



**Resources
& Energy**

OUT11/14882
Section File No: 11/0581

Phil Fletcher
Technical Services Manager
Ashton Underground Mine
PO Box 699
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Phil,

**Subsidence Management Plan –
Variation to replace Miniwalls 7 & 8 with Longwall Panel 7B**

With reference to your application dated 23 June 2011, the Director General of the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services, NSW has approved the variation for Longwall 7B.

The conditions of approval are attached for your information. Please note Special Condition 21 which states:-

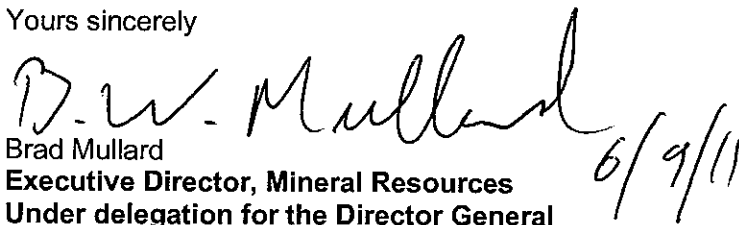
The Leaseholder must implement operational procedures, including confirmation by survey, to ensure that no longwall coal is extracted within 40 metres from any point vertically beneath the high bank of Bowman's Creek. Records of these procedures and survey shall be maintained at the mine and available for inspection by the NSW Department of Trade & Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services and NSW Office of Water officers.

The approved plan is now A-4118 titled Ashton Underground Mine Proposed LW 7B Short – Pikes Gully Seam SMP Variation - Approved Plan signed by the Manager of Mining Engineering on 23 June 2011, showing the varied extraction layout.

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

If you have any further enquiries do not hesitate to contact Mr Paul Langley, Subsidence Executive Officer on (02) 4931 6448.

Yours sincerely


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

Mineral Resources – Office of the Executive Director
PO Box 344 Hunter Region Mail Centre NSW 2310
516 High St MAITLAND NSW 2320
Tel: 02 4931 6422 Fax: 02 4931 6793
www.industry.nsw.gov.au
ABN 72189919072-002