



OUT12/27927
File No 10/5111

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

Dear Gary

**West Cliff Colliery Longwall 34 – 36 Subsidence Management Plan Variation
Reduce Longwall 36 void length**

With reference to your application dated 8 October 2012, the Director General of the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services NSW has approved the variation to the SMP for Longwalls 34 to 36.

The conditions of approval are the same as those issued in the previous approval for Longwalls 34 to 36, dated 13 May 2009 except for Condition 13 which was varied on 23 December 2009.

The Approved Plan is now Drawing No: AS-2571 Rev 0 titled "SMP & CMH&S Regulation Part4 Clause 88 Variation to Extraction Approvals LW34 -LW36 (Shortening of LW 36 Commencing End) Approved Plan", signed by the Manager of Mining Engineering on 28 September 2012.

Although there is a reduction in the proposed mining area, it is important to ensure that the Colliery meets the requirements of all Environmental Management Plans and other approval requirements for Longwalls 34 to 36. The leaseholder should respond rapidly to any monitoring trends that indicate possible exceedances of Trigger Levels.

It should be noted that this Approval does not constitute an approval under the previous Section 138 of the Coal Mines Regulation Act 1982 or current Clause 88 of the Coal Mines Health and Safety Regulation 2006. Operators must comply with the requirements of Section 138 or Clause 88 before extracting any pillars from first workings or longwall or other extraction systems.

If you have any further enquiries do not hesitate to contact Mr Paul Langley, Subsidence Executive Officer on (02) 4931 6448 or paul.langley@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

4/12/12

Brad Mullard
Executive Director, Mineral Resources
Under delegation for the Director General

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