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Media Release:

Cessnock community projects get funding boost

Austar Coal is investing $26,000 into community groups across Cessnock in 2027 through its Community Support Program.

The Austar Coal 2027 Community Support Program is funding a diverse range of local organisations and projects including:

- Quorrobolong Rural Fire Brigade – to purchase new emergency equipment;
- PCYC Cessnock – to support U-Nites Friday evening youth program;
- Bellbird Cricket Club – to purchase new gear including a bowling machine;
- Cessnock District Rescue Squad – to fund a remote area vehicle rescue equipment project;
- Kiray Putjung Aboriginal Corporation – to run a women's mental health program; and
- Hunter Wildlife Rescue – to continue putting orphaned joeys back into the wild.

Austar Coal Site and Compliance Manager, Brad Merchant was delighted to financially assist more great projects in the community.

"Congratulations to all the community groups receiving funding as part of our 2027 Community Support Program.

"This year we are thrilled to be supporting projects and initiatives that aim to improve safety and efficiency in the community, upgrade equipment and resources for the benefit of community members, as well as fund programs that aim to build self-esteem, inclusivity and community connection through mental health and wellbeing sessions.

"We want to support and invest in projects that work in the areas of health, social and community, environment, and education and training so these local community organisations are a perfect fit for us.

"We look forward to checking in with all our recipients on how they are tracking and making a difference in the community," said Mr. Merchant.

Paul Hampton, Captain of the Cessnock District Rescue Squad, said, "Thank you to Austar for the donation to enable our remote area vehicle equipment project to happen. With this funding, we can invest in modern, portable battery-powered rescue tools, lighting and specialist equipment that will allow our volunteers to deploy equipment quickly, work in locations where mains power or vehicle-based equipment is unavailable and undertake rescue tasks more efficiently. We are pleased we can now equip our teams with this technology."

Yancoal is proud to be investing into local and regional Australia, helping build stronger communities across the country.

For over 20 years since 2004, Yancoal has grown to be one of Australia's largest coal exporters: owning or operating eight producing mines across the country, employing almost 5,500 Australians, contributing to the national economy, and investing in regional communities.

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