

Project China Stone

Community Information Sheet

THREE

September 2014

The proponent for Project China Stone is MacMines Austasia Pty Ltd (MacMines). MacMines was established in Queensland in 1999. MacMines' current interests include active coal exploration areas in central Queensland. MacMines is wholly owned by the Yao family, and is a related entity of Shanxi Meijin Energy Group Limited.

Project Update

This information sheet provides an update on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a summary of the next steps in the approvals process for Project China Stone (the project).

The project involves the greenfield development of a large-scale coal mine. The project site is located approximately 270 km south of Townsville and 300 km west of Mackay, at the northern end of the Galilee Basin.



As part of the EIS process, a stakeholder consultation program is being undertaken. An initial round of stakeholder consultation was conducted in November 2012. This included consultation with a wide range of stakeholders located in Charters Towers, Townsville, Moranbah, Clermont, Mackay and Brisbane. The purpose of this initial round of consultation was to identify stakeholders' concerns related to the project. Stakeholders consulted

included landholders within and neighbouring the project site, state and local government agencies, service providers, community groups, Indigenous representatives and small business owners.

Based on feedback received during this consultation, a further round of consultation was conducted in June 2013. This second round of consultation included surveys of business capability in Charters Towers

and Clermont. The results of the surveys have been collated and will be presented in the EIS. The findings of the surveys provided valuable information for consideration in the assessment of project socio-economic impacts and in the development of suitable management measures.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the business capability surveys and in stakeholder consultation conducted for the project to date.

EIS Process Update

The EIS is currently under preparation. Specialist studies are currently being undertaken as part of the EIS to assess the following issues:

- Groundwater;
- Surface water;
- Mine water management;
- Aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna;
- Soils and land capability;
- Subsidence and rehabilitation;
- Noise and vibration;
- Air quality and greenhouse gas;
- Rejects disposal;
- Waste management;
- Traffic and transportation;
- Cultural heritage; and
- Social and economic impacts.

The project is a 'coordinated project' under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*. The EIS is being prepared to meet the requirements of the Terms of Reference issued by the Coordinator General (CG). The EIS Terms of Reference are available at www.dsdip.qld.gov.au/resources/project/china-stone-coal-project/china-stone-coal-project-tor.pdf.

The EIS will be assessed by the CG and will support an application for an Environmental Authority under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. The flowchart on the right provides a summary of the approval process for the project.

The project will also require an approval from the Commonwealth Department of the Environment (DotE) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). A referral to DotE is proposed to be submitted in the near future. DotE will make use of the EIS for its assessment of the project.



Approval Process Flowchart



EIS Exhibition

The EIS is currently scheduled for submission to the Queensland Government in late 2014. Following submission, the EIS will be placed on public exhibition. During the public exhibition phase, further consultation will be conducted with stakeholders to present the key findings of the EIS. Stakeholders will also have the opportunity to make submissions to the CG on the EIS. The CG will consider any submissions as part of the assessment of the EIS. EIS public exhibition is anticipated to occur during early 2015. Stakeholders will be notified of the commencement of public exhibition via a notice in the Courier Mail and a regional newspaper.

Further Information

If you would like further information on the project or the approvals process, please do not hesitate to contact Hansen Bailey.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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