



Mr Paul Freeman
NSW Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Via email: paul.freeman@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Freeman

Submission on the proposed Hume Coal Project (SSD 7172)

This letter is in response to your invitation for submissions for the proposed Hume Coal Project (SSD 7172) published on your Major Projects website.

The proposed Hume Coal Project is not within a proclaimed mine subsidence district (district) and Subsidence Advisory NSW (SA NSW) has not regulated surface development in the area proposed for mining. SA NSW notes that changes to the *Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961*, which are expected to take effect in January 2018, will result in mine operators being financially responsible for subsidence damage to surface improvements caused by their operations.

SA NSW has reviewed the Hume Coal Project's Environmental Impact Statement - Subsidence Assessment Report dated 3 December 2016 and understands that the proposed method of coal extraction predicts worst case maximum vertical surface subsidence of 20mm. The predicted worst case surface movements are well within those outlined in Australian Standard AS2870 "residential slabs and footings" expected to account for low to moderately reactive clay soils. Therefore, SA NSW considers that the predicted subsidence would not result in noticeable damage to surface infrastructure.

SA NSW has no objection to the Hume Coal Project provided the Department of Planning & Environment ensures the mine operator is required to adhere to the maximum vertical surface subsidence predictions as outlined in the Subsidence Assessment Report dated 3 December 2016 as part of the conditions of approval.

Please contact me on (02) 4908 4391 or at kieran.black@finance.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions or would like further information.

Kieran Black
Technical Manager

4 July 2017