



Your Ref: 9041467-7
Our Ref.: V09/499

Mr Howard Reed
A/Manager Mining
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention Ms Alison O'Reilly

Dear Mr Reed

**West Cliff Colliery Coal Preparation Reliability Project
Adequacy Review for Project Application 08_0243**

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) has reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the West Cliff Colliery Coal Preparation Plant (CPP) Reliability Project.

DPI considers that the EA adequately assesses the environmental management issues relating to the construction and operation of the proposed upgrade to the company's CPP and later rehabilitation.

It is noted that as part of the Draft EA review, an incorrect statement was identified in the document which indicated the existing CPP rehabilitation is covered by an approved Rehabilitation Plan for West Cliff Colliery dated December 2006. Mr James Anderson (Environmental and Community Coordinator, BHPB Illawarra Coal) clarified in an email dated 24 April 2009 that the rehabilitation plan referred to in the Draft EA has not been formally approved by DPI and remains a conceptual mine closure plan. He also committed to correcting the EA document prior to public exhibition. It appears this correction has not been carried out in the final version of the EA.

Yours sincerely


Brad Mullard
Executive Director
Mineral Resources