

23 October 2013

Mr Paul Freeman
Senior Planner
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Freeman

AUSTAR COAL PROJECT – MODIFICATION 3 of PA08_0111

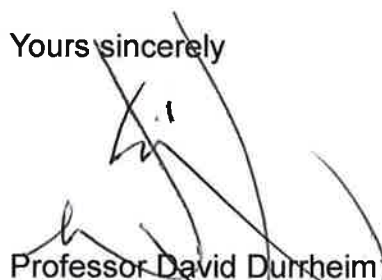
I refer to the Environmental Assessment (EA) exhibited on the NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure website in relation to the Austar Coal Modification 3 – Longwalls Extension.

The development is a modification to the 2008 Project Approval 08_0111 and involves extending longwalls A7 to A10 in the Austar Coal Mine Stage 3 mining area by 100 to 300 metres. The mine is located approximately 10 kilometres south of Cessnock.

The EA has been reviewed by Hunter New England Population Health with particular attention paid to management of air quality, noise, water and other issues that may impact on public health. Due to the modification having no changes to surface facilities, operations, employment and production rates, Hunter New England Local Health District is satisfied with existing approval conditions.

Should you require any additional information in relation to the above, please telephone Ms Nichole Ansell, Environmental Health Officer on 4924 6477.

Yours sincerely



Professor David Durrheim
Service Director - Health Protection
Hunter New England Population Health