

Mr Alan Coutts
Chairman Mount Pleasant Modification 3
Independent Planning Commission
L3, 201 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000

5 July 2018

Dear Mr Coutts

MOUNT PLEASANT COAL MINE EXTENSION OF MINE LIFE (DA 92/97 MOD 3) – D512/18

Thank you for the opportunity for HTBA to present at the public meeting yesterday on the Mount Pleasant Modification 3 proposal.

We appreciated that former Planning Assessment Commissioners in reviewing previous mining applications which had the potential to significantly impact thoroughbred breeding studs and the equine critical industry cluster, visited our stud farms to gain a first hand appreciation of the farms and the environment in which they operate. In our view, nothing can properly substitute for this first hand knowledge.

We understand that the IPC that you are chairing is the consent authority to make the determination on the Mount Pleasant Modification 3. As you may appreciate, this is a critically important decision for our industry and its future.

The equine critical industry cluster in the Hunter Valley is Australia's premier thoroughbred breeding region. It is one of only three thoroughbred breeding centres of excellence in the world and is home to over 200 stallion and broodmare farms and an sophisticated network of equine support businesses. In the Hunter Valley we employ nearly 6,000 people and contributed over half a billion value added to the region every year.

We appreciate that the Commission will inform itself as it sees fit to make its decision.

Given the importance of the Mount Pleasant Modification 3 application to studs in the Segenhoe Valley and to our entire industry, the findings and recommendations of previous PACs regarding the protection of our industry, first hand knowledge of our operations and impacts on the environment, in which this mine is proposed to operate, is contextually critical to your deliberations. Without this context, it is our view, that much of the material before the Commission is difficult to appreciate.

We trust that you will accept our request and visit our stud farms to gain the essential context upon which you can make a fully informed decision.

Yours sincerely



Dr Cameron Collins
President

