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For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE

Shenhua Training the Community

Earlier this year, Shenhua's staff and consultants undertook Project Management training as part of the Governments Critical Skills Investment Fund. As part of this package, Shenhua also offered 20 places to community members who were keen to complete a Certificate level in Project Management.

One local Gunnedah resident who took up the opportunity was Ms Calinda Morgan who completed a Certificate 4 in Project Management earlier this year. Ms Morgan said that completing this course has given her a huge confidence boost and the motivation and self-belief to pursue a new career.

"For the past 11 years I have spent 6 months of each year away from home working on spray rigs in the cotton fields. It is only seasonal work, but it was work and the only job I was qualified for," Ms Morgan said. "When the opportunity came up from Shenhua to further my education I jumped at the chance, not just to change the direction of my career, but to show my children that you are never too old to learn or to start restraining yourself to better your life."

Having completed the Certificate 4, Ms Morgan is now focusing on continuing her studies, with the aim of one day working in the mining industry.

"Now that I know what project management is all about I have decided to go back to Tafe and enhance this qualification with a Business Administration Certificate 3," Ms Morgan said. "I enjoyed doing the Project Management course and would like to follow this as a line of work in the future, hopefully in the mining industry."

"If anyone thinks that they can do any course provided by one of these companies I urge you all to give it a go," Ms Morgan continued. "For these companies to come to our town and want the local community to get the jobs first, the locals are the ones who have to show that we are willing to learn and train to get these jobs. I thank Shenhua for the wonderful opportunity you have given me."

The Critical Skills Investment Fund provides \$200 million Australian Government co-funding for industry partnerships to undertake projects that provide training and employment opportunities in critical industry sectors.

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