



MEDIA RELEASE

XSTRATA COAL FLOOD RELIEF AND REBUILDING FUND EXTENDED

16 May 2011

Xstrata Coal's Flood Relief and Rebuilding Fund still has \$150,000 available in funding to assist communities in south west Queensland who continue to rebuild following the floods earlier this year.

The fund is open to organisations and community groups that have been directly affected by the floods in Taroom, Chinchilla, Condamine, Miles and Dalby.

Wandoan Coal Project Executive General Manager Steve Bridger said the Flood Relief and Rebuilding Fund was established as part of Xstrata Coal's ongoing commitment to the communities where its operations and projects are based.

"We have seen just how far-reaching the devastation of the floods has been, and believe that this financial assistance will do much to help rebuild the organisations and community groups that have been severely affected," Mr Bridger said.

"To date we have allocated nearly half of the initial \$300,000 in funding to successful applicants in the region, and we are extending this fund to assist more organisations, so I encourage all community groups and organisations to apply.

"Funding will be presented to those organisations that fulfil the fund's application criteria, and will continue to provide services and facilities that play a role in the wellbeing and development of their local communities."

The Flood Relief and Rebuilding Fund is part of Xstrata Coal's overarching \$3 million contribution to flood recovery and rebuilding projects across Queensland.

Of this \$3 million, Xstrata Coal has provided the Western Downs and Banana Shires with over \$400,000 worth of funding to undertake recovery works including road repairs and flood damage assessments in the Wandoan district, and repairs to local roads and the airstrip in the Taroom district. The Murilla Community Centre in Miles also benefitted from \$100,000 to assist local families.

Applicants for the Flood Relief and Rebuilding Fund must be an organisation that suffered flood damage during the late December 2010 and/or January 2011 floods; have not previously received state or federal government financial aid for the project; and be located within the communities of Wandoan, Taroom, Miles, Chinchilla, Condamine or Dalby.

Organisations that have already incurred expenses to re-establish damaged property or services are still eligible to apply with funding to be provided in retrospect to compensate for this.

Applicants are still subject to all eligibility criteria as set out in the guidelines and must complete all requirements in the application form.

Applications kits for the Xstrata Coal Flood Relief and Rebuilding Fund can be obtained by calling the Wandoan Coal Project Team on 1800 052 797 or by visiting www.wandoancoal.com.au

Applications close on Friday 27 May 2011.

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Photographs of road recovery works available upon request.

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