

SARAJI EAST MINING LEASE PROJECT

Environmental Impact Statement

Appendix N-1 Public Consultation Report



BHP Mitsubishi Alliance

Environmental Impact Statement

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31-Jul-2023
Saraji East Mining Lease Project

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1.0 Introduction

A stakeholder and community consultation program was undertaken to assist in the preparation of the Saraji East Mining Lease Project (the Project)'s Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including the development of a Social Impact Assessment (SIA). The purpose of the community and stakeholder consultation was to ensure that all relevant stakeholders were aware of the Project and have the opportunity to raise key issues of relevance for themselves and the broader community.

The stakeholder and community consultation program was aligned with the SIA process to maximise synergies, and promote a consistent and cohesive approach to gather feedback through the EIS process. The SIA scoping process considered SIA requirements, the Project's location, characteristics of local communities and regions, and Isaac Regional Council's (IRC) inputs on potential social impacts and opportunities.

Throughout 2018 - 2019 and 2022 - 2023, BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Ltd (BMA) conducted consultation for the Project with affected and interested parties through a range of communication tools and consultation methods.

This report provides an overview of consultation undertaken, outlines key outcomes and feedback themes raised, and presents the communication collateral used throughout the process. The next phases of consultation associated with the EIS process will build on the consultation program undertaken to date.

BMA have undertaken engagement with relevant stakeholders to:

- present Project updates
- provide opportunities for stakeholders to participate in the environmental assessment and planning of the Project
- discuss community and social impacts, and to record feedback from stakeholders
- obtain information from stakeholders to inform impact assessments and proposed mitigation options
- provide information to stakeholders about how their feedback was implemented into the design and outcomes of the Project.

1.1 Consultation approach

During 2018 and 2019, consultation for the Project was undertaken with stakeholders to develop baseline assessments, impact assessment and mitigation options detailed in the EIS, including:

- targeted stakeholder discussions
- briefings with local government and government agencies
- community and SIA workshops to inform stakeholders and the community about the Project, and seek feedback specifically related to social impacts and opportunities arising from the Project.

Further stakeholder consultation for the Project was undertaken in 2022 and 2023 to inform an update to the Social Impact Assessment update.

2.0 Stakeholder identification

To meet the consultation objectives and statutory requirements, the Project used a stakeholder identification process to determine the approach, frequency and timeframes for consulting stakeholders during the development of the EIS. Key stakeholder's groups consulted are included in Table 1.

Table 1 Stakeholder groups

Stakeholder group	Stakeholder sub-group
Directly impacted stakeholders	• adjacent landholders • landholders affected by the Project • Traditional Owner representatives.
Indirectly impacted stakeholders and interested parties	• non-government organisations and community service providers (social services, community development, health and childcare) • business and industry groups • environmental groups • other mining operators in the area.
Residents and community members from Dysart the greater Isaac and Mackay LGA	• BMA employees • business and economic development • broader community.
Government	• elected representatives • Commonwealth Government agencies • Queensland Government agencies • other regional councils, including Mackay Regional Council.
Media	• local • state • national • industry • radio • television.
Mining industry	• industry associations • unions.

3.0 Stakeholder engagement program

Several stakeholder engagement strategies were used to ensure meaningful participation and involvement in developing the EIS. These have been based on existing BMA consultation mechanisms, Project and business requirements and the knowledge and understanding of stakeholders and their capacity to participate in consultation at particular points in time.

Consultation was undertaken with stakeholders to develop baseline assessments, impact assessment and mitigation options detailed in the EIS. General and targeted consultation was undertaken to ensure specific issues were captured, including social impacts and social values which are further discussed in **Chapter 17 Social** of the EIS.

3.1 Communication tools

Communication tools were developed to support consultation activities and provide further information about the Project, BMA's growth plans and the EIS process. These were also used as standalone tools to respond to general enquiries and provide a Project overview to the wider community.

During the consultation program, BMA provided community members and stakeholders the following feedback channels:

- free call project information line: 1800 078 797
- email: metcoalinfo@bhpbilliton.com
- reply post: BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance, Reply Paid 1430, Brisbane QLD 4001
- feedback forms.

3.2 Communication methods

Consultation was supported by communication methods that provide information specific to the Project and BMA's existing operations, enabling input to be recorded and monitored. Communication methods and tools used are described in Table 2.

