



30 June 2020

Mr. Collin Phillips
Resource Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Colin.phillips@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Phillips,

**REQUEST FOR COMMENT ON THE MODIFICATION APPLICATION AND REPORT FOR THE
MODIFICATION 9 LONGWALL REORIENTATION (SSD-5144)**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed modification to the Mandalong Southern Extension Project involving the reorientation of the longwall mining panels to account for recently discovered geological conditions and the reduction in the number of planned longwall panels from eight to five.

Council has reviewed the proposed reorientation of the longwall panels in relation to its assets and land and provides the following comment:

1. It is noted the surface area has decreased due to reorientation.
2. Amendments proposed to the mining geometry for the amended longwall panels (LW30-34) are ensuring previously approved subsidence effects and impacts will not be exceeded by more than 5%.
3. The proposed modification is not expected to significantly vary from the ecological impacts of the originally approved mine layout.
4. The proposed reorientation of longwalls 30 – 37 have the potential to impact upon the operations at Buttonderry Waste Management Facility as it appears the proposed realignment is taking place approximately 2km to the north-west of the Buttonderry Waste Management Facility.



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5. Figure 3.1 of the modification report shows that the “Main heading” running north-south is proposed to be straightened and the bend at the southern end which is towards Buttonderry Waste Management Facility extends along Buttonderry Creek for a longer length and will end at the same point on the Buttonderry Waste Facility Boundary as indicated on the “original approved plans”. This could impact Buttonderry Waste Management Facility in the future, especially if longwall 54 is constructed as is shown on the plans.
6. There appears to be no significant impact on Central Coast Council’s local road network or built drainage infrastructure based on:
 - The majority of LW30-37 in both its original and reorientated state is within the Lake Macquarie LGA.
 - The reorientated long walls cover primarily the same area as previously approved – the footprint is almost exactly the same for the portion of the longwalls in the Central Coast LGA.
 - The realignment impacts on Binnalong Way (a boundary road) and Buangi Road only within the Central Coast LGA. Both are very low traffic rural roads with no known potential for redevelopment or densification.
 - Only Binalong Way within the Central Coast Council LGA is forecast to have a minor increase in subsidence impact. Council requests consideration of further mitigation measures to maintain existing approved subsidence service levels in relation to Binalong Way.
 - There is no significant built drainage infrastructure in the area impacted by the proposal.
7. Please note that Transgrid has proposed an upgrade of the high voltage power line towers in Council’s Durren Durren reserve (L9/DP262720, below which proposed LW31-34 extend) – the scale of the upgrade to the towers is, in part, driven by the risk of subsidence due to underground mining. The upgrade will require a significant volume of spoil to be disposed of, which has raised concern with council as the land manager.
8. There appears to be no shafts/above ground works (to that which have been previously approved) as part of the modification.

It should be noted that the above comments are based on the statement in the modification report that the proposed modification will “*ensure previously approved subsidence effects and impacts will not be exceeded by more than 5%*”. If this is disproven and/or other Agencies raise concern in relation to the modification’s ability to achieve this, council would like the opportunity to make further comment on the proposal.

Additionally, concern is still raised for longwall 54 and the “main heading” which is shown to be extending inside the Buttonderry Waste Management Facility boundary as part of the

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approved mine plan (refer page 15 of EMM document and figure 1 below). Concern was raised by council in 2014 regarding the likely impacts that longwall 54 would have upon the Buttonderry Waste Management Facility and the impacts that Buttonderry Waste Management Facility may have upon longwall 54. It was council's understanding that Centennial reviewed council's comments at the time and agreed that longwall 54 would not proceed and would be removed from the plans. It is acknowledged this longwall is not the subject of the proposed modification, however, consideration should be given by Centennial for the relocation or removal of longwall 54 from within the Buttonderry Waste Management Facility boundary.

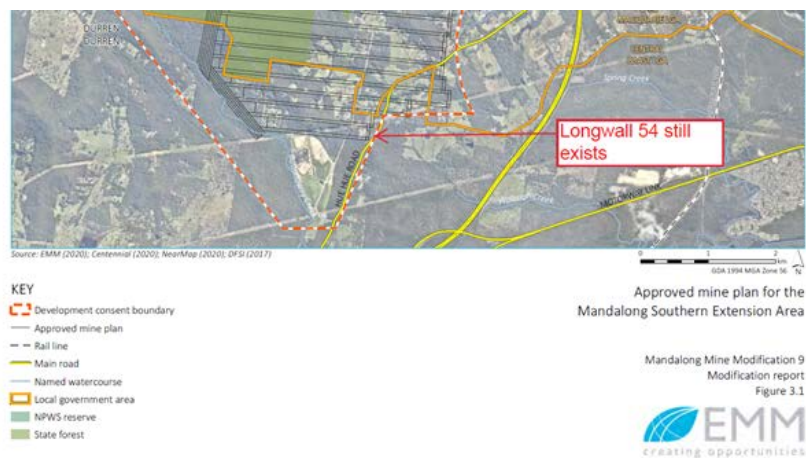


Figure 1: Extract from Modification Report showing approved location of longwall 54

Your attention is also drawn to the resolution of Council on 10 December 2019, a copy of which has previously been provided to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, Executive Director Compliance, Industry and Key Sites and Regional Assessments- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

If you have any further enquiries in relation to the above, please contact Emily Goodworth on Emily.goodworth@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Roach
Manager
DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

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Your Reference: SSD5144 MOD 9