

Boral presents this update on works and initiatives taking place at the former Berrima Colliery site at Medway for the information of its valued neighbours and stakeholders.

## CWG meets in September

We remain focused on closing the former Berrima (Medway) Colliery in a safe and sustainable way. Our engagement with the local community remains a crucial part of this process.



Resources such as our dedicated website and Closure Working Group (CWG) meetings are key to ensuring the local community is informed about the steps being taken as part of the closure process.

Our most recent meeting of the CWG was held on 24 September 2021. The meeting discussed recent activities at the site, updates to the Closure Mine Operations Plan, the approved pathway for the proposed pit top water treatment system and monitoring undertaken within Mandemar Lane.

As always, we'd like to thank all CWG members for volunteering their time. We appreciate their genuine feedback on our journey toward the closure.

During the meeting we were updated on:

- water quality discharge and treatment,
- mine operation plan status,
- pit top treatment and pipeline approval pathway.

The next meeting of the CWG is scheduled for 10 December 2021.

## Water quality

Through appropriate treatment the quality of the water discharging from the mine continues to be at acceptable levels as defined in our Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 608).

Treated discharge volumes into the Wingecarribee River continue to be in the range of 1.7ML/day below the long-term average of 2.6 megalitres per day (ML/day).

We continue to assess the water quality upstream and downstream of the mine discharge point, assess any changes and take action as we pursue the closure, however the number of locations have reduced following the completion of a detailed performance monitoring program in February 2020.

As outlined in our previous newsletters, the pH of discharge waters, while within the permitted range, had started to trend down. Lower pH can increase dissolved metal concentrations, which was reflected in our monitoring results. While these were still low with only a minor influence in the mixing zone of the river, we acted on this by undertaking additional maintenance work on the underground passive water treatment system to incorporate lime dosing. This action has bought the water quality back to the historical average and remains so.

The return of reasonable rainfall over the past two years, as well as water transfers by Water NSW, has meant the river continues to show an increase flow which is assisting in overall stream health.

## Key steps to closure

During the CWG meeting, we provided an update on our Closure Mining Operations Plan (MOP).

The Stage 2 Closure MOP has been placed on hold, with the existing Stage 1 MOP extended until 2 July 2022. Further studies post installation of the pit top treatment will determine if it is suitable for long term water management.

## Pit Top Treatment and Pipeline Approval Pathway

As outlined in our previous newsletters. To enable physical enclosure of the mine, and a safer and more viable option for continued treatment of underground waters, Boral has proposed to install a passive water treatment system at the Colliery pit top.

During the meeting we discussed how the EPA will be the approval authority for this project whereby an Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) will be placed on the sites Environmental Protection Licence. The EIP will include a requirement to complete a review of environmental factors (REF) before a timeline is set to install. Once installed there may be changes to the existing licence monitoring points.

We are aiming to discuss the EPA's proposed EIP at the next meeting.

