

## Welcome from the General Manager



As the new General Manager of Wilpinjong Coal, I'm excited to join the mine team and the local Mudgee and Central Western NSW community.

After 30 years of experience in a range of operational and executive roles in the mining industry I'm looking forward to building a future where Wilpinjong continues to make a valuable contribution to the local community.

Having been a General Manager of other mines that have close neighbours I understand that continuing to improve the way we minimise impacts on the community and the environment, as well as making smart productivity improvements, is key to ensuring a sustainable mine. There's a great story on an innovative solution our team has put in place to protect bat habitat on page 2.

This new quarterly community newsletter and a fresh website are some of the ways we will improve how we share information about our operations and the benefits our mine brings to the region.

We have a two stage plan to continue mining sustainably for the future. The NSW and Australian governments will rigorously assess our plans and there will be opportunities for the community to have their say to us and to the government.

I've been quickly getting to know our crew. I am fortunate to lead good people who are proud to work at Wilpinjong Mine and of the significant contribution we make to providing local jobs, supporting local businesses and to the lives of local people. They have a positive safety culture which will remain a top priority for me.

Another great thing about this job is that I get to live in the beautiful Central West. I really enjoyed working in Cobar for five years in the 1990s and playing football across the region. My wife and I have been lucky to buy a house in Mudgee. With our kids working and studying elsewhere, it is us and the dog Charlie who are moving in.

I welcome your questions, comments and ideas about improving our mine's performance and our positive contribution to the community. Get in touch via phone, email, or our website, or say hello when I'm out walking the dog!

Best regards

Mark Eaglesham, General Manager

## Quick facts about Wilpinjong Mine



Our company's coal is essential for producing affordable, reliable energy and steel. We're building brighter futures.

**Mine type:** Open cut (surface)

**Coal type:** Thermal

**Operating hours:** 24 hours, 7 days a week

**Approved to mine:** Up to 16 million tonnes of run-of-mine coal per year until 2033

**Where does the coal go?** Coal is sent by rail to domestic power generators to make electricity or to the Port of Newcastle for export.

### Did you know?

We currently provide around 25% of NSW coal generated power supply, helping to keep the lights on in homes and businesses.

### Did you know? In 2022/23 our mine provided:

**620**

permanent jobs

**~200**

specialist and general contractor positions

**\$60m**

in wages to local Peabody employees

**\$31m**

in payments to 340 local suppliers

**\$132m**

in taxes, royalties, and rates to State and Local government

## Protecting the environment

Most of our Wilpinjong team live locally and share a commitment to protect the environmental values of our special region.

Comprehensive plans are in place to minimise impacts on the environment and community – including for water, noise, air quality, biodiversity and Aboriginal cultural heritage. Government regulators assess our performance against these plans.

At Wilpinjong we recognise the effects of climate change must be addressed and that we have a responsibility to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. We comply with the Federal Government's Safeguard Mechanism which monitors and mandates baseline limits for our emissions.

Importantly, we believe that the transition to a net-zero emissions economy must balance the need for a timely transition with the necessity for affordable, reliable energy for Australia and other parts of the world.

### Ongoing rehabilitation



Did you know that we progressively rehabilitate land we have disturbed as soon as it is no longer needed for mining? Land is seeded with native grasses and complemented with tube stock to return it to native woodland to attract the critically endangered Regent Honey Eater.

**In 2023 we rehabilitated another 74ha of land to take the total rehabilitated land we are managing to 1020ha. We're on track to complete rehabilitation of another 82ha in 2024.**

### Protecting microbat roosting site



An innovative new \$40,000 support structure will ensure the entrance to an old oil shale mine that a large colony of microbats use as a temporary roosting site remains open to the mammals.

The colony includes the threatened Eastern Horseshoe and the Large Bent-Winged bats (pictured). The entrance is 150 metres from an approved mining area.

Wilpinjong Mine employees designed and installed the box shaped steel structure with help from two of Australia's leading bat experts. It has fewer safety and environmental risks than traditional methods to secure unsupported roofs and entry ways such as shotcreting and rock, mesh and structure bolting.

The structure's initial 900mm opening was enlarged last year to 1200mm. We made the change after ongoing monitoring showed some bats were still using an open space above the culvert rather than the 900mm diameter steel pipe installed for the bats to safely enter and exit the roost if the surrounding area collapses.

In great news, ongoing monitoring by the Wilpinjong Environment team, including a live video stream, shows the bats are actively using the new structure.

## Apprenticeships and traineeships provide skills and build careers

There are more than 60 trainees and apprentices working at Wilpinjong Mine. We believe in 'growing our own' future employees and are proud of the opportunities we offer local people of all ages to gain skills and build careers in mining and beyond.



Scan for more information about job opportunities at Wilpinjong.

### Apprenticeship not a leap for Faith



Faith Douglas-Williams loves being a first year Plant Mechanic Apprentice at Wilpinjong Mine. The 23 year old from Mudgee is employed by Skillset. Every five weeks she does a week at TAFE.

"It is really good. I couldn't imagine sitting in an office. I need to be hands on," Faith said.

"I love learning all the parts of a piece of machinery and how they work. I'd love to know how a whole system works."

