



Established 1907
MUSWELLBROOK COAL
COMPANY LIMITED ACN 000 009 521
PO Box 123, Muswellbrook NSW 2333
Tel: 02 6543 2799 Fax: 02 6542 5010

August 1999, Issue 4

This fourth newsletter provides an update on the progress of the Rosehill and Castlerock Coal Projects, and is in line with Muswellbrook Coal Company's policy to keep the community informed of activities at all stages of the Project.

current status of the project

Muswellbrook Coal Company (MCC) was granted an Exploration Licence (referred to as EL5600) over the Castlerock area on 26 July 1999 for a period of three years by the Department of Mineral Resources. An application has also been made to relinquish the northern portion of the existing Rosehill Exploration Licence area, whilst retaining the southern portion of the Rosehill area for further exploration (referred to as EL5431). 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 groundwater wells/bores and surface water sites, the measurement of dust deposition and airborne dust concentrations, and noise monitoring at various sites.

where to from here?

A Stage 2 exploration programme will be conducted over both the Castlerock and Rosehill areas after access agreements have been finalised between MCC and appropriate landowners. The exploration programme will comprise the drilling of approximately 65 shallow and nine deep boreholes to assess the likelihood of mineable coal reserves, and is planned to commence in October 1999 and last for around six months. The community consultation programme will continue in conjunction with Peterkin & Associates, and a public information session is expected to be held in late September or October to discuss future plans for the exploration programme and the next step of consultation during the project.

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