

## **Conditional Gateway Certificate Spur Hill Underground Coking Coal Project, Denman, NSW**

Part 4AA, Division 4 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007

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Pursuant to clause 17H of State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007, we determine the application made by Spur Hill Management Pty Ltd by issuing this certificate.

We confirm that in the opinion of the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel, with regards to the relevant criteria in clause 17H(4) of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007, the proposed development described in Schedule 1:

- meets the following relevant criteria for BSAL and CIC that has been identified within the Project area:
  - 17H(4)(b)(iii)
  - 17H(4)(b)(iv)
- does not meet the following relevant criteria for BSAL and CIC that has been identified within the Project area:
  - 17H(4)(a)(i)
  - 17H(4)(a)(ii)
  - 17H(4)(a)(iii)
  - 17H(4)(a)(iv)
  - 17H(4)(a)(v)
  - 17H(4)(a)(vi)
  - 17H(4)(b)(i)
  - 17H(4)(b)(ii)
  - 17H(4)(b)(v)

The reasons for forming the opinion on each of the relevant criteria, together with associated recommendations of the Gateway Panel, are contained in Schedule 2, noting that in general terms, the panel believes that the likely impacts on BSAL and CIC within the Project area should be tolerable and manageable. The recommendations made are primarily required to allow the panel to be definitive as to its opinions at the time of any full development application.

**Chairperson**

Russell Frith

**Member of the Gateway Panel**

Garry Willgoose

**Member of the Gateway Panel**

Brett Whelan

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Date certificate issued: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014

**This certificate will remain current for 5 years from the date of issue.**

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### SCHEDULE 1

**Site:**

The site is located east of Denman within the Muswellbrook Local Government Area.

**Development description:**

The Spur Hill proposal is to develop a multi-seam underground longwall coal mining operation producing up to 8 MTPA for a period in the order of 25 years.

**Applicant:**

Spur Hill Management Pty Ltd.

### SCHEDULE 2

Relevant criteria	Consideration	Recommendations
17H4(a)(i),(ii),(iii), (iv),(v) and (vi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>An area of possible BSAL within the Project area has not been identified and/or subject to appropriate verification.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Complete the identification and verification of BSAL within the full Project area, rather than just the intended mining area and subsequently undertake a mining impact assessment on any additional BSAL that is identified.</li></ul>
17H4(a)(i), 17H(4)(b)(i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>On the basis of the importance of surface drainage to BSAL and viticulture, no pre- and post-mining surface landforms have been provided to assist the panel.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Have the surface subsidence prediction provider produce pre- and post- mining surface landforms and include them in a surface drainage analysis for BSAL and CIC within the Project area.</li></ul>
17H4(a)(i), 17H(4)(b)(i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Surface subsidence predictions are based on a constant chain pillar width for the full mine life.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Re-evaluate surface subsidence using chain pillar dimensions that have been appropriately designed for known changes in mining conditions throughout the full mine life.</li></ul>
17H4(a)(iv), 17H(4)(b)(ii)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Significant uncertainties and deficiencies may exist in the hydrogeological modelling done to-date.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Address the various concerns raised in regards to the hydrogeological modelling, including the presence of the Mt. Ogilvie structure/fault, overburden fracturing due to multi-seam longwall extraction, far-field subsidence effects relating to associated changes in horizontal ground stresses and the potential for far-field interconnection between deep aquifer drawdown and near-surface productive aquifers.</li></ul>
17H(4)(b)(v)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The significance of the Callatoota Estate cellar door operation to the Upper Hunter viticulture CIC has not been considered in detail.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advise as to whether the Callatoota Estate cellar door will remain operational during and following mining and address any impact its closure due to mining may have on the Upper Hunter viticulture CIC.</li></ul>

Note: Further information on the Gateway Panel's reasoning in relation to the relevant criteria is contained in the Gateway Panel Report available on the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel website at: [www.mpgp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.mpgp.nsw.gov.au)

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