

Increase in throughput of the Newcastle Coal Terminal

This Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group project to increase the annual coal throughput at the Newcastle coal terminal is a huge opportunity for the regional communities of the Hunter Region where the investment and jobs that will be generated by this project are desperately needed.

The Project will improve the efficiency of the rail network in NSW.

It will reduce the number of coal trains sent through Sydney and the south coast railway to Port Kembla for the export market. This impacts on all the residents in those areas.

Coal is NSW's most valuable export commodity, with a value of more than \$20 billion.

More than 23,000 coalminers in NSW rely on coalmining for their livelihood. There are more than 7,000 local businesses across NSW that are supported by mining.

Coal mining is important to me and my family, our community and NSW. The Project has the support of the local community, local MPs, local Council and local businesses.

The federal government's tables of multiplier effects shows that more than three times as many indirect jobs are created for every person directly employed in a coal mine.

Coal is Australia's most valuable export.

The demand for thermal coal in Asia is expected to double by 2040.

The state of NSW benefits from royalties paid by companies that mine coal. This is money that NSW will be able to spend on our hospitals, schools and roads.

Our national, state and local economies relies heavily on coal mining so coal mining benefits all Australians.

Coal from Australian coal mines has ideal qualities and it has fewer impurities, such as sulphur, than coal from other countries such as Asian countries. So the use of Australian coal is reducing pollution, such as sulphur dioxide, on a worldwide basis.

NSW needs to focus on the positive aspects of coal mining and its many benefits so as to not be distracted by ideologically driven anti-mining activists.

We should all be proud of what coal mining is doing and can do in future for Australia, NSW and the Hunter Region.

The Project demonstrates it will not impact compliance with currently approved environmental limits. The benefits from this coal terminal project are immense.

For all of these reasons I fully support the increase of the annual coal throughput at the Newcastle coal terminal.