



20 March 2025

Ron Bush  
General Manager  
Development and Approvals  
Centennial Coal

via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ron,

**Springvale Water Treatment Facility (SSD-7592 MOD 11)  
Request for Information**

I refer to the State significant development application for the Springvale Water Treatment Facility (SSD-7592 MOD 11) (**Application**), currently before the Independent Planning Commission (**Commission**) for determination.

The Commission is seeking information from Centennial Coal (**Applicant**) on the following matters:

- 1) Please quantify any material impacts on Sydney Drinking Water Catchment water supplies and the broader environment in the event that the Application is not approved.
- 2) Is there sufficient storage capacity within Thompsons Creek Reservoir (TCR) to accommodate foreseeable precipitation events in addition to the proposed 42ML/day of water transfers from the Springvale Water Treatment Facility (SWTF), while still complying with Energy Australia's Water Supply Work and Water Use Approval and the proposed TCR release rates as part of this Application? If not, how are these releases proposed to be managed?
- 3) Please provide a table setting out total water transfer volumes and salt loadings to the TCR (median and 95<sup>th</sup> percentile) resulting from the Application.
- 4) Per the recommendations on page 7 of the [Independent Expert Advisory Panel for Mining \(IEAPM\) advice to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure dated 18 March 2025](#), please:
  - a. provide more detail on the composition of the following water streams proposed to be transferred to TCR as a result of the Application:
    - i. Treated water (i.e. waters that have been RO filtered);
    - ii. Partially treated water (i.e. waters that have been treated at SWTP but not RO filtered); and
    - iii. Blended water (i.e. the mix of RO filtered and non-RO filtered waters);



- b. provide analyses of all waters of interest (including the above waters as well as those of TCR and downstream receiving waters), including complete analyses of all major cations and anions as well as the minor species currently analysed; and
  - c. confirm that the TCR artificial destratification system (i.e. the aeration facility) is capable of consistently maintaining TCR in a fully mixed state. If this cannot be confirmed, please provide conservative revised water discharge modelling which allows for a realistic non-fully mixed-state with appropriate justification for any changes to the modelled water discharge quality.
- 5) Are there any reasons why, in the event this Application was approved, conditions should not be imposed requiring:
- a. water transfers from the SWTF to cease once:
    - i. water levels in TCR reach the high operating level (HOL); and/or
    - ii. there is a risk of water quality within the TCR exceeding 600  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ ;
  - b. all reasonable efforts to be taken to ensure that reverse osmosis treatment of mine waters can be maintained for all future Mount Piper Power Station (MPPS) outages;
  - c. that the TCR artificial destratification system (i.e. the aeration facility) is capable of consistently maintaining TCR in a fully mixed state;
  - d. compliance with specific, measurable, assignable, realistic, and time-bound (SMART) benchmarks for substantive improvements in discharge water quality over time (including during future MPPS shut-down periods); and
  - e. that regular progress reports on compliance with these conditions be published in a timely manner?

The Applicant is invited to provide a response to all or some of the above questions verbally during the Applicant's scheduled time at the upcoming public meeting. If these matters cannot be fully addressed at the public meeting, please provide a written response by **5pm on Monday, 24 March 2025 to facilitate a timely determination given the scheduled MPPS shutdown on 1 April 2025.**

Should you require any clarification in relation to the above, or wish to discuss further, please contact Callum Firth at [REDACTED].au or [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely,



Stephen Barry  
Planning Director