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For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE

104 Submissions Received

Shenhua has received a total of 104 submissions this year from various organisations and community groups in and around the Gunnedah and Liverpool Plains Shire – 40 more than last year.

According to Shenhua's Communications Manager, Melanie Layton, the number and quality of submissions received has been outstanding.

"We have received lots of applications requesting funding to improve local amenities and facilities, towards educational and training programs, and initiatives to improve the health and well being of various community groups," Ms Layton said. "They all address real needs in the community which will make it difficult for the Community Fund Committee to determine who will be successful."

While the process for assessing applications will be similar to last year, the Committee has included an additional step in the process.

"If the Committee needs additional information about a particular initiative we will give that group an opportunity to come and present to the Committee and answer our questions," Ms Layton continued. "One million dollars is a significant amount of money, so it is important we have all the information to make our decision."

The successful applicants will be notified towards the end of the year.

The \$5million Community Fund was pledged by Shenhua as part of the tender process for the Exploration Licence back in 2008. To date, the Community Fund has donated \$1million towards the construction of the Gunnedah Rural Health Centre and another \$1million to 12 individual projects and initiatives throughout the Gunnedah and Liverpool Plains Shire.

ENDS

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