



Your ref: PAE-71406961
Our ref: DOC24/419830-21

Joe Fittell
Team Leader
Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure

By email: Joe.Fittell@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Joe,

Response re: HVO North Open Cut Coal Continuation Project (SSD-11826681)

I refer to your referral, dated 30 May 2024, seeking Biodiversity Conservation and Science's (BCS) advice regarding the planning proposal for HVO North Open Cut Coal Continuation Project (SSD-11826681).

In preparing this advice, BCS has reviewed the Appendix E Surface water model review (BMT 2023) and Appendix K Flood impact assessment of Lemington Road crossing.

BCS's comments are provided in **Attachment A**. If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Neil Kelleher, Senior Team Leader, Water Floodplains and Coast at huntercentralcoast@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Joe Thompson
**Director Hunter Central Coast Branch
Biodiversity and Conservation Division**

25/6/2024

Enclosure: Attachment A

BCS' comments

HVO NORTH OPEN CUT COAL CONTINUATION PROJECT (SSD-11826681)

1. The proponent has not provided sufficient information such that private landholders can understand the scale and nature of the adverse impacts on their properties

The Response to Submissions has not addressed the following comments made by BCD, in its letter dated 13 March 2023:

- Recommendation 20: BCD recommends that the proponent provides mapping that clearly identifies all private land and residential dwellings where flood impacts are predicted to occur.
- Recommendation 21: BCD recommends that the proponent assesses the change to the frequency and duration of flooding on all impacted private property.
- Recommendation 22: BCD recommends that the proponent provides mapping, at a suitable scale, such that all impacted private landholders can clearly understand the predicted change in flood behaviour on their land. This mapping should include property boundaries and residential dwellings.
- Recommendation 23: BCD recommends that conditions of consent are required to ensure that flood impacted landowners are equitably compensated.

The flood assessment, prepared by Engeny Water Management 2022, identifies that 31 properties, not owned by JV partners, will have adverse flood affluxes in the range of 20-50mm. However, insufficient information has been provided for impacted landholders to know they are impacted or to understand the nature of the impacts.

Recommendation 1

Produce mapping at an appropriate scale and resolution such that each landholder can clearly understand the estimated increase in flood levels, velocities and hazard as well as time of inundation.