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12 April 2022

Jennifer Sage
Compliance Officer
Department of Planning and Environment
Via Major Projects Website

Dear Jennifer,

Re: Austar Coal Mine – Mine Closure Site Investigations Program

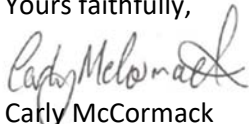
As part of ongoing mine closure planning, Austar Coal Mine (Austar) is providing notice to the Department and other stakeholders (including the EPA, Resources Regulator, the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) and Austar Community Consultative Committee (CCC)) that it is commencing a site wide investigations program to inform mine closure and rehabilitation activities. The program is due to commence early May 2022, subject to suitable weather conditions.

The proposed activities include shallow soil sampling, test pitting, surface water sampling, drilling of boreholes and installation of monitoring bores to inform contamination assessments, geotechnical investigations, material characterisation assessments and regional groundwater studies. Approximately 300 locations are proposed across the mine site, focusing mainly on previously disturbed areas (e.g. around surface infrastructure areas and rejects emplacements). Two regional groundwater monitoring bores will be established as part of the program.

Program specific environmental management and mitigation measures consistent with Austar's compliance obligations and commitments under its various approvals have been developed and documented in a Site Investigations Environmental Management Procedure. This is in addition to Austar's existing approved and implemented environmental management plans. The procedure will be provided to all contractors engaged to carry out the site investigations activities with compliance oversight provided by the Austar Environment and Community team.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if further information on the above matter is required.

Yours faithfully,



Carly McCormack
Environment & Community Superintendent
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