

IRF19/657

Professor Mary O'Kane AC Chair – Independent Planning Commission GPO Box 3415 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Professor O'Kane,

Ulan Coal Mine - Modification 4 (MP 08_0184 MOD 4)

The Department has received an application from Ulan Coal Mines Limited to modify the project approval for Ulan Coal Mine under the former section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The mine is located near the village of Ulan, approximately 38 kilometres north of Mudgee in the Mid-Western Regional Council local government area.

The Proponent has identified the opportunity to access an additional 6.4 Mt of run-of-mine coal by extending several longwalls. The longwall extensions would require associated surface infrastructure, predominantly in the form of dewatering and power systems.

During exhibition of the application, the Department received 81 public submissions from the community, including 14 from special interest groups, mainly objecting to the proposal. Advice was provided from 6 NSW government agencies, including Mid-Western Regional Council, who did not object to the request.

Under the Minister for Planning's delegation of 14 September 2011, the Independent Planning Commission of NSW must determine this application as there were more than 25 objections to the proposal.

Based on its assessment, the Department considers that the modification request is approvable, subject to recommended conditions. I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report, recommended revised conditions and other relevant documents for the Commission's consideration.

For further information or to arrange a briefing, please contact Mr Stephen O'Donoghue, A/Director Resource and Energy Assessments on 0477 345 626.

Yours sincerely

Marcus Ray

Deputy Secretary

Planning Services