



Office of
Communities
Aboriginal Affairs



Department of Planning NSW

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG), has set a target of halving the gap in Indigenous employment outcomes within a decade.

The role of Aboriginal Affairs is to advance the wellbeing of the Aboriginal people of NSW by:

- Cultivating strong partnerships with Aboriginal communities, organisations and advocates;
- Creating greater Aboriginal economic participation and wealth generation;
- And protection of our Aboriginal culture and heritage

Aboriginal Affairs – Binaal Billa and Cobbora coal have been working closely together with an interest in improving employment outcomes for local Aboriginal people who may be interested in working in the mining industry in the Central West.

The Cobbora coal project is generating great interest within the Dubbo region and surrounding communities and this is an opportunity to assist the Central West Aboriginal community by means of having an Aboriginal Employment and Business Strategy, the current unemployment of Aboriginal people in the Central West is around 22%.

Creating employment and business development is the best way of ending disadvantage and the reliance on long-term welfare that is destroying Aboriginal communities. Aboriginal people want a real chance to take control of their lives to find a job, create their own business, to earn a wage and to support their family.

The Cobbora coal project is an opportunity to assist the Central West Aboriginal community by having an Aboriginal Employment and Business Strategy and employing local Aboriginal people will have life changing benefits for those Aboriginal persons who seek and obtain long term employment with Cobbora coal.

We believe that this partnership will not only create opportunities but will be a ground breaking initiative for both Cobbora coal and Aboriginal Affairs in the Central West region. Aboriginal Affairs – Binaal Billa is providing this letter of support to Cobbora coal to assist Aboriginal people in getting REAL jobs within the Mining industry in the Central West region.

Aboriginal Affairs commitment is that we support Cobbora coal who aim to have employment opportunities for Aboriginal people within there workforce by 2015 and service contracts with local Aboriginal businesses.

Yours Sincerely


Ms Julie Blackhall
Regional Director
Aboriginal Affairs – Binaal Billa