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31 October 2013

Mr David Kitto
Director – Mining and Industry Projects
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
G P O Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Mr Kitto

## S75W MODIFICATION APPLICATION TO PA 06 0021 FOR LONGWALL 980 AND 900W

Following correspondence forwarded to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure on 11 September 2013 and subsequent discussions with the Department on 20 September 2013 and 24 September 2013, Centennial Angus Place Pty Limited (Angus Place) is seeking to modify project approval PA06\_0021 to extend the length of Longwall 980 and Longwall 900W by 43.4 metres and 104.8 metres respectively and increase the extraction height from 3.25 metres to 3.425 metres. **Figure 1** identifies the extent of these proposed changes to longwall length.

Following ongoing geotechnical and geological investigations, Angus Place has identified an opportunity to extract additional coal in these longwall panels which would allow a more complete extraction of the coal resource.

# **INTRODUCTION**

Centennial Angus Place Pty Limited (Angus Place) holds Project Approval 06\_0021 granted by the then Minister for Planning on 13 September 2006 which authorises mining of the Lithgow Seam in longwall panels 920 to 980. The Project Approval 06\_0021 has been modified on two occasions since the original grant, as follows:

- MOD 1 the development of two longwall panels, 900W and 910, increasing annual tonnage to four million tonnes per annum, development of additional dewatering bores and associated infrastructure and increasing manning.
- MOD 2 Construction of a Ventilation Facility and underground trial mining.

Project Approval 06\_0021 was supported by a document entitled *Angus Place Colliery Proposed Mining and Coal Transport*, dated January 2006.

On 21 April 2010, Angus Place made an application to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure to extract Longwall panels 900W and 910. This application was supported by a document entitled *Environmental Assessment: Angus Place Colliery, NSW Modification of Project Approval 06\_0021 Under Section 75W, Part 3A* dated November 2010. The modification application was subsequently approved by the Planning Assessment Commission on 29 August 2011.

The relevant aspects of the original Project Approval and MOD 1 were the extraction of coal from Longwall 980 and Longwalls 900W and 910 respectively. The original Project Approval

and MOD 1 were supported by a number of environmental assessments as outlined in the documents above.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF VARIED LONGWALL LENGTH AND HEIGHT

Ditton was engaged by Angus Place to complete a subsidence assessment for the proposed modification. This assessment, at **Attachment 1** (LW980) and **Attachment 2** (LW900W), included:

- A summary of the maximum subsidence effects resulting from the previous mining layout outlined in the Subsidence Prediction and Impact Assessment Review of LWs 920 to 980 appended to the MOD 1 Environmental Assessment;
- Predicted cumulative subsidence effect contours resulting from the previous mining layout and proposed extension to LW 900W and LW980 and proposed increase in height for LW980, 900W and 910;
- A summary of the maximum predicted subsidence impacts resulting from the previous mining layouts and proposed longwall extensions;
- An assessment of the stability of first workings and reduced width barrier pillars in the vicinity of the proposed longwall extensions.

Table 1 of **Attachment 1** summarises the maximum subsidence effect predictions for the LW980 longwall extension. Table 1 of **Attachment 2** summarises the maximum subsidence effect predictions for the LW900W longwall extension.

Both subsidence assessments conclude that the predicted change in impact is minimal, and within the previously assessed and approved 26.5° angle of draw.

There are no sensitive surface features within the proposed modification area.

The previously approved subsidence impacts are detailed in section 9 of **Attachment 1** and **Attachment 2**. Specifically, the impacts due to the proposed increase in longwall length and height are expected to remain within the predicted range of environmental consequences approved in the original Project Approval 06 0021.

### SUBSIDENCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR LONGWALL 980

On 4 October 2013, the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services (DTIRIS) approved a Subsidence Management Plan (SMP) variation application to increase the extraction height for LW980. DTIRIS have raised no issues with the proposed modification and a subsequent application to variation the length of longwall 980 will be made following planning approval of this modification.

Angus Place has commenced consultation with the SMP Interagency Committee on the proposed modification. Consultation has taken place with relevant agencies as per **Attachment 3.** 

### **EXTRACTION PLAN FOR LONGWALL 900W AND 910**

An Extraction Plan to increase the extraction length of LW900W and height of LW900W and 910 will be submitted to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure following approval of this modification.

Angus Place has commenced consultation with the SMP Interagency Committee on the proposed modification. Consultation has taken place with relevant agencies as per **Attachment 3.** 

## CONCLUSION

Angus Place is seeking a modification to Project Approval 06\_0021 to increase the longwall length of LW980 and 900W and height of LW980, 900W and 910. The subsidence assessments supporting this modification conclude that the impacts and consequences are within those assessed in the original Project Approval and MOD 1 Environmental Assessments.

An application to support this modification and a political donations form is attached. For further information, please contact Mary-Anne Crawford on (02) 4935 8918 or 0400 403 550.

Yours faithfully

Mary-Anne Crawford

Group Approvals Manager

Encl Attachment 1: Subsidence Assessment on the Proposed Modification to Longwall

**Attachment 2**: Subsidence Assessment on the Proposed Modification to Longwalls 900W and 910

Attachment 3: Consultation Logs