Thursday, 3 April 2014

**Feedback sought on Coalpac modification proposal**

Planning & Infrastructure (P&I) today called for public feedback on a proposal made by administrators for Coalpac Pty Ltd to modify the company’s existing mining operations near Lithgow.

A P&I spokesperson said the modification proposal was significantly different to the much larger Coalpac Consolidation Project proposal which the agency recommended for refusal in October 2013.

That project application, which was withdrawn following P&I’s recommendation being published, had sought to extract 108 million tonnes of coal over 21 years in an area of high conservation significance.

The new proposal would allow Coalpac to extend its current operations for four years to extract an additional nine million tonnes of coal at its Invincible Colliery and Cullen Valley mines.

The proposal also seeks approval to complete the rehabilitation of areas disturbed by mining operations.

P&I will assess the modification proposal on its merits, with input from the community and key Government stakeholders.

The proposal is on exhibition from today until Monday, 28 April and can be viewed at: [http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/](http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/).

Given the high level of community interest in the project, it is likely that the proposal will be determined by the independent Planning Assessment Commission.

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