

DOC16/119293; EF15/21093; EF13/3519

Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Mr Hamish Aiken

hamish.aiken@planning.nsw.gov.au

**Proposed separation of the consolidated consent for
Integra Underground Coal Project (MP08_0101 - Mod 5) and
Integra Open Cut Project (MP08_0102 – Mod 6)**

I refer to your email to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), dated 18 February 2016, seeking the EPA's comments on the consent modification proposed for the Integra Underground Coal Project (MP08_0101 Modification 5) and the Integra Open Cut Project (MP08_0102 Modification 6). The EPA has reviewed the proposal as detailed in the report titled "*Application to Modify Project Approval for Integra Underground Project (MP 08_0101) and Integra Open Cut Project (MP 08_0102)*", dated February 2016.

The EPA understands this application follows the transfer of ownership from Integra Coal Operations Pty Limited to HV Coking Coal Pty Limited, in relation to the Integra underground operations, and Bloomfield Collieries Pty Limited in relation to the Integra open cut operations in December 2015.

The application involves:

- Separating the current Combined Project Approval (MP08_0101 and MP08_0102) into two separate instruments of approval to separate the underground and open cut operations and to facilitate the projects being operated separately; and
- Minor amendment to the open cut approval boundary in relation to the eastern tailings dam (TD2) of an additional 8 hectares.

As stated in the modification application report the modification does not involve any new additional mining works, disturbance, vegetation clearing, or other physical alterations to those already approved under the Combined Project Approval.

In December 2015 the EPA varied Environment Protection Licences (EPL) 3390 to apply only to the Integra underground operations and the licence being transferred to HV Coking Coal Pty Limited, and EPL 3391 was varied to incorporate the Integra open cut operations, referred to as 'Rix's Creek North'.

The EPA does not have any recommended conditions of approval in relation to the proposed modifications. The proposed modifications are consistent with the current ownership and operations being undertaken at the premises involved and the EPA considers potential environmental impacts from the operations can be appropriately managed through EPL conditions for each site.

In addition to this the EPA expects that with the recent transfer of ownership of the Integra open cut coal project (MP08_0102) area, which is now known as the Rix's Creek North and subject to EPL 3391, that Bloomfield Collieries Pty Limited will in the near future be submitting an application to consolidate the current Rix's Creek Coal Mine consent and the recently acquired Rix's Creek North operational area. This application would include a full review and assessment for the combined site under the Industrial Noise Policy.

If you require any further information regarding this matter please contact Michael Howat on 4908 6819.

Yours sincerely



3.3.16

KAREN MARLER
Head Regional Operations Unit - Hunter
Environment Protection Authority

Contact officer: MICHAEL HOWAT
(02) 4908 6819
hunter.region@epa.nsw.gov.au