



## Department of Primary Industries

OUT14/11734

Ms Margaret Kirton  
Senior Planning Officer  
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

4 JUN 2014

Dear Ms Kirton

Thank you for your email of 11 April 2014 concerning the review of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) for the proposed Angus Place Extension Project.

The Office of Agricultural Sustainability & Food Security (O AS&FS) has reviewed the EIS provided by Centennial Coal Company Ltd on behalf of Centennial Angus Place (prepared by Golder Associates Pty Ltd) dated 7 April 2014 and the associated AIS prepared by SLR Consulting Limited dated January 2014. A summary of the review of issues is included in Attachment 1.

This advice from the Office of Agricultural Sustainability & Food Security is forwarded direct to the Department of Planning & Environment in accordance with agreed arrangements for mining applications that affect agricultural land. It includes comments provided by officers in Agriculture NSW and NSW Trade & Investment. Additional advice from the other divisions within the Department of Primary Industries may be forwarded by separate letter. If you wish to discuss the issue further please call Rob Williamson on telephone 02 6391 3166 or by email [robert.williamson@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:robert.williamson@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Regina Fogarty'.

**Dr Regina Fogarty**  
**Director Office of Agricultural Sustainability & Food Security**

Encl

**Exhibition of Angus Place Mine Project - Response to EIS & AIS.****Specific Agricultural Impact Assessment Issues**

The soil and land capability assessment indicates no presence of Biophysical Strategic Land. The soils are generally of low to very low capability and the small area used for agriculture is also of little significance to the agricultural land resource that has been already impacted by small lot subdivision.

**Water Quality**

The Proponent states: that groundwater “discharges are not expected to significantly change the current salt concentration of the Cox’s River in the long term”; that these “daily releases will have a positive impact on water security for downstream agricultural enterprises as water within this salinity range is suitable for all livestock and moderately salt sensitive plants such as lucerne, perennial grasses and cereal crops”; and that “there are no impacts expected on water quality in the Cox’s River catchment” (AIS Section 4.2.1, p.36). The Proponent concludes that “the Project is unlikely to cause long term impacts on surface water quality or quantity within the Project Application Area or further downstream, which are relied on by agriculture” (Section 4.2.1, p.36). It is important however that the current water quality conditions will be maintained which the proponent has also noted. It is recommended that this commitment is reflected in the conditions of approval.