



Mr Wayne Grout  
Design and Approvals Manager  
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd  
1100 Wybong Road  
Muswellbrook, NSW, 2333

22/06/2020

Dear Mr Grout

**Mt Pleasant Operations Project (DA 92/97)  
Geotechnical Investigation Report**

I refer to your letter dated 17 April 2020 submitting the Geotechnical Investigation Report (Report) in accordance with condition 44A of Schedule 3 of the approval for the Mt Pleasant Operations Project (DA 92/97). The Department considers that this Report has been undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced persons.

The Department has carefully reviewed the Report and notes it has identified the extent and location of the Overton Colliery and confirmed that the earthworks required for the rail infrastructure would fall outside the angle of draw from the closest confirmed workings.

While the Report concluded that the mine subsidence risk to the rail infrastructure would be very low, three recommendations were provided to ensure the geotechnical stability of the rail infrastructure. The recommendations comprise:

- face mapping by an experienced geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist during construction;
- excavation and geotechnical logging of test pits extending below the level of the floor of the cutting during bulk earthworks; and
- where the ground conditions encountered are materially different to anticipated, notification and additional consultation with Subsidence Advisory NSW.

The Department notes that the geotechnical investigations have occurred in consultation with Subsidence Advisory NSW (SA NSW) and that, as a result of this consultation, SA NSW have issued an approval for the rail infrastructure works under the *Mine Subsidence Act 2017*.

The Department is satisfied that the Report has adequately addressed the requirements of condition 44A of Schedule 3 of the approval. Accordingly, the Secretary has approved the Report and the implementation of the recommendations to ensure the geotechnical stability of the rail infrastructure.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Melanie Hollis on 8217 2043.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Spratt'.

Matthew Spratt  
Director  
Resource Assessments (Coal & Quarries)  
as nominee of the Planning Secretary