

Our ref: OUT26/729

Jack Turner
Planning Group
NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Email: Jack.Turner@planning.nsw.gov.au

9 February 2026

Subject: Liddell Coal Operations – Mod 9 Backfilling of Underground Workings (DA305-11-01)
Modification Report

Dear Jack Turner,

I refer to your request for advice sent on 27 January 2026 to the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Water Group about the above matter.

The NSW DCCEEW Water Group has reviewed the Modification Report and is satisfied with the information provided. Post approval recommendations are made to:

- Include groundwater monitoring for a period of two years after the backfilling is completed.
- Update the Water Management Plan to include the modification works, including any additional water supply infrastructure.

Please see Attachment A for further detail.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this submission please do not hesitate to contact the DCCEEW Water Assessments team at water.assessments@dcceew.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Tim Baker,
A/Manager, Water Assessments, Planning and Knowledge Division
NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPHI Planning & Assessment regarding the Liddell Coal Operations Mod 9 – Modification Report

1.0 Water monitoring and management

1.1 Recommendation – post-approval

That Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) requests the proponent to update the Water Management Plan (WMP) to include:

- The Mod 9 works, including any additional water supply infrastructure and an updated water balance.
- Groundwater monitoring for a period of two years post completion of the Mod 9 backfilling works.

Explanation

Updating the Water Management Plan is a standard requirement to document the modification works and to identify appropriate monitoring and management controls. This will need to include how water would be supplied to the proposed grout batching locations for the additional 115ML/yr of water requirements which was not detailed in the modification report. Any changes to the water management infrastructure and water balance should also be reflected in the updated WMP.

The Groundwater Impact Assessment proposed an update to the WMP to include groundwater monitoring in the South Cut void for a period of one-year post-grouting with performance triggers based on three consecutive sampling results. DCCEEW Water considers one year of monitoring, typically undertaken quarterly or half-yearly, will provide an insufficient dataset to demonstrate stable long term water quality conditions without increasing the likelihood of false exceedances. To establish a clear trend and validate stability in the monitoring results, a minimum monitoring duration of two years is recommended.

End Attachment A
