

HTBA PRESIDENT PUTS GOVERNMENT ON NOTICE



Dr Cameron
Collins,
President
HTBA

The NSW Government Strategic Regional Land Use Policy, released on 11 September 2012, provides no more certainty or security for the future.

The NSW Government's Strategic Regional Land Use Plan, in the Premier's words, "provides certainty around processes." But process does not afford us protection.

The NSW Government has repeated its promise to protect the national and international significance of the Upper Hunter's wine and thoroughbred breeding industries.

After 18 months of work and years of anticipation, all we have is a new process and the Government's word that our industry will be protected.

The NSW Government's Strategic Regional Land Use Plan is profoundly disappointing. In the lead up to the State election in 2011, the hopes of regional communities were elevated by promises from the incoming Coalition Government to provide certainty, confidence, protection and the identification of areas where mining and coal seam gas extraction could not occur.

After 16 years of uncertainty and a lack of planning, the Coalition's promise of greater caution, better planning, and the effective protection of our strategic agricultural land and associated water resources gave our regional communities hope for a better future. As the NSW Coalition Government stated to "Make NSW Number One Again".

What we know is that the NSW Thoroughbred Breeding Industry's No 1 status remains under threat. We have no confidence, certainty or security over our future.

No-where in the world are iconic, world-scale, thoroughbred breeding operations:

- unprotected from land use conflicts and encroachment;
- threatened by mining developments and Government inactivity to protect them;
- subjected to decades of uncertainty and insecurity about their future.

Against a backdrop of falling mining commodity prices, the shelving of mining projects and the shedding of thousands of mining jobs, it is ironic that the NSW Government's Strategic Regional Land Use Policy offers no protection for sustainable agricultural industries.

At a time when food security and sustainable agricultural industries should drive the Government's determination to protect these industries, and the sustainable long term jobs they generate, agricultural industries in NSW are left high and dry.

The effective result of the NSW Government's Strategic Regional Land Use Policy is that landholders now face years of process, cost, stress, investment and personal uncertainty, as they battle land use conflicts project by project.

The first test of the Government's new land use policy will be one of a dozen existing exploration licences in the Hunter Valley that will directly impact our critical equine cluster including:

- Anglo American's Drayton South Open Cut Coal mine;
- Bickham Coal Company's underground coal mine;
- Nucoal's Doyles Creek underground mine and other projects that are the subject of current Independent Commission Against Corruption investigations.

The NSW Government has squibbed the opportunity to make an historic policy change to protect our vital strategic agricultural lands, industries and water resources.

The proof of the Government's statements that it will protect our industry will lie in the outcomes of any and all of the above exploration licences that threaten our industry.

If any mining project is approved within the equine cluster it will be a breach of the Government's commitment to protect us.

The HTBA has put the NSW Government on notice.

Now more than ever we need your support so that the NSW Government keeps its promises to protect our industry, jobs and community.

1 THE HUNTER VALLEY'S THOROUGHBRED BREEDING AND ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES ARE NUMBER ONE:

- Largest Australian producer, supplier and exporter of premium thoroughbreds;
- Largest concentration of thoroughbred studs in the world, outside Kentucky, USA;
- Largest stud book in the world, behind Kentucky, USA;
- 1 of 3 International Centres of Thoroughbred Breeding Excellence;
- One of the largest employers in regional Australia and nationally;
- Largest equine veterinary practice in the Southern Hemisphere.

NSW GOVERNMENT LAND USE PLAN

The NSW Strategic Regional Land Use Policy, released on 11 September 2012 identifies the process through which land use challenges will be addressed to "provide greater protection for valuable agricultural land and a better balance for competing land uses."

It identifies 27 measures that work together to identify, map and protect the State's most valuable agricultural land and critical water resources. These include:

- A new Gateway process for independent, scientific assessments of the impacts of mining and CSG proposals;
- A new Land and Water Commissioner to restore community confidence in the processes governing exploration activities in NSW and to oversee land access agreements between landholders and miners;
- An Aquifer Interference Policy, that uses science to assess and protect water resources across the State;
- The inclusion of Agricultural Impact Statement as part of the assessment of exploration proposals;
- New Codes of Practice for the CSG industry, covering well drilling standards and hydraulic fracturing;
- Standard Land Access Agreements to ensure fair outcomes for landowners;
- Additional Compliance Officers (40 positions) to ensure the new standards are met;
- CSG producers to invest in local communities through Regional Community Funds.

