



DOC22/1005747-4

Ms Gen Lucas
Team Leader
Department of Planning and Environment

Via Major Projects Portal

14 December 2022

Dear Ms Lucas

**MOOLARBEN OC3 Extension Project
EPA Advice on Environment Impact Statement**

Thank you for the request for advice from Public Authority Consultation (PAE-505710211), requesting the review by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared for the Moolarben Coal Complex - OCS Extension Project (State Significant Development SSD-33083358 (the project)).

The EPA has reviewed the report titled "Moolarben Coal Complex - OC3 Extension Project", undated, prepared by Resource Strategies Pty Limited.

The EPA understands that the project will be primarily comprised of the following components:

- The extension of Moolarben Open Cut 3 and mining of 4 new pits to enable an additional 40 million tonnes of coal to be extracted over the life of the project.
- The construction and operation of water management and storage infrastructure.
- The construction of 3 haul road creek crossings.
- The construction of associated infrastructure including site facilities, ROM pad, temporary rehabilitation and construction material stockpiles and waste rock emplacement.

The EIS concluded that the potential impacts on water, air and from noise resulting from the construction and operation of the project will be within the limits stipulated by both the existing planning project approvals (Project Approvals 05_0117 and 08_0135) and Environment Protection Licence 12932.

The EPA notes in particular that the Noise and Blasting Impact Assessment (EIS Appendix H) states that *"noise levels from the Project and approved Moolarben Coal Complex comply with the PNTLS and Project Approval criteria at all private residences and non-residential receivers under standard and noise enhancing meteorological conditions"*. The EPA recommends that, in light of the PNTLS being less stringent than the existing Project Approval Noise criteria, the noise limits in those approvals be retained.

The EPA also recommends that the relevant air, noise, blasting and water management plans be updated to reflect the activities covered by the project should project approval be granted.

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Mr Andrew Helms on 6333 3805 or via e-mail at EPA.Southopsregional@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Ledger', written in a cursive style.

SHERIDAN LEDGER
A/Manager
Regulatory Operations Regional South