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For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE

Nine Projects Share in \$1M

Shenhua Watermark has today announced the nine successful applicants of the 2011 Watermark Community Fund, with health, education and improvements to community facilities the big ticket items.

The Community Fund Committee reviewed and assessed all 104 applications and ranked the projects against the key criteria the Committee had formulated. The Committee developed a short-list of nine projects to Shenhua for funding and Shenhua has endorsed all the Committee's recommendations. Beneficiaries of this year's funding include:

Organisation	Initiative	Amount (approx)
Curlewis Progress Association	Construction of a skate park within Hamilton Park. The project will also include the construction of a shelter and seating.	\$73,500
Lions Club Gunnedah	Construction of off-highway parking area and facilities to travellers.	\$230,000
Tambar Springs / Premer RSL Chapter	Repair and restore WW1 memorial that was originally erected in 1918.	\$19,875
Alkira Aged Care Ltd	Replacement of heating system in resident's rooms which was originally installed 20 years ago.	\$132,000
Gunida Gunya Aboriginal Corporation	Indigenous up-skilling centre	\$207,300
Gunnedah Show Society	Removal of old stables and the construction of new stables	\$89,000
Gunnedah Early Childhood Intervention	Transportation for children with a disability	\$9,114
Mary Ranken Occasional Childcare Centre	Enclose existing shelter to create a new room to accommodate the school readiness pre-school program	\$30,000
PRAMS	Maternity and general ward bathroom upgrade	\$210,000

Health continues to be a priority for funding with voluntary community group PRAMS receiving \$210,000 towards the upgrade of the maternity and general ward bathrooms. This follows the \$1M donation towards the development of the Gunnedah Rural Health GP Super clinic in 2009, and a further \$90,000 allocated for the maternity ward upgrade in the Gunnedah Hospital in 2010.

Education was also prominent with three education initiatives receiving a combined \$246,500. One of those initiatives is the Gunida Gunya Aboriginal Corporation's construction of an Indigenous up-skilling centre at its sites in Farrar Road and Borthistle Road in Gunnedah. The Centre will include an earthworks training ground, a welding certification centre consisting of 4 welding training bays, and a fully functional class room.

Gunnedah Early Childhood Intervention will receive funding to transport children with a diagnosed disability and parents/carers to attend a weekly playgroup. Funding will also go towards the implementation of a new program called Marte Meo - a strengths based program that looks at what a child can do and where they might need extra support. This program is designed to give parents, teachers and professionals a different perspective to help understand the meaning behind children's behaviours.

Lions Club Gunnedah will receive \$230,000 to enhance the Draft Wandobah Ecological Reserve Concept Plan, developed by Gunnedah Shire Council. The enhancement works will include; the construction of an access road and parking for recreation and other vehicles, rotunda and shelter for dining along with BBQ facilities, ablution block incorporating disabled access, landscaping and beautification, viewing platform and playground activity area.

Gunnedah Show Society will receive funding to replace two blocks of stables with a new steel structure. These improvements will ensure the safety of the many groups who use the facility and attract new events and users to the showground.

Tambar Spring War Memorial will receive almost \$20,000 to upgrade the War Memorial which was erected in 1918. Believed to be one of the oldest WW1 Memorials in Australia, the repairs will help preserve this historically significant monument for future generations.

The Community Fund is established to respond to community needs. Details of specific projects and their commencements dates will be released in due course.

The Community Fund was pledged by Shenhua as part of the Exploration Licence granted by the Department of Primary Industries in 2009, committing A\$1 million per annum for up to 5 years of exploration or up to A\$5 million.

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