

Our ref: OUT25/14208

Carl Dumpleton
Planning Group
NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI)

Email: carl.dumpleton@planning.nsw.gov.au

30/10/2025

Subject: Gerroa Quarry - Modification 2 (MP05_0099) Modification Report

Dear Carl Dumpleton,

I refer to your request for advice sent on 15 October 2025 to the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Water Group about the above matter.

NSW DCCEEW Water Group has reviewed the Modification Report and makes a pre-determination recommendation to clarify the maximum annual groundwater take from aquifer interference activities and to confirm the ability to obtain sufficient water entitlement. Please see **Attachment A** for more detail.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this submission please do not hesitate to contact the Water Assessments team at water.assessments@dcceew.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Rob Brownbill,
Manager, Water Assessments, Knowledge Division
NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPHI Planning & Assessment regarding the Gerroa Quarry Modification 2 Report

1.0 Water take and licensing

1.1 Recommendation – prior to-determination

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) requests the proponent to:

- Clarify the maximum annual volume of groundwater take due to aquifer interference activities.
- Demonstrate the ability to acquire sufficient entitlement in the relevant water source unless an exemption applies.

Explanation

The proponent has estimated an increase in groundwater take of 13.3 ML/yr based on an average. Entitlement is required to account for the *maximum* volume of for estimated take. Where insufficient entitlement is held to account for maximum potential take, the proponent must demonstrate that additional entitlement can be obtained prior to take occurring.

1.2 Recommendation – post-approval

DPHI requests the proponent to ensure the Water Access Licences (WAL) proposed to account for water take by the project nominate an extraction point, and that relevant applications are completed prior to water take occurring.

Explanation

WALs must nominate an extraction point to avoid committing an offence under section 60D of the *Water Management Act 2000*. WAL43271 currently does not nominate an extraction point and therefore should not be used to account for water take until the relevant dealing applications have been completed.

2.0 Water Management Plan

2.1 Recommendation – post-approval

DPHI requests the proponent to update the Water Management Plan based on the Mod 2 activities. This is to include a revised water balance model assessment and updated site Water Management Plan.

Explanation

The proponent has committed to a revised water balance model assessment and an updated site water management plan which is supported by DCCEEW Water.

End Attachment A
