



#### MOOLARBEN COAL OPERATIONS - COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING No. 42

**Date:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Time:** 4:05pm

**Location:** Moolarben Coal Open Cut Administration Board Room, Ulan

Attendance: <u>Independent Chairperson</u>

Lisa Andrews (LA)

**Community Members** 

Andrew Palmer (AP) [arrived at 4.07pm]

Bev Smiles (BS)
David Stokes (DS)

Helen Ungaro (HU) [arrived 4.06pm]

Julia Imrie (JI)

**Moolarben Coal Operations** 

David Gibson (DG)
Graham Chase (GC)
Mathew Croake (MCr)
Michelle Cavanagh (MCa)

Trent Cini (TC)

**Apologies** 

Steve Archinal (SA) (MCO)

Aleshia Lonsdale (AL) (Mudgee Local Aboriginal Council) Cr John O'Neil (JO) (Mid-Western Regional Council)

A hard copy of the agenda and previous meeting minutes were provided to all meeting attendees.

#### 1. Introduction and Welcome

Lisa Andrews (LA) welcomed all present and advised that Helen Ungaro's endorsement for membership on the CCC as Ulan School's representative has been approved by the Department of Planning & Environment.

#### 2. Apologies

Aleshia Lonsdale (AL), Cr John O'Neil (JO) and Steve Archinal (SA).

#### 3. Declarations

LA declared that she is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the Department of Planning & Environment and engaged by Yancoal to chair this meeting.

#### 4. Business Arising from Finalised Minutes

The minutes from 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017 were finalised on 3 July 2017.

Responses provided to action items from meeting 41.

**Meeting 41 Action 1** – MCO to advise whether a wage is provided to skillset workers. Response provided in Meeting 41 minutes prior to being finalised.

Meeting 41 Action 2 – TC to discuss the matter further with JI and contractors. Action complete.

Meeting 41 Action 3 – GC to meet with HU to provide an overview of MCO. Action complete.

#### 5. Correspondence

Correspondence to the CCC since meeting 41 included the following:

17/6/17 – Email to CCC members from LA with draft minutes from 8/6/17 meeting

17/6/17 – Email from JI to LA with comments on draft minutes

3/7/17 – Email to DP&E recommending Helen Ungaro as the new representative for Ulan Public School

3/7/17 - Email to CCC members from LA with the finalised minutes from 8/6/17

20/8/17 – Email to Helen Ungaro from LA confirming her approval by DPE for membership on this CCC

28/8/17 - Email to CCC members from LA with the Meeting Notice & Agenda for meeting 42

28/8/17 – Email from JI regarding maintenance of Saddlers Creek Road and requesting an update on the Northern Borefields works

10/9/17 - Response email to JI from LA

LA moved that the Correspondence be received. Seconded: AP.

#### 6. CCC Update Presentation

GC provided an update on community, visitors to site, operations and exploration, environmental monitoring, complaints, rehabilitation, an Underground Project update, an Open Cut Optimisation Modification update and an employment update.

JI asked about the water make from Underground One development, as mine modelling had predicted a dry mine. GC advised approximately 60 L / second.

General discussion regarding the northern borefields. JI asked about the height of groundwater levels intercepted near the river relative to established monitoring bores in the area. GC advised that three holes has been drilled and that monitoring bores were near the drilled holes. GC advised 10 bores are approved.

JI asked whether works would be conducted across Saddlers Creek Road as MWRC has denied funding for these works. GC advised that the road is a "Crown Road" and confirmed that works are to be completed within the road reserve in accordance with project approvals following receipt of Roads Act Section 138 approval. GC is currently in negotiations with the relevant authority to facilitate this approval.

JI asked how impacts to the Goulburn River would be monitored and expressed concern that the current monitoring program should include baseline monitoring of the Goulburn River alluvium, well in advance of underground mining. GC advised that monitoring is undertaken in accordance with the approved Water Management Plan.

JI questioned about the timing of the installation of dewatering bores in the northern borefield 5 years in advance of mining. GC noted the dewatering program would be to supply internal water and to advance dewatering of the area prior to long-wall mining in UG4 around 2022.

DS asked about the timing of construction in the Open Cut 3 area. GC advised construction is currently proposed to commence in 2019.

