

27 November 2013

Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
23-33 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Warkworth Consent 2003 - Modification 6 (DA 300-9-2002-i MOD 6)**

I am writing to advise of the NSW Business Chamber's support of the proposed modification to the Mount Thorley Warkworth mine development consent. This modification will enable the Warkworth mine to remain viable in the short term while awaiting the outcome of its appeal against the Land and Environment Court decision, thereby supporting its employees and businesses along its supply chain.

The Chamber supports the NSW Government's recent amendment of the Mining State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) to clarify the decision-making process for proposals for the mining of resources. The need for the consent authority to consider the significance of the resource to the state and local region is a sensible inclusion which will help to ensure important factors such as jobs and businesses along the supply chain form part of the decision.

Given these amendments, we urge the consent authority to support the modification to the Warkworth mine given it will enable the mine to resume operating at normal capacity for the next two years. This will protect the employment of more than 1,300 employees and contractors, and will also continue providing opportunities for businesses along the supply chain.

It is also important to consider this issue in a timely manner given the pressures currently facing Warkworth mine, so that the mine operators do not need to make any precautionary staffing or business decisions. The Warkworth mine has been in operation for more than 30 years; therefore any downgrading of operations would have a significant economic and social impact on the local community.

Please feel free to contact myself on 9458 7462 ([paul.orton@nswbc.com.au](mailto:paul.orton@nswbc.com.au)) or Larissa Cassidy, Policy Adviser on 9458 7359 ([larissa.cassidy@nswbc.com.au](mailto:larissa.cassidy@nswbc.com.au)) if you wish to discuss this issue further.

Yours sincerely,



**Paul Orton**  
**Director**  
**Policy and Advocacy**

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incorporates

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- Australian Business Recruitment Solutions
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