



Department of Primary Industries

(OUT12/29691)

30 NOV 2012

Mr Stephen O'Donoghue
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Dear Sir

Re: Cobbora Coal Project (MP 10_0001) – Environmental Assessment

Reference is made to your email received on 5 October 2012 to the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) seeking comment on the above matter. It is understood that the former legislative provisions under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* apply to this proposal.

There were a number of inadequacies identified at the adequacy review stage. These problems were still current during the public exhibition stage. However, due to recent negotiations with DPI and consultants to Cobbora Coal Holdings, the consultants are preparing information that deals with our original concerns. This information should be provided by late January 2013 and includes:

- detailed soil survey and soil assessment information for rehabilitation;
- detail on the soil replacement protocol for different land capabilities to be reinstated during rehabilitation; and
- improved information on the agricultural socio- economic assessment.

DPI has also been notified that Cobbora Coal Holdings Pty Limited has made a commitment to monitor those rehabilitated lands that will eventually be returned to cropping land use. I am pleased that this commitment has been made as there is little information available on rehabilitated lands intended for cropping use.

I will contact you as soon as further information is received in relation to the above issues.

Yours sincerely

Dr Regina Fogarty
Director Office of Agricultural Sustainability & Food Security