

Jorge Moraga  
General Manager – Maules Creek Coal Mine  
PO Box 56  
BOGGABRI NSW 2382

05/06/2020

Dear Jorge

**Maules Creek Coal Mine (10\_0138)  
Water Management Plan Addendum**

I refer to the Water Management Plan Addendum, which was submitted to satisfy Condition 40 of Schedule 5 of the project approval for the Maules Creek Coal Mine (10\_0138) and the water management recommendations provided by the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) regarding clean water diversions.

The Department notes that consultation on the Water Management Plan Addendum has only been undertaken with NRAR. In accordance with Condition 16 of Schedule 2, the Secretary has agreed with this consultation approach.

In its response to comments provided by NRAR during consultation, Whitehaven makes comment on licensing requirements for clean water diversions around the mine. The Department notes that water licensing requirements under the *Water Management Act 2000* are administered by the Department's Water Group (DPIE Water) and NRAR. Whitehaven should consult directly with DPIE Water and NRAR about these requirements.

The Department has carefully reviewed the document and is satisfied that it addresses the applicable requirements of 10\_0138 and the commitments from Whitehaven to NRAR regarding improvements to the clean water management system at the mine. Further, the Department notes that the Water Management Plan is currently under review and will incorporate the information from the addendum and other issues raised by NRAR in its response when this review is completed.

Accordingly, the Planning Secretary has approved the Water Management Plan Addendum (Revision 2, dated May 2020). Please ensure that the approved addendum is placed on the project website.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Philip Nevill on (02) 8275 1036.

Yours sincerely



Stephen O'Donoghue  
Director  
Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary