



Wallarrah 2
COAL PROJECT

Coal Project Newsletter

Number 20 - March 2013

A message from the Project Manager

Welcome to the first Wallarah 2 Coal Project Newsletter of 2013. An exciting year lays ahead, and as we progress the State Significant Development Application through the NSW planning system we will keep the community informed via newsletters, the W2CP website and planned information days.

Since our last newsletter, the team has been very busy finalising studies and ensuring that each and every matter within the Director-General's Requirements for the EIS has been rigorously evaluated and addressed.

As Wallarah 2 enters the next phase in the planning and approval process, our main priority is to ensure that the EIS addresses all of the critical issues within the DGR's and those that were raised by the Department of Planning when the application was previously denied in 2011, of particular focus are matters relating to potential subsidence impacts and surface facilities water management.

Our current focus is to make certain that information provided in the new EIS is robust and more than meets the Director-General's Requirements to ensure that the Project can move forward to the public exhibition phase.

It is essential that we utilise the public exhibition phase to address all public concerns satisfactorily and field any feedback or input put forward by the community and other stakeholders.

To our entire team, community feedback is extremely important, and we respect that every member of the public has the right to know what's going on in their community, especially with developments such as Wallarah 2. The public exhibition process will provide an opportunity for individuals to ask questions, raise concerns and receive definitive answers regarding the Project.

It is also important that the community becomes aware of the number of benefits that will be provided as a result of the Project, both in terms of job creation and boost to the local, regional and NSW economies.

In addition, this month we are excited to be launching the Community Grants arm of the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation, providing us with an opportunity to support projects which aim to assist or benefit the environment, community wellbeing and education outcomes within the Wyong LGA. Please visit www.wallarrah.com.au for further information on the grants.

Kenny Barry - Project Manager
Wallarrah 2 Coal Project

EIS exhibition awaiting ‘all clear’ from Department of Planning & Infrastructure

During the Community Cabinet Meeting held at Mingara Recreation Club on Monday 25 February, the Premier reaffirmed the Government's position that there would be no mining allowed that threatened the water supply in Wyong.

The Premier's commitment demonstrates the stringent standards put in place when reviewing mining applications and also acts as an assurance that the Wallarah 2 Coal Project will not progress unless the EIS can show that there is no threat to the Wyong catchment.

“At Wallarah 2 we place great emphasis on creating processes that preserve the surrounding environment, and we are committed to creating a development which is both sustainable and community conscious”

noted Wallarah 2 Project Manager, Kenny Barry.

“Walarah 2 long ago made a commitment to the community that any proposal it put forward would be one that safeguards the water supply, so we understand and support the Premier's insistence on responsible management of the water supply catchment.”

Given this, we have recently been busy undertaking further environmental research, including conducting additional field surveys and analyses, modelling work, peer reviews and meeting with authorities to ensure our Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) more than satisfies the Director-General's Requirements (DGRs).

The EIS is a new scientific study which re-examines all the technical issues, and takes into account the new DGRs.

The EIS also contains new contributions from more than 30 technical experts, including very detailed water management and subsidence studies.

We are currently in the process of finalising the EIS in consultation with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

Once the Department is satisfied that the document addresses the DGRs, the next stage in the planning and approval process will be the public exhibition of the EIS expected within the first half of 2013.

We are looking forward to entering the public exhibition phase of the Project and are eager to gauge further community feedback.

Protecting water catchments

Site assessments and studies to date further reaffirm that surrounding water catchments will be protected from any adverse impacts as a result of the mining development.

The independent Planning Assessment Commission (PAC), in its 2010 report into the impact of Wallarah 2's proposed longwall mining on the Central Coast water supply, indicated that there would be minimal risk to the catchment area as a result of the mining activity.

Amongst its conclusions, PAC stated: "For the proposed mine layout, the predicted worst case upside and closure values could be expected to result in negligible impacts for the Wyong River and Jiliby Creek.

This is also the case for Little Jiliby Creek up to the start of Longwall 23 North."

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure agreed with PAC that there was no threat to the water supply following its 2011 assessment.

Walarah 2 has proposed comprehensive monitoring systems and management initiatives to ensure that all water catchments and water supply infrastructure will be protected from mining operations.

A number of these monitoring systems are already in place and have been contributing new data to add to the significant existing technical database.