Table 2 Methods used for each stakeholder group

Stakeholder group	Communication methods
Landholders directly impacted and adjacent to the Project	• one-on-one meetings • email address, reply paid mail address and free call number • stakeholder letter • public notices (Mackay Daily Mercury and The Australian newspapers) • feedback form • fact sheet (A4, double sided).
Traditional Owner representatives	• one-on-one meetings • email address, reply paid mail address and free call number • stakeholder letter • public notices (Mackay Daily Mercury and The Australian newspapers) • feedback forms • fact sheet.
Interested parties: • non-government organisations • community service providers • business and industry groups • social and health infrastructure providers	• SIA and community workshops in Moranbah, Middlemount and Dysart • phone interviews • feedback form • email address, reply paid mail address and free call number • stakeholder letter

Stakeholder group	Communication methods
- residents and community members from Moranbah, Dysart and Middledmount and the greater Isaac and Mackay LGAs - BMA employees.	- public notices (Mackay Daily Mercury and The Australian newspapers) - fact sheet.
Government: - Commonwealth Government agencies and elected representatives; and - local government and elected representatives.	- workshop participation - one-on-one meetings - feedback form - email address, reply paid mail address and free call number - stakeholder letter - public notices (Mackay Daily Mercury and The Australian newspapers) - fact sheet.

3.2.1 Public consultation activities

The primary consultation activities undertaken to develop the impact assessment and to provide mitigation options detailed in the EIS were one-on-one meetings and workshops in the communities of Moranbah, Dysart and Middledmount.

A summary of the public consultation activities including the associated timeframes, stakeholder group, and engagement method is presented in Table 3.

Table 3 Public consultation activities

Timeframe	Stakeholders	Engagement method
March and April 2018	Office of the Coordinator General (OCG) and Department of Environment and Science (DES)	- meeting 1 - OCG Meeting - SIA scope and process - meeting 2 - provision of SIA scope for DES review.
June 2018	Isaac Regional Council (IRC)	meeting 1 - SIA scope and process.
	Local community members and businesses	- community information about the Project and SIA - local community and business workshops in Moranbah, Dysart and Middledmount.
	Landowners	meetings with two affected landholders.
July 2018	Barada Barna Aboriginal Corporation (BBAC)	SIA enquiry framework provided for meeting with BBAC.
June and July 2018	Social and health infrastructure providers	- community workshop participation - phone interviews.
	Government agencies	Workshop participation: - Moranbah Hospital - Dysart Police - Middledmount Community School.
		Interviews: - Moranbah State School - Moranbah East State School - Moranbah Police - QFES, Mackay Country Command.

Timeframe	Stakeholders	Engagement method
March – July 2019	OCG	- meeting 3 - provision of preliminary draft SIA for OCG review - meeting 4 - discussion of draft SIA findings.
	IRC	meeting 2 – presentation and discussion of draft SIA and Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP).
	Unions: - Construction, Forestry, Maritime, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) - Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (AMWU) - Electrical Trades Union (ETU).	Project information distributed by email with an invitation to participate in a phone interview.
April 2022	IRC	- meeting – provision of Project update - meeting – discussion of Council's submission.
November 2022		draft updated SIA was presented to IRC for their feedback in November 2022.
February 2023		meeting – review comments on updated SIA.
April – May 2023	All stakeholders	- a letter was sent providing: - information about the status of the Project - an Updated SIA summary describing the Project, the SIA's response to EIS submissions, how the SIA has been updated, and the impacts and management measures identified - an invitation for stakeholders to provide feedback about social impacts and impact management.
2023	Government agencies	Information about the Project and the updated SIA were provided via emails to all local schools and hospitals in Moranbah and Dysart, local police, fire and ambulance services, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy (DCHDE), Queensland Health, Department of Seniors,

Timeframe	Stakeholders	Engagement method
		Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DSDSATSIP), Department of Employment, Small Business and Training (DESBT) and Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DSDILGP) Regional Development, inviting their feedback.
	OCG	meeting – provision of updates to the SIA and SIMP.

4.0 Key outcomes and feedback themes

During the 2018 and 2019 consultation phase, a total of 105 stakeholders were consulted. This involved a broad range of stakeholder groups and included six one-on-one and small group meetings. In addition:

- 187 stakeholder letters and emails were distributed
- 25 people attended the SIA and community workshops, and four feedback forms were received
- 500 fact sheets and 400 feedback forms were distributed through the SIA and community workshops, stakeholder meetings, and at IRC offices in Dysart, Middlemount and Moranbah
- no phone calls or emails were received about the Project.

