Wallarah 2
COAL PROJECT

Annual Community Consultation Report

26 October 2021 to 25 October 2022

Exploration Licence No 4912 (EL4912)

Report Type	Annual Community Consultation Report
Authority Number	EL4912 Mining Act 1992
Authority Holder	Kores Australia Pty Limited
Grant Date **Expiry Date**	26 October 1995 20 May 2026
Project Operator (if applicable)	Wyong Coal Pty Limited
Project Name and Location (if applicable)	Wallarah 2 Coal Project Parish: Tuggerah, Wallarah & Munmorah County: Northumberland
Reporting Period	26 October 2021 to 25 October 2022
Date of Report	November 2022
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Executive Summary

The Exploration Licence 4912 (EL4912) area represents a key part of the suite of exploration licences (A405, and ELs 4911, 4912 & 5903), which make up the Wyong Coal Development Areas (WCDA), shown in **Figure 1**. These licences are held by Kores Australia Pty Limited (Kores) on behalf of the Wyong Areas Coal Joint Venture (WACJV).

EL 4912 covers an area of 54.68 km^2 (5468 Ha) and was renewed along with EL4911 and EL5903 from 9 April 2021 until 20 May 2026. A405 was previously renewed from 1 April 2020 until 8 August 2024. In the case of EL 4911, the renewal approved the proposed relinquishment of 713 Ha from the northwest of the tenement, formerly covering 9,160 Ha.

Since EL4912 was granted, the WACJV has conducted extensive geological exploration and investigations within this licence area (and adjacent exploration licences (ELs). This work identified coal resources of over 700 million tonnes (Mt) within the western part of the WCDA, (A405 and EL4911). Of this, 212 Mt falls within the category of *Measured* and a further 468 Mt as *Indicated*.

WACJV completed development plans and the required environmental assessments for a 5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) W2CP underground coal mine in the western part of the WCDA - refer **Figure 2**. NSW planning approval was granted in January 2018 and Commonwealth approvals granted in January 2019.

The WACJV has a well-established and wide-ranging stakeholder engagement program in place that commenced with successfully addressing landholder issues during the various exploration programs and continuing through the W2CP approvals phase and beyond. The program focuses on keeping the community informed in an open and honest manner, thereby reducing concerns and building a good relationship. This program applies to all WCDA tenements, including EL4912.

During this reporting period no assessable prospecting activities were undertaken within EL4912. Associated activities were limited to environmental monitoring and community consultation programs.

Future exploration and development related community consultation will be dependent on the findings of a Final Feasibility Study (FFS) for the Wallarah 2 Coal Project. During the reporting period, no definitive plans to conduct an FFS, detailed survey, final design or surface disturbing activities occurred or have been scheduled to occur within the next reporting period.

No formal complaints were received during the reporting period. The complaints register is updated as required on monthly on the Wallarah 2 website.

