



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

MC24-003288

Dr Coral Rowston

Environmental Advocacy in Central Queensland Inc.
EnvA.CQ@outlook.com

Dear Dr Rowston

Thank you for your email to the Minister for the Environment and Water, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP concerning the Vulcan South Coal Mine. Minister Plibersek has asked me to thank you for your correspondence and to reply on her behalf.

The Minister determined on 1 March 2024 that the Vulcan South Coal Mine requires approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) before it can commence. It will be subject to a rigorous Public Environment Report (PER) which will assess the environmental impacts in detail and be available for public comment for at least 20 days. Information on the public comment period and updates on the assessment process for this project can be found on the department's website at [All referrals · EPBC Act Public Portal \(awe.gov.au\)](https://www.awe.gov.au). All public comments will be given careful consideration in determining whether or not to grant approval for the mine under the EPBC Act.

Regarding the proponent's nearby Vulcan Complex coal mine, the department is aware of the Environment Protection Order issued by the Queensland Government related to impacts to water resources. While these mine effected water releases were not linked to non-compliance with EPBC approval conditions, (being instead covered by the Queensland state approval condition set), I can assure you that the environmental history of the proponent will be taken into consideration as part of making a decision on whether or not to grant approval under the EPBC Act for the Vulcan South Coal Mine.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the Government's attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Say'.

Mark Say
Acting Branch Head
Environment Assessments Queensland Branch

29 April 2024