

Friday, 5 October 2012

### Feedback sought on proposed new coal mine in the Central West

The public is being invited to comment on a proposal for a new open cut coal mine in the NSW Central West, which is being publicly exhibited by the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

The proponent, Cobbora Holding Company Pty Limited, is seeking planning approval for the Cobbora Coal project, located approximately 17 kilometres southwest of Dunedoo.

The application proposes to:

- establish an open cut coal mine capable of producing up to 20 million tonnes of run-of-mine coal a year (equivalent to 12 million tonnes of product coal) for a period of 21 years;
- construct associated facilities including a 28 kilometre rail spur line and a 26 kilometre water pipeline; and
- close and realign public roads near the mine site.

The department required the proponent's environmental assessment to specifically address potential impacts on surface and ground water as well as agricultural land and land in the National Park Estate. Other issues that the proponent was required to address include biodiversity, air quality, traffic, heritage, noise and blasting and socio-economic benefits and impacts.

The environmental assessment is on public exhibition for six weeks **from Friday 5 October 2012 until Friday 16 November 2012**. Interested members of the public are encouraged to lodge a submission providing feedback during this time.

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

The environmental assessment for the project can be viewed during business hours at:

- **Department of Planning & Infrastructure** – Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney;
- **Dunedoo Library** – 42 Bolaro St, Dunedoo;
- **Warrumbungle Shire Council** – Coonabarabran office, 20-22 John St, Coonabarabran;
- **Warrumbungle Shire Council** – Coolah office, 59 Binnia St, Coolah;
- **Mid Western Regional Council** – Mudgee office, 86 Market St, Mudgee;
- **Mid Western Regional Council** – Gulgong office, 109 Herbert St, Gulgong;
- **Wellington Council** – Corner of Nanima Cr & Warne St, Wellington;
- **Dubbo City Council** – Civic Administration Building, Church St, Dubbo;
- **Dubbo Regional Library** – Cnr Macquarie and Talbragar St, Dubbo; and
- **Nature Conservation Council** – Level 2, 5 Wilson Street, Newtown.

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

Submissions can be:

- Lodged online at <http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au> (then search for the project);
- Emailed to [plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au);
- Posted to Major Development Assessment, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001.

**Media contact:** Paul Searle, (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 proponent (either through its documents published on our website or otherwise) to provide further specific details about the proposal.