



## NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



PCU061992

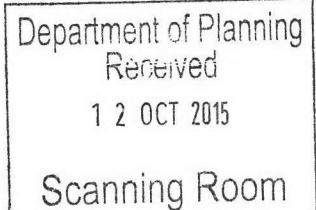
Director – Resource Assessments  
Department of Planning & Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY 2001

Your reference: SSD 14\_6367  
Our reference: D15/2849

2 October 2015

**Attention:** Stephen O'Donoghue

Dear Sir/Madam,



### SSD 14\_6367 - Bylong Coal Project – Notice of Exhibition

Reference is made to your correspondence dated 21 September 2015 seeking comment regarding bush fire planning and protection in relation to the above proposal in accordance with Section 89F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service provides the following recommendations:

#### Asset Protection Zones

Sufficient space must be provided for fire fighters and other emergency services personnel during a fire event, ensuring radiant heat levels permit operations while supporting or evacuating staff and occupants. Therefore, at the commencement of works, and in perpetuity, 100m Asset Protection Zones (APZ) shall to be provided around the following areas:

- i) All mining infrastructure and associated facilities/structures,
- ii) The accommodation facility and associated facilities/structures, and
- iii) Open cut mining operations and entrances/exits to underground mining facilities.

*Note: All areas as indicated in Figure 18 (Conceptual Project Layout) of the EIS by Hanson Bailey dated 1 September 2015.*

It is recognised vegetation removal/clearing will be required to facilitate such APZs, particularly north/north-east of the proposed mining infrastructure location. All proposed APZs may be divided into an inner protection area (IPA) (with a minimum distance of 70 metres), with an additional 30 metres maintained as an outer protection area (OPA). All APZs are to be managed as outlined within section 4.1.3 and Appendix 5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006* and the NSW Rural Fire Service's document *Standards for asset protection zones*.

#### Property Access

To ensure safe access to and from the public road system for fire fighters providing property protection during a bush fire and for staff faced with evacuation, property access roads shall comply with section 4.1.3 (2) of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006*.

#### **Postal address**

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### Water Provision

No evidence has been provided that indicate a reticulated water supply will be connected to the site. Therefore, at a minimum, a dedicated 20 000L water supply is to be provided for fire fighting purposes. The water source should be located within the inner protection area (IPA) and have a hardened ground surface for truck access supplied up to and within 4 metres of the water source.

### Emergency and Evacuation

In recognition of the isolated location of the development, an emergency/evacuation plan is to be prepared consistent with the NSW Rural Fire Service document *Guidelines for the Preparation of Emergency/Evacuation plan*.

Based upon an assessment of the information provided, and acceptance of the above recommendations, the New South Wales Rural Fire Service raises no objection to the proposal.

If you have any queries regarding this advice please contact Aaron Howard, Development Assessment and Planning Officer, on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,



Jason Maslen  
Acting Team Leader, Development Assessment and Planning  
Customer Service Centre East