BS asked about the response of rehabilitation to the recent dry conditions. TC noted that cover crops were performing well, particularly in areas that are removed from grazing pressure, such as those areas in Open Cut 1 and Open Cut 4.

BS asked whether soil moisture is monitored in rehabilitation areas. TC confirmed that soil moisture probes were not installed.

BS questioned the longwall panel width. DG confirmed the longwalls are approximately 300m in length.

JI questioned the Electrical Conductivity of the water make in UG1. GC confirmed the EC is around 1000  $\mu$ S/cm.

In regards to the Open Cut Optimisation Modification, JI enquired whether there is any change to EC limits with the proposed increase in discharge to 20MI/day. GC confirmed that no change to the release criteria are proposed.

BS asked what triggered the requirement for the determination of the Modification as a Controlled Action approval? GC advised the triggers included flora, fauna and water.

BS expressed concern that neighbouring properties have been acquired by the mine, beyond those with entitlements within the consent and therefore these properties have not been included and assessed in relation to modelling or social impact. GC stated that property acquisitions are made for a range of reasons and are subject to commercial in confidence. GC noted MCO's ongoing noise monitoring compliance. BS noted that once properties are owned by MCO noise criteria no longer apply. The community has concerns about the rigour of the noise assessment.

AP advised that he is often approached by land holders in the vicinity of mining operations to represent them in seeking purchase of their properties by mining companies. BS noted that only properties with acquisition rights in conditions of consent need to be purchased by mining companies.

JI asked about groundwater impacts due to the Open Cut Optimisation Modification. GC advised that a new groundwater model was being built considering increased production rates, changes to mining sequencing and changes to OC3 disturbance areas. GC noted that the model is calibrated with current monitoring data. JI expressed concern about impacts on the Triassic strata and associated dewatering referring to adjacent underground mines where the overlying Triassic groundwater had been breached and asked whether this factor would be incorporated into the new modelling.

BS asked what community consultation would be undertaken in relation to the Modification. GC advised that consultation included newsletters in mailboxes and enclosed in the Mudgee Guardian, fact sheets available on the Moolarben Coal website and information distributed via the CCC. BS raised concern about no public information sessions.

LA questioned whether high school visits are provided for potential trainees and apprentices. GC advised that Skillset provides information and support to students interested in applying for traineeships and apprenticeships.

#### 7. General Business

Regarding the Northern Borefields construction work, JI questioned whether MCO intends to maintain Saddlers Creek Road as it had deteriorated with recent heavy mine traffic. GC advised that road maintenance would be undertaken during construction works following receipt of relevant Section 138 Roads Act approval.

JI questioned why a security guard is stationed on Saddlers Creek Road monitoring traffic (as reported by one of her cottage guests). GC advised that the area has historically been subject to trespassers and damage, therefore a security guard is needed.

DS declared that he lives on a property owned by the mine. He advised that he understood that his position on the CCC was to represent the broader community and that he often brought issues to the meetings on behalf of others. LA confirmed that provided he declared this on his pecuniary interest form that there would be no conflict.

**8. Next Meeting:** 5th December 2017 – 4:00pm.

Meeting Closed at 5:26pm







# 2017 Community Support Program Round 2

Applicant	Description	
Cassilis Bushman's Carnival Ass'n	Rodeo Ground Improvements	
Cooyal Tennis Club	Outdoor seating	
Goolma Amenities Committee	Reinforce 2 of 4 tennis courts	
Gulgong Amateur Fishing Club	Restock Fish in Goulburn River	
Gulgong Folk Festival	PA hire for folk festival - NYE	
Gulgong Chamber of Commerce	Gulgong Gold & Mining Festival	
Gulgong Little Athletics	Timer	
Gulgong Netball	Post Pads	
Lions Club of Mudgee	Christmas Twilight Market	
Mudgee Little A	Upgrade Long Jump pit runways	
NewCo	Laptop & Projector	
Police Rugby	Rugby Comp	
Rotary Clubs of Mudgee	Christmas Carols	
Rylstone Street Feast Inc	Rylstone St Feast	
The Business Concierge	Survivor Life Skills Program for school kids	
Turill Community and Sports Clubs Inc	Front Fence and Entrance Upgrade	
Watershed Landcare	Green Day	



