



In reply please send to: Singleton District Office  
Our reference: FN95-00112S0  
Your reference: 08\_0111 MOD 2  
Contact: Richard Pickles (02) 65724344

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING  
MAJOR PROJECTS ASSESSMENT  
GPO BOX 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

30 September 2011

Dear Sir or Madam

ENQUIRY NO. TENQ11-07615S1  
AUSTAR COAL PROJECT 08\_0111 MOD2

Thank you for your invitation of the 26 August 2011 seeking comments or conditions on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Stage 3 Modification.

The Stage 3 mining area is currently not within a Mine Subsidence District but the provisions of the Mine Subsidence Compensation Act cover any damage to improvements as a result of mining. The Mine Subsidence Board is currently looking at the Austar mining area for possible inclusion into a new Mine Subsidence District.

Under the previous approval 08\_0111, Department of Planning applied two previous Key Performance Measures in Schedule 3 for flooding and built features. It is requested that these measures be applied to the current modification. It is also requested that the Mine Subsidence Board be notified of any "Access Agreements" between Austar and the landowners. It is important that such agreements do not impact on the owners rights under the Mine Subsidence Compensation Act.

The Mine Subsidence Board would request that they receive a copy of each Built Feature Management Plan at least three months prior to subsidence. The Mine Subsidence Board would also like to be consulted and in the development of Built Feature Management Plans for "public" infrastructure.

The Mine Subsidence Board will offer Pre mining inspections to all landowners and public infrastructure owners as part of their subsidence assessments.

Due to recent community concern over vibration in the Stage 2 mining area the Mine Subsidence Board has installed two of its own monitors in the area. The Board requests that Austar provide the Board with monthly vibration

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readings to allow correlation and analysis. Damage resulting from mining vibration is compensatable under the Mine Subsidence Compensation Act and the Board has received claims for vibration damage in Stage 2.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Pickles', written in a cursive style.

Richard Pickles  
Acting District Manager