

State Significant Development Committee

Business Paper

8 April 2025



State Significant Development Committee

Terms of Reference

1. Objective

The objective of the State Significant Development Committee (the Committee) is to enable submissions and responses relating to state significant development in the Muswellbrook Shire to be considered in a timely manner to meet timeframes set by the NSW Government.

2. Scope

The scope of activities to be overseen by the Committee include:

- Assess State Significant Development and prepare submissions and responses relating to state significant development.
- Consider changes in Government legislation and guidelines on planning matters.
- Receive updates on proposed State Significant Development projects, and existing quarry operations.
- Authorise submissions and responses to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) on state significant development.

3. Authority

Muswellbrook Shire Council authorises the Committee, within the scope of its role and responsibilities, to:

- Use delegated authority to authorise submissions and responses to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and the Independent Planning Commission (IPC).
- Assess State Significant Development and prepare submissions and responses relating to state significant development in the Muswellbrook Shire.
- Request information required to inform decision making (subject to their legal obligations to protect information and with prior consultation with the General Manager).
- Request information from employees (with approval of the General Manager) or Councillors.
- The Committee may request these persons to present information at Committee meetings to assist in understanding any matter under consideration.
- Obtain external legal or other professional advice, as considered necessary, to meet its responsibilities (in accordance with Council Budget and procurement arrangements and subject to prior consultation with the General Manager).

4. Composition and Tenure

The members of the Committee shall be 9 Councillors elected by Council.

Members (voting)

All members of the Committee (Councillors) are entitled to one vote with the Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tied vote.

**Attendees (non-voting)**

The following Council officers will act as liaison officers to the Committee:

Department	Role
Director – Planning & Environment	Liaison Officer
General Manager	Attendee
Director – Community & Economy	Attendee
Environmental Planning Officer	Attendee
Legal Counsel	Attendee

Invitees (non-voting) for specific Agenda items

Other officers may attend by invitation as requested by the Committee or the General Manager.

5. Responsibilities of Members

Members of the Committee are expected to:

- Agree that they are bound by Council's Code of Conduct.
- Understand the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements appropriate to Muswellbrook Shire Council.
- Contribute the time needed to study and understand the papers provided.
- Apply sound analytical skills, objectivity and judgement.
- Express opinions frankly, ask questions that go to the fundamental core of the issues, and pursue independent lines of enquiry.
- Act, and be seen to act, properly and in accordance with the requirements of the law and the terms of Council's Code of Conduct.
- Act in good faith and fidelity in the interests of Council and the community.

6. Reporting

Following each meeting, the minutes will be reported to the next Council Meeting and the Chair will be required to provide a brief summary.

7. Meetings

- The Committee will meet at 4pm on the second Tuesday of each month except for January.
- The need for any additional meetings will be decided by the Chair of the Committee, though other Committee members may make requests to the Chair for additional meetings.
- The Committee shall comply with Council's adopted Code of Meeting Practice and Code of Conduct.
- Councillors may attend and participate in meetings of the committee by audio-visual link with the approval of the committee.



8. Attendance at Meetings and Quorums

A quorum will consist of six (6) Committee members. Meetings can be held in person or by video conference.

Voting

The Committee is expected to make decisions by consensus, however if voting becomes necessary, then the details of the vote are to be recorded in the minutes. Each member of the Committee shall be entitled to one vote only. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair will have a casting vote.

9. Secretariat

The General Manager will ensure that appropriate secretariat support is provided to the Committee. The Secretariat will ensure the agenda for each meeting and supporting papers are circulated at least one week before the meeting and ensure minutes of the meeting are prepared and maintained.

Minutes shall be approved by the Chair and circulated to all Committee members within one week of the meeting and filed in accordance with Council's Records Management Policy.

10. Conflicts of Interest

Members of Council committees must comply with the applicable provisions of Council's Code of Conduct in carrying out their functions as Council officials. It is the personal responsibility of Council officials to comply with the standards in the Code of Conduct and regularly review their personal circumstances with this in mind.

Committee members must declare any conflict of interest at the start of each meeting or before discussion of a relevant agenda item or topic. Details of any conflict of interest should be appropriately minuted.

Where members or invitees at Committee meetings are deemed to have a real or perceived conflict of interest, it may be appropriate they be excused from Committee deliberations on the issue where the conflict of interest may exist. The final arbiter of such a decision is the Chair of the Committee.

11. Induction

New members will receive relevant information and briefings on their appointment to assist them to meet their Committee responsibilities.

12. Review of Committee Terms of Reference

At least once every two years the Committee will review this Committee's Terms of Reference and make recommendations on any changes to Council for its determination.

Any changes to the Committee Terms of Reference must be approved by Council.



MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE COUNCIL

P.O Box 122
MUSWELLBROOK

2 April, 2025

Cr J. Drayton (Chair)
Cr D. Hartley (Deputy Chair)
Cr C. Bailey
Cr D. Douglas
Cr L. Dunn
Cr G. McNeill
Cr D. Marshall
Cr R. Scholes
Cr S. Ward
Mr D. Finnigan (General Manager)
Ms S. Pope (Director – Planning & Environment)
Ms. S Welchman (Director - Community & Economy)
Ms T. Folpp (Environmental Planning Officer)
Ms A. Hathway (Legal Counsel)

You are hereby requested to attend the State Significant Development Committee to be held in the Loxton Room, Administration Centre, Campbell's Corner 60-82 Bridge St, Muswellbrook NSW 2333 on **8 April 2025** commencing at **4:00 pm**.

Sharon Pope
DIRECTOR – PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT



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1 Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country

Council would like to respectfully acknowledge the local Aboriginal people who are the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land on which this meeting takes place

2 Apologies

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

RECOMMENDATION

The Minutes of the State Significant Development Committee Meeting held on **11 March, 2025**, a copy of which has been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

Moved: _____ **Seconded:** _____

**MINUTES OF THE STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF
THE MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE SEMINAR ROOMS
MUSWELLBROOK LIBRARY, 136 BRIDGE STREET, MUSWELLBROOK ON 11 MARCH
2025 COMMENCING AT 4:10 PM.**

PRESENT: Cr J. Drayton (Chair), Cr D. Hartley, Cr C. Bailey, Cr D. Douglas,
Cr L. Dunn, Cr G. McNeill (VC), Cr D. Marshall, Cr R. Scholes and
Cr S. Ward.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr A. Barry, Cr R. Mahajan, Mr D. Finnigan (General Manager),
Ms S. Pope (Director – Planning & Environment), Ms S. Welchman
(Director - Community & Economy), Mr M. Lysaught (Director
Property & Place) Ms T. Folpp (Environmental Planning Officer),
Ms K. Hamm, (Manager Governance & Risk) Mr N. Mowbray
(Policy Officer) and Ms P. Heusler (Administration Officer).

1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Acknowledgement of Country was read by Cr D Douglas.

2 Apologies

Nil

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D. Marshall and Cr C. Bailey that:

The Minutes of the State Significant Development Committee Meeting held
on **18 February, 2025**, a copy of which has been distributed to all members,
be taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

In Favour Cr J. Drayton, Cr D. Hartley, Cr C. Bailey, Cr D. Douglas, Cr D. Marshall,
Cr L. Dunn, Cr S. Ward, Cr G. McNeill and Cr R. Scholes

Against: Nil

4 Disclosure of Any Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Nil

5 Business Arising

Nil



6 Business

6.1 Mayoral Representation on Hunter Central Coast Regional Reference Group

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D. Douglas and Cr S. Ward that:

The Committee approves the appointment of the Mayor to the position of Hunter Regional Reference Group to September, 2028.

In Favour: Cr J. Drayton, Cr D. Hartley, Cr C. Bailey, Cr D. Douglas, Cr D. Marshall, Cr L. Dunn, Cr S. Ward, Cr G. McNeill and Cr R. Scholes

Against: Nil

6.2 Activities Summary for State Significant Development and Energy Generation Projects

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D. Marshall and Cr R. Scholes that:

The information contained in this report be noted.

