

Department of Planning and Environment

Our ref: OUT22/2418

Gabrielle Allan

Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning and Environment

Email: gabrielle.allan@dpie.nsw.gov.au

7 April 2022

**Subject: Dendrobium Mine - MOD9 - Gas Management Infrastructure (DA60-03-2001-Mod-9)
Modification Report**

Dear Ms Allan

I refer to your email of 3 March 2022 to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Water and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) about the above matter.

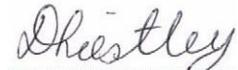
The proposed modification is to construct additional gas management infrastructure and ancillary infrastructure at the site of the existing Dendrobium No. 2 and 3 ventilation shafts.

DPE Water has reviewed the Modification Report and require further details to confirm the proponent's statement that there will be no changes to groundwater take. Please see **Attachment A** for more detail.

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

Alistair Drew – Project Officer
E: Alistair.drew@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Donna Priestley
Acting Manager, Assessments, Knowledge Division
Department of Planning and Environment: Water

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPE Planning & Assessment regarding the Dendrobium Mine - MOD9 - Gas Management Infrastructure (DA60-03-2001-Mod-9) Modification Report

1.0 Water Take

1.1 Recommendations – Prior to Determination

The proponent should:

- Provide additional information to support the statement that there will be no change to groundwater water take as a result of the modification in accordance with the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy (2012) (AIP).
- Demonstrate sufficient entitlement can be acquired in the relevant water source unless an exemption applies, if additional groundwater take is required,
- Provide a detailed and consolidated site water balance, if necessary.
- Confirm the location of the proposed bores and any changes to the original impact assessment of the Dendrobium Mine. The updated impact assessment needs to address construction and operation impacts on the water source and water users, and the requirements of the AIP.

1.2 Explanation

DPE Water notes that the Modification involves the following:

- gas extraction from the underground mine via a borehole and vacuum pump, and
- new process/fire water systems, including bores to pump water from and return water to the underground mine workings and pipes/tanks to convey and store this water

The proponent has indicated there will be no change to groundwater take but has not provided supporting information. It is not clear to DPE Water how the proponent will extract the gas from newly drilled boreholes without causing any disturbance to the groundwater system. Appendix 1 notes there will be a water management system including bores to pump and return water to the underground mine workings and water storage within the modification area.

Therefore, insufficient information has been provided to confirm the potential water take for the proposed modification. Water take volumes and the ability to account for this water take in consideration of all water take at the project site needs to be clearly understood. Locations and details of the proposed bores and any changes to the original impact assessment of Dendrobium Mine, should also be provided for the project to be exempt from requiring a water supply work approval.

End Attachment A