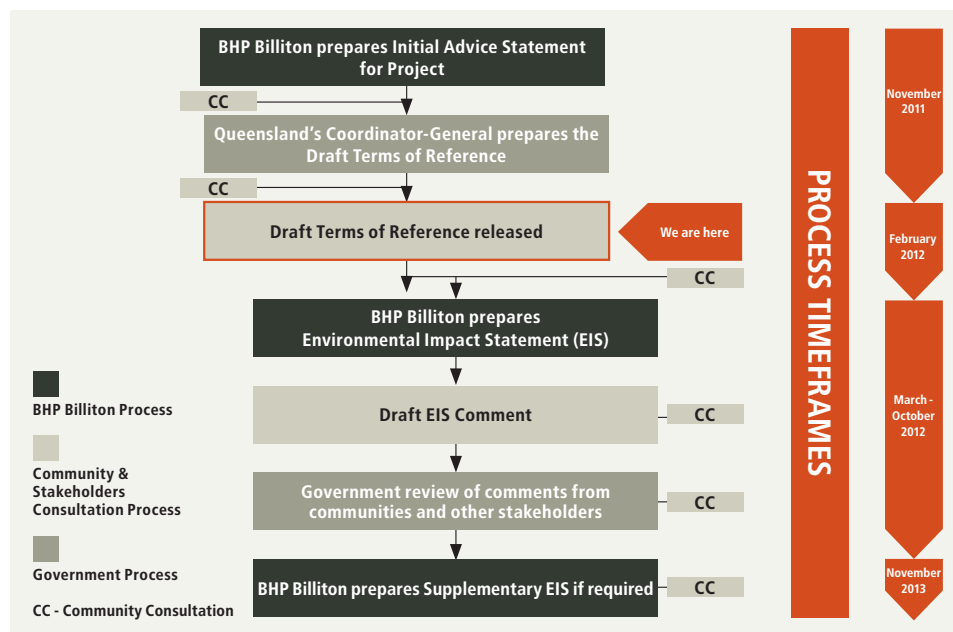




Fact Sheet

BHP Billiton Goonyella to Abbot Point Rail Project



About the Environmental Impact Assessment

Development of a dedicated BHP Billiton rail line from Goonyella Mine complex in the northern Bowen Basin to the Port of Abbot Point has been identified as a key infrastructure requirement for BHP Billiton to meet its transport and growth requirements for its Bowen Basin coal mine assets over the next 20 years.

The BHP Billiton Goonyella to Abbot Point Rail Project (the Project) was declared a 'Significant Project' by Queensland's Coordinator-General in October 2011, requiring an environmental impact assessment. BHP Billiton is undertaking an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process to understand the social, economic, environmental and cultural implications of the proposed rail development.

The EIS is an important process required by federal and state law to determine the scope of potential impacts of this project on the surrounding environment and community, and to develop appropriate mitigation strategies. The BHP Billiton project team will work in close collaboration with landowners, communities, traditional owners, government agencies and other key stakeholders to fully investigate the proposed rail project and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.

Further information about the EIS process can be accessed at <http://www.deedi.qld.gov.au/cg/goonyella-abbot-rail.html>

About the Terms of Reference (ToR)

The Queensland Government, in consultation with the Australian Government, sets out specific matters – referred to as terms of reference – to be studied as part of the Environmental Impact Statement process.

BHP Billiton is the world's largest diversified natural resources company, and operations and investments are designed to ensure a stable long term future for the business, its shareholders, stakeholders and employees. BHP Billiton's coal operations in the Bowen Basin include the BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) and BHP Billiton Mitsui Coal (BMC), both of which have major growth options.

The draft terms of reference for the BHP Billiton Goonyella to Abbot Point Rail Project requires detailed assessment of existing conditions and potential impacts of the project including (but not limited to):

- Land management, including land use and tenure
- Water resources, including potential for flooding
- Coastal environment
- Nature conservation
- Air quality
- Noise and vibration
- Waste
- Climate change considerations
- Cultural heritage (indigenous and non-indigenous)
- Social impacts (including housing, social infrastructure and community values)
- Economic impacts
- Health and safety
- Hazards and risks
- Sustainable development
- Cumulative impacts associated with the project.

This fact sheet outlines how the process works and how you can become involved. Information on when and how to make a submission will be advertised in local and state newspapers, and on the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI) and BHP Billiton websites.

BHP Billiton is committed to minimising impacts and maximising benefits to local communities and landholders throughout the development of this important regional project.

Have your say on the Project's Draft Terms of Reference

BHP Billiton is keen to understand community issues in relation to the project. We encourage you to comment by making a submission on the draft terms of reference.

Making a submission helps ensure that all relevant issues are addressed by the Environmental Impact Statement.

The draft terms of reference are available at: www.deedi.qld.gov.au/cg/goonyella-abbot-rail.html. Submissions on the draft terms of reference should be made in writing directly to the Queensland Government via:

Project Manager –
Goonyella to Abbot Point Rail
Significant Projects Coordination
Office of the Coordinator-General
PO Box 15517
City East QLD 4002, or
Email to:
goonyella-abbot-rail@deedi.qld.gov.au,
or

Fax: 3225 8282
Submissions should be typed or legibly printed, and signed by each person making the submission. They should set out:

- The name and address of each person making the submission
- The reasons for your submission
- Information supporting your submission
- What you recommend should be changed or added to the terms of reference.

Submissions must be lodged by the date posted on the www.deedi.qld.gov.au and www.bhpbilliton.com/regulatoryinformation websites.

The terms of reference will be finalised after public comment has been considered by the Queensland Government.

The final terms of reference will be displayed on the www.deedi.qld.gov.au website and provided to BHP Billiton for guidance in the development of its Environmental Impact Statement for the BHP Billiton Goonyella to Abbot Point Rail Project.



Goonyella to Abbot Point Rail Project location and preliminary investigation corridor

About Social Impact Assessment

A Social Impact Assessment (SIA) will be conducted as part of the EIS to investigate social impacts over the life of the project.

As part of the SIA landholders and members of the community will be encouraged to provide input on the potential impacts of the project for consideration in the draft EIS.

BHP Billiton will collect and analyse information about key social and cultural values and infrastructure that could be influenced by the project's activities. This information will be used by the project team to develop a Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) outlining strategies for mitigation, management, monitoring, and review.

Involving the Community

BHP Billiton values community and landholder involvement. Providing certainty, ensuring peace of mind and building on positive relationships with our landholders and communities are cornerstones for ongoing development of this project.

BHP Billiton will fully investigate the social, economic, environmental and cultural implications of the proposed project in accordance with Queensland and Australian Government requirements, and will consult with the community through regular and timely communication.

Further Information

Additional information about the Project is available on our website at www.bhpbilliton.com/regulatoryinformation

We welcome your questions and feedback by:

- Phoning the BHP Billiton Goonyella to Abbot Point Rail Project freecall telephone number, 1800 108 807, between the hours of 8.30 am and 8 pm.
- Emailing enquiries2@bhpbilliton.com.
- Attending Community Information Sessions to be conducted throughout the EIS process. These sessions will be advertised on the project website and in local newspapers.