The stakeholder and community consultation program identified a number of key feedback themes. The key issues and opportunities, not attributed to specific individuals or stakeholders groups, included:

- housing availability and cost
- cumulative mine impacts on infrastructure and health services
- recruitment and retention of staff in non-mining employment
- opportunities for small business and local employment
- changing socialisation patterns with the introduction of the government's social housing program
- attracting families to live in the local government area for greater economic and social stability.

Chapter 19 Stakeholders of the EIS presents a comprehensive summary of the key common themes raised in the SIA workshop which have also been addressed and further discussed in **Chapter 17 Social** and **Chapter 18 Economics** of the EIS.

The stakeholder engagement and community consultation program enabled the Project team to collect, analyse and report on data related to impacts, benefits, and opportunities. It also provided an opportunity for stakeholders with specific knowledge to contribute to the development of appropriate mitigation options.

4.1 Consideration of key issues raised

The findings from the stakeholder engagement and community consultation program have been used to inform specific mitigation measures for the Project. These are summarised in Table 4.

Table 4 Summary of key issues and consideration

Stakeholder group	Key issues	BMA response
Isaac Regional Council	- strong preference for maximising local employment opportunities through recruitment, process, housing and accommodation management, and relocation incentives - concern regarding the transience of contract workers and consequent social impacts.	- targeting recruitment towards Isaac LGA residents and those in the MIW region - providing housing to encourage local settlement of personnel.
	- approach to social investment as relevant to the Project's impacts - timing for delivery of management measures beyond the third year of operations.	- engagement with IRC to develop an agreed approach - timing for delivery beyond Year 3 considered and updated.
	- very limited rental housing availability - availability of residential lots. However, new housing investment is as yet limited - requirement to demonstrate need for new workforce accommodation village - increasing pressure on services and businesses due to a lack of housing.	- demonstration of need for workforce accommodation village for construction personnel - deletion of proposed workforce accommodation village for operational personnel from Project - commitment to provide housing for all new residential personnel.
	council's waste management facilities have limited capacity.	respect for constraints on Project, use of alternative waste management facilities until capacity is available.
	residential and non-residential personnel impact on Council services including waste, water, roads and community facilities including childcare.	implementation of SIMP measures to prevent or manage impacts on services.
	local business opportunities to benefit from Project.	Local Buying Program.
	emergency management communications capacity inadequate.	- consideration of shared value project for emergency management communications - BMA investment in STAC-led project to increase telecommunications capacity in Dysart and Moranbah.
	social licence to operate must be maintained.	business-wide focus on social licence and social value.

Stakeholder group	Key issues	BMA response
	expectation of net benefit for local communities.	- positive social outcomes have been further articulated - residual social impacts and local benefits have been described.
	expectation that BMA will prioritise local employment over commuting arrangements.	BMA will implement a recruitment hierarchy for the Project that prioritises recruitment of existing local and new local personnel.
	expectation that BMA will mitigate indirect housing impacts.	BMA will provide subsidised housing for Project employees who request it, and for contractors if contractors' access to housing is not sufficient.
	expectation that BMA will provide additional community investment, commensurate with Project demand.	- BMA has demonstrated that its community investment expenditure is in excess of IRC benchmarks - BMA has committed to increasing its community investment expenditure if the Project results in additional employment beyond current BMA personnel numbers and therefore increased demands on social resource.
Landholders	- noise (trucks and blasting) from the existing Saraji Mine under adverse weather conditions very dry weather conditions - difficulty recruiting suitably skilled employees - maintenance of co-operative relationship with BMA to maintain agricultural land uses.	- training initiatives which reduce labour draw from other businesses - noise management strategies, as outlined in the Project's EIS, Chapter 12 Noise and Vibration - ongoing cooperative arrangements.
Barada Barna People/BBAC	- cultural heritage protection - availability of employment and training pathways for Indigenous people - Availability of business opportunities for Barada Barna businesses and other Indigenous businesses.	- cultural heritage management strategies, as outlined in the Project's EIS, Chapter 16 Cultural Heritage - employment and training strategies targeted to Indigenous people - Indigenous business involvement target provided.
Community members and groups – Moranbah, Dysart, Middlemount	increase in local apprenticeship and training opportunities employment opportunities required to retain local young people	- employment and training strategies targeted to young local people - permanent employment opportunities - provision of housing which encourages new residents to settle locally

