



MANNERING COLLIERY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX A **REGULATORY CORRESPONDENCE**



NSW GOVERNMENT
Department of Planning

**Mining & Extractive Industries
Major Development Assessments**
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Mr Paul Williams
Project Manager
Centennial Coal Company Limited
PO Box 1000
TORONTO NSW 2283

Our ref: S06/00745

Dear Mr Williams

**Director-General's Requirements –
Environmental Assessment for the
Mannering Continuation of Mining Project**

The Department has received your application for the Mannering Continuation of Mining Project in the Lake Macquarie and Wyong local government areas (reference number: 06_0311).

I have attached a copy of the Director-General's requirements (DGRs) for the Environmental Assessment for the project. These requirements have been prepared in consultation with the relevant Government authorities, including the Lake Macquarie City and Wyong Shire Councils, and are based on the information you have provided to date. I have also attached a copy of the Government authorities' and councils' comments on the proposal for your information.

Please note that under section 75F(3) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the Director-General may alter these requirements at any time.

I would appreciate it if you would contact the Department at least two weeks before you propose to submit your Environmental Assessment for the project to determine the:

- fees applicable to the application;
- consultation and public exhibition arrangements that will apply; and
- number and format (hard-copy or CD-ROM) of the Environmental Assessment that will be required.

As you may know, the Department will review the Environmental Assessment in consultation with the relevant authorities to determine if it adequately addresses the Director-General's requirements. If the Director-General considers the Environmental Assessment to be inadequate, you will be required to revise it prior to public exhibition.

I also wish to advise of recent amendments to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* pertaining to the fee structure for project applications and requests for modifications made under Part 3A of the EP&A Act. In particular, I would draw your attention to clauses 245D, 245I, 245J and 245N of Division 1A, Part 15 of the regulations.

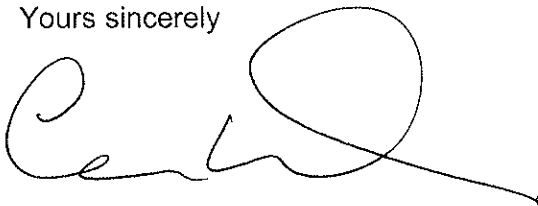
The Director-General's requirements will be placed on the Department's website along with other relevant information which becomes available during the assessment of the project. As a result, the Department would appreciate it if the documents submitted to the Department are in a

suitable format for the web, and if you would arrange for an electronic version of the Environmental Assessment for the project to be hosted on a suitable website with a link the Department's website.

Finally, if your proposal contains any actions that could have a significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance, it will require an additional approval under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). This approval would be in addition to any approvals required under NSW legislation. If you have any questions about the application of the EPBC Act to your proposal, you should contact the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage in Canberra (6274 1111 or <http://www.deh.gov.au>).

If you have any enquiries about these requirements, please contact Colin Phillips of the Department's Mining & Extractive Industries team (02 9228 6483).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Chris Wilson', with a large loop at the end.

12.2.07
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Chris Wilson
Executive Director
Major Project Assessments
As delegate for the Director-General

Director-General's Requirements

Section 75F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Application Number	06_0311
Project	The Mannering Continuation of Mining Project, which includes: • extracting up to 1.1 million tonnes of run of mine coal each year for a period of up to 10 years using bord and pillar mining techniques; • continued use of existing surface facilities associated with underground mining activities; • transporting product coal by conveyor to the Vales Point Power Station; and • constructing and using additional ventilation shafts, boreholes and emergency manholes that may be required to service the underground mine workings.
Site	Approximately 40km south of Newcastle, on the shores of Lake Macquarie
Proponent	Centennial Coal Company Limited
Date of Issue	12 February 2007
Date of Expiration	12 February 2009
General Requirements	The Environmental Assessment must include • an executive summary; • a detailed description of the project including the: – need for the project; – various components and stages of the project; and – the likely inter-relationship between the proposed operations and existing or approved mining operations at the site; • consideration of any relevant statutory provisions; • a general overview of the environmental impacts of the project, identifying the key issues for further assessment, and taking into consideration the issues raised during consultation; • a detailed assessment of the key issues specified below, and any other significant issues identified in the general overview of environmental impacts of the project (see above), which includes: – a description of the existing environment; and – an assessment of the potential impacts of the project including potential cumulative impacts that may arise from the combined operation of the project, together with the other approved and existing mines in the area; • a description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, minimise, mitigate, offset, manage and/or monitor the impacts of the project; • a draft Statement of Commitments, outlining environmental management, mitigation and monitoring measures; • a conclusion justifying the project, taking into consideration the environmental impacts of the proposal, the suitability of the site, and the benefits of the project; and • a signed statement from the author of the Environmental Assessment certifying that the information contained in the report is neither false nor misleading.
Key Issues	• Surface and Groundwater - including detailed assessment of potential surface and groundwater impacts, a detailed site water balance and a salinity balance, erosion and sediment control, and details of the proposed water monitoring program. The potential impacts of any planned water discharges (especially saline or acidic discharges) must be assessed, particularly impacts on any receiving water body; • Noise – including construction, operation, and on-site and off-site road

