



## Planning & Environment



Ms Lynelle Briggs AO  
Chairperson  
Planning Assessment Commission  
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Briggs

**United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine Project (SSD 7142) and  
associated modifications (DA 177-8-2004 MOD 3 & DA 305-7-2003 MOD 16)**

As you would be aware, on 28 November 2017, the Minister for Planning directed the Planning Assessment Commission to carry out a review of the merits of the United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine Project and to conduct public hearings during the review.

The Department has now completed its preliminary assessment of the merits of the Project and two associated modifications to the Wambo Coal Mine's development consents. I have attached a copy of the Department's preliminary assessment report for the Commission's consideration.

In response to the public exhibition of the Project during August - September 2016, the Department received 103 submissions, including submissions from Singleton Shire Council and 10 NSW Government agencies. Of the 92 submissions received from the general public and special interest groups, 3 supported the Project and 89 objected to or otherwise commented on the Project and associated modifications.

During the course of its preliminary assessment, the Department also received advice from the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy, the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Mining Development, the Australian Rail Track Corporation, Ausgrid and Transgrid.

Should you have any enquiries, please contact Mr Howard Reed, Director Resource Assessments on 9274 6308.

Yours sincerely

Marcus Ray  
**Deputy Secretary  
Planning Services**

12/12/2017