



9 October 2020

Ms Gabrielle Allan
Manager Planning & Assessment NSW
Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited (on behalf of Wollongong Coal Limited)

via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Allan,

Russell Vale Underground Expansion Project

I write in relation to the above application which is currently before the Independent Planning Commission (**Commission**) for public hearing and determination. In its consideration of the application, the Commission would be assisted by the Applicant clarifying the matters outlined below:

Mining Methods

- Clarification as to whether other mining methods (for example the 'pine feather' mining method) were considered.
- Monitoring methods to be used by the Applicant in areas where it is uncertain if the ground overlying existing workings has subsided.

Subsidence

- Impact on subsidence if the pillars in the overlying Bulli and or Balgownie seams have not collapsed.
- Apart from the existing Bulli and Balgownie workings, are there any other hazards that could prejudice the stability of the proposed workings and therefore increase the subsidence risk?
- Risk of connective cracking within the catchment area.
- Clarification on number of swamps predicted to be impacted by subsidence.
- Risk of subsidence associated with mining to recover longwall equipment.

Water

- Risk of groundwater inflow to the proposed Wongawilli workings from the Bulli and or Balgownie seams, including potential long term consequences on groundwater modelling and licensing.

Waste

- Clarification on waste management, stockpiling and underground placement requirements.

Noise

- Clarification on whether the Project reflects contemporary noise mitigation measures.

Commonwealth EPBC Referral

- The referral of this Project to the Commonwealth for consideration under the EPBC Act.



Long Term Mining, Rehabilitation and closure

- Clarification around mine closure plans, rehabilitation and business closure costs

Conditions

- An overview of any consultation regarding the recommended conditions of consent and significant issues raised.

The Commission would be grateful if you could respond to these matters at your meeting with the Commission on Tuesday, 13 October 2020.

If you have any questions, I have asked Mr Brad James, bradley.james@ipcn.nsw.gov.au to liaise directly with you.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Barry
Director of Planning