



14 October 2013

NSW Planning and Infrastructure
Major Projects Assessments

website submission attachment

Submission in support of Port Waratah Coal Services Terminal 4

We are writing in support of the proposed Port Waratah Coal Services (PWCS) Terminal 4 project.

Whitehaven is the largest coal producer in the Gunnedah Basin and exports its coal through the Port of Newcastle. Whitehaven is well positioned globally as a low-cost and high quality export coal producer with:

1. three open cut mines and a large underground mine; and
2. a new large open cut mine which is forecast to commence production in Q1 2015.

The majority of coal exports from these mines are covered under long term terminal allocation agreements at the existing PWCS and NCIG terminals. However, both the Narrabri underground mine and the new Maules Creek opencut mine have the potential to expand beyond the current forecast production levels and beyond current contracted terminal allocation.

Whitehaven also has interests in a number of coal mining tenements in the central Hunter Valley and Gunnedah regions which are at various stages of development. These projects do not have any contracted allocation at the existing PWCS and NCIG terminals. The most advanced being the Vickery project with Market Reserves in the order of 180 million tonnes. The Vickery project Preliminary Environmental Assessment was lodged in November 2011 and the Environmental Impact Statement was placed on public display earlier this year. Other development projects include Ashford which is north of Narrabri and Ferndale in the central Hunter Valley.

With existing terminal facilities at the Port of Newcastle almost fully contracted, the PWCS Terminal 4 project will be critical in providing additional terminal capacity for any further expansion of existing Whitehaven operations and new projects currently under development.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in support of this critical project.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Vandervoort
EXECUTIVE GENERAL MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE