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A/Director Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
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**PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE, SAPPHIRE TO WOOLGOOLGA:
REQUEST FOR MODIFICATION TO MINISTERS CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL TO ALLOW
BENEFICIAL OFF-SITE REUSE OF MATERIAL**

Roads and Maritime Services (Roads and Maritime) seeks a modification to the conditions of approval for the Sapphire to Woolgoolga Upgrade project to allow for beneficial reuse of material that is surplus to needs on lands adjacent to the Upgrade.

The current temporary status of the southern stockpiles has been reviewed by the Sapphire to Woolgoolga Pacific Highway Upgrade project to ascertain where material can be beneficially reused with minimal environmental impacts. The Project is proposing to beneficially reuse surplus unsuitable material at five (5) sites, which were previously assessed as part of the temporary stockpile approval submitted to Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I) on 23 November 2010 and approved on 6 January 2011.

The attached environmental review undertaken for the proposal has confirmed that the activity would have a negligible to low environmental impact. The five sites proposed have been selected based on their past disturbance history and low environmental and socio-economic impact. It is considered that with the implementation of the safeguards provided in the CEMP and the additional mitigation measures identified in the Environmental Review that the proposed permanent placement of unsuitable material would not result in any significant adverse impacts to the environment or the community.

Further, it is considered that the proposed regrading and establishment of the proposed beneficial reuses on Roads and Maritime residual land adjacent to the corridor has a number of advantages, including superior outcome on the waste hierarchy, landscape aesthetics, noise reduction, reducing disturbance of other lands, reducing greenhouse impacts and safety risks by preventing the need for long distance transport on the road network and improving the value of residual properties for potential future redevelopment.

Should you require further information, please contact Janelle Bancroft on 6604 9331.

Yours sincerely,



Robert (Bob) Higgins 5/11/13
General Manager Pacific Highway

Encl.

Roads & Maritime Services