



31 January 2017

Mr Howard Reed
Director Resource Assessments
NSW Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Howard

**RE: Application to modify PA 06_0261 under section 75W of the EP&A Act 1979
to undertake Hunter Valley Operations South Modification 5**

Please find enclosed as Attachment 1 an application to modify Project Approval (PA) 06_0261 for Hunter Valley Operations South under section 75W of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*.

The proposed modification is seeking an extension of the depth of mining within the existing approved disturbance footprint in Riverview Pit and South Lemington Pit 2. To remain within the existing disturbance footprint, the proposed modification will require an increase in the height of the overburden emplacements which provides the opportunity to incorporate micro-relief in the final landform. Also proposed is an increase in the peak production rate to 20 million tonnes per annum of run of mine coal but no net increase across the Hunter Valley Operations complex.

An Environmental Assessment Report (EMM, June 2016) was submitted for adequacy review. The final environmental assessment report will be provided for exhibition.

We are working towards commencing exhibition on 9 February 2017 which would require publishing a notice in the Singleton Argus on 8 February 2017.

Information related to noise, groundwater and consultation following the Department's adequacy review have been addressed in this application.

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Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Nolan on 02 6570 0124 or the undersigned.

Yours sincerely



Anthony Russo

Manager Project Approvals

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Enc.

Attachment 1 Application to Modify a Development Consent

Attachment 2 Environmental Assessment Report (EMM, January 2017)

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