

**Aboriginal Development Consultative Committee**

Upper Hunter Valley Aboriginal Community

**FUNDING GUIDELINES**





**Managed by  
Rio Tinto Coal Australia (RTCA),  
Coal & Allied is one of the  
major coal producers in the  
Hunter Valley region of  
New South Wales with assets  
valued at \$2 billion.**

**Three operations -  
Hunter Valley Operations,  
Mount Thorley Warkworth and  
Bengalla employ around  
1,400 people and supply high  
quality coal for both domestic  
and international customers.**

**The cover artwork by Denise Hedges is entitled Brother Kangaroo  
and is her representation of the life blood of the Wonnarua people of the Valley.**



# Introduction

Coal & Allied has chosen to develop and implement programmes that will benefit the broader Aboriginal community in the Upper Hunter Valley. A fund will be available to Aboriginal people residing in the Upper Hunter Valley area and will be administered by the Aboriginal Development Consultative Committee (ADCC). In order to ensure effective operation of the fund, consultation has been carried out on a set of Funding Guidelines and Committee Procedures.

The objective of the ADCC is to provide funds to community identified and driven projects that will assist in achieving the “Vision for the Future” that has been developed by the Upper Hunter Valley Aboriginal Community (UHVAC) through a series of facilitated workshops. The vision essentially seeks to achieve equivalent access and outcomes in education, training, employment and economic participation as that enjoyed by the community as a whole as well as retaining the unique heritage and traditions of the UHVAC.

This document outlines:

1. How to apply for funding; and
2. How projects will be assessed by the ADCC.

The ADCC fund has been established as a partnership programme that aims to assist projects that will deliver long-term, sustainable outcomes for the Upper Hunter Valley Aboriginal Community.



# Proposals

Applications may be made by members of the Upper Hunter Valley Aboriginal Community, who can demonstrate they have been a resident for a minimum of three years, within the geographical area including the Shires of Muswellbrook, Singleton and Upper Hunter.

Applications may also be made by service providers, organisations or groups in the Upper Hunter Valley area, with the express purpose of providing direct benefit to the UHVAC.

Only one application per year can be made by an individual or organisation. In order to receive funding, applications must meet the following mandatory criteria:

- Show how the project/proposal will achieve outcomes that assist the UHVAC to move towards achieving their “Vision for the Future”;
- Outline the experience and skills of the person who will manage the project/proposal;
- Highlight any financial or in kind support the project/proposal has received from the applicant or other groups or government agencies and whether this support is agreed in principle, or paid and received;
- Demonstrate measurement of progress and outcomes of the project/proposal;
- If funding is for business development opportunities, detail the benefit for the broader community, for example, the number of jobs created;



- If funding is for education, training or scholarships, detail how the UHVAC will benefit and highlight the potential for employment at the end of the training or scholarship;
- Detail how the project/proposal will assist to develop and strengthen relationships within the community or with Coal & Allied;
- Highlight opportunities to collaborate with existing projects to create a bigger project that avoids duplication and competition; and
- Provide two written personal or business references.

In addition, applicants should attempt to address the following optional criteria in their application:

- Detail any research that has been done on the viability of the proposal, how the proposal will be implemented and expected outcomes;
- Detail how the project will be sustained once ADCC funding is finished;
- Highlight any other groups or sections of the community currently supporting the proposal; and
- Any other information that may strengthen your application and that the ADCC may find useful.



# Application Process

As a guide, eligible applicants are seen as those who:

- Can demonstrate they can make effective use of the funds;
- Are willing and able to measure the performance of the project; and
- Can work in partnership with the Aboriginal Development Consultative Committee (ADCC).

Applicants cannot apply for funding of:

- Native title matters;
- Cultural heritage management matters;
- Purchase of major capital items such as cars and major items of plant or equipment;
- Permanent positions;
- Recurrent funding; or
- Issues to be dealt with or considered by legal process.

Proposals funded by the ADCC cannot be used as supporting material in any legal process.

Funding may be provided for projects that will assist to achieve the "Vision for the Future". Examples are given below.

## **Aboriginal business development**

- Funding a business plan or feasibility study to establish a business
- Funding business training
- Funding professional advice as appropriate

## **Educational programmes**

- Assistance to undertake further educational opportunities at secondary school
- Assistance to undertake tertiary educational programmes

## **Heritage and culture conservation**

- Educational programmes (eg for local schools)
- Research programmes (eg ethno-history work)
- Historical references
- Cultural heritage interpretative materials



### **Training and employment**

- Assistance in training for jobs
- Assistance in searching for jobs
- Assistance with vocational training or TAFE

### **Community benefits projects**

- Specific projects the community has not been able to achieve through government or other funding sources
- Projects that will deliver tangible benefits for community health and wellbeing
- Assistance to leverage government or other funding sources

### **Sporting and community activity**

- Specific grants to individuals whose specific circumstances require support
- Assistance by way of scholarship for outstanding young sports people
- Sponsorship of Aboriginal role models to promote sport and sporting achievement

### **Other projects agreed to by the ADCC**

- Projects that have compelling and significant benefit for the whole Upper Hunter Valley Aboriginal Community

If you have a project or concept you think is appropriate for funding, contact the Executive Officer to discuss your idea. If it shows potential, the Executive Officer can provide assistance to prepare an application.

In completing the application form, applicants will need to explain how the project will meet the aims of the ADCC, how they will measure its success and how the project will be undertaken.

### **The Committee**

The Committee will consider completed applications at its meetings, which are scheduled to occur up to six times per year.

**For more information**

**If you wish to discuss your proposal, obtain an application form or would just like more information, please contact:**

**The Executive Officer  
Aboriginal Development  
Consultative Committee  
c/o Coal & Allied  
PO Box 315  
Singleton NSW 2330  
Ph: 02 6570 0360  
Fax: 02 6570 0377  
Email: [cate.sims@rtca.riotinto.com.au](mailto:cate.sims@rtca.riotinto.com.au)**