



**Planning Services
Resource Assessments**
Contact: Melanie Hollis
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Mr Mark Jacobs
General Manager Environment and Community
Yancoal Australia Limited
Level 26, 363 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Mr Jacobs

**Ashton South East Open Cut Project Approval - Modification Application
(PA 08_0182 MOD 1)
Request for Response to Submissions**

The exhibition of this modification application ended on Thursday, 16 February 2017.

The Department received 28 submissions from community members, 9 submissions from special interest groups and 5 submissions from government agencies in response to the exhibition. These submissions are available on the Department's website.

The Secretary now requests that Yancoal prepare a Response to Submissions (RTS) report, detailing the company's response to all issues raised in the submissions, and submit this report at its earliest convenience.

The Department notes that many members of the community are opposed to any change in the timing of landowner acquisition rights and consider that no change at all should be made to the current project approval.

As the modification application contains a limited assessment of the potential impact of the proposed changes on the community, the Department requests that the RTS report includes consideration of the potential social and economic impacts of the proposed changes on all affected landowners, as well as on the broader community, including the village of Camberwell.

The Department also notes that the modification application made reference to legal advice received by Yancoal in relation to the proposed changes and asks that Yancoal include further details regarding the legal basis for the advisability or necessity of its proposed changes to the approval conditions.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Melanie Hollis on 8217-2043.

Yours sincerely

Howard Reed
**Director
Resource Assessments**

22.2.17