



NEW HOPE
GROUP

Appendix K
Consultation





NEW HOPE
GROUP

K.1 Stakeholder Engagement Plan





NEW HOPE
GROUP

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

*New Acland Coal Mine
Stage 3 Project*

JANUARY 2014



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1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose

The New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project (the revised Project) is a significant and important economic and social project for the people of the Darling Downs. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (the Plan) outlines key principles, actions and initiatives to inform, consult, involve, collaborate and empower the community about the revised Project.

The New Hope Group (NHG) is committed to developing and maintaining successful partnerships and working relationships with the people impacted both directly and indirectly by our operations. This principle is informed by the belief that the success of NHG is measured, in no small part, by the quality of the relationships developed and maintained with our employees, neighbours and the wider community. Good communication and stakeholder engagement is crucial to sustaining positive and enduring relationships based on trust and mutual benefit, and in turn building acceptance, support and maintaining a social licence to operate within our communities.

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan details the objectives, strategies and integrated activities for the revised Project involving:

- communication tools and project positioning;
- community and stakeholder engagement;
- media and advertising program; and
- community program.

The plan provides an overview of how consultation results will be considered by NHG and considered during the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

1.2. Project description

The New Acland Coal Mine (the Mine) has been a major economic spur to the Darling Downs region for more than a decade, currently providing direct jobs for 300 locals, 160 full time contractor jobs and 2,300 indirect jobs. The Mine contributes \$110 million each year to the Darling Downs economy and \$300 million to the broader South East Queensland economy.

The current operation is due to close by 2017 and will begin winding back by 2015 if a continuation of the mine does not go ahead. The operation of the revised Project is expected directly employ 435 people at full production representing an additional 135 direct job opportunities. Including flow on impacts, operation is expected to support the equivalent of approximately 2,546 full-time equivalent jobs in Queensland, from a total of 3,082 full-time equivalent jobs in Australia annually.

Production capacity would increase from the current rate of 4.8 million tonnes of thermal coal per annum (Mtpa) to a maximum of 7.5 Mtpa. . In the regional study area, the revised Project is estimated to contribute approximately \$3.9 billion over the life of the mine, including direct, indirect and induced impacts. The revised Project will provide a significant contribution to the state's economy, estimated at approximately \$1,395 million per year during construction and operation (including direct, indirect and induced impacts), or a total of \$16.7 billion over the life of the project.

The key objectives of the revised Project are to:

- continue the Mine beyond 2017, thus maintaining the local jobs and economic benefits to the Darling Downs region;
- maintain a mine that complies with all relevant statutory obligations and continues to improve operations to ensure best practice environmental management;
- maintain a mine that does not compromise environmental and social indicators and standards;
- make efficient use of current infrastructure, with upgrades for the required capacity increase;
- reduce the disturbance to environmental values by minimising the footprint requirements for road and rail construction and the use of areas already disturbed for laydown, storage and handling facilities; and
- use similar proven strategies to those adopted at the Mine, for example:
 - salvage and stockpiling of topsoil;
 - early and progressive rehabilitation of disturbed areas;
 - use of recycled water as the main water supply;
 - protection of water quality by appropriate management systems; and
 - adoption of appropriate landform designs to ensure sustainable final land use.

In addition, key features of the revised Project include:

- the relocation of the Jondaryan Rail Loadout Facility away from near the township to a remote site on the mining lease area;
- the Mine remaining at least 12 kilometres away from the town of Oakey;
- the retention of the Acland town area, including Tom Doherty Park, the War Memorial and the Acland No 2 Colliery;
- development of a suitable 'offset' strategy to satisfy State and Federal requirements for clearance of significant vegetation within new operational areas (i.e. extent of surface rights areas);
- comprehensive and progressive rehabilitation program involving continuous monitoring and reporting in line with the agreed post mining land use; and
- amendment of NAC's existing EA commensurate to the revised Project's size and scope.

The revised Project will boost economic activity within the Darling Downs region through direct and indirect employment, investment and business opportunities for the life of the revised Project and beyond.

1.3. Project Phase Timeline

Table 1 outlines the timeframes from the revised Project set up phase through to the granting of the mining lease with indicative timings per phase.

Table 1 Project timeframes

Timing	Activity
Phase One: Announce revised Project	
15 Nov 2012	NHG announces revised Project
Nov 2012	Project description finalised
Nov 2012	* Communication and engagement activities
Phase Two: Terms of Reference (ToR) public notification	
1 Dec 2012 – 4 Feb 2013	ToR public notification period
1 Dec 2012 – 4 Feb 2013	* Communication and engagement activities
Phase Three: Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	
Dec 2012 – Dec 2013	Preparation of EIS
Feb – Sept 2013	* Communication and engagement activities
Phase Four: EIS public notification	
Q1 2014	EIS public notification period
Q1 2014	* Communication and engagement activities
Phase Five: State Government Project approval	
Q1 2014	Coordinator-General report completed
Q1 2014	* Communication and engagement activities
Phase Six: Federal Government Project approval	
Q1 2014	Australian Government decision on revised Project
Q1 2014	* Communication and engagement activities
Phase Seven: Grant of Mining Lease	
Q1 2015	Minister for Natural Resources and Mines issues ML

* Please see Section 8 Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan for detail

2. Project Context and History

2.1. Community Environment

The NHG is an Australian owned and operated diversified energy company which has been based in South East Queensland for more than 60 years. The company currently operates a number of open cut coal mines within Queensland, including the Mine which is located approximately 150 km west of Brisbane in the Darling Downs region. The revised Project is being sought as a continuation of the existing Mine, which has operated successfully in the region for more than a decade. Coal mining in the area dates back to the 1880s with the first mining shaft sunk at Acland in 1913.

The Darling Downs region is primarily a rural and rural-residential area. The main town closest to the Mine is Oakey, located 12 km to the south. Smaller surrounding towns include Jondaryan, Kulpi and Goombungee. Toowoomba is the nearest regional centre.

The region supports a diverse range of rural primary production enterprises, including beef, cotton and grain farming.

Table 2 Proximity of nearby towns

Town	Distance from Project site
Oakey	12 km to the south
Jondaryan	14 km to the south west
Kulpi	15 km to the north
Goombungee	21 km to the east
Toowoomba	35 km to the south east

2.2. Previous Engagement

The NHG acquired the Acland deposit in December 1999, with operation of Stage 1 of the mine beginning in 2002 and Stage 2 in 2008.

The original New Acland Stage 3 Coal Mine Expansion Project (the original proposal) was submitted to the Coordinator-General on 18 April 2007 seeking consideration of declaration as a 'Significant Project'. A draft Terms of Reference (ToR) was released for public comment from 23 July 2007 to 20 August 2007 and the final ToR issued in October 2007.

Public consultation as part of the Project's EIS process occurred between July 2007 and December 2008, with the draft EIS released in November 2009. More than 150 separate stakeholder interactions took place across a variety of consultation activities including individual meetings, community information sessions, a community survey and newsletters during the EIS consultation process.

The SEIS for the original proposal was provided to the Coordinator-General in August 2010 and was publicly released in August 2011, with a community information session held at that time at the Oakey RSL drawing about 200 people.

The public debate relating to the original proposal was dominated by a vocal minority of lobby groups concerned about social and cumulative impacts and strategic cropping land issues associated with mining and coal seam gas projects.

In early 2012, the newly elected State LNP Government announced that the Project would not go ahead in its current form.

After further extensive stakeholder engagement, NHG developed the revised Project which significantly compromised on key areas of concern with the original proposal. Under the revised Project, the Acland area, including the Tom Doherty Park, the War Memorial and the Acland No 2 Colliery, will be preserved.

The closest point of potential mining operations will be located at least 10 km away from the township of Oakey, compared to 8 km as previously proposed.

From the original proposal, there will be an overall reduction in the amount of land used for mining activities by more than half and the Jondaryan Rail Loadout Facility will be decommissioned. A new Jondaryan Rail Loadout Facility will be built at a remote site closer to the Mine.

2.3. Communication Environment

The Mine has successfully operated on the Darling Downs for more than a decade. NHG has made significant social and economic contributions to the local community and developed a network of supportive relationships.

To date, the NHG has undertaken significant community and stakeholder engagement as part of the environmental approval processes for the revised Project.

NHG has an open communication and stakeholder engagement approach that has helped to counter misinformation and build community support for the revised Project. Stakeholder engagement has involved an interactive process, in which stakeholders and the community are engaged as active partners.

3. Communication and Engagement Approach

3.1. Approach and Key Principles

A proactive and open approach to community engagement has been and will continue to be undertaken as part of the revised Project. Different communication approaches to specific stakeholder groups will be required as detailed in **Section 5**.

The following key principles will apply to all revised Project communication:

- a proactive approach to community engagement will be applied;
- respect will be shown at all times;
- ensure a two-way conversation between the NHG and the community;
- develop community understanding of the opportunities and benefits of the revised Project;
- maintain constructive relationships with elected representatives and key government agencies;
- maintain regular contact and engagement with the community;
- clearly communicate the level of input required by stakeholders;
- provide feedback on how public input has informed decisions; and
- record all significant contact with stakeholders.

3.2. Communication and Engagement Objectives

The Plan's objectives to support the revised Project include:

- balancing the current debate regarding the NHG and the Mine with factual information and promoting the revised Project's benefits and opportunities;
- engaging with the local community to generate a greater level of support for current and future operations;
- providing open, honest and timely communication with stakeholders;
- engaging stakeholders and the community to capture their concerns or views and ensure they are understood by the team and considered in decision-making where possible;
- ensuring early identification of potential stakeholder issues and implementation of appropriate mitigation strategies; and
- maintaining a positive reputation for the revised Project and the NHG in the community.

3.3. Key Team Members

Table 3 outlines the roles and responsibilities to deliver the revised Project.

Table 3 Project team member roles and responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project falls under the direction of the Chief Operating Officer • Final approval of all communication material

Role	Responsibility
Project Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage the overall direction of the revised Project• Manage direct, formal notification of intentions and actions pertaining to the revised Project
Principal Environmental Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage environmental aspects of the revised Project
Corporate Affairs Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage internal and external communication for the revised Project• Media management• Manage all stakeholder/community issues
Community Liaison Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interacts with community and engages on issues/concerns at a local level• Attend local community events• Provide a local presence for the revised Project

4. Communication, Engagement, Media and Community Strategy

4.1. Communication and Engagement Strategy

In order to ensure a balanced and supportive view of the revised Project, the NHG will provide factual information regarding the key compromises that have been made from the original proposal, following extensive consultation with stakeholders. Key messages will highlight that coal reserves of the Mine are due to be depleted in 2017 and the proposed continuation of the Mine will not only guarantee local jobs, but also boost economic activity in the region through direct and indirect employment, investment and business opportunities.

Since announcing the revised Project, the NHG has been proactive in communicating what the revised Project involves to increase understanding of the benefits and opportunities to the local community

Initial engagement and communication activities have demonstrated that the NHG has listened to community and government concerns and has reduced the footprint of the revised Project and associated impacts, while also ensuring the Mine can continue to operate beyond 2017.

Ongoing activities will be centred on fact-based communication about NAC's existing operations and land rehabilitation program, and its economic and social contributions to the community. They will continue to demonstrate that the Mine is a:

- major employer on the Darling Downs;
- significant contributor and spur to the Darling Downs economy;
- generous supporter of the community and not for profit organisations;
- reputable and transparent corporate citizen; and
- mode for bringing economic and social benefits.

From a communication perspective, the challenge is to balance public opinion by:

- providing examples of the benefits the Mine has delivered and promoting them through an information campaign;
- being prepared to speak out and defend the Mine's record of positive community contributions against misinformation; and
- focusing community support initiatives to ensure they reinforce both the NHG and the Mine's positive community reputation.

4.2. Reporting and Updating Mitigation Plans

The NHG is focussed on ensuring a two-way conversation with stakeholders and the wider community and will actively seek feedback on the revised Project's impacts and benefits. Stakeholder input will be sought and considered during the development of the EIS and will be documented, reviewed and provided to the relevant technical study teams. Where possible, the revised Project team and those responsible for the technical studies will be directly involved in engagement activities and conversations with stakeholders to encourage a responsive approach to feedback. This method also assists in ground truthing study findings and understanding stakeholder's preferred mitigation and management strategies as they are advised and integration of this feedback into the EIS if relevant. Feedback will be provided to those submitting feedback at the most appropriate time. Consultation events will be documented and logged in the revised Project database with the ability to regularly report on emerging issues and opportunities.

4.3. Stakeholder Engagement Program Tools

The stakeholder engagement program for the revised Project has been centred on the ToR and EIS approval processes. An indicative outline of this program is provided in the Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan in Section 8 of this plan. An explanation of each of the stakeholder engagement tools is outlined below.

4.3.1. Consultation database

The NHG seeks to ensure that all engagement with the community and stakeholders is based on open and transparent communication. A *Consultation Manager* database has been established and is being used to register stakeholders, log correspondence and consultation with stakeholders (including all meetings, presentations, feedback, phone calls and written submissions), and document and track key issues.

Reports from the database will be used to inform the EIS investigations, measure stakeholder perceptions about the revised Project and develop public consultation details, which are provided in **Chapter 19**.

4.3.2. Newsletters

The New Acland Community Update Newsletter will continue to be distributed on a quarterly basis via Australia Post to approximately 3,500 homes and businesses in the area surrounding the Mine and will be available at the New Hope Group Community Information Centre and on the NHG and revised Project websites.

In addition to information about the revised Project, the newsletter will include information about developments and improvements at the Mine, stories outlining major sponsorship and donation approvals and other community initiatives undertaken by the NHG in the New Acland district.

Articles relating to the revised Project include:

- the revised Project, including a description of the key elements of the revised Project (map/diagrams);
- information on the status of the revised Project;
- information on planned consultation activities; and
- invitation to provide input into the EIS.

An electronic update newsletter will also be developed and distributed to relevant stakeholders each month. This electronic newsletter will feature a summary of each item and direct the readers to the revised Project website for further information.

4.3.3. Fact sheets and posters

Fact sheets will be developed to support engagement with the community. The fact sheets will contain key Project information and be distributed to homes and businesses in the area surrounding the Mine and possibly selected postcodes in the greater Darling Downs region. The factsheets will target a different theme on each occasion and be distributed as required. The fact sheets will also be available via the NHG and revised Project websites and the New Hope Community Information Centre in Oakey.

The fact sheets, and A1 poster versions of them, will also be used at the community information sessions.

4.3.4. Public displays and community information sessions

Public displays of revised Project posters in local libraries, Toowoomba Regional Council offices and the New Hope Group Community Information Centre in Oakey will be held to inform the community about the revised Project and seek feedback to be incorporated into the EIS and during the public notification periods for the ToR and EIS. The displays and information sessions will provide the community with information on the revised Project, the EIS process, consultation activities and key issues.

Two community information sessions were held at the Oakey RSL during the ToR public notification period. Additional sessions will be held during the EIS public notification period. These sessions help provide two-way information and feedback opportunities for the community and Project team. Industry experts and third party specialists will be available to provide information, and assist consultation with the community on relevant topics and issues.

4.3.5. Letterbox drops

The NHG will prepare direct mail and unaddressed mail outlining details about the revised Project, its benefits, updates and consultation opportunities.

4.3.6. Website

The NHG has recently refreshed its brand and website which will reinforce the company's position as a hard working Australian entity with strong ties to its local communities. Details of the revised Project have been included on the NHG corporate website. The revised Project website will contain copies of all public documents such as the newsletters, fact sheets and media releases.

All web traffic generated by the communications campaign will be directed to the revised Project website. This dedicated website will contain copies of video advertisements and more detailed information on the NHG's community, social and economic contributions.

4.3.7. Stakeholder meetings

The NHG will continue to regularly meet with local and government stakeholders on the Darling Downs. The NHG will continue to be active members of industry, business and community groups in the region.

The purpose of the stakeholder meetings will be to provide information on the revised Project, its benefits and the EIS process as well as identifying and considering stakeholder issues regarding the revised Project.

4.3.8. Internal communication

Information about the revised Project will continue to be communicated to current employees via staff meetings, internal newsletters and other internal communication modes. Key management will also continue to provide updates as part of six-monthly tours of the Mine. The New Acland Community Update Newsletter and fact sheets will also be distributed to employees. Employees are substantial advocates for the future of the Mine and recognise the significance of maintaining job security. The electronic update newsletter will also be distributed to all employees each month.

4.4. Media and Advertising Program

4.4.1. Media interviews and stories

Since the revised Project was announced, a combination of proactive and reactive communications have been undertaken to provide factual and up to date information about the Mine and its future.

Ensuring balanced opinion regarding the revised Project involves:

- being prepared to quickly and firmly respond to misinformation, which complements the NHG's existing media relations processes;
- an information campaign to actively inform the local community about the Mine and the company's important social and economic contributions, and leading land rehabilitation practises

4.4.2. Advertising program

As part of stakeholder engagement, an advertising program can assist in providing information on consultation activities and invite people to participate in public information sessions.

