

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1201

asked on Wednesday, 13 October 2021

MR L MILLAR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR RESOURCES (HON S STEWART)—

QUESTION:

With reference to public reports in July that Bowen Coking Coal has been awarded 'preferred bidder status' in the sale of the Bluff open pit mine—

Will the Minister advise the current status of the mine and if it will return to operations in the near future?

ANSWER:

The Bluff PCI Coal Mine has continued to be in a care and maintenance state since November 2020.

The Department of Resources is working with Mining and Civil Australia Limited (MACA), as the appointed controller of the mine.

On 26 October 2021, MACA announced that a binding agreement to divest the mine to Bowen Coking Coal Ltd had been signed.

The sale process is expected to be completed by the end of 2021, conditional on the required regulatory approvals for the transfer being obtained.

The Department of Resources will meet with the new owners to understand their plans for the mine once the sale process is finalised.

Until the sale is finalised, MACA, as its appointed controller, is required to meet all obligations and conditions of the mining lease and the associated environmental authority.