



OUT16/3641

Mr Thomas Watt
Resource Assessments
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Thomas.Watt@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Watt,

**Dolwendee Quarry Project (SSD_6519)
Comment on the Environmental Impact Statement**

I refer to your email dated 8 December 2015 to the Department of Primary Industries in respect to the above matter.

Comment by DPI Agriculture

DPI Agriculture has reviewed the EIS and notes it states that a Rehabilitation Plan will be developed near closure of the quarry in accordance with the Agriculture Issues for Extractive Industry Development Fact Sheet (<http://www.industry.gov.au/resource/Documents/LPSDP/LPSDP-MineClosureCompletionHandbook.pdf>).

DPI Agriculture recommends that progressive rehabilitation be undertaken throughout all stages of the development.

For further information please contact Helen Squires, Resource Management Officer – Hunter on 4939 8962 or at: helen.squires@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Comment by DPI Water

DPI Water has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Dolwendee Quarry Project and provides the following comments for consideration in the final assessment of the proposal, with recommended conditions of approval at **Attachment A**.

Groundwater management

The groundwater assessment determined that the project is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to groundwater resources. DPI Water is satisfied that the proposed mitigation measures, including the preparation of a Groundwater Management Plan incorporating ongoing monitoring of groundwater levels and quality, are adequate to address potential impacts to groundwater resources. In the event that monitoring indicates the potential for groundwater to be intercepted by the quarry, the proponents should be required to contact DPI Water to determine licensing requirements.

Surface water management

Surface water management for the proposal is based on the objectives of segregation of clean and dirty (sediment laden) water flows and minimisation of surface flows across disturbance areas. Clean water diversions will be constructed upslope of disturbance areas, whilst dirty water flows will be directed to sediment basins for reuse or discharge. DPI Water is satisfied with the proposed mitigation measures for the management of potential impacts to surface water resources.

Water Supply

The EIS states that the proponent "holds water license 20CA212769 for water supply works comprising an 80mm centrifugal pump on Lot 6 DP 1160936 and authorising the abstraction of up to 142 ML per year from the Wybong Creek water source. The permitted use is Industrial and covers Lots 3 and 4 in DP 1160936."

However, 20CA212769 is a combined works and use approval which authorises the installation and operation of an 80 mm centrifugal pump on Lot 6 DP 1160936 and the use of water for industrial purposes on Lots 3 and 4 DP 1160936, but does not authorise the take of water from the Wybong Creek Water Source. That authority can only be conveyed by an appropriate water access licence. The combined approval 20CA212769 is not currently nominated on any such licence, and no licensed entitlement has been specified. The proponent should identify the applicable water access licences under which water is proposed to be taken.

With respect to project water supply, the proponent must ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the project, and if necessary, adjust the scale of quarrying operations to match its water entitlements. The proponent should note that the take of water without or otherwise than as authorised by an access licence is an offence under the *Water Management Act 2000*.

Works on waterfront land

All works taking place in, on or under waterfront land, as defined in the Water Management Act 2000, are considered controlled activities. While the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* provides an exemption from the requirement to obtain and hold approvals for controlled activities carried out in relation to State Significant Development, such activities should be conducted in accordance with DPI Water's Guidelines for Controlled Activities, available at www.water.nsw.gov.au/water-licensing/approvals/controlled-activity.

For further information please contact Rohan Macdonald, Water Regulation Officer, Major Projects (Newcastle Office) on 4904 2642 or at rohan.macdonald@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Mitchell Isaacs
Director, Planning Policy & Assessment Advice
01/02/2016

Attachment A

Dolwende Quarry Project (SSD 6519)

DPI Water - Recommended conditions of approval

DPI Water requests the following conditions be included in any determination issued for the Dolwende Quarry project:

1. The proponent must ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the project and, if necessary, adjust the scale of quarrying operations to match its water entitlements.
2. The proponent must prepare a Surface Water Management Plan in consultation with DPI Water prior to commencement of activities.
3. The proponent must prepare a Groundwater Management Plan in consultation with DPI Water prior to commencement of activities.
4. The proponent must obtain relevant licenses to the satisfaction of DPI Water under the *Water Act 1912* or *Water Management Act 2000* (as applicable) for all activities which intercept or extract groundwater or surface water prior to commencement of these activities.
5. The design of waterway crossings for access roads and any associated instream works is to be prepared in accordance with the *Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land* (DPI 2012).

End Attachment A