



REAPPOINTED: Shenhua Watermark Coal Community Fund committee members Mark Kesby, left, Harvey Stoneman, Wayne Griffiths, Rebecca Ryan, Adam Marshall, Di Stacey, Joe Clayton, Melanie Layton and Brett Reynolds. Absent: Owen Hasler, Robyn King and Marie Wilson.

Digging deep for Gunnedah

MINER'S HANDOUT

ALL 11 members of the Shenhua Community Fund Committee have been re-engaged to determine where another \$1 million should be allocated as part of the Watermark Community Fund in 2011.

The committee comprises members from all facets of the Gunnedah community including Aboriginal affairs, education and employment, agriculture, health, the environment and community groups.

Committee member Rebecca Ryan said people may be surprised at the level of involvement and decision-making the committee had in determining where the money was spent.

Ms Ryan said the committee developed the objectives and key criteria of the fund, reviewed and assessed each

application, developed an assessment criterion to assess and rank each proposal, and put a final recommendation to Shenhua.

"The committee's broad representation, local knowledge and commitment to the community have enabled us to have robust discussion about the priorities within the community to ensure the money is distributed to the most deserved and needed projects," Ms Ryan said.

"Not one committee representative came to the table with their own agenda."

According to Watermark's communication manager Melanie Layton, setting up the committee was all part of Shenhua's commitment to work in partnership with the community.

Applications for the community fund can be lodged at Shenhua Watermark by close of business on July 22.