Next Round April 2018



# **Community Update**

# Watershed Landcare Green Day

Attended by 580 Students from around the district





#### **Mudgee Running Festival**

- Annual Coal Miner's Cup
- \$1,500 to Benevolent Society
- Attended by Clontarf students

#### **Moolarben Visitors**

#### Shareholder Visit

- Delegation from Yankuang, Yanzhou and Yancoal
- Underground and Open Cut inspection

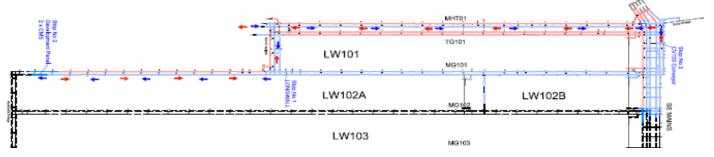
#### Chinese Exchange

6 employees are spending 3 months exchange with Yancoal, including Moolarben.



# **Operational Update**

- Mining operations in OC2 and OC4.
- Overburden placement in OC2 and OC4.
- Landform shaping OC1, OC2 and OC4.
- UG1 development continues
- Long wall installation
- Northern Borefield 3 locations drilled. Pipe/electrical works to commence.







# **Drilling Update**

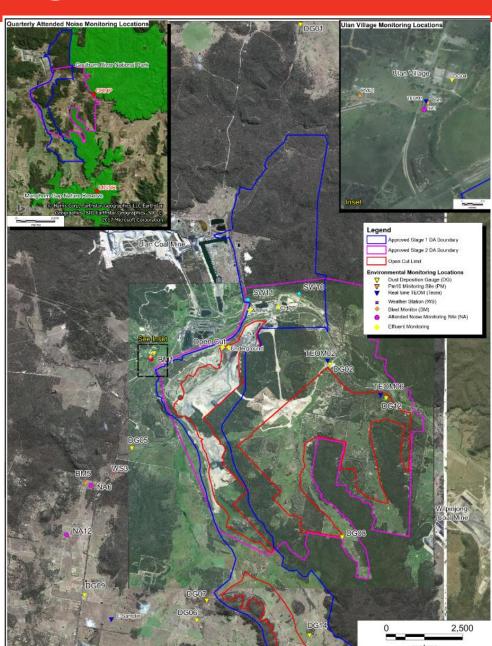
- Drilling continued in UG4, UG1 and OC4
- Exploration planned for EL6288 south areas.
- Rehabilitation and monitoring activities have continued during the period.
- EL6288 Renewal submitted



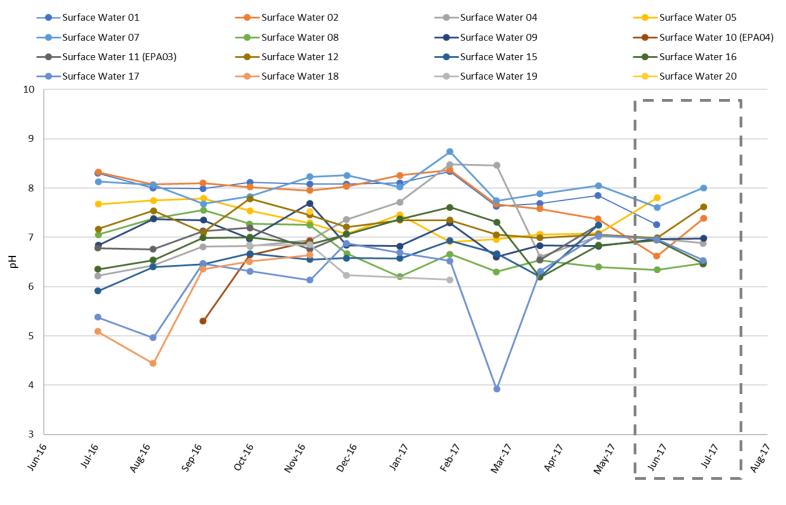


# **Environmental Monitoring**

- Monitoring network
  - Water;
  - Air Quality;
  - Blasting;
  - Noise;
  - Meteorology.



