

#### Kurri Kurri site

Orica Limited  
ABN 24 004 145 868

1151 George Booth Dr  
PO Box 196  
Kurri Kurri NSW 2327

Tel: +61 2 49395100  
Mob: +61 411485528  
Email: [Adrian.mason@orica.com](mailto:Adrian.mason@orica.com)

<http://www.orica.com>

21 July 2015

Dear Minister

I write to provide Orica's strong support for retaining the 'resource significance' provisions in clause 12AA of the Mining SEPP.

Orica is one of the key suppliers to the mining industry in NSW, which is one of Orica's most important regions globally in terms of customer revenue contribution.

Orica employs more than 1,000 people in NSW, of which over 700 are based in the Hunter Valley regional centres. Orica jobs in NSW have reduced significantly in recent times as a direct result of the immense pressures faced by the mining industry. A further decline in mining activity in NSW would result in a further reduction in Orica jobs in this State.

Beyond Orica, thousands of people in the broader economy depend on mining, and if mining activity was to further reduce the negative impact would be felt throughout local communities.

Orica is deeply concerned about the NSW Government's proposal to remove the provisions that require decision makers to consider principally the economic significance of a mining project to the State including jobs, investment, royalties and related industries. Such a change would undoubtedly have a negative impact on our customers, our business, local jobs and investment across the NSW mining industry and the broader community.

Orica is also concerned that existing proposals not yet determined will be subject to amendments. Such retrospective application has a longer term impact on the investment climate and increases the sovereign risk considerations that companies apply to such investment decisions; an increasing factor in Australia generally and NSW specifically in recent years. Orica strongly believes that if any changes are to proceed then they should apply to new proposals submitted after any changes are made.

We note that the proposed changes are in stark contrast with the clear commitment made by Premier Baird recently to improve the certainty and timeliness of the mining assessment process.

We request that the Government retains the resource significance provisions in the Mining SEPP.

Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss these matters, or alternatively contact Orica's General Manager Government Affairs on 03 9665 7193.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Adrian Mason', with a small comma to the right.

Adrian Mason  
General Manager  
Mining Services Australia Pacific