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Office of the Independent Planning Commission NSW
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dendrobium Mine Extension Project (SSD-8194)

Port Kembla Coal Terminal (PKCT) is a key link in the Illawarra region coal chain and I write on behalf of PKCT in support of the South32 Dendrobium Mine Extension Project.

As the region's only coal export terminal, we provide customers from both the Southern and Western Coalfields with access to efficient, economically viable and modern coal export facilities.

At PKCT we employ around 100 employees and contractors, the majority of whom live in the Illawarra. We prioritise local businesses and suppliers and are proud of our long history in the area.

We have also recently completed a major refurbishment project on our facility, investing around \$300 million to ensure we support the coal industry in the Illawarra and can continue to meet our customers' needs long into the future.

South32's Appin and Dendrobium operations export significant volumes of coal through PKCT each year and the loss of Dendrobium Mine as a PKCT user would have a demonstrable impact on the economic viability of our operation. As it is based on overall throughput, the Loading Charge levied on users of the terminal would increase significantly and this would undoubtedly have a negative impact on the long term economic sustainability of PKCT as a coal export facility.

Additionally, as coal is a volatile global commodity, any increase in PKCT's Loading Charge would have flow on impacts on local coal producers, with further direct and indirect negative outcomes in the Illawarra, a region still heavily reliant on the mining and manufacturing industries.

Based on the project's positive socio-economic outcomes, PKCT supports South32's application to extend the operational life of Dendrobium Mine until 2048. This will ensure continued supply of coal through our facility and ongoing sustainability of our business; stability of operational and access costs for users; and continued economic contribution to the broader Illawarra region.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Smith
PKCT Board Chairman