

Att: Stephen O'Donoghue
Director - Resource Assessments
Energy & Resources – Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 5022

By email: stephen.odonoghue@planning.nsw.gov.au

Tahmoor South Project (SSD 8445): Environmental Assessment Response to Submissions

Dear Stephen,

I refer to the Department of Planning and Environment – Resource Assessments (DPIE – Resource Assessment) correspondence dated 4 March 2020 inviting the Resources Regulator to review the Tahmoor South Project - Response to Submissions and Project Amendment – 20 February 2020 for the Tahmoor South Project SSD-8445.

Development Details

The Tahmoor South Project is an underground mine located approximately 80 kilometres from Sydney, NSW. The Tahmoor South Project proposes to:

- extend existing underground mining areas towards the south, and extraction, processing and rail transportation of up to four million tonnes per annum of run-of-mine (ROM) coking and thermal coal;
- upgrade surface infrastructure to facilitate the extension, including expansion of the existing rejects emplacement area (REA), additions to the existing bathhouses and associated access ways, upgrades to the Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP), construction of two new mine ventilation shafts, and upgrades to offsite service infrastructure;
- continued operation of existing mine facilities until approximately 2035

The Resources Regulator has previously provided advice to DPIE – Resource Assessments in a letter dated 1 March 2019 (Our Reference: DOC19/76073) seeking further information.

Environment and Rehabilitation

The Mining Act Inspectorate within the Resources Regulator has responsibility for providing strategic advice for environmental issues pertaining to the proposed project in so far as they relate to or affect rehabilitation. Based on the review of the Response to Submissions and Project Amendment Report as referenced above, the Resources Regulator advises the DPIE – Resource Assessment that the information provided adequately addresses the three (3) matters raised in the Regulator's letter dated 1 March 2019.

The Resources Regulator requests a review of the draft development consent conditions

prior to finalisation and any granting of development consent.

Mine Safety

The Mine Safety Inspectorate within the Resource Regulator is responsible for ensuring the mine operators' compliance with the Work Health and Safety (WHS) legislation, in particular, the effective management of risks associated with the principal hazards as specified in the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014*. The Mine Safety Inspectorate will undertake assessments of the mine operators' proposed mining activities under clause 33 of the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014* as well as necessary regulatory actions in response to any identified non-compliances.

The Resource Regulator reserves the right to communicate with you in regards to significant WHS matters.

For enquiries regarding this matter please contact me on 4063 6444 or nswresourcesregulator@service-now.com

Yours sincerely

Matthew Newton
Principal Inspector Environment & Rehabilitation Operations
Resources Regulator
NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment

31 March 2020