



Illawarra Coal - Carbon Steel Materials

18 December 2008

Department of Planning
Major Development Assessments
Mining and Extractive Industries
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

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Attn: David Kitto/Howard Reed

Dear Sir

**Appin Mine –Goaf Gas Drainage
Part 3A Application & Preliminary Environmental Assessment**

Illawarra Coal seeks approval from the Minister for Planning to construct and operate works associated with the drainage and management of goaf gas from underground workings at Appin Mine. In order to commence the approval process, please find enclosed a Major Projects application form and supporting Preliminary Environmental Application (PEA).

As agreed in a meeting held on 9 December 2008 between David Kitto (DoP) and John Brannon (IC), this application is necessary to ensure that Appin Mine operates in an efficient and safe manner in the interim period until Appin Mine is granted Project Approval in accordance with our pending Bulli Seam application.

As outlined in the PEA, the goaf gas management works are required to be in place prior to the planned commencement of Longwall 703 in September 2009. As such, seek approval for this project by June 2009.

We look forward to your efficient administration of this application. If you required clarification on any matter raised in this application please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Bruce Blunden
Manager – Environmental Approvals

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