

6 August 2014

SF2014/047633  
CR2014/003234  
MJ

Mining Projects  
NSW Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

**Attention: Ms Elle Donnelley**

**GOLDEN HIGHWAY (B84): MOUNT THORLEY MINE CONTINUATION PROJECT –  
EXHIBITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT– SSD 6465**

Dear Ms Donnelley

I refer to your email dated 24 June 2014 regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed continuation of operations at the Mount Thorley mine, forwarded to Roads and Maritime Services for comment.

Roads and Maritime understands that since 2004 Mount Thorley Operations and Warkworth Mine have integrated at an operational level and are known as Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW). The subject proposal is to prevent the sterilisation of the coal resource that is approved for extraction but cannot be mined during the current consent period (current development consent expires on 22 June 2017). The proposal seeks a twenty one (21) year development consent from the date of approval.

It is noted that there are no changes proposed to the average existing MTW work force, truck traffic or annual train movements as a result of the subject project.

**Roads and Maritime Responsibilities**

Transport for NSW and Roads and Maritime's primary interests are in the road network, traffic and broader transport issues. In particular, the efficiency and safety of the classified road network, the security of property assets and the integration of land use and transport.

In accordance with the *Roads Act 1993*, Roads and Maritime has powers in relation to road works, traffic control facilities, connections to roads and other works on the classified road network. The Golden Highway (B84) and the Putty Road (MR503) are classified (State) roads. Roads and Maritime concurrence is required for connections to these roads with Council consent, under Section 138 of the Act. Council is the roads authority for these road and all other public roads in the area.

## **Roads and Maritime Response and Requirements**

Roads and Maritime has reviewed the information provided, including the Environmental Assessment prepared by EMM Mitchell McLennan dated June 2014, and has no objections to or requirements for the proposed modification as it is considered that the continuation of operations at Mount Thorley will not result in any significant additional impact on the classified (State) road network.

On the Minister's determination of this matter, it would be appreciated if a copy of the Project Approval is forwarded to Roads and Maritime for record and / or action purposes.

Should you require further advice please contact me on (02) 4924 0688

Yours sincerely



Kellee McGilvray  
A/Manager Land Use  
Hunter Region

Cc    General Manager  
      Singleton Council