



# **The Hon Chris Hartcher**

## **Minister for Resources and Energy**

### **Special Minister of State**

### **Minister for the Central Coast**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday 26 July 2012

### **REMINDER TO APPLY FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY GRANTS**

Resources Minister Chris Hartcher has reminded organisations in the Hunter, Central Coast and North West of the State to apply for the 2012 Regional Mining Community Health and Safety Grants program, with applications closing on 31 July.

The grants program, an initiative of the NSW Mine Safety Advisory Council (MSAC), offer schools and community groups in selected local government areas the chance to be awarded grants of up to \$10,000 from a total pool of \$150,000.

“This is a fantastic opportunity for schools and community groups in mining areas to receive financial help for an idea which will improve health or safety in their local area,” Mr Hartcher said.

The grants will reward ideas which link health and safety standards in the NSW mining industry with improvements to assist health and safety in mining communities.

“There has been a great response so far with more than 70 applications received, many with terrific ideas worthy of consideration,” said Mr Hartcher.

“The message from MSAC and the NSW Government is that the industry’s good health and safety principles do not stop at the mine gate.

“Having a good health and safety culture means bringing those health and safety attitudes home, not leaving them at work.

“I encourage all schools and community organisations in the selected areas to visit the MSAC website [www.nswminesafety.com.au](http://www.nswminesafety.com.au) for more information on grant applications before 31 July,” Mr Hartcher said.

ENDS

*See over page for further details*

## **NSW Mine Safety Advisory Council**

### **2012 Regional Mining Community Health and Safety Grants**

#### **Key information and dates**

Local government areas where the program is running:

Muswellbrook  
Upper Hunter  
Gunnedah  
Narrabri  
Wyong  
Newcastle  
Lake Macquarie  
Port Stephens  
Maitland  
Cessnock  
Singleton

Total grants pool – \$150,000

Amount that can be applied for – from \$2,000 up to \$10,000

Program start date – 4 June 2012

Closing date for grant applications – 31 July 2012

Method of application – via [www.nswminesafety.com.au](http://www.nswminesafety.com.au)

Grants sponsored by – NSW Mine Safety Advisory Council