



13 February 2017

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The Manager
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Bianca Thorton

PROPOSED MODIFICATION TUMUT PAPER MILL, SNOWY MOUNTAINS, HIGHWAY TUMUT.

I refer to your correspondence regarding the subject Application which was referred to the Roads and Maritime Services for assessment and comment.

From the information provided, including the Environmental Assessment prepared by GHD dated January 2017, it is understood that the proposal represents a modification to the current approval for the Visy Pulp and Paper Mill to increase the production capacity of the existing plant from 700,000 tpa to 800,000 tpa. The subject site has frontage and access to the Snowy Mountains Highway within a 100 km/h speed zone.

From the information provided it is noted that the increased production capacity will be achieved through efficiency gains within the production process and increases in the volume of recycled wastepaper and purchased pulp in the feedstock for the process. The documentation claims that with ongoing improvements in the proportion of backloading that the proposed expanded production capacity will not significantly change the resultant traffic volumes compared the predicted volumes for the currently approved development. The modification does not represent any changes to the current access arrangements to the development site.

Currently the proponent is investigating, with Roads and Maritime Services, the potential for the operation of "A-Double" heavy vehicles for the movement of material via Gocup Road. If approved this would also represent a further reduction in the volumes of heavy vehicles on the transportation route as such vehicles accommodate a larger volume of material than the currently used B-Double vehicles. The assessment of the potential use of such vehicles is a separate process to the proposed modification under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act but if approved will be generally consistent with the intent of Condition 2.36 of the Project Approval dated 2007.

Condition 5.4(d) of the Project Approval for the operation of the Visy Mill Expansion dated 2007 requires the preparation of an updated Traffic Management Plan as part of the Operation Environmental Management Plan. It is considered appropriate that any consent for the modification as proposed require that this Traffic Management Plan be revised and updated to address the changes to traffic as a result of the proposed modification to the operation of the Mill.

Roads and Maritime Services has assessed the Application based on the documentation provided and would raise no objection to the proposal subject to the Consent Authority giving consideration to the issues outlined above.

Any enquiries regarding this correspondence may be referred to the Manager, Land Use for Roads and Maritime Services (South West Region), Maurice Morgan, phone (02) 6923 6611.

Yours faithfully



Per:
Mr Lindsay Tanner
Regional Manager
South West Region