

10 May 2021

Mr Stephen O'Donoghue
Director Resource Assessments
Energy, Industry and Compliance
Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Stephen,

Surrender of NSW Development Consent SSD-4975

Shenhua Watermark Coal Pty Ltd (SWC) holds Development Consent SSD-4975 ('the Development Consent') granted on 28th January 2015 and subsequently modified ('Modification 1') on 21st December 2018. The Development Consent permits the construction and operation of the Watermark Coal Mine. SWC has decided to not proceed with the construction and operation of the Watermark Coal Mine and therefore wishes to surrender the Development Consent.

A schedule of property located within the Development Consent determined Project Boundary is provided within Attachment A. A figure showing the Project Boundary is provided as Attachment B.

The Development Consent allows SWC to carry out open cut coal mining operations, extracting up to 10 million tonnes of Run-of-Mine (ROM) coal per annum, until 30 June 2046.

SWC and the NSW Government reached an agreement ('the Agreement'), dated 20 April 2021, under which the NSW Government would make a financial payment to SWC and SWC would withdraw its Mining Lease Application, surrender its Exploration License (EL7223), surrender its Development Consent and certain SWC owned land would be transferred into NSW Government ownership.

In accordance with the Agreement, SWC has applied to:

- withdraw its application for a Mining Lease (MLA589);
- cancel its Exploration Licence (EL7223); and
- cancel its Environment Protection Licence (EPL21311).

SWC has obtained written support from all non-SWC landowners of land holdings within the Project Boundary of the Development Consent. No other third party, with reference to locally occurring adverse impacts, will be affected by the proposed surrender of the Development Consent. Copies of this correspondence are provided as Attachment C. These non-SWC landowners are:

- NSW Crown Lands;
- Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC);
- Transport for NSW (TfNSW);
- Gunnedah Shire Council; and
- [REDACTED]

The voluntary surrender of this Development Consent is done in accordance with negotiations between SWC and the NSW Government and the Agreement.

Rehabilitation of all exploration related disturbance has been accepted by the NSW Resources Regulator (RR). Copies of this acceptance correspondence can be provided upon request. No further exploration related disturbance has occurred subsequent to the last RR acceptance.

A Pre-Construction works program was undertaken, with minor works carried out on site. Rehabilitation of all Pre-Construction disturbance activities has been completed and is to the satisfaction of both the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and the Federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE).

There is no prevailing un-rehabilitated disturbed ground on the site and there is no legacy work that will impact on any locality.

SWC is of the understanding that there are currently no outstanding compliance matters related to the approved Watermark Coal Mine at either State or Federal level.

I, Cornelis Vlok, Watermark Coal Mine Project Manager, on behalf of SWC, formally request that the Development Consent be surrendered.

If you require any further information in relation to this application, please contact me.

Kind Regards,



Cornelis Vlok
Project Manager
Shenhua Watermark Coal Pty Ltd
P.O. Box 1026, Gunnedah NSW 2380

Included Attachments:

Attachments A1&A2 – Property Schedules

Attachment B – Project Boundary Figure

Attachment C1-C5 – Property Owner Consent

End.