Click here to download a copy of the NSW Government's summary brochure.

www.planning.nsw.gov.au/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=DkJ133ytuKs%3d&tabid=495&language=en-US

Click here to access all Strategic Regional Land Use Plan documents, including the:

- Upper Hunter Strategic Regional Land Use Plan;
- Strategic Agricultural Land Map for the Upper Hunter;
- Fact Sheet on the Gateway Process;
- Frequently Asked Questions on the Strategic Regional Land Use Policy.

www.planning.nsw.gov.au/slurp



STRATEGIC REGIONAL LAND USE PLAN DOES NOT DELIVER ON THE COALITION'S ELECTION COMMITMENTS

Better Planning to ensure businesses and the community can have confidence about what the future holds. ¹	✗
It [strategic land use planning] will provide the community with certainty about how a region can be expected to change over time, and provide a clear indication of what type of development will be suitable in different areas. ²	✗
Strategic land use plans will be prepared using triple bottom line assessments of the environmental, social and economic values in regional areas. ³	✗
A key part of the strategic land use planning process will be to identify strategic agricultural land and associated water and ensure that it is protected from the impacts of development. ⁴	✗
The NSW Liberals and Nationals believe that agricultural land and other sensitive areas exist in NSW where mining and coal seam gas extraction should not occur. ⁵	✗
This is about taking a triple bottom line approach to development, which will recognise strategic agricultural land as a finite resource that must be preserved into the future. ⁶	✗

¹NSW Liberals & Nationals Strategic Regional Land Use Triple bottom line assessment to protect our regions, p1

²Ditto, p1

³Ditto, p2

⁴Ditto, p2

⁵Ditto, p2

⁶NSW Liberals & Nationals Announce Strategic Regional Land Use Policy, Media Release, 16 February 2011

REACTION TO NSW GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC LAND USE PLAN

Government caves in to mining and energy lobby
(NSW FARMERS ASSOCIATION)

BATTLEGROUND: Breeders take on king coal Studs vow to fight (THE HERALD)

FARMER WANTS A LIFE: MINISTER URGES LOCK OUT OVER COAL SEAM GAS (SMH)

PROCESS NOT PROTECTION: Thoroughbred breeders put government on notice

WATER UNPROTECTED FROM MINING AND CSG (NSW IRRIGATORS)

Entire state up for grabs in coal seam gas and mining rules (SMH)

HTBA CONGRATULATES MAYORS AND COUNCILLORS

The HTBA congratulates councillors and Mayors elected to the Upper Hunter, Muswellbrook and Singleton Shire Councils.

The HTBA particularly congratulates Councillors Michael Johnsen, Martin Rush and John Martin on their mayoral elections.

The HTBA also extends its congratulations to newly elected Upper Hunter Shire Councillors Peter Bishop, Wayne Bedgood, Ron Campbell, Maurice Collison and Kiwa Fisher and returning Councillors Lee Watts, Deidre Peebles and Lorna Driscoll.

The HTBA looks forward to working with all councils over the coming years to secure greater balance and sustainability to our region and local communities.



Cr Michael Johnsen



Cr Martin Rush



Cr John Martin



REDOUTE'S CHOICE TO SHUTTLE TO FRANCE

Australian Champion Sire Redoute's Choice will shuttle to France to stand the 2013 Northern Hemisphere season at His Highness The Aga Khan's Studs.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to send Northern Hemisphere mares to one of the best

stallions in the world today, and he will undoubtedly have a strong and lasting impact on the European bloodstock industry." The Aga Khan's Stud Manager Georges Rimaud said.

"We are particularly delighted with this arrangement not only because His Highness the Aga Khan and some of the world's most influential breeders will support Redoute's Choice, but also because we already have the comfort of a strong working relationship with the Aga Khan Studs through our mare ventures. We think this expanded alliance will give Redoute's Choice the opportunity to create a truly global legacy" Mr Messara said.