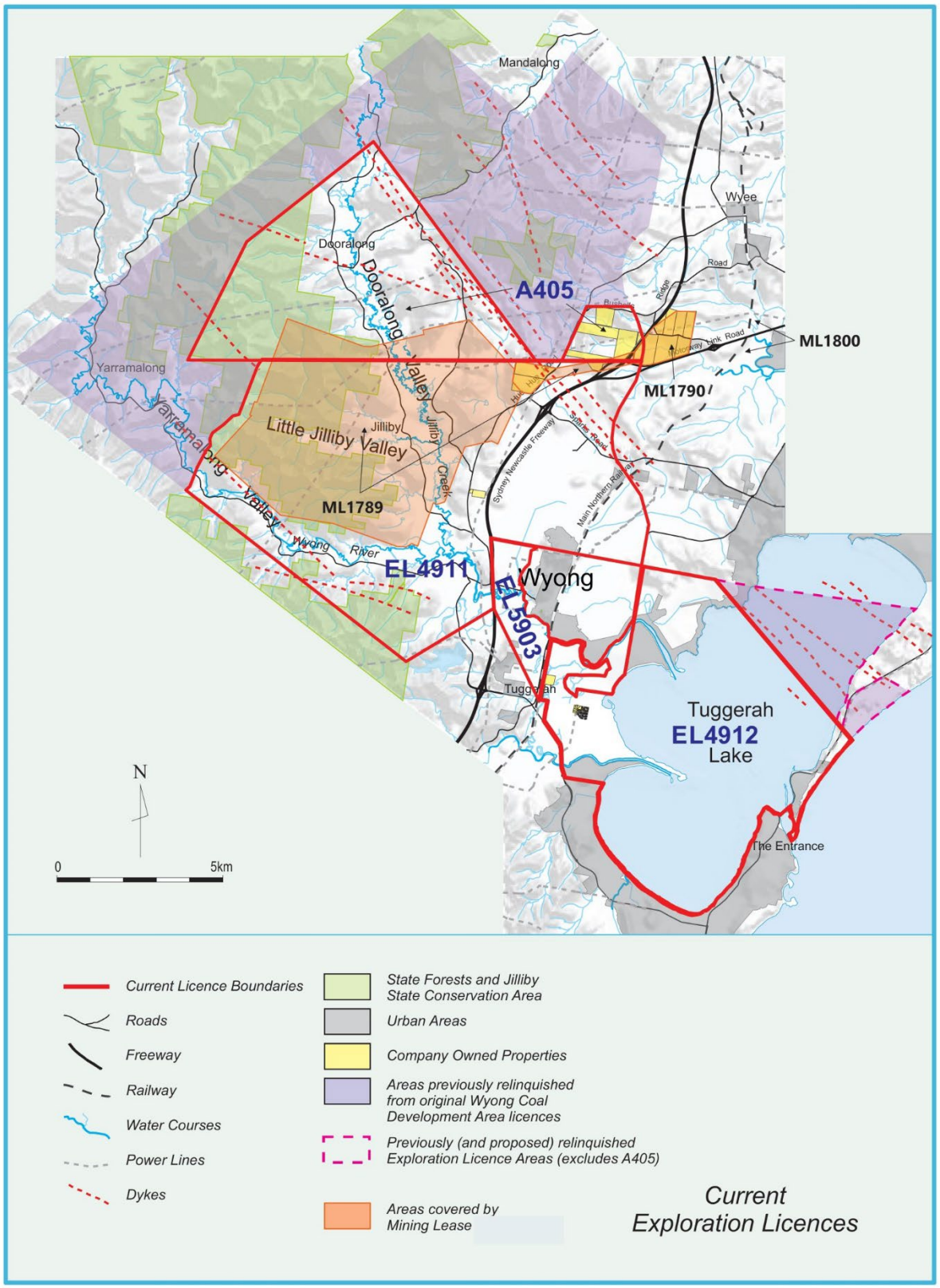


Figure 1 EL4912 and Other Exploration Licence Boundaries & Mining Leases

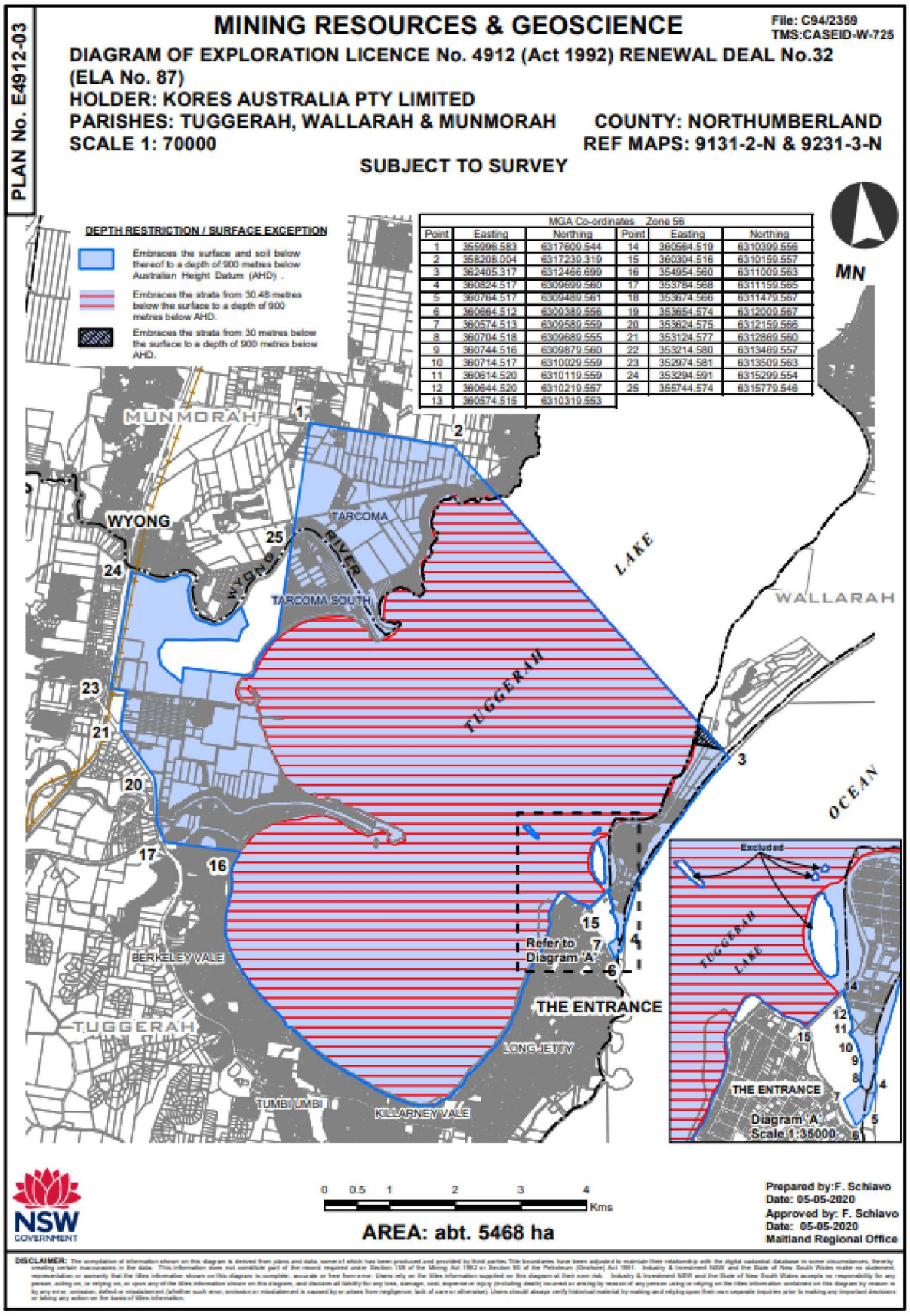


Figure 2 EL4912

Reason for reduced consultation

Section 4.2 of the *Guideline for community consultation requirements for exploration* (DRE May 2016) states that:

> *Where no on-ground exploration activities have occurred and consequently limited community consultation has been undertaken, and limited activities are proposed in the next reporting period, a reduced annual community consultation report can be submitted, indicating the reasons for the reduced level of consultation.*

The WACJV has completed a significant amount of exploration in EL4912 and adjacent ELs during the time it has held the tenements. This result of this exploration allowed the WACJV to identify a major underground coal resource and carry out the studies required for the lodgement of a development application and subsequent approval for a proposed 5 Mtpa underground mine (Wallarah 2 Coal Project, "W2CP").

As there is sufficient resource information for current purposes and the approved coal project remains in a pre-construction phase, no assessable exploration activities were undertaken within EL4912 during the reporting period, and no exploration activity is scheduled during the next reporting period.

Despite the current hiatus of on-ground direct exploration activity, environmental baseline studies and monitoring as well as the stakeholder engagement program associated with the DA continue.

Details of consultation undertaken in reporting period

As the proponent of a relatively advanced mining project with populated areas in the region, the WACJV has well-established and wide-ranging stakeholder engagement programs in place. These stakeholder engagement programs are applied across all the WCDA tenements, including EL4912. The programs are evolving as the project progressed through the approvals process and beyond.

