

14 September 2015

Executive General Manager, Project Delivery  
Brian Cole  
Whitehaven Coal Ltd  
121 Merton St  
Boggabri NSW 2382

**MAULES CREEK COAL - EPBC APPROVAL – CONDITION 6 B**

Dear Brian,

We have undertaken an analysis in which we have reviewed the progressive clearance plans for the Maules Creek Mine over its mine life and compared those plans with the distribution of vegetation mapped for the mine and mine related infrastructure footprint, in particular White Box – Yellow Box- Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland and native vegetation communities and/or potential habitat for the Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot and Greater Long-eared Bat.

We are aware that the clearing for the mine will occur progressively and be in accordance with the approved Mine Operations Plan, which limits clearing at any one time to the immediate vicinity of the mine.

Based on this analysis, we concur with the forecasts of disturbance presented in this report and agree that they represent the minimum practical disturbance at each time period over the mine life.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. David Robertson  
Project Director  
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