

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF THE HVO NORTH & SOUTH MINING CONTINUATION PLAN AS OUTLINED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.

On behalf of Fyfe Pty Ltd (Fyfe), I would like to express our full support of the submission made by Hunter Valley Operations (HVO) to continue mining on their current lease at the Northern Pit until 2050, and the Southern Pit until 2045. The items detailed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) directly correspond with the works that Fyfe are currently subcontracted to undertake on site.

Fyfe has a long history associated with HVO, as we have been the preferred supplier of surveying services to the mine for over twenty years. Our companies continue to rely on each other for professional advice and ongoing project engagement. HVO remains one of our valued primary clients and a large contributor to the revenue stream for the Upper Hunter division of our company.

At present, our NSW Survey team comprises of 25 full time employees and 4 part time staff based across the Hunter; 10 of whom who are engaged in specific projects on site at HVO including:

- Lemington Road realignment from the New England Highway to Comleroi Road.
- Building the new bridge over the Hunter River to replace the flood prone Moses Crossing.
- Assisting with engineering upgrades to the existing CHPP and coal handling infrastructure, workshops, and ancillary infrastructure.
- The relocation of facilities including local roads, powerlines, and pipes.
- Ongoing mine exploration activities.
- Management of Environmental Offset areas.
- Assisting with surveying historical Aboriginal artifacts and archaeological research.
- Introducing new technologies including 3D Laser Scanning, UAV and bathymetric surveys.

Fyfe predict that the approval of the continued operations of HVO's North and South established mining areas would result in an increase in survey requirements for our own workforce, and we expect to employ additional staff to meet the requirements of our current contract. Fyfe would seek to recruit tertiary educated professionals either locally or encourage them to move to the area to undertake the position. As a result of this business growth and increased revenue, Fyfe Pty Ltd would be able to diversify into other market sectors enabling us to fully establish our company within the Upper Hunter community and complete our business model of premier Surveyors, Engineers, Town Planners and Environmental Advisors.

The future of our region depends on the continuation of the already established mining leases and their local expenditure, and ongoing employment opportunities that keep people living and working in the immediate area. It has been widely publicized that three local mines and the power stations are already winding down and commencing their process for closure in the next three years. Idemitsu Muswellbrook Coal, Glencore's Mangoola Coal, BHP Mt Arthur Coal and Liddell Power Station will all be closing their operations resulting in a significant downturn in the local and state economy. Many residents and businesses are concerned about the long-term future of the mining industry in the Hunter and the financial and employment ramifications that will follow if HVO is forced to decrease operations as well.

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In conclusion, Fyfe Pty Ltd would be especially eager to see the HVO Continued Operations Project move forward as it would bring significant economic growth opportunities to our own business , related industries and indirect suppliers creating continuity and stability across the greater Hunter region.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher Nixon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Nixon

NSW Survey Manager

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