

Our reference: LIC06/434-09:DOC12/32955:PW
Contact: Paul Wearne (02) 4224 4100

Director, Mining and Industry Projects
Major Projects Assessment
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

**LONGWALLS 4 AND 5: MAINGATES 6, 7 AND 8 APPLICATION FOR SECTION 75W MODIFICATION 1
TO MP10_0046 – PRELIMINARY WORKS PROJECT**

I am writing in relation to the above modification received by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on 10 August 2012.

The submitted information states that the application involves the modification of the Preliminary Works Approval (MP 10_0046) which was approved by the Planning Assessment Commission on 13 October 2011. This approval allowed the proponent to continue its operations at the mine including the extraction of coal up to 1 million tonnes per annum. In addition, it also involved the upgrade of and improvements to surface facilities, in addition to first workings and transport of coal to the Port Kembla Coal Terminal for shipment as required.

The proposed modification relates to additional underground workings that include:

- amending the reference to the use of maingates (MG) 4 and 5 from exploratory driveages to operational gate roads
- the extraction of coal using longwall mining techniques from Longwall (LW) 4 in accordance with the approved Subsidence Management Plan
- the extraction of coal using longwall mining techniques from LW 5; and
- development of MG 6, 7 and 8.

The EPA does not have any additional requirements in relation to this modification. Environment protection matters in relation to pit top activities have been covered in the previous Office of Environment and Heritage submissions with respect to the Preliminary Works Approval. The EPA refers Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I) to these submissions for further information when determining this modification.

If approval is granted, the proponent will also need to ensure that all activities associated with the modification comply with the requirements of Environment Protection Licence Number 12040. DP&I should also ensure that the development of any approval conditions are not inconsistent with these licence conditions.

Should you require any further information, please contact the above officer.

Yours sincerely

William Dove 24/09/2012

WILLIAM DOVE
Acting Manager Illawarra
Environment Protection Authority

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