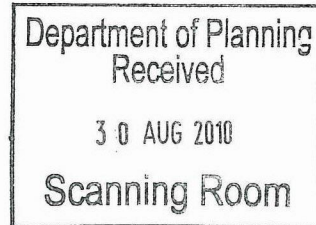


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Manager
Major Projects Assessments
Mining and Industry Projects
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Attention: Mr Daniel Howard

AUSTAR COAL MINE – PROPOSED MODIFICATION (DA 29/95 MOD 4) – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - LONGWALL PANEL A5A

Dear Mr Reed

I refer to your letter dated 26 July 2010 (Your reference: 1003652) regarding the subject proposal, which was referred to the RTA (Roads and Traffic Authority) under the requirements of *State Environmental Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007* for comment. The RTA received your referral on 29 July 2010.

The RTA's primary interests are in the road network, traffic and broader transport issues, particularly in relation to the efficiency and safety of the classified road network, the security of property assets and the integration of land use and transport.

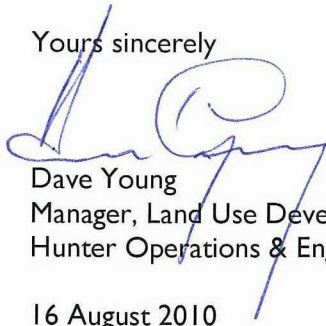
In accordance with the *Roads Act 1993*, the RTA has powers in relation to road works, traffic control facilities, connections to roads and other works on the classified road network. Cessnock Road (MR220), Kearsley is a classified (State) road. Council is the roads authority for this road and all other public roads in the area.

The RTA has reviewed the information provided and has no objections to or requirements for the proposed modification, as it unlikely to have a significant road safety or traffic impact on the classified (State) road network.

On determination of this matter, it would be appreciated if a copy of the notice of determination could be forwarded to the RTA for record purposes.

Please contact me on (02) 4924 0240, if you require further advice.

Yours sincerely



Dave Young
Manager, Land Use Development
Hunter Operations & Engineering Services

16 August 2010

Cc. General Manager
Cessnock City Council