Have your say on the proposed Bylong Coal Project

A proposal to construct and operate an open cut and underground mine in mid-western NSW will be on exhibition from today for community feedback.

The proposed project would be located approximately 55 kilometres northeast of Mudgee.

The Department of Planning and Environment is keen to hear the community’s views on the application which seeks to:

- construct and operate an open cut and underground mine to extract up to 6.5 million tonnes of coal a year for 23 years
- construct and operate a range of infrastructure including:
  - plant for washing and preparing coal to be transported
  - rail loading facility and rail loop
  - mine access roads
  - accommodation for workers
  - ventilation shafts
  - water supply and water management
  - electricity supply
  - communications and administration infrastructure
- transport coal from the mine by rail
- progressively rehabilitate the site.

The proposal and its environmental, social and economic impacts will be thoroughly assessed against rules set out in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

It will also be subject to an independent review by the Commonwealth Independent Expert Scientific Committee.

A spokesperson for the Department of Planning and Environment said the local community always has an opportunity to share their views.

A public information session on how to make a submission will be held by the Department during the exhibition period.

“Community consultation is an integral part of the planning process and the applicant will have to respond to the feedback we receive and this is taken into consideration when we develop our recommendations,” the spokesperson said.

“It’s easy to participate by going online and we encourage everyone to take a look and have their say.”
To make a submission or view the environmental impact statement, visit [www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au). Submissions can be made from Wednesday 23 September until Friday, 6 November 2015.

Written submissions can also be made to:

Department of Planning and Environment  
Attn: A/Director- Resource Assessments and Compliance  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

The EIS is also available to view in person at:

- Department of Planning and Environment, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney  
- Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee  
- Mid-Western Regional Council, 77 Louee Street, Rylstone  
- Mid-Western Regional Council, 109 Herbert Street, Gulgong  
- Kandos Library, Angus Avenue, Kandos  
- Nature Conservation Council, Level 2, 5 Wilson Street, Newtown

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