

Since I've been working for Whitehaven, I've seen the local region grow and develop. With some of Whitehaven's mines set to close in the coming years, it's important to get projects like Vickery approved so we can continue to see the area thrive.

While I am based in the Sydney office, during my 5 years working with Whitehaven I have travelled regularly to the Gunnedah region. On these travels I regularly find myself engaged in conversations with locals, particularly on the Tamworth shuttle. I can honestly say that everyone I have come across has been highly supportive of both Whitehaven and more generally the mining sector in terms of their contribution to the local region. I often hear comments about there being no local jobs available for kids growing up and the need for them to look further afield for employment opportunities, particularly with drought and automation impacting the opportunities in the agricultural sector. If it weren't for mining, places like Gunnedah, Boggabri and Narrabri would be doing it a lot tougher.