

Department of Planning and Environment

Mr Trent Cini
Environment and Community Manager
Moolarben Coal Complex

By email: Trent.Cini@yancoal.com.au

27/07/2023

Dear Mr Cini

**Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 1 (MP05_0117)
Independent Water Quality Study**

I refer to the Independent Water Quality Study (the study) submitted in accordance with condition 32A of Schedule 3 of the above project approval. I also acknowledge your response to the Department's request for additional information dated 26 April 2023.

The study provided further understanding of the background electrical conductivity (EC) concentration of the Goulburn River, and was reviewed and endorsed by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA). The Department has carefully reviewed the document and is satisfied that it meets the requirements of condition 32A.

Based on the study's results and in consultation with the EPA, I understand that a lower EC limit for treated water discharge has been agreed on (ie a limit of 619 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ instead of 685 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$). This limit has been approved by the EPA in a recent variation to the site's environment protection licence.

The Secretary also considers this limit to be appropriate, noting that it is consistent with background salinity concentrations determined in the study.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Gen Lucas on (02) 9274 6489 or gen.lucas@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Stephen O'Donoghue
Director
Resource Assessments
As nominee of the Planning Secretary