



Our Ref: OUT11/5815
Your Ref: MP 10-0093

Anna Johnston
Strategic Assessment
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms Johnston

**Exhibition of Black Hill Employment Lands State significant site study, Part 3A
concept plan (MP10_0093)**

The following comments are provided by the Coal Advice Branch, Mineral Resources, Industry and Investment NSW (I&I NSW) in response to the exhibition of the above Environmental Assessment.

The site is underlain by Late Permian Tomago Coal Measures. The employment lands development area is almost wholly within the mining lease ML1618 (Abel Mine), held by Donaldson Coal Pty Ltd. Abel Mine is a bord and pillar operation mining the Upper Donaldson Seam, which is considered to be the only economic seam at this location.

The Coal Advice Branch, Mineral Resources, I&I NSW, considers that adequate consideration has been given in the Environmental Assessment to the impacts of the development on future resource extraction. The proponent has consulted with Donaldson Coal and the Mine Subsidence Board, and no development will occur until all subsurface mining has been completed.

The Coal Advice Branch, Mineral Resources, I&I NSW, will continue to have no objection to this development provided coal mining has been completed at the Abel Mine prior to commencement of development. Consultation should continue with the title holder and the Mine Subsidence Board.

Kevin Rumung
Manager, Coal Advice

5 April 2011