



Media statement

20 August 2009

700 jobs in Wallarah 2 mine

The Wallarah 2 Coal Mine would create about 700 local jobs when it was operating and add about \$200 million each year to the local economy, the Environment and Community Manager, Peter Smith, said today.

"These jobs will be on top of the 1800 local jobs that will be created during the first year alone of the three year construction period."

Mr Smith said the Central Coast Research Foundation had found that more than \$1 billion would be added to the regional economy in those first three years.

He said a figure of 130 jobs being promoted by opponents of the project to apparently downplay the economic value of the project was misleading and inaccurate.

"The Foundation reports that of a total initial expenditure by the company of more than \$700 million an estimated \$600 million would be spent in the Central Coast. This would be spent in areas of the local economy as diverse as construction, machinery, transport equipment, retail, and property and business services. More than 2,900 flow-on jobs will be created during the construction period in all these local sectors and others such as accommodation, cafes and restaurants."

"In addition, 300 flow-on jobs will also be generated during the operations phase in the Newcastle-Hunter economy."

"The Community Liaison Committee, including Council and community representatives, has been fully briefed on the economic and employment benefits of the Wallarah 2 mine. Their continued misrepresentation of these matters is extremely disappointing and demonstrates their inability or unwillingness to disseminate factual information."

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Note to editors: Central Coast Research Foundation is an independent research organisation established to assist business, government and statutory authorities and community groups. It is a not for profit organisation whose principal and major sponsors include Wyong Shire Council, Gosford City Council, the NSW Department of State and Regional Development.