The elements of the existing stakeholder engagement programs are set out below:

- Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, covering general community liaison, government agency interactions, suppliers and contactors
- Newsletter circulation
- Website
- Media releases, advertisements and media interviews as required
- Response to direct landowner enquiries
- Targeted community consultation sessions, including advertised community consultation and project information sessions as required
- Engagement with local Council (including Administrator) and Government agencies as required
- Engagement with Subsidence NSW regarding development proposals and the impacts of subsidence as required
- Response to local business enquires

- Jobs and Opportunities Register
- W2CP Foundation Community Grants Scheme continued in the reporting period (but no new scheme recipients were added in 2022)
- W2CP Apprenticeships Program continued in the reporting period (but no new scheme participants were added in 2022.

The WACJV stakeholder consultation programs have been designed to ensure industry best practices in accordance with the project stage and level of activity, regulatory compliance requirements, and prevailing policies and guidelines. During the reporting period, stakeholder engagement activities were restricted by health orders associated with COVID-19.

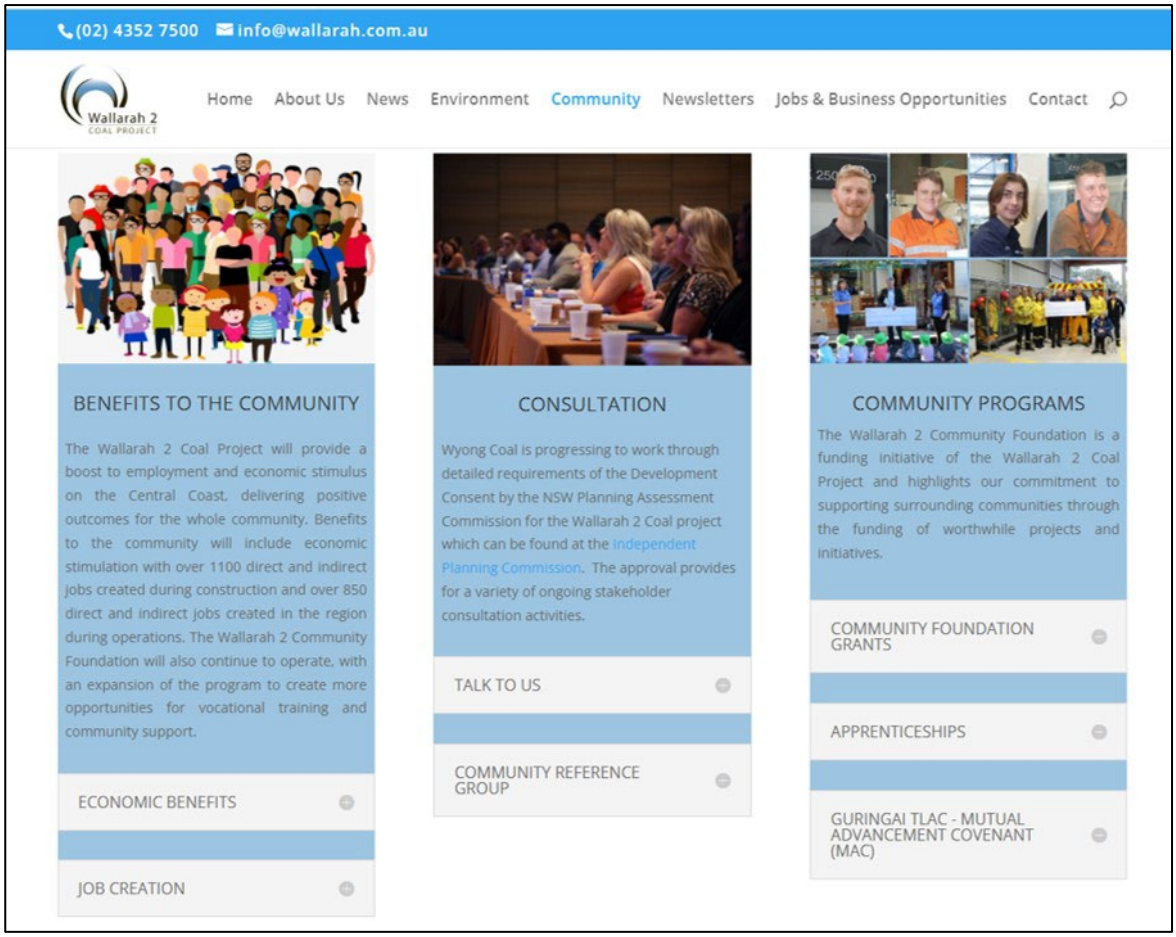
Elements of the community engagement program are described on the project website (http://www.wallarah.com.au/community-consultation).

