

## **VICKERY EXTENSION PROJECT in the Gunnedah Region**

The Vickery Extension Project is a huge opportunity for the regional communities of the Gunnedah Region where the investment and jobs that will be generated by this project are desperately needed.

Coal is NSW's most valuable export commodity, with a value of more than \$20 billion.

More than 23,000 coalminers in NSW rely on coalmining for their livelihood. There are more than 7,000 local businesses across NSW that are supported by mining.

Coal mining is important to my family, Australia, our community and NSW.

We urgently need approval of the Vickery Extension Project to secure jobs and investment for local communities. This project will provide direct employment via 950 new fulltime jobs across the extended mine life.

The federal government's tables of multiplier effects shows that more than three times as many indirect jobs are created for every person directly employed in a coal mine.

Tens of thousands of people working in thousands of mining supplier businesses across NSW need the project to proceed.

Thousands of business owners and their staff in mining towns across NSW rely on money spent from mining wages.

The Vickery Extension Project has the support of the local community, local MPs, local Council and local businesses.

Coal is Australia's most valuable export.

The state of NSW will benefit from millions of dollars in royalties by approval for this project. This is money that NSW will be able to spend on our hospitals, schools, roads and emergency services.

The Vickery Extension Project will create a net benefit of \$1.2 billion to this state.

Now more than ever, the entire NSW economy needs mining as we focus on recovery from the effects of the pandemic.

Our national, state and local economies rely heavily on coal mining so coal mining benefits all Australians.

Coal from Australian coal mines has ideal qualities and it has fewer impurities, such as sulphur, than coal from other countries such as Asian countries. So the use of Australian coal is reducing pollution, such as sulphur dioxide, on a worldwide basis.

NSW needs to focus on the positive aspects of coal mining and its many benefits so as to not be distracted by ideologically driven anti-mining activists.

We should all be proud of what coal mining is doing and can do in future for Australia, NSW and the Gunnedah Region.

The reports submitted for the Vickery Extension Project demonstrates its comprehensive coverage of all environmental issues. The benefits from the commencement of this coal mine are immense.

For all of these reasons I fully support the Vickery Extension Project.