



The Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP  
Minister for State Development and  
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

Our Ref: MO/15/982  
MC15/2420

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1 JUN 2015

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 7 May 2015 about petition number 2386-15 regarding the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 project under the Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly.

I acknowledge the petitioners' support for the expansion of the New Acland coal mine. The government is aware that should the project proceed, around 260 jobs would be required at peak construction and up to 435 jobs during peak operations. Local and state benefits that would arise from the significant investment required to construct and operate the project are also understood.

This government has committed to review the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 project and the impacts of this mine on local communities, including consultation with key stakeholders.

As you may be aware, in December 2014, the Coordinator-General released his evaluation report and approved the project, subject to compliance with 137 stringent conditions to mitigate the project's impacts and public concern. The Coordinator-General's report was provided to the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment to inform his decision on the project under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. A decision from the Commonwealth Minister has not yet been made.

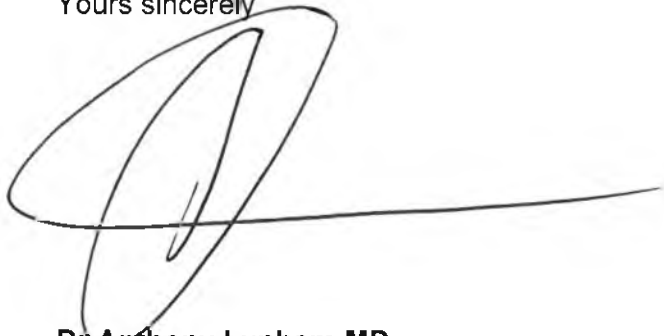
A copy of the Coordinator-General's evaluation report is available on the Department of State Development's website at <http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/resources/project/new-acland-coal-mine/nacp-stage-3-eis-report.pdf>.

On 5 May 2015, the Department of Natural Resources and Mines and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection commenced public notification of the project's environmental authority and mining lease applications. Public submissions on the project's environmental authority and objections to the mining leases are able to be lodged with the two relevant departments until 1 July 2015.

Information on the environmental authority is available at:  
<http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/non-mining/current-ea-applications.html>, and the  
mining leases at: <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/public-notices-tenders/mining-lease-application-notices>.

If you have any questions about my advice to you, Mr Adrian Noon, Acting Chief of Staff, will be pleased to assist you and can be contacted on telephone 3719 7360.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Dr Anthony Lynham MP**  
Minister for State Development and  
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines