

# Mining and Energy Resources

IN THE WESTERN DOWNS



We are the Energy Capital of Queensland  
with coal, gas, solar, wind and hydrogen powering the Western Downs economy

## Mining Industry Overview

Ever since the first mine opened on the Western Downs in 1914, the region's resources sector has been on an upwards trajectory with investors from all over the world keen to get a share. Locally the resources industry includes coal mining, oil and gas extraction, metal ore mining, non-metallic mineral mining, quarrying and exploration as well as a variety of mining services.

Over the past 15 years, the energy sector has seen strong investment in large-scale industry developments and significant power infrastructure upgrades. Our workforce and supply chain have developed diverse skills in the sector with increasing experience. In addition, legacy infrastructure from resources provides an ideal framework for renewables developments. All of this means that the Western Downs truly is the 'Energy Capital of Queensland' with coal, gas, solar, wind and hydrogen powering our economy.



The resources sector is the second largest employer in the Western Downs behind construction and agriculture

Queensland Resources Council



## Total Economic Contribution

2021/22 output \$3.8b

Value add \$645.9m which indicates a significant increase in productivity across the sector.



Experience Western Downs

It's the people that make it.



## Power Stations

There are six power stations in the Western Downs located at Braemar, Condamine, Daandine and Kogan Creek. Each power station will be continually upgraded throughout the course of its life therefore contributing to the local economy in more ways than just through generating power. Upgrades mean jobs and flow-on to local businesses.

### Kogan Creek

Owned by CS Energy, Kogan Creek employs 103 people, has a generation capacity of 750MW, is fuelled by black coal and contains the largest single generating unit in Australia with one of the lowest environmental impacts of any coal-fired power station in the country.

### Darling Downs Power Station

Owned by Origin Energy, Darling Downs Power Station has a generation capacity of 630MW, runs on gas fired combined cycle gas turbine power and is the largest of its type in Australia.

### Braemar 1 Power Station

Owned by Alinta Energy, Braemar 1 has a generation capacity of 504MW and is powered by coal seam gas.

### Braemar 2 Power Station

Owned by Arrow Energy, Braemar 2 has a generation capacity of 450MW and is Queensland's 2nd largest gas fired power station and supplies peak demand.

### Condamine Power Station

Owned by Shell QGC, Condamine Power Station has a generate capacity of 140MW. Waste heat from the gas turbine is used to make steam to generate additional electricity.

### Daandine Power Station

Owned by APA Group, Daandine Power Station has a generation capacity of 27.4MW.

## References

Economic Impact of Minerals and Energy Sector on the Qld Economy 2020/21 – November 2021  
Community ID – Western Downs

## Gas Resource Overview

Coal seam gas is natural gas that is sourced from coal deposits. In Australia the major coal seam gas resources are found along the eastern coast in the onshore Surat and Bowen basins.

The Surat Basin district of the Western Downs currently boasts the most coal seam gas activity in the country. The gas industry continues to bring infrastructure and investment to the region, providing new jobs while strengthening and diversifying the economy.

Arrow Energy, Senex Energy, Shell QGC, Origin and Central Petroleum – Incitec Pivot JV, among others, all operate in the region, producing for both domestic and export markets.

The Western Downs will continue to play a key part for the release of future domestic gas tenements by the Queensland Government.

### Talinga Orana Gas Gathering Station Managed by Origin Energy

The Talinga Orana Gas Gathering Station (TOGGS) is now operational and enables Origin Energy to maximise coal seam gas (CSG) production from the Talinga and Orana gas fields in the Surat Basin.

Located approximately 30kms south-west of Chinchilla, TOGGS is a dual train gas gathering station consisting of two electric motor-driven RB56 compressor trains.

The Talinga gas field, with 570 petajoules of 2P reserves, is co-owned and operated by Origin Energy and lies within production license PL226.

There are more than 111 CSG wells across the field and it produces at around 98 terajoules of gas per day.

TOGGS was constructed by Monadelphus Group and completed in 2020 with investment of around \$50 million.



## Gas Projects in the Western Downs Surat Gas Project – Arrow Energy

Arrow Energy is an integrated coal seam gas (CSG) company that develops gas fields, produces and sells CSG and generates electricity. The company has been producing and selling gas from the Surat Basin since 2006.

Construction on the first phase of the Surat Gas Project started in late 2020. More than 600 wells are being developed in this initial phase, creating up to 200 construction jobs. Over the full 27-year life of the project, Arrow Energy expects to create up to 1000 construction and operating jobs and bring around 300 terajoules (TJ) per day of gas to market. For context, one TJ provides enough energy for 30 average-sized homes for a year.



Through our Surat Gas Project, we're delivering more jobs, more opportunities and broader economic benefits to the region

**Cecile Wake**  
CEO, Arrow Energy



Daandine Power Station

## Coal Market Overview

Coal mining has contributed to the Western Downs economy in some capacity since 1914. CS Energy's Kogan Creek open cut black coal mine located near Chinchilla commenced operations in 2007 to supply coal to the adjacent Kogan Creek Power Station. Yancoal operates the Cameby Downs open cut mine located east of Miles which started production in 2010.

### Coal at a glance

The total economic impact of the Queensland minerals and energy sector was estimated at \$83.7 billion in GRP and supported 372,097 jobs in 2022/23.

The minerals and energy sector contributed \$22.6 billion in direct spending to the Queensland economy in 2022/23.

