

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HVO NORTH AND SOUTH OPEN CUT COAL CONTINUATION PROJECTS (SSD-11826681 & SSD-11826621)

The HVO North and South Open Cut Coal Continuation Projects are two development applications for the continuation of the HVO North and HVO South open cut coal mines and associated infrastructure, including the extraction of approximately 430 million tonnes of ROM coal through to 2042 and 2045.

The Independent Planning Commission is the consent authority that will determine whether or not the development applications for these projects should be approved and, if so, with what conditions.

A Panel of three Commissioners will consider the applications and seek the community's views by inviting written submissions and holding a public hearing.

KEY DATES

 Speaker registrations close 12 noon on Wed 8 July 2026	 Written submissions close 11:59PM on Sun 26 July 2026	 Public hearing 10:00AM on Thurs 16 & Fri 17 July 2026
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WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE COMMISSION PROCESS

 **ALL INFORMATION CAN BE ACCESSED ON THE COMMISSION WEBSITE**
Our website has a 'case page' for the HVO North and South Open Cut Coal Continuation SSD applications where all the documents that the Panel will consider, including meeting transcripts and public submissions, can be accessed throughout the case.

Key documents include the [Assessment Report](#) and recommended conditions prepared by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) for the Commission.



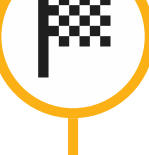
 **WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS ARE INVITED**
The Commission invites written submissions from all interested parties. We have sent an email to everyone who previously made a written submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) to inform them that submissions on these applications and their assessment are open.

- Written submissions are to be lodged via the website case page before the submission deadline.
- Written submissions are not to be provided by email.

 **THE PANEL WILL HOLD STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS & A SITE INSPECTION**
The Panel will generally meet separately with local council/s, DPHI, the applicant, and others as required, to seek additional detail about the applications and their assessment. A full transcript of these meetings will be published on our website. The Panel will also inspect the proposed project site and visit the local area. A detailed record of these visits will be published on the case page.

 **A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD**
The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has requested the Commission hold a public hearing on these applications. A livestreamed public hearing will be held at the Branxton Community Hall at 10:00AM on Thursday 16 & Friday 17 July 2026 and livestreamed. At the hearing, the applicant will present the proposed development, DPHI will present its whole-of-government assessment of the applications, and registered speakers will make verbal submissions to the Panel. When a public hearing is held, merit appeal rights in respect of the decision on that application are extinguished for both the applicant and objectors.


If demand for speaker timeslots is low, the Commission may move to an entirely in-person or virtual format. These arrangements aim to maximise participation while making best use of public resources.

 **THE PANEL WILL MAKE A DETERMINATION**
The Commission has been asked to make its decision about the applications within 12 weeks of receiving the applications. When the Commission makes its decision, a **Statement of Reasons for Decision** that includes how community views were taken into account is published on our website and all who participated in our process are notified of the decision.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

 **MAKE A WRITTEN SUBMISSION**
Individuals, groups or organisations can [lodge written submissions](#) on the Commission's website.

The deadline for written submissions is 11:59PM on Sunday 26 July 2026.

 **SPEAK AT THE PUBLIC HEARING**
Registered speakers can present in person, via video conference or via telephone.

- [Register to speak](#) on the Commission's website by 12 noon on Wednesday 8 July 2026.
- Any presentation slides must be provided to us five days in advance of the hearing.

 **VIEW THE PUBLIC HEARING**
Members of the community can either;

- attend the hearing in person as a member of the audience; or
- watch the livestream via the website

Recordings and transcripts will be made available on the website within three business days for those unable to attend.

Contact the Office of the Independent Planning Commission

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