



FACTSHEET

Carborough Downs

Background

Vale's Carborough Downs underground mine is located in central Queensland in the Bowen Basin, approximately 20 kilometres east of Moranbah and 180 kilometres southwest of the coastal city of Mackay. Vale has been the operator and 80% owner of the operation since 2007 when the Company entered the Australian market and acquired assets from AMCI Holdings.

The mine produces predominantly hard and semi-hard coking coal with pulverized coal injection (PCI) as a secondary product. Carborough Downs coal is sold to international customers for use in the steel making industry.

Total mining capacity is 4Mtpa run of mine coal, from which 2.8Mtpa of product coal is produced for sale.

The site is expected to continue producing until 2019, with further potential for the extension of the mine life beyond that timeframe.

Underground

The Carborough Downs mine was commissioned in August 2006, initially as a bord and pillar mine with two continuous miners in a cut and flit operation. In 2009, Vale undertook a \$400 million expansion converting Carborough Downs to a modern longwall operation with 4Mtpa run of mine coal and a yield of approximately 2.8Mtpa of product coal.

The Leichhardt seam that is currently being mined at Carborough Downs is relatively uniform and ranges from 4.5 to 5.7 metres thick, with total resources estimated at between 280 and 300 million tonnes.

Today, Carborough Downs employs more than 500 staff and contractors and has an estimated mine life of between 12 and 21 years.





Processing

An overland conveyor transfers raw coal from the underground mine for processing on site at a modern Coal Handling and Processing Plant (CHPP). The Carborough Downs CHPP operates seven days a week and is capable of processing 1,000 tonnes per hour.

Logistics

Coal from the Carborough Downs CHPP is loaded onto trains at a purpose-built rail loadout facility and then transported by rail 160 kilometres east to the Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal located at Hay Point.

Facts at a glance

Location:	Moranbah, Queensland, Australia
Local government area:	Isaac Regional Council
Ownership:	Vale 80% Nippon Steel 5% POSCO 5% Tata 5% JFE Shoji 2.5% JFE Steel 2.5%
Product:	Hard and semi-hard coking coal with PCI as a secondary product

Vale in Australia

Vale entered the Australian market in 2007 following the acquisition of assets from AMCI Holdings. Our global coal headquarters are based in Brisbane and across Australia we employ more than 1,300 people. In Queensland, in addition to operating the Carborough Downs Mine, we are a part owner of the Isaac Plains Mine. In New South Wales' Hunter Valley, we operate the Integra Mine. Alongside these operations, Vale has 10,000km² of tenements, various exploration licences and a portfolio of growth projects that are being developed as part of a ten-year growth strategy.

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