

5 May 2026

Brittany Golding
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Via: Major Project Portal

EPA Advice on Modification Report – Vickery Extension Project MOD 3 (SSD-7480-MOD-3 and Tarrawonga Coal Mine MOD 12 (MP11-0047-MOD-12))

Dear Brittany

I am writing in response to your request for the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to review the Modification Report for the proposed Gunnedah Open Cut 4.1 Mtpa Coal Haulage increase (Application SSD-7480-MOD-3 & MP11-0047-MOD-12) that will be applied to both the Vickery Coal Mine (VCM) and Tarrawonga Coal Mine (TCM) consents.

The EPA has reviewed the following documents:

- *Gunnedah Open Cuts 4.1 Mtpa Coal Haulage Increase Modification* – Whitehaven – 2026.
- *Appendix B – Road Noise Assessment – Gunnedah Open cuts 4.1 Mtpa Coal Haulage Increase modification* – RWDI Australia Pty Ltd – 26 March 2026.
- *Appendix C – Greenhouse Gas Assessment – Gunnedah Open Cut Modifications* – Todoroski Air Sciences – 26 March 2026.

The EPA understand the modification relates to the following activities at both VCM and TCM:

- Increase of an additional 0.6 Mtpa of ROM coal along the Approved ROM Coal Transport Route (cumulatively a total of 4.1 Mtpa ROM Coal) to the Whitehaven Coal Handling Preparation Plant (CHPP) for calendar years 2026 to 2030 (modification to Condition 7 of MP11_0047).
- Increase of an additional 0.6 of ROM coal along the Approved ROM Coal Transport Route (Cumulatively total of 4.1 Mtpa ROM coal) to the Whitehaven CHPP for calendar years 2026 to 2030 (modification to Condition A12 of SSD-7480).

VCM and TCM both hold an environment protection licence under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*(POEO) for mining for coal clause 28 of Schedule 1. The EPA understands the road used for haulage from the Vickery Coal Mine to the Whitehaven CHPP is a public road and is not within the premise boundaries for either environment protection licence.

NSW Environment Protection Authority

As the environmental steward and regulator of our State we are committed to a sustainable future. Join us on our mission to protect tomorrow together.

Phone:
131 555

Email:
info@epa.nsw.gov.au

Website:
epa.nsw.gov.au

Visit:
6 Parramatta Square
10 Darcy Street
Parramatta NSW 2150

Mail:
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

The EPA has reviewed the Modification report and notes no discernible noise impacts will be generated from the increase in truck movements along the transport route to the CHPP. The EPA has no further comments on the proposal.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Nick Vlasoff via email at environmentprotection.planning@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Sutherland', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

GABBY SUTHERLAND
A/Unit Head – Industry Assessments
NSW Environment Protection Authority