SOUTH32
Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

Fact Sheet

Biodiversity and Heritage

About Us

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

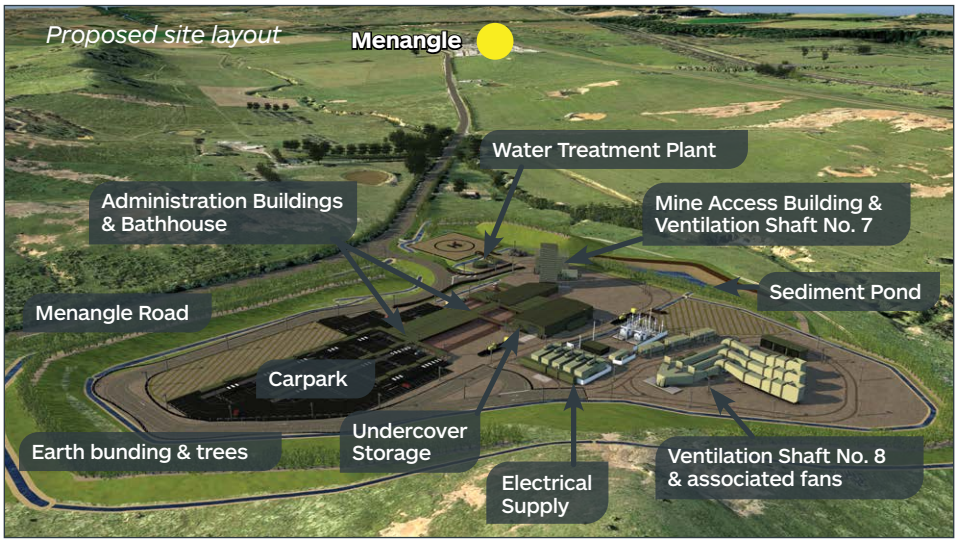
In the Wollondilly region we operate the Appin Mine, which is currently in the Douglas Park and Menangle area. We are a proud local company, directly employing more than 1,800 people and have been operating in the region for 85 years.

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.



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).



Biodiversity

The Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project has been positioned and designed to minimise environmental impacts to vegetation, fauna and aquatic life where possible.

An assessment of potential biodiversity impacts has been undertaken by expert consultants to ensure management of the land is best practice.

Suitable habitat for fauna and aquatic life was not identified at the property.

Vegetation on the property is comprised of exotic pasture and native vegetation. The threatened ecological community known as Cumberland Plain Woodland in the Sydney Basin Bioregion (CPW) was identified in limited areas in a highly modified form. The Project has been situated to avoid higher quality stands of CPW. Appropriate offsets for unavoidable impacts will be sought as part of the Project, in accordance with relevant NSW biodiversity conservation legislation.

Where impacts are unavoidable, actions aimed at mitigating and managing potential indirect impacts of the Project will be implemented.

These include:

- Reviewing and implementing the Appin Mine Biodiversity Management Plan;
- Managing pest and weeds;
- Water quality monitoring; and
- Fencing of adjacent woodland areas.

The final Biodiversity 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.



Heritage

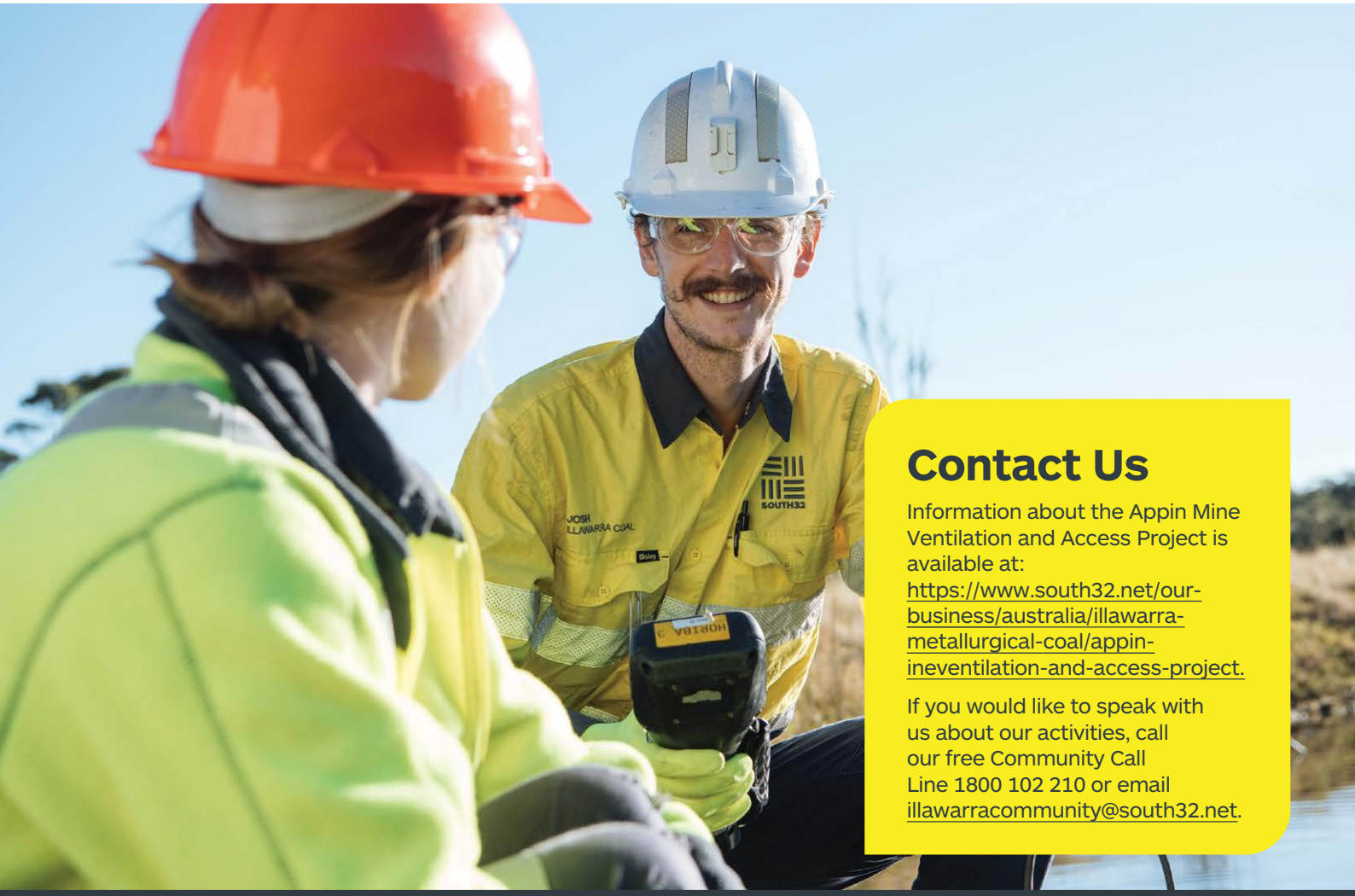
We are conscious of the Aboriginal and local farming heritage in the Menangle area, and engaged expert consultants to conduct Heritage assessments relevant to 345 Menangle Road.

The property is situated in an area which is traditional country of the Tharawal people. An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment was conducted in consultation with Registered Aboriginal Parties, including a site survey and archaeological test pitting program.

Past Aboriginal land use in the area suggested creek banks were used for the manufacture of artefacts. This is supported by the number of artefacts found on the banks of the Foot Onslow Creek. Detailed avoidance, mitigation and management measures have been developed to reduce potential impacts on Aboriginal heritage.

The historic heritage of the property is linked to the 19th Century settlement regional landscape. The property has remained largely unchanged from first European settlement and has a very low potential to contain archaeological resources.

The final Heritage Assessment Reports are included with the Modification Application submitted to DPIE, which will be placed on public exhibition for feedback.



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.

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More information about the Project is available on our website.