

fact sheet



BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance

CAVAL RIDGE MINE PROJECT - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

This fact sheet responds to questions raised by the community about the proposed Caval Ridge Mine project.

For the Caval Ridge Mine, why is BMA pursuing 100 per cent fly-in fly-out and not 70 per cent fly-in fly-out and 30 per cent residential?

The mining industry has difficulties in attracting enough workers for its operations - BMA has around 750 vacancies (13 per cent vacancy rate) in its employee workforce.

A 100 per cent fly-in fly-out workforce is required to meet the recruitment needs of the Caval Ridge Mine and minimise further pressure on BMA's existing operations. It will also reduce pressure on Moranbah's community services and infrastructure such as schools, hospitals and roads.

Why are the Caval Ridge Mine operational jobs fly-in fly-out?

BMA has a large number of vacancies at its existing operations and faces a tight labour market. It needs to provide new recruitment options for Caval Ridge.

Is the Peak Downs Mine expansion dependent on the Caval Ridge Mine project?

Yes, because coal from the Peak Downs Mine expansion will be processed at the Caval Ridge Mine processing plant. The proposed Peak Downs Mine expansion cannot happen without the Caval Ridge Mine project.

Does the company plan to change its existing mines to fly-in fly-out operations?

No. BMA's employee workforce is predominantly residential and BMA has no plans to change this.

BMA has approximately 5000 employees and 6000 contractors and will increase this workforce with 350 new largely residential jobs through expansion of the Peak Downs Mine. The Caval Ridge Mine fly-in fly-out workforce therefore will account for only around four per cent of BMA's total workforce.

How many new jobs will be created by the Caval Ridge Mine project?

The project will create around 2000 construction jobs and 500 new operational jobs. Another 350 new operational jobs will be created through expansion of the Peak Downs Mine.

Where will the Caval Ridge Mine source its apprentices?

Where possible, apprentices for the Caval Ridge Mine will be recruited locally and live locally.

Will the Caval Ridge Mine project impact local employment opportunities in Moranbah?

No. BMA has a large number of vacancies in its existing operations and Moranbah residents seeking a job with BMA will have that opportunity subject to our normal recruitment processes. BMA projects growth in its existing operations, providing further employment opportunities for local residents.

What are the benefits for the local community?

In addition to the new jobs at Peak Downs Mine, a range of goods and services for the Caval Ridge and Peak Downs mines, together with the Buffel Park Accommodation Village for Caval Ridge Mine employees, are expected to be sourced from Moranbah. BMA is discussing additional opportunities for Moranbah businesses with the township's business community. In March, BMA launched a new Local Buying Program to increase opportunities for small businesses in Moranbah to supply goods and services to BMA's operations.

Will BMA build more residences in Moranbah?

Yes. Last year, BMA spent \$2 million a week on new housing in Moranbah. This involved almost 100 new residences in Moranbah on top of the 100 houses built in the previous few years.

BMA will continue to provide significant investment in new housing to support new employees in BMA's existing operations, who choose to live in Moranbah, as well as housing required with the expansion of the Peak Downs Mine.

This is a clear demonstration of BMA's commitment to the growth and sustainability of Moranbah.

Will BMA continue its current community investment activities?

Yes. BMA remains committed to sustainable growth of local communities and will continue to invest in their wellbeing. In 2010, BMA's community investment program in Moranbah totalled \$14.2 million including the supply of more than 80 per cent of Moranbah's water. BMA has increased its commitment further this year with an additional \$13 million for the Moranbah Community Support Package which includes funding for the Greg Cruickshank Aquatic Centre, new Moranbah Community Centre and affordable accommodation for low income non-resource workers, together with the Local Buying Program to support small businesses in Moranbah. BMA has also committed \$46 million to the upgrade of the Moranbah Airport.

How will the Mackay region benefit?

Most immediately, Mackay will benefit from the 11 million tonne expansion of BMA's Hay Point Coal Terminal being undertaken to provide necessary port capacity for the Caval Ridge Mine.

This major capital project will result in 1000 construction jobs and a range of opportunities in supply of equipment, goods and services. There will also be wider regional and state benefits from the projects.

More information about BMA's planned activities and projects is also available on our website
www.bhpbilliton.com/bmagrowth

Contact us on 1800 078 797 or enquiries@bmacoal.com

BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) is Australia's largest metallurgical coal miner and exporter.