

PROPOSED DRAKE COAL PROJECT



COMMUNITY MEETING HELD IN COLLINSVILLE

In April, QCoal Pty Ltd held community consultation sessions in Collinsville to discuss the proposed Drake Coal Project and to answer questions raised by the community regarding the mine approvals and development process. Approximately 30 people attended the community information session and 10 people attended the community values and aspirations workshop. Both events were facilitated and coordinated by consultants, GHD.

The day provided a valuable opportunity to capture from the community major themes such as:

- Managing the effects of fluctuating population arising from temporary workers and shift workers who may work in Collinsville but reside elsewhere.
- Community infrastructure and support for specialist services, including affordable housing, healthcare and childcare facilities.
- Retention of youth in the local area.



These issues will be incorporated into the Social Impact Assessment for the Drake Coal Project which is part of the Drake draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to be completed March/April 2011. The draft EIS along with all appendices will be made available for public comment.

Throughout the day the project team responded to questions regarding:

- The timing of the project
- The potential impact on environmental values such as energy requirements, waste management, water management and consideration for ecological values
- Potential amenity impacts due to noise, air quality, increased travel time and visual impacts
- Cumulative impacts of projects within the Collinsville area
- Potential for local workforce initiatives and support for traineeships
- Support for local businesses
- Potential for programs to assist with retention of youth in Collinsville

The afternoon session was followed by a courtesy sausage sizzle run by the Collinsville Lions Club. QCoal would like to thank all members of the community who attended these sessions. Thanks are also extended to the Whitsunday Regional Council for making the community hall available.

QCOAL SIGNS AS A PRINCIPAL SPONSOR OF THE RFDS

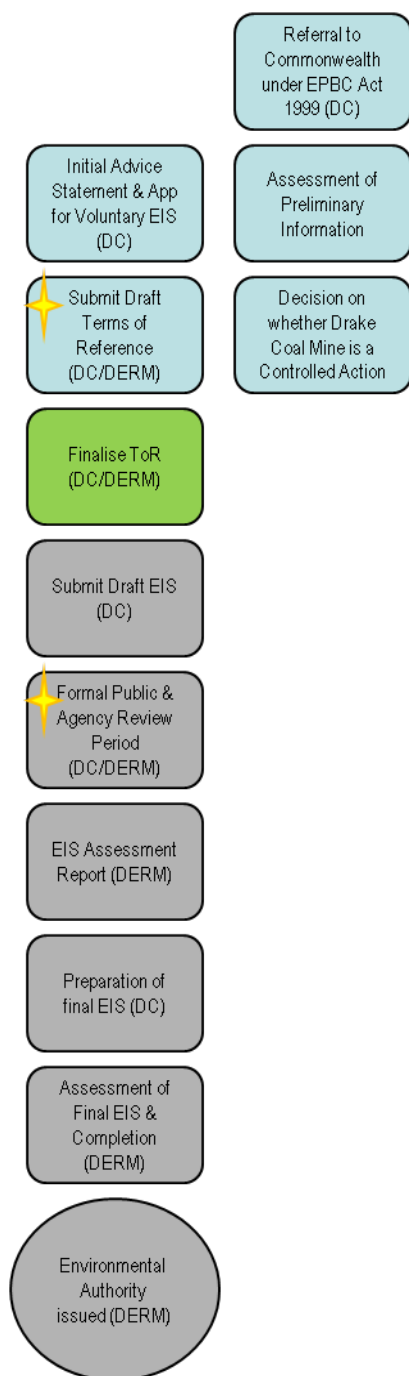
Working or living in the furthest corners of Queensland puts people a long way from urban centres where modern medical facilities are available. While it was farming and agriculture that drove the early demand for the Flying Doctor, today the mining industry is just as reliant upon the life saving services provided by the modern Royal Flying Doctor Service.



Chris Wallin, a long term supporter of the RFDS and managing director of QCoal, has recognised how important the RFDS is through his experience of working as a field geologist for over 20 years in remote areas. With the Sonoma mine in Collinsville operational and Drake Coal Project in the development phase, QCoal is now a principal sponsor of the RFDS.

RFDS (Queensland Section) CEO Nino Di Marco said the partnership was a great fit for the RFDS. "I would like to thank Chris Wallin and the team at QCoal for their eagerness to make a difference for us. I understand they plan to engage all their staff as well as their contractors to try to get more financial support for us. I look forward to making them proud of their association with the Flying Doctor," said Nino. *Extract Courtesy Flying Doctor Queensland, August '10 Magazine*

Any donations to support the RFDS can be made on-line at www.flyingdoctor.org.au



- Step Completed
- Step yet to be Completed
- Active Step

– Opportunities for community input

DC – Drake Coal

DERM – Dept of Environment & Resource Management

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

HOW DOES THE PROCESS WORK?

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process ensures that potential environmental impacts, positive and negative, are accounted for in the planning of the project. The EIA is required under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act)* and the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)* and is being coordinated and managed by the Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM).

The EIA process results in a report called an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS presents the potential impacts and proposes management strategies to mitigate project impacts. The EIS is assessed by the DERM.

In April 2010, QCoal conducted community consultation meetings in Collinsville to discuss the mine approvals and development process, and address any questions raised by the community.

What is the status of the Drake Coal EIS?

The Terms of Reference

Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) were made available for public comment from Monday 30 August to Friday 8 October 2010. Written submissions regarding the draft ToR are currently being considered by DERM and QCoal.

QCoal would like to thank everyone who participated in the review process and submitted comments. Community input and feedback are key factors to the success of the Drake Coal Project.

The final ToR will provide the basis of the investigation and reporting required in the Drake Coal Project EIS. The completed draft EIS will be available online on the Drake website and copies will be made available at public places.

The community and interest groups will have an opportunity to formally review and comment on the Drake Coal Project draft EIS. DERM will consider all comments submitted before it provides QCoal with an Assessment Report listing any required changes for the final EIS.

The draft EIS for the Drake Coal Project is expected to be issued for public review and comment in March/April 2011.

On the 4 June 2010 the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPC) assessed the Drake Coal Project as a controlled action. Under the bilateral agreement between the Commonwealth and Queensland, the Drake Coal Project will be assessed under the *EP Act* and referred to DSEWPC for assessment and approval.

WILL I BE NOTIFIED WHEN DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW?

Yes. QCoal will place advertisements in local publications to alert the public to any documents available for review.

You can also keep up to date via the Drake webpage http://www.qcoal.com.au/page/drake_coal_project.html

WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Mr Lloyd Jones, Manager – Community Relations, at QCoal on (07) 3002 2900 or via email, drake@qcoal.com.au for queries relating to the Drake Coal Project.