



Mr William Dean
General Manager Projects
Maxwell Ventures (Management) Pty Ltd
Thomas Mitchell Drive
Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Dear Mr Dean

**Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project (SSD 9526)
Request for Additional Information**

I refer to the above application and to the Submissions Report dated November 2019. Following further review and consultation with relevant agencies, the Department has identified several areas where additional information is required (see **Attachment A**).

The Department requests a detailed response to the matters outlined in Attachment A by **31 January 2020**.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Lauren Evans at the details above.

Yours sincerely,

20/12/2019
Matthew Sprott
**Director
Resource Assessments**

Attachment A

Rehabilitation

1. The Resources Regulator has requested additional information with respect to rehabilitation objectives, the design of final voids and interactions with the proposed Maxwell Solar Project. A copy of the Resource Regulator's request dated 11 December 2019 has been provided to Malabar Coal via separate email. The Department requests a detailed response to the matters raised by the Resources Regulator.

Economic Impacts

2. The Department requests clarification regarding projected workforce numbers throughout the EIS. Please clarify, for example:
 - whether the maximum workforce numbers provided in Section 3.9 of the EIS are full-time equivalent (FTE) positions; and
 - how the total operational workforce numbers are expected to change over the life of the project.
3. Section 5.2 of the Economic Assessment (Appendix M) states that to "be conservative, the additional income relative to average income in the mining industry is applied in the LEA summary results presented in Section 5.6." However, the results in Section 5.6 appear to be based on an average wage, rather than an average mining-industry wage. The Department requests clarification in this regard.
4. Please provide some further explanation as to how the data in Charts 4.1 and 4.2 was used to calculate coal prices in Section 4.3.1.1 of the Economic Assessment.
5. Please confirm whether the Economic Assessment considered how a change in output composition (ie the balance between metallurgical and thermal coal) might affect the CBA. Can the 75/25 figure in the Economic Assessment be considered conservative?

Coal Transport

6. The EIS indicates that up to 7 million tonnes (Mt) of product coal may be transported by rail in any year, consistent with the existing transport limits under DA 106-04-00. However, as Table 3-3 of the EIS indicates that the maximum coal production in any year of the Project would be 6.7 million tonnes, and given the capacity of coal stockpiles at the Maxwell Infrastructure site, is it likely that coal transport would reach 7 Mt per year throughout the life of the Project?
7. Please confirm the approximate length of the site access road (ie total length from Thomas Mitchell drive to the MEA and length of the proposed extension).
8. Please confirm the status of easement negotiations with AGL regarding the section of the transport and services corridor within AGL-owned land.

Figures

9. Please provide a high-resolution version of Figure 1-1 (Regional Location) from the EIS, preferably in JPEG format. Please include the locations of the Coolmore and Godolphin horse studs and Hollydene Estate on this figure.
10. In Figure 3-1, there appear to be some geological structures (delineated with straight blue and brown lines) which are not identified in the legend. The Department requests clarification in this regard.