



DOC16/632643-01; EF13/2794

Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001
Attention: Melanie Hollis

Dear Ms Hollis

**HVO North Coal Mine – Modification 6 (DA 450-10-2003 Mod 6)
Response to Submissions**

I refer to your email to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), dated 14 December 2016 seeking the EPA's comments on the Response to Submissions (RTS) provided by Coal & Allied Operations Pty Ltd in relation to the HVO North Coal Mine Modification 6 application, reference DA 450-10-2003 Mod 6.

The modification application seeks to allow the placement of fine coal reject in the Carrington Void within the premises licensed by the EPA under Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 640.

In our submission on the Environmental Assessment for the proposal, the EPA proposed to incorporate monitoring and reporting conditions into EPL 640 if approval is granted. These conditions would be consistent with existing consent conditions and associated management plan requirements, and the EPA believes these would provide sufficient controls and monitoring checks to ensure the activity is not resulting in environmental impacts.

The RTS addresses these comments and notes that further consultation with the EPA is proposed through the development of the relevant management plans for the site. The RTS also includes the statement *"HV Operations considers the modified development consent would achieve the same outcomes as EPA's proposed amendments to EPL 640 and would avoid unnecessary duplication of reporting requirements"*.

The EPA still proposes to include relevant monitoring and reporting conditions into the licence if approval is granted as the management plans associated with the activity are development consent related documents and are approved and enforced by the Department of Planning and Environment. The most appropriate instrument for the EPA to provide specific conditions and requirements, including responding to any non-compliances with the instrument, is the EPL. As such the EPA still proposes to include specific conditions onto EPL 640 addressing the proposed activity if approval is granted.

If you require any further information regarding this matter please contact me on 4908 6819.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Howat'.

22-12-16

MICHAEL HOWAT
A/Head Regional Operations Unit - Hunter
Environment Protection Authority