



26 October 2020

Mr Mike Young  
Executive Director  
Energy, Resources and Compliance  
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment

via email: [mike.young@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mike.young@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Young,

### **Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project (SSD-9526)**

This letter follows the meeting between the Department and the Independent Planning Commission (**Commission**) on 15 October 2020, and potential issues identified during the Commission's locality tour of Coolmore and Godolphin Woodlands following the Maxwell site inspection on 19 October 2020.

The Commission would be grateful if the Department could provide further advice on the following potential impacts of the Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project (**Project**) on the equine industry:

1. Blasting:

The Commission notes the Department's conclusion at paragraph 6.11.5 of the Assessment Report, that "*construction-related blasts are predicted to remain well below ANZEC overpressure and vibration criteria at privately-owned receivers and would be virtually undetectable at the Coolmore and Woodland Studs*". However, the Commission would be very much assisted by further advice on any potential blasting impacts and their potential consequences, specifically in relation to the likelihood of blast events startling horses at the Coolmore and/or Godolphin Woodlands operations.

2. Air quality impacts:

The Commission would be assisted by further information with respect to potential air quality impacts on the Coolmore and/or Godolphin Woodlands operations. Particular reference should be made to the early stages of the proposal (before the conveyor is commissioned), when the coal will be transported by truck using the internal haul road, which is not expected to be fully sealed until after the first 12 months of operation (paragraph 2.2.4 of the Department's Assessment Report).

The Commission would appreciate the Department providing this information by **Tuesday, 3 November 2020**.

If you have any questions, I have asked Ms Casey Joshua, [casey.joshua@ipcn.nsw.gov.au](mailto:casey.joshua@ipcn.nsw.gov.au) or (02) 8289 6913, to liaise directly with you.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Barry  
Planning Director