

19th May 2020

Department of Planning and Environment
Via NSW Major Project Portal

Tarrawonga Coal Mine – Mod7 – Life of Mine of Modification

Dear Sir/Madam,

WesTrac NSW would like to register their support for the Tarrawonga Coal Mine – Life of Mine Modification. When approved this modification will enable the mine to continue operation by maximising the resource recovery, maintaining employment for the existing workforce and contributing additional revenue to the local, state and federal governments.

WesTrac are the Caterpillar dealer for NSW and the ACT, and we directly employ over 1300 people in NSW, of whom approximately 1150 are employed outside the Sydney metropolitan area. Our workforce includes professional, trades and support staff, working in the mining and construction industries. We also have a large apprenticeship training program, helping develop the tradespeople of the future. This Mod7 will enable WesTrac to maintain our workforce, to provide onsite support, field service, workshops parts and administrative activities in the Upper Hunter region, in addition to our main facility at Newcastle.

Whitehaven are a major WesTrac customer and we have extensive engagements with them at their surface and underground operations in NSW. In addition to direct employment opportunities, WesTrac has continued to invest in high end technology to support Whitehaven and our other mining customers. In the last 12 months we have spent \$15m on capital equipment to expand our technical support capacity to our mining customers. The Tarrawonga LOM modification provides us with the certainty to make these investments and provide ongoing skilled employment opportunities in regional NSW.

WesTrac also support the ongoing role of high quality thermal coals from NSW in meeting the demands of export markets for high quality coal, in the developed and developing economies across Asia.

The coal from the Tarrawonga coal mine will be crucial in powering the High Efficiency Low Emission (HELE) power plants that are providing the necessary balance of affordable energy and low carbon emissions. This coal is essential for both local and international power generation. WesTrac supports the move towards a low carbon future, and high-quality coal from Tarrawonga coal mine is a key step in the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

Yours faithfully,



Greg Graham
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WesTrac Pty Ltd

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