



PCU064779

Werris Creek Coal Mine CCC
c/o Gae Swain
Independent Chairperson
205 Swains Rd
Carroll NSW 2340

To the Planning Officer,

23rd March 2016



Dear Sir/Madam,

The Werris Creek Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee (WCCCCM) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the revised Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects. The draft guidelines were tabled at the recent WCCCCM meeting on the 25th February 2016, with all representatives requested to provide feedback on the draft guidelines. While the committee is largely in support of the proposed changes in the draft guideline, there were a few key areas for concern. The WCCCCM requests that the Department of Planning and Environment review these areas for concern and the suggestions for improvement to further strengthen these guidelines. Suggestions for improvements are outlined in the table below:

Ref.	Paragraph commencing	Issue identified	Suggestion for improvement
Page 2, 2 nd column	"The Committee may: 1. Provide advice..."	A Community Consultative Committee is generally not comprised of specialists in project design and impact mitigation. While CCC representatives may have useful suggestions in some areas, asking CCC members to provide advice on areas requiring higher level technical skills is not appropriate, especially regarding control measures to minimise impacts.	Clarify wording around point 1, to providing advice on community and related perceptions of the impacts of new projects.
Page 3, 1 st point	"3. Review the performance..."	As per the above concern, the CCC is generally not comprised of technical specialists, and requiring the committee to review the performance of many aspects of the project is likely to be beyond the expertise of the committee, especially in regards to environmental management.	Suggest clarifying this paragraph to focus on those areas of environmental management and community relations for which the CCC has relevant expertise. For example by adding "based on the qualifications and expertise of the committee".
Page 3, 2 nd column	Membership of the Committee	The draft guidelines restrict council representation to one representative only. However this does not allow for effective representation from the council, especially where the project straddles council boundaries. By limiting representation to one council	It is suggested that to ensure continuity in council representation while also maintaining the input of the community's elected representatives, that the number of council