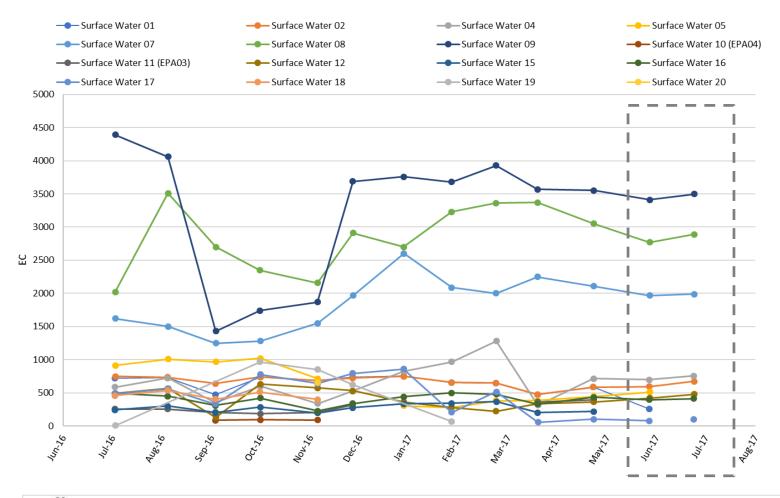
# **Water Quality**

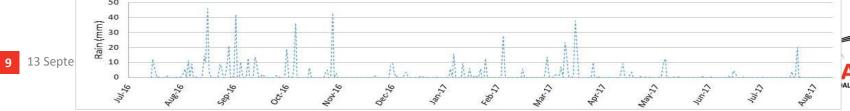




Rain (mm) 30

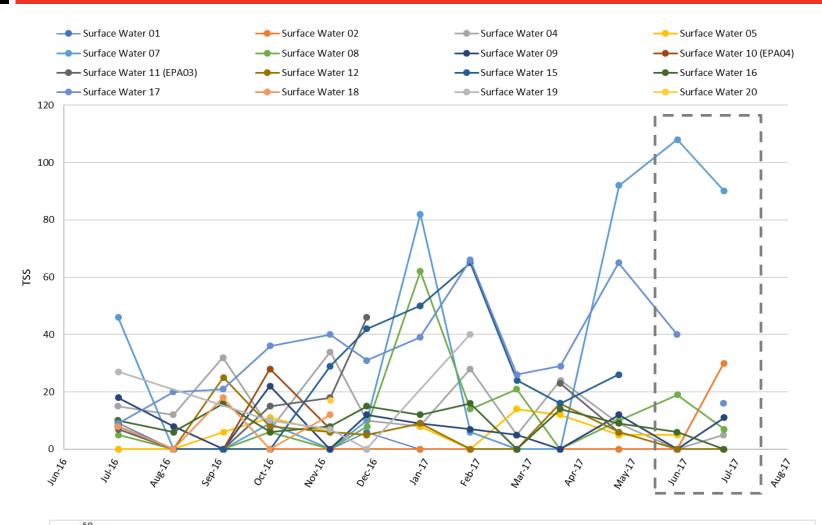
# **Water Quality**

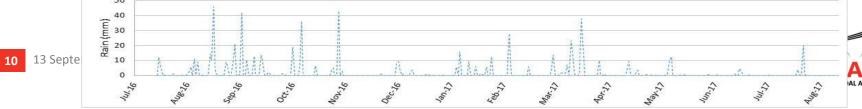






# **Water Quality**







# **Air Quality**

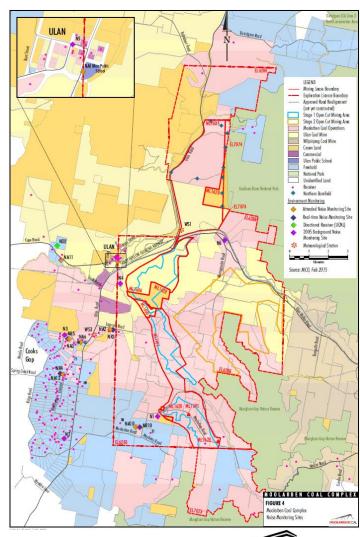
Site	August 2016 PM10 Annual Average	August 2017 PM10 Annual Average	Air Quality Criteria PM10 Annual Average	
Ulan School	14.6	11.7	30.0	
Ridge Rd / Moolarben Rd	9.0	9.8*	30.0	
Ulan-Wollar Rd	11.4	11.6	30.0	
*rolling average from commencement				

