



MINING & ENERGY UNION

SOUTH WESTERN DISTRICT

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Energy and Resource Assessments
NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Locked Bag 5022
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To whom it may concern

Mod 8 – Ulan West Continued Operations (MP08_0184-Mod-8) Submission from the Mining and Energy Union

The Mining and Energy Union South Western District (MEU) is proud to represent coal mineworkers in New South Wales' western coalfields, including at Glencore's Ulan Coal Complex. Ulan and Ulan West pits supply high-grade thermal coal to Australia's key export partners, continuing a century-long tradition of coal mining in the Ulan area.

The MEU supports Ulan Coal Mines Pty Ltd's Ulan West Continued Operations Modification 8 application (MP08_0184-Mod-8). The modification would see mining at Ulan continue for an additional six years to 2041, delivering royalties to the New South Wales Government, protecting hundreds of local jobs, and stimulating local economic activity for the Mid-Western region of New South Wales.

The modification will support continued employment for approximately 590 existing Ulan workers – most of whom live locally in the Mid-Western Regional LGA – and could potentially support hundreds of new job opportunities, with Ulan Coal Complex approved to employ up to 930 workers. Ulan is an important local employer of First Nations workers, with 11.7 per cent of the current workforce identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. Ulan workers contribute around \$60 million per year in household expenditure in the local community, and Ulan Coal Mines Pty Ltd's community investment reached \$970,000 in 2024.

The modification is also environmentally sensible. It meets export demand for New South Wales coal by utilising existing infrastructure at one of the state's lowest emissions coal mines – Ulan Coal Complex's negligible methane levels keep fugitive emissions intensity very low, and the mine's electrified underground equipment perfectly places the mine for further operational emissions reduction as the state's electricity grid continues to transition to renewable energy.

Regional communities in New South Wales are facing a challenging future as our economy changes in response to the global energy transition. The Ulan West Continued Operations Modification 8 application would provide an additional six years of certainty to local families and small businesses and help protect local economic wellbeing into the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bob Timbs'.

Bob Timbs
District President