Friday, 27 November 2015

PLANNING ASSESSMENT COMMISSION DECISIONS:
MT THORLEY-WARKWORTH AND DRAYTON SOUTH

The NSW Government has been notified by the Planning Assessment Commission of its decisions on the applications for the Mt Thorley and Warkworth coal mining projects.

At the same time, the Government received the Commission’s report of its review of the Drayton South coal mine proposal.

Earlier this year the Government reformed the State’s mining policy to ensure economic, environmental and social considerations are appropriately balanced when considering mining projects.

The Commission has recommended approval for the Mount Thorley and Warkworth Continuation Projects, subject to stringent conditions.

The Commission’s review of the proposed Drayton South Coal Project made a number of recommendations. The Commission’s first recommendation was that the project should not proceed. The Commission also recommended the imposition of buffer zones between contentious mining proposals and affected communities.

The Government will now consider all recommendations.

Following today’s decision, the Government will shortly consult on a proposal to prohibit open cut mining within a 2.5km buffer between the Mt Thorley-Warkworth mine and the village of Bulga.

Fact sheets and reports on the decisions are available on the Commission’s website: http://www.pac.nsw.gov.au/