



Established 1907

MUSWELLBROOK COAL

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This third newsletter provides an update on the progress of the Rosehill Coal Project, and is in line with our policy to keep the community informed of our activities at all stages of the Project.

current status of the project

Muswellbrook Coal Company has completed a preliminary assessment of the coal resources in the Rosehill and Castlerock areas. The results of the assessment indicate that further exploration is required to determine the likelihood of mineable coal reserves in these areas. An application was made in February 1999 to the Department of Mineral Resources for an exploration licence over the Castlerock area. This is called the Castlerock Application Area. An application is also being made to relinquish the northern portion of the existing Rosehill exploration area. Refer to the map over the page for details.

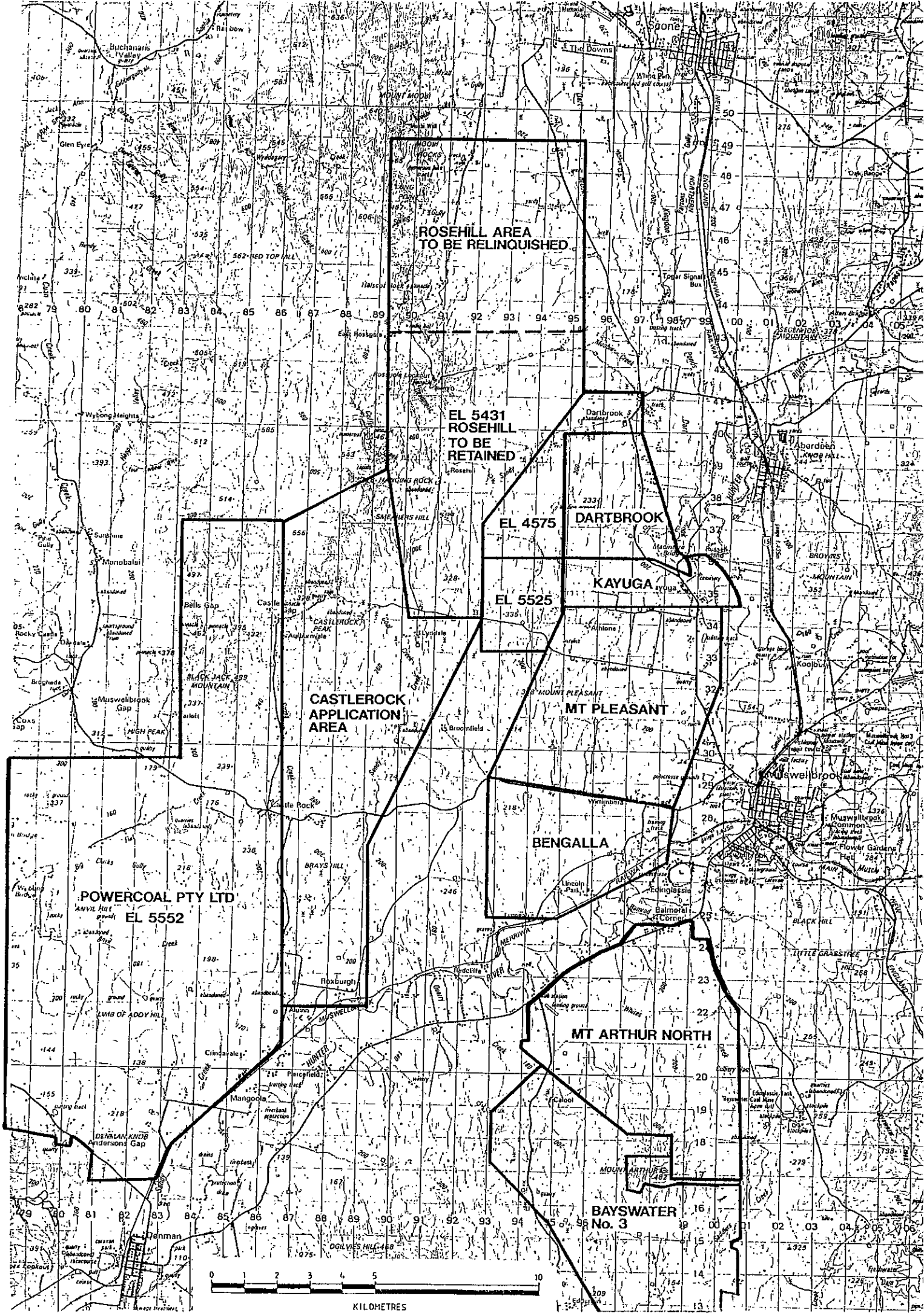
environmental monitoring

Baseline environmental monitoring is continuing in the Rosehill and Castlerock areas. This includes the collection of weather data, regular monitoring of over 30 groundwater wells/bores and 20 surface water sites, and the measurement of dust deposition and airborne dust concentration at over 15 locations. Noise monitoring is planned to be conducted at selected sites in the near future.

where to from here?

When the Department of Mineral Resources approves the application for the Castlerock exploration licence, then a Stage 2 exploration programme will be conducted over both the Castlerock and remaining Rosehill areas. Community consultation will continue in conjunction with Peterkin & Associates, and a public meeting will be held soon after the granting of the new exploration licence to discuss the results of the completed Stage 1 programme and future plans for the Stage 2 exploration programme.

For further information please contact: Mark Howes, Environmental Officer, Muswellbrook Coal Company, telephone: (02) 6543 2799 mobile: 019 964010 fax: (02) 6542 5010.



**ROSEHILL AREA
TO BE RELINQUISHED**

**EL 5431
ROSEHILL
TO BE RETAINED**

EL 4575 DARTBROOK

EL 5525 KAYUGA

**CASTLEROCK
APPLICATION
AREA**

MT PLEASANT

**POWERCOAL PTY LTD
EL 5552**

BENGALLA

MT ARTHUR NORTH

**BAYSWATER
No. 3**



KILOMETRES