

ULAN
COAL

GLENCORE

10 May 2022

Seq No: 40/22

Mr Steve O'Donoghue
Director Resource Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney, NSW 2001

Attention: Mr Jack Turner

Dear Mr O'Donoghue,

Revision of the Ulan Underground Extraction Plan Longwalls LW30 to LW32 & LWW6 to LWW8

Ulan Coal Mines Pty Limited (UCMPL) was granted approval for the Ulan Underground Mine (UUG) Extraction Plan LW30 & LWW6-LWW8 (the Extraction Plan) on 01 February 2022 to satisfy Condition 26, Schedule 3 of PA08-0184 and align with MOD 4.

UCMPL are preparing to revise the approved Extraction Plan for UUG to include two longwall (LW) panels LW31 and LW32 (**Attachment 1**). The revised Extraction Plan will be titled: *The Ulan Underground Extraction Plan LW30 to LW32 and LWW6 to LWW8*.

The revision of the Extraction Plan will be expanded for the subsidence management measures and monitoring of impacts specific to the extraction of LW31 and LW32. UCMPL anticipate the submission of the revised Extraction Plan in Q3 2022. The Extraction Plan will be consistent with the *DPIE Draft Guidelines for the Preparation of Extraction Plans* (the Guidelines) and requirements specified in PA 08-0184, Schedule 3, Condition 26.

UCMPL are seeking to improve the structure of the revised Extraction Plan by incorporating some of the individual component management plans into the main Extraction Plan document, without compromising compliance and the level of detail required to address Schedule 3, Condition 26 of PA 08-0184 or the Guidelines as recently completed for the revised Ulan West Extraction Plan for LW1 to LW8.

First Workings Amendment LW32 & LW33

UCMPL are requesting approval for a change to the approved first workings at UUG for LW32 and LW33. The proposed first workings amendment involves relocation of the installation roadway at the eastern end of LW32 and LW33

Minor changes to the configuration of underground workings are permissible under Project Approval PA08_0184, Schedule 3, Condition 25 as follows: *The Proponent shall not carry out any first workings on site that are inconsistent with the approved mine plan without the written approval of the Secretary.*

The proposed amendments to the first workings are shown in **Attachment 2** and involve relocating the installation roadway on the eastern end of LW32 and LW33 to the west, by approximately 415 metres. The

proposed first workings amendments follow further geotechnical and coal quality evaluations which identified an increased risk of roof instability, higher ash product and a reduced working section within the eastern end of LW31 and LW32. Based on this updated geotechnical information the coal resource within the eastern end of the approved LW32 and LW33 is no longer considered feasible or economical to extract via the UUG mine. Relocating the installation roadway on the eastern end of LW32 and LW33 will not change the position of approved dewatering surface infrastructure. The revised predictions of potential subsidence effects, subsidence impacts and environmental consequences of the proposed second workings, as a result of the proposed first workings amendments, will be provided by Dr Ken Mills.

UCMPL are seeking written approval of the Secretary for the proposed first workings amendments to LW32 and LW33.

Endorsement of Qualified and Experienced Specialists

In accordance with Condition 26 (a) of Project Approval 08_0184, UCMPL seeks the endorsement of the Secretary for the following qualified and experienced specialists to assist in the preparation of the Extraction Plan for UUG.

- **Strata Control Technology Pty Limited**

Strata Control Technology Pty Limited (SCT) is a leading mining engineering and strata control company and has been integral in the monitoring and management of subsidence effects and impacts at the Ulan Complex since 1990. These activities have been under the supervision and direction of Dr Ken Mills (B.E Hons Ph.D), a Senior Geotechnical Engineer with SCT. A personal resume for Dr Ken Mills is available upon request. Dr Mills will be responsible for developing and preparing:

- Revised predictions of potential subsidence effects, subsidence impacts and environmental consequences of the proposed second workings, as required by Condition (e); and
- A Subsidence Monitoring Program required within part of Condition 26 (g), including a program for collecting baseline data for future extraction plans as required in Condition 26 (h).

SCT has developed an comprehensive subsidence monitoring database (including the introduction and continued operation of 400m wide longwalls) which has been used to predict subsidence behaviour across the Ulan Complex. Dr Mills' relevant experience in subsidence monitoring and management at the Ulan Complex is extensive including the *Part 3A Subsidence Assessment Ulan Coal - Continued Operations (2009)* and subsequent subsidence assessments for all project approval modifications, extraction plan applications and reporting as required by Project Approval 08_0184.

- **Australasian Groundwater and Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd**

Australasian Groundwater and Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd (AGE) AGE is a specialist consulting firm that provides advice on hydrogeological issues and groundwater modelling. AGE have developed the groundwater model for UCMPL and complete the review of groundwater behaviour against modelled predictions annually under the supervision of Bryce McKay. A personal resume for Mr McKay is available upon request.

Mr McKay will be responsible for preparing a recent summary of groundwater behaviour against the modelled predictions to support the Extraction Plan. Mr McKay is a geologist / hydrogeologist with over 10 years experience in coal mining and gas exploration within the Sydney, Gunnedah

and Bowen Basins. He has experience in managing various sized geological databases, geological modelling, and executing groundwater monitoring programs.

- **Other Specialists**

The Extraction Plan for UUG will be prepared in consultation with the following heritage and environmental specialists where applicable:

- Dr Jodie Benton and Ms Stephanie Rusden of OzArk Environment & Heritage (OzArk) to provide the technical review for the Aboriginal heritage assessment;
- Susan Shield and Michael Best of Engeny Water Management to provide the technical review for surface water assessment; and
- Rachel Murray and Rebecca Croake of Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd to provide technical review for biodiversity assessment.

Curriculum vitae(s) for UCMPL's nominated specialists can be provided at the request of the Secretary.

Can you please confirm that the Secretary is satisfied with UCMPL's nominated experienced and qualified specialists for the proposed revision of the Extraction Plan for UUG.

Secretary's Comments

UCMPL are seeking if the Secretary has any comments for UCMPL to address during the revision of the Extraction Plan for the inclusion of LW31 and LW32. UCMPL will also be seeking consultation with the other relevant government departments and relevant stakeholders as required during the revision of the Extraction Plan.

If you require any additional information or have any questions, please contact Tara Stokes on 0419464296 or email Tara.Stokes@glencore.com.au

Yours sincerely,



Lucy Stuart
Environment and Community Manager
Ulan Coal Mines Pty Limited

Attachment 1