In Favour: Cr J. Drayton, Cr D. Hartley, Cr C. Bailey, Cr D. Douglas, Cr D. Marshall, Cr L. Dunn, Cr S. Ward, Cr G. McNeill and Cr R. Scholes

Against: Nil

8 Date of Next Meeting

8 April, 2025

9 Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 4:21 PM

.....
Mr D. Finnigan
General Manager

.....
Cr J. Drayton
Chairperson



4 Disclosure of Any Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

5 Business Arising

Nil



6 Business

6.1 Dartbrook Mine MOD8 - Council Comments on Modification Report

Responsible Officer:	Director - Planning & Environment
Author:	Environmental Planning Officer
Community Strategic Plan:	6 - <i>Community Leadership</i> Collaborative and responsive leadership that meets the expectations and anticipates the needs of the community
Delivery Program Goal:	6.1.1 - Engage with the community and other stakeholders to determine service level expectations and appropriate measures.
Operational Plan Action:	Not applicable
Attachments:	1. Attachment A - Dartbrook Mine MOD8 MSC submission - draft [6.1.1 - 6 pages]

PURPOSE

To consider Council's submission in relation to Dartbrook Mine Modification 8 (MOD8).

The Dartbrook Mine is considered State Significant Development (DA 231-7-2000) and MOD8 will be determined by either the Minister for Planning or the Independent Planning Commission.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The proposed submission in Attachment A be endorsed by the State Significant Development Committee.

Moved: _____ **Seconded:** _____

REPORT

Dartbrook Mine is an existing underground coal mining operation located approximately 10 km north-west of Muswellbrook and 4.5 km south-west of Aberdeen. The operation is managed by Dartbrook Operations Pty Ltd (Dartbrook Operations) (Proponent) pursuant to Development Consent DA 231-07-2000. DA 231-07-2000 was granted under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and has subsequently been modified on seven occasions.

Modification (MOD8) to DA 231-07-2000 seeks to extend the period of mining operations by 6 years (i.e. from 5 December 2027 until 5 December 2033) (the Extension Period). Other than the duration, all other aspects of mining operations will remain consistent with DA 231-07-2000, including mining methods, maximum production rate, disturbance footprint, and ancillary activities.

The six-year extension sought by MOD8 will restore some of the development opportunity that was lost due to the extended period MOD7 determination process and court appeals.

A copy of the proposed submission is provided in Attachment A.



Enquiries
Please ask for Tracy Ward
Direct 02 6549 3700
Our reference CM 25/15004

XX April 2025

Tegan Cole
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Dear Ms Cole,

Dartbrook Mine DA 231-7-2000 Mod 8 – Council comments on Modification Report

Reference is made to the following:

- ‘*Dartbrook Mine Modification 8 Modification Report*’ (Xenith, 2025) (Modification Report); and
- Request to provide comment on the Modification Report via the Major Projects Portal.

Dartbrook Mine is an existing underground coal mining operation located approximately 10 km north-west of Muswellbrook and 4.5 km south-west of Aberdeen. The operation is managed by Dartbrook Operations Pty Ltd (Dartbrook Operations) (Proponent) pursuant to Development Consent DA 231-07-2000. DA 231-07-2000 was granted under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and has subsequently been modified on seven occasions.

Modification (MOD8) to DA 231-07-2000 seeks to extend the period of mining operations by 6 years (i.e. from 5 December 2027 until 5 December 2033) (the Extension Period). Other than the duration, all other aspects of mining operations will remain consistent with DA 231-07-2000 including mining methods, maximum production rate, disturbance footprint and ancillary activities.

The six-year extension sought by MOD8 will restore some of the development opportunity that was lost due to the extended MOD7 determination process and court appeals.

Council has reviewed the Modification Report, and provide the following comments:

1.0 General

1.1 DA 231-7-2000 was originally approved in 2001 and was supported by an Environmental Impact Statement dated 2000. Given the considerable time that has passed, the original assessment may no longer reflect current environmental, social, and regulatory standards or community expectations. It is noted that opportunity was taken to update conditions of consent applying to this mine as part of MOD 7.

1.2 MOD8 will extend the impact of the mine on the community and the environment. Council reminds the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure that Dartbrook exists in an area that also includes Mangoola Mine, Mount Arthur Mine, Bengalla Mine and Maxwell Mine. Whilst cumulative impacts have been considered as part of MOD8, extending the timeframe for DA 231-7-2000 will also extend the impact on the community.