The HTBA congratulates John Messara AO on the momentous decision to shuttle Arrowfield Champion Sire Redoute's Choice to France to stand at His Highness The Aga Khan's Stud in Haras de Bonneval for the 2013 Northern Hemisphere season.

MINING MONITOR

STILL NO RESOLUTION ON BICKHAM COAL

The NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure advised the Upper Hunter Shire Council in August that Bickham Coal's application to renew its exploration licences is still under consideration by the Division of Resources and Energy.

Council has made several representations to the Minister for Resources and Energy and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, in relation to Bickham Coal and the proposed renewal of exploration licenses and commencement of underground mining at the site. Specifically the Council has requested that the Mining SEPP be amended to prohibit underground mining at the Bickham Coal site, consistent with the current prohibition on open cut mining and that the exploration licenses not be renewed.

The original proposal for open cut mining by Bickham Coal generated considerable community opposition and the development application was subsequently refused by the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC). In May 2010 the (PAC) concluded that the impacts from the proposed Bickham open cut coal mine "far outweighed the benefits" and that "the available evidence supports the view that open-cut coal mining and a viable international scale thoroughbred breeding enterprise are incompatible land-uses."

Although the decision by the then NSW Government prohibited any future development of an open cut coal mine on the site, it did not prohibit the possible development of an underground coal mine. In response Bickham Coal are exploring the feasibility of underground mining at the site.

Several Community groups have evolved in opposition to Bickham Coal and are separately lobbying the NSW Government in relation to proposed mining and the renewal of exploration licenses over the site.

Council did not support the original proposal for open cut mining and do not support any proposal for underground mining, based on unresolved environmental and land use conflict issues. Council will continue to make representations to both the Minister for Planning and the Minister for Resources and Energy for the non-renewal of the exploration license and prohibition of underground mining on the Bickham site in addition to the current open cut prohibition.

www.upperhunter.local-e.nsw.gov.au/index.php?option=com_jentlacontent&view=enhanced&id=488424:still-no-resolution-on-bickham-coal&catid=178:news&Itemid=757

ANGLO AMERICAN'S DRAYTON SOUTH MINE

The Environmental Assessment Report into Anglo American's Drayton South mining proposal is due to be issued soon.

This mining proposal is situated within 500 meters of thoroughbred breeding operations near Jerrys Plains.

The Bickham Planning Assessment Commission concluded that open cut coal mining and international scale thoroughbred breeding enterprises where incompatible land uses.

The NSW Government has repeatedly stated that it will protect the Hunter's nationally and international significant thoroughbred breeding industry.

The project is not subject to the new Gateway process but will need to address the impact on the community, water and thoroughbred breeding industry.

The Anglo American Drayton South open cut coal mine proposal will be one of the first tests of the NSW Government's new Strategic Regional Land Use Plan and the Government's promise to protect the Hunter Valley's thoroughbred breeding operations.

Make sure your voice is heard on this proposal. Click on the link below to stay updated on progress.

www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=4814

ICAC INVESTIGATIONS - NUCOAL'S DOYLES CREEK, MONARO COAL'S YARRAWA AND OTHERS

In August ICAC announced that it had commenced serving summonses to witnesses to appear to give evidence at the public inquiries it is conducting in relation to alleged corruption involving former ministers and MPs in relation to mining exploration licences and other matters.

Three public inquiries will be held commencing in November 2012. These include:

- Operation Jasper - will examine the circumstances surrounding a decision made in 2008 by Mr Macdonald to open a mining area in the Bylong Valley for coal exploration and the awarding of exploration licences for the coal mining areas known as Mount Penny (EL 7406), Glendon Brook (EL 7405) and Yarrowa (EL 7430).
- Operation Acacia - will examine the circumstances surrounding the issue on an invitation to DoYLES Creek Pty Ltd to apply for an exploration licence (EL 7270); the circumstances surrounding the allocation of EL 7270 to DoYLES Creek Pty Ltd; the circumstances surrounding the making of profits, if any, by the shareholders of NuCoal Resources NL; whether a recommendation should be made to the NSW Government with respect to licences or leases over the DoYLES Creek area; whether the NSW Government should commence legal proceedings, or take any other action, against any individual or company in relation to the circumstances surrounding the allocation of EL 7270.
- Operation Indus - will examine the circumstances in which Edward Obeid's son, Moses Obeid, provided former Minister Roozendaal with a motor vehicle in June 2007.

The Independent Commission Against Corruption will make opening addresses for Operation Jasper on Thursday 1 November 2012; Operation Indus on Friday 2 November 2012; and Operation Acacia on Monday 18 March 2013.

Directions hearings for these matters will be held on 15 and 16 October 2012.

Information on ICAC's current investigations can be found at: www.icac.nsw.gov.au/investigations/current-investigations

TRIBUTE TO TYPHOON TRACY

Australia's golden haired girl of racing, before Black Caviar stormed onto the scene, was Typhoon Tracy. Typhoon Tracy won six group 1 races and was named Australia's Horse of the Year in 2010. Also trained by Peter Moody, she was regularly partnered by Black Caviar's jockey Luke Nolen.

"She was the first headline horse we have had. She was unbelievable. I have never worked with a horse with such a wonderful nature. She was a beautiful horse to do anything with, from day one she was an absolute gem," Peter Moody said.

Peter Moody's name is synonymous with Black Caviar, but he sees Typhoon Tracy as instrumental to putting his name on the map. Moody was starting to make his mark before the filly came into his Caulfield stables, but she really brought his stature higher as she became a Champion in her own right in the 2008/09 and 2009/10 seasons.

The seven year old mare's retirement to stud and subsequent foal were regarded with much anticipation. Typhoon Tracy died due to complications in foaling and the news broke with disbelief and shock. But the story isn't all melancholy - her colt foal by Street Cry survived and is now thriving with his new replacement dam at Vinery



Stud. The foster mare Heidi has taken her new charge with ease and the foal is none the wiser that his mother should be featuring a lot less feathering on her lower legs.

"The Typhoon Tracy colt continues to do well. He has grown and strengthened like any normal foal, the foster mare has done a terrific job with him. They are now out in a larger paddock with other mares and foals.

As a type you couldn't be happier with him. He has that great balance and quality which the family is renowned for". Adam White, Sales and Nominations at Vinery Stud.



FOALS OF 2012

BREEDING SEASON

First Foals

With the onset of Spring the sun is shining and the foals of 2012 are starting to arrive and populate the paddocks of the Hunter Valley. New season stallion managers anxiously await the first foals of freshman sires and long term residents, hoping for perfect conformation and easy deliveries.



Coolmore - Fastnet Rock - Randaroo - colt



Widden - Star Witness - Lady Larissa - filly



Yarraman - Hinchinbrook - Mizzle filly



Coolmore - Fastnet Rock - Flamingo Guitar - filly



Arrowfield Stud - Beneteau - Overblik - filly



Coolmore - High Chaparral - Presumed Innocent - colt



Darley - Exceed and Excel - Accessories filly



Newgate Farm - Beneteau - Rocketing - colt



Newgate Farm - Beneteau - Prompt - colt



Widden - Star Witness - Pearl of the Sea



Emirates Stud - Danewin - Naseej

RACING SEASON

HTBA PRESIDENT PRESIDES OVER PROTECT OUR INDUSTRY RACE DAY

On Friday 24 August 2012, HTBA President Dr Cameron Collins, presided over the Scone Race Club Protect Our Industry Race Day. Some 500 people gathered at Scone races on this day to support our breeding and racing industry and to watch the HTBA Protect Our Industry BM 70 Handicap.

"This race meeting is an opportunity for the HTBA to raise awareness in the racing community of the threat that coal mines pose to the horse breeding operations and support industries of the Upper Hunter" Dr Cameron Collins, HTBA President said.

