



Media Release

Xstrata Coal welcomes community feedback on Wandoan Coal Project Draft Terms of Reference released

Sydney - 15 August 2008, Xstrata Coal and the Queensland Coordinator-General today invited members of the public to comment on the draft terms of reference for an environmental impact statement (EIS) for Xstrata Coal's Wandoan Coal Project.

Xstrata Coal is currently conducting a pre-feasibility study into the potential development of the Wandoan Coal project, a proposed 30 million tonnes per annum (run of mine) open cut thermal coal mine near Wandoan, 350 km north-west of Brisbane in Queensland.

Wandoan Coal Project Executive General Manager, Reinhold Schmidt, said the terms of reference for the EIS provided stakeholders with an outline of the types of technical studies to be conducted to examine any potential social, economic or environmental impacts of the proposed mine.

"Xstrata Coal is committed to ensuring all stakeholders have the opportunity to be involved in the consultation and assessment process for the Wandoan Coal Project.

"The lodging of the terms of reference is an important next step in the proposed development of the Wandoan Coal project and we welcome stakeholder feedback.

"Xstrata Coal's environmental and social assessment studies will evaluate any potential impacts and subsequent mitigation and management measures required for the proposed mine. The outcomes of these studies will be documented in the environmental impact statement."

The QLD Coordinator-General declared the Wandoan Coal Project a 'significant project' in December 2007.

Copies of the Draft Terms of Reference will be available online at www.dip.qld.gov.au/projects and locally at the Dalby Regional Council's Wandoan and Miles service centres, Banana Shire Council's Taroom service centre and from the Taroom and Wandoan post offices. Submissions close on 15 September, 2008.

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About the Wandoan Coal Project:

The Wandoan Coal Project is proposed to be developed by Xstrata Coal Queensland on behalf of the Wandoan Joint Venture (WJV), consisting of Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd (75%), ICRA (Itochu) Pty Ltd (12.5%) and Sumisho Coal Australia Pty Ltd (12.5%).

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