



7 July 2020

Mr Stephen O'Donoghue
Director, Resource Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment

via email: Stephen.ODonoghue@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Steve,

Vickery Extension Project (SSD 7480)

I write in relation to the above application which is currently before the Independent Planning Commission (**Commission**) for public hearing and determination.

The Commission held the second and final stage of its public hearing into this application over 2 July 2020 and 3 July 2020. The Commission heard from a number of speakers who raised concerns regarding the potential for a water balance deficit at the proposed CHPP and water sharing between Whitehaven Coal's mining operations in the region.

In its consideration of the application and comments made at the hearing, the Commission would be assisted by the Department providing clarification on the following matters:

- Confirmation from the Department of the water balance for the Project;
- How the water resource monitoring framework is intended to be implemented under the Department's recommended conditions;
- How the Department has considered recycled water in the water budget for the Project; and
- How water sharing arrangements between the Applicant's surrounding mining operations are intended to work in practice.

The Commission would be grateful if the Department could provide a response to these matters by 5pm on Friday, 10 July 2020.

If you have any questions, I have asked Mr Brad James, bradley.james@ipcn.nsw.gov.au to liaise directly with you.

Yours sincerely,

Sam McLean
Executive Director