

White Mining Limited A.C.N. 009 713 893

Ashton Coal Project 73 Glennies Creek Road P.O. Box 699 Singleton NSW 2330

Telephone: Facsimile:

(02) 6576 1111 (02) 6576 1122

Mobile: E-Mail:

0419 622 155 icallow@whitemining.com.au

12 August 2002

By Fax: 02 9762 8707

Mr Matt Andrews
Environmental Planning Officer
PlanningNSW
Henry Deane Building
Level 4, 20 Lee Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Matt

VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION AREA ("VCA")

We refer to meetings in your offices of 31 July 2002 and 7 August 2002 where White Mining Limited ("WML") proposed a VCA within the Development Application area as lodged for the Ashton Coal Project.

The VCA was initially proposed to protect the "Glennies Creek site" identified during Dr Dan Witter's archaeological survey of the underground area. Dr Witter's recommendation was that this regionally significant site be preserved.

Discussions with members of the four Wonnarua Community groups confirmed the benefits of preserving this site for future educational and traditional heritage outcomes.

WML hereby propose that both the above conservation outcomes be included in a single VCA. The area proposed is shown on the attached plan.

As discussed at the above meetings, the following activities are permissible under the Plan of Management for the VCA. These cover both mining and agricultural uses for the land. In addition they consider the outcomes of the Land Management Plan for the Ashton Coal Project.

SYDNEY: BRISBANE: Level 14, 213 Miller Street, North Sydney NSW 2060 - Ph:(02) 9922 3777 Fax: (02) 9923 2427 Level 6, 77 Eagle Street, Brisbane QLD 4000 - Ph: (07) 3229 0200 Fax: (07) 3221 2817



- Bushfire hazard reduction:
- Agriculture;
- Mining;
- Activities ancillary to the above;
- Farm tracks (re-alignment of A Bowman's right of way), dams, irrigation systems,
- Power supplies and telecommunications to adjacent properties / structures;
- Educational facilities and access to the Aboriginal sites;
- Surface drainage and flood mitigation;
- Activities permissible under National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and Singleton Local Environmental Plan 1996.

It should be noted that the land is currently owned by Coal & Allied. Under agreement, WML can purchase the property following the granting of the Mine Lease. As such, the VCA cannot be finalised until completion of the sale.

We confirm our commitment to these conservation outcomes and look forward to processing the VCA agreement following determination of the Development Application on terms acceptable to WML and after the granting of the Mine Lease.

Should you require any further information or clarification please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely

IAN CALLOW Project Manager

Encl