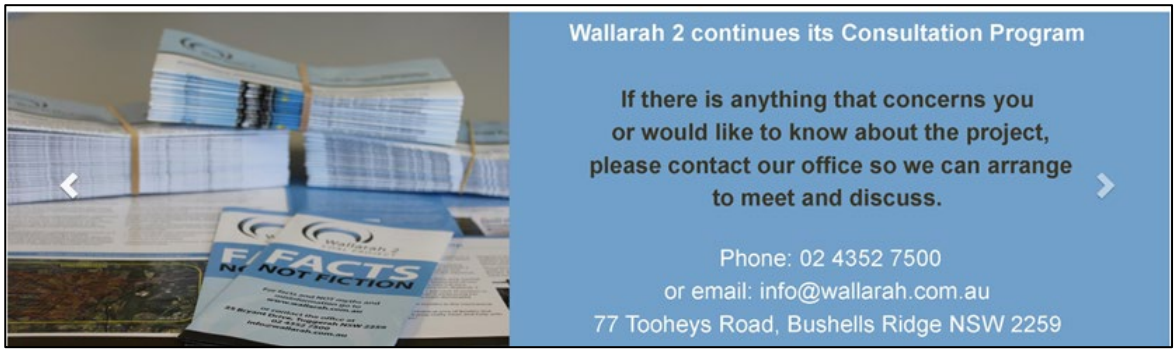
In the reporting period, some stakeholder engagement activities were restricted by health orders associated with COVID-19 and online communications were favoured where possible.

The main consultation activity in the reporting period relates to the ongoing communications covering:

- description of the project and its commitments for environmental management and employment
- State and Commonwealth approvals and key consent conditions
- outline the “quality management system” approach (Plan-Do-Check-Act) informing the stakeholder engagement strategy through the project stages
- business engagement and expression of interest for contracts and employment
- specific targeted dialogue for land access negotiations, and
- Mining Industry issues via membership of the NSW Minerals Council including various committees which project personnel sit on.

Continuing from the previous reporting period, WACJV suspended its community consultation sessions at external local venues but was available for direct discussions online or at our office at the Bushells Ridge project site. The communication effort in the reporting period involved the continued circulation of Newsletters and regular updating of the Wallarah 2 website and direct email contact where required. Ongoing messaging in the period often related to the general scheduling revisions for the project.





Community excerpts from Wallarah 2 website www.wallarah.com.au

Newsletter #36 October 2021 was produced and distributed in the reporting period (top) while other recent Newsletters #34 and #35 continued to be distributed (bottom)

WACJV maintained its invitation for feedback and enquiries to the project via its website. As practicable, several COVID-safe small group meetings with businesses, potential suppliers and prospective employees were undertaken.

The stakeholder engagement program and register is supported by a stakeholder consultation risk assessment and strategy which are reviewed annually or as required by an advancement of project phase (e.g. DFS, tendering, construction, etc).

Despite the project delays, the basis of the strategy plan remains broad and includes facilities and activities related to enable as required consultation associated with

- pre-construction and construction project phases within MLs
- assessable prospecting activities requiring approval within ELs, and
- exempt prospecting activities in the ELs.

The WACJV stakeholder consultation programs have been designed to enable industry best practices in accordance with the project stage, regulatory compliance requirements, and prevailing policies and guidelines.

In recent years Wyong Coal completed the transition of its offices from its previous Tuggerah location to facilities at 77 Tooheys Road, Bushells Ridge but more recently finalised the sale of its former premises at Tuggerah and relocation of materials including core samples.

Project Site Office at 77 Tooheys Rd Bushells Ridge

Aerial view of Toohey Rd offices and detail of landscape plantings by Guringai Green Group

Responses to issues raised

The specific elements and processes of the stakeholder engagement program are summarised in **Table 1** along with the outcomes for the community. These outcomes effectively constitute the response mechanism to issues that are raised. The program focuses on keeping the community informed in an open and honest manner and thereby reducing concerns and building good relationships.

Table 1 - Summary of Outcomes of Stakeholder Consultation Activity

Stakeholder Consultation Element	**Key Process/Activity** *(health orders permitting)*	**Outcome**
Landowner Enquiries	Direct dialogue on issues of concern to property or amenity standards. Enquiries regarding mine subsidence related to proposed building construction within Mine Subsidence Districts.	Information transfer, documentation provided, project implications clarified for landowners. Response to referrals from Subsidence Advisory NSW to inform Building Code requirements.
Newsletters	Distributed direct to local homes and business in/near the project area* (hard copies) and to other stakeholders (electronic). *(*Subject to health orders)*	Broad community communications on project progress and community support initiatives. Profiles W2CP's work with local apprentices and host businesses, and worthy projects by grant recipients.
Website	Broad electronic information accessibility. Advice regarding bookings for targeted monthly consultation sessions. Covers project description and updates.	Local, national and international website traffic kept informed of project details and progress. Contact opportunity for feedback.

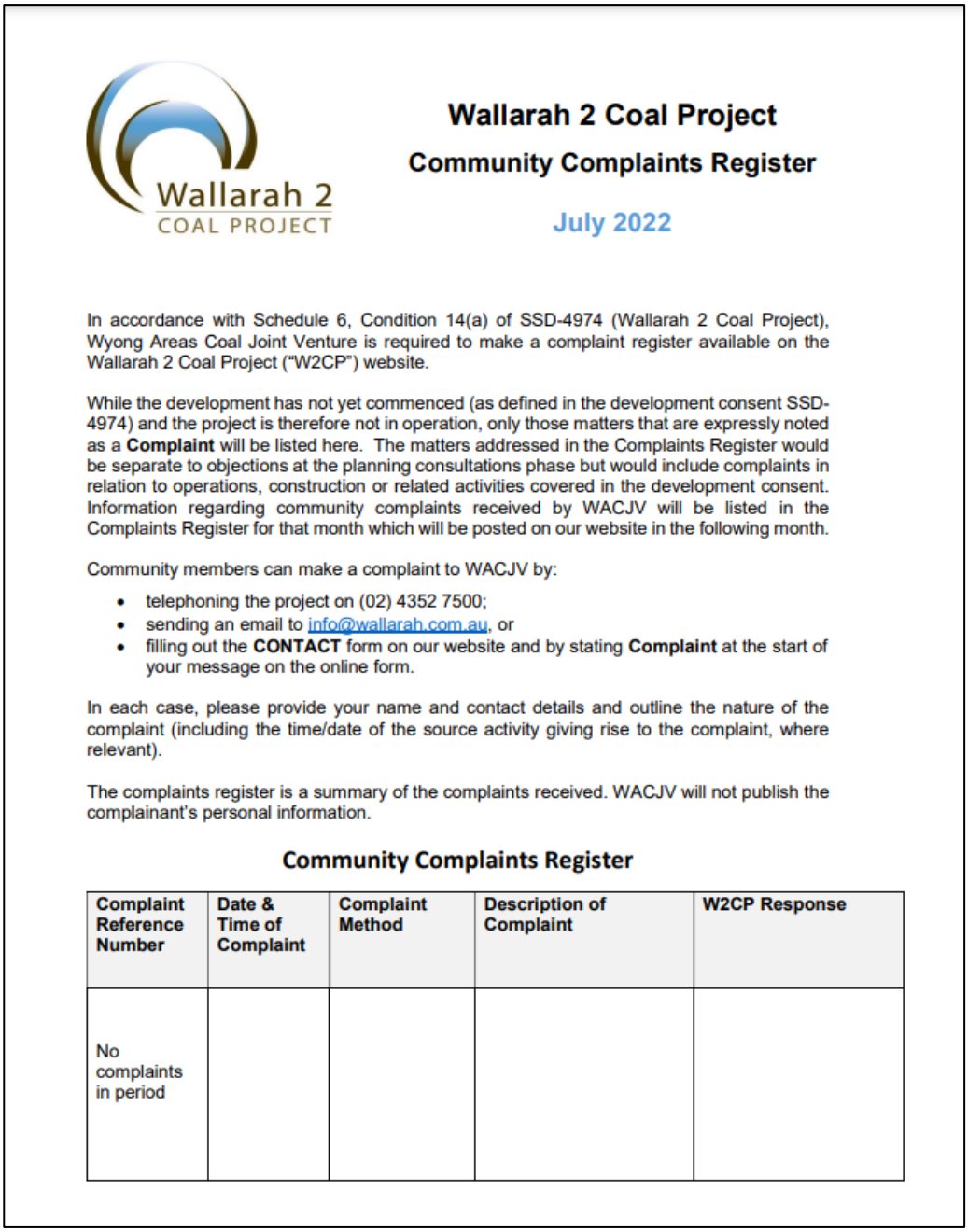
Press Releases, Advertisements, Media Interviews	Print, electronic, radio, TV & direct communications	Wide reach from local to national/ international interested parties
Engagement with (Central Coast) Council and Other Govt Stakeholders	Ongoing consultation with key local stakeholder and infrastructure provider & other Govt	Development of VPA, land access agreement & constructive working relationship with local govt.
Briefings to Business Organisations	Frequent presentations and briefings	Keeping local/regional and national businesses and suppliers informed project progress and contracting opportunities
W2CP Foundation Community Grants Program	Funding support to local education, cultural, social & environmental projects	Positive interaction and recognition for support to community organisations
W2CP Apprenticeships and Traineeship Program	Funding for local trade training	Contribution to local employment and trade training, especially youth employment, and local business support
Agreement with Guringai TLAC	Funding to support five schemes	Schemes to support education, training and business start-up for regional indigenous community
Community Consultation Sessions (Open Days)	Direct community consultations by appointment	Information transfer and improved understanding of community issues
Complaint Register	Consideration/evaluation of complaint details and scope. Response with advice for accessing further information, if required	Clarification of the complaint / issue and relevant W2CP responsibilities. Appropriate advice/response provided.
General Sponsorship	Sponsorship, donations	Ongoing funding and in-kind support to various clubs and organisations

Summary and nature of complaints received, and actions taken to address them

No formal complaints were received during the reporting period.

The W2CP has a well-structured and managed community engagement strategy. The project encourages community and stakeholder interactions and maintains registers of stakeholder engagement and complaints.

The complaints register is updated monthly on the Wallarah 2 website, a posted example during the reporting period is provided below.



Wallarah 2 COAL PROJECT

Wallarah 2 Coal Project

Community Complaints Register

July 2022

In accordance with Schedule 6, Condition 14(a) of SSD-4974 (Wallarah 2 Coal Project), Wyong Areas Coal Joint Venture is required to make a complaint register available on the Wallarah 2 Coal Project ("W2CP") website.

While the development has not yet commenced (as defined in the development consent SSD-4974) and the project is therefore not in operation, only those matters that are expressly noted as a **Complaint** will be listed here. The matters addressed in the Complaints Register would be separate to objections at the planning consultations phase but would include complaints in relation to operations, construction or related activities covered in the development consent. Information regarding community complaints received by WACJV will be listed in the Complaints Register for that month which will be posted on our website in the following month.

Community members can make a complaint to WACJV by:

- telephoning the project on (02) 4352 7500;
- sending an email to info@wallarah.com.au, or
- filling out the **CONTACT** form on our website and by stating **Complaint** at the start of your message on the online form.

In each case, please provide your name and contact details and outline the nature of the complaint (including the time/date of the source activity giving rise to the complaint, where relevant).

The complaints register is a summary of the complaints received. WACJV will not publish the complainant's personal information.

Community Complaints Register

Complaint Reference Number	Date & Time of Complaint	Complaint Method	Description of Complaint	W2CP Response
No complaints in period				

W2CP Website Complaints Register Entry for July 2022

Whenever possible, this WACJV office continues to be manned by project development staff who can be accessed by email and phone by landholders and other stakeholders, as advertised on the project website and in newsletters.

The project's Stakeholder Engagement Register, and Complaint Register provide for the recording of community and stakeholder interactions.