Environmental forecasting software

Moolarben Coal has recently implemented new software that assists in managing noise and dust. The system provides daily reports and predictions of upcoming metrological conditions and potential dust and noise risks. Based on prevailing wind conditions, the mine can strategically alter its operations to reduce these impacts.

OC2 Bund

Progress is continuing on the construction of the out of pit dump in OC2. The dump has been designed to mitigate noise and visual impacts from the operation. Sediment dams have also been constructed on the western side of the dump to capture runoff. Final shaping has commenced in the northern end of the bund and topsoil spreading will commence progressively. The bund will then be rehabilitated using a mixture of native grasses and pasture species.



Since 2010, Moolarben Coal has contributed more than \$350,000 in community grants and sponsorships as part of its Community Support Program.

The program is available to assist local initiatives within the Mid-Western Region and surrounding areas. Projects that are closely aligned with Moolarben's core values of enhancing the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the local community are considered.

The funding announcements for 2014 have already reached \$68,308 for local community projects. Some of these donations include \$950 for Mudgee Men's Shed to update the men's health trailer, \$5095 to Kandos Public School to purchase tools and equipment as part of the handy man project, \$3,000 for Cooyal Tennis Club to build a practice wall and \$8,000 for Gulgong Pre-School to build a safety fence around the playground.

The final round of funding for 2014 will close on 1 September. Application forms and guidelines can be found at **www.moolarbencoal.com.au**

Blasting details

Moolarben Coal has several roadside notice boards that display the details of the next road closure associated with a blast.

If you wish to be notified by SMS of Moolarben Coal's blasting activities please contact the Moolarben Coal Hotline and provide your details.

Moolarben Coal Hotline 1800 556 484

Rehabilitation Update

which included various species of Eucalypt and Acacias as well as 80 Allocasuarina (Sheoak) trees. Sheoak trees are fruit bearing trees used by the Glossy Black Cockatoo, a listed vulnerable species in NSW. The trees were grown from local provenance seed collected from Moolarben Coal leases and offset areas. Further planting is scheduled later in the year.



Environmental and community enquiries

Scott Fittler Community Relations Coordinator
Phone 02 6376 1500 or email sfittler@moolarbencoal.com.au

MOOLARBEN NEWS



AUGUST 2014



Fighting fires on the clock

Moolarben Coal has received a Special Commendation for its support of the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS), by allowing employees who are also volunteers to respond to incidents while at work.

The Special Commendation highlights Moolarben's commitment to being active members of the Mudgee community.

Moolarben currently has 20 RFS members including 12 who are part of the sites Emergency Response Team. The training completed by this team provides unique firefighting and emergency response skills, which assists the volunteers in their activities with local fire brigades. The mine recently sent 12 RFS members to attend

the Blue Mountains fires as part of the Cudgegong district strike team.

Moolarben Coal also has two fire trucks on site that were used during the 2013/14 season to help protect properties during a large fire along Blue Springs Road.

In addition to actively encouraging employees to volunteer with the RFS, Moolarben also works closely with the Cooks Gap brigade by providing them with access to Moolarben's emergency response training facility and funding for equipment.

The team at Moolarben Coal would like to thank Cudgegong District Fire Control Officer Superintendent Garry Barrett for the award nomination.





MESSAGE FROM

THE GENERAL MANAGER

The year is certainly getting away on us and a lot has happened since our last newsletter.

Moolarben Coal welcomes the approval of the Stage 1, Modification 9 by the Independent Planning Assessment Commission (PAC).

The approval provides access to an additional 30 million tonnes of valuable coal reserves for the Stage 1 project through an extension of the existing open cut pits within existing mining leases.

Modification 9 will not change the existing rate of extraction at the mine but will provide an additional four years of production at current rates.

