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RR19/243260

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By email:

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Marulan South Limestone Mine Continued Operations Project (SSD_7009) :Response to Submissions

Dear Lauren,

I refer to the email dated 3 October 2019 inviting the Resources Regulator to provide advice on the Response to Submissions for Project Marulan South Limestone Mine Continued Operations Project (SSD_7009).

Development Details

The Marulan South Limestone Mine is an open cut operation located approximately 10 kilometres from Marulan village and 35 kilometres east of Goulburn, NSW. The **Marulan South Limestone Mine Continued Operations Project** proposes:

The continuation of mining extracting approximately 120 Mt of limestone at a rate of up to 4 Mtpa for a period of up to 30 years. Approximately 5 Mt of shale will be extracted at a rate of up to 200,000tpa. The 30-year mine plan will generate approximately 108 Mt of overburden. Overburden will be emplaced within in-pit and out-of-pit overburden emplacements.

The Resources Regulator has previously provided the following advice:

- Recommendation of SEARs (OUT15/11507) dated 19 May 2015.
- Adequacy of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in addressing SEARs (DOC19/372298) dated 27 May 2019

Environment and Rehabilitation

Compliance Operations within the Resources Regulator has responsibility for providing strategic advice for environmental issues pertaining to the proposed project in so far as they relate to or affect rehabilitation.

It is noted that the Resources Regulator had no items to be addressed in our Adequacy Assessment of the Environmental Impact Statement (DOC19/372298). Rehabilitation aspects of the Project were assessed as being adequately covered in the EIS.

However, it appears the Response to Submissions makes no reference to the Resources Regulator submission. It is unclear if this is an oversight or a conscious decision made as there were no items needing to be addressed.

The Resources Regulator has determined that sustainable rehabilitation outcomes can be achieved as a result of the project and that any identified risks or opportunities can be effectively regulated through the conditions of mining authorities issued under the *Mining Act* 1992.

The Resources Regulator requests a review of the draft development consent conditions prior to finalisation and any granting of development consent.

Mine Safety

As noted above, the Response to Submissions does not appear to make any reference to the Resources Regulator submission on the Adequacy of the EIS.

The following Mine Safety advice, included in our response to the Adequacy Assessment of the EIS, remains applicable:

The Resource Regulator Mine Safety Operations is responsible for ensuring mine operators manage the risk to worker health and safety though compliance with the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013* and the subordinate mining legislation. In particular the effective management of risk associated with the principal hazards as specified in the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014*.

The Resource Regulator Mine Safety Operations have not identified any risk that would require comment in relation to this matter.

For enquiries regarding this matter please contact me on (02) 4276 7428 or nswresourcesregulator@service-now.com

Yours sincerely

Greg Kininmonth

Manager Environmental Operations

Resources Regulator

NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment

16 October 2019