



WST11/00046/05

Team Leader
Mining Projects
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

Hera Gold Project (10_0191 MOD 2) Modification to Haulage Route

Thank you for your email received 11 June 2014 requesting comments on the modification to the haulage route for Hera Gold Project from Roads and Maritime Services. Roads and Maritime notes that the modification proposes to change the haulage route with impacts on the Barrier Highway at Hermidale.

The proposed haulage route includes a right turn onto the Barrier Highway from Nyngan Street at Hermidale, trucks travelling about 600m along the Highway, then turning right into the rail siding. The speed zone on the Barrier Highway is 110km/h and the application does not propose any intersection treatments to cater for the acceleration or deceleration of the haul vehicles. Roads and Maritime is concerned about the safety of the travelling public on the Highway, as well as safety for the haulage vehicle operators given the mix of slow moving haul vehicles with high speed through traffic.

The applicant has not demonstrated why access cannot be obtained via the local road network rather than using the Barrier Highway. Roads and Maritime does not support the proposal and strongly recommends that access to the siding be obtained via the local road network. Roads and Maritime requests additional information be provided showing access to the rail siding via the local road network.

Consideration should also be given to the impact of the increase in traffic using the rail level crossing at Hermidale. Bogan Shire Council will need to review their rail interface agreement to ensure that the safety impacts of increased truck crossing movements have been considered.

Please confirm that the application will not be determined until such time that Roads and Maritime has had an opportunity to comprehensively assess the application following provision of additional information. Should you require further information, please contact Fiona Francis on (02) 6861 1688.

Yours faithfully

30 JUN 2014

Susie Mackay
Network & Safety Manager
Western