



EnergyAustralia

26 September 2013

NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
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Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Western Coal Services Project - EIS Submission

EnergyAustralia welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission on the Centennial Western Coal Services Project EIS, which has been on public exhibition from 26 August to 26 September 2013.

EnergyAustralia is a key stakeholder in the Lithgow region and with the local community. We own and operate the Mt Piper and Wallerawang power stations, as well as associated water infrastructure and the Pine Dale mine. The efficient operation of this portfolio of assets provides significant economic benefit to the local region, as well as to the broader state economy through the power stations' contribution to the NSW wholesale electricity market.

EnergyAustralia supports continued economic development in the region and considers that projects such as the Western Coal Services Project can contribute to this. However, we note that the Centennial application proposes a number of new and expanded project infrastructure elements which have the potential to adversely impact ongoing operations at the Mt Piper and Wallerawang power stations as well as impacting lands which EnergyAustralia hold existing interests in.

To ensure that new developments such as the Western Coal Services Project contribute to the region's economic development without subtracting from existing coal and power generation activities or the efficient functioning of the overall region, we request a consultative approach to provide opportunity for EnergyAustralia's input prior to the final design and the commencement of construction.

Specifically, the proposed washery expansion, additional conveyor and transfer stations, and rejects emplacement areas all encroach upon EnergyAustralia owned land. As such, it is requested that prior to the finalisation of the detailed design and operational plans thereof, Centennial consults with EnergyAustralia for approval, so as to ensure that the management of these lands are not adversely impacted.

It is noted that the proposed rejects emplacement area presents an overlapping consent area to the approved Mt Piper Ash Placement Project, presenting additional ash storage challenges to ongoing power station operations. Furthermore, the proposed Project Application Area overlaps lands of the Pine Dale mine and the Pine Dale Stage 2 development, presenting a conflict. The proposed Link Haul Road alignment also traverses Pine Dale mine lands, as well as lands for which EnergyAustralia holds ash storage interests.

As such, it is requested that prior to the finalisation of detailed design of the Link Haul Road, Centennial consults with EnergyAustralia for approval, to ensure our operational interests are not adversely impacted.

Given the level of impacts upon EnergyAustralia land and operational interests, a consultative approach in the implementation of the proposed coal services infrastructure is considered imperative to minimizing risks to ongoing reliable electricity generation.

As a key stakeholder to the region, EnergyAustralia is keen to pursue a planning outcome which supports the operational continuity of our assets and the ongoing contribution of the industry to the community.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the proposed project and how workable arrangements could be put in place and will contact your offices in due course. In the meantime please feel free to contact Mark Frewin on 03 8628 1130 or mark.frewin@energyaustralia.com.au if you require more information.

Sincerely



Ross Edwards

Executive Manager Corporate Strategy & Development