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1.3 The Modification Report does not identify dust mitigation when coal is being transported by train. Council would like to see the State Government implement a comprehensive dust and noise monitoring program across the entire rail network within the Local Government Area to the Port of Newcastle. This would ensure a clearer understanding of impacts on the Hunter community. Any State government monitoring should be reported annually, and mitigation measures funded if noise and dust levels consistently exceed EPA or other relevant standards.

1.4 Council's view is that the 24-hour averaging period for air pollution monitoring has the unintended consequence of obscuring issues of elevated dust levels at night, particularly when a surface temperature inversion is present, and that a 12-hour average would be better.

Temperature inversions can trap dust close to the ground for extended periods, resulting in elevated dust concentrations during the night. These are often offset by lower daytime levels, which mask the impact by reducing the chance of an exceedance under the 24-hour averaging framework

1.5 Council requests that the State Government fund a study on the effects on human health of exposure to nighttime dust levels in the Upper Hunter so that data is available for research, particularly respiratory and cardiovascular conditions. These findings could contribute to efforts to protect and improve community health.

1.6 Given that it has been twelve years since the Upper Hunter Fine Particle Characterisation Study was undertaken and both Muswellbrook and Singleton councils have progressed several community wood smoke reduction education campaigns and wood heater replacement programs, Council calls upon the State Government to undertake a new Upper Hunter Fine Particle Characterisation Study to assess if wood smoke is still a major contributor to PM_{2.5} in the airshed in the Shire.

2.0 Planning Agreement

2.1 Council requests that the existing Planning Agreement (PA) condition be amended to a contemporary format with contributions to be paid into the Muswellbrook Shire Community Benefit Fund (MSCBF); which is supported by the recently adopted [MSCBF Policy](#) to guide the allocation of planning agreement contributions.

3.0 Social and Employment

3.1 Council acknowledges that the Proponent has considered Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter Shire strategic documents in their Social Impact Assessment and has committed to employing staff from the local area or encouraging its workforce to relocate to the local area. Council is also pleased to see a preference for local procurement and expenditure and direct investment in community infrastructure through the PA.

3.2 Council acknowledges that the PA includes a target of two apprentices. In addition, Council requests that the Proponent:

3.2.1 Target 25% of supplier expenditure being paid to companies with offices in Muswellbrook Shire; and

- 3.2.2 Commit to a strong workforce diversity policy with a target of 20% women, 10% of Aboriginal people, and 10% trainees.

4.0 Closure Planning

- 4.1 If MOD8 is approved, the potential closure of Dartbrook Mine would occur at a similar time to many other developments. Council requests that a condition of development consent be included in DA 231-07-2000, requiring the preparation of a Closure Social Impact Management Plan, as follows:

The Applicant must prepare a Closure Social Impact Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:

- (a) be submitted to the Secretary for approval within 12 months of the approval, unless otherwise agreed with the Secretary;*
- (b) be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced person/s;*
- (c) be developed in consultation with Council and the CCC;*
- (d) include a Stakeholder Engagement Framework including details about communications with relevant stakeholders, including local services providers, and particularly focused on the Muswellbrook community, and incorporating risk communication techniques;*
- (e) describe the measures that would be implemented to manage and mitigate negative (and cumulative) social impacts from mine closure,*
- (f) describe the community benefits funding arrangements to support the transition to closure of the mine;*
- (g) include a program to monitor, review and report on the effectiveness of these measures, including identifying performance indicators, incorporating a trigger action response plan*

5.0 Housing and Accommodation

- 5.1 The Upper Hunter Region regularly experiences shortages in temporary accommodation, affordable accommodation, and housing close to mines, particularly in phases of infrastructure construction, and mine and power station shut down periods where larger maintenance workforces are required for a short-term.

The cumulative impact of mining, renewable energy and other development on the surrounding short-term housing market is likely to peak in years 2026-2029.

