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# No rail, but jobs on track

By LOUISE THROWER

**A** MINING company has ruled out rail as an option in transporting ore from a reinvigorated Woodlawn Mine.

Instead, TriAusMin Limited, which aims to produce an average 120,000 tonnes annually of zinc, copper and lead concentrate from the Tarago district operation, wants to rely on trucks.

The prospect of more heavy vehicles on the road doesn't exactly excite the Tarago and District Progress Association. But in this case, there's an upside to the \$150 million project.

"We are always concerned about extra trucks on the road," president, Judy Alcock said.

"But people can see the direct benefits in terms of jobs and the environment. Anything that cleans up the old tailings dams

has to be a positive."

Not surprisingly, the publican, who has a mining background, is reportedly excited about the economic boost.

The development is estimated to generate 150 fulltime jobs during construction and 250 operational positions. TriAusMin is keen to tap into former Woodlawn miners' expertise, 14 years on from that facility's closure.

The company's environmental

assessment for the project is on public exhibition. On Friday representatives met with Tarago locals about their concerns and on Saturday with Goulburn residents.

The project comprises two phases – processing of 11 million tonnes of tailings material from three dams at the old Woodlawn Mine and underground mining, which is dependent on further exploration.

The company's managing director and CEO, Wayne Taylor, said he hoped to start construction on the tailings aspect late this year, ready for commercial production in early 2014. It's all subject to state government approval.

"In regard to the underground mine, we'd hope to be on line three years into the tailings project (2017)," he said.

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**DEADLY MIX:** Water and cooking oil fires don't mix. This was demonstrated in dramatic fashion by retained firefighter Mitch Pollard (pictured) at the Fire and Rescue NSW Goulburn Open Day on Saturday. The day highlighted the need for care in the home, particularly in winter. Deputy captain Michael Brooker asked questions of the audience and talked about the need for an escape plan for every home, and regular checking of smoke alarms and batteries.

Photo: Darryl Fernance

# 500 days

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