



Primary Industries



V11/3009
OUT11/23541
14th December 2011
Howard Reed
Manager Mining Projects
NSW Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Department of Planning
Received
19 DEC 2011

Scanning Room

Dear Howard

RE: Hera Gold Project (10_0191) Exhibition of Environmental Assessment

NSW DPI Aquaculture, Conservation and Marine Parks Branch (AC&MP) are responsible for ensuring that fish stocks are conserved and that there is "no net loss" of key fish habitats upon which they depend. To achieve this, the Department ensures that developments comply with the requirements of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (namely the aquatic habitat protection and threatened species conservation provisions in Parts 7 and 7A of the Act respectively) and the associated *Policy and Guidelines for Aquatic Habitat Management and Fish Conservation (1999)*.

BLOCKAGES TO FISH PASSAGE - ROAD CROSSINGS

The construction of an access road or causeway over the Key Fish Habitat (third order stream) must ensure that there is adequate fish passage at all times. NSW DPI Fisheries will need to be consulted with regards to the crossing methodology for the causeway. A classification scheme such as that used by I&I NSW which classifies waterways into Class 1-4 habitats is available in the document Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings available on the website at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/habitat/protecting-habitats/toolkit#Policies-&-guidelines>.

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF CONSENT

- The design and construction of roads and tracks across all waterways should be undertaken in accordance with the DPI Fisheries *Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings (2004)* and *Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road?* The applicant must consult with DPI Fisheries prior to construction of access roads over waterways.

D. Ward.

If you have any queries please call David Ward (Fisheries Conservation Manager, Greater Darling Region) in the Tamworth office on 6763 1255 or 0429 908 856.