



Professor Mary O'Kane
Chair
Independent Planning Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth St
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Dear Professor O'Kane

Rix's Creek South Continuation of Mining Project

I refer to the Independent Planning Commission's Review Report on the Rix's Creek South Continuation of Mining Project. The Department has now completed its assessment of the merits of the project and a copy of its Final Assessment Report is enclosed.

The Department's report has addressed all the Commission's recommendations and should be read in conjunction with the Department's Preliminary Assessment Report from May 2018. In addressing the Commission's recommendations, the Department has also considered a range of additional information provided by the Applicant and key government agencies.

The Department has also provided a comprehensive suite of recommended conditions for the Commission's consideration. The conditions have been prepared in consultation with relevant government agencies and reflect best practice in the regulation of open cut coal mines in NSW.

On balance, the Department's assessment concludes that that the benefits of the project outweigh its residual impacts, and the project is approvable subject to the recommended conditions.

If you have any further questions or wish to clarify any aspect of the Department's assessment, please contact Mr Howard Reed, Director Resource Assessments on 9274 6308 or howard.reed@planning.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Marcus Ray
Deputy Secretary
Planning Services

19/06/2019