



BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance

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## Media Release

28 April 2008

### Community engagement begins for new BMA projects

BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) will this week commence engagement with its Northern Bowen Basin communities regarding planned growth projects in the region.

To meet the strong demand for coal, BMA will grow through the expansion of existing operations and the development of new mines.

Two initial developments have been identified, Daunia Mine and Caval Ridge Mine, located in the Northern Bowen Basin. The company will conduct an engagement process on these proposed projects with Moranbah and broader regional community to support the Environmental Impact Statement process and build on BMA's existing reputation.

John Smith, BMA CEO, explained the company would be actively engaging with the community to ensure information was shared in an open and transparent process.

"We are long term members of the Bowen Basin community and these potential projects will strengthen our future in the region, our local economies and the regional economy through royalties and new jobs.

"It is important that we understand the effects our growth may have within the community, and to ensure that any impacts are mitigated, we will encourage two-way dialogue," Mr Smith said.

In coming months BMA will be visiting centres throughout the local region with information and displays about the projects, along with the chance to provide feedback. Dates and locations of the display will be advertised locally.

The primary focus will be on the proposed Daunia Mine, which will produce semi-hard coking coal and PCI coal; and the larger Caval Ridge Mine, which will produce high quality, hard coking coal.

BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) is Australia's largest metallurgical coal miner and exporter. BMA owns and operates seven mines – Broadmeadow, Blackwater, Goonyella Riverside, Gregory Crinum, Peak Downs, Saraji and Norwich Park, and the Hay Point Coal Terminal near Mackay. In addition, BMA manages the South Walker Creek and Poitrel operations of BHP Mitsui Coal. The company employs over 8,900 people, including contractors.

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