



NSW GOVERNMENT
Department of Planning

Major Project Assessment

Industry & Mining

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Ms Michelle Kirkman
Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited
PO Box 838
TORONTO NSW 2283

Our Ref: S02/02148

Dear Ms Kirkman

**Bulga Coal Mine
Section 75W Modification (DA 376-8-2003 MOD 4)**

I refer to your recent letter on the proposal to establish a ventilation air methane abatement system and small gas-fired power plant at the Bulga coal mine.

I can advise that the Minister has agreed to treat the development consent for the Bulga underground mining operations (DA 376-8-2003 MOD 4) as an approval for the purposes of Section 75W of the EP&A Act, and to consider an application for a modification of this consent under Section 75W to enable to the proposal to proceed.

This application should be accompanied by an environmental assessment that addresses the attached Director-General's requirements.

If you have any enquiries about these requirements, please contact Belinda Parker.

Yours sincerely



Chris Wilson

Executive Director

Major Project Assessment

As delegate for the Director-General

14.4.04

Director-General's Requirements

Section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Application Number	DA 376-8-2003 MOD 4
Proposed Modification	Establishment of a ventilation air methane abatement system and small gas-fired power plant.
Location	Bulga Coal Mine, 12 kilometres southwest of Singleton
Proponent	Beltana Highwall Mining Pty Limited
Date of Issue	14 April 2009
General Requirements	<p>The Environmental Assessment of the proposal must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a summary of the existing and approved mining operations/facilities on site, and the existing environmental management regime; • a description of the proposal; • a general assessment of the potential impacts of the proposal on the environment; • a detailed assessment of the key issues specified below, which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of the existing environment; - an assessment of the potential impacts of the proposal, taking into consideration any relevant laws, policies, plans or guidelines; and - a description of the proposed measures that would be implemented to avoid, minimise, and if necessary offset the potential impacts of the proposal; • a statement of commitments, outlining the proposed environmental management measures; • a signed statement from the author of the Environmental Assessment, certifying that the information contained within the document is neither false nor misleading.
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse Gas; • Air; • Noise – including both construction and operational noise; • Soil & Water – including erosion and sediment control during construction, stormwater management, and any consequential impacts of the proposal on the mine's water balance; • Biodiversity – including potential impacts to any threatened species, populations or ecological communities; • Aboriginal Heritage; and • Visual.
References	The Environmental Assessment must take into account relevant State and Commonwealth Government technical and policy guidelines. While not exhaustive, the following attachment contains a list of some of the guidelines, policies and plans that may be relevant to the environmental assessment of this proposed modification.
Consultation	<p>During the preparation of the Environmental Assessment, you should consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups or affected landowners.</p> <p>In particular you must consult with the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Environment and Climate Change; • Department of Primary Industries; • Department of Water and Energy; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Singleton Shire Council. <p>The consultation process and the issues raised must be described in the Environmental Assessment.</p>
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Policies, Guidelines & Plans

Aspect	Policy /Methodology
Greenhouse Gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>AGO Factors and Methods Workbook</i> (Australian Greenhouse Office)
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW</i> (DECC).
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>NSW Industrial Noise Policy</i> (DECC); • <i>Environmental Noise Control Manual</i> (DECC);
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment under Part 3A of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (DECC) • <i>NSW Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Policy</i> (DLWC) • <i>State Environmental Planning Policy No. 44 – Koala Habitat Protection</i>