

Our ref: SSD-9099356

Ms Lisa Honan
Project Director – Special Projects
HOLCIM (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD
Tower B, Level 7 799 Pacific Highway
Chatswood, New South Wales, 2067

4 July 2023

Subject: Request for Additional Information

Dear Ms Honan

I refer to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Salt Ash Sand Operations (SSD-9099356). The Department has reviewed historical aerial photography as part of the EIS review and assessment. The aerial photographs (refer to **Attachment 1**) show areas of the site as cleared land. However, areas of historical vegetation clearing have since re-grown or been rehabilitated.

The application for the project assumes that clearing vegetation within the areas of land subject to DA73/80 and DA5499/91 can be carried out under those development consents, and no further approval to clear vegetation is required.

The Department considers that DA73/80 and DA5499/91 do not permit vegetation clearing in the development footprint for a second time and that consent under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* is required. You are requested to provide the following information:

- A description of historical clearing and subsequent re-growth or rehabilitation of the areas identified in yellow on the current aerial photograph in **Attachment 1**.
- An assessment of the potential impacts on biodiversity in areas of regrowth or rehabilitation.

The Department requests that you submit a revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report that includes areas of vegetation re-growth or rehabilitation as part of the Response to Submissions Report.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Jack Turner at jack.turner@planning.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Jessie Evans
Director
Energy and Resources Assessments

Attachment 1: Summary of review of historical aerial photography



2001 Historical aerial photograph
[Spatial Collaboration Portal Historical Imagery](#)



2019 Spot 6-7 Web Map aerial

Figure 1: Comparison of aerial photography (indicative areas of regrowth or rehabilitation outlined in yellow)