Faith wants to stay in mining after her four-year apprenticeship is complete. She says mining offers a lot of employment opportunities.

"Mining is important to Mudgee. My brother works in mining as do many of my male friends. The mines bring a lot of benefits to the community."

Faith is the only female apprentice and one of two women in the workshop. She wants to see more women working in mining and other industries in traditional male roles. Her message to anyone thinking about an apprenticeship or working in mining is "give it a go".

## Protecting Aboriginal heritage

Our mine is on Wiradjuri land.

From our many cultural heritage studies, we have documented more than 1,000 Aboriginal cultural heritage sites in our database. We manage and minimise impacts on these sites through measures documented in our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan. All employees and contractors whose work tasks interact with cultural heritage undergo cultural heritage training.

Our Registered Aboriginal Parties' Consultation Committee (RAPCC) meets regularly to discuss cultural heritage issues. The RAPCC has a representative from each of the 8 Registered Aboriginal Parties with whom we work.

## Supporting local community and business

### Mining plays a vital role in the economic prosperity of the Mid Western Region.

- The region's largest employer (19% of the total labour force).
- Accounts for more than 50% of the value of goods and services produced in the region.
- Spending by mine staff and their families as well by mines on goods and services supports hundreds of local businesses and flow on jobs.

## Charity and community group funding support

Our Community Grants Program provides funding to local community groups and sporting associations, schools and charitable organisations. We've built long-term relationships with many grassroots organisations such as Riding for the Disabled.

You can apply any time. Simply email [WilpinjongCommunityEvents@peabodyenergy.com](mailto:WilpinjongCommunityEvents@peabodyenergy.com)

### New equipment for VRA Rescue



VRA Rescue NSW's Mudgee, Rylstone & Kandos and Gulgong have three new Ark Angel boats and a test tag machine thanks to our \$15,000 grant from Wilpinjong Coal. The new equipment will help the squads to continue to deliver their first-class rescue services to local communities.

### RFS support

We support the Rural Fire Service (RFS) by supplying personnel to fight fires and maintaining an RFS vehicle. We've increased the level of the dam on Ulan-Wollar Road – which the RFS can access.

### Upgrading and maintaining Ulan Road

Did you know that the Wilpinjong, Ulan and Moolarben mines co-fund the Ulan Road Strategy with Mid Western Regional Council? Wilpinjong mine's contribution in 2023 was more than \$240,000.

### Mudgee Angus Breeder Sale sponsorship

Wilpinjong values its relationship with the local farming and grazing community. More than 3,000 head of cattle graze on our buffer land surrounding the mine every year.

For almost a decade we have supported the Mudgee Annual Angus Breeder Sale which draws buyers from around Australia to snap up quality local cattle.



## Hands on training delivers bike benefits to local community



A training program to promote hand safety for our employees has delivered 32 bikes to Gulgong Public School Special Education Unit, Rotary and vulnerable children's charity, Barnardos.

A noticeable increase in hand or lower arm injuries across Peabody's operations sparked the training need. Wilpinjong Mine had few injuries, but employees did the training at the quarterly training days in November to keep hand safety top of mind.

In the two-hour sessions, groups of employees used only one hand to either assemble a bike or to write a bike assembly instruction manual. The bikes used in the training were hand delivered to the groups.

In a heartwarming highlight, the donation prompted one non-verbal student to say his first ever words when he sat on a bike - "vroom, vroom".

Mudgee Men's Shed received a donation of \$600 for assisting with catering for that quarter's training days.

## Community information and feedback

Our Our Community Consultative Committee (CCC) members share information about our mine with the community and provide us with community feedback. Minutes of quarterly meetings are on our website. New members can apply to join the CCC.

Email [kbennetts@peabodyenergy.com](mailto:kbennetts@peabodyenergy.com)

### Community contact information

**Phone**  
(02) 6370 2500

**Email**  
[info@peabodyenergy.com](mailto:info@peabodyenergy.com)

**Blasting information**  
1800 649 783

**Web**  
[www.peabodyenergy.com](http://www.peabodyenergy.com)

**Complaints**  
1300 606 625

## Extension plans support jobs and community

We're seeking government approval to continue mining so we can support local jobs, the local economy and the community for many years to come.

Our plans have two stages.

1. A Modification application to our existing approvals to allow us to access more productive coal areas. There will be no change to approved production rates or our approval to mine coal until December 2033.



Scan here for further detail on the Modification, Including our Scoping Letter, on the NSW Major Projects website.

2. A further extension of the mine area and its operating life in parts of the areas where we recently gained approval to explore. We're currently drilling to assess opportunities.

We have engaged a range of technical specialists to prepare studies and reports to support the Modification application. Consultation, surveys and collection of baseline data has commenced to inform the biodiversity, heritage, amenity, social, land and water studies.

**The community will have opportunities to have their say on our plans. We'll keep you updated and welcome your support at key stages of the government's approval process.**



### Monthly Have a Chat sessions

- First Thursday of the month
- 1:30 to 4:30pm Wollar Store

Members of our leadership team will answer your questions or hear your concerns over a cuppa.

You can just drop in.