



OUT13/12692
23 May 2013

Ms Elle Donnelley
Planner
Mining and Industry Projects
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Donnelley

**Maules Creek Coal Project Modification (10_0138 Mod 1)
Environmental Assessment Review**

I refer to your email of 2 May 2013 regarding the Aston Coal 2 Pty Limited application to modify the consent for the Maules Creek Coal Project to include construction and operation of a 132 kV electricity transmission line and rearrangement of the approved layout of the Coal Handling and Preparation Plant and associated infrastructure. NSW Trade & Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services, Division of Resources & Energy (DRE) has reviewed the *Maules Creek Coal Mine Project Approval Modification Environmental Assessment (EA)* dated April 2013 and has no objections to the proposal.

DRE recommends that the following conditions be incorporated into the planning approval, if granted:

Rehabilitation Plan

1. The Proponent must prepare and implement a Rehabilitation Plan to the satisfaction of the Director General of Department of Trade & Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services. The Rehabilitation Plan must:
 - a. be prepared in accordance with DRE guidelines and in consultation with relevant agencies and stakeholders;
 - b. be submitted and approved by the Director General of Department of Trade & Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services prior to the commencement of construction;
 - c. address all aspects of rehabilitation and mine closure, including final landuse assessment, rehabilitation objectives, domain objectives, completion criteria and rehabilitation monitoring.

The Proponent should liaise with DRE in developing the above documents for the proposed modification.

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact Julie Moloney, Principal Adviser, Industry Coordination on (02) 4931 6549.

Yours sincerely


for **Adrian Delany**
Acting Director, Industry Coordination