

Mr Peter Jaeger  
A/Environment & Community Manager  
Wambo Coal Pty Ltd  
PMB 1  
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Mr Jaeger

**South Bates Underground Mine  
Extraction Plan Longwalls 17 - 20**

I refer to your correspondence of 27 April 2018 submitting an Extraction Plan (dated April 2018) and associated sub-plans for Longwalls 17 to 20 at the South Bates Underground Mine, submitted in accordance with conditions 22C and 22D of Schedule 4 of the Wambo Coal Mine development consent (DA 305-7-2003).

The Department also notes correspondence received on 4 September 2018 advising the Department that further investigation of geological structures in the area may require changes to the main headings and the finishing ends of Longwalls 18, 19 and 20. It is noted that the geological structure encountered would not result in any change to the proposed layout of Longwall 17 as originally proposed under this Extraction Plan. It is understood that Wambo Coal Pty Ltd will prepare an amended Extraction Plan for Longwalls 18, 19 and 20 for submission later in the year.

The Department has reviewed the Extraction Plan and its sub-plans as relevant to Longwall 17 and is satisfied that they generally meet the requirements of the development consent. The Department is awaiting confirmation from Natural Resources Access Regulator that the Water Management Plan and subsequent information provided by Wambo Coal has satisfactorily addressed its concerns. The Department will further liaise with Wambo Coal, if necessary, once this information is received. Nevertheless, the Water Management Plan can be considered approved and should be implemented.

The Department also acknowledges that DRG has confirmed it is satisfied with the revised Extraction Plan in accordance with condition 22C(g) of Schedule 4. Accordingly, the Secretary approves the Extraction Plan for Longwall 17 only, under conditions 22C and 22D of Schedule 4.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Jessie Evans at the details listed above.

Yours sincerely



Howard Reed

7.9.18

**Director Resource Assessments**  
as the Secretary's nominee