



Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd
BHP Billiton Illawarra Coal Administration Centre
Old Port Road Port Kembla
New South Wales 2505 Australia
PO Box 514 Unanderra
New South Wales 2526 Australia
Tel: +61 2 4255 3200 Fax: +61 2 4255 3201
bhpbilliton.com

News Release

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Illawarra Coal congratulates Minerals Education Bursary students

Illawarra Coal and the NSW Minerals Council are helping Illawarra and Wollondilly high school students to explore career opportunities in the minerals industry through the Company's sponsorship of the 2008 Minerals Education Bursary Scheme

Illawarra Coal has awarded five bursaries, valued at either \$500 or \$1000, to Year 11 and Year 12 students in the Illawarra and Wollondilly regions.

This year's winners are:

- Peter Ellis (Ambarvale High School, Rosemeadow)
- Lachlan McInnes (St Gregory's College, Campbelltown)
- Matthew Crisafi (Edmund Rice College, Wollongong)
- Romeo Harb (Edmund Rice College, Wollongong)
- Patrick Meaney (The Illawarra Grammar School, Wollongong)

Illawarra Coal General Manager Sustainable Development and External Affairs, John Brannon said the Company was delighted to be able to offer access to this program to local students in the regions surrounding Illawarra Coal's operations.

"Illawarra Coal is proud to be able to utilise our sponsorship of the Minerals Education Bursary Scheme to reward and support Illawarra and Wollondilly students who are keen to learn more about career opportunities in the our industry," John said.

"The five local students selected have all demonstrated a desire to pursue careers in the minerals industry through various personal and academic capabilities, including mathematics, physics, chemistry and geography, and participating in extra-curricular activities, like Mining Engineering Summer School.

"We hope that through this Minerals Education Bursary Scheme the students will be encouraged to continue their interest in becoming a part of our diverse and rewarding industry."

In addition to the bursary funds, students will also participate in a program which includes Illawarra Coal mentor support, attendance at minerals-related activities, mine site open days, and work experience.

Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd
ABN 69 093 857 286

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ABN 49 004 028 077
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Students will also be eligible for a \$2,000 undergraduate bursary if they complete the first year of a minerals-related undergraduate degree within 12 months of completing their Higher School Certificate.

Winning students will be presented with their Bursary Award at a ceremony to be held at the North Wollongong Novotel, commencing at 4pm, Friday 1 August 2008.

Media enquiries:
Rosanne Moore
Manager Communication and Consultation
Illawarra Coal
02 42 553336