Stakeholder group	Key issues	BMA response
	- transient workforce does not contribute to community in the same way as permanent residents/families - very limited rental housing availability in each potentially affected community - housing impacts as the result of non-local contractor demands - ageing population and need for support services to retain local seniors.	investments in community facilities and partnerships.
Local businesses	- value the BHP Local Buying Program and look forward to Project opportunities - competition with mining operations for labour and skilled personnel is expensive and sometimes fruitless - increased population leads to increased expenditure and business vitality.	- Local Buying Program - training initiatives which reduce labour draw from other businesses.
Social infrastructure providers and community organisations: - Dysart Community Support Group (DCSG) - Emergency and Long-Term accommodation Moranbah (ELAM) - C&K Middlemount - Dysart C&K Kindergarten - Moranbah and District Support Services - Hinterland Community Care (HCC).	- cumulative impacts of mining industry growth on health and emergency services - non-resident personnel are inadequately considered in Government planning - community services are stretched too thinly across multiple communities, which would be exacerbated by population growth - recruitment and retention of community services and government staff - increasing numbers of transient families have seen increased social and health issues.	- investments in community facilities and partnerships - provision of services within the construction workforce accommodation village to reduce demands on local services - measures to minimise impacts on emergency and health services.
Government service providers: - Queensland Health - QPS - QAS - QFES - Department of Education - Dysart State High School - Dysart State School - Middlemount Community School	- school enrolments have increased in the last 18 months. However, turnover is high, with higher numbers of students with more complex needs previously - non-resident worker numbers not captured in catchment population counts for service planning - fluctuating demands from population cycles and multiple mining projects affect service capacity	- advice to Government agencies on Project schedule and workforce ramp up - community investments addressing community priorities - training initiatives which will reduce labour draw from other businesses - BHP Workforce Conduct Policy - Indigenous training, employment and business opportunities

Stakeholder group	Key issues	BMA response
• Moranbah East State School • Moranbah State School • Moranbah State High School.	• lack of service capacity for acute and ongoing mental health care needs • skill gaps are emerging with the increase in mining employment • health services workers experience violence in the workplace from some non-resident workers and as a result of increased drug use • Indigenous training, employment and business opportunities need to be expanded • Fewer emergency resources are available in towns if they are required at mine sites • Increasing demands on hospital, general practitioner and mental health services, as a result of both population increases and fly-in fly-out workers' demand.	• support for local business capacity building through leveraging of Local Buying Foundation.

5.0 Ongoing consultation

BMA will continue to mitigate potential impacts on community identity and cohesion related to increased numbers of non-local personnel, for example, through its ongoing support for local schools, accommodation support for its employees, support to businesses through the Local Buy program and through its ongoing multi—faceted relationship with IRC. This relationship includes aspects related to the joint funding of mutually beneficial projects in addition to BMA's substantial rate-related contributions, water supply arrangements and regular joint planning and update sessions.

BMA is committed to minimising impacts and maximising benefits to local communities and stakeholders through the development of the Project.

BMA will continue to regularly revise and update its consultation approach, methods and communication materials to remain responsive to feedback and stakeholder and community needs.

5.1 2021 draft EIS released for public consultation

The community and stakeholders were able to comment on the draft EIS during the public consultation period between 24 May 2021 and 2 July 2021. The draft EIS was widely and prominently advertised at local, regional and state levels and on BHP's website. Copies of the EIS were also available for review at public locations.

During the draft EIS consultation period, the Project used a number of consultation methods including:

- stakeholder briefings
- public notices outlining how to access the draft EIS and the submission process.

Supporting communication tools included:

- stakeholder letters and emails.

Community members and stakeholders were also able to review and provide formal comments on the draft EIS to DES during the public comment period. BMA will consider and respond to each submission received.

5.2 Final EIS

On receipt of the comments, DES determined there was a need for BMA to provide a formal response to comments in the form of a final EIS addressing all substantive issues raised in relation to the draft EIS. This final EIS has been prepared to provide the additional information required to address the submissions received during the public notification period.

During the development of the final EIS, consultation meetings with Traditional Owner representatives, government agencies and IRC were held.

Supporting communication tools included:

- email address, reply paid mail address, free call number
- stakeholders letters.

5.3 Post EIS consultation

Following the granting of government approvals, BMA will implement a SIMP, in which a management plan for community and stakeholder engagement will be developed. The community and stakeholder engagement management plan will identify stakeholders to be consulted, types of consultation and communication activities and timing, consultation responsibilities, communication protocols, reporting, feedback and monitoring arrangements. The plan will be updated regularly to ensure that it continues to address stakeholder and Project needs.