

Infrastructure Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Activities

It has been a busy time on site with decommissioning of the Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP) and rehabilitation of the Open Cut 2 area completed during 2023. Thiess Rehabilitation has been engaged to complete the rehabilitation of the Open Cut 1 and CHPP areas and have been operating on site since July 2023. Rehabilitation will be finalised in 2025, with rehabilitation of any remaining infrastructure to be completed in 2026.

The rehabilitation work requires the continued use of heavy equipment, with some of this activity occurring during night-time periods. Activities require the removal of part of the elevated overburden dump in the middle of the site, which means that equipment will be operating in elevated positions during night-time periods and be visible and audible to nearby residents. Controls will be in place to minimise any visual and noise related impacts, however, they will not be able to be reduced completely.

Truck movements to and from site continue, delivering rehabilitation materials and transporting heavy equipment to and from site, as required.

All work continues to be undertaken in accordance with the development consent, mining lease requirements and associated Environmental Management Plans and monitoring programs.



MCC Consent Modification

Muswellbrook Coal Company (MCC) submitted a modification application to Muswellbrook Shire Council for minor amendments to the development consent in 2022 and this modification was approved in February 2024. The modification aligns the consent requirements with updated mining lease requirements and assists in the transition from mining into the rehabilitation phase, closure execution phase and ultimately lease relinquishment.

Spontaneous Combustion Management Update

MCC continues to undertake spontaneous combustion management in accordance with the approved Spontaneous Combustion Management Plan (SCMP).

The SCMP was updated and approved by Muswellbrook Shire Council in December 2020. The approved SCMP is available on the MCC website. The SCMP will be reviewed in 2024 following the approval of the consent modification.

MCC continues to monitor Hydrogen Sulphide (H₂S) and Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) in the community. The monitors are located in the predominant wind directions, upwind and downwind of the site. During the last 12 months there have been no exceedances of the criteria listed in the development consent.

A summary of the data is placed on MCC's website on a monthly basis. This data can be found under the Monitoring Results – Spontaneous Combustion section of the website at: www.idemitsu.com.au/mining/operations/muswellbrook-coal/approvals-plans-reports.

There are still small areas of spontaneous combustion that are being managed on site as part of the rehabilitation activities. The final rehabilitation of the site will remove these spontaneous combustion areas.

Post Mining Land Use Options Muswellbrook Pumped Hydro Project

The project is a NSW Government State Significant Development (SSD) being managed by the Muswellbrook Pumped Hydro Pty Ltd project team.

The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the project were issued by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure in February 2024 which will enable the project to prepare the EIS (Environmental Impact Statement).

Further details are available on the NSW Planning website www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/muswellbrook-pumped-hydro-energy-storage-project.

The project is exploring an innovative model whereby an existing mine void at Idemitsu's Muswellbrook site acts as the lower reservoir and nearby Bells Mountain is proposed as the location for the upper reservoir for a pumped hydro system that will provide up to 500 megawatts (MW) of electricity generating capacity and up to eight hours of energy storage.

In 2022, Muswellbrook Pumped Hydro Pty Ltd was awarded \$9.45 million funding under the NSW Government's Pumped Hydro Recoverable Grants Program to advance development studies to a stage where the project is ready for investment. The grant funding is being used to complete a targeted geotechnical due diligence program, detailed project design and connection studies to prepare the project for an investment decision.

Development application for geotechnical works at the pumped hydro site have been approved by Muswellbrook Shire Council.

For further information contact:

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Muswellbrook Solar Project

The project is a NSW Government State Significant Development (SSD), which is being managed in partnership by Idemitsu and OX2, a leading renewables developer in Europe operating in eleven markets.

A Development Application was submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in August 2023.

The application was exhibited on the Major Projects website and 61 submissions were received from the public. A Response to Submissions report has been prepared and is now available on the Major Projects website: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/muswellbrook-solar-farm.

Due to the number of submissions received, the application will now be decided by the Independent Planning Commission (IPC). Once the proposed development is assessed by the DPHI and provided to the Commission for decision, the Chair of the Commission will appoint a panel, typically comprised of between one and three Commissioners.

Further details are available on the NSW Planning website www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/muswellbrook-solar-farm.

OX2 wish to continue an open dialogue with the community as the project progresses and welcome the opportunity to discuss the project further with near neighbours. If you would like to meet with a member of the OX2 team, please reach out to:

Helen Kennedy
0403 920 098
helen.kennedy@ox2.com

Or via: www.ox2.com/australia/projects/muswellbrook-solar-farm.

