



Paul Freeman
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Resource Assessments - Planning Services Division
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Dear Paul

**Hume Coal Project (SSD 15_7172)
Response to Submissions**

I refer to your email dated 25 July 2018 inviting the Division of Resources & Geoscience (the Division) to provide comments on the Hume Coal Project (the Project) submitted by EMM Consulting Pty Limited on behalf of Hume Coal Pty Limited (the Proponent).

The relevant units internal to the Division have been consulted where required in generating this advice. Further, the Department of Planning and Environment - Planning Services Division (Planning Services) and the Proponent should be aware that matters pertaining to rehabilitation, final landform, environmental impacts of subsidence, subsidence management, mine operator and safety are assumed and assessed by the Resources Regulator.

The Division confirms that its submission to Planning Services of 11 July 2017 reviewing the Project's Environmental Impact Statement, which included a Resource & Economic Assessment (references OUT17/25104/DOI and INT17/75333/DOI), are still considered appropriate to the Project and reflect the Division's position.

The Proponent has planned a method of coal recovery that is designed to minimise surface subsidence which over a 20-year mine life is planned to recover 50 million tonnes of Run-of-Mine coal which would otherwise not be mined. The Division therefore considers the return to the state adequate in view of the constraints surrounding the Project location.

The Division acknowledges the Proponent's commitment to consult with the Division regarding the biodiversity offset strategy for the Project prior to submitting to Planning Services.

For further enquiries regarding this matter please contact Mr Adam W. Banister, Senior Advisor Assessment Coordination on (02) 4063 6601 or assessment.coordination@planning.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Dr David Blackmore
Executive Director Resource Operations
Division of Resources & Geoscience
13 September 2018