

Amended Rocky Hill Coal Project

Gloucester Resources Ltd

Submission October 2016

Introduction

The Hunter Region has long held the reputation as the powerhouse of the NSW economy and ranks highly as one of the most valued, diverse and resilient regions in Australia.

The Hunter Business Chamber is the largest regional business chamber in Australia and is now 130 years old. The Chamber represents over 1800 member businesses to all levels of government. The Chamber is the peak industry association in the Hunter which represents all sectors of business in the region.

The Hunter Business Chamber welcomes the opportunity to provide a brief submission on the *Amended Rocky Hill Coal Project*.

Key Points

The Chamber supports Gloucester Resources Ltd's Amended Rocky Hill Coal Project and acknowledges the project's capacity to deliver significant benefit to local and wider communities.

The Chamber acknowledges this as an amended project to the 2013 Project and addresses previous concerns from various stakeholders around visibility, hours of operation, noise, air and water. It further acknowledges those important aspects of the 2013 project that remain unchanged in regard to due consideration for backfilling and final landform, local road section upgrades, community grants program and other commitments which will contribute to improved socio-economic outcomes for the local and wider community.

We acknowledge the stakeholder consultation that has occurred in the lead up to the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) being lodged with the Department of Planning and Environment.

The proponent's commitment to socially and environmentally responsible development is acknowledged with due attention to matters raised through the consultation phase around air and water quality, noise, and traffic.

The Chamber also notes the importance of proactive strategies in regard to minimising impacts and addressing noise, air quality, blasting, water resources, aboriginal cultural heritage, traffic and transport, social and visual impacts.

The Chamber strongly endorses the sentiments expressed in the EIS regarding the importance of the economic returns of the project for employment, suppliers, and local and regional communities.

The Chamber is pleased to provide its overall support to the EIS for the Amended Rocky Hill Coal Project as important contribution to the growth and sustainability of the local and regional economies.

Contact

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