



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

23 January 2018

### **KEPCO BYLONG AUSTRALIA RESPONDS TO PAC REVIEW REPORT**

KEPCO Bylong Australia has submitted a comprehensive submission to the Department of Planning & Environment (DP&E) responding to the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) Review report in relation to the Bylong Coal Project dated 25 July 2017.

KEPCO Bylong Australia's submission will now be considered independently by DP&E who will finalise its assessment report and provide a recommendation to the PAC who in turn will determine the Bylong Coal Project. The PAC may hold a public meeting as part of that process.

KEPCO Bylong Australia Chief Operating Officer Bill Vatovec said "KEPCO is strongly committed to the Bylong Coal Project and we have made every effort to respond to all of the matters raised by the PAC."

"KEPCO has carefully considered the feedback provided by the PAC in its Review Report and has comprehensively responded to the issues raised. Further studies and analyses have been prepared by leading technical specialists for inclusion within the response."

"The Bylong Coal Project represents a significant investment in the Mid-Western and wider Upper Hunter Regions and is the company's first overseas wholly owned greenfield mining project."

"The mine plan for the Project has evolved and been adjusted by KEPCO over time taking into account feedback raised by members of the local community and other key stakeholders. The Project submitted in its current form differs significantly from what was originally proposed."

"This \$1.3 billion project will deliver substantial economic and employment benefits with forecast employment of 665 people at peak construction and direct employment of 470 people during peak operations."

"KEPCO Bylong Australia will set a new standard in progressive and ongoing rehabilitation with no final void."

Mr Vatovec said that he was heartened by the continued support KEPCO Bylong Australia has received from those seeking employment and local businesses looking to supply goods and services for the Project.

"If approved the Bylong Coal Project will inject \$600 million into the regional and NSW economies and produce \$592 million in revenue to Government," Mr Vatovec said.

#### **ABOUT THE BYLONG COAL PROJECT:**

KEPCO Bylong Australia (KEPCO) proposes to develop the Bylong Coal Project, located approximately 55 km north-east of Mudgee and 53 km from Denman in New South Wales, Australia. The mine is likely to employ up to 665 people during peak construction and up to 470 people during peak operation. The Bylong coal mine proposes to recover up to 6.5 million tonnes of raw coal per annum, with open-cut operations commencing first and lasting approximately ten years (including 2 years decommissioning), and underground mining commencing thereafter.

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