Monthly monitoring reports are available on our website: <a href="https://www.moolarbencoal.com.au/environment-and-community/monitoring-results/">www.moolarbencoal.com.au/environment-and-community/monitoring-results/</a>



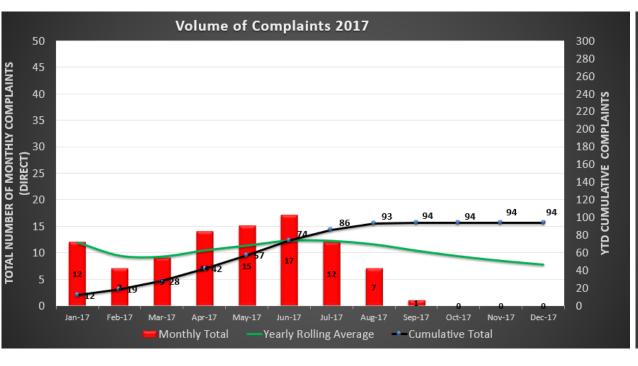
## **Noise Monitoring**

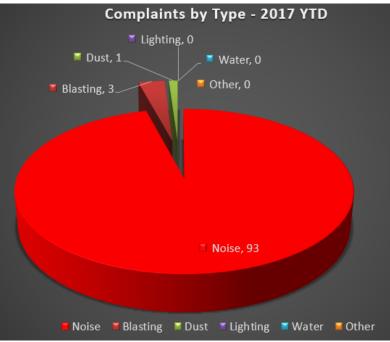
- On-going monthly & quarterly attended noise monitoring - all within criteria.
- Continued implementation of:
  - Planning controls scheduling
  - Engineering controls attenuation
  - Operational controls bunds/screens
  - Real-time monitoring triggers
  - Real-time response protocols





# **Community Complaints**







# **Rehabilitation Update**

 Approximately 60ha of rehabilitation has been completed at the MCC during 2017

 Planning has commenced for maintenance works on approximately 30ha with a further 15Ha to be completed prior to the end of 2017

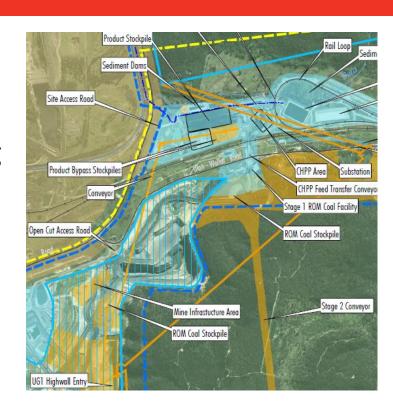






## **UG Project Update**

- Administration/MIA completed.
   Rehabilitation close out in progress.
- Sizing station and conveyor commissioning in progress.
- Product stockpile construction continues.
- Upcast shaft complete. Fan commissioning in September.
- Longwall installation nearing completion.
   Commissioning commenced.
- Long-wall commencement scheduled for October.
- Material handling system commissioning from Oct to Dec 17



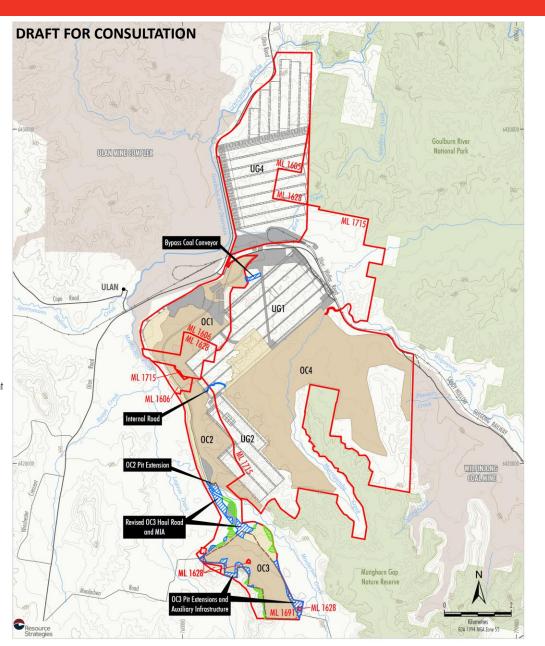


#### **Modification Overview – Update**

- Application to modify the Stage 1 and Stage 1 Project Approvals.
- The Modification involves:
  - Minor increase in disturbance. Some approved disturbance areas to be relinquished.
  - Removal of OC3 permanent out-of-pit emplacement from the final landform.
  - Increase in annual rate of coal production from open cuts.
  - Installation of water treatment facilities and associated increase in rate of controlled releases.
  - Other infrastructure refinements.
- An Environmental Assessment is being prepared.
- Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements.
- Controlled Action Decision received from Commonwealth DEE.
- Environmental Assessment to be lodged with DPE in Q4 2017.









