



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER UPDATE MARCH 2026

# Moolarben Coal Complex

## Progress Update

### OC3 Extension Project

Our OC3 Project was referred to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) for determination late last year by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI). Yancoal requested this IPC process be paused so that it could formally incorporate recommendations from DPHI’s Assessment Report, including additional environmental management commitments. Yancoal is currently preparing this second Amendment Report.

Thank you to all stakeholders who provided feedback on the Project during the initial IPC submission period. Your input plays an important role in determining the future of our Project. The IPC has indicated it will reopen the submission period when it resumes its determination process (after the amendments have been made).

Moolarben General Manager Tim Slater said he was very encouraged by the large number of supportive submissions on the project so far.

“We have analysed the data and found that of those that nominated their location approx. 80% of supportive submissions were from local people, while only 20% of opposing submissions were from people within the Mid-Western region.

This means that 80% of people who nominated their location and opposed the project were from outside the region.

It is critical that local people take the opportunity to have their say on the future of mining in this region during the next public submission period. It helps demonstrate how important mining is to our community and our future.

The project will support the continuity of jobs for around 700 people and annual investment of around \$180 million into the local economy, while facilitating improved final landform and rehabilitation outcomes.”

The extension Project proposes to extend mining south of the existing Open Cut 3 area, on land that has historically been cleared for agricultural activities. The Project will be integrated with the existing Moolarben Coal Complex, which has approval to mine until 2038. It will operate within existing tenements on Moolarben-owned freehold land.



If you would like to stay up-to-date with the approvals process, and learn when you can Have Your Say, scan the QR code and register to receive updates.

### 2024 Economic Contribution

Moolarben Coal’s direct economic contribution to the Mid-Western Regional Council area was

**\$187**  
MILLION

Moolarben Coal’s total value added economic contribution to the Mid-Western Regional Council area was

**\$357**  
MILLION

Moolarben Coal engaged

**123** LOCAL SUPPLIERS

which generated

**\$56** MILLION

in revenue for these businesses, in the Mid-Western Regional Council area.

Moolarben Coal’s direct economic contribution to NSW was

**\$1.2** BILLION

including

**\$241** MILLION

in state royalty payments.

Moolarben Coal generated

**\$159** MILLION in wages to

**895** FULL TIME EMPLOYEES

**684** of whom reside in the Mid-Western Regional Council area.

Moolarben Coal’s direct economic contribution to Australia was

**\$1.6**  
BILLION



For further information visit the Moolarben Coal website.

## Rehabilitation progress

### Trees salvaged for habitat features

The Environment and Community team planted more than 48 ha of box gum woodland and ironbark forest rehabilitation during 2025. One of the processes involved in the rehabilitation is the installation of timber that is salvaged during mine progression. Trees containing hollows, peeling bark or cracks and fissures are salvaged and stockpiled during clearing for reinstallation as habitat features in rehabilitation areas. The timber is often installed vertically as "stag trees" which provide instant habitat, shelter and nesting sites for a range of hollow-dwelling fauna including birds, reptiles and possums. The peeling bark, cracks and fissures provide habitat for invertebrates, microbats and small reptiles.

Salvaged timber and tree stumps are also placed on the ground to provide similar shelter for small mammals and reptiles, while also bringing in ants and termites and other insects to new rehabilitation areas. These measures all assist in establishing a functioning ecosystem through the installation of important resources to new and establishing rehabilitation areas.

The rehabilitation campaign has started off early this year, with work underway in the OC2 area. The team has been working to seed around 20 hectares in the past month, while another 40 ha will follow throughout the year in OC4.

### Mine rehabilitation forum

Key components of a successful mine rehabilitation was just one of many interesting topics addressed at a recent mine rehabilitation forum hosted by the Resources Regulator. Moolarben's Environment and Community superintendent Damien Ryba was part of a panel that shared their knowledge and experience around successful mine rehabilitation.

Damien said the forum was a great opportunity to share elements of best practice and be updated by the Resources Regulator on a range of important industry issues.








## NSW Government Future outlook on Coal Mining

The NSW Government's recently released 'NSW Coal Industry 2026-50' statement recognises the importance of the New South Wales coal mining industry in supporting regional jobs, investment and communities, while continuing to contribute to NSW's legislated emissions reduction targets.

The statement outlines the long-term approach that the NSW Government is taking to ensure a balanced and responsible framework is in place for the State's coal sector and coal regions. The NSW Government has confirmed it will continue to consider extensions of existing mines, but will not support new standalone greenfield coal mines.

A snapshot of the key principles shaping the NSW Government's position is as follows:

-  The NSW coal industry will continue to support the local economy and deliver reliable supply to trading partners.
-  NSW will not consider applications for new "greenfield" coal mines. Extensions to existing operations will continue to be considered, subject to strict project-by-project approval processes and robust regulatory frameworks.
-  The coal industry must continue to play its part in meeting NSW's net zero targets. The application of abatement technology and initiatives by mine operators will be complemented by the use of offsets where abatement is not feasible.
-  Coal regions and coal mining workers will be supported through the economic restructuring resulting from changes in global coal demand.
-  NSW has sufficient coal reserves at or near existing coal mines to meet forecast local and export demand, allowing for extensions.



Scan the QR code to access the full report for a comprehensive overview of the findings and insights outlined in this document.

