

2 November 2020

Mr Matthew Sprott
Director Resource Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Matthew

Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs

Mandalong and Northern Coal Services Water Management Plan

On 3 and 7 August 2020, Centennial Mandalong submitted incident reports to the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment associated with incidents at the Mandalong Mine Access Site (MMAS) LDP003, Mandalong South Surface Site (MSSS) Stockpile Dam and Cooranbong Entry Site (CES) LDP002 in July 2020.

As a result of the environmental incidents recorded in July 2020, a review of the Mandalong Mine and Northern Coal Services (NCS) Water Management Plan (WMP) was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 6, Condition 7(a) of the Mandalong Southern Extension Project SSD-5144 and Schedule 5, Condition 6(a) of the Northern Coal Logistics Project SSD-5145. The review of the Mandalong Mine and NCS WMPs has determined that updates are not required at this time for the reasons detailed below.

An updated version of the Mandalong Mine WMP was submitted to the Department on 19 December 2019 and was subsequently approved by the Department on 4 March 2020. This version of the Mandalong Mine WMP included descriptions of the proposed water management improvements for both the MMAS and MSSS.

The proposed water management improvements that were described in the December 2019 version of the Mandalong Mine WMP were specifically the injection of surface waters from the MMAS and MSSS Sediment Dams into the underground workings. The water management improvements at the MMAS were completed in March 2020 and the installation of the first injection bore at the MSSS has recently been completed and is now operational.

The completion of these improvements as described in the December 2019 Mandalong Mine WMP will reduce the future likelihood of incidents at the MMAS LDP003 and MSSS LDP004 and therefore an update to the Mandalong Mine WMP is not required at this time.

The incident which occurred at the CES LDP002 (5ML Dam) in July 2020, was the result of a significant rainfall event. The total rainfall depth for the 26 July to 27 July 2020 event of 150.2 mm exceeded the 95th 5-day rainfall depth standard defined within the Northern Coal Logistics Project Environmental Impact Statement and considered within the basis of the design for the CES 5ML Dam (i.e. 90.1 mm). Also, it is worth noting that the peak rainfall intensity over the 26 to 27 July 2020 was in the order of a 10% Average Exceedance Probability (AEP), based on a 6 to 9 hour rainfall event.

It is considered that the severity of the rainfall event is the primary reason for the discharge event from the CES 5ML Dam on 26 July 2020 and therefore an update to the NCS WMP is not required at this time.

If you have any questions in regard to this letter, please contact me on my mobile, 0407 207 530, or via email james.wearne@centennialcoal.com.au.

Yours sincerely



James Wearne
Group Approvals Manager