



## Timeline of ownership of Coalcliff Cokeworks site

### Coalcliff Colliery Ownership 1824 to 1991

- 1824 - Matthew John Gibbons received a promise of a grant of one thousand and twenty acres 'Little Bullie' from the top of Bald Hill to Judge's or Stony Creek in Coalcliff. The land was not finally granted to him until 1833.
- 1830's - The cliff area at Coalcliff originally belonged to Sir Thomas Mitchell as part of his Stanwell Park Estate. He was a well known explorer and Surveyor General of New South Wales. He first acquired property in northern Illawarra in the 1830's in anticipation of the highway to Illawarra passing through the land.
- 1855 (October) – Sir Thomas Mitchell died. Property passed to his son Captain Campbell Mitchell who failed to raise sufficient capital to fund shipping facilities for the coal.
- Unknown Property purchased by Mr Justice Hargrave.
- 1876 – Land acquired by the Honorable Alexander Stuart MLA, who was the principal proprietor of the Coal Cliff Land and Coal Mining Company. (Stuart was Premier of NSW from 1883 to 1885.) Thomas Walker – a merchant and financier – funded the coal mine.
- 1877 (April) – Erection of the Coalcliff jetty and opening up of the Coalcliff Mining Company under the sea cliffs.
- 1878 (January) – The colliery was officially opened. The mine manager was Thomas Hale.
- 1880 – Charles Harper replaced Thomas Hale as Manager.
- 1883 – Charles Stuart (nephew of the Hon Alexander Stuart) replaced Charles Harper as Manager.
- 1889 (August) – On the death of Christiana Stuart - the widow of Alexander Stuart who died in 1886 - the company was incorporated. Sir John Robertson and Charles Cowper – partners of Alexander Stuart – took control of the new company. John K Clark was also an owner.
- 1890 – Sir John Robertson and Charles Cowper formed The Coalcliff Coal and Land Company Ltd.
- 1892 - The Hon Ebenezer Vickery, MLC, purchased the colliery estate and two ships.
- 1893 (March) – Ebenezer Vickery together with several other owners of coal mines on the Illawarra joined together to form the Southern Coal Owners' Agency, to sell coal for the various mines.
- 1902 – Legal ownership transferred from Ebenezer Vickery to E Vickery & Sons Ltd.
- 1909 – The name changed to The Coalcliff Collieries Company Ltd but still under the control of the Vickery family. Consultants D.A.W. Robertson planned the mines future.
- 1910 (October) – New colliery brick-lined winding shaft commissioned.
- 1912 – Last coal shipped from the jetty. GB Vickery, youngest son of Ebenezer, was chairman of directors and controlled the mine until 1936.

- 1914 – GB Vickery established a concrete storage dam on Stanwell Creek to augment water supply for the mine and a proposed cokeworks.
- 1944 (March) – The colliery was put under the control of the Commonwealth Coal Commissioner because of lack of funds and industrial disputes.
- 1947 (March) – Control by the Commonwealth Coal Commissioner lifted.
- 1954 - Kembla Coal & Coke Pty Limited – a subsidiary of The Broken Hill Associated Smelters Pty Limited purchased all shares in The Coal Cliff Collieries Company Ltd.
- 1977 - The mine set a national daily production record for an underground mine of 16,710 tonnes.
- 1980 - The largest underground coal mine in Australia employing 988 men with an output in excess of 1.7 million tonnes per annum.
- 1991 - The mine closed after a life of 114 years.

## Coalcliff Cokeworks Ownership - 1913 to 2008

- 1913 - Construction of 50 coke ovens at Coalcliff commenced by the Illawarra Coke Company Limited under the chairmanship of H.O. Hyde.
- 1914 (December) - The first coke was produced.
- 1954 - Kembla Coal & Coke Pty Limited – a subsidiary of The Broken Hill Associated Smelters Pty Limited purchased all shares in the Illawarra Coke Company Limited. BHAS is a jointly owned subsidiary of the Broken Hill mining companies Conzinc Riotinto of Australia Limited, North Broken Hill Limited and BH South Limited.
- 1960 – Battery extended with eight more ovens added
- 1971 (April) Half of the battery converted to common ducting
- 1975 A new, award winning Quench Tower (Prince Phillip award for achievement in industrial design) built and finished in November. Plus a new coke car and road, new settling pond, coke hopper and tunnel.
- 1980 (September) New coal grinding plant and screening plant constructed.
- 1992-1993 Coalcliff Colliery buildings demolished
- 1996 (March) ICC Holdings Pty Limited - a private company - purchased Illawarra Coke Company Pty Limited (ICC)
- 1998 (September) New crusher and screening plant constructed.
- 2006 (October) Peabody Energy acquired a 50% share in Illawarra Coke Company Pty Limited when it purchased a company owned by some of the ICC Directors
- 2007 (March) Illawarra Coke Company Pty Limited reverts back to being a wholly privately-owned company when Peabody Energy sells its interest in ICC.
- 2007 (November) The first of two new charge cars installed on the top of the battery.
- 2008 (February) The second new charge car delivered and commissioned.
- 2008 – Illawarra Coke Company Pty Limited still owns and operates both Corrimal and Coalcliff Cokeworks. ICC is the only independent coke producer in Australia.