Council requests a condition of development consent in DA 231-07-2000, requiring the preparation of a Workforce Accommodation Strategy that:

- a) provides updated estimates of the likely accommodation demand of the development, including consideration of the potential interaction with other development;*
- b) proposes a strategy to facilitate the accommodation of the workforce associated with the development;*
- c) investigates options for prioritising the employment of local workers during operation; and*
- d) includes a program to monitor and review the effectiveness of the strategy during operation.*

6.0 Land Use (mining and post-mining)

- 6.1 Section 2.2.5 of the Modification Report states that ‘The co-existence of agriculture and mining is demonstrated by the livestock business HV Agriculture Pty Ltd’s continual growth in conjunction with the continued operation of Dartbrook Mine’.

It should be noted that a substantial portion of land in the Muswellbrook Shire is mine-owned or classified as 'mine buffer land,' and utilised by Proponents for low-intensity grazing. Unfortunately, there is no requirement for Proponents to monitor grazing performance or implement improvements, and while these areas have potential to support other compatible industries, such diversification is not currently mandatory. The Hunter Regional Plan 2041 encourages the activation of alternative uses in these areas, and Council seeks DPHI support for more formalised mechanisms through consent conditions to facilitate and secure long-term economic and environmental outcomes on these lands.

- 6.2 Section 2.4.1.2 of the Modification Report states:

‘Dartbrook Operations has reached an agreement with the primary landowner relating to post-mining uses of the existing infrastructure. All infrastructure that has utility for future agricultural enterprises (such as offices, workshops, roads, bridges, dams etc) will be retained for the landowner’s benefit. Infrastructure that cannot be re-purposed for agricultural use (such as coal processing facilities and mine entries) will be decommissioned and removed’.

Council requires evidence that the planned retention of infrastructure is justified for the post-mining land use activity proposed, and consultation with the appropriate authorities. Council requests that upon approval of MOD8, the Rehabilitation Strategy is updated to include a post-mining land use strategy to investigate and facilitate post-mining beneficial land uses for the site that:

- considers regional and local strategic land use planning objectives and outcomes;
- support a sustainable future for the local community;
- utilise existing mining infrastructure, where practicable; and
- avoid disturbing self-sustaining native ecosystems, where practicable.

- 6.3 Council will request a condition of development consent in DA 231-07-2000 for an appropriate rehabilitation objective that encourages retention of infrastructure (as opposed to implying the removal of infrastructure), as follows:

Rehabilitation Feature	Objectives
Retention of Infrastructure	<p>All infrastructure that is to remain as part of the final land use is safe, does not pose any hazard to the community.</p> <p>All infrastructure that is to remain as part of the final land use benefits from the relevant approvals (e.g development consent and / or licence/lease/binding agreement, etc).</p>

It is understood that the Resources Regulator (RR) allows the above objective which was conditioned in the development consent for the Muswellbrook Coal Mine, with approval from the RR.

7.0 Greenhouse Gas

Council supports the following commitments outlined in the Modification Report:

- Feasibility studies into the implementation of a VAMMIT / VAMCAT (or similar) unit at Dartbrook Mine; and
- Implementation of a pre-mining drainage system prior to the commencement of MOD8, with the gas being flared as a minimum. If possible, it may be used in gas-fired engines to generate electricity.

8.0 Traffic

MOD8 will result in traffic impacts on the surrounding road network for a longer period. Council notes that there have been previous complaints about traffic from the community and are pleased that the Proponent will continue to implement traffic controls for MOD8. Council will also review the draft conditions for DA 231-07-2000 in relation to traffic to ensure that current conditions are maintained as part of MOD8.

9.0 Mining Affected Road Network Strategy

Council is pleased to note a commitment as part of the Planning Agreement to:

- reimburse Council for the costs involved in revising the Mine Affected Road Network Plan; and
- a contribution for road upgrades related to traffic impacts associated with the project.

10.0 Air Quality and Noise

10.1 Council is disappointed that the Modification Report relies on an eleven-year-old background annual average for PM₁₀, rather than incorporating more recent data that includes periods of drought and bushfire. Given that climate change is expected to increase the frequency of these events, such events may no longer be considered extreme anomalies.

10.2 It is understood that the results for the PM_{2.5} assessment was calculated using a ratio of PM₁₀ data. Council is disappointed with the use of a non-approved method to calculate PM_{2.5} data. It is widely acknowledged that whilst a ratio may be used to calculate PM_{2.5} from PM₁₀ that it is, at best, a rough calculation.

