

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## **SOUTH32 HELPS LOCAL FIRE BRIGADES PREPARE FOR SUMMER**

Rural Fire Service (RFS) brigades in the Wollondilly region will be even better prepared for the upcoming fire season thanks to a significant financial contribution from South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC).

The funding, from South32 IMC's Community Partnerships Program, has been used by local RFS brigades to purchase new equipment that will help to keep communities safe this summer.

In total, South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal has given more than AU\$49,000 to RFS brigades in Cawdor, Wilton, Menangle, Appin and Douglas Park, enabling volunteer crews to purchase new items such as lighting, cleaning equipment, thermal imaging cameras, personal protection equipment, clothing, GPS systems and computer equipment.

"We are very grateful for the work of our local RFS volunteers. They do an amazing job keeping the community safe," said Wayne Bull, IMC Vice President Operations.

"All frontline workers, including our local RFS crews, are real heroes. I wish them a safe and successful summer."

NSW RFS Southern Highlands District Manager Superintendent Martin Surrey urged local residents to ensure they are ready for the warmer months: "It could be another busy season, so we are grateful for South32's support. We're ready to help keep our communities safe this summer. However, please have your own bush fire survival plan and discuss it with your family. How fireproof is your fire plan?"

The IMC Community Partnerships Program was established in 2004 to support community projects and initiatives in the region surrounding South32's Appin Mine.

For more information about the Community Partnership Program or to apply for funding, please email [illawarracommunity@south32.net](mailto:illawarracommunity@south32.net) or phone 1800 102 210.

***Ends***

### **About South32**

South32 is a globally diversified mining and metals company. Our purpose is to make a difference by developing natural resources, improving people's lives now and for generations to come. We are trusted by our owners and partners to realise the potential of their resources. We produce bauxite, alumina, aluminium, energy and metallurgical coal, manganese, nickel, silver, lead and zinc at our operations in Australia, Southern Africa and South America. With a focus on growing our base metals exposure, we also have two development options in North America and several partnerships with junior explorers around the world.

### **Further Information**

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