

Our ref: Northern Coal Logistics Project- Modification 4 (SSD 5145 -Mod-4)

Andrew Mills
Chair
Independent Planning Commission NSW

25 September 2026

Subject: Northern Coal Logistics Project Modification 4 – Referral for Determination

Dear Mr Mills

The Department has completed its assessment of Northern Coal Logistics Project Modification 4 (SSD 5145-Mod 4) (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), had made reportable political donation disclosures at the time of application.

The Modification application was lodged under Section 4.55(2) of the *Environmental Assessment and Planning Act 1979* (EP&A Act). The Modification has been determined to be a “controlled action” under the Commonwealth *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) because of potential impacts on listed threatened species and communities.

The Northern Coal Logistics 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:

- extend the coal stockpile at the Cooranbong Entry Site to increase capacity from 100,000 tonnes to 400,000 tonnes;
- construct infrastructure associated with the modified stockpile footprint, including access tracks, lighting towers, water sprays, fencing and water management infrastructure; and
- facilitate an administrative update to the Schedule of Land in the consent.

During the public exhibition, the Department received 78 individual public submissions. One of the individual submissions objected to the Modification, while the remaining 77 individual submissions supported the Modification.

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

The Department has carried out a detailed assessment of the merits of the Modification, having regard to Centennial's project documentation, advice from Commonwealth and NSW government agencies, Council and public submissions. The Department has also considered the objects of the 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
A/Executive Director
Energy Resource and Industry Assessments
As nominee of the Planning Secretary