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NSW Government Office of Planning and Development Re: Hume Coal Project

To whomever it may concern

I am writing in support of the Hume Coal Project which is currently open for public submissions.

Ampcontrol is a leading Australian manufacturer of electrical and electronic equipment to coal and hard rock mining, infrastructure and renewables sectors.

We have proudly supported the Southern Highlands of NSW mining industry for over 25 years, with operations in the Illawarra and Lithgow regions. Throughout this time, we have locally delivered and serviced market leading and competitive power distribution equipment, monitoring and control systems and power cable infrastructure.

I would like to take this opportunity to briefly outline some of our core capabilities which we believe strategically align with the Hume Coal development and how its approval will benefit suppliers like us to the NSW mining industry:

 Local employment growth opportunity. The project owners have publicly committed to drawing on the surrounding community to resource the project with around 400 people required to support the three year construction phase. Further investment in mining within the Illawarra provides ongoing employment prospects to the thousands of suppliers directly involved in the mining sector, via manufacturing or other supply chain services.

**Low-impact mining method.** The project proposal outlines use of a low-impact, environmentally sustainable mining method, commonly referred to as 'bord and pillar'. This method differs greatly to other underground mining techniques such as longwall mining which can ultimately yield higher production levels because of the more efficient mining technique. By adopting this approach, the project owners have publicly stated they will only extract around a third of the available coal so they do not impact the surrounding environment or cause subsidence issues.

We confirm our support for the development of the Hume Coal project as it represents significant opportunity for growing the regional economy. By adopting a low-impact mining technique and committing to employing from within the local community, we feel the project owners are making decisions which are in the best interests of the environment, the community and industry.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 4961 9000 should you wish to discuss this submission.

Yours sincerely

**Rod Henderson** 

CEO/MD Ampcontrol Pty Ltd