\$15.3 billion in royalties have helped fund education, roads, health and law and order across Queensland.

*(Queensland Resources Council)*

### Cameby Downs

Cameby Downs Mine is an open cut operation located on the Warrego Highway in the Surat Basin 16 km from Miles and 30 km from Chinchilla.

It is owned and operated by Syntech Resources Pty Ltd (Syntech Resources) and is managed by Yancoal Australia Ltd. Syntech Resources is a wholly owned subsidiary of Yankuang Energy Group Company Limited.

The mine produces a low ash export thermal coal and is currently approved to extract up to 2.8 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of run-of-mine (ROM) coal with a mine life of approximately 45 years. The extensive tenement portfolio held by the company in the region has the potential to contain at least a further 1.0 billion tonnes of coal.

After processing, approximately 2.2 Mtpa of product (thermal) coal is produced from the Cameby Downs Mine and loaded onto trains, for transport to the Port of Brisbane for export.

## REGIONAL PROFILE

Rich in natural resources, natural beauty and natural history, the Western Downs is the place to be. These natural strengths are supported by strong industry foundations across the agriculture, energy, manufacturing, and construction sectors. Together with significant and continuing investment in infrastructure and tourism, these have positioned the Western Downs as one of the highest performing local government areas in Queensland, and Australia.

Known as the 'Energy Capital of Queensland', the Western Downs is experiencing high economic growth, investment, consistently high employment and includes some 38,000km<sup>2</sup> of land. The region boasts an impressive \$4 billion worth of approved renewables, including \$2.4 billion under construction.

One of the greatest benefits of the location of the Western Downs is the connectivity and proximity to the supply chain and relevant markets.

Another is a connected labour pool resulting in good workforce relations and retention rates and a diversity of industries with high workforce attraction.

Western Downs Regional Council's Gross Regional Product was \$3.68 billion in the year ending June 2022, growing 12.4% since the previous year (economy.id).

Home to a growing population of more than 34,500 residents, the Western Downs offers contemporary technology and opportunities in a friendly regional location.

Modern facilities such as aquatic and fitness centres, art galleries, museums, cinemas and civic centres bring a metropolitan feeling to regional communities.

The region also offers residents accessibility to public and privately run medical and health care services including access to hospitals, medical centres, dental and other health care professionals.

The roll-out of the National Broadband Network (NBN) and increasing mobile and internet coverage has positively impacted the global connectivity of businesses, lifting productivity and profitability. Dalby is classified as a 'Business Fibre Zone' providing business grade fibre at reduced wholesale prices.

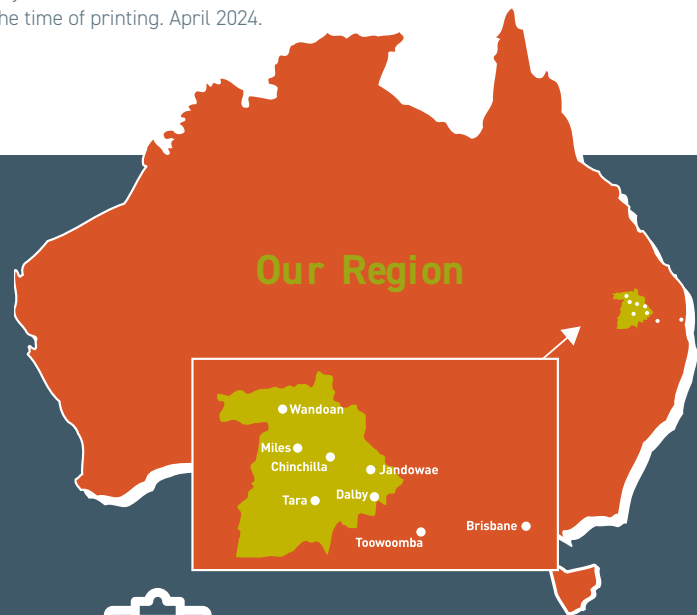
Residents enjoy a lower cost of living due to affordable housing (less than half of QLD average), ease of access to schools, work and retail outlets, with the NBN providing the network connectivity required for families and businesses to flourish.

It also offers a growing, diverse regional economy across agriculture, intensive agriculture, manufacturing, resources and renewable energy.

## INNOVATION

Digital technologies create opportunity for growth and transformation. Technology is a continually evolving field and the Western Downs offers local businesses contemporary communication solutions via NBN access to stay connected and current.

The information and statistics included in this document are reliant on the accuracy of sources as listed and were accurate as at the time of printing. April 2024.



## A SNAPSHOT



UNEMPLOYMENT  
RATE TRENDING  
LOWER THAN QLD  
AVERAGE



A SKILLED AND  
EXPERIENCED  
WORKFORCE



GRP: DOUBLED OVER  
15 YEARS

Energy Capital of Queensland:  
Resources & Renewables



DEVELOPMENT & DEVELOPERS  
SUPPORTED AND WELCOMED  
WITH WDRC PLANNING SCHEME



COMPARATIVELY STRONG  
INDUSTRY SUPPLY CHAINS PER  
CAPITA OF POPULATION

# NBN

INNOVATION: NBN ROLLOUT =  
DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY &  
SPEED FOR YOUR BUSINESS

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AVERAGE DISPOSABLE  
INCOME \$3K HIGHER  
THAN QLD AVERAGE

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