



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

EPBC 2022/09208

Mr Mark Jacobs
Executive General Manager, Environmental and External Affairs
Ashton Coal Operations Pty Ltd
Darling Park – Tower 2
Level 18, 201 Sussex Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

**Decision to approve Ashton Coal Operations Ravensworth Underground Mine,
Ravensworth, NSW**

Dear Mr Jacobs

I am writing to you about a proposal to conduct underground longwall mining of coal seams at the Ravensworth Mine Complex, develop associated infrastructure and transfer coal, water and gas to the Ashton Coal Project, in Ravensworth, New South Wales (Proposed Action).

I have considered the proposal in accordance with Part 9 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and have decided to grant an approval to Ashton Coal Operations Pty Ltd. The details of my decision are attached. The proposal must be undertaken in accordance with the conditions specified in the approval.

Any plans required to be implemented under the conditions of approval will be regarded as public documents unless the approval holder provides sufficient justification to warrant a commercial-in-confidence status.

Approval under the EPBC Act does not affect obligations to comply with any other laws of the Commonwealth, state or territory that are applicable to the action. Neither does this approval confer any right, title or interest that may be required to access land or waters to take the action.

Section 142 of the EPBC Act requires an approval holder to comply with conditions attached to an approval. Penalties may apply to approval holders who contravene conditions.

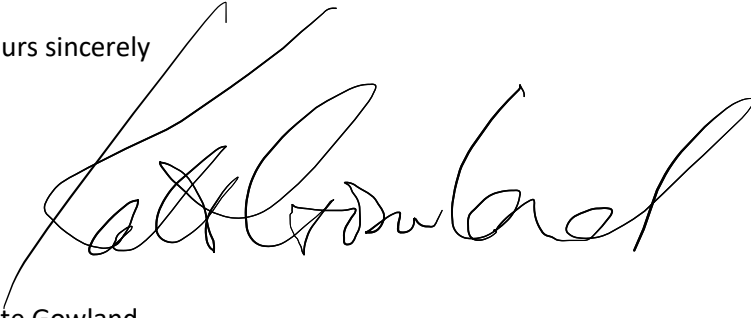
The department actively monitors and audits proposals referred or approved under the EPBC Act. The audit program aims to ensure approval holders comply with conditions of approval and implement any commitments made in management plans. Your project may be selected for audit by the department at any time and all related records and documents may be examined. Please refer to the department's [Compliance and enforcement](#) page for further information on the compliance monitoring and auditing program.

Please advise the department when you commence the action and ensure you keep the details of the person responsible for administration of the approval decision up to date throughout the life of the approval via email to epbcmonitoring@dcceew.gov.au.

You will soon receive a letter regarding the requirements of the approval conditions. For general enquiries regarding post approval matters, e.g. approval of management plans, please contact PostApproval@dcceew.gov.au.

If you have any questions about this decision, please contact the project manager, Lucy Long, by email to Lucy.Long@dcceew.gov.au, or telephone 02 7262 5042.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Gowland', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Kate Gowland
Branch Head
Environment Assessment (NSW, ACT)

24 September 2024