

**Correspondence from
Department of Planning
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"Howard Reed"
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21/12/11 11:36 AM

To "Edwina White" <Edwina.White@centennialcoal.com.au>
cc "Carl Dumbleton" <Carl.Dumbleton@planning.nsw.gov.au>, "Colin Phillips" <Colin.Phillips@planning.nsw.gov.au>, "David Kitto" <David.Kitto@planning.nsw.gov.au>, "Mary-Anne Crawford" <maryanne.crawford@centennialcoal.com.au>, "Mick Cairney" <mick.cairney@centennialcoal.com.au>, "Richard Tacon" <richard.tacon@centennialcoal.com.au>

Subject Re: Springvale Bore 7 & 8 - proposed project

Hello Edwina,

sorry to take so long to respond.

A few things. Firstly, s. 96(2) doesn't apply. Sch 6A of the EP&A Act and cl. 8J(8) of the EP&A Reg have the effect that s.75W continues to apply to the proposed mod.

Secondly, I suggest you give careful consideration to the provisions of the Mining SEPP regarding exempt and complying development. Some of the proposals you raise below may well fall within either of these categories. That being said, there is no problem with including them within the scope of the application if you so wish.

Other than that, it looks like you are right on track. I agree with David that no formal DGRs are required, and advise you to provide a draft EA in line with the assessment considerations outlined in column 3 below.

Howard Reed
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>>> Edwina White <Edwina.White@centennialcoal.com.au> 10/12/2011 1:11 pm >>>

Dear Howard

I refer to a recent meeting (21 November 2011) held between Mary-Anne Crawford, Richard Tacon and David Kitto. A number of upcoming Centennial Coal projects were discussed including Springvale's proposed Bore 7 and 8 (**The Project**). It was discussed at that meeting that Springvale did not require Director General Requirements for The Project. It is expected that Springvale Coal will modify development consent s91/06569/001 determined by Robert Webster, Minister for planning on 27th July 1992 under Section 96(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment 1979.

To provide some context, the following dot points comprise the proposed Project:

- Construction and operation of two new dewatering bores and associated facilities (including power, shed, communications, secure compound and access)
- Delivery of water from the dewatering bores into the existing Springvale to Delta Water Transfer Scheme via pipeline (trenched underground)
- Increase in production from 3.4mtpa to 4mtpa.

It is noted that the increase in tonnage will not be caused by an increase in production rate (tonnes per hour), rather the purchase of a new longwall will remove the regular 6 week longwall move which will impact on production. The new longwall will also reduce maintenance downtime effectively increasing the number of shifts cutting coal. Mine scheduling predicts that as a result, Springvale will produce in excess of its currently approved 3.4mtpa approved limit.

The Table below presents how the existing operation will change as a result of the proposed Project. In light of the proposed Project, Springvale has commenced a number of impact assessments as also presented in the Table below.

I would appreciate your thoughts on the requirement (or not) for Springvale to request and obtain Director General Requirements for this Project. We agree with David Kitto, that due to the nature/scale of this Project, Director General Requirements are not necessary. I look forward to your response.

Key Feature	Description of Existing Operations	Proposed Change	Springvale Response to Proposed Change (assessment considerations)
Newnes Plateau Mine Services	Existing ventilation shaft complex, services boreholes and dewatering bore	Two additional dewatering facilities known as Bore 7 and Bore 8	Groundwater assessment to investigate potential impacts resulting from water make and determine whether those impacts are acceptable or can be mitigated. Measures to manage water make also need to be confirmed.
	Dewatering Bore 5 facility (decommissioned)	Augmentation and upgrade of exiting access track and fire trails	Erosion and sediment assessment.
	Dewatering Bore 6 facility	New pipelines to tee into the existing Springvale-Delta Water Transfer Scheme to be buried adjacent to existing access tracks	Flora and fauna, archaeological, air quality assessments (see land preparation section).
	Existing overhead and underground powerlines	11kV underground powerlines to be buried in a common trench with the pipelines adjacent to existing access tracks	Noise assessment to consider impacts from construction and operation of the installation(s).
	Existing access tracks and fire trails		Visual impact assessment to consider impact of buildings and infrastructure on surrounding environment.
			Traffic impact assessment to consider the impacts resulting from both the construction and operational phases with respect to the existing infrastructure.
			Bushfire risk assessment
Mine dewatering	Currently the Springvale Mine is dewatered using Bore 6, ventilation shaft bore and pit top collection system	No change to the Pit Top Collection system, or to current discharges into the Coxs River	Greenhouse assessment to model impacts arising from operation of the new facilities
	Water is discharged into the Coxs River via the Pit Top Collection System	Two new dewatering facilities to be installed at Bore 7 and Bore 8	Waste management
	Water is transferred to Wallerawang Power Station via the Springvale to Delta Water Transfer Scheme	New pipelines to tee into the existing Springvale-Delta Water Transfer Scheme to be buried next to the proposed access track	Groundwater assessment
	Emergency discharge on the Newnes Plateau	No other changes are	Surface water assessment including Site Water Balance which will assess discharge / transfer requirements
			Capacity of the Delta Water Transfer Scheme to manage the water make

		proposed to the Delta Water Transfer Scheme	
Production	Springvale is approved to produce 3.4mtpa	Increased production to 4.0 mtpa	GHG assessment
Hours of Operation	24 hours per day, 7 days per week	No change	No action
Employment	Springvale currently employs 270 personnel	No change	No action
ROM Stockpile	Current stockpile capacity at the pit top is 85,000t	No change to current stockpile capacity	Air Quality assessment (increased tonnes handled). Noise assessment
Coal Preparation	Coal is crushed at the on-site Crusher plant	Extended flow of coal to pass through the coal crusher	Air Quality assessment (increased tonnes handled). Noise assessment
Land Preparation	As the Springvale mine is a well established underground mine, with adequate supporting infrastructure minimal land preparation occurs. In recent years, minor land preparation has been for exploration purposes.	Land clearance will be required for the drill pad and supporting ancillary infrastructure. Existing access tracks will be augmented and upgraded.	Surface water assessment Erosion and sediment assessment – construction & final landscape Flora and Fauna assessment (biodiversity offset strategy) Air quality assessment to determine impact from disturbed land on surrounding environment/sensitive receptors. Archaeology assessment. Impact on existing landuse (forestry)
Product Coal Transport	Coal is transferred on to overland conveyors and transported to either Mount Piper or Wallerawang Power stations or to the Coal Services Site for washing.	No change with the exception of increased tonnage on a per annum basis	Air Quality assessment (increased tonnes handled). Noise assessment Infrastructure review to ensure current plant and equipment has sufficient capacity to manage tonnes (including reject emplacement area).
Site Water Management	The surface water management system at Springvale relies on the separation of clean and dirty water and the treatment of dirty water prior to discharge through LDP001. Current water management practise occurs in accordance with the site water management plan.	No change; utilise the existing Springvale infrastructure at the pit top. No change to the EPL or LDP001.	Surface water assessment including clean / dirty water management and erosion and sediment controls
Rehabilitation	Given that Springvale exists as an underground coal mine which tends not to alter in footprint, rehabilitation is currently limited to small areas in the Newnes State Forest following the cessation of exploration activities, or when surface infrastructure is decommissioned.	Rehabilitation of the Bore 5 and Bore 6 facilities. Partial rehabilitation of the Bore 7 and Bore 8 compounds following construction and commissioning Full rehabilitation of the site and ancillary infrastructure corridors following eventual facility decommissioning	Soil and land assessment and rehabilitation strategy for the dewatering borehole site and associated infrastructure.

Kind Regards

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