



BYLONG COAL
KEPCO BYLONG AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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KEPCO BYLONG AUSTRALIA TO SUPPORT MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL YOUTH OFFICER INITIATIVE

KEPCO Bylong Australia will provide up to \$360,000 in funding over three years for Mid-Western Regional Council to employ and resource a Youth Officer to work with local youth throughout the Mid-Western Regional Council local government area.

Chief Operating Officer Bill Vatovec said that youth related issues have been raised in a number of community consultations and through Community Needs Analysis discussions with key community stakeholders. As such, KEPCO has been in discussions with the Council and the community to support this project and other local initiatives.

“The Youth Officer will help young people in our community with their issues, concerns and ideas, and with employment and educational opportunities.

“This individual will also be a strong local advocate for young people and relay their views and ideas back to council.

Mr Vatovec said that KEPCO made the decision to fund this project, based on the strong feedback from many young members of the community who were seeking local jobs.

“KEPCO is firmly committed to progressing the Bylong Coal Project through the regulatory approvals process so that we can get on with the job of delivering this project.

Mr Vatovec said that the \$1.3 billion Bylong Coal Project would create up to 665 jobs during construction and 470 through peak operations.

“The Bylong Coal Project will provide much needed jobs for Bylong, Kandos, Rylstone, Mudgee and the wider Mid-Western region. People in this region are looking for jobs and career opportunities – the Bylong Coal Project will inject more than \$1 billion into the local economy over the next twenty years.”

Cr Des Kennedy, Mayor of Mid-Western Regional Council, welcomed KEPCO’s investment in young people in the local region.

“The appointment of a Youth Officer will help Council support some of the most vulnerable members of our community and address gaps in youth services and infrastructure.

“The appointment of a Youth Officer builds on key initiatives like our Youth Council and will inform our *Youth Strategy* to guide our policy direction for young people over the next twenty years.”

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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