



Community Newsletter

Issue 29 – May 2020

A message from KEPCO Bylong Australia's Chief Operating Officer

This Newsletter finds NSW, Australia and the World in very different and challenging times as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have all been impacted in one way or another and on behalf of KEPCO Bylong Australia Pty Ltd I would like to express our best wishes to our stakeholders in the local community, within the Mid-Western region and those beyond in the hope that everyone has remained safe and healthy as we hopefully start to regain some normality.

In response to COVID-19, KEPCO developed a COVID-19 Health and Safety Standard adopting recommendations from the NSW Government to guide how it manages fulfilment of its obligations within the Authorisations. This has meant that all site exploration activities have been curtailed. This includes any drilling activities and environmental monitoring which required external people to attend the site. Any further site activity will only occur after careful consideration of NSW Government advice around COVID-19 and following an appropriate risk assessment.

As stakeholders will be aware from the February Newsletter, KEPCO has lodged a judicial appeal in the NSW Land and Environment Court. That appeal is likely to be heard in late August 2020. KEPCO remains committed to the Project with its future direction to be determined after the Court hands down its decision. KEPCO continues to receive broad support from many local people and organisations from within the region.

Given the hiatus period that KEPCO now finds itself in and notwithstanding the COVID-19 disruption, it is unlikely that there will be any site activity for the foreseeable future. Restarting site activities other than KEPCO's agricultural operations, will depend on the outcome of the Land and Environment Court hearing.

The NSW government have requested access to KEPCO property to drill groundwater monitoring bores as part of a larger groundwater monitoring program in the region. In the coming months, a government contracted drill rig is likely to be operating on the KEPCO property previously known as "Almerta" off Upper Bylong Road and the property previously known and "Sylvania Park" off the Wollar Road.

KEPCO is happy answer questions, distribute further information or meet with stakeholders at an appropriate time when travel restrictions are lifted.

Following the impact of the 2019 bushfires and COVID-19 restrictions, the Bylong General Store in consultation with KEPCO has temporarily amended its operating hours as follows;

- Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm
- Saturday 9.30am to 3.00pm
- Sunday 10.00am to 4.30pm

Please stay safe and well during this difficult time. KEPCO will continue to keep its stakeholders informed as to the status of the Project by way of future Newsletters.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Vatovec - Chief Operating Officer

CONTACT US

In person (by appointment):

Bylong Site Office

355 Upper Bylong Road, Bylong

Email: info@kepcoaustralia.com

Phone: 02 8904 9508

Website: www.bylongproject.com.au

