



Our reference: EF13/9399; DOC17/339566-01
Contact: Janelle Bancroft (02) 6640 2513

The Director-General
NSW Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Mr Tertius Greyling

Champions Quarry - Modification 3 (PA 09_0080 MOD 3)

I refer to your email dated 6 June 2017 inviting the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to provide comment on the proposed modification to the project approval for Champions Quarry (PA 09_0080). The EPA appreciates the opportunity to comment and apologises for the delay in responding.

Based on a review of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and supporting documentation, the EPA understands that the proposed modification consists of:

- Relocation of a proposed sand washing plant from previously assessed location of the CEA to the northern section of the northern quadrant of the SEA
- Increase of bund height to about 6 metres to screen the plant from receivers
- Removal of topsoil and overburden over a 1 hectare area to allow establishment of the sand washing plant and associated and stockpiles.
- Installation of additional sediment control traps before the water reuse dam.

The EPA's focus relates to the proposed modification and potential associated environmental impacts in relation to air, water, noise and waste in accordance with our legislative requirements under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* ("the Act"). The proponent should take all appropriate measures to control noise, water and dust impacts associated with the proposed modification.

Champions Quarry 2 Pty Ltd currently hold Environment Protection Licence (EPL) No. 20562. The licensee must ensure that all EPL conditions are complied with at all times. To achieve this all relevant environmental management plans should be updated to reflect the proposed modification.

Noise

Condition 5 on Application No 09-0080 limits noise to 37dB(A) at NAL 2, NAL 2A and NAL 3. Further the conditions of the EPL also limit noise at these locations to 37 dB(A).

The Acoustic report provided as Attachment E to *Annexure A – Application pursuant to section 75W of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* predicts noise levels in Table 4 as 37dB(A) at NAL 2 and NAL 2A.

The increase of 1db(A) over the consent limit represents a minor impact that is considered barely perceptible to the average person. The increase may be tolerated if a zero increase cannot feasibly be achieved. The report provided is silent as to whether all feasible measures to reduce the noise level will be implemented.

If the modification is allowed, a condition requiring review of operational noise levels is suggested to ensure that noise levels do not exceed predicted levels. The condition should require implementation of all feasible mitigation measures to comply with predicted levels if required monitoring identifies those levels have not been met.


Water

The conditions of the EPL 20562 set discharge criteria and storage capacity of the water supply dam. Further requirements are not envisaged at this stage. The current basin has a greater capacity than that required by the EPA for the current area of disturbance.

However, the current Water Management Plan does not include impacts from the sand washing plant and the increased disturbed area from establishment of the sand washing plant and stockpile area. A revised Water Management Plan incorporating the new activity and disturbed area should be a required.

Should you require further information about this matter, please contact Janelle Bancroft on (02) 6640 2513.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graeme Budd', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Graeme Budd
Head Environmental Management Unit – North Coast Region
Environment Protection Authority