



Wallarrah 2
COAL PROJECT

FACTS NOT FICTION

For facts and NOT myths and
misinformation go to
www.wallarrah.com.au

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MYTH 1

Freight trains will be loading coal from an uncovered conveyor belt operating 24/7.

Kate da Costa, Water Not Coal, Facebook 11 August 2016 and Wyong Chronicle 16 August 2016.

FACT

Conveyors, transfers and loading bin are ALL enclosed.

A maximum of just four trains per day will be loaded, with an arrival, loading and dispatch duration of around 1.5 hours per train.

MYTH 2

An increase in mortality rate by one in 100,000 means three deaths per year.

Kate da Costa, Wyong Chronicle 16 August 2016. Alan Hayes ABC Radio 17 August & Blue Haven meeting 18 August 2016. Australian Coal Alliance Pro Forma letter to Department of Planning.

FACT

The 2013 Health Risk Assessment for the Wallarrah 2 Project did highlight the reference to a statistical increased risk of mortality due to exposure to PM2.5 of 1 in 100,000.

In the Responses to Submission of 16 September 2013 section 3.7, this reference to statistical mortality was explained in simple terms as meaning:

If a theoretical 100,000 people were positioned at the worst location adjacent to the mine stockpile for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 28 years and the worst case dust conditions (taking into account dust from all sources: coal, motorway, rail, bushfires, urban etc) existed constantly, then statistically a mortality rate of 1 in 100,000 may result.

Section 3.7 concludes “this means that the Project is unlikely to cause any mortalities or admissions during its 28 year duration”.

MYTH 3

The promise for local jobs is overstated. Miners will have to be qualified which means they will come from out of the area. The CFMEU (Construction Forestry Mining & Energy Union) will insist on it.

*Alan Hayes, ABC Radio 17 August 2016, Village Grapevine August 2016 & Blue Haven meeting 18 August 2016.
David Harris, Village Grapevine August 2016.*

FACT

All forms of “closed shops” became illegal under the Federal Workplace Relations Act 1996.

ABS statistics from August 2009 showed that current union representation in mines was only 20.4%, and 22.0% of mineworkers were previously union members. This means that 58% of mineworkers have never been union members.

Ulan West underground mine near Mudgee commenced in 2012. Today, 90 per cent of the workforce are “clean skins” (non-experienced workers) at what is one of Australia’s most productive and safest mines. Ulan West operates 24/7 with 900 employees and has an impressive safety record that is still improving today. Ulan West believe this is due to the “productive” nature of their workers, as “productive people are thinking about everything” as they work, and naturally “safety is one of those things.”

Wallerah 2 remains committed to a target of 70% local employment, including 10% indigenous employment.

MYTH 4

Kores is planning a massive coal stockpile 220m from homes in Blue Haven.

Kate da Costa, Water Not Coal, Facebook 11 August 2016 also Alan Hayes, ABC Radio 17 August 2016.

FACT

The proposed coal stockpile is located 2.75km west of Blue Haven, separated by the Motorway Link Road, Main Northern Rail line, Boral clay quarry and tile plant, and an approved industrial estate.

Coal will be transferred from an overland conveyor to the bin feed conveyor in a fully-enclosed transfer station north of the Motorway Link Road.

For full documentation on the Wallarah 2 Amendment go to the Department of Planning and Environment Major Projects website majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au

MYTH 5

The loading bin will be 300m from Darkinjung’s approved 500 lot residential development.

Alan Hayes ABC Radio 17 August 2016.

FACT

Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council does not have an approved residential development in the area of the loading bin.

Current zoning does not allow residential development. Darkinjung LALC plans require re-zoning through an amendment of the Wyong Local Environmental Plan.

A process to determine the rezoning footprint and planning context is underway which is expected to be finalised in late 2017 (*Department of Planning and Environment Gateway Determination 2 May 2016*).

If re-zoned, Darkinjung LALC will then be required to develop and submit development applications for any proposed future development.