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MOOLARBEN COAL COMPLEX OPEN CUT EXTENSION PROJECT

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022

This newsletter is the fourth in a series that provides an update on the proposed Open Cut 3 (OC3) Extension Project, including details on the upcoming community information session for the Project.

■ ABOUT THE OC3 EXTENSION PROJECT

The Project proposes to extend open cut operations to the south and east of its existing OC3 mining area. This will allow Moolarben to recover additional resources (approximately 40 million tonnes of run-of-mine coal) over a ten year period (from approximately 2025 to 2034). The Project would be integrated with the existing Moolarben Coal Complex and will not change the approved duration or intensity of mining at the Complex.

Moolarben has prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project which comprehensively assesses the environmental, social and economic impacts of the Project. The Project EIS was lodged with the NSW Dept. of Planning on 10 November 2022 and is now on public exhibition.

■ KEY PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Undertake a logical extension of the Moolarben Coal Complex
- Avoid sensitive environmental features within the Moolarben Valley
- Develop the Project within existing Moolarben Coal Complex amenity criteria
- Facilitate an improved final landform and enable suitable post-mining land uses

■ CURRENT STATUS

EIS Exhibition

The NSW Dept. of Planning is publicly exhibiting the EIS until 14 December 2022. You are invited to submit feedback on the EIS during this exhibition period. Submissions can be made via the NSW Dept. of Planning's website www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects. You can find the Project by searching for "Moolarben OC3 Extension Project" or "SSD-33083358".

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Community Information Drop-in Session

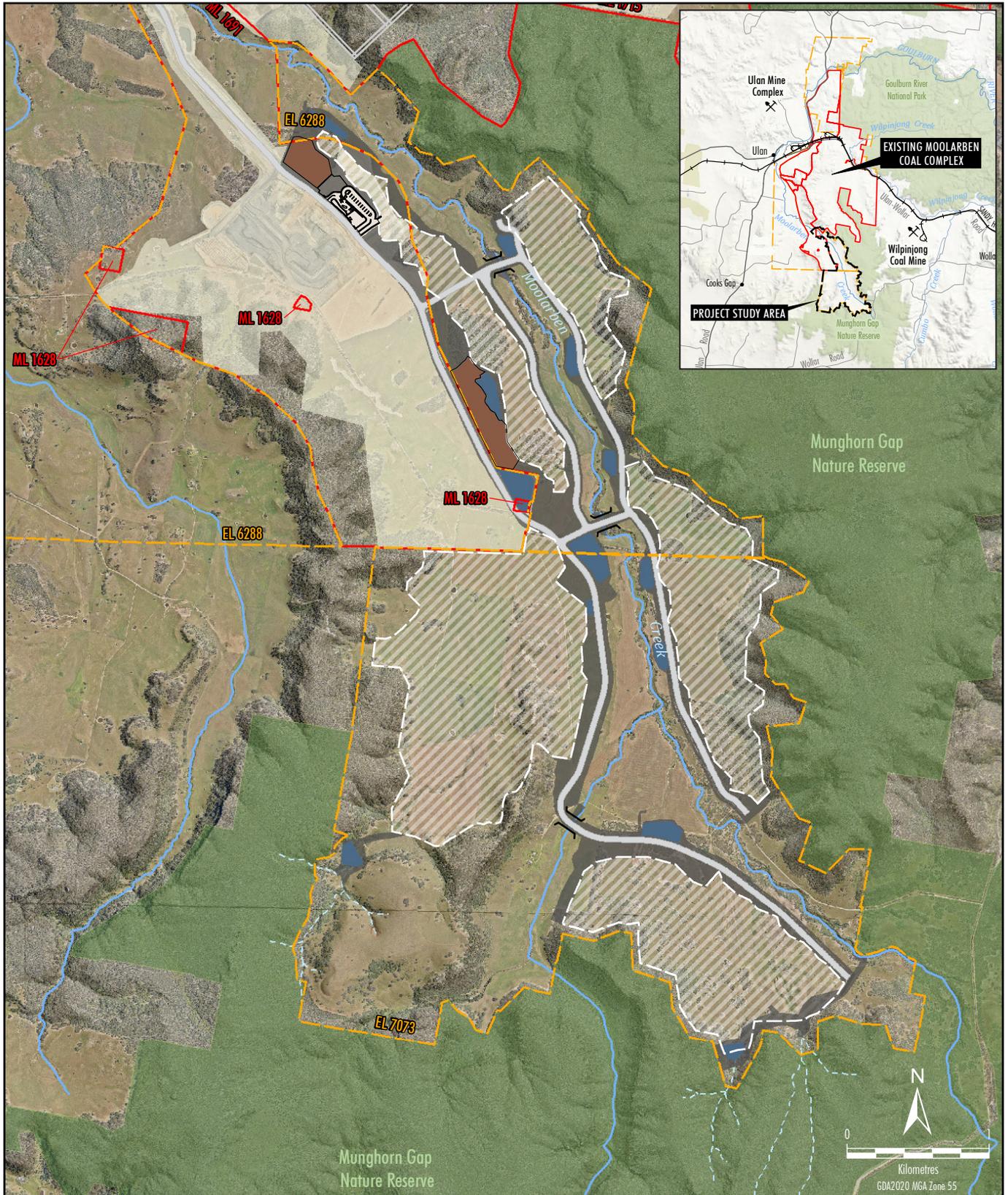
If you'd like to find out more about the proposed Project and the EIS findings, join us at Moolarben's next community information drop-in session.