10.3 The National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure emphasises the importance of direct measurement for both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} to accurately measure air quality. This approach reflects the need for specific measurements acknowledging that each particulate size fraction has distinct health impacts associated.

Council therefore requests that rather than calculate $PM_{2.5}$ as a ratio of PM_{10} , that a $PM_{2.5}$ monitor be installed in an agreed location, be included in the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network and that all data be publicly available.

- 10.4 Council notes that whilst there will be no additional noise impacts, MOD8 will see noise impacts to nearby residents extended for a longer period and whilst these residents are also impacted by other mining operations, Council is pleased that noise controls remain applicable to MOD8.

Council appreciates the opportunity to comment and would be pleased to provide additional information if requested. Should you need to discuss the above, please contact Tracy Ward, Sustainability Officer, on 02 6549 3700 or email council@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

Yours faithfully



Sharon Pope
Director Environment and Planning



6.2 Activities Summary for State Significant Development and Energy Generation Projects

Responsible Officer: Director - Planning & Environment

Author: Environmental Planning Officer

Community Strategic Plan: 6 - Community Leadership

Delivery Program Goal: Collaborative and responsive leadership that meets the expectations and anticipates the needs of the community.

Not Applicable

Operational Plan Action: Not applicable

Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE

To advise on current works being undertaken by Council Officers in relation to State Significant Development and Energy Generation projects.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The information contained in this report be noted.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

REPORT

Project Name	Update
AGL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff met with AGL to discuss a potential development application for minor clearing relating to vegetation maintenance on the embankment of the Liddell Ash Dam.Staff met with AGL to discuss Council's comments on the Muswellbrook Pumped Hydro Scoping Report. Responses will be incorporated into the Environmental Impact Statement for the project.
Dartbrook	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff attended the CCC meeting - There are three underground miners currently operating 24/7, advancing west in the Kayuga Seam. Currently 174 personnel on site. First trainload of coal went to Vales Point power station recently.MOD8 Modification Report currently on exhibition - Staff have prepared a submission (see SSD Committee Report).



Project Name	Update
Mount Pleasant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff attended the CCC meeting - Mining has exceeded the 10.5Mt approved limit under DA 92/97. State approval appeal to be determined in the next few months. Feasibility study being undertaken on how to best deliver the SSD expansion which will look at options to mine south of Castlerock Road for longer. New workshop opened in December 2024. Tailings dam wall being lifted.Staff provided feedback on the updated Rehabilitation Strategy and Heritage Management Plan.
Maxwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maxwell have submitted its Built Features Management Plan for management of subsidence on Edderton Road. Staff will provide feedback.A modification (MOD3) is proposed to SSD 9526 which involves the transfer of tailings and coal rejects from the Mt Arthur Coal Mine to the Maxwell Underground Mine for storage in a mine void.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A Scoping Report has been received for a 400MW Battery Energy Storage System on Sandy Creek Road. Staff will provide input to the SEARs.Staff met with the Resources Regulator for our bi-annual meeting. Liddell Mine has had rehabilitation completion criteria approved. Mount Arthur rehabilitation cost estimate is now \$416M. There are concerns relating to spontaneous combustion at Maxwell (former Drayton workings). Muswellbrook Coal will have a Landform targeted assessment program (TAP) undertaken in 2025. Revegetation TAP reports will be available soon.Staff meeting with EnergyCo for monthly coordination meeting and will raise concerns regarding the capacity of the potable water infrastructure to support the cumulative demands of the temporary construction workforce and construction projects.
Industry Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff attended a briefing on the Lostock to Glennies Creek Pipeline project with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water. The project will be deferred until there is greater certainty around the future water demand profile in the Hunter, including factors such as the AGL site, hydrogen developments, and mine closures. The Department will now focus on updating the Greater Hunter Regional Water Strategy to refine the demand.Water NSW has commenced a statutory review of the <i>Dams Safety Act 2015</i>. A consultation process for the review will begin in June 2025.



7 Adjournment into Closed Committee

8 Closed Committee

Nil

9 Resumption of Open Committee

10 Date of Next Meeting

13 May, 2025

11 Closure