"Everyone in Australia who knows anything about horses, and in fact everyone in the world who knows about horses, recognises that the Hunter Valley is the premier horse breeding area in the country. We are looking for the state government to recognise this fact and take concrete steps to protect our industry and give us certainty for our businesses and livelihood." Dr Collins said

The weekend following the Protect our Industry Race Day saw thousands of visitors to the Hunter to inspect stallions and studs for the upcoming breeding season. With 9 of the top 10 stallions in the country, the 2012 stallion preview weekend showcases the world class nature of the Hunter Breeding industry and its importance to the local, state, and national economies.

The HTBA Protect Our Industry BM 70 Handicap was won by Beaveroo, bred in the Hunter by Baerami stud, trained by Stephen Schofield and ridden by jockey S Lisny. "The HTBA congratulates the owners, breeder, trainer and jockey on this win."

HUNTERBRED TRIFECTA

Hunter Valley bred colts scored an exciting trifecta in Sydney's first Group 1 feature race for the Spring, the De Bortolli \$1 million Golden Rose.

Darley's Epaulette pipped stablemate Albrecht by a head with John O'Shea's Ashokan rounding out the minor placings.

Epaulette won in race record time of 1min 22.30 seconds. Epaulette is the seventh Group I winner for Darley's Commands and is out of outstanding mare Accessories, making him a three quarter brother to 2011 Caulfield Guineas winner Helmet.

It was a day where the cream of Hunter Valley blood rose to the top with Albrecht flying the banner of Arrowfield's Redoute's Choice and Ashokan representing his sire, Vinery's More Than Ready. All three colts were reared in the Hunter Valley - a clear indication that there is no better place to create value.



OUR COMMUNITY OUR FUTURE

INFORMATION NIGHT

An information night was held at the Hunter Valley Equine Research Centre in Scone on Friday 3 August 2012. Over 70 people attended from local stud farms.

There are a number of different challenges currently faced by the thoroughbred industry in the Hunter Valley and it was good to see so many people joining together to obtain further knowledge.

Presentations were given by:

- Dr Nigel Perkins on EAFL concentrating on the lifecycle of the caterpillars which are the fundamental cause of EAFL abortions and
- Dr Jane Axon gave updated information relating to both Hendra and Kunjin Virus.

HTBA Members can obtain lecture notes from Dr Nigel Perkins and Dr Joan Axon presentation by contacting events@htba.com.au

Further workshops are planned over the next couple of months. Members will be advised of these events via email and information posted on the HTBA website.

CAREERS

The careers seminars run by HTBA have been kicked off with a day held at St Joseph's High School in Aberdeen on June 14.

Thirty students from the school attended the seminar which was run by Gayle White from Vinery Stud with Matt Lawlor from Yarraman Park providing insights into what a career within the thoroughbred industry involves.

Students then participated in a question time where they were able to discuss their options within our industry representatives. Each student took away a brochure and DVD provided by the HTBA.

A schedule is currently being compiled of Hunter Valley Schools' Careers Days. If you would like to suggest a school to be added to this list, please contact Gayle White at careers@htba.com.au

NSW BREEDERS AND THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS AUSTRALIA 2012 NATIONAL AND NSW BREEDING AWARDS DINNER

Thoroughbred Breeders' NSW in conjunction with Thoroughbred Breeders' Australia and Aushorse Marketing, held a dinner for 140 guests at Scone Racecourse on Saturday, August 25 to honour some of the achievers in breeding for the 2011/2012 racing season.

The six awards presented were for:

- Champion Australian Sire - FASTNET ROCK
- Champion Australian sire of 2YOs - LONHRO
- Champion Australian First Season Sire - CASINO PRINCE
- Australian Broodmare of the Year - HELSINGE
- NSW Champion Broodmare - SAMAR
- Breeder, exported Australian-bred International Horse of The Year - KIA-ORA STUD for IGUGU

Hunter bred champions dominated the National and NSW Breeding Awards winning five of the six award categories including Champion Australian Sire, Coolmore's Fastnet Rock, Champion Australian Sire of 2 Year Olds, Darley's Lonhro, Champion Australian First Season Sire, Patinack's Casino Prince, and NSW Champion Broodmare, Baramul Stud's Samar and Breeder, exported Australian-bred International Horse of the Year, Kia-Ora Stud for Igugu.

