

Melanie Hollis
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Dear Melanie

**Bengalla Coal Mine – Modification 4 (MP 5170 MOD 4)
Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE)**

I refer to your email dated 15 January 2017 inviting the Division of Resources & Geoscience (the Division) to provide comments on the Bengalla Coal Mine – Modification 4 (the Project) Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) submitted by the Bengalla Mining Company (the Proponent).

The Division has reviewed the information supplied relation to the abovementioned Project and provides the following advice:

The Division's environmental assessment requirements for rehabilitation have not been adequately addressed in the SEE for the Project. Additional information is required to demonstrate that sustainable rehabilitation outcomes can be achieved as a result of the Project.

The required additional information is as follows:

- i. Clarification as to whether the Dry Creek East Dam is to be removed or retained upon mine closure.
- ii. If the Dry Creek East Dam is to be retained in perpetuity, then the following is required:
 - a) Purpose of the dam post mine closure.
 - b) Assurance that the location, design and construction of the dam is suitable for permanent retention.
 - c) Discussion or assessment of the potential environmental impacts of the dam post closure.
- iii. Assurance is required that the enlargement of the Staged Discharge Dam will not impact on its ability to be successfully removed and rehabilitated.
- iv. The proponent is required to provide commentary on the impacts (if any) to the rehabilitation scheduling (both progressive and final rehabilitation) at Bengalla Mine, if the modification is granted.

The Division notes that the proposed modification is contained spatially within the original project approval boundary for the Bengalla Mine. The proposed changes and activities (and their indicated locations) are unlikely to sterilise significant resources or encroach on other external activities.

The Division is not in a position to issue general terms of approval at this stage and requires that the proponent provide information responding to the comments above.

Further enquiries regarding this matter please contact: Adam Banister, Senior Advisory Officer:
(02) 4931 6439 or industry.coordination@industry.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Matt Gagan
A/Manager Royalties & Advisory Services
30 January 2018