

## **MACKAS SAND PROJECT COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2020**

### **Community Consultative Committee Details**

<b>CCC / Project Name:</b>	Mackas Sand Project	<b>Reporting Period:</b>	January - December 2020
<b>Independent Chairperson:</b>	Margaret MacDonald-Hill	<b>Proponent Contact:</b>	Robert Mackenzie Daniel Sullivan

### **1. Executive Summary**

The Mackas Sand Project Community Consultative Committee (CCC) held its inaugural meeting in September 2010, as part of a condition of consent by the then Minister for Planning's 2009 approval of the project for the extraction of sand operations with a limit of 1 million tonnes per annum from each Lot 218 and 220 Salt Ash NSW. The quarrying operation is located within the Port Stephens Council Local Government area, approximately twenty five kilometres north east of Newcastle. The land is held by the Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council and with their concurrence, sand operations have been undertaken in the area since 1992.

The Committee operates in accordance with the Department of Planning and Environment's 2019 Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects.

The committee is currently comprised of:

- three local community representatives and an alternate;
- one community representative who acts in a dual capacity as Port Stephens Council representative;
- CEO of the Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council plus one alternate;
- one Mackas Sand representative, with attendance from other personnel as required;
- an environmental consultant from Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd;
- one independent Chairperson.

The committee originally met quarterly until 2012, then biannual for the next five years until it resolved to meet annually from 2018, with the option to hold additional meetings if and when requested by any member. There have been no changes to the original membership of the committee and the healthy rapport remains amongst all members, both at and beyond meetings. As the committee is a small one, attendance numbers remain consistent, although Covid-19 did have some impact in the reporting year. The April meeting was conducted by tele-conference with a PowerPoint presentation sent to all members in advance of the meeting date. An additional meeting was proposed for September 2020 but was subsequently cancelled because of ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and concerns. Similarly, no site tours were undertaken during the year and accordingly, the meeting schedule has reverted back to an annual basis.

Discussion during the April meeting focused on current operations of sand extraction on Lots 218 and 220, approvals history from 2009 to current, haul road activities, including volume, safety measures and upgrades and a proposed modification for Lot 218, which did not progress. The committee also noted there were no complaints for the year.

Other topics of discussion for the reporting period also included but were not limited to:

- Monitoring and Environmental Management and Performance
- Groundwater response to rainfall
- Explanation and testing for Acid Sulfate soils
- Complaints
- 2019 Annual Review
- Covid-19 Response.

The Company has maintained an ongoing dialogue with its members and near neighbours. It was also engaged in support activities and donations to under privileged groups impacted during Covid-19 in the Port Stephens area. Meetings remain concise and the attendance and expertise of the Company's Environmental Consultant has contributed to this. As such the CCC meets the intent of the Department's guidelines.

## 2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- The committee meeting was held by teleconference in April 2020.
- No site inspections were carried out during 2020.
- No joint CCC meetings were held during the period.

## 3. Key issues

There have been no emerging key issues raised by committee members and as stated previously, a regular dialogue occurs between all parties outside of the meetings. The committee maintains an interest in any complaints or non compliances and these are reported to every meeting.

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
<b>truck movements and safety</b>	Enforcement of Drivers' Code of Conduct. Proposed road upgrades and maintenance.	Ongoing.  Ongoing.
<b>Installation of dust gauge</b>	Requested by CCC member. Installed to provide background information.	Completed. No issues to date.
<b>Proposed modifications</b>	CCC to be briefed on any future modifications.	When required.


#### 4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2021 will be guided by the interests of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- a site inspection.
- updates on any project modifications
- updates to management plans
- any incidents reports or complaints.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding matters that have not been addressed or are in the process of being so, to the committee's satisfaction.

Committee Meeting minutes are available on the website within two weeks of each meeting.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	April 1 2021