

Submission by John Richard, Cooinda, Cassilis 2329

I am the owner of [REDACTED]

Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment

Requirements

Section 4.12(8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*

Application Number SSD-68063715

***Project** Liverpool Range Quarry, a proposed quarry that would be established for the purpose of supplying hard rock products for construction, operation and maintenance of the approved Liverpool Range Wind Farm Project (SSD-6696).

The project would involve:

- *construction of a site access road off Rotherwood Road;*
- *clearing and earthworks for site preparation;*
- *installation of on-site processing plant and associated equipment;*
- *extraction, processing and transportation of up to 700,000 tonnes per annum of hard rock quarry products (from a total resource of approximately 2 million tonnes) to supply the Liverpool Range Wind Farm Project (SSD-96696).*
- *undertaking general site maintenance; and*
- *stabilisation and rehabilitation of the site following quarry closure.*

Location Lot 89 DP 750749 and Lot 2 DP 747190 within Upper Hunter Shire

Proponent ARDG Deans Quarry Pty Limited

This *preamble is negligent in not detailing the water studies to be undertaken – Groundwater and Surface Water monitoring against future changes/impacts on Groundwater and Surface Water – Talbragar River. Not only for the life of the project but for the long term impacts.

On page 3 the study does elaborate on this but in points 6, 7, 8 of 8. I believe that these points should rank as the most important aspects of the entire project.

o an assessment of the likely impacts on the quality and quantity of existing surface and ground water resources, including a detailed assessment of proposed water discharge quantities and quality

against receiving water quality and flow objectives;

o an assessment of the likely impacts of the development on aquifers, watercourses, riparian land, water-related infrastructure, and other water users; and

o a detailed description of the proposed water management system (including sewage, wastewater and stormwater), **water monitoring program**, erosion and sediment control measures, and other measures to mitigate surface and groundwater impacts

ENGEMY

AUSTRALIAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT GROUP Liverpool Range Quarry Surface Water Impact Assessment NC3013_002-REP-001-3 22 AUGUST 2024

2. Surface Water Context

DEALS WITH EXTRACTION AREA only for the term of extraction- “It should be noted that it is not proposed to take surface water.”

3. Project Water Management System

Rainfall Data Design rainfall event 5 day, 95th percentile See Section 6.3.4 and, particularly, Table 6.3 on pages 6-24 and 6-25 of the ‘Blue Book’. The 5-day 90th percentile event rainfall depth (50.7 mm) for Dubbo (the closest town listed in Table 6.3 of the Blue Book) was 5-day, 90th percentile rainfall event (mm) 50.7 selected for the purpose of the assessment.

Take note that on or about 27 November 2021, the Talbragar River in this Yarrawonga/ Tangaratta/ Cooina/ Quindalup/ through to Tongy valley – Dunedoo, flooded in a rain event that was declared a Natural Disaster and flood damage grants from Rural Assistance Authority were granted to landowners along the Talbragar River. Photos attached of damage – the floodwater went through during the night so there are no actual water photos but the debris line shows the width and depth of water that were reached.

Using data from Dubbo “the closest town of Blue Book” seems a very convenient tool when Dubbo is where the Talbragar joins the Macquarie River, not anywhere near the source of the Talbragar River and the vicinity of Deans Quarry project.

6. CONCLUSION An assessment of the potential impacts on surface water resources associated with the Project was undertaken and the following conclusions have been drawn from the assessment outcomes:

- The Project will have an adequate and reliable water source (i.e., captured rainfall runoff and groundwater bore) to support the required construction and civil aspects of the Project.

- The potential for adverse water quality impacts on downstream receiving waters during construction and closure phases of the Project can be satisfactorily mitigated by the implementation of ESCs in general accordance with the Blue Book.
- The potential for adverse water quality impacts on downstream receiving waters during the operational phases are considered negligible.
- Reductions in rainfall runoff volumes reporting to downstream users due to the Project WMS catchment area are considered negligible.

