Major Development Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

RE: Submission in relation to the Stratford Extension Project (SSD-4966)

Person makir	ng Submiss	ion:			
Name: WALREN DIT		CHELECD			
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Town/Suburb):7U	UCURRY		State:	NSW Postcode 2428
I support the		1	OR	I object to the Pro	ject
Reason(s) wh	y:Pleo	rse see	lette	ortached	
Signature:	Tite	elifu	ld		
WARREN	DITCH	HFIELD		28/11	120 12
Name				Date	



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Major Development Assessment Department of Planning GPO Box 39 SYDNEY, NSW, 2001

Statement in Support of Project Application number: SSD 4966

I am the owner and Managing Director of Ditchfield Contracting Pty Ltd. My company undertakes contract coal mining activities at the Stratford Mine site, currently employing 80 full-time employees.

My support for the Stratford Extension Project is primarily to protect the employment of these workers, who will enjoy continuing employment at the site if the Application is successful.

The earthmoving and civil contracting industry on the mid-north coast of NSW is in a parlous state, and as such projects such as this are vital. If the coal mining activity at Stratford Coal were to come to an end, all employees currently engaged there would be made redundant. Further, as these mining works underpin my whole business, the employment of a further 50 people engaged elsewhere would be imperilled.

The vast majority of the workers in question live in the Great Lakes and Gloucester Council areas, and the wages paid to them flow through to the local communities. I am proud that my company plays a part in Yancoal's excellent support for the local community through community projects, environmental management, and particularly through providing excellent, well-paid employment in an area which has severely limited opportunities otherwise.

I am pleased to register my support for the project for the reasons stated, and would be pleased to elaborate if necessary. Thank you for your time in considering my submission.

Warren Ditchfield

Managing Director

Ditchfield Contracting

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29 November 2012