



Bulga Coal Management Pty. Limited
ABN 48 055 534 391

Mailing Address
Private Mail Bag 8
Singleton NSW 2330
Mine Site
Broke Road
Singleton NSW 2330
Telephone
02 6570 2400
Facsimile
Admin 02 6570 2450
Supply 02 6570 2452

12th February 2010

Dear Hunter Valley Protection Alliance

Re: Bulga Coal Noise Education and DA Modification Consultation

Concern about mine generated noise in the community prompted Bulga Coal Management Pty Limited to undertake a review of its mining operations in 2009. The review indicated that the noise criteria currently applicable to the operations are out-of-date, obsolete and not in accordance with current industry best practice. Further, monitoring results have shown a trend towards increased mining related noise over the past two years. The increase in noise from the Bulga Coal Complex has predominantly been caused by an increase in the number of rear dump trucks utilised on site.

In response to the review findings, Bulga Coal Management Pty Limited has taken a number of actions, including removing 12 Caterpillar 785 rear dump trucks from site, purchasing 30 noise attenuated rear dump trucks to replace existing trucks and seeking a modification to the Surface Operations Development Consent (DA) to improve noise monitoring and management.

This DA modification will improve the noise monitoring and management at the Bulga Coal Complex by including:

- all noise generated from the Bulga Coal Complex in the Surface Operations Development Consent;
- the consideration of the potential for impacts from a wider range of weather conditions;
- a commitment to increasing the number of noise attenuated equipment operating on site;
- the implementation of continuous real time noise monitoring; and
- With a subsequent modification to the Underground Development Consent, provide one set of noise criteria for the entire Bulga Complex as opposed to separate ones as is the current situation.

This modification will enable an outcomes-based approach to noise management to be adopted at private receivers and is required to contemporise the Surface Operations Development Consent conditions in relation to noise management, generally consistent with the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water's 'NSW Industrial Noise Policy' (EPA 2000).

DA Noise Modification Application

The DA noise modification application including the Environmental Assessment was submitted to the NSW Department of Planning on 20 January 2010. The Department of Planning is conducting a preliminary review of the Environmental Assessment to determine if the assessment meets the adequacy criteria.

Consultation and Noise Education

In an attempt to assist the community better understand mine noise impacts, management and monitoring Bulga Coal is extending an invitation to HVPA members to attend a Bulga Coal Noise Education and Consultation session held at the mine. The Bulga Coal Noise Education and Consultation session will be held at the Bulga Coal administration building on 25 February 2010 (details on attached sheet). The session will include:

- Noise Education and Awareness conducted by Ms Marion Burgess of the University of New South Wales, including a demonstration of what 35 to 40 dB of noise sounds like;
- Presentation on the Bulga Coal noise mitigation and management actions including the DA noise modification Environmental Assessment;
- An opportunity to view and listen to a quiet truck and, weather permitting, a tour of the mine.

A similar invitation to attend the same sessions has also been extended to those who own properties close to the mine.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact either myself (6570 4354) or Mel Hawthorne (6570 2409).

Yours faithfully



Ralph Northey
Environment and Community Manager
Bulga Coal Complex
Ph: 6570 4354 or 0418 439 874
Email: rnorthey@xstratacoal.com.au



**Bulga Coal Management Pty.
Limited**
ABN 48 055 534 391

Mailing Address
Private Mail Bag 8
Singleton NSW 2330

Mine Site
567 Broke Road
Singleton NSW 2330

Telephone
02 6570 2400

Facsimile
Admin 02 6570 2450
Supply 02 6570 2452

Dear HVPA

Subject: Bulga Coal Noise Education and DA Modification Consultation

You are cordially invited to attend the Bulga Coal Noise Education and Consultation. The session will be held at the Bulga Coal Offices (directions included) on **Thursday 25th February 2010**. There will be two sessions the first commencing at **1:00pm** and the second commencing at **5:00pm**.

The session will include:

- Noise Education and Awareness conducted by Ms Marion Burgess of the University of New South Wales, including a demonstration of what 35 to 40 dB of noise sounds like.
- Presentation on the Bulga Coal noise mitigation and management actions including the DA noise modification Environmental Assessment.
- An opportunity to listen to a quiet truck and, weather permitting, a tour of the mine.

