



OUT21/12755

Philip Nevill
Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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Dear Mr Nevill

**New Cobar Complex Project (SSD-10419)
Response to Submissions (RTS)**

I refer to your email of 10 September 2021 to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Water and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) about the above matter.

This project is the amalgamation of underground mining at New Cobar, Great Cobar, Gladstone, Chesney and Jubilee deposits to create the New Cobar Complex Project.

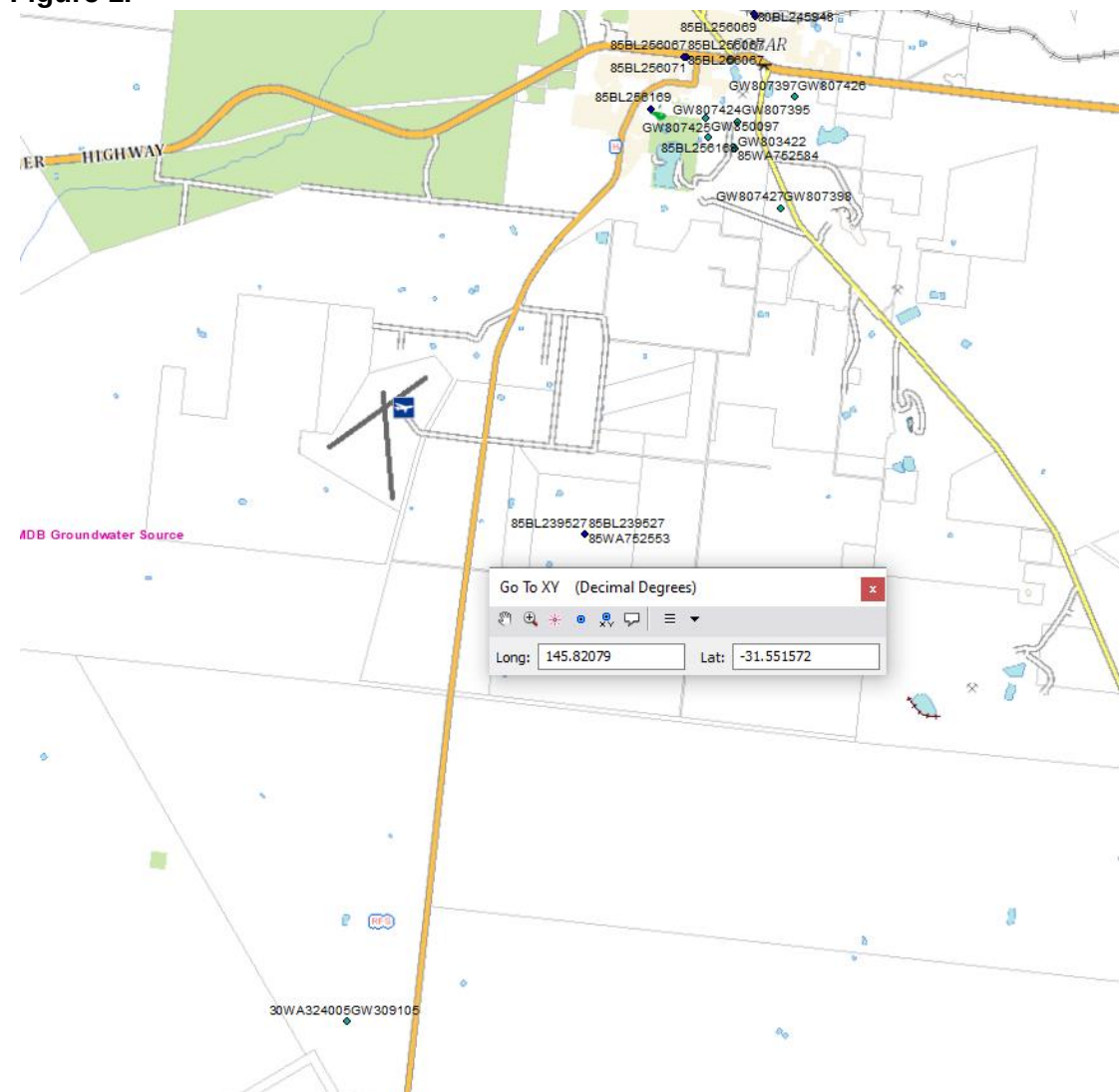
DPIE Water and NRAR have reviewed the RTS and still have remaining concerns regarding the correct identification and assessment of the neighbouring basic landholder right (BLR) bore.

Any further referrals to DPIE Water and NRAR can be sent by email to landuse.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au or to the following coordinating officer within DPIE Water:

Alistair Drew, Project Officer- email: alistair.drew@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Liz Rogers
Manager, Assessments, Knowledge Division
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment: Water
12 October 2021



1.2 Recommendation – Prior to Determination

That the proponent:

- correctly identify and assess the neighbouring BLR bore, 85WA752553, ESID103824 and rerun the groundwater model to determine the impact on the bore

2.0 Post Approval Recommendations

That the proponent:

- install an additional piezometer in the unconfined aquifer.
- update the Water Management Plan to document the water management infrastructure, proposed water use, storage and transfer, projected water take and licensing, water metering, water balance, monitoring and management/mitigation responses.
- develop a water balance to measure actual water take from surface and groundwater sources, this should include accurate metering where possible. The water balance should be used in ongoing reviews of actual versus modelled water take and impact predictions. This will be a key component to confirm impact predictions, the adequacy of mitigating measures and compliance for water take.
- report on water take at the site each year (direct and indirect) in the Annual Review. This is to include water take where a water access licence is required and where an exemption applies. Where a water access licence is required the water take needs to be reviewed against existing water access licences.
- ensure sufficient water entitlement is held in the allocation account for each water access licence/s to account for the maximum predicted take for each water source prior to take occurring.
- that relevant nomination of work dealing applications for water access licences proposed to account for water take by the project have been completed prior to the water take occurring.
- be aware of the rules of the relevant water sharing plans and how they may impact the project and ability to trade water.

End Attachment A