



Ms Carolyn McNally  
Secretary  
Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

23 August 2016

Dear Ms McNally

**Integra Underground Project (MP 08\_0101 MOD 5)  
Integra Open Cut Project (MP 08\_0102 MOD 6)  
Separation of Consolidated Project Approval**

I refer to the Department's letter dated 12 August 2016 referring the above modification requests to the Planning Assessment Commission for determination under Ministerial delegation of 14 September 2011. I constituted the Commission to determine the modification requests.

The modification requests are identical in terms and propose to separate the consolidated Project Approvals for the Integra Underground and Integra Open Cut mining operations in order to reflect new ownership arrangements. I note that Glencore Coal Pty Ltd now operates the underground mine and Bloomfield Collieries Pty Ltd now operates the open cut mine. I note both mining operations have been under care and maintenance, and Bloomfield has recently obtained approval from the Division of Resources and Energy for a Mining Operations Plan to recommence open cut mining.

The modification requests also propose a time extension to operate the open cut mine until 31 December 2035 in order to extract coal reserves that have already been approved for extraction, following less than planned annual production and the recent period of care and maintenance. The modification requests also propose a minor enlargement to the open cut project area to accommodate existing surface water infrastructure. I note that the modification requests do not propose any changes to the approved mining limits and methods, ground disturbance areas or vegetation clearance.

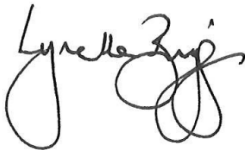
I agree with the Department that the modification requests are largely administrative in nature and within the scope of Section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. I note that there were no public submissions and no objections from State agencies.

I have reviewed the Department's assessment report and I agree with the carefully recommended apportionment of approval obligations, including acquisition and mitigation rights, to each of the separate Project Approvals according to the substantive impacts of each mining operation.

I note that new conditions are recommended for the management of blasting in the open cut mine to ensure the safety of underground personnel, and new conditions are recommended to ensure subsidence management for the underground mine takes into account impacts on Glencore's Mt Owen mining complex. I also note that important conditions protecting biodiversity and the Glennies Creek and Station Creek alluvial aquifers have been retained in the open cut Project Approval.

Consequently, I have determined to approve the modification requests, subject to the Department's recommended conditions. The signed instruments and file (16/03727-2) are enclosed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynelle Briggs', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lynelle Briggs AO  
Chair  
NSW Planning Assessment Commission

cc.           The Hon. Rob Stokes, MP  
              Minister for Planning  
              GPO Box 5341  
              SYDNEY NSW 2001