

Mr Bob Lander
Director
Tattersal Lander Pty Ltd
PO Box 580
RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324

03/05/2021

Dear Mr Lander

Bobs Farm Sand Mine Project (SSD-6395)
Request for additional information

I refer to the Submissions Report for the Bobs Farm Sand Mine Project (SSD-6395) dated February 2021, and subsequent requests for further information made by the Department on 2 March 2021 and 9 April 2021. The Department has now received advice from DPIE Water, NSW EPA and Heritage NSW in relation to the Submissions Report. A copy of this advice is available on the Major Projects website at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/11471>.

DPIE Water and NSW EPA have reviewed the additional information provided in the Submissions Report and have ongoing concerns regarding risks to water quality associated with extraction below the groundwater table. Their advice indicates that these risks have not been adequately characterised and the ability to appropriately manage these risks or remediate the environmental consequences is questioned.

DPIE Water, NSW EPA and Hunter Water, continue to recommend that the project be modified to limit extraction to above the groundwater table.

A detailed response to this recommendation is required by the proponent, supported by evidence demonstrating that the risk to water quality is adequately characterised and can be appropriately managed. The proponent is strongly encouraged to consult with DPIE Water, NSW EPA and Hunter Water in preparing this response.

If the proponent wishes to proceed with the application in its current form, DPIE Water has recommended that the following further information be provided by the proponent:

- an independent review of the groundwater model;
- a spatially adequate two-year baseline monitoring of water levels, a comprehensive water quality suite and acid sulfate soil investigation;
- updated water balance estimates, noting that there is no return flows policy; and
- a licence acquisition strategy to account for all take of water inclusive of take associated with the dredge.

NSW EPA and Heritage NSW have also identified additional information requirements relating to noise impacts and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The Department requests that you prepare a response to the residual issues identified by each agency. Your response should provide details of each issue raised followed by a clear and thorough response to each issue. Please notify the Department of the timeframe for providing this information by Friday 28 May 2021.

If you have any questions, or would like the Department to facilitate a meeting with an agency that has provided advice on this project, please contact Gabrielle Allan on 02 9585 6078 or at gabrielle.allan@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SOD', written in a cursive style.

Stephen O'Donoghue
Director
Resource Assessments