# Economic contribution

## Mining contributes billions every year

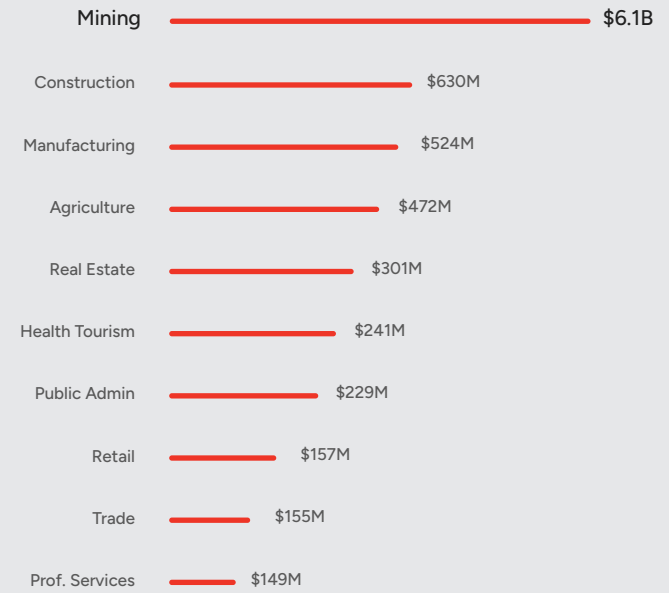
The economic output of the Mid-Western region's top 10 industries contributes almost \$9 billion to the economy. Mining's contribution is \$6.1 billion.

The figures, sourced through Census data and other key Government and industry agencies, make it very clear that mining is the single largest provider of economic prosperity to the council region. And over the years that contribution has continued to grow, with an increase of 352% since 2014. Mining's contribution helps keep the Mid-Western region's unemployment rate very low.

The economic contributions of other important regional industries include the construction sector at \$630 million and manufacturing at \$524 million.

These figures demonstrate the critical role that mining plays in supporting the prosperity of the region.

### Top 10 Industries - 2024 Economic Output (\$M)



# Community support

It's been an exciting few months for our community partnerships, with all 2026 Community Support Program recipients notified of their successful applications and the distribution of funding now underway, new doctors recruited to Mudgee and Moolarben staff engaging with the community at the Mudgee Show.

We look forward to seeing the Community Support Program recipients put their funding into action, creating positive impacts and helping to strengthen the vibrancy of our community.

## Moolarben part of the community at Mudgee Show

Hundreds of people filed through the mining exhibit at the Mudgee Show recently. Moolarben, Wilpinjong and Ulan mines teamed up to engage with the community at the show, and explain what is happening now and in the future. Hundreds of people guessed the weight of the coal in a wheelbarrow for their chance to win Mudgee Money. Mollie O'Byrne's guess of 72.67kg was the closest to the actual weight (72.43kg).



People who visited the stand were interested to know more about the OC3 project. They learned that the project would provide:

- significant economic benefits to the state
- continuity and security of employment by extending the duration of employment for the existing open cut workforce
- no changes to the approved mine life or production rates
- a net increase of 557 hectares of native woodland vegetation in the Moolarben Valley
- setbacks from creek lines and nature reserves
- maximum use of existing infrastructure
- minimal amenity impacts to nearby residences. The extension area would be visually isolated from surrounding private residences by intervening topography
- no final voids (reducing voids in Moolarben Valley from one to zero)



## Mudgee Medical Centre welcomes six new doctors

Moolarben is incredibly proud to have supported the Doctors 4 Mudgee initiative that has seen six new doctors welcomed to the Mudgee Medical Centre.

The centre reopened its books to new patients after nearly 18 months, marking a major turning point in the Mid-Western Region's continued fight to address a critical GP shortage.

The practice closed its books to new patients in October 2024, but from this month has reopened to new patients residing in the 2850 postcode. New doctors at the practice will be Dr Gayanee Kumarasinghe, Dr Lauren Dunstan, Dr Spun Kongsirituwong, Dr Sabah Saeed, Dr Nathan Heijstee and Dr Peta O'Brien.

Attracting doctors to the region has been a priority for the mining sector in Mudgee with Moolarben Coal Operation,

Peabody Energy's Wilpinjong Mine and Glencore's Ulan Coal Operation forming a collective with the Mid-Western Regional Council to form Doctors 4 Mudgee Region initiative. The aim is to attract 10 doctors to the region in the next three years.

In just nine months since launching, Doctors 4 Mudgee Region has helped attract four new fellowed GPs and six registrars to the Mid-Western Region, a meaningful expansion of local primary healthcare capacity. This strengthened workforce has enabled Mudgee Medical Centre to reopen its books to new patients after nearly 18 months, while also restoring vital GP services to Gulgong, which had been without a resident doctor for the same period of time.

Doctors 4 Mudgee Region will continue to work hard to recruit medical practitioners to the region. If any members of the community know of doctors who may be interested in relocating to Mudgee, please contact Doctors 4 Mudgee Region on [www.doctors4mudgee.com.au](http://www.doctors4mudgee.com.au) or reach out directly to Mudgee Medical Centre.



## Community feedback

We value the ongoing feedback from community members and technical experts regarding our Projects. As our plans progress and new information becomes available, we remain committed to keeping all stakeholders informed.

Your feedback plays an important role in shaping our approach, helping us to balance operational needs with environmental and social responsibilities.

**We welcome further input via:**

**Email:** [moolarben.feedback@yancoal.com.au](mailto:moolarben.feedback@yancoal.com.au)

**Phone:** 1800 626 622

**Web:** [www.yancoal.com.au/our-sites/moolarben/](http://www.yancoal.com.au/our-sites/moolarben/)

