

10 June 2022

Department of Planning and Environment
Attn: Jarrod Blane
Sent via the Planning Portal

Dear Mr Blane,

Public Exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Dendrobium Mine Extension Project (SSI-33143123)

DPI Fisheries, a division of the NSW Department of Primary Industries, provides the following comment on the publicly exhibited Environmental Impact Statement for the Dendrobium Mine Extension Project (SSI-33143123).

DPI Fisheries is 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, DPI Fisheries 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 Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (2013)*. In addition, DPI Fisheries is responsible for ensuring the sustainable management of commercial, recreational and Aboriginal cultural fishing, aquaculture and marine protected areas within NSW.

DPI Fisheries considers any habitat within the top of the bank of waterways that are mapped as Strahler 3rd order streams and above to be key fish habitat. DPI Fisheries has assessed this proposal in relation to potential direct and indirect impacts on key fish habitat. The information provided in the EIS, the key fish habitat values and connectivity of waterways within and surrounding the proposal site have been considered in our assessment of this matter.

This proposal involves longwall mining within Area 5 only. It has proposed buffer zones of greater than 600m to the Type 1 major key fish habitat of the Avon River and Donald Castle Creek. This buffer area is considered adequate to mitigate impacts to these waterways from this proposal.

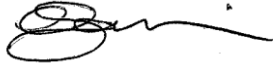
No longwall mining is proposed directly under any key fish habitat including Strahler 3rd order streams and above. This will protect these waterways from direct more intense subsidence related impacts. Some portions of the few 3rd order streams within the project site are situated within 400m and 600m of the proposed longwall mining activities, where they are still susceptible to some potential impacts on water flow from subsidence related fracturing of the creek bed.

Regarding potential impacts on 3rd order streams within the project site, these streams should be monitored for subsidence so that the need for stream remediation measures such as backfilling or grouting can be implemented where required. Also, the mitigation, monitoring and adaptive measures relating to aquatic ecology, surface water quality and subsidence monitoring in the Summary of

Mitigation Measures and the Summary of the Adaptive Management Measures in the EIS should be implemented.

If you require any further information, please contact me on (02) 4222 8342 or carla.ganassin@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carla', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Carla Ganassin

Senior Fisheries Manager, Coastal Systems