



MEDIA RELEASE

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Local businesses invited to hear about opportunities at Mt Arthur Coal

Local businesses are invited to hear how they can access supply opportunities at BHP Billiton's Mt Arthur Coal operation through the Local Buying Program.

The Program provides opportunities for businesses in the Muswellbrook, Singleton and Upper Hunter shires with 25 or less full-time employees to competitively supply goods and services to the mine.

Launched in NSW earlier this year, the Program has been operating successfully in Queensland since 2012 and is delivered in partnership by BHP Billiton and C-Res, a cost neutral entity.

Singleton-based SHOCKWAVE Mining Services Director AJ Jeske has already secured opportunities through the Local Buying Program and strongly encourages local businesses to participate.

"Becoming an Approved Supplier was a simple task, as the online workspace is easy to navigate and self-explanatory – well worth the short amount of time it took to register," Mr Jeske said.

"Being a small company, we must remain competitive amongst the other larger scale labour providers. The Local Buying Program helps my company to come in at the right cost, saving both myself and the client money.

"This platform breaks down the barriers between huge business and the smaller operator/owner," he said.

Free upcoming information sessions will provide useful information about how to register and maximise registration effectiveness and how to increase business visibility once in the program. A Program update will also be provided at the Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce and Industry's August breakfast.

Session dates and times are as follows:

Monday 1 August: Scone Golf Club

Tuesday 2 August: Muswellbrook Workers Club

Wednesday 3 August: Singleton Golf Club

Registration from 5.15pm; presentations at 5.30pm. RSVP is essential. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information visit www.localbuying.com.au or call 1800 536 663.

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For further information contact:

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Photo: C-Res local business engagement advisor Shaelie Carroll with SHOCKWAVE Mining Services director AJ Jeske