LEGEND

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Mining Lease Boundary

Existing/Approved Development

Open Cut Mining Area

Out-of-pit Emplacement

Surface Infrastructure Area

Underground Longwall Layout

Haul Road

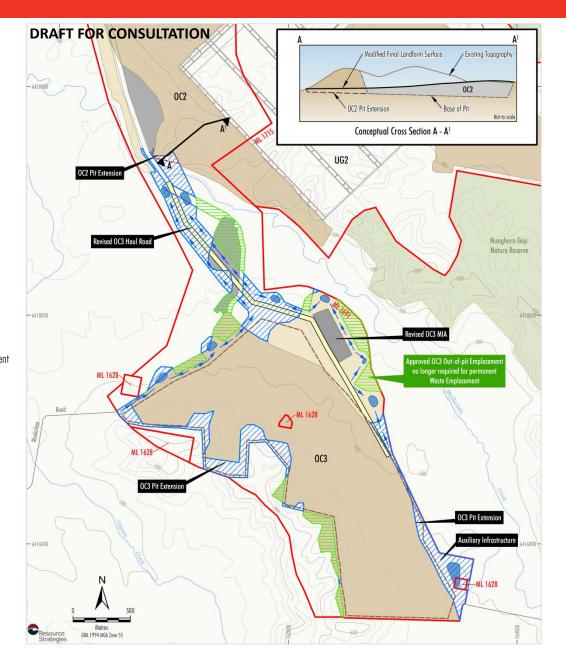
Open Cut Optimisation Modification

Approximate Extent of Revised Open Cut Mining Area

Approximate Extent of Additional Surface Development

Approved Open Cut Mining Area, Out-of-pit Emplacement and Surface Infrastructure to be Relinquished

Water Management Infrastructure





#### **Noise Assessment**

- SLR Consulting.
- Noise modelling to assess potential impacts of increased mining rate.
- Draft results indicate continued compliance with Project Approval noise limits.

#### **Air Quality Assessment**

- Todoroski Air Sciences.
- Dust modelling to assess potential impacts of increased mining rate.
- Draft results indicate continued compliance with Project Approval air quality criteria.



#### **Groundwater Assessment**

- HydroSimulations.
- New groundwater model.
- Calibration of model to contemporary monitoring data.
- Assessment of impacts of the Modification on groundwater resources.

#### Surface Water Assessment and Site Water Balance Review

- WRM Water and Environment.
- Revised site water balance modelling for changed mine layout and sequencing.
- Identification of water demands and controlled release requirements.



#### **Controlled Release Impact Assessment**

- Advisian.
- Assessment of potential impacts of increased rate of controlled releases to water flows and quality.
- Improved location of releases (at Goulburn River Diversion).

#### **Aquatic Ecology Assessment**

- Marine Pollution Research.
- Assessment of potential impacts of increased rate of controlled releases to aquatic ecology.





#### **Biodiversity Assessment Review**

- Eco Logical Australia.
- Assessment of potential impacts due to additional disturbance.
- Flora and fauna survey work conducted.
- Refinement of disturbance boundaries during environmental assessment to reflect survey outcomes (e.g. avoidance of higher value vegetation/habitat).
- Relinquishments of areas of approved disturbance.
- Potential biodiversity offset at property to the south of Moolarben Coal Complex.

#### **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment**

- Niche Environment and Heritage.
- Assessment of potential impacts due to additional disturbance.
- Heritage surveys and ongoing consultation with stakeholders.



# **Employment update**

#### **Traineeships**

- Currently 5 Underground and 16 Open Cut
- Next round January
  - Underground x 4
  - Opencut x 4

#### **Apprentices**

- Currently 4 Underground and 16 Open Cut
- Next round January 2018
  - Underground x 2
  - Opencut x 4
- Underground and Open-cut recruitment on-going.









