



Department of Primary Industries

OUT14/16879

Ms Margaret Kirton
Mining Projects
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
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SYDNEY NSW 2001

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- 1 JUL 2014

Dear Ms Kirton,

Angus Place Mine (PA06_0021 Mod 4) Proposed Modification

I refer to your email dated 1 May 2014 requesting advice from the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in respect to the above matter.

Comment by NSW Office of Water

The NSW Office of Water has reviewed the EIS for the proposed Angus Place Modification Project and provides the following advice for consideration. NSW Office of Water licence requirements are provided in Attachment A.

Aquifer Interference

In general, the impact assessment on aquifers has been carried out to an acceptable standard, using the output of a groundwater model developed by CSIRO. The Office of Water is satisfied that the EIS has demonstrated that the proposed extensions will not significantly harm swamps and other groundwater dependent ecosystems and no specific shortcomings have been found in this assessment.

The expansion of the groundwater monitoring network, and the associated monitoring schedules to be updated in the Water Management Plan (WMP), should be carried out in consultation with the Office of Water.

The modelling used to support the EIS should be regularly updated to enable confirmation that the actual mine water takes are not exceeding, and are not likely to exceed, the predictions made in the EIS. These periodic reviews should be incorporated within the overall annual environmental monitoring plan and the results made available to Office of Water in a suitable electronic format.

Water licensing

Surface Water

The EIS does not include details of any unregulated category licences held by the proponent. However the Office of Water recognises that this take is from the

existing approved operations, and requires a commitment from the proponent to liaise with the Office of Water to determine the best way to fully account for any water taken as a result of the total activity, regardless of date of approval.

General

Any ongoing take of water post-closure of the mine will need to be accounted for by holding or maintaining licences. The proponent must maintain records of annual water take from water sources impacted by the development and reported in the annual environmental report.

Management plans & monitoring

As advised in the Office of Water's submission on the proposed extension, the proposed surface water and groundwater management plans should identify critical impact thresholds in groundwater levels and quality and surface water flows and water quality to enable adaptive response and management of operations within the proposed Surface and Groundwater Management Plan. A mechanism for identifying and reporting variations from predictions should be clearly stated within the Plan.

For further information please contact Hemantha Desilva, Senior Water Regulation Officer (Newcastle Office) on 4904 2525 or at hemantha.desilva@water.nsw.gov.au

Comment by Fisheries NSW

Fisheries NSW recommends the following conditions of approval.

1. The subsidence monitoring programme for surface water features such as the Wolgan River, Carne Creek and other drainage lines must be continually monitored for the life of the project.
2. Fisheries NSW should be notified if monitoring detects significant impacts on Key Fish Habitats (third order drainage lines or larger (Strahler Ordering system) as a result of subsidence.

For further information please contact David Ward, Fisheries Conservation Manager (Tamworth office) on 6763 1255 or at: david.ward@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Kristian Holz
Director Policy, Legislation and Innovation

Attachment A

Angus Place Mine (PA06_0021 Mod 4) Proposed Modification NSW Office of Water Licence Requirements

Water Act 1912

- Monitoring bores require licensing under Part 5 of the *Water Act 1912* unless the bores meet the criteria for exempt monitoring bores as defined in the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2011*.
- Flood control works require licensing under Part 8 of the *Water Act 1912*.

Application forms for licences and approvals are available on the internet at www.water.nsw.gov.au/Water-licensing/Applications-and-fees/Applications/default.aspx

Water Management Act 2000

- An access licence nominated to a water supply work is required to take from any water source managed under the *Water Management Act 2000* (WMA).
- Exemptions for access licences are provided in Clause 18 and the Schedule 5 of the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2011*.
www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/subordleg+469+2011+cd+0+N
- Section 54 of the WMA provides details on harvestable rights.
- Requirements for access licence dealings are provided in the following documents:
 - Section 71 of WMA
 - Access Licence Dealing Principles
www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/subordleg+433+2004+cd+0+N
 - Access licence dealing rules of the relevant water sharing plan

Application forms for access licence and access licence dealings are available on the intranet at www.water.nsw.gov.au/Water-licensing/Applications-and-fees/Applications/default.aspx

End Attachment A