Wallarah 2
COAL PROJECT

# Annual Community Consultation Report

26 October 2023 to 25 October 2024

## Exploration Licence No 4912 (EL4912)

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|---|---|
| **Report Type** | Annual Community Consultation Report |
| **Authority Number** | EL4912 Mining Act 1992 |
| **Authority Holder** | Kores Australia Pty Limited |
| **Grant Date**<br>**Expiry Date** | 26 October 1995<br>20 May 2026 |
| **Project Operator (if applicable)** | Wyong Coal Pty Limited |
| **Project Name and Location (if applicable)** | Wallarah 2 Coal Project<br>Parish: Tuggerah, Wallarah & Munmorah<br>County: Northumberland |
| **Reporting Period** | 26 October 2023 to 25 October 2024 |
| **Date of Report** | October 2024 |
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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. In the case of EL 4911, the renewal approved the proposed relinquishment of 713 Ha from the northwest of the tenement, formerly covering a total of 9,160 Ha. A renewal application for A405 was granted on 25 September 2024 and is in force until 8 August 2029

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 planning, as well as related community consultation activity, will be guided by future detailed project studies.

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

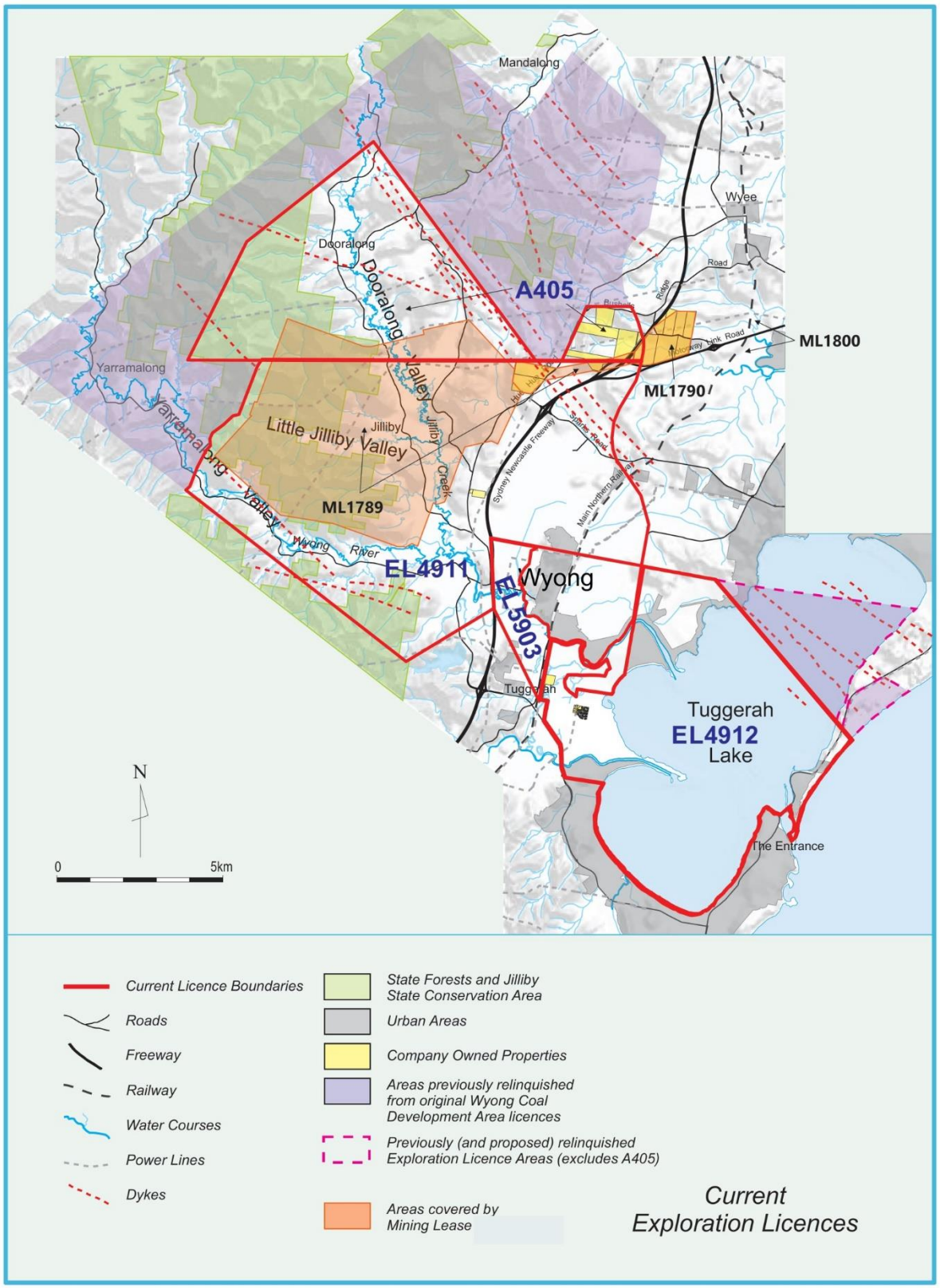



**Figure 1 EL4912 and Other Exploration Licence Boundaries & Mining Leases**

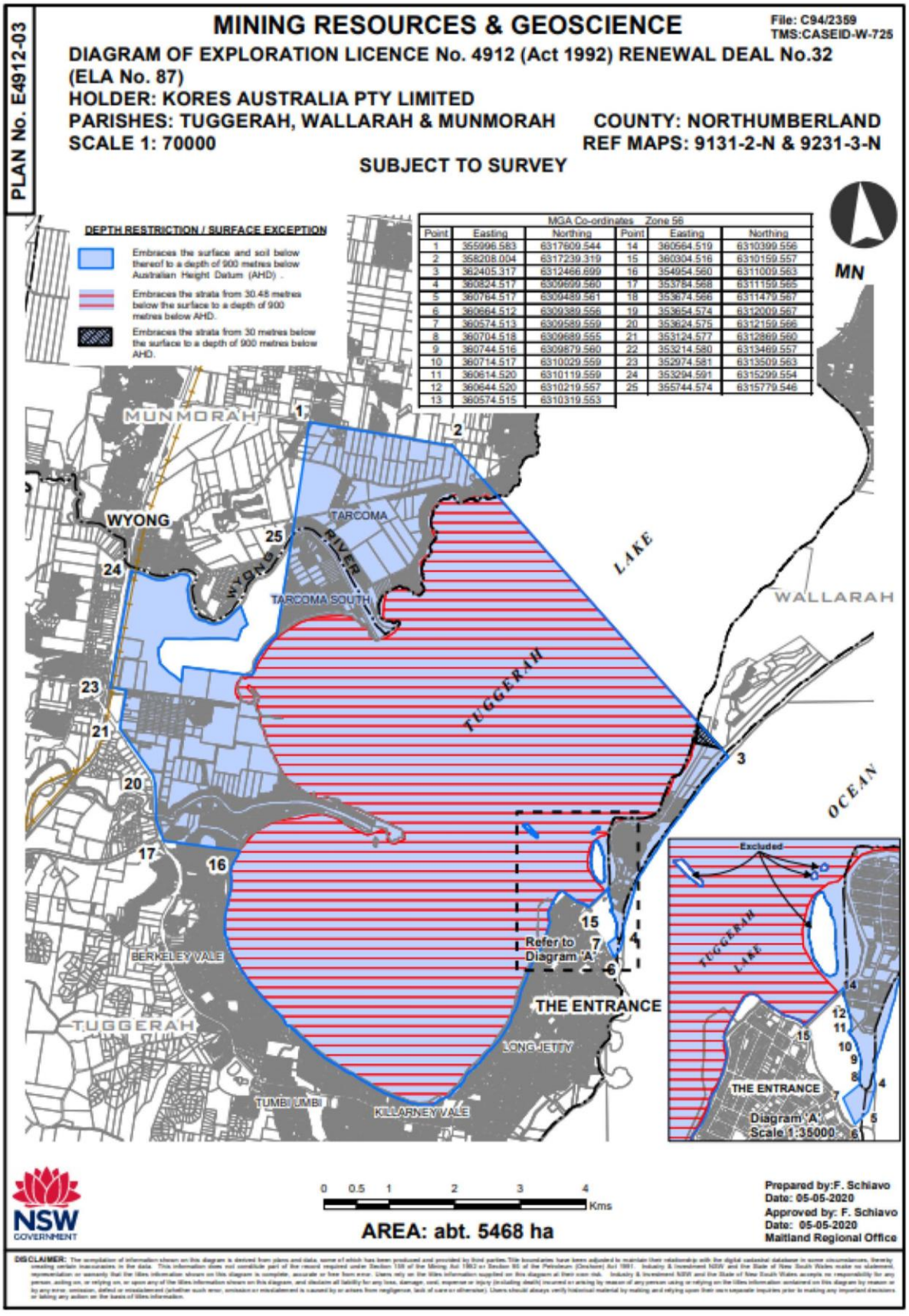



**Figure 2 EL4912**

## 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 a comprehensive community 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 Management Registers, covering general community liaison, government agency interactions, suppliers/contactors contacts, etc
- Newsletter circulation
- Website
- Media releases, advertisements and media interviews
- Direct landowner enquiries
- Targeted community consultation sessions, including advertised community consultation and project information sessions
- Engagement with local Council (including Administrator) and Government agencies
- Engagement with Subsidence Advisory NSW regarding development proposals and the impacts of subsidence
- Engagement with local business organisations as practicable
- Jobs and Opportunities Register, and

- W2CP Apprenticeships Program continued in the reporting period (but no new scheme participants were added in 2023).

Elements of the community engagement program are described on the project website (https://www.wallarah.com.au/community/). Newsletters are posted on our website at: https://www.wallarah.com.au/newsletters/ .

**The Newsletter #38 (above) is posted on our website in August 2024 while Newsletter #37 (below) was distributed in September 2023 and throughout the reporting period. All new and previous Newsletters continue to be accessible on our website**

During the reporting period, stakeholder engagement activities were defined by:

- consultation with adjoining landholders and tenants regarding the ongoing management of company properties
- residential and rural land tenancy agreements
- environmental monitoring access agreements
- shared maintenance obligations
- business engagement and expression of interest for contracts and employment
- response to media enquiries, and
- ongoing engagement with government agencies.

WACJV maintained its invitation for feedback and enquiries to the project via its website with options for direct contact online, by phone or in person at our Tooheys Road site offices at the Bushells Ridge project site during the reporting period.

*Toohey Rd site offices*

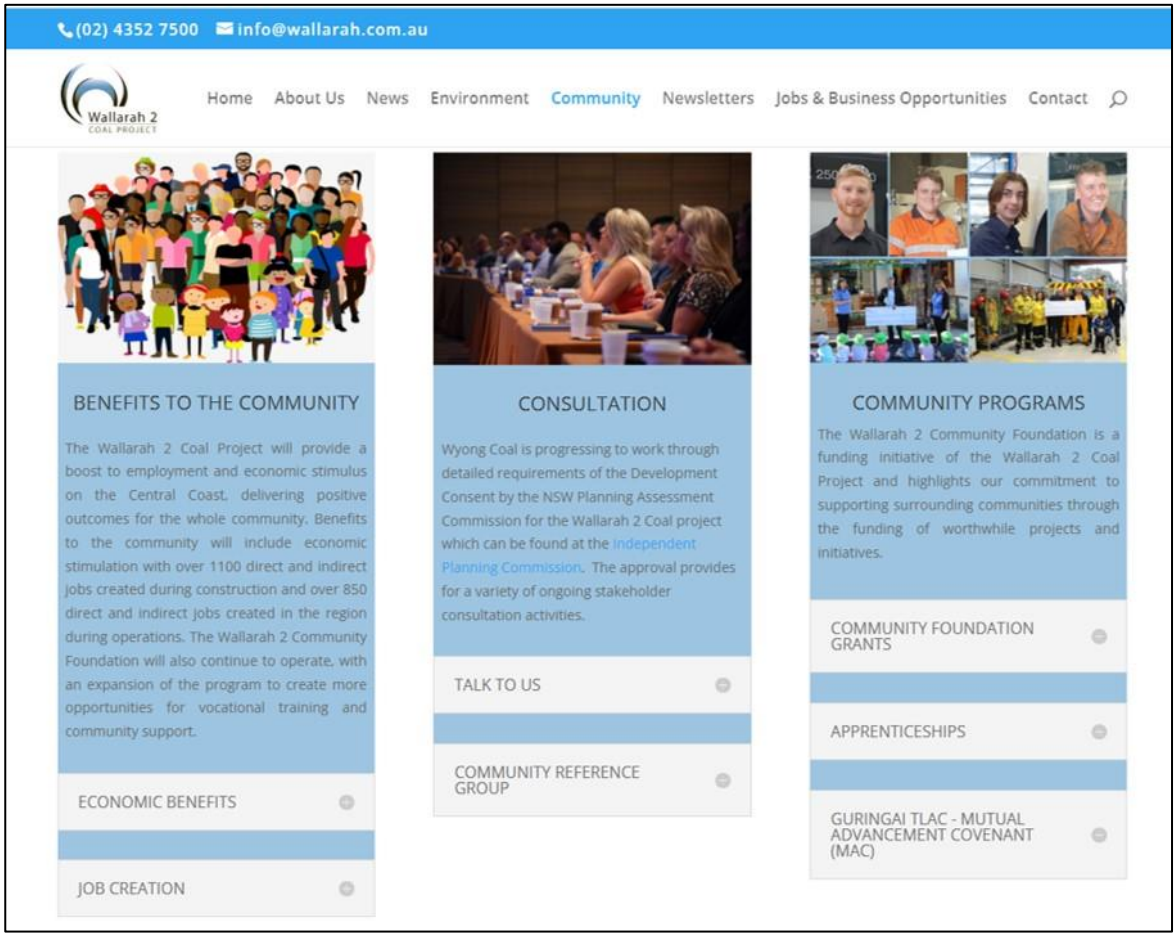
The stakeholder engagement program and register are supported by a stakeholder consultation risk assessment and strategy plan which are reviewed annually or as required by an advancement of project phase (e.g. DFS, tendering, construction, etc).

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.

Ongoing messaging in the period often related to the general scheduling revisions for the project.

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



**Community excerpts from Wallarah 2 website [www.wallarah.com.au](http://www.wallarah.com.au)**

## 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 | Outcome |
|---|---|---|
| Landowner Enquiries | Direct dialogue on issues of concern to property or amenity standards. Landowner enquiries re grazing land leasing opportunities. 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. Property/land management maintained with rental/leasing options periodically available. |
| Newsletters | All current and previous newsletters available on the W2CP website | 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. Covers project description and updates, community consultation, tenement annual reports, newsletters, latest news, complaints register, jobs and business opportunities. | 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 |

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| | | 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 |

Notes: * Previous programs on hold (or completed**)

## 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 overpage.

Whenever possible, the 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.

# Wallarah 2 Coal Project

## Community Complaints Register

### SEPTEMBER 2024

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 September 2024**