

Friday, 22 July 2016

Have your say on amendments to the Wallarah 2 Coal Project

An amended proposal by Wyong Areas Coal Joint Venture for the Wallarah 2 Coal Project will be on exhibition from today for community consultation.

The Department of Planning and Environment is keen to hear the community's views on the amended proposal, which involves:

- Removal of the previously proposed rail loop
- Re-location of the secondary rail track and train loading facility to the eastern side of the main northern rail line
- A conveyor system to deliver coal from a stockpile at the proposed Tooheys Road surface facilities site to the new train loading facility location
- Realignment of a sewer connection.

The amended Wallarah 2 Coal Project does not involve changes to parts of the project, including:

- Mining area, mining methods and maximum production rate
- Coal handling or rail loading methods
- Other surface infrastructure (other than the above mentioned coal loading and dispatch infrastructure)
- Construction schedule
- Operational and construction resources, or
- Capital investment value.

The company submitted the amended proposal following a Land and Environment Court decision in 2014, which required landowners' consent to build the rail loop.

Following community consultation, the Department will finalise its assessment of the amended proposal and refer the proposal to the independent Planning Assessment Commission for review.

The proposed mine is to be located approximately five kilometres north-west of Wyong.

A spokesperson for the Department of Planning and Environment said the local community always has an opportunity to share their views.

"Community consultation is an integral part of the planning process and the applicant will have to respond to the feedback we receive," the spokesperson said.

"This feedback is taken into consideration as part of the assessment.

"It's easy to participate by going online and we encourage everyone to take a look and have their say."

To make a submission or view the amended development application, previous Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and other accompanying documents, visit www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au.

Submissions can be made from Friday 22 July until Monday 5 September, 2016.

Written submissions can also be made to:

Department of Planning and Environment
Attn: Director – Resource Assessments
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

The amended application and EIS are also available to view in person at:

- Department of Planning and Environment, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney
- Wyong Customer Service Centre, 2 Hely Street, Wyong
- Lake Haven Library & Council Service Centre, Lake Haven Shopping Centre, Goobarabah Avenue, and
- Nature Conservation Council, Level 14, 338 Pitt Street, Sydney

Department of Planning and Environment media contact: (02) 9228 6128