

DOC19/604420

Ms Genevieve Seed Senior Planning Officer Resource Assessments Infrastructure, Planning & Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Email: genevieve.seed@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Seed,

SSD 8642 – Mangoola Coal Continued Operations (MCCO) Project – Muswellbrook Shire – Request for Advice

I refer an email dated 15 July 2019 from Planning, Industry & Environment requesting Heritage advice on the Mangoola Coal Continued Operations Project (SSD 8642). Mangoola is seeking to continue current open cut mining operations immediately adjacent to existing operations.

The following documents have been reviewed:

- Mangoola Coal Continued Operations Project Environmental Impact Statement, July 2019, prepared by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd on behalf of Mangoola Coal Operations Pty Ltd, and
- Mangoola Coal Continued Operations Project EIS, Appendix 15 Historic Heritage Assessment, April 2019, prepared by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd.

I note that the HHA report was prepared to meet the relevant SEAR for the MCCO Project for historical (non-Aboriginal) heritage, and to address prior comments from the former OEH on the SEARs.

The above reports indicate that historic research, checking of heritage schedules and field inspection were undertaken to assess the impacts of the extended mining area on potential heritage items in the vicinity. The potential heritage resource reflects the documented history of the region with the land being utilised by graziers, agriculturalists and in more recent times, by the mining industry.

No listed heritage items are located within the MCCO Additional Project Area, including within the MCCO Proposed Disturbance Area. Of the potential heritage properties, items or structures located within the MCCO Additional Project Area, none were found to have any heritage significance (HAA: 132). There are two locally listed LEP heritage items located within the wider study area but outside of the MCCO Additional Project Area. These items are 'Brogheda' and 'Wybong Cemetery' (Figure 5.1 HHA).

As none of the potential historical heritage items, elements or sites identified were assessed to be of heritage significance, the heritage impact statement prepared concluded that the MCCO Project would not result in any adverse direct historical heritage impacts (HHA:140). There would be no

direct or indirect impacts to any potential or listed heritage items located outside of the MCCO Additional Project Area; including potential impacts associated with blasting, and potential impacts to significant views and vistas. The overall historical (non-Aboriginal) archaeological potential of the MCCO Additional Project Area was assessed as very low, and any archaeological resource of the MCCO was considered unlikely to yield meaningful information (HHA:135).

Considering the above finding, I note that the HHA did not make any specific management recommendations for historical heritage.

I support the note in Section 9.1 (HAA: 141) for the standard process in managing any unexpected archaeological resources, and the induction training on heritage matters for relevant employees, contractors and sub-contractors working on the MCCO Project (Section 9.1).

I advise that Heritage, Department of Premier & Cabinet concurs with the above recommendations which are considered appropriate to manage the heritage requirements of the proposed project.

For any further enquiries please contact Dr Siobhan Lavelle OAM, Senior Team Leader, Specialist Services, on telephone: 02 9873 8546 or email: siobhan.lavelle@environment.nsw.gov.au

Thank you for referring this matter for comment.

Yours sincerely

TIM SMITH OAM

Director, Heritage Operations Heritage, Community Engagement Department of Premier and Cabinet

5 August 2019