

Genevieve Seed
Senior Planning Officer
Resource Assessments - Planning Services Division
Department of Planning & Environment
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SYDNEY NSW 2001

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Dear Genevieve

**Rix's Creek Extension Project (SSD 6300)
Revised Response to Submissions**

I refer to your email dated 27 November 2017 inviting the Division of Resources & Geoscience (the Division) to provide comments on the Rix's Creek Extension Project (SSD 6300) (the Project) Revised Response to Submissions submitted by Bloomfield Collieries Pty Ltd (the Proponent).

The Division advises the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) that the information provided in the Revised Response to Submissions document dated 24 November 2017 adequately addresses the issues raised in the previous submission from the Division.

The Division has determined that sustainable rehabilitation outcomes can be achieved as a result of the project and that any identified risks or opportunities can be effectively regulated through the conditions of mining authorities issued under the *Mining Act 1992*.

Should approval be proposed to be granted for the Project, the Division will require further details from DPE in regards to the final rehabilitation and post-mining land use commitments to be included in the consent. The purpose of this information is to inform the drafting of specific mining lease conditions (issued pursuant to the *Mining Act 1992*) that the Division will enforce over the life of the Project to ensure that these rehabilitation and post-mining land use commitments are achieved.

The Division notes that there are nine areas that are currently being assessed for suitability as potential offset sites for the Project which are predominantly located on land held by the Proponent. Whilst it has no specific concerns to raise regarding the Revised Response to Submissions, every effort should be made to ensure that the measures put in place to satisfy the biodiversity offset requirements for the Project do not unnecessarily sterilise coal resources in the area.

Should you have any enquiries regarding this matter please contact:
Adam Banister, Senior Advisory Officer - Royalties & Advisory Services on (02) 4931 6439.

Yours sincerely



Matt Gagan
A/Manager Royalties & Advisory Services
8 December 2017