

Attachment 11

Relevant Division of Resources and Energy Correspondence



Mr David Kitto
Director
Major Development Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Kitto

**Wilpinjong Coal Mine Extension Project
Conceptual Project Development Plan**

Peabody Energy's Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd (WCPL) is proposing to extend its open cut mining operations at Wilpinjong Colliery in order to access additional coal resources. The mine and the proposed expansion project is located approximately 40 km north-east of Mudgee and is wholly within Mining Lease 1573 and Exploration Licence 6169 and 7091, held by the proponent.

A Conceptual Project Development Plan (CPDP) for this project was presented to technical officers within NSW Trade and Investment - Division of Resources and Energy (DRE) on 17 September 2014.

The proposal is for the extension of open cut mining operations covering approximately 800 hectares comprising; 500 hectares for extensions to existing open cuts and 300 hectares for the development of Pit 8 in Slate Gully.

The proposed extension will provide WCPL with access to approximately 96 million tonnes of additional run of mine (ROM) coal. The extension would also extend the current mine life by seven years, ensure the continued employment of its 550 workforce for this additional period and create up to 75 additional fulltime jobs.

During the presentation WCPL demonstrated its awareness of noise related issues on the community, in particular to the town of Wollar, and the importance of continued Community Consultation.

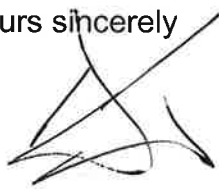
The CPDP meeting did not highlight any significant issues which DRE consider could not be appropriately managed.

DRE considers that access to the additional coal resources is significant for the local power generator. WCPL supplies AGL with over 60 percent of its product coal requirements for its Bayswater and Liddell Power Stations. The expansion project would also continue to bring economic benefits to the State and the Mudgee region.

DRE supports the proposed Wilpinjong Mine Extension Project as a responsible utilisation of the State's valuable coal resources and supports the project proceeding through the State's comprehensive development assessment and approval process.

Should you have any enquires regarding this proposal please contact Vince Fallico, Project Officer, Industry Coordination on 8281 7340.

Yours sincerely



Adrian Delany
Director
Industry Coordination

22.9.14

cc Blair Jackson
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