

Matthew Sprott - Ignore previous RE: Mount Arthur Mining Complex - Modification to Mount Arthur Open Cut

From: "Heather Middleton" <heather@damsafety.nsw.gov.au>
To: <matthew.sprott@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/17/2013 3:02 PM
Subject: Ignore previous RE: Mount Arthur Mining Complex - Modification to Mount Arthur Open Cut
CC: <bill@damsafety.nsw.gov.au>, "Steve Knight" <steve@damsafety.nsw.gov.au>

Dear Matthew

Re: Proposed Modification the Mount Arthur Open Cut (09_0062 MOD 1)

The DSC has reviewed the Environmental Assessment Report for the proposed Modification of the Mount Arthur Open Cut provided on The Department of Plannings website at http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=5152 as requested in your email of 24/04/2012.

The proposed modification (09_0062 MOD 1) project area occurs in part within the Notification Area of Mt Arthur Tailings Storage Facility (Figure 1). Mt Arthur Tailings Storage Facility is a prescribed dam that has been assessed as having a consequence of High A due to the potential for loss of life in the event of the dams failure (Mt Arthur's administration buildings are positioned at the toe of the one of the dams major embankments).

While the Company must seek the endorsement of the DSC prior to any mining occurring within the Notification Area, Section 3.1.3 pg 3-1 of the EA states 'this area will be used for overburden emplacement' only. Mount Arthur Coal has further confirmed by email to the DSC that 'no blasting or excavation is intended to occur within the Dam Notification Area' and so the Company does not require approval of the DSC. At this stage then the DSC has no comments on the project other than reiterating to the mining company that should the proposed activities within the Notification Area expand to include mining, then endorsement of the DSC must be sought prior to this occurring. Contact for questions pertaining to this dam should be directed to the designated dam owner.

Mr Nathan Donegan
Civil Engineer
Mount Arthur Coal
PMB 8
Muswellbrook 2333



Figure 1: The Approximate Extent of Modification Additional Surface Development shown (yellow hatched area) relative to the Mt Arthur TSF Notification Area (red polygon) for the Mt Tailings Storage Facility, demonstrating the area of overlap.

If there are any queries in regard to the above please do not hesitate to contact me on 9842 8076.

Kind regards

Heather

Heather Middleton | Mining Regulation Officer

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