

19/08/2025

Ethan Bryce
NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Submitted via the NSW Planning Portal

Dear Ethan,

Re: Mod 4 Biodiversity Reclassification - Response to Submissions (EXH-86251706)

Following exhibition of Walker Quarries' application to modify DA 344-11-2001 (ending 2 July 2025), the five submissions were received from Lithgow City Council and four government agencies as follows.

- Lithgow City Council (2 July 2025). Confirmed no objection to the proposed modification.
- WaterNSW (27 June 2025). Confirmed no comments in relation to the proposed modification.
- DPHI Crown Lands (27 June 2025). Confirmed no objection to the proposed modification.
- Forestry Corporation of NSW (1 July 2025). Confirmed no comments in relation to the proposed modification.
- Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR) of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (24 July 2025). Requested further information for the Applicant to address 4 key recommendations. Notably, CPHR has requested additional detail as to how the revised biodiversity credits have been calculated.

A detailed review and response to the request for further information has been prepared by the biodiversity consultant for MOD 4 application, AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants. The response of AREA, along with the requested spatial data files, is attached and provides the requested information and justification for the proposed modification to Condition 28A (Table 5A) of Schedule 3 (as nominated in Section 3.2.3 and Table 3.2 of the Modification Report supporting the application).

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A further two objections were received via the NSW Planning Portal as follows.

1. *"This is a Cost & Economic Impact Taxpayer-Backed Financial Sinkhole! Public subsidies combined with hidden grid costs make this project a multibillion-dollar burden on taxpayers with disastrous consequences and NO benefit whatsoever!"*

Name Withheld
Koorinal NSW

2. *"The Bucketts way cannot withstand it's current traffic, The surface fails every time it rains. And crossing the Highway at the Twelve Mile is a death trap already, an overpass would be required at the minimum."*

Philip James
Stroud, NSW

In both cases, the objections appear to be for other projects and have been erroneously uploaded against this application. The first objection, from a resident of Koorinal in southern NSW, references 'hidden grid costs' and a 'multibillion-dollar burden on taxpayers'. Neither is relevant to the Wallerawang Quarry modification. The second objection, from a resident of Stroud (north of Newcastle) references The Bucketts Way, a road not associated with the proposed modification.

I trust the information provided in response to the CPHR's submission will be supplied to the relevant personnel at CPHR. We are confident the information addresses the recommendations of CPHR but note that Irwin Environmental Management and AREA are happy to discuss the information

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further clarification or wish to discuss the matter further.

Yours sincerely,



Alex Irwin

Irwin Environmental Management Pty Limited

Attachments:

- AREA Letter Report: Walker Quarries, Wallerawang - correction of biodiversity credit requirements in MOD 3 (to support MOD 4) (including S6.30 Certificate BCF109)
- AREA Letter Report Spatial Files

