



1 August 2013

**By Email:** [lowerhunter@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lowerhunter@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Mr G. Oakey  
Team Leader Regional Planning (Hunter)  
Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Mr Oakey

**Re: Lower Hunter Strategic Assessment**

Centennial Coal (Centennial) is an existing coal mining company. Centennial has seven operating coal mines in NSW and is one of the largest underground coal producers in NSW. Centennial is a major supplier to the NSW energy industry, fuelling approximately 40 percent of the State's coal-fired electricity.

Five of Centennial's underground coal mining operations, Awaba, Mandalong, Mannering, Myuna and Newstan, are located around Lake Macquarie and extend across both the Lake Macquarie and Wyong Local Government Areas (LGAs). Centennial's underground mining operations are a significant industry in the Lake Macquarie and Wyong LGAs with extensive areas of land covered by existing mining leases or exploration licences. Additionally Centennial is a significant landholder in the Lake Macquarie LGA with land holdings that Centennial own or control totalling approximately 6900 hectares.

As a significant operating industry and landholder within the Lake Macquarie and Wyong LGAs, which is within the area covered by the proposed Lower Hunter Strategic Assessment, Centennial would like to request to be a participant in the Lower Hunter Strategic Assessment consultation process. Centennial has extensive knowledge and information that has been collected from within the region which would provide a valuable contribution to the development of the Lower Hunter Strategic Assessment. Additionally, it is imperative that any outcomes of the Lower Hunter Strategic Assessment are consistent with the current and future operations of Centennial to ensure mining operations can continue without significant land use conflicts being developed.

To discuss this matter further, please contact me on my mobile 0407 207 530 or email [james.wearne@centennialcoal.com.au](mailto:james.wearne@centennialcoal.com.au).

Yours sincerely

James Wearne  
Environmental Coordinator - Projects