



# Gully mine is taking shape

## MINING

BY OLIVIA BARNES

LINCOLN Minerals met with the Tumby Bay consultative committee last week to discuss the company's progress with the Kookaburra Gully Graphite mine design, environmental assessment and program for environment protection and rehabilitation (PEPR), which will be finalised in the lead-up to the first mining late this year.

In the presentation Lincoln Minerals outlined that design studies were essentially complete, environmental assessments were nearing completion and the company had started drafting the PEPR.

Lincoln Minerals managing director John Parker said the outcomes of these studies defined the project and enabled preparation of the PEPR and infrastructure related approvals.

Regional Development Australia Whyalla and Eyre Peninsula special projects

manager Bob Ramsey said all aspects of the project were discussed at the meeting.

He said Lincoln Minerals explained at the meeting it was still working on extra technical specifications around project implementation and logistics.

Mr Ramsey said the main points of discussion were around water, acidic soils and the final details for the Pillaworta Road with a more detailed report to be presented at a later date.

Tonkin Consulting undertook road route assessment, design and costing for Pillaworta Road in mid-2016 which considered road and public safety, overall travel distance, upgrade cost, maintenance costs, environmental constraints and community acceptability.

From the assessment a report and detailed design of the road and intersection upgrade will need approval from the Tumby Bay District Council and the Department of Planning, Transport and

Infrastructure.

"It was an update of all aspects of the project and there were a lot of questions asked but there was a level of technical detail that couldn't be provided as they are still finalising some elements," Mr Ramsey said.

He said there was still some concern about details to do with the use of water from the Tod Reservoir and water run-off.

Lincoln Minerals is still working on its stormwater and sediment management system, which will form the basis of the management section in the PEPR.

The company hopes to have its draft program for environment protection and rehabilitation prepared in April, with the aim of having it approved in July this year.