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The bigger concern I have is any debris from quarrying leaving the site into the steep drainage lines then straight into the Talbragar River. It is close to the floodplain and if it does run into the floodplain could be an issue contaminating groundwater.

7. Qualifications Page 31

(c) Engeny reserves the right to review and amend any aspect of the works performed including any opinions and recommendations from the works included or referred to in the works if: (i) Additional sources of information not presently available (for whatever reason) are provided or become known to Engeny; or (ii) Engeny considers it prudent to revise any aspect of the works in light of any information which becomes known to it after the date of submission.

I contend that the flood event of November 2021 should be taken into consideration in the EIS of surface water impacts of water users downstream of Deans Quarry.

5.1.3 Groundwater

The proponent plans to source groundwater (refer Section 2.6) to provide additional water to meet processing and dust suppression demands. As detailed, this water would be supplied (via private agreement) from a nearby licenced bore (Water Supply Work 80CA706124) and associated entitlement (WAL 27888 – 320 ML), both registered to the quarry site landowner. The licenced bore is approved for use (irrigation) on Lot 89 DP750749 and water from the bore is currently pumped to two (2) tanks located approximately 280m to the east of the Project Area. Water would be pumped from these tanks to holding tanks located on the site to meet the controlled allocation and usage of groundwater sufficient for the demands of the Project.

119 Words for the most important aspect of this project.

Groundwater monitoring is not covered in this EIS by Engeny.

As stated above, * Application Number SSD-68063715

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Application Number SSD-68063715

Project Liverpool Range Quarry

Issued 27.03.24 * Preamble is deficient in regards to Groundwater, particularly in regard to monitoring, but it is covered in the body of the document.

Apart from the serious deficiencies in this EIS, serious anomalies exist in the Umwelt Report that were not researched by Engeny for the EIS.

GW012325 referenced in Umwelt Scoping Report 6.1.8 Page 50 is stated to be on my property Cooinda Lot 90 DP750749, at 651m AHD.

I have owned Cooinda since 1974 and dispute the existence of GW012325 Water NSW map.

However, the Drillers Report Water Bearing Zone states 6.70m to 7.30m Topsoil, basalt, boulders basalt, boulders gravel clay, 6.10m.

Water NSW has another bore referenced as 007044 on Tangaratta close to my boundary fence that is unknown to me, SWL 38.10, Sandstone at 34.75m.

These figures from Water NSW source map appear to be at odds with Umwelt – Figures 2.6, 2.7 Core Drill Holes Pages 17, 18- Image Source TILT.

Umwelt references GW011978 Tangaratta that they intend to use for their water requirements. Water NSW lists it as stock purpose, not irrigation, depth 18.30m – boulders, rock, gravel, basalt layers.

I contend that the bore ID numbers and situations are inaccurate.

It is imperative that a comprehensive physical identification of bore sites and depths and yields be made including the Water Bearing Zones before the EIS is approved for Deans Quarry.

In order to properly gauge the impacts on Groundwater (and Surface Water) in the short term and more importantly, in the long term

1) They need to drill at least one monitoring bore, preferably two, at each end of the development to the sandstone depth of 120 metres minimum to ascertain how much basalt is above the sandstone aquifer. The report states that they have drilled to 10metres only. They need to drill to the water table and establish the water table level.

2) The GHD report referenced GHD. (2023). Liverpool Range Wind Farm Quarry – Geotechnical Assessment of Satellite Extraction Area ‘Borrow Pit’. Unpublished Report for Tilt Renewables is not provided in this report.

I wish to have this independently assessed.

The Groundwater streams within this immediate area are inconsistently situated in depth and ridge/alluvial flats.

Page 50 Umwelt – the Tangaratta GW011978 indicates a groundwater level of 548 m AHD.

The average groundwater level at (non existent) GW 012325 is approximately at 651 m AHD.

3) Monitoring bores outside the quarry should be drilled to the first water table encountered so any impacts on the water level and quality on the impacts of the quarry can be firstly assessed;

and secondly, if quarry is approved, to monitor impacts and if changes in water quality, volume and depth occur, the quarry work is held up until an independent assessment can be undertaken.