

Meeting Notes



West Cumbria Coking Coal Project Liaison Group	
Date: Thursday 2 nd June 2016	Time: 15:00 – 17:00
Location: Haig Pit Museum	
Meeting called by	West Cumbria Mining
Type of meeting	Community Liaison Group
WCM host	Kevin Murphy (KM)
Attendees	Stuart Trevaskis (ST), John Cain (JC), Graham Barwise (GB), Tony Potts (TP), Sophie Badrick (SB)
Welcome to new members	
Discussion	
KM welcomed SB to the group and gave a short overview of the make-up and purpose of the Liaison Group. SB explained her role with the National Trust / Colourful Coast, each member of the group then introduced themselves.	
WCM Update	
Discussion	
KM reported that Cumbria County Council had issued their scoping opinion in respect of the mine development, this formalised the understanding that WCM had of the requirements for Environmental Impact Assessments etc. which are already underway.	
KM reported that the onshore drilling programme for this year was about to start, with the drilling team arriving today to start the set up process. KM explained that 2 vertical and one directional hole were scheduled with possible additional holes if requested by the geologists. This year's programme would include working on Mr. Telfer's land and a return to Rottington farm.	
KM confirmed that the proposed offshore work which had been planned for this year had been deferred to next year. The only available barge from which to carry out the operations in 2016 was much larger (and more expensive) than what would be required to accommodate the drilling operations. KM stated that this did not alter the timeline for the planning application.	
Addressing feedback from April's update event	
Discussion	
KM explained that a number of feedback forms had been completed at the April stakeholder update, where these had raised comments or concerns that WCM were able to address this was being done in a number of ways.	
Where questions and the answers were thought to be of interest to a wider audience these were being posted on the company social media sites. As far as possible personalised responses were being sent to those people who had left contact details.	
Future Plans / Programme of Works	
Discussion	
KM outlined the programme of work for this year as being the continuation of the onshore drilling programme in parallel with the development of the planning application which was being targeted for submission before Christmas.	
KM confirmed that the proposed increase in rail traffic would be a key area of focus during the Environmental Impact Analysis underway.	
Stakeholder engagement plans	
Discussion	
KM reported that a series of drop in sessions KM had been set up for the public to call in at the Haig Museum offices to meet with the team and raise any questions they might have. The first of which had been held the day before. The next 2 sessions were on the 15 th and 29 th of June.	

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KM explained that the next large scale public event would be similar in format to the previous one and held over the last weekend in July. JC suggested that given the time of year WCM might want to consider making one of the days a “family” day to encourage those with young children to attend who might otherwise not, the meeting also discussed the possibility of taking people on a site visit to the Marchon site as this would be of interest to a large number of people.

ST explained that he had attended the public meeting in Mirehouse where KM had presented plans for the project and confirmed that the project plans were well received by those attending, however it was apparent that some of the audience had been unaware of the project. The meeting discussed reaching out to the local schools (teenage age) and inviting them to the office or perhaps the drill site for an introduction to the project and as a way of engaging with the whole family. SB suggested that showcasing the work of the geologists in the office may also be a good way of involving and engaging those who may only think of the mining side of the project.

KM explained that as part of the development of the Pre-Feasibility Study a theoretical organisation chart for the mine had been drawn up which was a good way to demonstrate the number and wide range of jobs which would become available. It was agreed that this chart would also be a useful way to engage with people who could start to see where they could fit into the plan.

It was suggested that WCM seek to link through other organisations social media sites to try to extend the coverage of the WCM social media posts.

Any Other Business

Discussion

The meeting briefly discussed the setting up of a community fund once the mine is operational, KM confirmed that WCM do intend to manage a local fund. SB suggested that such a fund should be aimed at providing small sums to a number of recipients rather than focusing on large initiatives.

There being no other business KM thanked the meeting for their attendance and closed the meeting.