

Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd
C/- NSW Department of Planning, Housing and
Infrastructure
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

REFERENCE	DE-2025/79
Date	25 August 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

VAM Abatement Project (MP08_0150-Mod-4)

Development	State Significant Development - Bulli Seam Operations Modification 4 - VAM Abatement Project (MP08_0150-Mod-4) - Request to Provide Advice on Modification Application and Report
Location	Appin Ventilation Shaft No. 6, located near the M31 Hume Motorway, approximately 800 m east of Douglas Park, in the Wollondilly Local Government Area

Thank you for providing Council with the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

The submitted documentation from the proponent responding to the Department's SSD Modification Report Guidelines has been reviewed. It is understood GM3 has undertaken a review of current fugitive emissions operations and proposes to incorporate new technology via the development of a regenerative thermal oxidiser to enable further greenhouse gas abatement (estimated at approximately 36,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent per year) of ventilation air methane (VAM) with associated infrastructure constructed adjacent to the existing Appin Ventilation Shaft No. 6, located near the M31 Hume Motorway, approximately 800 m east of Douglas Park, in the Wollondilly Local Government Area.

It is noted the proponent has identified that EPBC Act considerations for the Modification are not triggered as a controlled action as the ancillary infrastructure is located within the assessment area noted in EPBC 2010/5722 and has been previously cleared as part of Ventilation Shaft No. 6 development works.

Appropriately, the proponent and the Department have undertaken extensive consultation with relevant government agencies and key stakeholders with the likely key assessment issues limited to construction activities and visual impact from the built form, however, these are matters for the Department and Wollondilly Council.

Council provides in principle support to the Modification request recognising the technology may provide a pilot project for other like facilities to adopt in effort to address Australia's climate commitments, including NSW GHG reduction targets of at least 50% below 2005 levels by 2030, net zero emissions by 2050 and the Global Methane Pledge (30% methane emissions reduction below 2020 levels by 2030), the coal mining industry in Australia will need to reduce VAM emissions. In addition, the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) expects facilities with Environment Protection Licenses, including coal mines to make a fair and reasonable contribution in achieving NSW economy-wide GHG emissions reduction targets as outlined in the Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Act 2023 (EPA, 2024)

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact me on the telephone number below.

This letter is authorised by

John Wood

City Wide Development Manager

Wollongong City Council

Telephone (02) 4227 7111