

Meeting Notes



West Cumbria Metallurgical Coal Project Liaison Group		
Date: Wednesday 19 th September 2018	Time: 10:00 – 11:00	Location: Haig office
Meeting called by	West Cumbria Mining	
Type of meeting	Community Liaison Group	
WCM hosts	Kevin Murphy (KM),	
Attendees	Tom O'Fee (TO), Thomas Greer (TG), Graham Barwise (GB), Tony Potts (TP), Tom Todd (TT), Sophie Badrick (SB),	
Apologies	Caroline Leatherdale (CL) Stuart Trevaskis (ST), Keith Cartner (KC),	
WCM Update		
Discussion		
<p>KM took the meeting through the recent history of the project explaining that following the decision to remove the dewatering of the Anhydrite mine from the project, as reported at the last LLG meeting, further information and survey work had been requested by the council. Most recently, this has included detailed marine survey work which is currently ongoing, to produce a detailed and technical report looking at rainwater discharge. Additional mapping and modelling of the sea bed over the area of offshore mining is also being carried out.</p> <p>Whilst providing an increased level of evidence to meet environmental and legislative requirements has taken longer than anticipated, the company wants to ensure that the planning process is thorough and robust and, that when all final documentation is submitted to the planning committee, CCC will be confident they have the level of information needed to be able to make an informed decision.</p> <p>Whilst no date has been confirmed by CCC as to when the planning application will be heard, WCM is confident that the additional information requested is being addressed and we are nearing the end of the planning application process which should enable the application to be heard by the planning committee in early 2019.</p> <p>TO commented that the dewatering of the Anhydrite mine would have had likely benefits to the environment and provided a copy of a recent advert promoting the use of Gypsum based products in the farming industry, which were similar in nature to what could be expected from the Anhydrite mine water.</p>		
Rail / Rail Loading Facility		
Discussion		
<p>KM advised that Freightliner, as WCM's preferred rail operator, had applied for the necessary train paths to allow WCM to load and dispatch its planned six trains per day during full operation. This exercise by Freightliner identified paths (slots) within the existing timetable whereby these trains could be operated, however the details have not been finalised as this work is ongoing.</p> <p>KM described the process by which trains would be loaded and dispatched from the Rail Loading Facility (RLF) in the Pow Beck valley. WCM has begun discussions with a number of companies who have the knowledge and technical expertise to design and construct the RLF which will have design restrictions due to its location in the valley.</p>		
Coal Prep and marketing		
Discussion		
<p>KM explained that in parallel to the planning application and the development planning for the mine, WCM are already actively in discussions with potential coal buyers for the product. With the price of Metallurgical coal currently rising and the cost of shipments by sea from the USA beginning to rise the WCM product will be an attractive product to the market.</p>		
GDPR		
Discussion		
<p>KM explained that with the recent changes to data protection, WCM contacted everyone registered with the business to confirm their acceptance of WCM holding their contact details on file for employment, supply chain or news update purposes. If no confirmation was received from individuals, then their details have now been deleted in line with current law. KM advised that the majority of people have confirmed their intention to remain in contact with the project.</p>		
WCM Update event		
Discussion		
<p>KM advised that as no confirmed date for the determination of the planning application was available, WCM has not currently confirmed the date of the next public update event. This will happen in December or as soon as WCM and CCC agree a committee date at which the CCC can determine the application</p>		

Date of next meeting – to be advised specifically once more information is known about the timescale for the planning determination.

There being no other business, KM thanked the attendees and closed the meeting.

