

Our ref: DOC21/110490 Your ref: MP10\_0138-Mod-7

Philip Nevill
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer,
Planning and Assessment Group
Philip.Nevill@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Philip,

## Maules Creek Coal Mine - Modification 7

Thank you for your email dated 16 February 2021 to the Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate (BCS) (DPIE) seeking advice on the proposed modification to the approved Maules Creek Coal Mine (MP10\_0138).

BCS has reviewed the Maules Creek Coal Mine Landform Modification Report in addition to the project's development consent (PA10\_0138) approved on 23 October 2012.

As BCS understands the proposed modification includes:

- an increase to the height of the approved northern emplacement area (approximately 439 metres) with localised higher points to incorporate macro- and micro-relief; and
- an extension to the footprint of the northern emplacement area wholly contained within the approved project boundary.

From review of the project's approved development consent, it is noted that the proposed extension to the northern emplacement is located within an area previously approved for surface disturbance, namely, for the installation of mining infrastructure.

BCS considers that the proposed extension of the northern emplacement area is unlikely to result in impacts to biodiversity values additional to, or exceeding that, previously approved for this area within the project's development consent.

As such, BCS considers that a biodiversity development assessment report (BDAR) is not required and has no further specific comment to make on the proposed modification.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Ben Ellis, Senior Conservation Planning Officer, via ben.ellis@environment.nsw.gov.au or (02) 8275 1838.

Yours sincerely

Renee Shepherd

**Acting Senior Team Leader Planning North West Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate** 

18 February 2021