



OUT14/35484

Mr Thomas Watt
Planning Officer
Mining Projects
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY 2001

Email: thomas.watt@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Watt

**Airly Mine Extension Project
Environmental Impact Statement (SSD 5581)**

I refer to your email of 18 September 2014 inviting comments, including advice on recommended conditions of approval, from the Department of Trade and Investment, Division of Resources and Energy (DRE), on the major project application for the Airly Mine Extension Project.

DRE has reviewed the Airly Mine Extension EIS and provides the following comments with respect to mining tenure and rehabilitation. Comments regarding subsidence will be provided in a supplementary response in due course.

Mining Tenure

The company is conducting its current mining operations within its Mining Lease 1331. Activities for the proposed expansion project will continue to be conducted within Mining Lease 1331 as well as within areas of the company's exploration title – Authorisation 232.

Centennial Airly Coal Pty Ltd will be required to obtain a mining lease for the areas to be mined within Authorisation 232.

Environment and Rehabilitation

- It is noted that no clearing of surface vegetation is proposed as part of this project application. Exploration activities are proposed with no reference to how many holes are proposed to be drilled or the locations of the drill holes.

2 Exploration Activities

- a) Exploration activities must be notified to, and approved by, DRE prior to commencement. Relevant due diligence assessment reports and environmental assessment reports must be provided and must address the following:
- Summary of the Proposed Activity;
 - Description of the Site(s);
 - Existing Environment – including general description, surface and groundwater, threatened species, populations and ecological communities, aboriginal cultural heritage values, historic and natural heritage values;
 - Impact assessment;
 - Summary of Impacts;
 - Conclusions; and
 - Statement of Commitments
- b) Details of exploration activities must be documented in the Annual Rehabilitation Report

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact Vince Fallico, Project Officer, Industry Coordination on 8281 7340.

Yours sincerely



ADRIAN DELANY
A/DIRECTOR INDUSTRY COORDINATION

31.10.14