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Re: Administrative modification to MP06\_0311

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Dear Howard,

EMM Consulting Pty Limited (EMM) acts on behalf of LakeCoal Pty Ltd (Lake Coal) in submitting an application for an administrative modification to major project approval MP06\_0311. This letter provides details of and a justification for the administrative modification.

The most recently approved modification (Modification 3) to MP 06\_0311 allows for, amongst other things, an increase in the maximum rate of run of mine coal handling and dispatch at Mannering Colliery (MC) from 1.1 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) to a maximum of 1.3 Mtpa.

As part of the environmental assessment (EA) for Modification 3, EMM prepared a noise impact assessment for (refer *Mannering Colliery – Modification 3 Noise Impact Assessment* (NIA) dated 7 May 2015). Section 5.2 of the NIA stated that:

*the rock breaker...will not be in use at MC once operations recommence. Notwithstanding this, the sound power level of the transfer house has been conservatively assumed to be equal to that of the rock breaker.*

It is now LakeCoal's intention to use the rock breaker at MC as part of its ongoing operations at the site.

Notwithstanding that the NIA stated that the rock breaker will not be used, the noise modelling and subsequent noise assessment conservatively assumed that the rock breaker would be in operation. Therefore, the noise level predictions provided in the NIA, which ultimately formed the basis for the new noise criteria that was included within MP06\_0311, were based on the use of the rock breaker.

The NIA not only assumed that all plant and equipment would be operating simultaneously but also adopted a worst-case wind scenario which considered the highest potential noise levels at each assessment location, not just noise emission levels which result from meteorological conditions which are a feature of the area, ie in accordance with the Industrial Noise Policy (INP). Hence, based on the conservatively estimated noise emission levels from the operation of MC, including the use of the rock breaker, operation of MC is expected to comply with the noise criteria presented in Appendix 4B of MP06\_0311.

It is noted that the only comment regarding the use of the rock breaker is in the NIA specialist report and there is no reference in any of the other Modification 3 approval documentation (ie environmental assessment, response to submissions, planning assessment report and project approval).

LakeCoal has confirmed that the rock breaker is considered critical to ongoing operations at the site and LC would like to request that MP06\_0311 be modified to permit the use of the rock breaker as soon as possible.

Should you require any further information or clarification please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 9493 9500 or via the email below.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JA' with a stylized flourish.

John Arnold  
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