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Our ref: B187164 Your ref: 09_0186 File: 10/20261

Ms Dinuka McKenzie Senior Planner- Energy and Water Infrastructure Projects Department of Planning GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Kate Masters

Dear Ms McKenzie

RE: Heritage Branch comments on Mt Piper Ash Placement Project- Lithgow Local Government Area (09_0186).

Thank you for your Memorandum dated 9th September requesting any comments that the Heritage Branch may have on the Mt Piper Power Station Ash Placement Project (09_0186).

The Heritage Branch has reviewed the two volumes of the report submitted- 'Mt Piper Power Station Ash Placement Project Environmental Assessment Volume 1 (Main Report) and Volume 2 (Appendices) and has the following comments:

The Heritage Branch notes that there are four proposed locations for the Ash Placement Project- Lamberts North and Lamberts South, Neubecks Creek and Ivanhoe No. 4. It is noted that Project Approval is being sought for the Lamberts North and South sites, and that at this stage Concept Approval is being sought for Neubecks Creek and Ivanhoe No. 4 sites. It is also noted that the Neubecks Creek and Ivanhoe No. 4 sites are not expected to be required for the disposal of ash until 2026 at the earliest (when the Lamberts sites are predicted to be full).

Lamberts North and South have been extensively disturbed through coal mining and the heritage assessment has indicated that there is no historic heritage present in these areas, largely for this reason. The heritage assessment also indicated that there is a high likelihood of historic heritage existing to some extent at the Neubecks Creek and Ivanhoe No. 4 sites, however this was documented through via a desktop study only- no actual field survey was undertaken due to the timeline for the use of these areas. The Proponent has agreed that prior to these sites being used, a through field survey of these two areas would take place and all potential impacts would be assessed at this time.

The Heritage Branch considers that this is appropriate and would be pleased to comment on any future survey or study undertaken on the Neubecks Creek and Ivanhoe No. 4 sites.

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I hope that this information is of assistance. If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Katrina Stankowski at the Heritage Branch on (02) 98738569.

Yours sincerely

15/10/10

Vincent Sicari Manager Conservation Team Heritage Branch Department of Planning