In addition, the NHG will undertake an information campaign involving primarily television and print outlets. The campaign will focus on the valuable role NAC plays in the local community, the jobs and economic benefits that flow from the operations, as well as the leading land rehabilitation program underway at the Mine. The NHG will develop the campaign with the assistance of a Toowoomba based creative services agency.

Media and communications outlets on the Darling Downs include:

- WIN Television
- Seven QLD Toowoomba

- *The Toowoomba Chronicle*
- *Oakey Champion*
- *High Country News*

4.4.3. Social media campaign

The NHG will continue to utilise social media and promotional opportunities through the company's established CareFlight sponsorship and other key associations.

4.5. The NHG Community Program

The community program will work in conjunction with the engagement and media programs to maintain and build upon local community relationships and the NHG's reputation in the community.

4.5.1. Community Reference Group

The New Acland Community Reference Group (CRG) allows the company to engage with a cross-section of community representatives in relation to the Mine and its future operations. The CRG is aimed at:

- providing an additional communication channel that is representative of the community, including business, government and other key stakeholders;
- providing a regular and formal link between the NHG and the Darling Downs community;
- providing an appropriate forum to facilitate the flow of two-way communication and an opportunity for the community to provide opinions and vision for the future with respect to the revised Project and to raise any issues;
- allowing the company access to additional information that may be used to help improve the NHG's decision-making processes; and
- providing another avenue for the NHG to regularly engage with and update the community in respect to ongoing developments and address any community issues.

The CRG operates as an advisory body with the membership of the CRG comprising representatives from health and education, agriculture, landowners, industry, business and government. The CRG has a structured Charter that defines membership (including roles), scope and any required administrative and operational procedures for the group.

4.5.2. Community Liaison Officer

The Community Liaison Officer acts as a key interface between the NHG and the Darling Downs community on issues predominately relating to the Mine and the revised Project. The focus of the role is to provide ongoing information to the public and develop and maintain positive relationships with community organisations and individuals.

Key responsibilities of the role include:

- working with the community to address concerns and provide information;
- acting as a relationship manager for community members;

- representing the NHG at community events and meetings;
- liaising between different community and internal NHG areas;
- providing better access for community members to address enquiries relating to the business;
- providing the company with relevant local knowledge relating to NHG activities; and
- monitoring issues of interest and concern to the community.

4.5.3. *New Hope Community Information Centre*

The New Hope Community Information Centre in Oakey ensures the community has ready access to up-to-date, factual information about current and future mine activities. It also acts as a key location for Darling Downs community members wishing to make enquiries about the NHG's business activities, with the Community Liaison Officer available to address questions the public may have.

The centre is open part-time at a range of advertised hours. These hours include afternoons, mornings and one Saturday morning a month, to allow access for a broad section of the community. The centre is also available to be opened outside standard hours, on consultation with the Community Liaison Officer. During open hours, the public has access to a range of information, fact sheets, maps and displays about NHG's current and future activities.

Statistics relating to visitors and enquiries in the New Hope Community Information Centre will be collated, allowing an ongoing overview of public interest and feedback.

4.5.4. *New Acland Community Investment Fund*

The New Acland Community Investment Fund will deliver long-term benefit and support to the Darling Downs community which surround operations of the Mine.

The Fund is part of NHG and the NAC's on-going commitment to community investment and development. It is designed to deliver measurable benefit to a broad range of people and with a strong focus on community development programs.

The Community Investment Fund will provide a formal structure through which the NHG can receive and assess applications from interested parties and make investment into the long-term development of the local community.

4.5.5. *Community Sponsorship and Donation Program*

The NHG's Sponsorship and Donation Program supports not for profit organisations throughout the Darling Downs but is primarily focused on providing assistance for communities surrounding NAC's operations. Through this generous Community Sponsorship and Donation Program, the company provides support to local community and sporting groups, volunteer organisations, schools and individuals. In the 2011-12 financial year alone, more than 60 not-for-profit organisations in the Darling Downs region were supported through this program.

With the ongoing success of the company's substantial support of the CareFlight Rescue Helicopter Service, additional resources will be made available to support further sponsorship programs of this nature.

4.5.6. Mine site Bus Tours

Regular bus tours of the Mine and site visits are currently conducted and will be strengthened as part of the community program. These tours provide an opportunity to inform community members about the Mine's activities and allow NHG to further engage with community members, schools, groups and neighbours. Mine site tours are considered on request and offered proactively to groups and/or individuals who may benefit from further exposure to the Mine's activities. A number of public tours are also conducted, with transport provided from nearby population centres. Consultation with the mine site's General Manager will occur before any tour commitments are made.

4.6. Regional Planning Process

4.6.1. Darling Downs Regional Planning Committee liaison

The NHG acknowledges the importance of the Darling Downs Regional Planning Committee (DDRPC) as stakeholder representatives for the community. As such, NHG will commit to working with the DDRPC through regular briefings, regular communication and addressing any enquiries raised by the committee.

4.6.2. Toowoomba Regional Council Liaison

The NHG is committed to regular and ongoing communication and relationship activities with Toowoomba Regional Council (TRC). This is to include:

- briefings to the elected Mayor and Councillors;
- ongoing communication with council representatives;
- invitations for site visits for the Mayor and Councillors; and
- working to address any concerns raised by community members to council.

5. Stakeholder Mapping and Issues Management

5.1. Stakeholder Interest and Influence Mapping

To assess the potential level of stakeholder involvement in the revised Project, a matrix of interest and influence has been prepared below in **Table 4**. The matrix is based on the following elements:

- Interest: stakeholder grouping level of interest (high, medium or low); and
- Influence: stakeholder grouping level of influence (high, medium or low).

A stakeholder's tier ranking is determined by the stakeholder/s position in the community, political influence or their attitude to the revised Project's specific issues.

Table 4 Stakeholder interest and influence matrix

		Interest		
		<i>High</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Low</i>
Influence	<i>High</i>	High potential involvement	Medium potential involvement	Medium potential involvement
	<i>Medium</i>	High potential involvement	Medium potential involvement	Low potential involvement
	<i>Low</i>	Medium potential involvement	Low potential involvement	

By ranking potential stakeholders we can better determine the most appropriate method of engagement during the revised Project, particularly in relation to preferred communication methods. These tiers are:

Tier one stakeholders – Groups and individuals that have a **high potential involvement** in the revised Project in terms of high to medium influence and high interest. These stakeholders are generally directly impacted physically, socially or financially, are actively interested in the revised Project or a specific aspect of it.

Tier two stakeholders – Groups and individuals that have **medium potential involvement** are those who have high to low influence and interest in the revised Project. These stakeholders have an active interest in engagement activities related to a specific revised Project issue.

Tier three stakeholders – Groups and individuals who have **low potential involvement** are those that have medium to low influence and interest in the revised Project. These stakeholders have minimal impact, but may want to know broadly what is happening.

5.2. Affected and Interested Stakeholder Groups

A summary of affected and interested stakeholder groups and their tier ranking are identified in **Table 5** and **Table 6** below. **Appendix K.2** details the full list of stakeholders included in each of these groups and will be built on throughout the revised Project.

Table 5 Affected stakeholders

Affected stakeholders	Tier
Key local residents	Tier one
Neighbours and NHG property lessees	Tier one
Near neighbours	Tier one
Current employees	Tier one
Contractors	Tier one
Traditional owners	Tier one
State Government	Tier one
Federal Government	Tier one
Toowoomba Regional Council	Tier one
Elected representatives	Tier one
Lobby groups	Tier one
Media	Tier one
Key environment groups	Tier one
Industry groups	Tier one

Table 6 Interested stakeholders

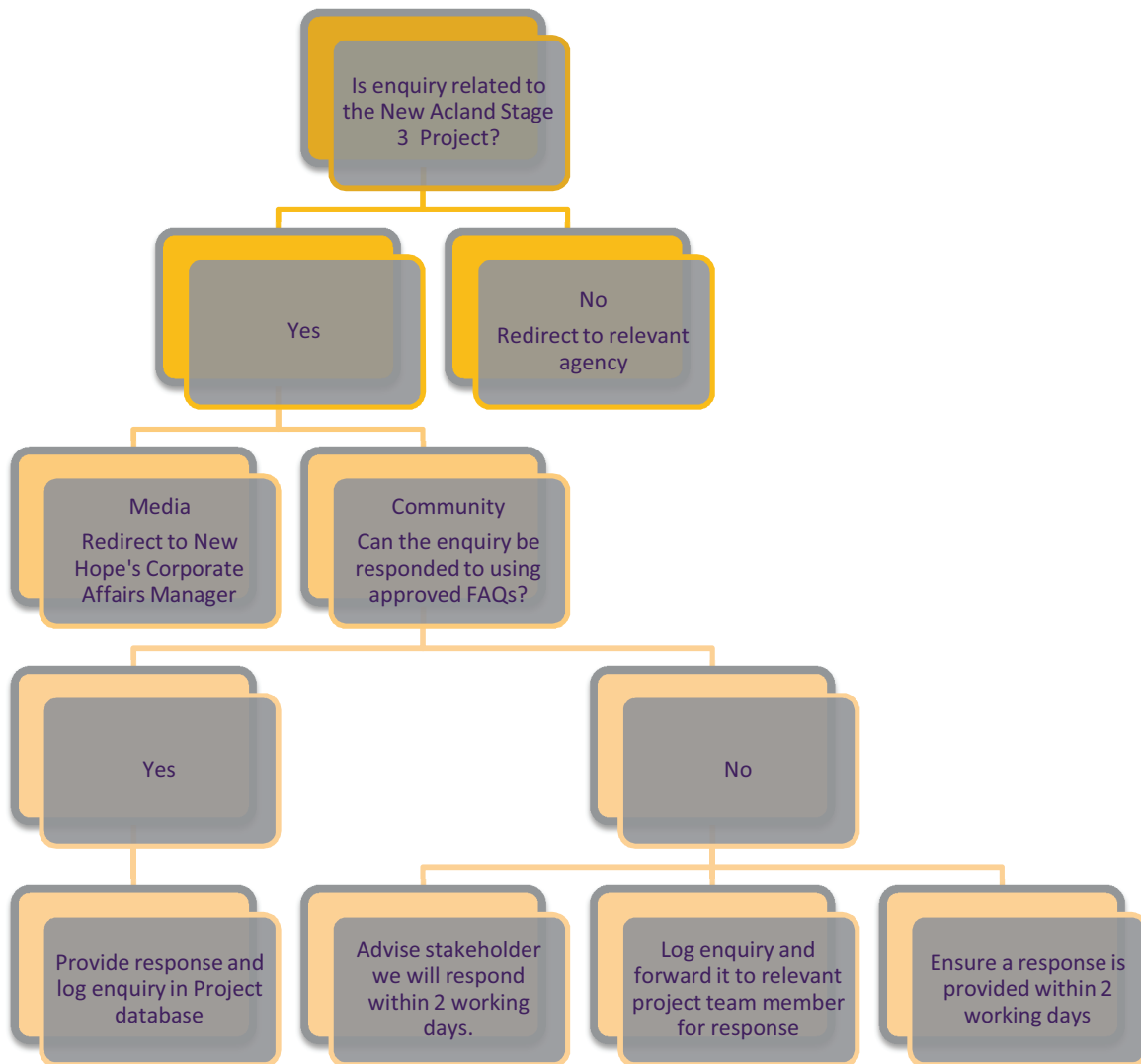
Interested stakeholders	Tier
State advisory agencies	Tier two
State Government Opposition Leader	Tier two
Local Government associations	Tier two
Other Environment groups	Tier two
Community groups	Tier two
Health agencies and facilities	Tier two
Emergency services	Tier two
Education facilities	Tier two
Business groups	Tier two
Utilities and transport	Tier three
Unions	Tier three
Local businesses	Tier three

6. Communication Protocols

6.1. External Stakeholder Protocols

When taking telephone or email enquiries from external stakeholders the process outlined below will be applied.

Figure 1 Telephone and email enquiries process



6.2. Land Owner Protocols

Management of landowner relationships will be managed by NHG employees and adhere to the New Hope Group Landholder Protocol Field staff will be provided with Record of Contact forms for times when informal contact is made. All interactions will be recorded in Consultation Manager.

7. Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan

A Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan has been prepared for the revised Project set up, announcement of the revised Project, draft ToR, EIS input and public notification phases, State Government approval, Federal Government approval and grant of Mining Lease phases for the revised Project.

Table 7 Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan

Timing	Consultation activity	Target audience	Engagement outcome/ purpose
Phase One: Announce revised Project			
November 2012	Media release, ASX statement, website copy, stakeholder letter, fact sheet and AGM announcement to announce Project	All	To promote benefits of the revised Project and demonstrate NHG consulted with community and listened to stakeholders
	Stakeholder briefings	Government advisory agencies and decision-makers Elected representatives Neighbours and near neighbours	To engage and seek support: NHG is a major employer and contributor to the local economy To announce and promote benefits and opportunities of the revised Project
Phase Two: ToR public notification			
December 2012 – 4 February 2013	Public notification period	All	To advise of opportunity for stakeholder to provide feedback on draft ToR and to provide information about the revised Project benefits
Monthly	CRG meetings x 12	CRG members Local community	Monthly CRG meetings to discuss and receive community feedback on the Mine and revised Project
December 2012 – February 2013	Elected representatives	Tier one MPs, Opposition	Project update and advise of ToR consultation activities; Advise of the revised Project, planned consultation activities and updates
December 2012 – February 2013	Staff and contractor meetings	Current employees and contractors	To inform about ToR, revised Project plans and job security
December 2012 – February 2013	Letter – direct mail	Key tier one and two stakeholders Local community area (TBC)	Provide community feedback opportunities Inform about ToR and approvals process Register people for participation in further consultation
Ongoing	Website	All	All campaign materials to direct traffic to website to inform about the revised Project and current operations
Quarterly	Newsletter	All	To inform about current ToR revised Project, approvals/consultation process and key issues
December 2012 January 2013	Community information sessions – Oakey RSL	All	Project update and advise of ToR consultation activities; Advise of the revised Project, planned consultation activities and updates
December	Advertisements for information sessions in Oakey Champion	Local community	To advise of display locations and information sessions for feedback opportunities

Timing	Consultation activity	Target audience	Engagement outcome/ purpose
December 2012 December 2012	Media release	All	To announce the revised Project
December 2012 – February 2013	Fact sheets	Local community	For letterbox drop, the New Hope Information Centre, displays and information sessions To provide detailed information about ToR, revised Project, process and consultation opportunities
December 2012 – February 2013	Posters	Local community	For ToR displays and information sessions To provide detailed information about the revised Project key issues, process and consultation opportunities
Ongoing	Media campaign	All	Respond to misinformation and provide facts
Ongoing	Information campaign	All	To promote the Mine and the revised Project benefits
Ongoing	Social media campaign	Local community and wider public	To provide facts about the revised Project
Ongoing	Community Liaison Officer the New Hope Information Centre	Local community	To inform local residents about ToR, operations and the revised Project, and seek feedback and input To attend local community events and engage with community members To develop/maintain positive relationships with community organisations and individuals
Ongoing	Mine and revised Project site bus tours	Local community	To inform local residents about operations and the revised Project and seek community input/feedback Provide community feedback opportunities
Phase Three: Preparation of EIS			
Bi Monthly	CRG meeting	CRG members Local community	CRG meeting about consultation opportunities and overview of key revised Project benefits/mitigation measures Provide feedback opportunity
Ongoing	Staff and contractor meetings	Current employees and contractors	To notify stakeholders that final ToR released, EIS approvals process and consultation opportunities To inform about the revised Project plans and job security
February – August 2013	Elected representative briefings/ presentations	Tier one MPs, Opposition	To notify stakeholders that final ToR released, EIS approvals process and consultation opportunities Overview of key revised Project benefits/mitigation measures Provide opportunity for feedback
TBC – April 2013	Media release	All	To notify stakeholders that final ToR released, EIS approvals process and consultation opportunities
TBC – April 2013	Letter – direct mail Letterbox drop	Key Tier one and two stakeholders Local community area	

Timing	Consultation activity	Target audience	Engagement outcome/ purpose
		(TBC)	Provide community feedback opportunities Overview of key revised Project benefits/mitigations
TBC – April 2013	Stakeholder meetings	Neighbours (including NHG leases)	
TBC – April 2013	Website updated	All	
Quarterly	Newsletter	All	
Phase Four: EIS public notification			
TBC: 2013 – October-November 2013	Public notification period	All	To advise of opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback on draft EIS and to promote the revised Project benefits
Monthly	CRG meetings x 12	CRG members Local community	Monthly CRG meetings to discuss current Mine operations and the revised Project
TBC: 2013 – October-November 2013	Elected representatives	Tier one MPs, Opposition	Revised Project update and advise of EIS consultation activities; Advise of the revised Project, planned consultation activities and updates
TBC: – October-November 2013	Staff and contractor meetings	Current employees and contractors	To inform about EIS, revised Project plans and job security
TBC: – October-November 2013	Letter – direct mail	Key tier one and two stakeholders Local community area (TBC)	Provide community feedback opportunities Inform about EIS and approvals process Register people for participation in further consultation
TBC: – October-November 2013	Website	All	All campaign materials to direct traffic to website to inform about the revised Project and current operations
Quarterly	Newsletter	All	To inform about the EIS revised Project, approvals/consultation process and key issues
TBC: – October-November 2013	Community information sessions – Oakey, Goombungee and Jondaryan TBC	All	Revised Project update and advise of ToR consultation activities; Advise of the revised Project, planned consultation activities and updates, and seek input
TBC: – October-November 2013	Advertisements for information sessions in Oakey Champion	Local community	To advise of display locations and information sessions for feedback opportunities
TBC: – October 2013	Media release	All	To announce the revised Project and promote feedback opportunities
TBC: – October-November 2013	Fact sheets	Local community	For letterbox drop, the New Hope Information Centre, displays and information sessions To provide detailed information about EIS, Revised Project key messages, process and consultation opportunities
TBC: – October –November 2013	Posters	Local community	For EIS displays and information sessions To provide detailed information about the revised Project key issues, process and consultation opportunities
TBC: – October –November 2013	Media campaign	All	To respond to misinformation and provide facts about revised Project and NAC

Timing	Consultation activity	Target audience	Engagement outcome/ purpose
TBC: –July – December 2013	Information campaign	All	To provide facts, promote the Mine and the revised Project benefits
TBC: – October –November 2013	Social media	Local community and wider public	To provide facts about the revised Project
Ongoing	Community Liaison Officer the New Hope Information Centre	Local community	To inform local residents about EIS, operations and the revised Project To attend local community events To develop/maintain positive relationships with community organisations and individuals
Ongoing	Mine and Project site bus tours	Local community	To inform local residents about operations and the revised Project Provide community feedback opportunities
Phase Five: State Government Project approval			
TBC early 2014	Elected representative briefings/ presentations	Tier one MPs, Opposition	To notify stakeholders the revised Project has progressed to the next stage of approvals
	CRG meeting	CRG members Local community	
	Staff and contractor meetings	Current employees and contractors	
	Website	All	
Quarterly	Newsletter	All	
Federal Government Project approval			
TBC early 2014	Elected representative briefings/ presentations	Tier one MPs, Opposition	To notify stakeholders the revised Project has been approved
	CRG meeting	CRG members Local community	
	Staff and contractor meetings	Current employees and contractors	
	Website	All	
Quarterly	Newsletter	All	
Grant of Mining Lease			
TBC mid 2014	Coordinator-General advertisement	All	CG informing public – opportunity to submit opposition to the Land Court of Queensland
TBC mid 2014	Media holding statement	Media	Prepared response



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K.2 Stakeholder List



TIER ONE	Organisations and individuals
Key local residents	
Neighbours and NAC leases	
Near neighbours	
Current employees	New Acland Employees Contract employees Queensland Bulk Handling (QBH)
Contractors	Drilling contractors Shell – fuel suppliers Beaumont Transport
Traditional owners	Western Wakka Wakka Council Jarowair Council (native title claim withdrawn) Oakey Reconciliation Group (Toowoomba Regional Council)
Army base	Department of Defence – Stephen Smith MP Oakey Army Base Commandant
State Government – decision makers	Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning - Coordinator General Department of Environment and Heritage Protection – Andrew Powell MP Department of Natural Resources and Mines – Andrew Cripps MP Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning – Deputy Premier Jeff Seeney MP
Federal Government – decision makers	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities – Tony Burke MP
Local government associations – decision makers	Darling Downs Regional Planning Committee Toowoomba Regional Council
Elected representatives	State Member for Nanango – Deb Frecklington MP State Member for Condamine – Ray Hopper MP State Member for Toowoomba North – Trevor Watts MP State Member for Toowoomba South – John McVeigh MP State Member for Southern Downs and Minister for Health – Lawrence Springborg MP State Member for Lockyer – Ian Rickuss
Lobby groups and mining opponents	Friends of Felton Lock the Gate Aussie Helpers Oakey Coal Action Alliance (Peter Faulkner) Stop Brisbane Coal Trains
Media	National, regional and local media
Environment groups	Acland Pastoral Company Lagoon Creek Landcare Group Murray Group of Concerned Communities Oakey Urban Landcare

Industry groups	<p>Queensland Farmers Federation Queensland Resources Council Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise Regional Managers Coordination Network Regional Development Australia AgForce Darling Downs/South West region Urban Development Institute of Australia Toowoomba (UDIA)</p>
TIER TWO	
Federal Government	<p>Minister for Resources, Energy and Tourism – Martin Ferguson MP Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency – Greg Combet MP Federal Member for Kennedy and Leader of Katter’s Australia Party – Bob Katter MP n Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Water, Leader of the Nationals in the Senate, LNP Senator for Queensland – Barnaby Joyce</p>
State Government advisory agencies and ministers	<p>Department of Local Government – David Crisafulli MP Department of Housing and Public Works – Bruce Flegg MP Department of Police and Community Safety – Jack Dempsey MP Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services – Tracy Davis MP Department of Transport & Main Roads – Scott Emerson MP Department of Natural Resources and Mines – Assistant Minister Lisa France MP Department of Health – Lawrence Springborg MP</p>
State Government opposition leader	<p>Leader of the Opposition – Annastacia Palaszczuk MP</p>
Other environment groups	<p>North East Downs Landcare Group South Myall Creek Landcare Group Toowoomba Regional Environment Council Greening Australia Earthtrade Condamine Alliance</p>
Community groups	<p>Community Reference Group Oakey community Toowoomba community The Jondaryan Woolshed Historical Museum and Park Fresh hope Oakey Agricultural Pastoral and Rodeo Society Inc. Oakey Community Care Committee Jondaryan Residents Association</p>
Health agencies and facilities	<p>Toowoomba and Darling Downs Health Service District - Oakey Hospital Toowoomba and Darling Downs Health Service District – Toowoomba Hospital Cherry Street Medical Centre Downs Health Service District Oakey Hospital and Nursing Care</p>

Emergency services	Jondaryan Rural Fire Brigade Jondaryan Police (John Cook) Goombungee Police Myall Creek Rural Fire Brigade Oakey Ambulance Centre Queensland Fire & Rescue (Oakey) Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (South Western Region)
Education facilities	Jondaryan State Primary School Oakey State High School Oakey State Primary School St Monica's Primary School The Downs District Education Office Goombungee State School Quinalow State School Downs Group Training University of Southern Queensland South Queensland Institute of TAFE Kulpi State School
Business groups	Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce Oakey Chamber of Commerce
TIER THREE	
Utilities and transport	Ergon Energy QR Network QR National Queensland Trucking Association
Unions	Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (Mining and Energy Division) Communications Electrical Plumbing Union Australian Manufacturing Workers Union Electrical Trades Union
Local businesses	
Other community groups	TOMNET Rotary Lifeline Lions CentreCare Oakey Historical Museum The Rosalie Gallery (Goombungee) St Mary's CentaCare Country Women's Association (CWA) Legacy/other women's groups



NEW HOPE
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K.3 Stakeholder Letters and Emails



From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 10 December 2012 19:57

BCC: [REDACTED]

Subject: New Acland Community Information Session

Hi All,

Just a reminder that tomorrow (Tues 11th Dec) is the New Hope Community Information Session about the revised version of the New Acland Coal Mine project. This session will allow people to review and give feedback on the Terms of Reference.

Attached is the advertisement that went out in last week's Oakey Champion. If you are interested in finding out more details, please come along.

Please also pass this on to anyone who you think may be interested in finding out more.

Regards,
Helen Braithwaite
Community Liaison Officer
NEW ACLAND OPERATIONS
NEW HOPE GROUP

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Website: www.newhopecoal.com.au



Proud winner of the *2011-2012 Ipswich Business of the Year Award* - [read more...](#)

New Hope Group

A Division of NEW HOPE CORPORATION LIMITED

ABN 38 010 653 844

Contact

Our Ref:
Your Ref:



19 November 2012



As you may be aware, the New Hope Group has been in discussions with the State Government about options to continue operations at the New Acland mine thus ensuring that current jobs and economic benefits to the region can continue.

New Hope has listened to community and government concerns relating to the previous Stage 3 mine expansion proposal and is in the process of developing a new compromise version of this plan that addresses these issues.

Hundreds of livelihoods are dependent on the New Acland operations and have been for a decade. If the operations do not continue redundancies could begin as early as 2015 and the mine will be closed in 2017. This would mean the operation's \$110 million annual injection into the Darling Downs economy and over 300 local jobs, 160 full-time contractor jobs and 2,300 indirect jobs would be lost.

The continuation plans will ensure current jobs and economic benefits are not only maintained, but will continue to act as a spur to the Darling Downs economy through direct and indirect employment, investment and business opportunities.

New Hope's proposed compromise plan for the mine will ensure the Acland area, including the Tom Doherty Park, the War Memorial and the Acland No 2 Colliery, will be preserved.

The future plans will mean that the closest point of potential mining operations will be located at least 10km away from the township of Oakey, compared to 7km as previously proposed.

From the original proposal, there will be an overall reduction in the amount of land used for mining activities by more than half.

As part of the proposed continuation plans, the Jondaryan Train Loading Facility will be decommissioned and relocated 8km away from the township. A new train loading facility will be built at a remote site closer to the mine.

New Hope will also introduce veneering to coat all transported coal leaving the mine by train as a measure to reduce the potential of coal dust coming from trains.

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Website: www.newhopecoal.com.au



The new plans will also ensure that Lagoon Creek is not diverted and is left untouched. The operations will continue to be self-sufficient for water, with water continuing to be purchased from Toowoomba's Wetalla Wastewater Reclamation Facility. Only around 20 percent of the Wetalla water is purchased by New Hope.

The proposed plans will not require a new Coal Handling and Preparation Plant to be built, with the existing plants to remain in their current location and upgraded.

New Hope is working with the Office of the Coordinator General regarding the continuation plans. The proposed plans will be subject to rigorous scientific and environmental assessment by the State Government through the regular EIS processes.

New Hope will also continue to work in partnership with neighbours, local residents, government agencies and other key stakeholders in further developing the plan.

New Hope is committed to seeking community input, minimising impacts and maximising benefits on the continuation plans. If you would like more information about the plans or for a New Hope representative to meet with you to discuss the plans in more detail please call our Community Liaison Officer, in Oakey, Helen Braithwaite 07 4691 3445 / M. 0409 082 403 or email community@newhopecoal.com.au.

There will be further opportunities for the community to provide feedback on the plan at information sessions over the coming months. In the meantime, you can also visit the New Hope Community Information Centre at Shop 90/88 Campbell Street Oakey to find out more about the project.

Yours faithfully,
NEW HOPE GROUP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Neale', with a horizontal line underneath.

Rob Neale
Chief Executive Officer
New Hope Group

27 March 2013

NAME
ADDRESS LINE 1
ADDRESS LINE 2
SUBURB STATE POSTCODE

Dear Mr Xxxxxxx,

As you may be aware, the New Hope Group has announced a revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project (the revised Project) enabling the New Acland operation to continue, thus ensuring current jobs and economic benefits related to the operations can be maintained.

The Queensland Coordinator-General has restarted the approvals process taking the revised Project, which is a significant project for Queensland and the Darling Downs, back to the Terms of Reference (ToR) stage, with the final ToR released on 26 March 2013.

The revised Project will extend the life of the current operation until about 2029, boosting current employment from 300 local jobs to about 400, increasing 160 full-time equivalent contractors to 170 positions and growing indirect jobs from about 2,300 to more than 2,850.

Under the revised Project the town of Acland will be left in place, the existing Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility will be moved eight kilometres away from the town, the land used for mining will be reduced by more than half from the original proposal and Lagoon Creek will not be diverted.

The ToR set out the specific matters which must be addressed in preparing a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the revised Project. The final ToR are available online at www.aclandproject.com.au or www.dsdip.qld.gov.au/newacland.

The ToR provide a clear direction for the full EIS investigations into social, environmental, economic and cultural implications and the development of appropriate management strategies to be conducted.

The EIS will involve a range of technical studies, such as ground and surface water, noise and vibration, ecology and economic impact assessment to form a comprehensive study and understanding of the revised Project.

Community feedback is an essential part of the EIS preparation, and New Hope will involve the community in all stages of the assessment process. Following the compilation of the draft EIS and all the supporting studies, the EIS will be released for public comment and a number of community information sessions will be held later this year to seek feedback.

The EIS project team will also work in close consultation with local residents, landholders, local businesses, government agencies, community and environmental groups and other key stakeholders throughout the planning and development of the revised Project to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes and relationships.

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Following public consultation, the Coordinator-General will evaluate the EIS and prepare a report determining if it will proceed and recommend conditions of approval. If approved, the EIS will also be assessed by the Federal Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities for further approvals or conditions.

To find out more about the EIS process, visit <http://www.dlg.qld.gov.au/assessments-and-approvals/environmental-impact-statement-process.html>.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact our Community Liaison Officer Helen Braithwaite, in Oakey, on (07) 4691 3445 or 0409 082 403 or by emailing community@newhopecoal.com.au. You can also visit the New Hope Community Information Centre at Shop 90/88 Campbell Street, Oakey to find out more about the revised Project.

Yours faithfully,
NEW HOPE GROUP



Rob Neale
Managing Director / CEO

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NEW HOPE
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K.4 New Acland CRG Meeting Minutes



Minutes of meeting

New Acland Community Reference Group

CRG meeting number: 1

Date: 30 October 2012

Time: 4.00pm

Location: New Acland Coal

Attendees: Michael Cuthill – CRG Independent Facilitator, Australian Centre for sustainable Business and Development, USQ

Dave Bosworth – Oakey State School

Matthew Boyd – Queensland Health

Shane Charles – Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise

Sarah Due – AgForce Queensland

Bryan Gray – RDA Darling Downs and SW Qld

Catherine Hull – Downs Group Training

Greg Johnson – Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce

Andrew Langton – Oakey Chamber of Commerce

Barry Mason – Local Landholder

Chris McNally – Oakey State High School

Helen Montgomery – Lifeline Darling Downs

Nancy Sommerfield – Toowoomba Regional Council

Jim Randell, General Manager New Acland - New Hope Group

Helen Braithwaite, Community Liaison Officer - New Hope Group

Jen Wilson, Business Support - New Hope Group

Guest Attendees: Bruce Denney, Chief Operating Officer - New Hope Group

Justin Coomber, Senior Communications Advisor - New Hope Group

Lisa Backhouse, Manager Corporate Affairs - New Hope Group

Aaron Athorn, Senior Advisor Corporate Affairs - New Hope Group

Jana Marschall, Consultant - Rowlands

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Phone number: +61 7 3418 0500

Agenda item Discussion

Item 1	<p>Official Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lisa Backhouse welcomed everyone and introduced Bruce Denney – Chief Operating Officer – New Hope Group. Bruce gave a brief explanation on the group’s ability to facilitate communication between New Hope Group and the community ▪ Bruce introduced Michael Cuthill. Michael is an independent facilitator and will assist the group in ongoing discussions between all representatives
Item 2	<p>Safety Share – Jim Randell</p> <p><i>NB: A safety share will be conducted at the beginning of each CRG meeting. The safety share is reflective of New Hope’s commitment to safety in all activities. During a safety share, group members have the opportunity to share an incident or observation and a related safety learning</i></p> <p>Safety share this week: Everyone needs to be conscious of the enormous amount of fuel by way of grass in the area and the risk of fire hazards</p>
Item 3	<p>Acceptance and signing of CRG Foundation Documents – Michael Cuthill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Package containing Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct, foundation member responsibilities and public relations release available to everyone for signing. All agreed to sign ▪ Justin Coomber from New Hope was introduced. Justin will be the media contact for all approaches by the media in relation to the CRG. NHG will use all material ethically
Item 4	<p>Confirmation of future meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suggested monthly meeting initially ▪ Date claimer for last Monday of month to be forwarded (26 November) for two hour meeting ▪ Meetings will be held in Oakey at the Oakey Primary School multi-purpose centre when available
Item 5	<p>Housekeeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minutes will be circulated within two weeks, feedback within third week from meeting. Minutes will be available on the NHG website within 30 days of meeting ▪ Agenda items can be forwarded up to one week prior to the scheduled meeting ▪ Jennifer Wilson will act as CRG administrative support ▪ Request for all members to read all documentation prior to meetings ▪ Opportunity for in depth discussions at meetings
Item 5	<p>New Hope Group Overview and proposed New Acland Continuation Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bruce Denney presented overview of New Hope Group and the continuation plan update for New Acland ▪ Discussions on community impacts in the Acland area, Strategic Cropping Land – to be discussed at future meetings

Actions: Question raised – How many houses on APC are rented?

Agenda item	Discussion
Item 6	Suggested topics for discussion at future meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Management of potential conflicts of interest within the group and the community ● Current community concerns Complaints that come through to NHG/NAC offices ● Educated view and perception of New Acland mine ● Strategic Cropping Land
Next meeting	Next meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3.00 pm Monday 26 November 2012 – Library, Oakey State School (Primary). Members will need to sign in at the school office before heading to the library
Meeting close	Meeting closed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 7.35pm

The minutes of all New Acland CRG meetings will be recorded and published within 30 days of a meeting. All CRG members are required to review and comment on minutes within one week of receiving minutes.

Minutes of meeting

New Acland Community Reference Group

CRG meeting number: 2

Date: 26 November 2012

Time: 3.00pm

Location: Oakey State School (Primary)

Apologies: Matthew Boyd – Queensland Health
Andrew Langton – Oakey Chamber of Commerce
Helen Montgomery – Lifeline Darling Downs

Facilitator: Michael Cuthill – Australian Centre for sustainable Business and Development, USQ

Attendees: Dave Bosworth – Oakey State School
Shane Charles – Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise
Sarah Due – AgForce Queensland
Bryan Gray – RDA Darling Downs and SW Qld
Catherine Hull – Downs Group Training
Greg Johnson – Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce
Barry Mason – Local Landholder
Chris McNally – Oakey State High School
Nancy Sommerfield – Toowoomba Regional Council

New Hope Group Representatives: Jim Randell – New Acland General Manager
Helen Braithwaite – Community Liaison Officer
Andre du Preez – Project Manager
Jennifer Wilson – Secretariat

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Agenda item **Discussion**

Item 1	<p>Official Welcome to Oakey Primary School - Dave Bosworth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ David welcomed the group to Oakey Primary School and detailed the evacuation procedures and congratulated New Acland on their solid message of safety during the site visit. The focus for Oakey State School is also safety and the ability to read that will ultimately give options in life.
Item 2	<p>Safety Share – Michael Cuthill</p> <p>Michael offered a way of removing a tick was to apply constant pressure while gently pulling, not to squeeze the body.</p>
Item 3	<p>Housekeeping – Michael Cuthill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minutes from last meeting had been circulated. Chris McNally suggested that more detail be included on the discussion items. ▪ Carryover Items : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conflict of Interest. Michael offered by way of a guideline in declaring any conflicts of interest if anyone has any commercial interest or any advantage could be gained by way of tender or other means then it should be disclosed. Helen advised the group that New Hope has a relationship with most of the groups through the community. On a personal level Helen disclosed that she is a Director of Lifeline. 2. There has been a member suggested as a Jondaryan representative on the CRG. At this stage no direct approach has been made however the person is well considered and has good connections within the community. (NB: person’s details no disclosed due to privacy at this stage). After discussion on changes required to the Terms of Reference, CRG members felt that it would be beneficial to have a Jondaryan representative in the group. Comments were made that should a Jondaryan representative be accepted, the position should be made available for application from all interested Jondaryan representatives. Jim Randell suggested that the Jondaryan Residents Association meeting on Friday night (30 November) would be a good opportunity to gauge interest.
Actions:	<p>Helen to make contact with the suggested representative and interested parties from the Jondaryan District Residents Association meeting.</p>
Item 4	<p>Michael requested any feedback from concerns or issues from their own committees or groups.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The feedback Chris McNally has received from community members is that the people that work locally for New Acland are good to work with, however members of the community are frustrated as they feel the parent company (perceived as Ipswich) is not responsive and their decisions do not meet their concerns. 2. Greg Johnson published photos and media release in his Chamber E News with positive feedback. On 6-8 March Bruce Denney (New Hope - COO) will speak to a group at the Infrastructure and Energy Summit. 3. Bryan Gray has included CRG details in their newsletter with no negative comments. 4. Shane Charles included CRG details in newsletters and the business community is generally supportive of New Hope. TSBE are currently organising a tour of New Acland for their Board members. 5. Nancy Sommerfield circulated photos that were taken during the New Acland site visit and waiting for feedback. It was suggested that on the New Hope website an employment step process be available that allows for opportunity to process applicants and with elimination as it steps through. 6. Barry Mason as a farmer has had discussions with the grass roots i.e. the farmers and has concerns with prime agricultural land taken up by mining in the continuation plan. Discussions on options

Agenda item Discussion

	<p>available not to mine the land should continue with mining engineers and looking at opportunities and options that might be would be beneficial. This topic would be carried over and discussed at a full session of the CRG.</p> <p>7. Dave Bosworth as Principal of Oakey State School is keen to understand the skill set and opportunities there would be for working with the mine, and how he gives the notion and dreams for the young people that can become reality. Discussions on key requirements and the importance to socially invest funds in this area.</p> <p>8. Sarah Due advised that she has had contact from landholders surrounding the mine that have concerns over health, sleep, peace and have been disturbed in the past. The group discussed other landholders contributing to the CRG would offer a different perspective. Further consideration by New Hope on involvement from other landholders at some meetings will be given.</p> <p>9. Catherine Hull has only had positive comments from businesses.</p>
Action:	Media Release to be forwarded to Catherine Hull
Item 5	<p>Continuation Plan Update – Andre du Preez (Project Manager)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The group had detailed discussion on the continuation plan including the process going forward from the Coordinator General’s announcement. The issue of the Terms of Reference will be released the first week of December and give the public opportunity to review and offer input. This will be open for public comment for a period of 9 weeks (usually 4 weeks). New Hope intends to host to Open Days to the public in Oakey, the first will be held on the 11th of December and the second on the 30th of January. Jim and Andre outlined the monitoring that is currently conducted at Jondaryan.
Item 5	<p>Future Meeting Dates – Michael Cuthill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No meeting in December ▪ Invitation to be sent for next meeting 4 February 2013.
Item 6	<p>Topics for future meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GJ suggested Communication Strategy – information from CRG to a wider group to gain a better understanding of the debate from opponents and employees. People’s ability to interpret and make judgement and opportunity to see if they are linked. • Strategic Cropping Land
Next meeting	<p>Next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.00 pm Monday 4 February 2013 – Oakey Primary School.
Meeting close	Meeting closed at: 5.10pm

The minutes of all New Acland CRG meetings will be recorded and published within 30 days of a meeting. All CRG members are required to review and comment on minutes within one week prior to publishing.

Minutes of meeting

New Acland Community Reference Group

CRG meeting number: 3

Date: 4 February 2013

Time: 3.00pm

Location: Oakey State School (Primary)

Apologies: Helen Montgomery – Lifeline Darling Downs
Nancy Sommerfield – Toowoomba Regional Council
Sarah Due – AgForce Queensland
Dave Bosworth – Oakey State School

Facilitator: Michael Cuthill – Australian Centre for Sustainable Business and Development, USQ

Attendees: Shane Charles – Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise
Bryan Gray – RDA Darling Downs and SW Qld
Catherine Hull – Downs Group Training
Greg Johnson – Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce
Barry Mason – Local Landholder
Chris McNally – Oakey State High School
Matthew Boyd – Queensland Health
Andrew Langton – Oakey Chamber of Commerce

New Hope Group Representatives: Jim Randell – New Acland General Manager
Helen Braithwaite – Community Liaison Officer
Jennifer Wilson – Secretariat

Agenda item Discussion

Item 1	<p>Michael welcomed the group</p> <p>Greg Johnson informed the group on the Infrastructure & Energy Summit to be held 6-8 March 2013 hosted by Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce & Industry.</p>
Item 2	<p>Safety Share – Jim Randell</p> <p>Jim Randell advised the Group of an employee that had received damage to his house in Burrum Heads from a tornado and the damage that can be caused by flying debris during the storms.</p>
Item 3	<p>Community feedback and input</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Michael Cuthill referred to the email circulated by Helen Montgomery and the issues that have been raised with Lifeline. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Perceived negative impact to health. Discussion in the Group saying they felt they understood there was no impact, however, could see that there is still a feeling in parts of the community that coal dust could be harmful. The Group said there was a need for the mine to allay these concerns <p>Jim Randell advised that his personal approach is to have the opportunity to give information from New Hope’s perspective and if organising an independent view would be beneficial, he would do so in some cases.</p> <p>Michael Cuthill suggested that the company respond to Lifeline’s concerns offering to speak with the stakeholders in person if appropriate.</p> <p>The group also requested one page of information regarding coal dust. Helen Braithwaite offered New Hope fact sheets for reference for members.</p> ○ Another point raised by Helen Montgomery was in relation to rehabilitation and promoting this through the community. Barry Mason suggested that New Hope organise an independent group to review current practices and then speak to the community about the rehabilitation ○ Helen Montgomery also suggested extending New Hope social initiatives with particular reference to education and training. Chris McNally spoke about the need for real pathways to careers for the Oakey and surrounding communities. <p>Jim Randell said that New Acland regularly had trainees and apprentices from the local area on site and made genuine attempts to hire locals where ever possible.</p> <p>Chris McNally said that he has had initial discussions with Helen Braithwaite regarding further opportunities in the area and was keen to continue discussing options.</p> <p>Helen Braithwaite advised the group that New Hope is continuing to look at a possible Community Development Fund and this could be used to support some of the bigger projects that are community driven.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shane Charles advised of the TSBE and TRC visit to New Acland that was warmly received. Discussions on local content are planned with Lisa Backhouse. No feedback from membership base to date. ○ Greg Johnson develops a weekly article in the Chronicle and has received no feedback.
Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HB/CMcN discuss further on a possible process that will offer benefits to both the company and the community ▪ HB - New Hope’s response to Lifeline’s concerns

Agenda item Discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HB- New Hope to review communications on perceived health impacts of coal dust
Item 4	<p>New Hope Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jim Randell gave an update on New Hope including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Acland had no impact from the floods however two shifts were sent home to be with families during the event. The flood did impact the rail and repairs will not be completed until end of February which may impact the stockpiles at Jondaryan and at site. ○ New Acland has replaced air horns on the large trucks with electric horns which have a lower noise impact on surroundings. ○ Rehabilitation of the tailings project will be complete by end of July. ○ Acland Pastoral Company will be working with Agforce to facilitate a feral pest program, involving locals for a combined effort. ○ The veneering project will be completed by the end of March at the Jondaryan Loading facility using a vegetable type veneer to seal. ○ A new trainee has started at Acland Pastoral, with the aim of having two trainees employed. ○ The independent group Outcross is progressing a partnership with USQ to assist APC in trial grazing on rehabilitated land. ○ Neighbour briefings on the Revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project proposal have continued. Two community information sessions for the Terms of Reference have been held in Oakey. Further information on the Project is available at the New Hope Community Information Centre in Campbell Street, Oakey.
Action:	
Item 5	<p>Jondaryan CRG Member update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Helen Braithwaite updated the group on the application process for the Jondaryan CRG representative. One application has been received – formal offer to be extended before the next meeting. <p>The Amendment to the ToR had been circulated and there was no one with comment or concerns. All members present initialled the ToR amendment to show their support. Helen will now approach the applicant and invite them to the next meeting and a visit to New Acland.</p>
Item 5	<p>CRG Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Helen clarified that the Group is entitled to comment on the ToR and if any member requires information by way of Fact Sheets these are available. Helen provided attending members with a copy of New Hope’s factsheets and gave an overview of places information is available. <p>If CRG members come across stakeholder groups who are looking for more information about the mine or the expansion, New Hope would be more than happy to meet with these groups. CRG members can organise this through Jen or Helen.</p> <p>Media enquiries should be referred to New Hope Senior Communications Advisor Justin Coomber.</p>
Item 6	<p>Housekeeping</p> <p>Topics for future meetings carried over</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Cropping Land – will await the DDRP release (end February). <p>Suggested topics</p>

Agenda item Discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education ▪ Social Enterprise <p>Jim Randell commended the group on the discussion at the beginning of the meeting and suggested that robust discussion continues to be a focus point of all meetings.</p>
<p>Next meeting</p>	<p>Next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.30 pm Monday 25 March 2013 – Oakey State School. • Please note that the meeting time has been pushed back to 3:30pm so as to miss the after school rush.
<p>Meeting close</p>	<p>Meeting closed at: 4.45pm</p>

The minutes of all New Acland CRG meetings will be recorded and published within 30 days of a meeting. All CRG members are required to review and comment on minutes within one week prior to publishing.

Minutes of meeting

New Acland Community Reference Group

CRG meeting number: 4

Date: 8 April 2013

Time: 3.30pm

Location: Oakey RSL

Apologies:

Nancy Sommerfield – Toowoomba Regional Council

Dave Bosworth – Oakey State School

Chris McNally – Oakey State High School

Andrew Langton – Oakey Chamber of Commerce

Facilitator: Michael Cuthill – Australian Centre for sustainable Business and Development, USQ

Attendees:

Sarah Due – AgForce Queensland

Shane Charles – Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise

Bryan Gray – RDA Darling Downs and SW Qld

Catherine Hull – Downs Group Training

Greg Johnson – Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce

Barry Mason – Local Landholder

Matthew Boyd – Queensland Health

New Hope Group Representatives:

Jim Randell – New Acland General Manager

Helen Braithwaite – Community Liaison Officer

Jennifer Wilson – Secretariat

Agenda item Discussion

Item 1	Michael Cuthill welcomed the group.
Item 2	Safety Share – Helen Braithwaite Caution travelling on roads and manage fatigue on long distances.
Item 3	<p>Community feedback and input</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greg Johnson has had requests for Fact Sheets which have been supplied. Helen reminded the group that the Fact Sheets are just a starting point for discussion and if more information is required don't hesitate to request. ▪ Greg Johnson provided feedback on the success of the Infrastructure and Energy Summit that was held in March, with positive feedback to the Chamber in relation to Peter Andrew's presentation. ▪ Matt Boyd presented correspondence he has received from Oakey Coal Action Alliance Group outlining concerns for health, noise, pollution and requesting individual meetings with members of the Community Reference Group. Matt recommended that an offer be given to Oakey Coal Action Alliance Group to give a presentation to the CRG at the next meeting. All agreed that a 20min presentation should be offered with extra time for questions afterward. ▪ Helen Braithwaite gave an update on Jondaryan CRG Member. The interested person has current work commitments that would not permit attending during the week. Members suggested that NHG continue to talk with the representative before each meeting to discuss any issues they would like brought to the CRG meeting. It was agreed that an open position be offered to the Jondaryan representative for future meetings if he is available.
Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An invitation to Oakey Coal Action Alliance Group to present at next meeting.
Item 4	<p>New Hope Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jim Randell gave an update on New Hope including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Terms of Reference(ToR) released which is not an approval of project but an index for the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) which will now be put together. It is a milestone and part of the approval process that needs to be followed. If members have any comments regarding the EIS, please let NHG representative know. ○ New Acland has just had a two week site closure to reduce coal stocks which had increased due to the loss of rail during recent rains. Time off over the Easter period gave employees an opportunity to spend time with families. ○ New Hope is installing a veneering and profiling system at the Jondaryan Loading Facility. The veneering process has been operational since 1 April however government has requested it not operate until early May so that monitoring without it can be completed. The veneering is completed with a vegetable matter material and is currently used in the Bowen Basin. MSDS available on the material. ○ Anti-graffiti wagons are operational on our rail line. These wagons have been painted with a material that will allow for graffiti to be washed off. ○ Some New Acland employees will attend Anzac Day again this year at Acland and pay their respect. Once again the operation will shut down during the service. ○ Peter Andrew's visited site during the Summit and while his work is very interesting NHG will not be adopting all of his suggestions. If anyone is interested in learning more from Peter we could request him to attend a presentation. ○ A university professor with expertise in the coal industry may become available to give a

Agenda item Discussion

	<p>presentation to the CRG. It is an opportunity to hear an expert speak about coal, so if interested please advise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Queensland Police Service is currently working with the mining industry and giving presentation on synthetic drugs. New Acland extend the offer to include any groups which may be interested as this is a community issue.
Action:	
Item 6	<p>Housekeeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Topic of Education held over until Chris McNally and Dave Bosworth return. ▪ Shane Charles advised the new Strategic Cropping Land report will still be approximately 6-8 months before being released.
Next meeting	<p>Next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3.30 pm - 27 May 2013 Oakey Primary School.
Meeting close	Meeting closed at: 5.00pm.