The approval of Modification 9 includes a condition requiring the Drip to be conserved in perpetuity to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Planning and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

Moolarben Coal has always supported putting in place a suitable mechanism to protect the Drip. As the PAC report indicates, discussions are underway between relevant regulators on how best to do this. Those discussions are continuing and we are confident that an agreement on a suitable conservation proposal for the Drip will be reached.

The approval of Modification 9 is separate from the Stage 2 project application which is the subject of a discrete regulatory process. When it is approved, the Stage 2 project will allow a potential doubling of coal production from the Moolarben mine complex.

The PAC review report for the Stage 2 project was released recently and concluded that the project could be recommended for approval.

The report also made a number of recommendations for proposed conditions of consent. Moolarben Coal is considering these recommendations and will respond in due course to the NSW Department of Planning & Environment. The Department will then prepare a final assessment report before the project is referred to the PAC for determination.

This is a positive outcome for the future of Moolarben and our employees.

With our future looking bright the good news continues with current production measures in line with our forecasts.

I would like to congratulate everybody on our recent safety achievements; as of May 2013 we had achieved a milestone of 12 months LTI free, this is an excellent result and we will be celebrating this fantastic effort with our employees.

At Moolarben we take great pride in being part of the community and supporting community projects and initiatives. A great example of this was the recent recognition Moolarben received from the Rural Fire Service (RFS) as a 'Supportive Employer Special Commendation' award. Currently there are 20 people in Moolarben who actively serve with the RFS, thank you for your dedication to such a worthy cause.

All the best,

Frank Fulham

General Manager, Moolarben Coal

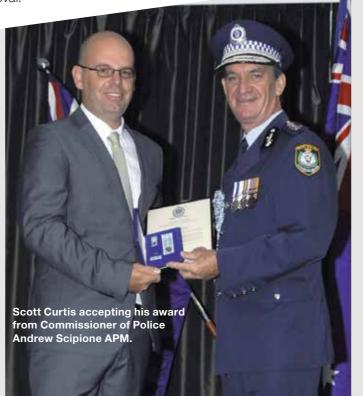
A hero among us Scott Curtis, Moolarben Coal's Maintenance Technician,

has been awarded the Commissioner's Commendation for Courage for his actions as a Senior Constable with the NSW Police Force in 2010.

The bravery award was presented to Scott for outstanding courage and devotion to duty when negotiating with a male armed with petrol and butane gas threatening to set himself on fire at Penrith.

The award states "Senior Constable Curtis displayed professionalism and bravery during this incident and his actions are highly commended".

Congratulations Scott.



Sights set for Mudgee's future

Mudgee residents will no longer have to travel to Lithgow or Orange for cataract surgery, thanks to a \$60,000 donation from Moolarben Coal to Mudgee Hospital.

Moolarben Coal recently presented Mudgee Health Services with the funding to purchase a much-needed new INFINITI Vision System for the removal of cataracts at the hospital.

The Australians for Australia Foundation, who have been campaigning to raise funds for equipment in regional hospitals, placed the essential piece of cataract equipment on a 'wish list' for Mudgee Hospital in March 2013.

This year Moolarben Coal was able to grant that wish with the system being used for

To date the machine has already been used for over 50 surgeries on residents aged between 52 and 99.

Moolarben Coal is committed to being part of the Mudgee region for the long term and this funding is an example of how Moolarben can make a lasting contribution to the local community.

Moolarben Coal's John Blanning is pictured below with Mudgee Hospital staff Jocelyn Condon, Eric Mowat, Sue Bourke and Heidi Bremmer.



Moolarben apprentice toast of the town

Moolarben Coal's Zeke Bailey is the toast of his workmates after taking out the 2014 Clock Award for Apprentice of the Year.

The 22-year-old joined Moolarben in 2009 straight out of school, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather.

Zeke was appointed as a fully qualified plant mechanic in January this year and plans to continue working at Moolarben Coal while undertaking further study with an Advanced Diploma in Engineering.

The whole team at Moolarben congratulates Zeke on his great dedication to the trade; this award is recognition of his hard work. Well done Zeke!

