



27 October 2023

Director – Resource Assessments  
Department of Planning and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

**Attention: Stephen O’Donoghue**

Dear Steve,

**GLENDELL MINE MODIFICATION 5 of DA80/952**  
**Scoping Request**

**1 BACKGROUND**

Glendell Mine is a component of the Mt Owen/Glendell Operations, which is a coal mining complex located in the Upper Hunter region. Although Glendell Mine has synergies with the neighbouring Mt Owen Mine, it operates under its own Development Consent (DA 80/952). Glendell Mine is managed by Mt Owen Pty Limited (Mt Owen) which is a subsidiary of Glencore Coal Assets Australia.

DA 80/952 enables mining operations to be undertaken until the end of June 2024. Mt Owen seeks to extend mining operations by two years in order to recover the remaining coal reserves that are approved for extraction.

**2 APPROVED OPERATIONS**

DA 80/952 was granted under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) on 2 May 1983. It has subsequently been modified on four occasions. The approved activities under DA 80/952 (as modified) include:

- Open cut mining using excavator and truck mining methods;
- Coal extraction at a maximum rate of 4.5 million tonnes per annum of run of mine (ROM) coal;
- Hauling of ROM coal to the Mount Owen mine infrastructure area for processing and transportation;
- Management of water and tailings within the Greater Ravensworth Area Water and Tailings Scheme;
- Diversion of Swamp Creek and Bettys Creek; and
- Operational workforce of approximately 300 employees.

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### **3 PROPOSED MODIFICATION**

Condition 5 under Schedule 2 of DA 80/952 states that “*Mining operations may take place until the end of June 2024*”. Mt Owen seeks to modify this condition to enable mining operations to take place until the end of June 2026 (i.e. a two-year extension).

The proposed modification will not alter other aspects of the approved activities (as listed in **Section 2**) other than the period of mining.

### **4 PROPOSED APPROVAL PATHWAY**

Initially, the proposed modification was sought under Section 4.55(1A) of the EP&A Act.

DA 80/952 (as modified) authorises mining operations from 1983 to 2024. The proposed extension of two years represents a minor increase to the duration of the approved development. The modification will not alter other aspects of the approved development. Therefore, the modification satisfies the pre-requirements for an application under Section 4.55(1A) of the EP&A Act, namely:

- The modified development would be “substantially the same development”; and
- It involves minimal environmental impact.

After further consultation with the Department, Mt Owen was advised that the Department will exhibit the modification in consideration that there would be community interest in the project. Accordingly, the proposed modification is now sought under section 4.55(2) of the EP&A Act.

### **5 SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

The application under Section 4.55(2) of the EP&A Act will be supported by a Modification Report containing an appropriate level of environmental impact assessment.

Since the modification does not propose any increase in production or disturbance footprint, it will not exacerbate the impacts of the development alone. However, changes to cumulative impacts will be considered because the surrounding environment may be different during the extension period (i.e. July 2024 to June 2026) compared to current conditions. As such, the Modification Report will assess the potential changes to cumulative dust, noise and traffic impacts. The level of assessment will be proportionate to the likelihood of greater cumulative impacts.

No additional coal is sought, other than the mining area currently approved. As such, the modification will not alter the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the development. Notwithstanding, the GHG impacts of the development will be considered and discussed in the assessment report.

**6 CONCLUSION**

We trust that this Scoping Request meets your needs.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Kind regards,



Sébastien Moreno

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