

Mr James Wearne
Group Manager Approvals & Environment
Centennial Coal

By email: James.Wearne@centennialcoal.com.au

09/08/2021

Dear Mr Wearne

**Airly Mine Extension Project (SSD 5581)
Mt Airly Panel and Pillar Zone Extraction Plan – Modification 2**

I refer to your letter dated 22 January 2021 requesting a modification (Modification 2) of the Mt Airly Panel and Pillar Zone Extraction Plan (EP) for miniwall (MW) panels MW10 – MW12, which was submitted in accordance with Condition 7 of Schedule 3 of the consent for the Airly Mine Extension Project (SSD 5581). Modification 2 proposed a revised pillar and maingate design for MWs 10-12 and an extension to the length of MWs 11 and 12 outside areas previously approved for secondary extraction (refer to **Attachment A**). Conditional approval of the revised pillar and maingate design was provided by the Planning Secretary on 15 February 2021, however secondary extraction within the proposed extension areas of MWs 11 and 12 was not approved.

Centennial Coal has subsequently provided further detailed assessment of the predicted subsidence related impacts to sensitive features within the extension areas of MWs 11 and 12, including an *Updated Cliff Impact Assessment Report Due to Proposed Extraction of Miniwalls 11 and 12* (MSEC, 19 July 2021).

The Department has carefully reviewed the supporting information in consultation with the Airly Mine Independent Expert Panel. The Department notes that potential subsidence impacts on land and biodiversity features within the extension area of MWs 11 and 12 (pink shaded areas within the figure in **Attachment A**) are expected to meet performance measures outlined in the development consent (SSD 5581).

The Department notes however that achieving these performance measures relies in part on the amended pillar and maingate design achieving predicted reductions in subsidence levels. Given the presence of sandstone features within the MW11 and 12 extension areas, the Department considers it appropriate for Centennial Coal to demonstrate that predicted subsidence levels have been achieved at the conclusion of mining MW10 prior to commencing secondary extraction within the MW11 extension area, and again at the conclusion of mining MW11 prior to commencing secondary extraction within the MW12 extension area.

Subsequently, the Planning Secretary has provided conditional approval of the Mt Airly Panel and Pillar Zone Extraction Plan (Modification 2, dated January 2021), subject to the following:

- Following the completion of secondary extraction in MW10 and prior to secondary extraction commencing in MW11, Centennial Coal must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary that subsidence levels are within predicted levels and that the subsidence impacts

performance measures outlined in Table 1 of Schedule 3 of the development consent are expected to be met.

- Following the completion of secondary extraction in MW11 and prior to secondary extraction commencing in MW12, Centennial Coal must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary that subsidence levels are within predicted levels and that the subsidence impact performance measures outlined in Table 1 of Schedule 3 of the development consent are expected to be met.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Gabrielle Allan on 02 9585 6078 or gabrielle.allan@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

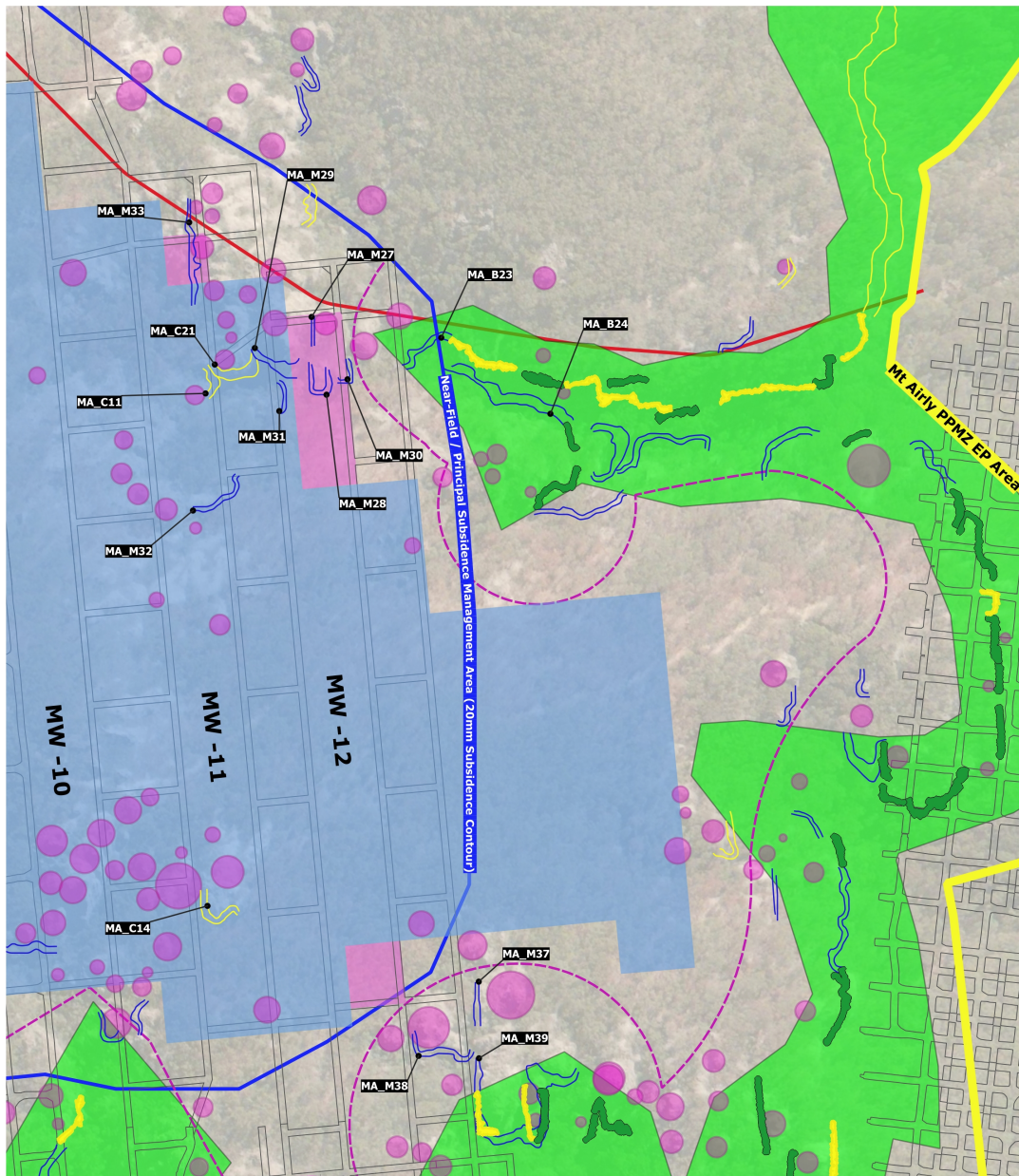
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S O'Donoghue', written in a cursive style.

Stephen O'Donoghue
Director
Resource Assessments
As nominee of the Planning Secretary

Attached:

- Attachment A – Proposed mine extension areas at MW11 and MW12.

Attachment A



Cliffs (Aerometrex, 2020)

- 10-20m
- 20-50m

Cliffs and Pagodas (RPS, 2018)

- Cliff (>10m)
- Minor Cliff (5-10m)
- Pagodas

Mt Airy PPMZ Extraction Plan Area

- Mt Airy PPMZ Extraction Plan Area (including extended monitoring and management area)
- Near-field / Principal Subsidence Management Area (i.e. 20mm Subsidence Contour)
- Mt Airy PPMZ EP approved extraction area
- Mt Airy PPMZ EP proposed additional extraction (MW11&12)
- 26.5 degree AOD (Aerometrex mapped cliffs)

Mining Zones

- Cliff Line Zone and Zone of First Workings
- New Hartley Shale Mine Exclusion Zone (26.5deg AOD + 50m)