

OUT15/1502

Mr Stephen O'Donoghue
Senior Planner
Mining and Industry Projects
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Email: stephen.o'donoghue@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr O'Donoghue

**Narrabri Coal Mine – Modification 4 (08_0144 MOD 4)
Review of Environmental Assessment**

I refer to your email of 23 April 2015 regarding the Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd application to modify the development consent for the Narrabri Mine to increase both the ROM coal and product coal stockpile capacity.

NSW Trade & Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services, Division of Resources & Energy (DRE) has reviewed the *Narrabri Mine Stockpile Extension Modification Environmental Assessment (EA)* dated April 2015 and provides the following comments which are directed at specific areas of DRE responsibility for this proposal.

MINING TITLE

As coal is a prescribed mineral under the *Mining Act 1992*, the proponent is required to hold appropriate mining titles from DRE in order to mine this mineral. DRE understands that the modification area is wholly within existing Mining Lease 1609 held by the Proponent.

Under the *Mining Act 1992*, mining and rehabilitation are regulated by conditions included in the mining lease, including requirements for the submission of a Mining Operations Plan (MOP) prior to the commencement of operations, and subsequent Annual Environmental Management Reports (AEMR). DRE requires that proponent submit a revised MOP to include this modification if approved.

The proponent should be aware that ESG3: Mining Operations Plan (MOP) Guidelines dated September 2013 are available on the DRE website at:
<http://www.resources.nsw.gov.au/environment/pgf>

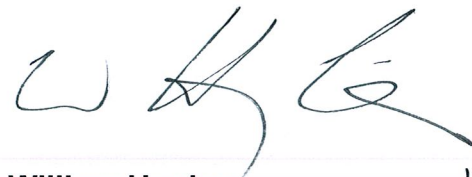
REHABILITATION

DRE notes that the EA has identified general rehabilitation strategies and objectives. DRE considers that the proposed modification has limited potential to impact upon rehabilitation and mine closure outcomes for the mine site. DRE requires that:

- The applicant should, if the application is successful, provide DRE with a Mining Operations Plan (MOP) amendment which addresses the stockpile and related surface water changes; and
- A Rehabilitation Cost Estimate (RCE) should accompany the MOP modification application. The tool to prepare the RCE ('ESB26 Rehabilitation Cost Calculation Tool') is available on the DRE website at <http://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/miners-and-explorers/rules-and-forms/pgf>.

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact Julie Moloney, Principal Adviser, Industry Coordination on (02) 4931 6549.

Yours sincerely



William Hughes
Director Mineral Operations

14/5/15