Minutes of meeting

New Acland Community Reference Group

CRG meeting number: 5

Date: 27 May 2013

Time: 3.30pm

Location: Oakey Primary School

Apologies:

- Sarah Due – AgForce Queensland
- Shane Charles – Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise
- Catherine Hull – Downs Group Training
- Greg Johnson – Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce
- Matthew Boyd – Queensland Health

Facilitator: Michael Cuthill – Australian Centre for sustainable Business and Development, USQ

Attendees:

- Bryan Gray – RDA Darling Downs and SW Qld
- Barry Mason – Local Landholder
- Nancy Sommerfield – Toowoomba Regional Council
- Dave Bosworth – Oakey State School
- Chris McNally – Oakey State High School
- Andrew Langton – Oakey Chamber of Commerce

New Hope Group Representatives:

- Jim Randell – New Acland General Manager
- Helen Braithwaite – Community Liaison Officer
- Jennifer Wilson – Secretariat

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Website: www.newhopecoal.com.au

Phone number: +61 7 3418 0500

Agenda item Discussion

Item 1	Michael welcomed the group
Item 2	<p>Safety Share</p> <p>Dave Bosworth advised of a recent fire drill at St Monica’s School also included the Primary School due to location.</p> <p>Jim Randell advised of a dozer roll over at New Acland this week. No injuries to any employees</p>
Item 3	<p>Community feedback and input</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Barry Mason attended the recent Anzac Day celebration at Acland. ▪ Barry Mason advised the group of the continuing dingo problem in the area. Toowoomba Regional Council have completed a baiting program over the past two weeks and has plans to increase to four programs a year. Jim Randell offered to follow up on organising a program for the Acland area working with TRC and Agforce. ▪ Nancy Sommerfield enquired to re-use of the water at New Acland. Jim Randell advised that the only water to leave site was in evaporation or in the coal after washing. ▪ Nancy Sommerfield advised that the TRC had a meeting organised with a Jondaryan resident. Jim Randell extended an invitation to inspect the veneering process at the Jondaryan Loading Facility during their visit to Jondaryan. ▪ Helen Braithwaite advised the group of the status of the Jondaryan member. He will attend when possible and will continue engagement. The public testing results are sent to the Jondaryan Residents Association and placed on the noticeboard located at the Jondaryan Service Station. ▪ Michael Cuthill tabled an email received from the Oakey Coal Action Alliance(OCAA) President in response to the invitation extended to attend a CRG meeting. OCAA advised they would not be attending a CRG meeting however would like to meet with CRG members privately. Group discussion agreed that Michael should respond that the Oakey members would meet with the OCAA not representing the CRG and leave an open invitation to the OCAA to present to the group.
Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MC – respond to the Oakey Coal Alliance Group and advised Oakey members are willing to meet.
Item 4	<p>New Hope Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jim gave an update on New Hope including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Acland will be present at Farmfest and everyone welcome to visit. Tickets have been organised for CRG members to distribute to their organisation members. ○ New Acland employees will be attending a QPS Drug Seminar on 13 June and wants to gauge the interest in opening a session up to the wider community in Oakey. ○ Although the mining industry is going through tough times, New Acland is maintaining a constant workforce. ○ A number of community groups have been to visit the New Acland operations. ○ Consideration is being given to maintaining the stockpile at Jondaryan down to one week’s supply and an update will be given next meeting.
Action:	
Item 6	<p>Social Impact Assessment Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representatives from SKM gave an overview of the purpose of the SIA report and asked for comments from the group on any potential social impacts that could be associated with the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project plan. The group’s contribution is also important to

Agenda item Discussion

	<p>assist understanding of what is happening within the community as a whole.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any individual follow up is welcomed
<p>Next meeting</p>	<p>Next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.30 pm – 29 July 2013 Oakey Primary School.
<p>Meeting close</p>	<p>Meeting closed at: 5.20pm</p>

The minutes of all New Acland CRG meetings will be recorded and published within 30 days of a meeting. All CRG members are required to review and comment on minutes within one week prior to publishing.

Minutes of meeting

New Acland Community Reference Group

CRG meeting number:	6
Date:	29 July 2013
Time:	3.30pm
Location:	Oakey Primary School
Apologies:	Matthew Boyd – Queensland Health Andrew Langton – Oakey Chamber of Commerce Bryan Gray – RDA Darling Downs and SW Qld
Facilitator:	Michael Cuthill – Australian Centre for Sustainable Business and Development, USQ
Attendees:	Barry Mason – Local Landholder Nancy Sommerfield – Toowoomba Regional Council Dave Bosworth – Oakey State School Chris McNally – Oakey State High School Sarah Due – AgForce Queensland Shane Charles – Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise Catherine Hull – Downs Group Training Greg Johnson – Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce
New Hope Group Representatives:	Jim Randell – New Acland General Manager Helen Braithwaite – Community Liaison Officer Jennifer Wilson – Secretariat

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Agenda item Discussion

Item 1	Michael welcomed the group
Item 2	Safety Share Discussion on driving safely in the fog conditions.
Item 3	<p>Community feedback and input</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dave Bosworth has received comments on the stockpiles at Jondaryan. Upon further conversation with the person, he felt that not all the information that they had was accurate. ▪ Greg Johnson advised that with the lead up to the election there was a great opportunity to highlight the significance of the Toowoomba region in relation to the mining, energy infrastructure and diversity of industries. ▪ Catherine Hull had heard of concerns of pay cuts to New Acland employees. Jim advised that this was not a fact, however West Moreton Operations had a shift restructure due to pressure to reduce costs. ▪ Sarah Due received a request to meet with the Jimbour Action Group. The CRG would like to extend an invitation to attend a meeting if they have any particular concerns. Sarah has also received concerns in relation to the water levels if Stage III goes ahead. Jim Randell advised that NHG has been monitoring bores from the beginning of mining at New Acland with no major reductions. He informed the group that New Hope has recently undertaken more monitoring after permission was sought from neighbours as part of the EIS for Stage III. If anyone knew of landholders with specific concerns he was happy to discuss further with the landowner. Sarah requested an update on dust monitoring results for a member's property. ▪ Barry Mason attended the fundraising breakfast that New Acland held for the St Vinnie's Sleep-out. Barry also questioned TRC in relation to the lighting in Acland Township. ▪ Nancy Sommerfield briefly discussed the dust monitoring study at Jondaryan. NHG welcomed the study by an external group and was confident of the outcome. ▪ Chris McNally discussed a meeting between New Acland and the Oakey High School regarding a partnership opportunity. He expressed that he was getting frustrated with some of the processes; however, things were back on track after the meeting. The school and the mine have come to an agreement on employment related opportunities for the High School. Michael Cuthill suggested contacting other schools that had similar relationships. ▪ Shane Charles advised that the TSBE had published an investment magazine for the region. ▪ No response from the Oakey Coal Action Alliance (OCAA) on meeting with members. Jim stated that he would welcome the opportunity to show the OCAA the mine and engage in conversation.
Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Item 4	<p>New Hope Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activity is continuing on the Stage III EIS submission. This includes the Social Impact Assessment which members contributed to at the previous meeting. ▪ Prices have dropped for coal however the New Hope Group is confident it will be able to keep costs down and maintain current employees. ▪ New Acland Information Campaign is about to be launched. This campaign aims to share information with the community regarding New Acland's land rehabilitation practices, employment and economic contribution, and community benefits.

Agenda item Discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public tours will start in August. These tours are open to local residents interested in seeing the mine. People on the tour will be given a presentation in the Acland Hall about New Hope and the mine, before going on a bus to see the current operations. ▪ Stage 2 of the grazing trials about to commence. The trials are conducted by Outcross in conjunction with USQ. ▪ A five year plan for the Acland Pastoral Company is under development. The plan will look at the resources and opportunities for the 10,000 ha which is owned by the company. ▪ Jim advised of a change of his role to include all of the New Hope Operations. Andrew McDonald will be New Acland General Manager.
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Action:

Item 6	<p>Community Investment Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Helen requested feedback on the recently circulated Draft Community Investment Fund. ▪ The Fund will concentrate on community development projects that deliver long term, sustainable outcomes for the communities surrounding the New Acland Coal Mine. ▪ The group made a range of suggestions which are going to be considered by New Hope. These included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Michael mentioned that indigenous had not been specifically mentioned. ○ Some clarity required in documents including criteria, Darling Downs Community includes a broader area, business community and chambers should be included. ○ Suggested a community planning session could assist in identifying needs. ▪ Helen reiterated that the CRG was an important part of the Fund. In particular, their recommendations for projects which will be beneficial for the community. The group discussed the process for assessing applications which will be recommended. ▪ A decision was made that a sub-committee of the CRG would be established to review and short list applications. Final recommendations would then be decided upon by the group. ▪ Time is to be allocated at the next meeting for an update on the fund
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Next meeting
Next meeting:

- 3.30 pm – 9 September. New venue needed, CRG members will be notified of location.
- Consideration to be given to alternate attendees.
- Darling Downs Regional Plan consultation will be finalised at the end of September.

Meeting close

Meeting closed at: 5.30pm



NEW HOPE
GROUP

K.5 New Acland Newsletter





Community Liaison Officer Helen Braithwaite talks with locals at the public information session.

COMMUNITY PROVIDES FEEDBACK ON REVISED **NEW ACLAND PROJECT**

THE COORDINATOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE HAS RECEIVED 67 SUBMISSIONS WHICH WILL BE USED TO HELP DEVELOP THE FINAL TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THE REVISED NEW ACLAND COAL MINE STAGE 3 PROJECT'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.

New Hope held community information sessions in Oakey last December and again in January this year to allow the community to review the draft ToR and other information about the revised Project, and to provide feedback.

"New Hope will involve the community through all stages of the approvals process and will continue to work in partnership with local residents and stakeholders to develop the revised Project," New Acland Project Manager Andre du Preez said.

"In consultation with the community and many stakeholders, New Hope developed a significantly revised version of the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project, which addresses and

compromises on issues of concern from the original proposal.

"The Coordinator-General took the revised Project back to Terms of Reference, the final version of which will set out the specific matters that must be addressed in preparing a comprehensive EIS for the revised Project," Mr du Preez said.

The EIS will fully investigate social, environmental, economic and cultural implications of the revised Project.

The community will be able to comment on the EIS when it is released for public consultation, which is expected to be in the middle of this year.

REVISED PROJECT **HIGHLIGHTS**

- ▶ The Acland town area, including Tom Doherty Park, the War Memorial and the Acland No2 Colliery, will be left in place
- ▶ The closest point of potential mining operations will be located at least 10km from Oakey, compared to 7km as previously proposed
- ▶ The Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility will be relocated to a remote site on the mining lease area
- ▶ Lagoon Creek will not be diverted
- ▶ The operation will continue to be self-sufficient for water, with water continuing to be purchased from Toowoomba's Wetalla waste water facility (Only about 20% of Wetalla's water is currently purchased by New Hope)
- ▶ From the original proposal, there will be an overall reduction in the amount of land used for mining activities by more than half
- ▶ Production levels from this revised proposal will be reduced by at least 25%, from the originally proposed 10mtpa
- ▶ Community feedback in relation to the revised Project is encouraged. You can visit our Community Information Centre in Campbell Street, Oakey or go to www.aclandproject.com.au for more information

JONDARYAN RAIL LOADING FACILITY PROGRESS

The New Hope Group is committed to moving the existing Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility onto the mine site as part of the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 project.

An eight-kilometre rail spur is proposed to connect a new modern train load out facility to the existing rail line at a cost in excess of \$62 million.

“We are completely committed to moving the Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility onto the mine site as soon as we have certainty about the mine’s

future and we are progressing our revised Project as quickly as possible through the State and Federal approval processes,” New Hope’s Chief Operating Officer Bruce Denney said.

In other news, Mr Denney said the profiling and veneering of all coal train loads leaving New Acland was on track to be finalised in early April this year.

The new facility will profile each wagon load to provide a flat surface before a vegetable-based starch is applied, which then dries to form a crust on top of the load.

The facility will also include the ability to sweep clean the sills of each wagon.



PROJECT BENEFITS LOCAL ECONOMY

THE REVISED NEW ACLAND STAGE 3 PROJECT WILL BOOST THE DARLING DOWNS ECONOMY THROUGH DIRECT AND INDIRECT EMPLOYMENT, INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS.

The revised Project will provide an annual injection of \$530 million into the south-east Queensland economy and a total of \$8 billion over the life of the mine.

Hundreds of local livelihoods depend on the New Acland operations and have for the past decade.

The revised Project will boost current employment from 460 full time equivalent positions

up to 570 full time equivalent positions. It is also expected to grow indirect employment from 2,300 to 2,850 jobs.

“The project will help boost employment”

During the 30-month construction phase starting between 2015 and 2017, an additional 220 jobs will also be available.

The latest figures from the Queensland Resources Council show the economic contribution to the region from the resources sector is large and increasing.

REVISED PROJECT TIMELINE

ACTIVITY	ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAME
Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) released for public consultation	1 December 2012–4 February 2013
Final ToR released	Early 2013
EIS released for public consultation	Mid 2013
Coordinator-General’s report completed	2014
State and Federal Ministers’ decisions	2014
Construction (if approved)	Between 2015 & 2017

The QRC’s Chief Economist David Rynne said the resources sector spent \$1.1 billion in the Darling Downs region during the 2011–2012 financial year on wages, community contributions and local goods and services.

“This is an increase of 53% on the previous year when \$720 million was spent on wages, community contributions and goods and services in the region,” Mr Rynne said.

REHABILITATED LAND SHOWS PROGRESS

Progressive rehabilitation is a key part of New Acland’s mining activities and each year we strive to rehabilitate an area equivalent to the amount of land disturbed in that year.

Environmental Officers Brooke Topp and Tom Sheppard recently inspected growth at one of New Acland’s latest rehabilitated areas with operator Donny Ballon.





DISTRICT WELCOMES NEW EMERGENCY SERVICES RESOURCE

EMERGENCY SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT HAVE BEEN GIVEN A SUBSTANTIAL BOOST WITH THE JONDARYAN RURAL FIRE BRIGADE WELCOMING ASSISTANCE TO CONSTRUCT A NEW, LARGER BUILDING TO HOUSE VITAL EQUIPMENT.

The new three-bay shed will store a communications vehicle and the new water tanker truck that was allocated to the station late last year which will be used for the whole region west of Toowoomba.

Recognising the importance of the project to the community, the New Hope Group has donated \$10,000 towards the new infrastructure.

Jondaryan Rural Fire Brigade Treasurer and Third Officer Barry Byrne said the donation would be a huge benefit not just to Jondaryan, but also to the many communities around the district.

“The Jondaryan brigade covers a large area from Oakey to Bowenville, south to the Toowoomba-Cecil Plains Road, and north to the other side of Acland.

“The donation from New Hope has definitely allowed us to build this new shed sooner rather than later,” Mr Byrne said.

Mr Byrne said the need for the larger facility was brought home during the 2011 floods and again in January this year.

ABOVE FROM LEFT: New Acland’s Greg Briggs with Jondaryan Rural Fire Brigade members

New Acland’s Greg Briggs and Stewart Sherrington join Jondaryan Rural Fire Brigade members in a recent drill

NEW ACLAND AND CAREFLIGHT WEATHER STORM

NEW ACLAND EXPERIENCED LITTLE DISRUPTION DURING THE RECENT BOUT OF BAD WEATHER THANKS TO AN EXPERIENCED TEAM AND GOOD COMMUNICATION.

New Acland General Manager Jim Randell said a decision was taken to temporarily halt operations at the mine over the Australia Day long weekend for one day shift and one night shift to allow employees to remain with their families during the expected flood events.

“With reports coming in that the roads could be cut between Toowoomba and Oakey we made the call to temporarily halt operations and ensure

our employees could be at home looking after the safety of their families until the rain event passed through,” he said.

“Following the experience of 2011, the management procedure has been updated to cover off site disaster events.

“The usual management of localised rain events continues with an eye to good knowledge and controls of the situations as they arise.

“Management is well versed in these situations and assessments are carried out to determine the safest outcome for each event.

“In many cases it is safest to stay at the mine until roads are clear. On this occasion,



the opportunity to allow people to leave the site safely was the best option.”

Mr Randell also acknowledged the great work done by CareFlight during the recent weather events.

“It is very satisfying to see that New Hope’s major sponsorship of CareFlight helps the rescue service to do such a fantastic job to assist Queenslanders in need during these emergencies,” he said.

At the height of the recent weather events, CareFlight conducted more than

200 patient airlifts from flood-stricken houses, nursing homes and hospitals to evacuation centres in Bundaberg in just 48 hours.

The community rescue helicopter service then repositioned its fleet to south-west Queensland to take on more emergency missions as floodwaters cut access throughout Roma, Mitchell and St George.

ABOVE: New Hope’s support for CareFlight paid off during the recent weather crisis.

BARRACUDAS MAKE A SPLASH

New Hope Group is diving headlong into 2013 by supporting the Oakey and District Amateur Swimming Club—known as the Barracudas.

