



Wednesday, 19 December 2018

IPC Panel Members – Vickery Extension Project NSW Government Independent Planning Commission Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street Sydney NSW 2000

Dear IPC Panel Members,

## Letter of Support for the Whitehaven Vickery Extension Project

Civeo is writing in support of the proposed Whitehaven Vickery Extension Project. Civeo is an existing provider of accommodation to not only Whitehaven for their existing Maules Creek and Narrabri mine operations, but also other mine operators and those that supply ancillary services. We expect that Civeo's Boggabri Village will also provide accommodation for the Vickery Extension Project construction and operational workers if approved.

Whitehaven's Vickery Extension Project will provide many benefits to the local township of Boggabri and the wider Gunnedah and Narrabri regions. Examples of these benefits can be demonstrated through Whitehaven's existing Maules Creek and Narrabri Mine operations and the use of Civeo's Boggabri and Narrabri villages. Civeo is confident that the Boggabri community will receive many additional benefits from the Vickery Extension Project including:

**Local Employment**: Civeo foresees that the project will bring many direct and indirect local employment opportunities at the Civeo Boggabri Village. If the project was to go ahead, additional jobs will be created at the Civeo Boggabri village with a focus on local employment.

**Local Spend**: Boggabri local businesses will benefit from expenditure by construction and operational workers of the Vickery Extension Project. Civeo Boggabri Village will provide workers with convenient access to local businesses whilst working on the Vickery Extension Project. It is anticipated there will be an incremental disposable income flow-on benefits of \$92m or \$8m per annum in the project region.

**Local Procurement:** Civeo Boggabri Village utilises local Boggabri businesses in the day-to-day running of its operations. This extends to the utilisation of many local services provided in Boggabri. As we expect an approximate 360 full time workers to be serviced by the Civeo Boggabri Village during construction, Civeo will need to procure a greater number of local employees and services to meet this demand.

**Local Sports Teams**: Civeo is a major sponsor of local sports teams in the communities we operate in; this includes the local Boggabri Rugby league football club. Sponsorship funds are often utilised for team jerseys, upkeep of local grounds and various other activities.

**Local Schools**: Civeo's School Mates grant program reflects our commitment to work in partnership with schools in our host communities, helping to deliver better learning outcomes for the local children. Civeo



provides sponsorship to both the Sacred Heart School and Boggabri Public School, sponsorships are used to provide additional learning programs and new equipment at the schools for the children of Boggabri.

Local Community: Civeo also contributes towards many community initiatives, enabling services and activities for the local community of Boggabri. Civeo provides the local community with access to its gym facility, ensuring the Boggabri community have access to a convenient facility in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Civeo is also an ongoing sponsor of the Boggabri Drover's campfire, a major recreational event for the local community, which also attracts many attendees from surrounding towns. Civeo provides sponsorship to the Boggabri Home and Community Care, an organisation that provides ongoing care for the elderly citizens of Boggabri.

Local Integration: For many of Whitehaven's employees, Civeo's Boggabri Village is the first introduction into the Boggabri town and surrounding area. The Civeo Boggabri Village provides an opportunity for workers to familiarise themselves with the many benefits of living locally in Boggabri. This in turn evolves into many workers finding residence in local Boggabri housing and also the wider region bringing many skills and attributes to the local town. For Boggabri, the potential in-migration of over 70 new locals (approximately 28 new households) would see a notable and positive change to the population, which would be positive for community vitality and sustainability.

Local Infrastructure: Civeo has contributed towards various town sewer, water and road infrastructure upgrades since our villages commenced operations in Boggabri and Narrabri. These upgrades will enable the Boggabri community to sustain further population growth in the future. Examples of these contributions include:

- Construction of an alternative water supply bore effectively doubling the towns' available supply, and future proofing the town from reliance on a sole source and water pressure issues.
- Financial contribution of \$2.1m towards a new Sewage Treatment Plant, replacing the old inefficient plant and providing a reliable and long-term solution.
- Upgrading and widening of Caloola Road, railway crossing and intersection.

Whitehaven's support of Civeo's Boggabri and Narrabri villages through the existing Maules Creek and Narrabri Mine operations has created many positive outcomes for the local township of Boggabri and the wider Gunnedah and Narrabri regions. Whitehaven's growing presence in Boggabri with the Vickery Extension Project will provide many additional benefits for the community of Boggabri. Civeo is a strong believer of the Vickery Extension Project and hopes to see the Vickery Extension Project approved.

## **Best Regards**

Peter McCann Managing Director and Senior Vice President, Australia