

OUT18/8273

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Resource & Energy Assessments  
NSW Department of Planning and Environment

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**Sunrise Nickel/Cobalt Mine modification 4 (DA 374-11-00 MOD 4)  
Comment on additional information**

I refer to the email of 28 May 2018 with respect to the above matter. Comment has been sought from relevant branches of the Department of Primary Industries and Lands & Water. Any further referrals to Department of Industry can be sent by email to [landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

The department is satisfied that the information provided has adequately addressed previous comments. The following recommendations and comments are provided for consideration in assessment of the proposal.

**Recommended conditions of approval**

- The proponent must prepare a Site Water Balance in consultation with NRAR.
- The proponent must prepare a Surface Water Management Plan in consultation with NRAR.
- The proponent must prepare a Groundwater Management Plan in consultation with NRAR.

**Comment**

The seepage analysis provided in the Coffey (May 2018) report concluded the modified Tailing Storage Facility is not expected to lower the beneficial use category of the groundwater source beyond 40m from the activity. This assessment varies the conclusions made in the Environmental Assessment for Mod 4 that saline migration of tailings affected groundwater was to extend approximately 400m from the site boundaries.

The department accepts the updated assessment, however recommends specific groundwater monitoring to be addressed in the Groundwater Management Plan. This plan should specifically address groundwater monitoring requirements, including but not limited to monitoring downgradient from the TSF/water storage dam. This will be required to establish baseline water quality and water level conditions, develop trigger levels and contingency options for water quality and water level impacts, and to ensure the long-term viability of the local aquifer system and supply for existing water supply works is maintained.

Yours sincerely



Alex King  
**Director Cabinet & Legislation Services**  
13 June 2018