

PUBLIC NOTICE

Environmental Protection Act 1994 – Sections 51 and 52

Notice of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Proposed Hillalong Coal Project

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Hillalong Coal Project has been prepared by Queensland Coal Exploration Pty Ltd (QCE). The Project would be located approximately 60 km northwest of Nebo and 170 km west of Mackay by road, in Central Queensland. QCE, as proponent for the Project, is a fully owned subsidiary of Shandong Energy Australia Pty Ltd.

The Project would involve the development of two open-cut pits and an underground longwall coal mine, a processing plant, industrial facilities and an accommodation camp on Mineral Development Lease (MDL) 324. Up to 4.2 million tonnes per annum of run-of-mine (ROM) coal would be produced. Product coal would be hauled by truck along a transport corridor for approximately 20 km to a train load out facility. At the train load out facility, coal would be loaded onto trains via a new rail loop connecting to the Hail Creek Branch Line. Access to the Project would be from the Suttor Development Road and the publically accessible portion of Hail Creek Mine Access Road. The expected operational life of the Project would be 17 years.

The land on which the Project would be carried out includes the following Lot on Plan descriptions within the Isaac Regional Council area: 3HLN29, 4HLN225, 13WHS466, 12SP236271, 1SP162553, DRP901923, Suttor Development Road Reserve, Hail Creek Road Reserve and an unnamed Road Reserve on 4HLN225.

Environment Protection Act 1994 (Queensland)

An application was made by QCE under section 70 and 71 of the *Environment Protection Act 1994* (EP Act) to voluntarily prepare an EIS for the Project. The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) approved the application under section 72 of the EP Act on 8 January 2013.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)

The Project was determined to be a controlled action (EPBC 2012/6566) under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The controlling provisions are:

- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
- Water resources in relation to large coal mining development (sections 24D and 24E).

The EIS process will assess potential impacts of the Project on the controlling provisions consistent with the bilateral agreement (section 45 of the EPBC Act) between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments for the purposes of the Commonwealth Government's assessment under part 8 of the EPBC Act.

A copy of the EIS can be inspected at:

- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Floor 3, 400 George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
- Moranbah Library
Grosvenor Complex, Batchelor Parade
Moranbah QLD 4744
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
99 Hospital Road
EMERALD QLD 4720
- Nebo Library
10 Reynolds St
Nebo QLD 4742

Electronic copies of the EIS are available online via the project website www.sdenergy.com.au. The EIS can be provided on request by telephoning 0428 057 069 or emailing EIS.324@sdenergy.com.au. Please note that a charge may be applied for the costs of reproducing copies of the EIS. Further information on the project can be obtained from QCE using the company's contact details above.

Written submissions in relation to the EIS are invited from any person within the submission period. The submission period commences on **18th April 2016** and ends on **31st May 2016**. Submissions should be addressed to:

The Chief Executive

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Attention: The EIS Coordinator (Hillalong Coal Project)
GPO Box 2454, BRISBANE QLD 4001
Level 9, 400 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
or emailed to: eis@ehp.qld.gov.au.

A properly made submission is one that:

- is written
- is signed by or for each person ('signatory') who has made a submission
- states the name and address of each signatory
- is made to the chief executive
- is received on or before the last day of the submission period.

Privacy Statement

EHP is collecting the information provided in submission for consideration in the EIS process. All submissions (including names and addresses) will be provided to the proponent as required under section 56 of the EP Act, so that they may consider them and provide a response to EHP.

This consultation is a public process, and any submission you provide may be published (including online) and may be transmitted outside Australia. You may wish to bear this in mind when providing your submission.

Your information will not be disclosed by EHP to any other parties unless authorised or required by law. For further information regarding the EIS process for this proposal, contact the EIS Coordinator on QGOV (13 74 68) or email eis@ehp.qld.gov.au.