

Wednesday 11 November 2015

### **Wambo mine modification approved subject to conditions**

The Department of Planning and Environment has approved an expansion of operations at the Wambo Coal Mine west of Singleton, subject to conditions.

Wambo Coal applied to modify its existing development consent to mine three new coal areas, known as longwall panels, in the Wambo Coal Seam.

The new panels are located directly underneath already approved mining areas in the Whybrow Coal Seam.

A departmental spokesperson said there would be no additional surface disturbance and the new longwall panels would use existing surface infrastructure.

“This modification will allow the company to produce around 5.6 million tonnes of extra coal with only a minor increase in coal processing waste.

“The project was exhibited during August for public input. Feedback received helped form conditions of consent, including strengthening conditions around rehabilitation,” the spokesperson said.

The modification approval will generate approximately 14 months of additional employment for the mine’s 670 employees and contractors.

The Department has recently doubled the number of compliance officers, who conduct spot checks and regular audits to ensure mines in NSW are adhering to their consent conditions.

The NSW Government has also increased on-the-spot fines companies can receive if those conditions are not met.

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