The HTBA congratulates all winners of the 2012 National and NSW Breeding Award, Trevor Lobb, the President of TBA and NSW Breeders for hosting the successful evening, Caroline Searcy for MCing the evening, and Gerry Harvey and his wife Katie Page-Harvey, the evening's special guests, for agreeing to a candid and entertaining interview conducted by Caroline Searcy.



Arthur Inglis, John Sunderland, Darley



Jacqueline Stewart, Gerry Harvey



Gerry Harvey, Caroline Searcy, Katie Page-Harvey



Caroline Searcy



Trevor Lobb, Jonathan Crowley, Caroline Searcy



Chauncey Morris and Adam Henry



Meaghan Strickland-Wood, Brett Barnes and Michael Ford



Rowena Smith, Alexandra Kingston



2013 YEARLING SALE SERIES

SYDNEY CLASSIC YEARLING SALE
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 20 & 21 January | Newmarket, Sydney

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 9, 10 & 11 April
 Newmarket, Sydney

VOBIS GOLD YEARLING SALE
 28 & 29 April
 Oaklands, Melbourne

HTBA SCORE YEARLING SALE
 19 May
 White Park, Score

SYDNEY CLASSIC YEARLING SALE
 ✨ WINTER BOOK ✨
 23 June | Newmarket, Sydney



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OUT AND ABOUT CHAMPIONS OF THE FUTURE - 2012 STALLION PREVIEW WEEKEND

Some 5,000 investors and visitors flocked to the Hunter Valley on the weekend of 25 and 26 August as Hunter Valley Thoroughbred Breeding studs previewed their 2012 Stallions.

Second only to the Scone Cup's attraction of 10,000 visitors to the Upper Hunter, the Stallion Previews showcase the industry as one of the premier breeding grounds in the world and one of three International Centres of Thoroughbred Breeding Excellence.

The Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon, The Hon George Souris, Muswellbrook Mayor Martin Rush, Cr Michael Johnsen and Ms Fiona Simpson (President of the NSW Farmers Association, joined the many guests at this year's Stallion Preview.



Gio Ponti at Arrowfield



Widden Stud



Yarraman Stallion Parade



Tickets and Antony Thompson at Widden Stud



Darley Stallion Parade



The Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon and Arthur Mitchell at Yarraman Park



Fiona Simson, President of NSW Farmers and her husband Ed Simson, Andy Wiles Darley Stud at Darley Stallion Parade.



The Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon, Charlie Mitchell and Harry Mitchell



Pam Seccombe and The Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon

OUT AND ABOUT (CONTINUED)



Vinery Stud Parade



Newgate stallion parade



Nickie Cramsie, Gai Waterhouse and Catherine Remond



Ian Moore and Muswellbrook Mayor Martin Rush



The Hon. George Souris and Lindsay Maxsted



Encosta de Lago



Paddy Power, Mark Latham, Lindsay Maxsted, Hellen Georgopoulos, Ken Barry at Coolmore Stallion Parade

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6 October 2012 - Inglis Charity Boxing Night
- 10 October, 23 October 2012 – Scone Race Club Race Meetings
- 16 October, 31 October 2012 – Muswellbrook Race Club Race Meetings
- 5 - 6 November - Muswellbrook Community Race Days
- 15 - 18 October 2012 – Great Eastern Ranges Workshops
 - 15 October 2012 – Merriwa Workshop
 - 16 October 2012 – Muswellbrook Workshop
 - 18 October 2012 – Maitland Workshop

Information on the Great Eastern Ranges Workshops has been sent to HTBA members and can be obtained on gersteppingstones.org.au or by contacting Denise Aitken at daitken@ozgreen.org.au or phone 02 6655 2180.

- 27 October 2012 – Westpac Helicopter Fundraising Ball

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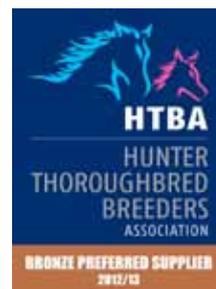
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