



6 March 2014

Letter to the Editor,

I am concerned by some of the claims published in relation to BMA's remote workforce arrangements.

BMA has seven operating mines in the Bowen Basin and another, Caval Ridge, currently under construction. Six of our mines currently employ a residential workforce and, despite claims that could infer otherwise, there has been no change to these arrangements. Over 4,000 of our employees reside in Central Queensland communities. BMA has built 400 new dwellings in the last two years in these communities to accommodate our workforce.

We made a careful and considered decision to operate our newest mines, Caval Ridge and Daunia with remote workforce arrangements for a range of reasons, including the ability to source a diverse workforce, to operate the mines safely and efficiently.

We had almost 30,000 applicants from Cairns and Brisbane for around 1000 roles at Caval and Daunia mines. The strong demand from these regions in Queensland demonstrates the choices people are making about how they want to live and work. In order to ensure our operations remain competitive we must be able to attract the very best people and we need to be able to provide a choice of employment which includes both residential and commute arrangements.

The approach we have taken at Daunia has resulted in a workforce comprising 25 per cent women and almost 50 percent of our workforce at the mine are new to the mining industry. These mines also bring opportunities to the local area through our Local Buy Program, local supporting services and community investments made by BMA.

I urge those who are campaigning on this issue to instead work with BMA to promote Moranbah and other local towns as great places to live and work. We have a shared interest in ensuring BMA is a profitable and sustainable business for future generations.

Lucas Dow
Asset President, BMA