An application for the Moolarben Coal Mine Stage 2 project has been referred to the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC).

The proposal for a second stage includes:
- establishing two new underground and one new open cut mining area further east of the existing operation
- extracting an extra 16 million tonnes of coal per year for 24 years, bringing the total for the entire mine to 28 million tonnes per year until the end of 2038
- constructing supporting facilities and utilities
- an associated application to modify the existing first stage of the mine so both stages can operate as one.

The application for the proposal says it would create 120 ongoing, full-time jobs and another 220 during construction as well as contributing more than $150 million in taxes and royalties to the NSW and Australian governments during construction and operation.

“A public hearing was held by the PAC during its initial merit review, where 51 presentations were made by the community and government agencies,” a spokesperson for the Department of Planning and Environment said.

“The proposal will now be returned to the PAC for a final decision.”

To view the Department’s assessment, visit the Major Projects website at majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au.

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