

Wednesday, 3 February 2016

Director-General  
Department of Planning and Environment  
23-33 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Attention: Lisa Mitchell  
Cc: Jacqui McLeod

**RE: NCIG COAL EXPORT TERMINAL (CET) – 2015 Independent Environmental Audit**

In November 2015 NCIG commissioned the annual Independent Environmental Audit. This audit is completed to satisfy the requirements of Condition 5.1 c), Project Approval 06\_0009, specifically “a program for independent environmental auditing at least annually, or as otherwise agreed by the Director-General, in accordance with ISO 19011:2002 - Guidelines for Quality and/ or Environmental Management Systems Auditing”. The audit was completed by Trevor Brown and Associates, and a team of technical area experts in surface water/groundwater, noise, air quality and biodiversity, previously endorsed by the Department in 2013. The audit was also completed in accordance with the Independent Audit Guideline issued by the Department in October 2015. A copy of the audit report is provided with this letter.

Findings of the audit report specifically state that:

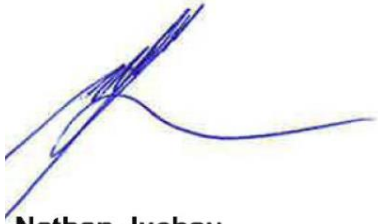
*“... the NCIG Coal Export Loader continues to be operated in compliance with the conditions of the Project Approval granted for the project. The high level of compliance finding in the consecutive Independent Environmental Audits (2011 to 2015) suggests that the frequency of the audits required under Project Approval 06\_009 condition 5.1(c) could be reduced to every 3 years (that would be consistent with the standard audit condition currently applied in Project Approval conditions under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.”*

Based on the above finding, NCIG requests that the Independent Environmental Audit required under Condition 5.1 c) of the approval be reduced to a frequency of 3 years, which is consistent with the requirements of similar project approvals.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any clarification of the information provided and we look forward to hearing your response.

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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping, fluid strokes that form a stylized representation of the name 'Nathan Juchau'.

**Nathan Juchau**  
**Manager – HSEC**  
**Newcastle Coal Export Terminal**

