From: Lloyd Coleman
To: Brendan Liew
Subject: Wilpinjong Coal"s modification (Mod 6)
Date: Friday, 18 July 2014 8:08:07 AM

Dear Sir,

Re Wilpinjong Coal's Modification 6

I support Peabody Energy's Wilpinjong modification plans

I declare an interest

One - as an employee of Peabody associated with rehabilitation of both mined and buffer land and community activities on behalf of Peabody Energy

Two - as being associated with the environment at a senior level during 1991 -5, the NSW 50th Parliament

As such I have a great interest in both the land and people of the area

I feel that the proposed modifications are both sensible and needed if the Wilpinjong mine is to maximise both economic and environmental production
of its mine

These are hard times for coal mines and they need to be as efficient as possible – to be otherwise will adversely affect the local economy and the resources that can be allocated to non-core activities – in my case Peabody has already allocated enough resources to rehabilitate and to bring back into production all its original buffer land – this not only has that stabilised the surrounding soil, some of which was quite degraded but is now contributing to the local economy by replacing rural production lost while the mine is active.

It is very important that this program can continue in buffer land subsequently purchased after the mine commenced production – This reclamation requires a lot of money and is uneconomic from a farming perspective – this land as its stabilised will be rehabilitated and either revert back to productive farming land or if unsuitable for long term farming will be environmentally rehabilitated.

The adverse effects to the community in the Hunter Valley by the closure and cut backs by the Coal Mines are now starting to be well documented – we need to minimise this in the Mudgee area where possible and the introduction of modification 6 will help both with employment and community contributions

Modification 6 will also allow coal to be mined that otherwise would be isolated an never mined – a waste of resources and it allows better utilisation of existing infrastructure and equipment keeping the cost of production down and more efficient use of the coal such as better blends

I see no reason why modification should not be approved as there appears little down side to it and it makes sense economically, community wise and environmentally

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

Kind regards

Lloyd Coleman
[redacted]