

1 August 2024

Mr Stephen O'Donoghue
Director Resource Assessments
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney, NSW 2001

Lodged via the Major Projects Portal

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPTIMISATION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CONSENT SSD 10418 – PLANNING AGREEMENT WITH MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE COUNCIL

Dear Steve,

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd (MACH Energy) commenced development under Development Consent SSD 10418 for the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project on Monday 12 February 2024.

Condition A16, Schedule 2 of Development Consent SSD 10418 requires the following:

Within six months of the date of commencement of development under this consent [12 August 2024], or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must enter into a PA with [Muswellbrook Shire] Council in accordance with:

- (a) Division 7.1 of Part 7 of the EP&A Act; and*
- (b) the terms of the offer in Appendix 7.*

Since the grant of Development Consent SSD 10418, MACH Energy has been working with Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC) to progress the Planning Agreement (PA) in good faith.

The draft PA was tabled at the Ordinary Council Meeting of the MSC on 23 July 2024 and the Councillors resolved to:

- approve publicly exhibiting the draft PA in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*; and
- delegate authority to the General Manager to execute the PA following public exhibition, and to make appropriate amendments to the PA which do not alter the intent of the draft PA as exhibited, or result in material changes to the PA, following consideration of any public submissions.

MACH Energy notes that the public exhibition process and execution of the final PA will take some time and is likely to extend beyond 12 August 2024.

MACH Energy seeks the agreement of the Planning Secretary (or delegate) to extend the timeframe to enter into a PA with MSC under Condition A16, Schedule 2 of Development Consent SSD 10418 to 12 November 2024 (i.e. within nine months of the date of commencement).

MACH Energy kindly request the Department to contact the undersigned if further information is required.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Lauritzen

General Manager – Resources Development

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd