

Wednesday, 7 November 2012

Community feedback invited on Gloucester coal mine extension

A proposal to extend the operation of the Stratford open cut coal mine near Gloucester is being publicly exhibited by the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure, with feedback being encouraged.

The applicant, Stratford Coal Pty Ltd, is seeking planning approval to extend and continue operations at its existing Stratford Mining Complex on The Bucketts Way to extract up to 2.6 million tonnes of coal per year for an additional 11 years until 2024.

The application also proposes to:

- Process a combined total of up to 4.8 million tonnes of coal per year from the Stratford and Duralie coal mines;
- Transport all product coal from the Stratford Mining Complex to the Port of Newcastle by rail;
- Develop associated infrastructure, realigning two local roads and realigning a powerline; and
- Rehabilitate the site.

The department required the applicant's environmental impact statement to specifically consider potential impacts on soil and land capability and other land uses such as agriculture, as well as impacts on water resources, biodiversity, heritage, air quality, noise, traffic and visual amenity.

The environmental impact statement for the application will be on public exhibition from **Wednesday 7 November** until **Wednesday 19 December 2012**.

Submissions received during the public exhibition period, along with the applicant's response to submissions document, will be made available on the department's website. The submissions and applicant's response will be carefully considered as part of the department's assessment of the project.

The environmental impact statement is available to view during business hours at:

- **Department of Planning and Infrastructure** – Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney;
- **Gloucester Shire Council** – 89 King Street, Gloucester;
- **Great Lakes Council** – Stroud Customer Service Centre, 6 Church Lane, Stroud (9am – 12pm only);
- **Great Lakes Council** – Forster Customer Service Centre, Breese Parade, Forster;
- **Gloucester Library** - 27 Denison Street, Gloucester; and
- **Nature Conservation Council** – Level 2, 5 Wilson Street, Newtown.

All relevant project documents will be publicly available on the department's website at <http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au>, by following the links to the 'On Exhibition' page.

Submissions can be:

- Lodged online at www.planning.nsw.gov.au;
- Emailed to plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au; or
- Posted to Major Projects Assessment, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001.

Media contact: Paul Searle on (02) 9228 6295

NOTE: The Department of Planning and Infrastructure is issuing this media release to encourage the community to take part in the planning process. However, it is the role of the applicant (either through its documents published on our website or otherwise) to provide further specific details about the proposal.