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Dear Ms Evans.

Re: SSD-8194 Dendrobium Mine Extension Project

Thank you for providing NSW Ports with the opportunity to comment on State Significant Development 8194 for the Dendrobium Mine Extension (the Project). NSW Ports is responsible for managing the port and freight assets of Port Kembla, Port Botany, the Cooks River Intermodal Terminal and the Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre. These assets, along with the efficient movement of freight to and from these assets, are critical to the future economic growth, liveability, productivity and sustainability of New South Wales and Australia. NSW Ports is supportive of the proposal as it provides social and economic benefits to the locality and is in the public interest.

The Dendrobium Mine supplies coking and thermal coal to the Bluescope Steelworks at Port Kembla and to the Port Kembla Coal Terminal (PKCT) for dispatch to Whyalla or for international export. The PKCT is on NSW Ports land holdings within Port Kembla. Port Kembla is the second largest coal export port in NSW and is a vital asset to the Illawarra and NSW economy.

NSW Ports has as one of its five primary objectives to 'use land and infrastructure efficiently' given the level of demand for port access as well as the finite nature of our land holdings. As such, the continued supply of coal to the PKCT will continue to see the site used efficiently and for port and trade purposes. This is consistent with long term strategic planning (i.e. the *Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan*) and statutory land use planning (i.e. *State Environmental Planning Policy (Three Ports) 2013*).

The Project is located 6 kilometres to the west of Port Kembla and is directly connected by rail to the Port on a dedicated freight rail line. This close proximity and dedicated rail access means the Project is ideally located from a transport perspective and unlikely to have adverse road transport impacts on Port operations or the region more broadly.

NSW Ports supports the Dendrobium Mine Extension Project and the continued use of dedicated rail to access Port Kembla.

If you would like to discuss this submission further please contact me on 02 9316 1131 or at greg.walls@nswports.com.au.

Yours sincerely

Greg Walls

**Planning Manager**