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Media Release:

Kitchen refresh for Howes Valley RFS

The Howes Valley Rural Fire Service (RFS) is cooking up a storm in their newly upgraded kitchen thanks to a \$3,600 donation from Yancoal Australia's Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW) operation.

The freshly renovated kitchen includes a new oven and cooktop, microwave, and large fridge/freezer. It will cater for over forty volunteer firefighters at the Howes Valley RFS.

Mark Halton Captain of the Howes Valley Rural Fire Service was thrilled with the renovation.

"We hope to never see an event like the 2019/20 bushfires again, however it was during this disaster that the need was recognised to upgrade our kitchen facilities. The shed becomes ground zero for us, providing a base for the crew to take a break, get hydrated and eat a meal to help keep their energy levels up.

"We are delighted the kitchen facilities have been updated and are more functional for our dedicated fire crews, who respond to fire activity across the Singleton region," said Mark.

Mount Thorley Warkworth General Manager David Bennett welcomed the opportunity to update the facility for the local firefighters.

"The Howes Valley fire crews battled a number of blazes across the Singleton region in the ferocious 2019/20 bushfires. During that time, the crews were exhausted but they showed true bravery and strength pushing on to help save our community.

"We are proud we could fund this upgrade and make a positive impact on the people in our community who are there when we need them most," said David.

The donation was part of the Yancoal Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW) Community Support Program, which aims to make a positive difference in the local community and to the lives of the people who work and live in the areas it operates.

Since 2004, Yancoal has grown to be one of Australia's largest coal exporters: owning or operating 11 mines across the country, employing over 4,400 Australians, contributing to the national economy, and investing in regional communities.

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