

Our ref: Northern Coal Logistics- Modification 5 (SSD 5145 -Mod-5)

Andrew Mills
Chair
Independent Planning Commission NSW

21 May 2025

Subject: Northern Coal Logistics Modification 5 – Referral for Determination

Dear Mr Mills

The Department has completed its assessment of the Northern Coal Logistics Modification 5 (SSD 5145-Mod 5) (the Modification). The Modification application is referred to the Independent Planning Commission (the Commission) for determination as the Applicant, Centennial Northern Coal Services Pty Ltd (Northern Coal Services), a subsidiary of Centennial Coal Company Limited (Centennial), has made reportable political donation disclosures.

The Northern Coal Services Project is located on the western side of Lake Macquarie approximately 25 kilometres (kms) south-west of Newcastle, in the Lake Macquarie Local Government Area. The Modification application seeks to facilitate:

- transport and beneficial use of Coal Washery Rejects from the Newstan Colliery surface site;
- flexibility in the transportation of coal products between its operations on the existing private haul road;
- the use of a mobile crushing and screening plant at the Newstan Colliery surface site on a campaign basis; and
- amend the timing of the Conservation Bond to align with the approved vegetation clearing.

During the public exhibition, the Department received 11 public submissions, including 10 from individuals and 1 from a special interest group. Five of the individual submissions and the special interest group submission objected to the Modification, while the remaining five individual submissions supported the Modification.

The Department also received advice from Lake Macquarie City Council and three State government agencies throughout the assessment.

The Department has carried out a detailed assessment of the merits of the Modification, having regard to Northern Coal Service's project documentation, advice from NSW government agencies, Council and public submissions. The Department has also considered the objects of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and relevant considerations under Section 4.15(1) of the EP&A Act.

I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report, recommended instrument of modification and other relevant documents for the Commission's consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact me on [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Jessie Evans

Director

Energy and Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary