valley mine operators (EnergyAustralia Yallourn)

Mr James Faithful, Latrobe Valley mine operators (ENGIE Hazelwood)

Ms Sarah Gilbert, Latrobe Valley mine operators (AGL Loy Yang)

Ms Gail Gatt, Latrobe City Council

Cr Graeme Middlemiss, Latrobe City Council

Mr Terry Flynn, Southern Rural Water

Ms Jane Burton, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

Mr Anthony Feigl, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

Ms Anna May, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Mr Alan Freitag, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Emeritus Professor Rae Mackay (observer), Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner

Mr Brett Millsom (secretariat), Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

APOLOGIES

Mr Trevor Williams, Gippsland Trades and Labour Council

Mr Troy McDonald, Aboriginal community

Mr Chris Wood, Gippsland Water

GUESTS

Mr Tony Hicks, Loy Yang B Power Station

Ms Lisa Hocking, Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation

Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee

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Agenda Item	Minutes
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1 Introduction from the Chairperson and Committee administration

- The Chairperson noted apologies from Trevor Williams, Troy McDonald and Chris Wood.
- Minutes from the previous Committee meeting (Meeting #18) were noted.
- The Secretariat provided an update on actions **15.2**, **17.2** and **18.1**.

2 Presentation of the draft Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy

Delivered by: Anthony Feigl, Acting Director, Coal Resources Victoria, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions and Anna May, Director Water Resource Assessment and Planning, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Members of the Committee have been provided with a confidential working draft of the *Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy* (LVRRS). Members provided varied and diverse feedback on the draft document which will be considered by the Project Team.

3 Round the table updates

Roland Davies, Latrobe Valley community

- Noting the comments during the meeting about potential future coal development, a range of companies are looking at coal opportunities as well as opportunities for large scale solar in the Latrobe Valley.
- Government doesn't necessarily have a mechanism through which it can engage with the community and stakeholders more broadly regarding future coal development activities. It may be time to consider whether it is worthwhile re-establishing a committee such as the Coal Resources Victoria Advisory Committee to do this.

Ron Mether, Latrobe Valley mine operators (EnergyAustralia Yallourn)

- Yallourn has commenced a whole range of geotechnical and hydrogeological studies to support mine rehabilitation.
- Wet weather has been impacting on earthworks at Yallourn.
- Yallourn is looking to relocate the Clay Target Club as soon as possible.

James Faithful, Latrobe Valley mine operators (ENGIE Hazelwood)

- ENGIE has submitted its Work Plan, Ground Control Management Plan, Fire Risk Management Plan and Rehabilitation and Closure Plan to Earth Resources Regulation.
- Demolition of the Power Station is continuing.

Sarah Gilbert, Latrobe Valley mine operators (AGL Loy Yang)

- The Environment Protection Authority has granted approval for the use of ash at trial site five.

Gail Gatt, Latrobe City Council (Council Officer)

- Latrobe City Council will look to provide consolidated feedback on the draft LVRRS to the Project Team.

Graeme Middlemiss, Latrobe City Council (Councillor)

- Council has also been made aware of a Sydney-based group seeking to garner local support for nuclear power in the Latrobe Valley.

Terry Flynn, Southern Rural Water

- Alcoa is currently considering options to rehabilitate its mine with water however is realising how challenging the approvals process is. There may be some interesting lessons the Committee can learn from this experience.

Lisa Hocking, Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation

- Reiterated the importance of connected country and healing of country to local Aboriginal people.

Rae Mackay, Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner

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- Currently working through the review of ENGIE's documents submitted with its Rehabilitation and Closure Plan. The team has worked through about 90 reports so far.

Anna May, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

- The final Long-term Water Resource Assessment for Southern Victoria will be released soon.

Alan Freitag, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

- Currently going through an update of local planning policies.
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4 Other business and next meeting

- Next meeting scheduled for Thursday 16 April 2020
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