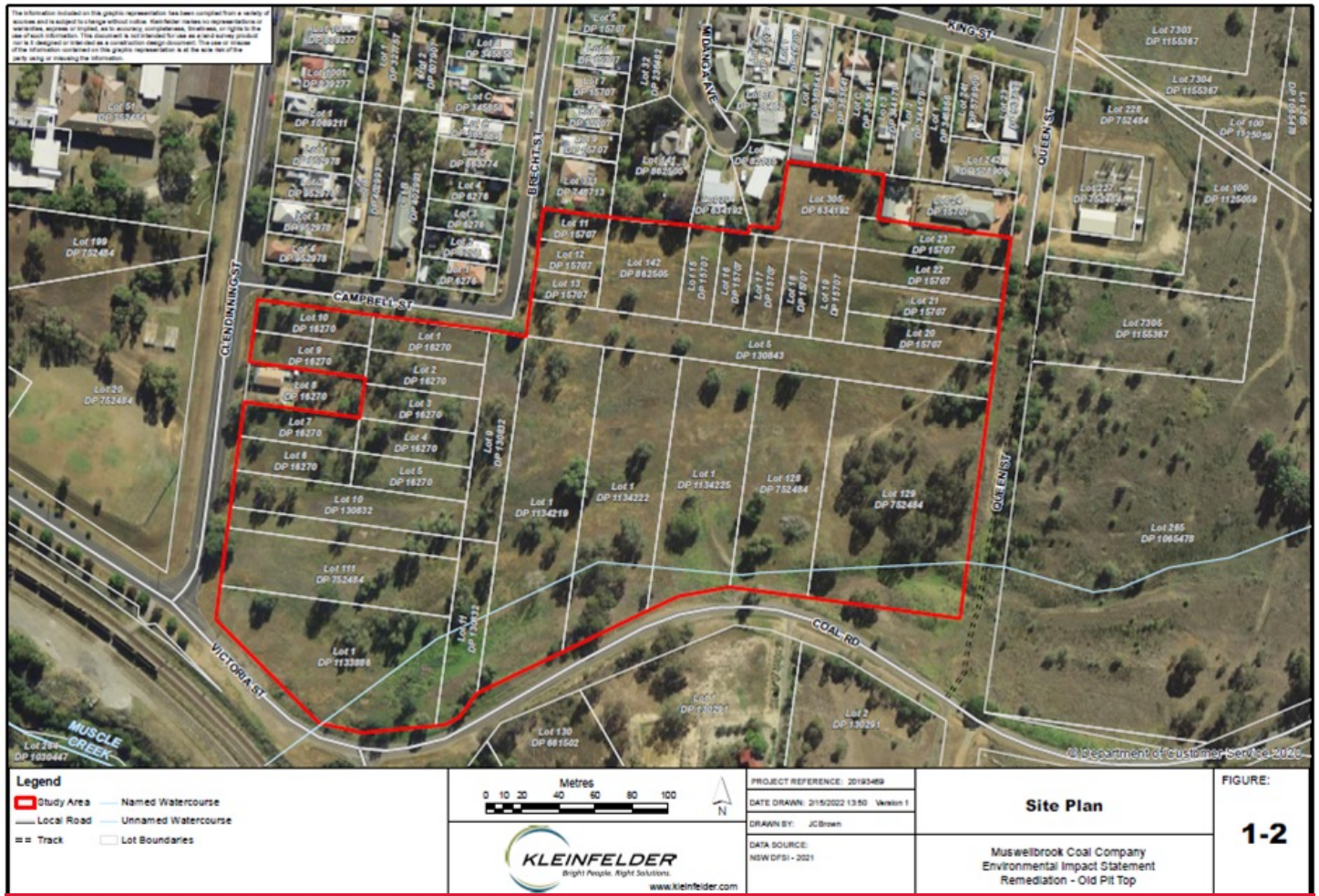


The project will have a
135MWac generating
capacity; enough
renewable energy to
power **79,000** homes.

Old Pit Top Remediation

Muswellbrook Coal Company is continuing to undertake planning works required for the remediation of the Old Pit Top. During 2023, MCC received approval from Muswellbrook Shire Council to undertake this remediation work. MCC is working towards finalising these works prior to the end of 2024. Residents in close proximity to the site will be notified of the timing of this work prior to it commencing.

For the safety of residents, MCC has installed a security fence around the Old Pit Top to prevent public access to the site.



Further Information

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTACT LINE
1800 600 205

Please do not hesitate to call the Environmental Contact Line if you wish to raise an environmental concern or have an enquiry about the mining operation. This line operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

MCC WEBSITE

For more information on MCC's approvals, environmental management plans, activities and monitoring results please visit our website at:
www.idemitsu.com.au/operations/muswellbrook-coal.

DIRECT CALL

02 6542 2300
 (during business hours only)

