



2024 Community Forum

Tuesday 29 October 2024

Singleton Civic Centre

FORUM PROGRAM

Time	Topic	Presenter
8:30 am	Forum Opens - Breakfast and Coffee Provided (Civic Centre Foyer)	
	MORNING SESSION 1	
9:00 am	Welcome to Country	Uncle Warren Taggart, Walkabout with Warren
9:05 am	Introduction to 2024 Community Forum	Jessica Rouse, Forum Facilitator
9:15 am	Chair Address	John Watson, UHMD Chair
9:25 am	Update on Annual Projects and Priorities	James Barben, UHMD Secretariat
9:40 am	Air Quality 2024 Progress Update	Russ Francis, Zephyr Environmental
10:00 am	Upper Hunter Economic Outlook (includes Q&A)	Robin Griffin, Wood Mackenzie
10:30 am	Morning Tea Break - Pastries and Coffee Provided (Civic Centre Foyer)	
	MORNING SESSION 2	
11:00 am	MORNING SESSION 2 NSW Government Update	The Hon. Emily Suvaal MLC, Member of the Legislative Council
11:00 am 11:20 am		The Hon. Emily Suvaal MLC, Member of the Legislative Council Shagofta Ali, NSW Environment Protection Authority
	NSW Government Update	
11:20 am	NSW Government Update Climate Change Policy & Action Plan - Impacts for Hunter	Shagofta Ali, NSW Environment Protection Authority
11:20 am 11:40 am	NSW Government Update Climate Change Policy & Action Plan - Impacts for Hunter Update from Mt. Arthur Coal's Pathway to 2030	Shagofta Ali, NSW Environment Protection Authority Liz Watts, BHP - NSW Energy Coal Faciltated by Jessica Rouse
11:20 am 11:40 am 12:00 pm	NSW Government Update Climate Change Policy & Action Plan - Impacts for Hunter Update from Mt. Arthur Coal's Pathway to 2030 Q&A with Session 2 Presenters	Shagofta Ali, NSW Environment Protection Authority Liz Watts, BHP - NSW Energy Coal Faciltated by Jessica Rouse
11:20 am 11:40 am 12:00 pm	NSW Government Update Climate Change Policy & Action Plan - Impacts for Hunter Update from Mt. Arthur Coal's Pathway to 2030 Q&A with Session 2 Presenters Lunch Break - Lunch and Refreshments Provided (Civic Centre	Shagofta Ali, NSW Environment Protection Authority Liz Watts, BHP - NSW Energy Coal Faciltated by Jessica Rouse
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For more information:





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INTRODUCING YOUR PRESENTERS



EMILY SUVAAL MLC NSW Parliament

Emily was elected to the NSW Legislative Council in March 2023 and is a member of the Minns Labor Government. She is Chair of the Standing Committee on State Development and leading the current Upper House inquiry into the Beneficial and Productive Use of Post-Mining Land. Emily is proud to call the Hunter Valley home and is passionate about improving local services and future-proofing our economy.



ROBERTA RYAN Institute for Regional Futures

Professor Roberta Ryan's career as a social scientist has focused on bridging the gap between governments, the private sector and communities across a range of complex public policy areas. She is nationally recognised for her expertise in mediating and facilitating shared outcomes in contested and sensitive environments.



ROBIN GRIFFIN Wood Mackenzie

Robin has 28 years of experience in mining operations, research, and consulting. At Wood Mackenzie he leads market analysis for metals and mined commodities, with past roles in coal consulting, research, and price forecasting.



LIZ WATTS BHP

With over 24 years in mining, Liz is now pursuing a Doctorate in Sociology and Anthropology focused on sustainable mine closure. As BHP's Vice President of NSW Energy Coal, she leads efforts to transition Mt Arthur Coal to closure by 2030, balancing social, economic, and environmental outcomes.



RUSS FRANCIS
Zephyr Consulting

Russ is a senior air quality consultant at Zephyr Environmental with 11 years of professional experience. Russ' areas of expertise include ambient and occupational air quality monitoring, and emissions estimation. Russ has prepared the annual air quality analysis for the Upper Hunter Monitoring Network for the past two years.



SHAGOFTA ALI NSW EPA

Shagofta has over a decade of experience in strategy and policy reform across the NSW and Australian Governments. Before joining the EPA Shagofta worked in a range of natural resource management portfolios including in the water, primary industries, crown land, resources and energy portfolios.



JESSICA ROUSE Forum Facilitator

Jessica is a full-time journalist at The Coalface Magazine and was previously the News Director at NewFM and 2HD. Jessica is passionate about local communities and their stories, particularly the mining communities in NSW and the people who live in them.



JOHN WATSON Chair, Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue

John was appointed Chair of the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue in December 2023. As Director of Environment & Community at Glencore Coal Assets Australia and a long-term Dialogue participant, John is attuned to the concerns impacting Upper Hunter stakeholders.