Venue: Cooyal Community Hall
Wollar Road, Cooyal, NSW

Date: Wednesday 7 December (4 – 6 pm)

If you cannot attend this session, we are happy to arrange a separate time to discuss the Project with you. Contact us by emailing moolarben.feedback@yancoal.com.au or phoning 1800 626 622

GENERAL ARRANGEMENT



LEGEND			
	National Park/Nature Reserve		QC3 Extension Project
	Exploration Licence Boundary		Indicative Open Cut Pit Extent
	Mining Lease Boundary		Indicative Infrastructure Area
	Moolarben Coal Complex Disturbance Footprint		Indicative ROM Pad
	Underground Longwall Layout		Culvert
			Indicative Haul Roads
			Indicative Water Management



■ KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

- Amenity impacts would be minimised by the position of the Project within the Moolarben Valley, which is surrounded by steep slopes and ridgelines that act as a natural barrier.
- No exceedances of relevant air, noise and blast criteria are predicted at private residences.
- Impact to downstream water quality and flows is expected to be negligible, and unlikely to be discernible.
- Compliance with the “minimal impact” criteria of the *NSW Aquifer Interference Policy* is predicted.
- Avoidance of key threatened species habitat has been incorporated in the Project design. Residual potential impacts on biodiversity would be offset in accordance with the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
- Impacts to agricultural land outside of the Project area would be negligible, while impacts within the Project area would be temporary as proposed post-mining land uses for the Project include areas of agricultural land consistent with the pre-mining land use.
- The Project has a low Scope 1 emissions intensity compared to other NSW mining operations including a very low fugitive emissions intensity (for both methane and carbon dioxide) from open cut mining.

■ KEY PROJECT BENEFITS

- The existing open cut workforce would be employed for the Project, providing continuity and security of employment.
- There would be no additional demand for community services and infrastructure in the region.
- The Project would provide an estimated net benefit of \$182 million in net present value terms to the State of New South Wales.
- The Project would facilitate an improved final landform, including the use of waste rock from the Project to backfill the approved OC3 final void, resulting in no final voids in the Moolarben Valley.
- The final landform would enable development of suitable post-mining land uses across the entire Project disturbance area, which would include a combination of native vegetation and agriculture. This combination aligns with pre-mining land uses and stakeholder feedback, and allows for integration with both the approved final land use for the OC3 mining area (largely agriculture) and the surrounding Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve.

■ APPROVALS PROCESS

MILESTONES	OPPORTUNITIES FOR FEEDBACK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✔ Moolarben commences scoping phase consultation and preparation of Scoping Report 	<p>Initial stakeholder engagement during preparation of the Scoping Report has been undertaken to ensure community issues and concerns with the Project are identified and scoped.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✔ Moolarben submits Scoping Report and receives SEARs from NSW Dept. of Planning 	<p>Focused engagement has been undertaken to inform the preliminary social impact assessment component of the Scoping Report.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✔ Moolarben lodges a Referral under the Commonwealth EPBC Act 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✔ Project determined to be a controlled action under the Commonwealth EPBC Act. SEARs re-issued to address Commonwealth matters 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✔ Moolarben undertakes EIS phase consultation and prepares the Project EIS 	<p>Engagement continued with stakeholders during preparation of the EIS. Questions and comments raised by the community were considered in the Project design and addressed in the EIS.</p> <p>Focused engagement also informed the social impact assessment and the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment for the EIS.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✔ Moolarben submits development application to NSW Dept. of Planning and the Project EIS is placed on public exhibition 	<p>The community has further opportunity to submit feedback directly to NSW Dept. of Planning during the public exhibition period.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moolarben responds to submissions made during public exhibition 	<p>Engagement will continue with stakeholders to address concerns raised during public exhibition.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NSW Dept. of Planning assesses the Project, having regard to Moolarben's EIS, public and agency submissions and Moolarben's response to these submissions 	<p>Community feedback can continue to be provided to Moolarben or the NSW Dept. of Planning while the Project is under assessment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Independent Planning Commission determines the Project 	<p>Independent Planning Commission will hold a public hearing for the Project where members of the public will have the opportunity to address the commissioners.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commonwealth Minister for the Environment makes separate determination under the EPBC Act 	



If you would like further information on the proposed Project or have any questions regarding the Moolarben Coal Complex, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Email: moolarben.feedback@yancoal.com.au

Phone: 1800 626 622

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