SOUTH32
Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

# Fact Sheet

## Noise

## About Us

**South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal operates in the Illawarra and Wollondilly regions of NSW, producing metallurgical coal for steelmaking.**

In the Wollondilly region we operate the Appin Mine, which is currently in the Douglas Park and Menangle area. We are a proud local company, directly employing more than 1,800 people and have been operating in the region for 85 years.

Our metallurgical coal is used by the Port Kembla steelworks right here in NSW and is part of countless products – from seat belt buckles that provide safer car journeys to the Colourbond® roofs that keep us warm and dry.

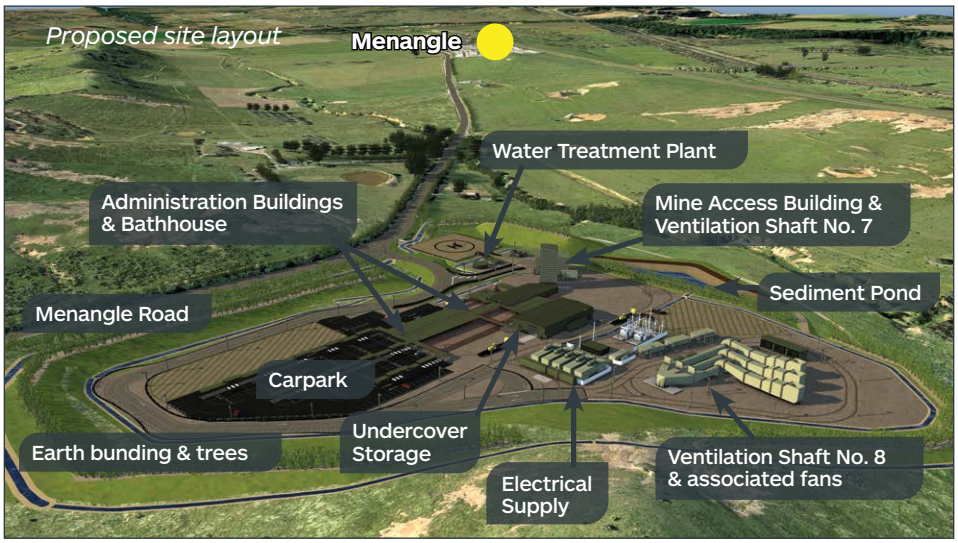
## Contact Us

Information about the Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project is available at: https://www.south32.net/our-business/australia/illawarra-metallurgical-coal/appin-ineventilation-and-access-project.

If you would like to speak with us about our activities, call our free Community Call Line 1800 102 210 or email illawarracommunity@south32.net.

**An integral requirement of underground mining is adequate ventilation and mine access, to ensure a safe and efficient working environment for our people.**

We are proposing to construct mine ventilation and access facilities at 345 Menangle Road, Menangle. The proposed ventilation shafts are known as Ventilation Shaft No. 7 (a downcast shaft that draws air into the mine) and Ventilation No. 8 (an upcast shaft that draws air out of the mine).




## Noise assessment

**The Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project will have operational and construction phases.**

More activity at the proposed site is expected during the construction phase as earthworks are completed, ventilation shafts are sunk and the ventilation and mine access is infrastructure constructed.

During the operational phase, employees will access the site as part of their regular work day and deliveries of material will be received.

To understand the potential for noise generation and the potential impacts to the local area, a noise assessment has been undertaken by expert consultants.

The final Noise Assessment Report is included with the Modification Application submitted to the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE), which will be placed on public exhibition for feedback.



# Proposed construction hours

**The recommended construction hours in the Interim Construction Noise Guideline (DCC, 2009) are proposed to be followed for most surface construction activities. This includes the installation of infrastructure such as ventilation fans and buildings.**

The sinking of the ventilation shafts is proposed to be undertaken using the Conventional Shaft Sinking method. It is proposed to be undertaken as a 24-hour operation to reduce the construction timeframe and longevity of impact to the community.

To achieve this, an acoustic shed (or noise shed) is proposed to be placed over the top of each shaft to contain noise generated. Once the shaft sinking is complete, the shed will be removed.

The acoustic shed is recommended to facilitate 24-hour construction only to minimise disturbance at night time.

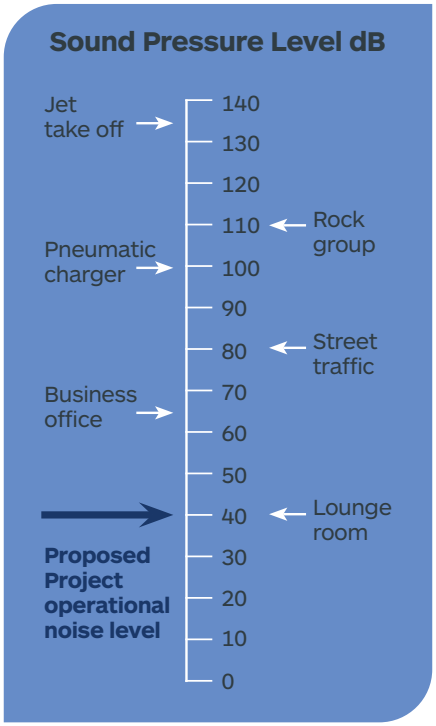
Acoustic sheds are custom built and are effective in minimising noise, light and dust spill to the surrounding area.

# Operational noise

**The predicted noise levels during the operational phase have been assessed to be within the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Noise Policy for Industry.**

The predicted noise levels will be less than 39 decibles at the nearest receiver, which is roughly equivalent to the noise levels in an average lounge room.

To minimise noise impacts during operations, the ventilation shaft fans will be designed to meet best practice sound power levels.




## Noise sources

Construction activities that may generate noise include:

- Earthworks
- Deliveries
- Installation of infrastructure
- Ventilation shaft sinking

Operational activities that may result in noise include:

- Ventilation fans and substation
- Employees accessing the location
- Deliveries

## Acoustic shed

Acoustic sheds, or noise sheds, are effective in minimising noise, light and dust spill. They are commonly used in the construction of tunnels in locations of high housing density.




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**More information about the Project is available on our website.**