

BALRANALD PROJECT UPDATE

BALRANALD SITE ACTIVITIES

In April 2016, Iluka was granted development consent from the NSW Government to undertake mining at the site of the Balranald Mineral Sands Project (the Balranald Project). The consent allows for the open-cut mining of two mineral sand deposits, known as the West Balranald and Nepean deposits located north-west of the town of Balranald. The consent also allows for the removal of up to 100,000 tonnes (t) of mineral ore as part of a mining trial.

The area where the trial was carried has been in care and maintenance since November 2020. Iluka maintains a regular presence undertaking monitoring and inspections.



Figure 1 shows an aerial photograph of trial site.

PROPOSED EXTENDED TRIAL

Based on the success of previous mining trials, Iluka are proposing to undertake a trial over an extended period of time (approximately 6 years) to determine the viability of the underground mining method as an alternative to the approved open-cut mining method.

The extended underground mining trial will include processing of the mineral ore into a heavy mineral concentrate (HMC) at the West Balranald site and transportation of the HMC offsite by B-double trucks for further processing

in Victoria or Western Australia. Iluka will construct a new processing facility and a new access road connecting the processing facility to the Balranald-Ivanhoe Road.

The extended mining trial will require a modification to the Balranald Project's development consent. Iluka are currently in the process of preparing an application to modify the consent (referred to as MOD1) which will be lodged with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) in May 2022.

EMPLOYMENT ENQUIRIES

Iluka has received a number of enquiries from local, regional and interstate jobseekers regarding a job on the Balranald Project, which is welcomed.

With jobseekers anticipating project commencement, it is important for those interested in a career with Iluka to understand that the company still has a number of steps to complete before the mining trial may start. It is expected that these steps will take in excess of 12 months to complete.

Should any opportunities become available, Iluka will seek to advertise locally, as well as on our website.

Individuals that wish to submit a résumé can do so at any time via email or by post.

Email:
balranald.community@iluka.com

Postal address:
Iluka Resources, PO Box 241,
Balranald NSW 2715

Following a construction period of about 18 months from Q4, 2022, the mining phase of the trial will last approximately six years. Operating hours will be 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for construction, mining and processing.

The peak construction workforce is expected to be about 200 people. During the operational phase, a peak workforce of approximately 170 people is anticipated.

The application to modify the development consent will be made publicly available on DPE and Iluka's websites.

OUTCOMES OF THE EXTENDED MINING TRIAL

Based on the outcomes of the extended mining trial, Iluka would make a decision as to the future of the Balranald Project as follows:

1. Should the trial be successful, Iluka would seek approval for a life-of-mine operation of the Balranald Project using the underground method.

2. Should the trial not be successful, Iluka would retain the right to mine the Balranald Project under the currently approved open cut method.

ACCOMMODATION FACILITY

An accommodation facility will be constructed to cater for workers required for the extended mining trial. For the construction phase, the accommodation facility would be located on the Balranald-Ivanhoe Road as approved for the Balranald Project.

Iluka will continue to investigate options for a more permanent accommodation facility for the operations personnel including possible locations in the Balranald township in consultation with Balranald Shire Council and the community. Should a suitable location be identified, a development application would be lodged with the council for their assessment and determination.

MEET THE TEAM

VICKI HOOD, Environment and Communities Superintendent – Balranald



When did you join Iluka?

I commenced employment with Iluka in late 2021. I have worked as an environmental superintendent and manager for various mining and gas projects across Australia.

What does an environment and communities superintendent do?

Currently my role focuses on obtaining the relevant planning and environmental approvals for the Balranald Project. Key tasks include coordinating specialist

environmental investigations, stakeholder engagement and liaising with government. Once the extended trial commences my role will focus on managing environmental performance of the site, including reporting, monitoring and regulatory compliance.

What do you like about working in Balranald?

The local businesses are very supportive. All owners and staff that I have had the chance to meet have been incredibly friendly and obliging.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE BALRANALD PROJECT

Any questions or comments relating to the Balranald Project and the proposed extended mining trial can be directed to:

Vicki Hood – Environment and Communities Superintendent – Balranald

Mobile: 0498 780 913

Email: balranald.community@iluka.com

Address: Iluka Resources, PO Box 241, Balranald NSW 2715

You can also visit <https://iluka.com/operations-resource-development/engagement-hub/balranald> for any updates on the Balranald Project and the proposed extended mining trial.