Walarah 2 website – providing a hub for information

Inquiries and assessments	Status	Comment
Strategic Inquiry into mining in Wyong	✓	No significant reason why mining should not be permitted in the Wyong area.
Wyong Water Study	✓	There is sufficient information for general assessment of mining.
International Peer Water Review	✓	There is sufficient information for an assessment of the Wallarah 2 Project.
Planning Assessment Commission	✓	Project can be approved with conditions.

We have recently completed updates to the Wallarah 2 website, to ensure that it remains an accessible and informative point of reference for all stakeholders interested in the Project.

Our website now contains further information on sustainability and environmental impact, key facts and figures and the planning and approval process.

The site also contains information in relation to the Wallarah Community Foundation, as well as an application form to allow submissions to be made.

Make sure you visit our website at www.walarah.com.au to view in-depth information about the Wallarah 2 Coal Project.

Wallarah 2 Community Foundation

We are excited to announce that applications for the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation will soon be open. The Wallarah 2 Community Foundation is a funding initiative which highlights our commitment to supporting surrounding communities through the funding of worthwhile programs and initiatives.

The Foundation aims to provide grants to organisations, groups or individuals which will benefit the environment, community wellbeing and education outcomes within the Wyong LGA.

During 2013, up to \$60,000 will be made available for grants to individual projects or initiatives ranging up to \$10,000.

Please visit our website www.wallarah.com.au for further information or updates on the Foundation.

Partnering with other organisations in our community



Wallarah 2 has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with TAFE NSW Hunter Institute and Central Coast Group Training. The MOUs are part of the ongoing development of the vocational training stream of the Wallarah Community Foundation and aim to create new skills training and job prospects for community members specific to the Wyong Local Government Area.

With the funding and support of Wallarah 2, Central Coast Group Training have provided apprentices in the electrical, automotive and engineering trades to partnered host businesses within the Wyong Local Government Area.

The 2013 Apprentice program includes two school based apprentices from Wyong Trade High School and two full time apprentices sourced from the local community. Our four Apprentices are now working and studying toward their goals of becoming qualified tradespeople with the support of our host employers; Brian Hilton Toyota - Robert Cox, Express Lube - David Grime, TE Connectivity - James Atkins and Gavin Drake with DNA Electrical.

Wallarah 2 Coal Project's MOU with TAFE NSW Hunter Institute aims to support future mine related vocational training and education within the Wyong LGA.

Hunter TAFE will provide Wallarah and its clients with training in Underground Coal Operations Certificate Courses, Underground Coal Mining Management Diploma, Work, Health and Safety and Environmental Management and Monitoring programs.

Hunter TAFE will also provide support for apprenticeship training in electrical and mechanical trades.

Central Coast Poultry Club supports Wallarah 2

We are proud to support Central Coast Poultry Club, by providing our drill core storage shed as a new facility from which the Club can run its monthly meetings and auctions. Our partnership has just reached the one year milestone in February 2013.

The Central Coast Poultry Club has been operating since 1905 and is highly active in the Central Coast community. In addition to sponsoring and running the State Schools Poultry Show, the Club supports agricultural studies in 15 local schools around the region,

8 of which are members of the club, whilst it also provides advice on all things poultry to community members.

The Club's 110 members voted unanimously to accept Wallarah 2's offer of accommodation and has commenced a letter of support to back the Project, due to the benefits it seeks to provide to business and community engagement in the region. We thank Central Coast Poultry Club for its ongoing support of Wallarah 2.

Walarah 2 promises a number of economic benefits to the Central Coast region and beyond, including:

Jobs and Income for NSW during Construction for three years

- + Over 1400 direct & indirect jobs in peak construction year 2
- + Over \$859m in business turnover
- + Over \$282m in direct & indirect household income

Jobs and Income for NSW during 28 yr Operation

- + 1711 direct & indirect jobs
- + \$900m in business turnover p.a.
- + \$154m in direct & indirect household income p.a.

Government Royalties

- + The Project is also estimated to make a substantial contribution to regional, state and federal Government revenue bases paying corporate taxation and royalty benefits amounting to \$1.58 Billion undiscounted value over the 28 year Project life.

Please read our next newsletter for greater insight into the positive economic outcomes that will be offered through the Wallarah 2 Coal Project.

The planning assessment process



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