

Matthew Sprott

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To: Matthew Sprott
Subject: Submission Details for company Thiess (org_support)

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Categories: Mount Owen Submission

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Content:

This submission supports the application for the Mt Owen Continued Operations Project (SSD5850). Mt Owen Mine is considered an industry leader in open cut mining across the Australian coal industry. Thiess has been operating since 2004 at the Mt Owen Complex, and has worked closely with Glencore to ensure a leading practice mining operation, with uncompromising environmental and safety standards and community relations.

The operation of Mt Owen for the past 20 years has allowed for a significant understanding of the challenges, and optimal mining operations to be employed at the site to maximise resource recovery. Detailed mine planning considers a range of scenarios to develop a mine plan that increases plant efficiency, and achieves optimal material movement for the mine. In addition, Thiess has developed industry-leading specialised terrace mining and through-seam blasting techniques, leading to higher resource recovery. The operation of the mine has been carried out while maintaining a strong focus on environmental management, particularly in the areas of dust and noise management, and working with the community to ensure expectations are met.

The operation of Mt Owen Mine requires best practice management of environmental impacts during the mining process, and a holistic life-of-mine native vegetation rehabilitation program which exceeds industry standards. Thiess has worked closely with Glencore Mt Owen to develop and implement a rehabilitation program which is today recognised as industry best practice for rehabilitation. To date, more than 450 hectares of mined land has been rehabilitated to a standard that supports a mix of native forest, open woodland and pasture.

In partnership with the University of Newcastle - Centre for Sustainable Ecological Restoration, Mt Owen formed the Ravensworth State Forest Vegetation Complex Research Program and has progressively integrated the research findings into the rehabilitation program. The International Global Restoration Network has recognised the environmental management work being undertaken at Mt Owen Mine as one of Australasia's highly commended ecological projects.

Mount Owen has also undertaken studies on the threatened spotted tailed quoll in rehabilitation areas. The project shows that the spotted tailed quoll will utilise rehabilitation areas as part of its home range. This is a significant achievement as it shows that the rehabilitation at Mount Owen has habitat values for threatened species.

Mt Owen continues to provide long term benefits to the local communities in the Hunter Region. The site is a major source of employment in the Hunter Valley, providing direct and indirect job opportunities. The site relies heavily on local business for the provision of goods and services to the mine. The continuing operation of Mt Owen will result in positive economic impacts on local communities.

The approval of the Mt Owen Continued Operations Project, will see the Mt Owen mine continue as a benchmark for industry leading open cut coal mining efficiency and world class environmental management and mine rehabilitation. Thiess is in full

support of the application, and looks forward to contributing to the ongoing success of Glencore's Mt Owen operation.

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Submission: Online Submission from company Thiess (org_support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=116674

Submission for Job: #5850 Mount Owen Continued Operations Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=5850

Site: #1182 Mount Owen Mining Complex
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=1182

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