The latest allocation will go towards uniforms, equipment and repairs to the club house.

Barracudas President Liz Cass said: “It will be great to have a uniform, as it brings a bit of unity to the club.”

“When we travel to swimming carnivals it also helps identify who we are and where we come from, and we really appreciate New Hope’s support.”

RIGHT: Stars of the future at the Oakey and District Amateur Swimming Club.



FOSSILS FEATURE IN COMMUNITY CENTRE

A new display in New Hope’s Community Information Centre in Oakey offers an insight into when the local area featured volcanoes, inland lakes, swamps

with thick ferns and possibly even dinosaurs wandering around.

Put together by New Hope’s exploration team, the new display is an interesting addition to the dinosaur footprint which has been attracting visitors to the centre for some time.

New Hope’s Community Liaison Officer Helen Braithwaite said the new display was a big hit.

“I think what makes it really interesting is that they are all samples from this area and they give an insight into the inland lakes and marsh areas that were here millions of years ago,” she said.

“It has been attracting visitors to the centre for some time”



TEAMWORK REWARDED

Congratulations to the New Hope-sponsored Oakey Reconciliation Red Belly Blacks rugby league team for their strong showing in the Indigenous Knockout Carnival in Toowoomba recently.

Team organiser and Oakey Reconciliation Group Chairperson Jodie Collins said the team of Indigenous and non-Indigenous players did Oakey proud.

“Although the boys were a bit disappointed with their results this year, the main aim is to bring together people from different

backgrounds to play football,” she said.

“I’d like to thank the New Hope Group for their assistance again this year as we would not be able to take part in this competition without the help of our sponsors.”

LEFT: The Oakey Reconciliation Red Belly Blacks work hard in defence.



CONTACT

- ▶ 07 3418 0500
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- ▶ community@newhopecoal.com.au
- ▶ www.aclandproject.com.au

New Hope has prepared this newsletter to keep the community informed about the New Acland mine operations and initiatives.





A train enters the profiling and veneering station near Jondaryan.

NEW HOPE ACTS OVER COMMUNITY CONCERNS

COAL TRAIN WAGONS LEAVING NEW ACLAND'S RAIL LOADING FACILITY AT JONDARYAN ARE NOW BEING VENEERED TO PHYSICALLY PREVENT POTENTIAL DUST BEING RELEASED.

The million dollar veneering station uses the latest computer technology to level each load before it is coated with the water soluble veneer.

New Acland General Manager Jim Randell said the initiative was in response to recent community concerns about the potential for dust from coal wagons.

"This is despite independent testing showing that dust levels from coal trains meet strict government requirements," he said.

"The veneering solution is an environmentally-friendly mixture which is sprayed onto the top of the load and then dries to form a flexible crust over the coal, physically preventing dust from being released from the wagons.

"The new facility near Jondaryan also has the ability to sweep clean the sills of each wagon, so it really is an example of best practice for the industry."

The profiling and veneering began in early May, following two months of

dust monitoring along the western rail corridor at seven sites to provide baseline dust measurements.

The monitoring is independently conducted by the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Sciences Branch of the Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts (DSITIA) at sites at Oakey, Toowoomba, Ipswich, Tennyson, Fairfield, Coorparoo and Chelmer.

"The profiling and veneering began in early May, following two months of dust monitoring"

As part of the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 proposal, the Jondaryan rail loading facility will be moved eight kilometres onto a remote section of mining lease area. The new loading facility will also feature a veneering station.

TRC ANNOUNCEMENT WELCOMED

The New Hope Group welcomes the opportunity to participate in the Toowoomba Regional Council's assessment of the rail loading facility near Jondaryan, announced last month.

New Hope meets strict environmental conditions in relation to its operations at Jondaryan and all of its sites, plus our dust monitoring equipment is some of the most highly sensitive and sophisticated in the country.

The Jondaryan rail loading facility will be moved eight kilometres onto a remote section of mining lease area, as part of the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 proposal.

NEW ACLAND FAST FACT

The revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project plan reduces the amount of land disturbed for mining activities by more than half, from the original Stage 3 proposal.

Find out more at
www.aclandproject.com.au

Pg2 No Mining Within 10kms Of Oakey

Pg2 Acland's Coal Mining Centenary

Pg2 Revised Project Timeline

Pg3 Acland Pastor Welcomes New Apprentice

Pg3 New Hope Has Kindy Kids Covered

Pg3 Community Information Centre Celebrates

Pg4 New Hope Oakey Street Sprints

Pg4 Vinnies Community Sleepout

Pg4 Brymaroo Kicks Up Its Heels

NO MINING WITHIN 10 KMS OF OAKEY

COAL MINING WILL NOT COME WITHIN 10 KILOMETRES OF OAKEY UNDER THE REVISED NEW ACLAND COAL MINE STAGE 3 PROJECT PLAN.

This puts operations a further three kilometres away from Oakey than was planned in the original Stage 3 proposal.

New Hope's Chief Operating Office Bruce Denney said that

at this distance, scientific modelling showed there would be no environmental impact on the township.

"From the original proposal, there will be an overall reduction in the amount of land used for mining activities by about half.

"Under the revised Project the Acland town area, including Tom Doherty Park, the War Memorial and the Acland No2

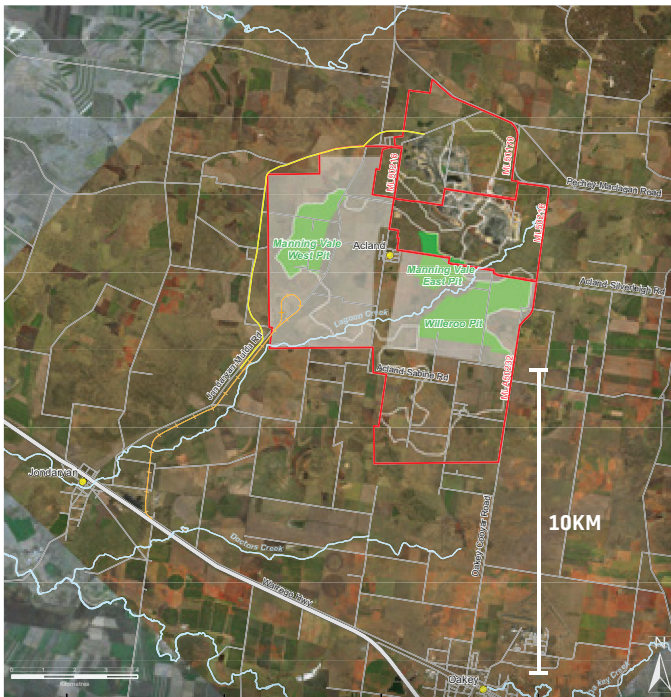
Colliery, will be left in place," Mr Denney said.

The revised Project plan also ensures that the Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility will be moved eight kilometres away from the township onto a remote section of mining lease area, and that Lagoon Creek will not be diverted.

Mr Denney said the significantly revised version of the New Acland Project had

been developed in consultation with stakeholders and the wider community, addressing and compromising on issues of concern from the original proposal.

Community feedback on the revised Project is encouraged. Please visit our Community Information Centre in Campbell Street, Oakey, or go to www.aclandproject.com.au for more information.



REVISED PROJECT TIMELINE

ACTIVITY	ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAME
Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) released for public consultation	1 December 2012– 4 February 2013
Final ToR released	March 2013
Draft EIS released for public consultation	2013
Coordinator-General's report completed	2014
State and Federal Ministers' decisions	2014
Construction (if approved)	Between 2015 & 2017

ACLAND'S COAL MINING CENTENARY

THIS YEAR MARKS 100 YEARS SINCE COAL MINING COMMENCED IN ACLAND WITH THE FIRST MINING SHAFT SUNK IN 1913.

The history of coal mining in the areas surrounding Oakey is even older, dating back to the 1880s.

Coal mining developed significantly in the district during the 1920s with the product sold mainly to Queensland Railways for use in locomotives.

Other customers included hospitals in Oakey and Toowoomba, the Toowoomba Gas Company, an abattoir, brick works and cheese factories in the local area.

Coal mining guaranteed the fortunes of the Acland township for half a century but its population began to steadily decline in the 1960's with the closure of a number of collieries.

The town suffered a further setback with the closure of the railway line from Oakey to Acland in 1969.

When the last Acland underground mine, known as

the Acland No2 Colliery, closed in 1984 the mine structures were bought by Kath and John Greenhalgh, the owners of the farm on which the mine was located.

Kath and John had moved to Acland in 1973, became interested in the history of the area, and ran the Acland Mining Museum until they retired in 2000.

"The railway line came to Acland in 1912 and it then gradually became a town as the mine built or brought in houses for the manager, the electrician and others," Kath said.

BELOW: The old Acland No2 Colliery will be left in place under the revised Project.





ACLAND PASTORAL WELCOMES **NEW APPRENTICE**

THE ACLAND PASTORAL COMPANY (APC) HAS HIRED ITS FIRST SCHOOL-BASED RURAL APPRENTICE, CHLOE GORDON.

Chloe, 17, spends two days a week at Acland as part of her year 12 studies.

"I love it," Chloe said. "Working here at APC is even better than I thought it would be.

"After being here for a few months I've decided that I'd really

like to work on cattle properties and stations in the future."

Chloe credited APC Manager Ben Muirhead and Assistant Manager Michael Laird with helping her learn a lot in such a short time about managing cattle and the land.

"I've learnt a lot about things like fencing and how to look after the land properly. They are a really good bunch of people here and everyone is always really helpful," she said.

Chloe's mother Kaylie Gordon said she was really happy with Chloe's development while working at APC.

"I'd really like to work on cattle properties"

"Ben and Michael are showing Chloe the ropes and they are treating her really well. They go out of their way to help her."

Ben said APC's school-based apprenticeship program offered young locals the chance to break into the agriculture industry.

"New Acland has trainee, apprenticeship and graduate positions in many areas of work at the mine, plus vacation student positions – but this is the first expansion into the rural side of the business and we hope it is the first of many more to come," he said.



NEW HOPE HAS **KINDY KIDS COVERED**

Kids at the C&K Oakey Community Preschool and Kindergarten are now enjoying an outdoor play area in shaded comfort, thanks to a donation from the New Hope Group.

"This new shaded area is an important part of our outdoor learning area and is

used constantly by the kids," kindergarten teacher and director Janette Quince said.

"The shade sail allows us to use the stage area for performances and also as a meeting area, so it has made it a lot more versatile and a much better use of our resources.

"We couldn't have done this without New Hope's help, so we are very, very grateful."

COMMUNITY INFORMATION CENTRE **CELEBRATES**

The New Hope Group recently celebrated the first anniversary of its Community Information Centre in Oakey.

In the past year, almost 750 people visited the centre in Campbell Street.

New Hope's Community Liaison Officer Helen Braithwaite said the centre was a great way to share all kinds of information with local people and visitors to the region.

"For example, if anyone has any questions about where the Revised New Acland Coal Mine Project is at, they can come in



and find out all about it here," she said.

Helen said half of the visitors coming in to the centre in the past year had done so to ask about employment opportunities with New Acland.

"Less than one percent of visitors made an official complaint about the mine operations, although many visitors did want more information, which is why we are here."

SUN SHINES ON NEW HOPE OAKEY STREET SPRINTS

The combination of perfect weather and a new format saw large crowds flock to the New Hope Oakey Street Sprints.

Toowoomba Regional Council Mayor Paul Antonio officially opened the Sprints, which this year featured a new two-lap format.

The New Hope Group became the major sponsor of the event this year, which featured not

only the Street Sprints but a show'n'shine competition, drifting displays and a burn out competition.

The Oakey Bears New Hope Group marquee was well attended throughout the weekend with the shaded viewing area proving a popular vantage point for all the action.

Just a reminder that community groups can borrow New Hope's 8m by 4m marquee free of charge by contacting Helen at the New Hope Community Information Centre on 4691 3445 or just pop in when next you're in town.



The New Hope Oakey Street Sprints are getting bigger and better each year.



VINNIES COMMUNITY SLEEPOUT

New Hope employees, suppliers and contractors raised thousands of dollars to support New Acland's Jim Randell and David Wood in the Vinnies Community Sleepout held in Toowoomba last month.

As part of the fundraising drive, New Acland held a special fundraising breakfast event in the

Acland Hall which boosted the New Hope Group tally. All funds raised went to the St Vincent de Paul Society's homelessness programs.

Thanks to everyone who chipped in to help pass our target of \$5,000 – which meant Jim had to honour his promise to wear this eye-catching ensemble.

NEW ACLAND FAST FACT

Any mining operations will be located at least 10km away from Oakey under the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project plan.

Find out more at
www.aclandproject.com.au



BRYMAROO KICKS UP ITS HEELS

The Brymaroo rodeo and campdraft events are known for their friendly atmosphere and are growing in size and reputation each year.

A number of New Hope employees were involved in both the campdraft and the rodeo - either as members of the hard-working committee, or volunteering on the bar and barbecue, plus many other jobs over the two weekends.

New Hope's Acland Pastoral Company also supplied the cattle for the campdraft and the competitors were impressed with the quality of the stock.

Spectator numbers were well up on last year and the Quinalow and Bowenville School P&C's reported a roaring trade at their food and drink stalls.

LEFT: The Brymaroo Rodeo was action-packed.

CONTACT

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- ▶ New Hope Community Information Centre, Campbell St, Oakey



New Hope has prepared this newsletter to keep the community informed about the New Acland mine operations and initiatives.



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NEW HOPE
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K.6 Advertisements



NEW ACLAND COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

The Queensland Coordinator General reissued a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the revised version of the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project on 1 December to allow the community to review and provide feedback on it.

The formal public comment period for the draft ToR will extend over nine weeks to Monday 4 February 2013.

Two community information sessions will be held for stakeholders to discuss the revised project and draft ToR with the project team at the below location and times:

Oakey RSL – Function Room - 76 Campbell Street,

Oakey (*access via Desmond Street*):

Tuesday 11 December 2012, 3pm to 8pm; and

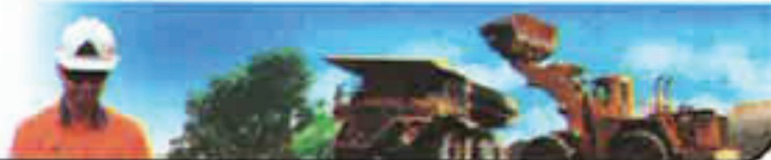
Wednesday 30 January 2013, 3pm to 8pm.

Admission is free and all community members are welcome.

You can view the draft Terms of Reference at New Hope's Community Information Centre in Oakey and our Community Liaison Officer will be happy to discuss the process.



New Hope Group



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Have your say

New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project, southern Queensland

Draft terms of reference for environmental impact statement

Queensland's Coordinator-General invites you to have your say on the draft terms of reference (TOR) for an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project. The TOR set out the matters to be studied within the EIS.

New Acland Coal Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of New Hope Corporation Limited, proposes to expand operations at its existing New Acland Coal Mine, 35 kilometres north-west of Toowoomba. The mine's yield would increase from the current 4.8 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of product coal to up to 7.5 million Mtpa.

The project's key features are:

- development of parts of the Manning Vale and Willeroo resource areas
- upgrades to the existing coal handling and preparation plant and supporting infrastructure
- new coal load-out facility and an approximately eight-kilometre rail spur
- roadworks, water management structures, and relocation and potential upgrade of power supply.

EIS process

In May 2007 the Coordinator-General declared the project a 'significant project', under section 26 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (Qld).

The original TOR for the EIS were finalised in October 2007 and the original EIS was advertised for public comment in November 2009.

However, in response to concerns raised in March 2012 by the incoming Queensland Government about the project's potential impacts, the proponent modified the project, including reducing its scope.

Due to the modifications to the project, the Coordinator-General has prepared a new set of draft TOR for an EIS—for public and state and local government advisory agency comment.

You are invited to comment on whether they adequately cover all the matters New Acland Coal must address when preparing the EIS. The Coordinator-General will consider your comments before finalising the TOR.

Individuals and organisations who commented on the original (and now superseded) TOR for the EIS (finalised in 2007) will need to comment again on the new draft TOR if they want their comments to be considered.

The Commonwealth Environment Minister has determined that the project may have a significant impact upon matters of national environmental significance, and will require approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwlth) before it can proceed. The Minister will rely on the outcomes of the Coordinator-General's impact assessment process, including any public submissions, in making a decision.

Comments close at 5pm on Monday 4 February 2013.

How to comment

1. Read the draft TOR

- Download the draft TOR at www.dsdp.qld.gov.au/newacland, or
- view a printed copy between 3 December 2012 and 4 February 2013 at the following locations:
 - Toowoomba Regional Council service centres:
 - 4 Little Street, Toowoomba
 - 64 Campbell Street, Oakey
 - 89 Mocatta Street, Goombungee
 - National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, Canberra
 - New Hope Community Information Centre, Shop 90/88, Campbell Street, Oakey
 - State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane.

