

OUT18/5773

Mr Anthony Ko Resource and Energy Assessments NSW Department of Planning and Environment

By email: anthony.ko@planning.nsw.gov.au

## Dear Mr Ko

## Ulan Coal Modification 4 (08\_0184 MOD 4) Comment on the Environmental Assessment

I refer to the email of 6 April 2018 to the Department of Industry in respect to the above matter. Comment has been sought from relevant branches of Lands & Water. Any further referrals to Department of Industry can be sent by email to landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

The department provides the following recommendations for consideration in assessment of the proposal.

## Prior to project approval

 An Independent Review of the groundwater model should be undertaken as required under the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy. The review should be applicable to the Mod 4 application, and clearly outline how recommendations made during a previous review have been resolved within the updated model and that the model is justifiably 'fit for purpose'.

## Post approval

- The proponent should progress the acquisition of the necessary licensed entitlement to account for the projected water take, in consultation with the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR). All take must be accounted for through the acquisition of adequate entitlement prior to the take occurring.
- The proponent should update the Water Management Plan to reflect the modification in consultation with NRAR. The plan should address the following:
  - Strategies for the post mining take of water must be described.
  - A detailed monitoring and assessment strategy with a process should be developed to clearly predict affected private bores.

Yours sincerely

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Alison Collaros **A/Manager, Assessment Advice** 11 May 2018