

Andrew Speechly
Manager Environment and Community

HVO Operations Pty Ltd
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06/10/2020

Dear Mr Speechly,

**Hunter Valley Operations North (DA 450-10-2003) and South (MP 06_0261)
Management Plan Consultation**

I refer to your letter dated 12 June 2020, requesting the Secretary's approval to submit the following revised Management Plans and Strategies (plans) for the Hunter Valley Operations Pty Ltd (HVO) North and South:

- Water Management Plan (WMP);
- Fine Reject Management Strategy (FRMS);
- Mining Operations Plan (MOP); and
- River Red Gum Rehabilitation & Restoration Strategy (RRGRRS).

The Department understands that the submission of these revisions is a recommendation of an Independent Environmental Audit and Annual Review that was submitted to the Department by HVO on 24 February 2020 and 31 March 2020, in accordance with conditions 4 and 4A of Schedule 5 of DA 450-10-2003 and PA 06_0261.

I also understand that HVO is seeking the Secretary's agreement to undertake targeted consultation with key regulators as part of these updates, in accordance with the provisions afforded under conditions 3 and 1C of Schedule 5 of the HVO North development consent (DA 450-10-2003) and HVO South project approval (PA 06_0261).

Given the currency of the existing management plans and the limited scope of updates required, the Department considers this approach to be reasonable. Consequently, the Secretary has agreed to allow HVO to revise the below listed plans, subject to consultation with the following agencies:

- the Department's Water Division and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for the WMP;
- the Resources Regulator for the MOP;
- the Department's Biodiversity and Conservation Division for the RRGRRS; and
- the identified government stakeholder group (EPA, Resource Regulator, DPIE and NRAR) for the FRMS submission.

Once you have completed this consultation it is requested that HVO submit the revised plans via the Planning Portal and provide:

- a tracked change version of the plan as well as an unmarked version;

- details of relevant agency correspondence (advice, direction and/or requirements) relating to the management plan update. This includes combined agency responses from any government stakeholder group; and
- a separate table outlining the revisions required to the plan and where these have been addressed in the revised version.

If you wish to discuss these matters further, please contact Tegan Cole on the details above.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Sprott', with a stylized, cursive script.

Matthew Sprott
Director
Resource Assessments (Coal & Quarries)

as nominee of the Secretary