



9 October 2020

Mr Stephen O'Donoghue
Director, Resource Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment

via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Steve,

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 Department clarifying the matters outlined below:

Mining Methods

- Clarification as to whether other mining methods (for example the 'pine feather' mining method) were considered.

Subsidence

- Impact on subsidence if the pillars in the overlying Bulli and or Balgownie seams have not collapsed.
- Risk of connective cracking within the catchment area.
- Clarification on number of swamps predicted to be impacted by subsidence.
- Clarification on Figure 9 and Figure 13 of the Department's Assessment Report.
- Clarification as to whether Dr Hebblewhite's review has been referred back to the IESC.

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.
- Potential for the pre-existing Corrimal Fault or Dyke 8 to enhance connectivity to the Dam or swamps.
- Clarification as to how water licensing requirements will be resolved and implemented.

Waste

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

Noise

- Department's views on whether the Project reflects contemporary noise mitigation measures.



Conditions

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

The Commission would be grateful if the Department could respond to these matters at your meeting with the Commission on Wednesday, 14 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Barry', with a long horizontal line extending to the right and a small flourish at the end.

Stephen Barry
Director of Planning