



Mr Craig White
Environmental and Approvals Specialist
Bengalla Mining Company Pty Ltd
Locked Mailbag 5
Muswellbrook, NSW, 2333

23/12/2020

Dear Mr White

**Bengalla Continuation Project (SSD 5170)
Tree Planting Extension Request**

I refer to your correspondence of 14 December 2020, requesting an extension the timeframes for planting tree screening along various road sections adjacent to Bengalla Mine, as required by condition 40 of Schedule 3 of SSD 5170.

I am aware that Bengalla Mining Company (BMC) has undertaken tree screen planting on Wybong Road in September 2019 and along Roxburgh Road in March 2019 and July 2020.

I am also aware that that since the previous extension of time was approved in March 2020, BMC has undertaken further consultation and investigations. I understand that BMC is now able to access land to enable visual screening of a section of Wybong Road. In relation to Denman Road, I note that BMC will be applying for a section 138 permit under the *Roads Act 1993* to allow planting to occur in this area.

I understand that a further extension is necessary to consult with adjacent landowners, Council and TfNSW, and ensure planting occurs in the appropriate season.

Accordingly, the Secretary agrees to a further extension to the timeframe for condition 40 of Schedule 3 of SSD 5170 to 31 July 2021. The Department requests that by 31 March 2021, a progress report is submitted which provides details on the following:

- the status of the section 138 application and a summary of consultation between BMC, Council and TfNSW to determine the planting schedule to be implemented by 31 July 2021;
- a summary of discussions with Mach Energy Australia Pty Limited regarding tree species selection and planting schedule to be implemented by 31 July 2021; and
- a summary of the implementation schedule for the remaining works to be completed along Denman Road, Roxburgh Road and Wybong Road.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Tegan Cole via email (Tegan.Cole@planning.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

Matthew Sprott
Director
Resource Assessments (Coal & Quarries)
as nominee of the Secretary