2. Read the fact sheet on making a comment, then complete the comment form.

Both are available at www.dsdp.qld.gov.au/newacland and at the above locations.

3. Send your completed comment form to one of the following:

Email: newaclandproject@coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au

Post: The Coordinator-General
c/- EIS project manager
New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project
Coordinated Project Delivery
PO Box 15517
City East Qld 4002 Australia

Fax: +61 7 3225 8282

Notes: We will provide the project proponent with a copy of your comments, including your name and address. For more information on privacy, refer to the comment form or fact sheet. If you have special communication needs, telephone the EIS project manager on +61 7 3238 3131 to make alternative comment arrangements.



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Have your say

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The project's key features are:

- development of parts of the Manning Vale and Willeroo resource areas
- upgrades to the existing coal handling and preparation plant and supporting infrastructure
- new coal load-out facility and an approximately eight-kilometre rail spur
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Due to the modifications to the project, the Coordinator-General has prepared a new set of draft TOR for an EIS—for public and state and local government advisory agency comment.

You are invited to comment on whether they adequately cover all the matters New Acland Coal must address when preparing the EIS. The Coordinator-General will consider your comments before finalising the TOR.

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The Australian
Brisbane Courier Mail

Have your say



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**K.7 Community Posters and
Fact Sheets**





NEW HOPE
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NEW ACLAND

*Proposed
Continuation Plan*

Fact Sheet





What stage is the continuation plan at?

- ▶ Coal reserves at the current New Acland operation are expected to be depleted by 2017. If the operation does not continue, redundancies could begin as early as 2015 and it will close in 2017.
- ▶ The New Hope Group has been in discussions with the State Government about options to continue operations at the New Acland mine thus ensuring that current jobs and economic benefits to the region can continue until about 2029.
- ▶ New Hope has listened to community and government concerns relating to the previous mine expansion proposal and the company is committed to working in partnership with local residents, government agencies and other key stakeholders to develop a new compromise version of the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project.

What are the benefits?

- ▶ Boost the Darling Downs economy through direct and indirect employment, investment and business.
- ▶ Increase current employment from 300 local jobs to about 400, increase 160 full time contractors to about 170 positions and grow indirect jobs from about 2,300 to more than 2,800.
- ▶ Provide a \$530 million annual injection into the south-east Queensland economy and \$8 billion over the life of the mine.

What do the plans involve?

- ▶ The Acland town area, including the Tom Doherty Park, the War Memorial and the Acland No 2 Colliery, will be untouched.
- ▶ The closest point of potential mining operations will be located at least 10km away from the township of Oakey, compared to 7km as previously proposed.
- ▶ The Jondaryan Train Loading Facility will be relocated away from near the township to a remote site on the mining lease area.
- ▶ Lagoon Creek will not be diverted.
- ▶ The operation will continue to be self-sufficient for water, with water continuing to be purchased from Toowoomba's Wetalla Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WWRF). Only around 20% of the Wetalla water is purchased by New Hope currently.
- ▶ From the original proposal, there will be an overall reduction in the amount of land used for mining activities by more than half.
- ▶ As a result of this compromise plan, production levels from the New Acland operation under this proposal will be reduced by at least 25 percent, from the originally proposed 10mtpa.
- ▶ Community feedback in relation to the proposal is encouraged. Information sessions will be held over the coming months or you can contact the project team via the below details. The New Acland Community Reference Group, which is made up of a broad cross section of community members, will also provide local insight and feedback.

Have your say

New Hope encourages you to get involved. To find out further information about the continuation plans contact our project team:

VISIT: New Hope Community Information Centre
Shop 90/88 Campbell Street, Oakey

PHONE: 07 4691 3445 or 07 3418 0500

EMAIL: community@newhopecoal.com.au

WEB: www.aclandproject.com.au

NEW HOPE GROUP

The New Hope Group is an Australian owned and operated mining company based in Ipswich since 1952.

About New Hope

- ▶ New Hope is the fourth-largest Queensland-based ASX listed corporation by market capitalisation (\$3.3 billion).
- ▶ New Hope invests in the broader Australian energy sector.
- ▶ New Hope is an agricultural producer through the Acland Pastoral Company, which was established in 2006 and manages 10,000 hectares of land in the Acland district.
- ▶ New Hope is a significant contributor to the South-East Queensland regional economy and a major supporter of the local communities in which it operates.
- ▶ New Hope directly employs more than 600 people, plus thousands more jobs are created through suppliers and contractors.

New Hope coal operations

New Acland Coal Pty Ltd, a company of the New Hope Group, owns and operates the New Acland coal mine which produces 4.8 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of thermal coal from an open cut mining operation on the Darling Downs.

New Hope also operates open cut coal mines near Jeebropilly and Rosewood in West Moreton and owns the Queensland Bulk Handling export coal loading facility at the Port of Brisbane.

Have your say

New Hope encourages you to get involved. To find out more information about the revised Project contact our project team:

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Shop 90/88 Campbell Street, Oakey

PHONE: 07 4691 3445 or 07 3418 0500

EMAIL: community@newhopecoal.com.au

WEB: www.aclandproject.com.au



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The New Hope Group has developed the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project which addresses a number of community concerns associated with the previous proposal for the operation while also continuing the mine operation beyond 2017.

Operations

- ▶ The revised New Acland continuation project will extend the life of the mine from 2017 to 2029.
- ▶ The future operation is planned to produce between 6.5 Million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) to 7.5 Mtpa of coal, dependent on economic factors.
- ▶ Existing thin seam coal, open-cut mining techniques will be maintained.

Road, rail and infrastructure

- ▶ The Jondaryan train loading facility will be relocated from near the township to a remote site on the Mining Lease Area.
- ▶ The Jondaryan-Muldu Road will be diverted around the Manning Vale resources area.
- ▶ Mine tailings will be managed within Tailings Storage Facilities located in-pit on the Mining Lease Areas.

Construction

- ▶ Construction will start between 2015 and 2017 and cost about \$700 million.
- ▶ Initial works will involve site access and roads (including realignments), water management structures and additional supporting infrastructure.

Mine footprint

- ▶ Overall reduction in the total amount of land used for mining activities by more than half, from the original proposal.
- ▶ Closest point of potential mining operations will be located at least 10km away from the town of Oakey, compared to 7km as previously proposed.
- ▶ Mining operations will progress activities to parts of the Manning Vale and Willeroo resource areas, located to the south and west of the current operation.
- ▶ Permanent access and utility services to Acland will be maintained over the life of the revised Project.

Rehabilitation

- ▶ All disturbed land will be fully rehabilitated, with New Hope's Acland Pastoral Company (APC) progressively undertaking the work.
- ▶ New Hope will review all assets towards the end of the project to determine which structures will be sold, relocated or retained for the APC's agribusiness activities.

Have your say

New Hope encourages you to get involved. To find out more information about the revised Project contact our project team:

VISIT: New Hope Community Information Centre
Shop 90/88 Campbell Street, Oakey
PHONE: 07 4691 3445 or 07 3418 0500

EMAIL: community@newhopecoal.com.au
WEB: www.aclandproject.com.au

EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC BENEFIT

The revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project will extend the life of the current operation from 2017 to about 2029, providing a \$530 million injection into the South-East Queensland economy and \$8 billion over the life of the mine.

Employment opportunities

Hundreds of livelihoods depend on the New Acland operation and have done so for the past decade. New Hope actively employs local workers where possible.

The revised Project will:

- ▶ increase the current operation's local jobs from 300 to about 400, boost 160 full time equivalent contractor jobs to about 170
- ▶ grow indirect jobs from 2,300 to about 2,800
- ▶ create about 220 jobs during construction.

Economic benefits

The revised Project will:

- ▶ boost the Darling Downs economy through direct and indirect employment, investment opportunities and community development
- ▶ provide local business with opportunities to supply goods and services during construction and operation phases.

Community funding

The revised Project will:

- ▶ extend New Hope's annual commitment of about \$600,000 in support of local organisations, schools, sporting groups and charities.



Have your say

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ENVIRONMENT

New Hope is committed to proactively managing its environmental responsibilities. Best practice environmental management is incorporated into all phases of our projects –exploration, development, operation and closure. Best practice environmental monitoring programs will assess and identify potential impacts of mining operations in relation to air quality, noise, vibration, water and land management.

Air quality

- ▶ Advanced monitoring techniques and stringent management actions will be applied to minimise impacts and eliminate health concerns.
- ▶ Independent tests consistently show dust levels from the current operation fall well below strict government standards.
- ▶ Blasting events will be managed to reduce fume and dust generation to acceptable levels.
- ▶ New Hope will introduce veneering to coat all transported coal leaving the mine by train as a measure to reduce the potential of coal dust generation.

Noise and vibration

- ▶ As part of the revised Project, stringent maintenance and operational procedures will continue to be followed to minimise nuisance noise emissions from mining operations.
- ▶ Advanced monitoring techniques and stringent management actions will be applied to minimise impacts.

Land management

- ▶ The rehabilitation of mined land will be guided by strict performance criteria and the development of sustainable final land uses.
- ▶ Robust scientific evidence will be gathered to ensure the agreed environmental outcomes are achieved for post mine landforms.
- ▶ New Hope will continue to partner with key organisations to improve its rehabilitation and environmental management practices (e.g. Universities and industry bodies).

Have your say

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ACLAND PASTORAL COMPANY

New Hope established the Acland Pastoral Company (APC) in 2006 to provide sustainable business practices within its operations.

Scientific cattle grazing trials

Early results from scientific cattle grazing trials under way at New Acland are demonstrating that rehabilitated mining land can be as productive as land that has not been mined.

Working in partnership with independent livestock consultancy Outcross, APC initiated the industry leading research in 2011.

The trial involves:

- ▶ Grazing one herd of cattle on rehabilitated mining land and another herd on a non-mined paddock comparable in feed quantity and quality;
- ▶ measuring cattle weight gain, animal health and pasture quality before and after grazing; and
- ▶ assessing outcomes through ongoing scientific investigations to guide future advances in land management practices.

Progressive rehabilitation

- ▶ Land is continuously being returned to a state suitable for sustainable grazing practices, with progressive rehabilitation of land occurring closely behind the mining operation.
- ▶ A total of 211 hectares (ha) of land no longer required for mining operations has been rehabilitated to date.
- ▶ APC also manages 10,000 ha of land at Acland and is currently working on 6,600 ha of current and future mining leases.
- ▶ There are 2,000 head of cattle on 4,000 ha of the land with cropped wheat, sorghum, barley and legumes on 2,400 ha.

Have your say

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WEB: www.aclandproject.com.au



COMMUNITY

New Hope is dedicated to playing a positive and proactive role in the local community. We are committed to working in partnership with neighbours, residents and other key stakeholders on current and proposed operations.

Local community

New Hope supports the local community through:

- ▶ Employment
- ▶ Economic contribution
- ▶ A robust apprenticeship program
- ▶ Donations
- ▶ Sponsorship
- ▶ Community and environmental partnerships.

Donations and sponsorship

New Hope contributes around \$600,000 each year to community development to support schools, sporting groups and not-for-profit organisations in local communities including:

- ▶ Oakey
- ▶ Brymaroo
- ▶ Goombungee
- ▶ Jondaryan
- ▶ Kingsthorpe
- ▶ Kulpi
- ▶ Aubigny
- ▶ Dalby
- ▶ Jimbour
- ▶ Pittsworth
- ▶ Toowoomba
- ▶ Yandilla.

New Hope is also a significant sponsor of the CareFlight rescue helicopter service's Toowoomba operations. We also partner with Greening Australia to replenish land and riparian zones around New Acland with native vegetation.

Community Reference Group (CRG)

- ▶ New Hope has established the New Acland CRG as part of an ongoing community engagement process.
- ▶ CRG members are representative of the region.
- ▶ The CRG provides an avenue for sharing information with the broader community and offering local insights regarding potential opportunities and impacts associated with current and future operations.
- ▶ CRG outcomes will inform New Hope's planning and decision-making process.

Community Information Centre and Liaison Officer

- ▶ The New Hope Community Information Centre, based in Campbell Street, Oakey, provides factual information about current and future New Acland operations and employment, contractor and local supplier opportunities.
- ▶ The Community Liaison Officer, who is based at the Centre, has been part of the Darling Downs community for many years and is passionate about working closely with local residents.

Have your say

New Hope encourages you to get involved. To find out more information about the revised Project contact our project team:

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EMAIL: community@newhopecoal.com.au
WEB: www.aclandproject.com.au

WATER MANAGEMENT

Water management is a key feature of New Hope's environmental sustainability agenda.

Recycled water

- ▶ The revised Project will continue to be self-sufficient for water, with water continuing to be purchased from Toowoomba's Wetalla Wastewater Reclamation Facility.
- ▶ Only around 20 percent of the Wetalla water is purchased by New Hope.
- ▶ The operation also uses wastewater from Oakey's reverse osmosis water treatment plant, saving money for Oakey ratepayers.

Surface water

- ▶ A mine surface water management system will be staged to accommodate the progressive development of the operation.
- ▶ Water management structures will be built to divert storm water runoff from clean, undisturbed catchments around disturbed areas.
- ▶ Rainfall runoff water from disturbed areas will be collected for reuse on-site for activities such as dust suppression.

Lagoon Creek

- ▶ The revised Project will ensure that Lagoon Creek is not diverted.
- ▶ The current conservation area for the Lagoon Creek riparian zone will be extended to the new mining lease area.

Groundwater

- ▶ The current groundwater monitoring regime will be expanded as part of the revised Project.
- ▶ New Hope will continue to work with neighbours who rely on groundwater to ensure the revised Project does not impact security of supply.

Have your say

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EMAIL: community@newhopecoal.com.au

WEB: www.aclandproject.com.au



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In March 2012 the State Government announced it did not support the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project in its then current form. New Hope has since developed a revised version of the New Acland Project which addresses key community and government concerns associated with the previous proposal while also continuing the operation beyond 2017.

Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)

On 1 December 2012, the Queensland Coordinator-General reissued a draft ToR for the revised Project. The draft ToR formal public comment period will extend over nine weeks until 5pm on 4 February 2013.

The revised Project will be subject to an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), involving rigorous scientific and environmental investigations. The EIS will be made available to the community during the EIS consultation process and assessed by the State Government.

The ToR set out the specific matters New Hope will be required to address in preparing a comprehensive EIS.

Formal submissions specifically about the draft ToR should be sent directly to the Coordinator-General by 4 February 2013, 5pm. Submissions should follow the format provided by the Coordinator General's guidelines.

Timeline

ACTIVITY	ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAME
Approvals	
▶ Draft ToR released for public consultation	▶ 1 December 2012 – 4 February 2013
▶ Final ToR released	▶ Early 2013
▶ Draft EIS released for public consultation	▶ Mid 2013
▶ Supplementary EIS report released (if required)	▶ Late 2013
▶ Coordinator-General's report completed	▶ 2014
▶ Federal and State Minister's decision	▶ 2014
▶ Construction (if approved)	▶ Between 2015 and 2017

Have your say

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PHONE: 07 4691 3445 or 07 3418 0500

EMAIL: community@newhopecoal.com.au

WEB: www.aclandproject.com.au

HAVE YOUR SAY

The Queensland Coordinator-General issued a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the revised version of the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project on Saturday, 1 December 2012 to allow the community to review and provide feedback on it.

Notification Period

The public notification period will extend over nine weeks from 1 December 2012 to 4 February 2013. The Coordinator-General, who is responsible for developing, releasing and finalising the draft ToR, extended the standard formal comment period from four weeks to nine weeks as the public comment period falls over the Christmas school holidays.

The ToR sets out the matters New Hope will be required to address in preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Public displays

From 1 December, the draft ToR will be available online at www.aclandproject.com.au or www.dsdip.qld.gov.au/newacland or during business hours at the locations listed below:

- ▶ New Hope Community Information Centre – Shop 90, 88 Campbell Street, Oakey
- ▶ Toowoomba Regional Council service centres at:
 - 64 Campbell Street, Oakey
 - 89 Mocatta Street, Goombungee
 - 4 Little Street, Toowoomba
- ▶ State Library of Queensland, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane
- ▶ National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, Canberra.

Community information sessions

Two community information sessions will be held for stakeholders to discuss the revised Project and draft ToR with the project team:

- ▶ Oakey RSL Function Room – 76 Campbell Street, Oakey (access via Desmond Street)
 - Tuesday, 11 December 2012, 3pm to 8pm
 - Wednesday, 30 January 2013, 3pm to 8pm.

Admission is free and all community members are welcome.