	noise impacts; • Subsidence; • Air Quality; • Traffic and Transport; • Flora and Fauna – including any impacts on critical habitats, threatened species, populations, ecological communities; • Rehabilitation and Final Landuse – including a justification of the proposed final land use for the site taking into consideration any relevant strategic land use plans and objectives (including the Draft Central Coast Regional Strategy, the Central Coast Catchment Blueprint and the Hunter and Central Coast Regional Environmental Management Strategy). The Rehabilitation Strategy must also describe what measures would be put in place for the long term protection and management of the site following cessation of mining; • Blasting and Vibration – potential impacts from shaft construction; • Greenhouse Gases – a greenhouse gas assessment (including a quantitative analysis of the greenhouse emissions associated with the combustion of product coal, and a qualitative assessment of the impacts of these emissions on the environment); • Heritage - both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal; • Visual; and • Social and Economic.
References	The Environmental Assessment must take into account relevant State Government technical and policy guidelines. While not exhaustive, guidelines which may be relevant to the project are included in the attached list.
Consultation	During the preparation of the Environmental Assessment, you must consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth government authorities, service providers, community groups or affected landowners. The consultation process and the issues raised must be described in the Environmental Assessment. In particular you must consult with: • Department of Environment and Conservation; • Department of Natural Resources; • Department of Primary Industries; • NSW Roads and Traffic Authority; • Mine Subsidence Board; • Lake Macquarie City Council; and • Wyong Shire Council. The consultation process and the issues raised must be described in the Environmental Assessment.
Deemed refusal period	60 days

State Government Technical and Policy Guidelines - For Reference

Aspect	Policy /Methodology
Soil and Water	
	• <i>Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils & Construction</i> (Landcom); • <i>Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality</i> (ANZECC); • <i>Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams</i> (Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation); • <i>NSW State Rivers and Estuaries Policy</i> (DNR); • <i>NSW Flood Prone Land Policy</i> (DNR); • <i>NSW Wetlands Management Policy</i> (DNR); • the various <i>State Groundwater Policy</i> documents (DNR); • any Water Sharing Plan under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> applicable to the site; • <i>Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Water Pollutants in NSW</i> (DEC); • <i>Environmental Guidelines: Use of Effluent by Irrigation</i> (DEC);
Flora and Fauna	
	• draft <i>Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment</i> (DEC); • <i>Threatened Biodiversity Survey and Assessment: Guidelines for Development and Activities</i> (DEC); • <i>NSW Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Policy</i> (DNR); • <i>Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings</i> (DPI);
Blasting and Vibration	
	• <i>Technical Basis for Guidelines to Minimise Annoyance due to Blasting and Ground Vibration</i> (ANZECC);
Noise	
	• <i>NSW Industrial Noise Policy</i> (DEC); • <i>Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise</i> (DEC); • <i>Environmental Noise Control Manual</i> (DEC);
Air Quality	
	• <i>Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW</i> (DEC);
Greenhouse Gases	
	• <i>AGO Factors and Methods Workbook</i> (Australian Greenhouse Office);
Heritage	
	• draft <i>Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Community Consultation</i> (DEC); • <i>Assessing Heritage Significance</i> (NSW Heritage Office); • <i>NSW Heritage Manual</i> (NSW Heritage Office);
Traffic	
	• <i>Guide to Traffic Generating Development</i> (RTA); • <i>RTA Road Design Guide</i> (RTA); • relevant Austroad standards;
Rehabilitation	
	• <i>Mine Rehabilitation (2006)</i> (Commonwealth DITR); • <i>Mine Closure and Completion (2006)</i> (Commonwealth DITR); and
Waste	
	• <i>Environmental Guidelines: Assessment and Classification and Management of Liquid and Non-Liquid Wastes</i> (DEC).