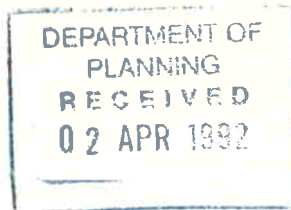




Environment Protection Authority

Ms B Adams
Manager
Assessments and Resource Branch
Department of Planning
Box 3927 GPO
SYDNEY NSW 2001



2nd Floor
NSW Government Offices
117 Bull Street
NEWCASTLE WEST NSW 2302
PO Box 488G
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Our reference: 271383A1
CC:SH

Your reference:

Contact: C CHARTERS

Telephone: (049) 26 9971
Fax: (049) 29 6712

Dear Ms Adams

CAMBERWELL COAL PTY LTD
DISPOSAL OF WASHERY REJECTS IN TAILINGS DAMS

We refer to your letter dated 20 March 1992 in which our comments were sought on an accompanying document in support of the above proposal. The following relates to our responsibilities under the Pollution Control Act, The Clean Air Act, Clean Waters Act and Noise Control Act.

It is accepted that no new, greenfield site is involved and the existing designated waste disposal area will be used for the purpose. In addition, we believe there are no substantial environmental issues arising from the intended variation of waste being delivered hydraulically, and consequently collected in dams, rather than being dumped as a slurry following road haulage. The stated intention that decant water from the tailings dams will be reused in the coal preparation plant is in accordance with our requirements.

If development consent is granted, our formal approval under the above legislation will also be necessary before the proposal can be implemented.

Our only concern relates to the possibility of adverse effects on the credibility of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. In general, it is most undesirable that changes are sought, so soon, to new projects which have been the subject of an EIS and on which public comment and statutory approvals are based. In this instance, the company installed band press filters as proposed and it is only through experience that the technique has proved unsuitable, necessitating this variation.

We are satisfied that the emission of air pollutant and noise, the discharge of pollutants to waters and general contamination of the environment will not be such as to warrant the requested variation to the development consent being withheld on these grounds.

Further inquiries regarding the above may be directed to Mr C Charters at our Newcastle office, telephone (049) 269971.

Yours faithfully

A J Crapp 31/3/92

A J Crapp
for Director-General

File No.	N	90	00631	004
OFFICER B. Adams.				
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