How to make a formal submission

You can make a submission to the Coordinator-General by reading the “Make a Comment” fact sheet, completing a comment form (both available at www.dsdip.qld.gov.au) and sending it to one of the following:

- ▶ Email: newaclandproject@coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au
- ▶ Post: The Coordinator-General
c/- EIS project manager – New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project
Coordinated Project Delivery
PO Box 15517
City East Qld 4002 Australia
- ▶ Fax: 07 3225 8282

Have your say

New Hope encourages you to get involved. To find out more information about the revised Project contact our project team:

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PHONE: 07 4691 3445 or 07 3418 0500

EMAIL: community@newhopecoal.com.au
WEB: www.aclandproject.com.au



NEW HOPE
GROUP

K.8 Media Releases



New Hope Corporation Limited

ABN 38 010 653 844

Contact

Phone: +61 7 3418 0500

Fax: +61 7 3418 0355



14 November 2012

Compromise plan for New Acland future

The New Hope Group has listened to community and government concerns about a previous expansion proposal for its New Acland coal mine and has developed a sensible compromise plan for the continuation of the mine which will ensure jobs and economic benefits are maintained.

New Hope's Chief Executive Officer Rob Neale said the company had compromised on a number of key elements associated with the previous version of the New Acland Stage 3 Expansion Project to address concerns while also keeping the mine open beyond 2017.

"Hundreds of livelihoods are dependent on the New Acland operations and have been for the past decade," Mr Neale said.

"The plan will extend the life of the current operation to about 2029, boosting current employment from 300 local jobs to about 400, increasing 160 full time contractors to 170 positions and growing indirect jobs from about 2,300 to more than 2,800.

"The plan will also provide an annual \$530 million injection into the south-east Queensland economy and \$8 billion over the life of the mine.

"If the current New Acland operations do not continue, redundancies could begin as early as 2015 and the operations would close in 2017.

"Given Queensland's current economic climate, operations such as this one are crucial to boosting economic activity in the local region.

"The proposed compromise plan will see New Acland continue to act as a spur to the Darling Downs economy through direct and indirect employment, investment, business and community development."

Mr Neale said New Hope would continue to work in partnership with neighbours, local residents, government agencies and other key stakeholders to further develop the plan.

"Under the plan, the Jondaryan rail loading facility will be moved away from near the township and onto a remote part of the mining lease area, as announced in February this year," Mr Neale said.

It will also mean the Acland town area, including the Tom Doherty Park, the War Memorial and the Acland No 2 Colliery, will be preserved.

From the original proposal, there will be an overall reduction in the amount of land used for mining activities by more than half, and mining operations would be at least 10 kilometres away from Oakey at their nearest point.

As a result of this compromise, production levels from the New Acland operation under this proposal will be reduced by at least 25 percent, from the originally proposed 10 mtpa.

Under this new compromise plan there will also be no need for any creek diversions.

“This compromise continuation plan addresses the major community concerns while still yielding significant economic outcomes for the local region and the state,” Mr Neale said.

“New Hope is committed to seeking input, minimising impacts and ensuring good outcomes are achieved for the community.”

The proposed plans will be subject to rigorous scientific and environmental assessment by the State Government through the regular EIS processes.

(ends)

For further information, please contact:

Justin Coomber

New Hope Group

0400 878 290

New Hope Corporation Limited

ABN 38 010 653 844

Contact

Phone: +61 7 3418 0500

Fax: +61 7 3418 0355



12 December 2012

First of two Community Information Sessions held for revised New Acland plan

The first of two Community Information Sessions about the revised version of the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project was held in Oakey on 11 December with the second information session to be held at the Oakey RSL on 30 January 2013.

The information sessions follow the reissuing by the Queensland Coordinator-General on December 1 of a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the revised version of the project to allow the community to review and provide feedback on it.

New Hope Corporation Limited recently announced a revised version of the project which addresses key community concerns associated with the previous expansion proposal for the New Acland coal mine at Oakey while also continuing the operation beyond 2017.

New Hope Chief Operating Officer Bruce Denney said New Hope were holding the community information sessions to engage local residents and other stakeholders about the revised New Acland continuation project and the draft ToR.

The Coordinator-General, who is responsible for developing, releasing and finalising the draft ToR, had extended the standard formal public notification period from four weeks to nine weeks between 1 December 2012 and 4 February 2013 as the public comment period fell over the Christmas school holidays.

“New Hope will involve the community through all stages of the approvals process and will continue to work in partnership with local residents and stakeholders to develop the revised project,” Mr Denney said.

“The revised project will be subject to a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), involving rigorous scientific and environmental investigations that will be made available to the community during the EIS consultation process and assessed by the State Government.

“All stakeholders and local residents are welcome to attend the community information sessions to speak with New Hope representatives about the revised project and the draft ToR.

“We urge locals to take the opportunity to learn more about the revised plans and provide input into the project to help minimise impacts and maximise community benefits by attending the information sessions or contacting the company directly via telephone, email or post.

“The draft ToR sets out the matters New Hope will be required to address in preparing the EIS.

Registered Office: 3/22 Magnolia Drive, Brookwater, Queensland 4300
Postal Address: PO Box 47, Ipswich, Queensland 4305 Australia
Website: www.newhopecoal.com.au

“Formal submissions specifically about the draft ToR should be sent directly to the Office of the Coordinator-General by 4 February 2013.”

Notes to the editor

1. Copies of the draft ToR are available online at www.aclandproject.com.au or www.dsdiq.qld.gov.au/newacland and will be displayed at the following locations until 4 February 2013 during business hours:
 - New Hope Community Information Centre – Shop 90, 88 Campbell Street, Oakey
 - Toowoomba Regional Council service centres at:
 - 64 Campbell Street, Oakey
 - 89 Mocatta Street, Goombungee
 - 4 Little Street, Toowoomba
 - State Library of Queensland, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane.
 - National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, Canberra

2. To make a formal submission to the Coordinator-General, read the make a comment fact sheet, complete a comment form (both available at www.dsdiq.qld.gov.au) and send it to one of the following:
 - Email: newaclandproject@coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au
 - Post: The Coordinator-General
c/- EIS project manager—New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project
Coordinated Project Delivery
PO Box 15517
City East Qld 4002 Australia
 - Fax: 07 3225 8282.

(ends)

For further information, please contact:

Justin Coomber New Hope Group

07 3418 0558
or 0407 772 647

MEDIA RELEASE

16 May 2013

New Hope to hold second Community Information Session on revised New Acland Project

A second Community Information Session about the revised version of the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project will be held in Oakey tomorrow, Wednesday 30 January, from 3pm to 8pm.

The information session follows the reissuing by the Queensland Coordinator-General on December 1 of a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the revised version of the project to allow the community to review and provide feedback on it.

New Hope Corporation Limited recently announced a revised version of the project which addresses key community concerns associated with the previous expansion proposal for the New Acland coal mine at Oakey while also continuing the operation beyond 2017.

New Hope Chief Operating Officer Bruce Denney said New Hope was holding the second community information session at the Oakey RSL to engage local residents and other stakeholders about the revised New Acland continuation project and the draft ToR.

The Coordinator-General, who is responsible for developing, releasing and finalising the draft ToR, has extended the standard formal public notification period from four weeks to nine weeks between 1 December 2012 and 4 February 2013 as the public comment period fell over the Christmas school holidays.

“New Hope will involve the community through all stages of the approvals process and will continue to work in partnership with local residents and stakeholders to develop the revised project,” Mr Denney said.

“The revised project will be subject to a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), involving rigorous scientific and environmental investigations that will be made available to the community during the EIS consultation process and assessed by the State Government.

“All stakeholders and local residents are welcome to attend the community information session to speak with New Hope representatives about the revised project and the draft ToR.

Page 1 of 2

For further information, please contact:

Justin Coomber
Senior Communications Advisor
(07) 3418 0558 / 0407 772 647
media@newhopegroup.com.au



“We urge locals to take the opportunity to learn more about the revised plans and provide input into the project to help minimise impacts and maximise community benefits by attending the information session or contacting the company directly via telephone, email or post.

“The draft ToR sets out the matters New Hope will be required to address in preparing the EIS.

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(ends)

For further information, please contact:

Justin Coomber
Senior Communications Advisor
(07) 3418 0558 / 0407 772 647
media@newhopegroup.com.au



NEW HOPE
GROUP

MEDIA RELEASE

New Hope welcomes final ToR for revised New Acland plan

26 March 2013

The New Hope Group has welcomed the release of the final Terms of Reference (ToR) for the revised version of the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project, which is a significant project for Queensland and the Darling Downs.

The revised Project compromises on community concerns associated with the previous expansion proposal for the New Acland coal mine at Oakey while also continuing the operation beyond 2017.

New Hope Chief Operating Officer Bruce Denney said the revised Project would extend the life of the current operation until about 2029, boosting current employment from 300 local jobs to about 400, increasing 160 full-time equivalent contractors to 170 positions and growing indirect jobs from about 2,300 to more than 2,850.

Under the revised Project the town of Acland would be left in place, the existing Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility would be moved eight kilometres away from the town, the land used for mining would be reduced by more than half and Lagoon Creek would not be diverted.

He said the ToR released by the Queensland Coordinator-General today set out the specific matters that must be addressed in preparing a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the revised Project.

“This is a comprehensive document that takes into consideration the specific matters raised by local residents and other stakeholders in their submissions to the Coordinator-General,” Mr Denney said.

“The ToR provide a clear direction for the full EIS investigations into social, environmental, economic and cultural implications and the development of appropriate management strategies to be conducted over the coming months.

“We will involve the community through all stages of the approvals process and continue to work in partnership with local residents and key stakeholders to develop the revised Project and maximise opportunities.”

For more information, please contact:

Justin Coomber

Senior Communications Advisor

P: (07) 3418 0558 M: 0407 772 647 E: media@newhopegroup.com.au



High quality copies of these photos are attached separately for your use.



An aerial view of the New Acland mine.



Haul trucks and front end loader working at New Acland.





MEDIA RELEASE

New Acland Delivers on Community Investment

28 August 2013

The New Hope Group is bolstering its commitment to community development on the Darling Downs with the launch of the New Acland Community Investment Fund.

The New Acland Community Reference Group (CRG) assisted in the establishment of the Community Investment Fund and will play a key role in its administration.

CRG members, who represent a broad cross section of community interests in the area surrounding the New Acland Coal Mine, will assess applications and make recommendations to New Hope Group on appropriate community initiatives for support.

New Hope Group Chief Operating Officer Bruce Denney said the company was already a substantial supporter of local not-for-profit organisations through its generous Community Sponsorship and Donation Program, and this new fund will see the support extended even further.

“This new fund will concentrate on community investment and development projects that will provide significant and measurable benefit to a broad range of people and also develop long-term, sustainable outcomes for the community in the area surrounding the New Acland Coal Mine.

“Not-for-profit community groups and organisations within the Toowoomba Regional Council area will be eligible for grants of \$10,000 or more.

“New Hope Group is proud to partner with, and provide opportunities for, community groups in the region and to support the communities in which we live and work,” Mr Denney said.

Mr Denney said the fund is now open for eligible organisations to submit an application for consideration.

“New Hope invites community groups to apply for a grant to support their initiatives. We hope to receive applications for a range of innovative projects and ideas that will benefit our community,” he said.

Applications for the first funding round may be submitted until 30 September 2013.

Further information about the fund, including application forms, are available on the New Acland Project website www.aclandproject.com.au or through the New Hope Group Community Information Centre in Campbell Street, Oakey.

(ends)

For more information, please contact:

Justin Coomber
Senior Communications Advisor
P: +61 7 3418 0558 M: +61 407 772 647 E: media@newhopegroup.com.au



Media release

Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development,
Infrastructure and Planning
The Honourable Jeff Seeney

Call for comment on New Acland expansion

The Newman Government is calling for public comment on new draft terms of reference for a proposal to expand the New Acland Coal Mine in the Darling Downs.

Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Jeff Seeney said the release of the new draft terms of reference for community input followed New Hope Coal's application for a smaller scale expansion.

"New Hope has revised its proposal to significantly reduce its impact on agricultural land, and moved it further away from local communities," Mr Seeney said.

"The revised proposal is 63 per cent smaller with the project footprint reduced by 2,300 hectares.

"The reduced scope means mining over the town of Acland is no longer proposed and neither is the diversion of Lagoon Creek.

"After the public comment period, the Coordinator-General will release the final terms of reference for an environmental impact statement."

Mr Seeney said the Jondaryan rail load out facility would also be moved eight kilometres from the town and mining would move 10 kilometres from Oakey.

He said the State Government understood that communities had strong views on the proposal despite the smaller scope.

"We acknowledge there will be a broad range of views on the proposal and that people will have concerns mine's impacts on agricultural land, while others will be interested in the mine's potential to make a huge contribution to the region's economy," he said.

"The release of the draft terms of reference allows these groups to provide their input and shape the scope of the project's proposal.

"The project proposal will be subject to rigorous assessment under State and Commonwealth laws and the mine's future will rest on whether it can meet all those strict requirements.

Mr Seeney said a project proceeding through the EIS process was not an indication of Coordinator-General approval or support.

"This is simply recognition of the project's complexity and the undertaking of a comprehensive environmental assessment process that must address the key impacts of the proposal," he said.

"While an EIS for the previous version of the project was released for comment in late 2009, a new EIS will now be required on the reduced project scope.

"By sending the proponent back to the terms of reference stage, I have taken into account that people may wish to make a submission on what the new project should address in a new EIS.

"Nine weeks, which is double the standard comment period, will be provided to allow people ample time to consider the document."

The draft terms of reference are available for comment from Saturday 1 December 2012 to 5pm Monday 4 February 2013.

The proponent has prepared a project description document which details the new scope for the expansion project.

The terms of reference, project description document, and further information about the EIS process, can be viewed at www.dsdp.qld.gov.au/newacland/ (<http://www.dsdp.qld.gov.au/newacland/>) or, from Monday 3 December 2012, in person at:

The following Toowoomba Regional Council service centres:

- Goombungee: 89 Mocatta Street, Oakey
- Oakey: 64 Campbell Street, Oakey
- Toowoomba: 4 Little Street, Toowoomba
- State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane
- National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, Canberra

All public submissions should be made in writing and received by the Coordinator-General by 5pm Monday 4 February 2013.

Email: () (newaclandproject@coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au
(<mailto:newaclandproject@coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au>)

Post: The Coordinator-General
c/- EIS project manager – New Acland Stage 3 project
Coordinated Project Delivery
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NEW HOPE
GROUP

K.9 ASX Statement



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Company Announcement

14 November 2012

Compromise plan for New Acland future

The New Hope Group has listened to community and government concerns about a previous expansion proposal for its New Acland coal mine and has developed a sensible compromise plan for the continuation of the mine which will ensure jobs and economic benefits are maintained.

New Hope's Chief Executive Officer Rob Neale said the company had compromised on a number of key elements associated with the previous version of the New Acland Stage 3 Expansion Project to address concerns while also keeping the mine open beyond 2017.

"Hundreds of livelihoods are dependent on the New Acland operations and have been for the past decade," Mr Neale said.

"The plan will extend the life of the current operation to about 2029, boosting current employment from 300 local jobs to about 400, increasing 160 full time contractors to 170 positions and growing indirect jobs from about 2,300 to more than 2,800.

"The plan will also provide an annual \$530 million injection into the south-east Queensland economy and \$8 billion over the life of the mine.

"If the current New Acland operations do not continue, redundancies could begin as early as 2015 and the operations would close in 2017.

"Given Queensland's current economic climate, operations such as this one are crucial to boosting economic activity in the local region.

"The proposed compromise plan will see New Acland continue to act as a spur to the Darling Downs economy through direct and indirect employment, investment, business and community development."

Mr Neale said New Hope would continue to work in partnership with neighbours, local residents, government agencies and other key stakeholders to further develop the plan.

"Under the plan, the Jondaryan rail loading facility will be moved away from near the township and onto a remote part of the mining lease area, as announced in February this year," Mr Neale said.

121114 - NHCL - ASX ANNOUNCEMENT - COMPROMISE PLAN FOR NEW ACLAND

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It will also mean the Acland town area, including the Tom Doherty Park, the War Memorial and the Acland No 2 Colliery, will be preserved.

From the original proposal, there will be an overall reduction in the amount of land used for mining activities by more than half, and mining operations would be at least 10 kilometres away from Oakey at their nearest point.

As a result of this compromise, production levels from the New Acland operation under this proposal will be reduced by at least 25 percent, from the originally proposed 10 mtpa.

Under this new compromise plan there will also be no need for any creek diversions.

“This compromise continuation plan addresses the major community concerns while still yielding significant economic outcomes for the local region and the state,” Mr Neale said.

“New Hope is committed to seeking input, minimising impacts and ensuring good outcomes are achieved for the community.”

The proposed plans will be subject to rigorous scientific and environmental assessment by the State Government through the regular EIS processes.

For further information, please contact:

Investors/Analysts

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