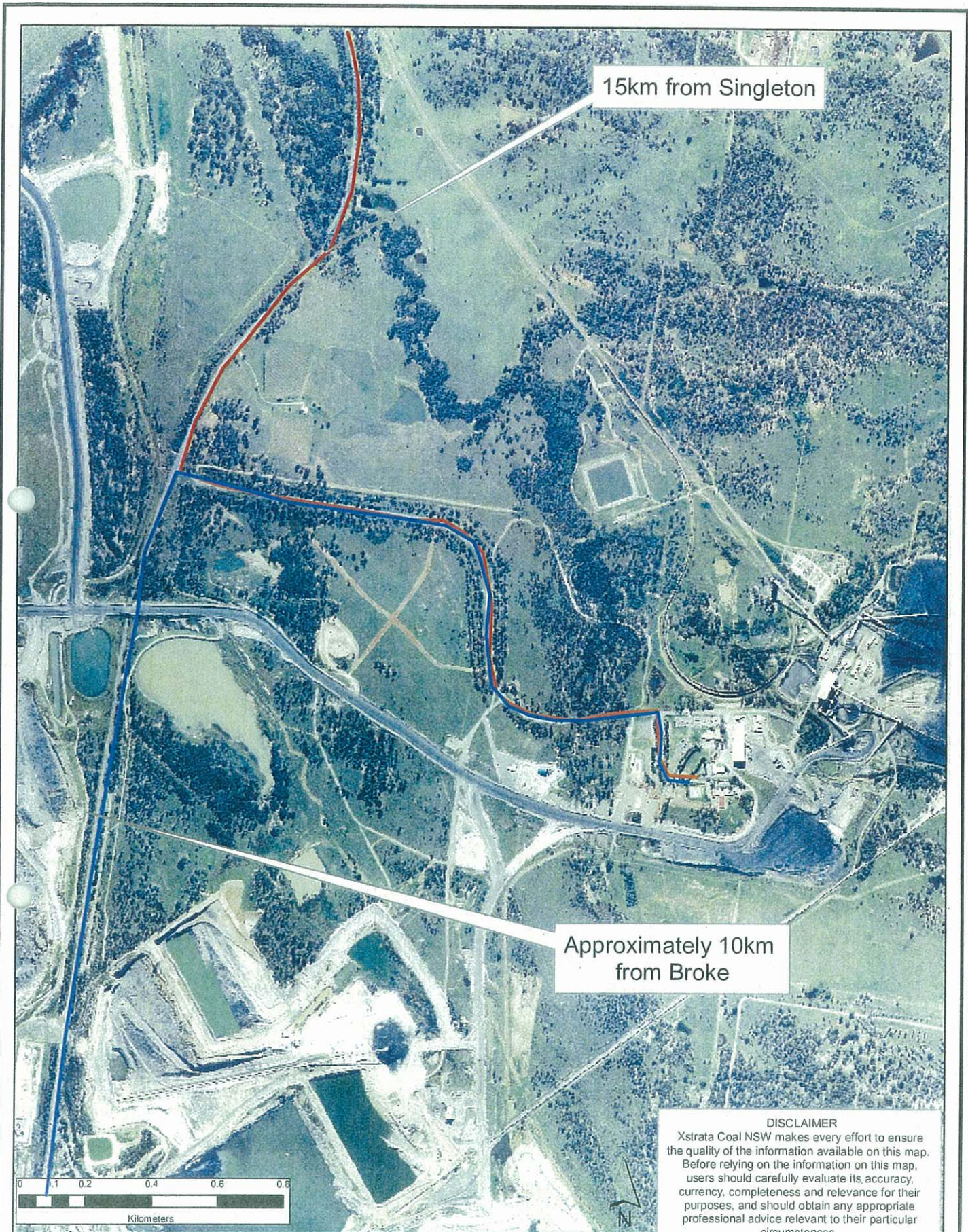
Could you please RSVP to the Bulga Coal Reception on 6570 2400 to advise if you will be able to attend and which session you will be attending.

Please wear covered in foot wear for the mine tour. Light refreshments will be provided.

I look forward to seeing you at the consultation session.

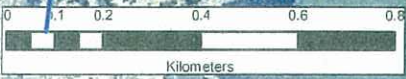
Yours faithfully,

Ralph Northey
Environment & Community Manager
Bulga Coal Complex
Ph: (02) 6570 4354
Mobile: 0418 439 874
Email: rnorthey@xstratacoal.com.au



15km from Singleton

Approximately 10km from Broke



DISCLAIMER
 Xstrata Coal NSW makes every effort to ensure the quality of the information available on this map. Before relying on the information on this map, users should carefully evaluate its accuracy, currency, completeness and relevance for their purposes, and should obtain any appropriate professional advice relevant to their particular circumstances.



Bulga Coal

Bulga Coal Complex



Date: February 2010
 Produced By: M. Hawthorne
 Coordinate System: MGA94 Zone 56
Data Source
 NSW Dept of Lands (2009)
 NSW Dept of Primary Industries (2009)
 Xstrata Coal NSW (2009)

Xstrata Coal NSW cannot guarantee and assumes no responsibility for the accuracy, currency or completeness of the information and by using this map you accept that Xstrata Coal NSW has no liability for any loss or damage in any form whatsoever caused directly or indirectly from the use of this map.
 Copyright: Xstrata Coal NSW (2009).