



Heritage Council

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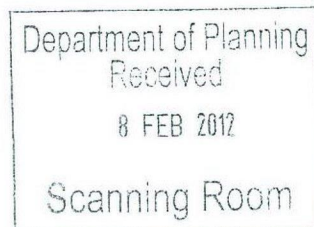
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PCU030461

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File number: 12/02608
Your ref: 06_0311

Howard Reed
A/Director
Mining & Industry Projects
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Attn: Carl Dumpleton

Dear Mr Reed

Subject: Heritage Branch comments on Environmental Assessment on Public Exhibition for Extension of Mining at Mannering Colliery (06_0311 MOD 1).

The Heritage Branch received your letter dated 18 January 2012 requesting comments on the above Environmental Assessment. It is noted that at your request, Centennial Coal forwarded a copy of the Environmental Assessment in two volumes (Main Report & Appendices) under separate cover.

Accordingly, the following comments are provided for your information:

- It is noted that the Main Report and the Cultural Heritage Assessment (Appendix F) detail that a database search and a field survey failed to identify any non-Indigenous heritage items within the project boundaries, although the Wyee Coal Conveyor and the Wyee Chanel were identified as being "removed from the Project Site". These items are listed by Lake Macquarie Council as being of local significance.
- The Main Report indicates that the impacts of the project will be negligible on the surface of the land, with subsidence limited to a maximum of 20 mm and no additional surface infrastructure. The report concludes that because of these negligible impacts and the fact that no items or works of non-Indigenous heritage significance have been identified on this site, it is anticipated that there will be no impacts to non-Indigenous heritage.
- However to ensure that any unidentified non-Indigenous heritage is not impacted three Draft Statement of Commitments have been proposed (Section 8.0- Table 17). Whilst these commitments are considered appropriate, the Heritage Branch requests the addition of a fourth Commitment as a precaution: *"Where intact archaeological relics of State or local significance, not identified in the Environmental Assessment are unexpectedly discovered during works, work must cease in the affected area and the Heritage Council must be notified in writing in accordance with section 146 of the Heritage Act, 1977. Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment may be required prior to the recommencement of excavation in the affected area"*.

- The Heritage Branch considers that with the addition of the suggested fourth DSoC above, the DSoC are adequate for the management of any unidentified non-Indigenous Heritage that may be present within the project site.

Yours sincerely



06/02/2012

Vincent Sicari

Manager

Conservation Team

Heritage Branch, Environment and Heritage, Policy and Programs Group

Office of Environment & Heritage