



Mr Gary Brassington
Manager, Approvals
BHP Billiton Illawara Coal
PO Box 514
UNANDERRA NSW 2526

Dear Mr. Brassington

**Appin Mine – Area 9 (MP 08_0150)
Longwalls 901 to 904
Extraction Plan Approval**

The Department has reviewed the Extraction Plan (31 October 2013) for the Appin Mine – Area 9 (Longwalls 901 to 904), which was prepared in accordance with condition 5, Schedule 3 of the Bulli Seam Operations project approval (MP 08_0150).

The Department notes that the Extraction Plan seeks approval for a modified longwall layout compared to the base plan longwall layout presented in the *Bulli Seam Operations Environmental Assessment* (EA) (October 2009). The Department is satisfied that the revised EP mine layout would result in similar or less subsidence related impacts to those approved as part of the original EA layout, and can be characterised as being “generally in accordance with” the EA, Preferred Project Report and the conditions of approval.

Accordingly, the Director-General’s nominee approves this revised longwall layout.

The Department has reviewed the Extraction Plan, including the following updated components of the plan dated 2 September 2014, and considers them to be adequate:

- Main Report;
- Water Management Plan (Annex C);
- Biodiversity Management Plan (Annex D); and
- Subsidence Monitoring Program (Annex B) (sections relevant to natural features only).

Accordingly, the Director-General’s nominee approves the Extraction Plan.

The Department notes that this approval does not extend to approval of the Built Features Management Plan (BFMP) (condition 5(g)) or the elements of the Subsidence Monitoring Program (condition (m)) that relate to built features, seeing as these components of the Extraction Plan are not yet completed for Longwalls 901 to 904.

The Department also notes recent correspondence from the Mine Safety Operations Branch of the Division of Resources and Energy (DRE) of the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services regarding the feasibility of the proposed Longwall 901 to 904 layout with respect to two overlying major embankments on the Main Southern Railway.

You are advised that the Management Plan for Longwall Mining beneath the Main Southern Railway component of the BFMP must be prepared to the satisfaction of both the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator and DRE's Mine Safety Operations Branch.

Illawarra Coal will be required to update these plans and program to be relevant to the Appin Area 9 Longwalls 901 to 904, to the satisfaction of the Director-General, prior to the commencement of mining in this area.

Yours sincerely



Howard Reed

10.9.19

Manager, Mining Projects

as nominee for the Director-General