



7 July 2015

Director of Assessment Policy Systems &
Stakeholder Engagement
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Contact: Mr Ian Turnbull
Our Ref: DOC2015/027381
Your Ref:

Dear Sir/Madam

Integrated Mining Policy – Submission

Thank you for providing Council the opportunity to comment on the range of documents associated with the NSW Government's Integrated Mining Policy.

Cessnock City Council has a long and proud mining heritage which continues to this day. Our local government area contains several operating mines employing significant number of local residents. These past operations in particular, have impacted on our Community through legacy issues including subsidence and waste from former operations.

On review of the documents provided as part of the Stage 1 exhibition it is apparent that the NSW Government is taking a more holistic approach to processes for applicants and a comprehensive assessment of impacts of their proposals. Council considers that this approach will provide improved outcomes for the community in the longer term and greater clarity for proponents. Council is supportive of this approach by the NSW Government as the introduction of the Integrated Mining Policy will potentially ensure that legacy impacts of mining operations are reduced and managed proactively to ensure that communities can be sustained into the future.

In saying this, Council would also support a balanced approach to ensure that current operations remain viable and sustainable in the long term.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on telephone 02 4993 4276 or via email ian.turnbull@cessnock.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully

Ian Turnbull
Acting Director Planning and Environment