

## MINING, EXPLORATION & GEOSCIENCE ADVICE RESPONSE

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Dear Joe

**Project: Mount Owen Continued Operations – Modification 6 Realignment of Narama Pipeline**  
**Stage: Advice on Modification report**  
**Development Application: SSD-5850-Mod-6**

I refer to your correspondence dated 23 November 2020 inviting Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience (MEG) to provide comments on the Mount Owen Continued Operations Project – Mod 6 (the Project) submitted by Glencore Coal Pty Limited (the Proponent).

The relevant units internal to MEG have been consulted in generating this advice. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Energy, Resources & Compliance Division and the Proponent should be aware that matters concerning subsidence, subsidence management, mine operator, safety, rehabilitation and environmental impacts of final landform design are not assessed by MEG and advice should be sought from the Resources Regulator.

MEG has reviewed the information supplied for the Project and provides the following advice.

Modification 6 seeks to amend the project boundary to include the proposed realignment of the Narama Pipeline. MEG notes that Modification 6 interacts with biodiversity considerations and amended conditions proposed under Modification 5. Both modifications are currently under assessment.

The Modification 6 report indicates that biodiversity offsets will be fulfilled using one or a combination of:

- In perpetuity conservation through the establishment of a Stewardship site/s and the retirement of credits;
- Securing required credits through the open credit market;
- Payments to the Biodiversity Conservation Fund and/or
- Funding a Biodiversity Conservation Action (if applicable).

Page six of the Modification 6 report notes that Modification 5 seeks to remove the requirement to establish the Travelling Stock Route (TSR) site as a biodiversity offset and instead nominate the number of biodiversity credits required to be retired (Refer SSD5850 Schedule 3, Condition 27).

MEG also notes that Figure 1.2 in the Modification 5 report displays the locations of twelve biodiversity offset areas (onsite and offsite) that have been approved to offset the impacts associated with approved operations.

While MEG has no resource sterilisation issues to raise at this time concerning Modification 6, if additional biodiversity offset areas are required, early consultation should occur with MEG to ensure resource recovery is maximised.

For further advice concerning this matter, please contact the Assessment Coordination Unit on 02 4063 6534 or [assessment.coordination@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:assessment.coordination@planning.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SA', with a small horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott Anson  
**Manager Assessment Coordination**  
**Resource Operations**  
**Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience**  
21 December 2020

for  
Sima Williamson  
**Executive Director Resource Operations**  
**Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience**