

Our ref: PMA-88649742, PMA-88662706, PMA-88661210

Ron Bush
Level 20, 1 Market Street
Sydney
NSW 2000

18 September 2025

**Modification Application for Springvale Water Treat Plant, Western Coal Services and
Angus Place Coal Mine (SSD-7592, SSD-5579, MP06_0021)**

Dear Mr. Bush,

I refer to your scoping letter dated 21 July 2025 regarding a proposed modification to the development consents for Springvale Water Treat Plant (SSD-7592, MOD 12), Western Coal Services (SSD-5579, MOD 7) and Angus Place Coal Mine (MP06_0021, MOD 10).

I understand the modification would seek approval to:

- Discharge up to 16.5ML/day of treated mine water from the Springvale Water Treatment Plant (SWTP) via a new licenced discharge point
- Co-discharge of up to 10ML/day of treated Angus Place mine water via a new LDP for a four-year period
- Revised water transfer limits for the raw water transfer pipeline and SWTP
- Revised operational requirements and reporting conditions
- Changes to infrastructure layouts including an alternative dam location
- Changes to on-site water process flows and waste and byproduct management and disposal
- Housekeeping matters to correctly reflect these changes in relevant approvals.

You have proposed to apply for these three modifications concurrently with a single modification report prepared to address all three modifications. The Department considers this approach acceptable based on the scope of the modifications and related nature of the three developments.

Scope of Modification

The Department has reviewed your scoping letter and considers that the modification would result in greater than minimal environmental impacts. The appropriate planning pathway for the modification application would be under section 4.55(2) of the *Environmental Planning and*

Assessment Act 1979, provided that the modification report demonstrates that the modified development is substantially the same as the development for which consent was originally granted.

Proposed Environmental Assessment Scope

The Department notes your proposed approach to assessing the impacts of the modification and requests that the matters listed in **Attachment A** also be addressed in your modification application.

Notwithstanding the above, I note that the scope of required environmental assessment remains uncertain due to the lack of detail provided regarding the scope, nature and extent of many aspects of the proposed modification, including inter site water transfers and balances and proposed modifications to existing operational requirements, which are not described.

I remind you that the assessment of potential impacts of the proposed modification must cover all relevant matters, be consistent with contemporary guidelines and policies governing the assessment of these matters and include all feasible mitigation measures to avoid or mitigate impacts.

I recommend that you consult the Department once further detail of the modification is available to confirm the environmental assessment scope is sufficient.

Modification Report

During the preparation of the modification report, you are required to undertake consultation in accordance with the Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects.

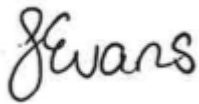
In addition to the stakeholders listed in your scoping letter, the Department recommends you consult with the Dam Safety NSW, Forestry Corporation of NSW and NSW National Parks and Wildlife, members of the local community and the Community Consultative Committee. The modification report should clearly state how any matters raised during consultation have been addressed.

Your modification report must be prepared having regard to the Department's State Significant Development Guidelines – including the Preparing a Modification Report Guideline, which is available at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Planning-reforms/Rapid-Assessment-Framework.

Your next step will be to lodge your modification application through your dashboard on the Major Projects website (<http://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects>). Please contact the Department at least two weeks before you plan to submit the modification application and note that the development application fee must be paid in full prior to the Department accepting and exhibiting the application.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Gabriel Wardenburg on 02 9585 6078 or gabriel.wardenburg@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Evans". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jessie Evans

Director, Energy & Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary

Attachment A – Additional Assessment Requirements Springvale Water Treat Plant (SSD-7592, MOD 12), Western Coal Services (SSD-5579, MOD 7) and Angus Place Coal Mine (MP06_0021, MOD 10).

The modification report must be prepared having regard to the State significant development (SSD) Guidelines and:

- Provide a strategic justification of the development focusing on the need for the project including how coal production rates from Centennial's operations would be managed to supply coal to Mount Piper Power Station over time and up to its future planned closure.
- Demonstrate consideration of alternatives, including alternative coal supply options and all feasible alternative management measures (including rationalising secondary extraction) to reduce water make from Springvale Mine (SSD-5594) and Angus Place (MP06_0021).
- Include a detailed water management strategy which includes a description of how water would be managed across each development using a range of scenarios which consider mine plan progression, shut down periods, care and maintenance and all reasonable operational requirements during the life of each development
- Include a detailed site and catchment water balance, including a description of site water demands, water disposal methods (including the location, volume and frequency of any water discharges and management of discharge water quality), water supply arrangements, water supply and transfer infrastructure and water storage structures.
- Be prepared with consideration of the Neutral or Beneficial Effect on Water Quality Assessment Guideline prepared by WaterNSW.
- Identify an adequate and secure water supply for the life of the project and any licensing requirements or other approvals under the *Water Act 1912* and/or *Water Management Act 2000*, including
 - a description of the measures proposed to ensure the development can operate in accordance with the requirements of any relevant Water Sharing Plan or water source embargo;
 - an assessment of the reliability of water supply arrangements, including consideration of climate change.
- Include a detailed description of the proposed water management system, beneficial water re-use program, water monitoring program and other measures to mitigate surface water and groundwater impacts;
- List any approvals that must be obtained before the modified development may commence

- Assess any biodiversity impacts associated with the development in accordance with the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and the Biodiversity Assessment Method 2020, including the preparation of a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR).
- Consider and demonstrate how all relevant legislative requirements under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* are addressed.
- Provide an assessment of potential construction impacts including on and off-site noise and vibration impacts of the development, in accordance with the Interim Construction Noise Guideline, NSW Noise Policy for Industry (EPA) and NSW Road Noise Policy.
- Detail engagement undertaken and demonstrate how it was consistent with the *Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects*. Detail how issues raised and feedback provided have been considered and responded to in the project. In particular, applicants must consult with:
 - the relevant Department assessment team.
 - any relevant local councils.
 - any relevant agencies.
 - the community.
 - if the development would have required an approval or authorisation under another Act but for the application of s 4.41 of the EP&A Act or requires an approval or authorisation under another Act to be applied consistently by s 4.42 of the EP&A Act, the agency relevant to that approval or authorisation.