

Ms Lauren Evans
Team Leader
Energy and Resource Assessments
Energy and Resources Division
Department of Planning Industry and Environment

By email to: lauren.evans@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Evans

RE: MAXWELL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE PROJECT (SSD-9526) (MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE)

I refer to your email dated 10 September 2019 inviting comment on the above State Significant Development application including the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal involving the following works:

- Extraction of run-of mine (ROM) coal using 'bord and pillar' and 'longwall' underground mining methods
- Extension of existing site access road from Thomas Mitchell Drive to provide access to the mine entry area, and sealing along the full length during the first year of mining operation
- Development of the mine entry area for the Maxwell Underground and its access drifts in a natural valley in the north of EL 5460
- Establishment of infrastructure associated with mine ventilation and gas management, with surface facilities located at the mine entry area
- Development of a transport and services corridor from the Maxwell Infrastructure, including a covered overland conveyer system,
- Upgrades to ROM and product coal handling and preparation plant (CHPP) at the Maxwell Infrastructure including ROM coal stockpile and hopper, coal processing plant and product coal stockpiles, and
- Construction of power transmission infrastructure, including power lines and substations.
- A potential realignment of Edderton Road

The Historical Heritage Assessment (HHA) report by Extent Heritage Advisors (Appendix H) has been reviewed and it is noted that there are no State Heritage Register (SHR) items or historical archaeological relics, as identified under the *Heritage Act 1977* within the proposed project area or its vicinity.

The HHA has identified ten (10) potential heritage places within the study area as well as the Muswellbrook-Jerrys Plains Cultural Landscape Area (MJPLCA). Of these identified places, the HHA has assessed five (5) local heritage items that may be directly or indirectly affected by the Project. This includes three (3) properties that are listed on the Muswellbrook LEP 2009 – Edderton Homestead, Plashett Homestead and Woodlands Stud, and two (2) properties that are listed on the Singleton LEP 2013 – Arrowfield Estate and Strowan Estate. Woodlands Stud and Plashett Homestead have been assessed as of potential State significance for their aesthetic, historic and social values.

The HHA has assessed the proposal as having no direct impact, and, subject to remedial action, no indirect impact on all local heritage items. Comments on impacts to local heritage items and the proposed mitigation measures are deferred to the relevant local council as the managers of items of local heritage significance.

Please note that the North East Planning Team within the Biodiversity and Conservation Division may provide separate comment in relation to Aboriginal cultural and archaeological heritage.

As there are no identified impacts to State heritage listed item or historical archaeological relics, Heritage NSW has no further comments at this stage. Should the proposal change in the future and impacts to items which require management under the Heritage Act 1977 be identified, please feel free to seek further comment at that stage.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Tempe Beaven, Senior Heritage Assessment Officer at the Heritage NSW, Community Engagement, Department of Premier and Cabinet, on 9873 8629 or Tempe.Beaven@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



08/10/2019

Katrina Stankowski

Senior Team Leader, Regional Heritage Assessments – North

Heritage NSW, Community Engagement, Department of Premier and Cabinet

As Delegate of the NSW Heritage Council