Our ref: DOC21/261582



Mr Joe Fittell Acting Senior Team Leader Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Email: Joe.Fittell@planning.nsw.gov.au

Referred through Major Project Portal

Dear Mr Fittell

RE: Review of GCOP Response to Heritage NSW Advice Relating to the Response to Submissions Report for the Glendell Continued Operations Project (SSD-9349) – Specifically Recommendation 2 (DOC20/695489)

Thank you for your referral dated 6 April 2021 requesting Heritage NSW (HNSW) review the correspondence from Glencore to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), dated 1 April 2021 in relation to the proposed State Significant Development (SSD) for the Glencore Continued Operations Project (GCOP) SSD-9349.

The letter from Glencore relates specifically to Recommendation 2 made by HNSW in their letter to DPIE dated 30 October 2020 provided in relation to GCOP's Response to Submissions report (RTS).

HNSW Recommendation 2 states that:

• In order to reduce disturbance to archaeologically sensitive areas and to avoid impact to significant Aboriginal sites a no impact buffer area of a minimum of 200 metres should be made either side of Bowmans Creek. Bowmans Creek.

This recommendation was made following review of:

• Section 7.2 of the *Glendell Continued Operations Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report* (Canning 2020) (attached as Appendix 3 Revised ACHAR to the *Glendell Continued Operations Project Response to Submissions Part B (Final Redacted)* prepared by Umwelt and dated 2 September 2020), which referred to avoidance of Bowmans Creek by a minimum of 200 metres buffer in the design phase of the Project.

Correspondence dated 1 April 2021

HNSW has reviewed the correspondence from Glencore dated 1 April 2021. Glencore have provided information noting that works relating to the Hebden Road realignment, heavy vehicle access road, lower reaches of the proposed Yorks Creek realignment, Mine Infrastructure Area (MIA) and rehabilitation works are partially situated within 200 metres of Bowmans Creek.

GCOP state that the proposed infrastructure works are critical to the effective operation of the Project and that the location and alignments have been optimised to minimise impacts. They refer to Section 7.4.2.5 Bowmans Creek of the *Glendell Continued Operations Project Environmental Impact Statement* EIS prepared by Umwelt and dated 29 November 2019, which ensures that the proposed mining extraction area (Glendell Pit Extension) is offset at least 200 metres from the top of the high bank of Bowmans Creek to minimise potential impacts on Bowmans Creek.



Glencore requests that Recommendation 2 be removed to be consistent with the project design objective of having no mining within 200 metres of Bowmans Creek.

Following consideration of the above information, HNSW agree that Response to Submissions Recommendation 2 can be removed as requested.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Gillian Goode, Archaeologist, on 0499 588 790 or via email at gillian.goode@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Dr Samantha Higgs Senior Team Leader Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation - North <u>Heritage NSW</u> Date: 19 April 2021