

14 February 2025

Stephen O'Donoghue
Department of Housing, Planning and Infrastructure
4PSQ, 12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Steve

**Re: Copi Mineral Sands Project (Application Number SSD-41294067)
Notification of Project Amendment**

Following our recent discussions and onsite meeting, RZ Resources Limited (the Applicant) proposes to amend the Copi Mineral Sands Project (the Project). The following presents the background to, and a brief description of, the proposed amendment, as well as the next steps.

Background

The Project is a Critical Minerals project, and includes construction, mining, primary processing, and rehabilitation of a mineral sands deposit located approximately 75km northwest of Wentworth in the Far West Region of NSW. An *Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS) for the Project was submitted to the Department on 6 May 2024 and was exhibited between 22 May and 18 June 2024. A number of government agency, public and organisation submissions were received during this period. R.W. Corkery & Co. Pty Limited (RWC) is currently in the process of preparing the *Submissions Report* on behalf of the Applicant for the Project.

In response to items raised in submissions received, and the current inability access Huntingfield and Sunshine Stations, the Applicant proposes to amend aspects of the Project as described below. As a result, the Applicant will submit an *Amendment Report* for the Project in accordance with Section 37 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Reg).

Proposed Amended Mine Site

The Mine Site currently encompasses the five Western Land Leases as follows.

- Warwick Station– held by the Wentworth Pastoral Company, an entity associated with the Applicant and has been assessed as Project-related.
- Nulla Station – held by a private individual. The Applicant is in the final stages of negotiating a commercial agreement with the owners of this property.
- Huntingfield and Sunshine Stations – owned by a private individual. The Applicant is currently in dispute with the owner of this property and anticipates that a commercial agreement is unlikely to be finalised prior to determination of the application. Mining operations were proposed within this property in the exhibited EIS.
- Belmore Station – owned by a private individual. No surface disturbance is proposed within Belmore.

In light of the above, Huntingfield, Sunshine and Belmore Stations will be excised from the Mine Site as part of the proposed Amendment. Warwick and Nulla Stations will remain part of the Amended Mine Site (**Figure A**).

Amended Extraction Area

In light of the above, the Applicant proposes to seek development consent for extraction operations within Warwick and Nulla Stations only. As a result, the limit of disturbance will be amended to exclude Huntingfield and Sunshine Stations (**Figure B**).

Other Proposed Amendments

Following the decision to amend the proposed Extraction Area, the Applicant also proposes other amendments to the Project. The Applicant has undertaken significant exploration within the Amended Mine Site since the mine design presented in the EIS was prepared, and has identified additional mineral sand strandlines within the Mine Site. As a result, the Mine Site and Extraction Area have been revised to include amendments to the mine schedule, design, location of infrastructure and site layout to optimise the Project for the amended Mine Life and to avoid or minimise biodiversity impacts. Rehabilitation activities and the final landform would be amended to reflect the revised mining operations. All proposed amendments to the Mine Site layout would be contained to within the currently proposed Limit of Disturbance.

In addition, in response to feedback received from Transport for NSW, the Applicant has upgraded the design of the proposed Silver City Highway / Anabranck Mail Road intersection from an Basic Auxiliary Right / Basic Auxiliary Left (BAR/BAL)/BAR to a Channelized Right/Auxiliary Left (CHR/AUL) design.

All other aspects of the Project would remain largely unchanged as a result of the proposed amendment.

Next Steps

The Applicant proposes to undertake the following in the preparation of the *Amendment Report* for submission to the Department. It is noted that the scope for the Amended Project includes works to assist the preparation of the *Submissions Report* to be submitted in conjunction with the *Amendment Report*.

- Consultation with stakeholders regarding the Amended Project, including direct impact neighbours, surrounding landholders, the local community, Broken Hill City Council and Wentworth Shire Council.
- Updated environmental impact reports that assess the Amended Project, including the following.
 - Surface and Groundwater Impact Assessments
 - Biodiversity Development Assessment Report and a Biodiversity Offset Strategy
 - Soils and Agriculture Impact Assessment
 - Aboriginal Cultural and Historic Heritage Impact Assessments
 - Traffic Impact Assessment
 - Noise Impact Assessment
 - Air Quality Impact Assessment

- Social and Economic Impact Assessment
- Radiation Impact Assessment (including the extraction, processing, and transportation of monazite)
- Preparation of the *Submissions Report*, in light of the Amended Project.

I trust that this letter provides an understanding of the proposed amendment to the Project in order for the Department to consider the proposed pathway to an amended development application and provide any assessment requirements. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any further queries.

Yours sincerely


Mitchell Bland
Managing Director/Principal

Encls: Figure A, Figure B

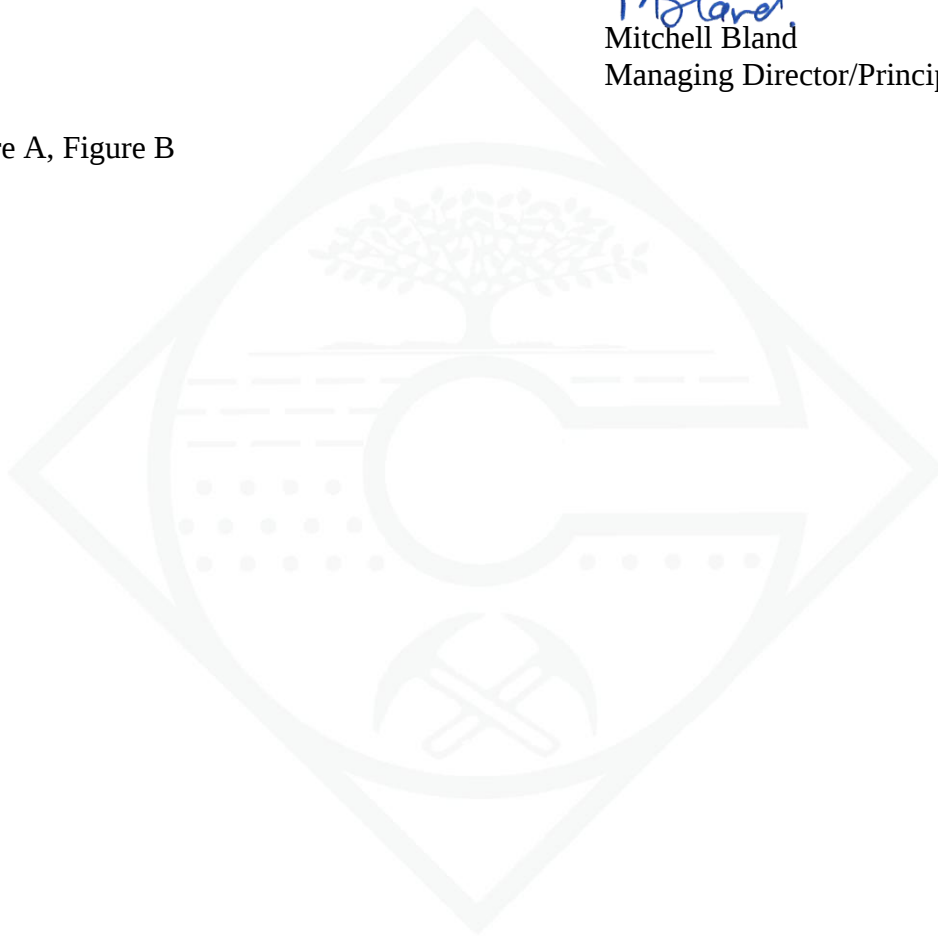


Figure A

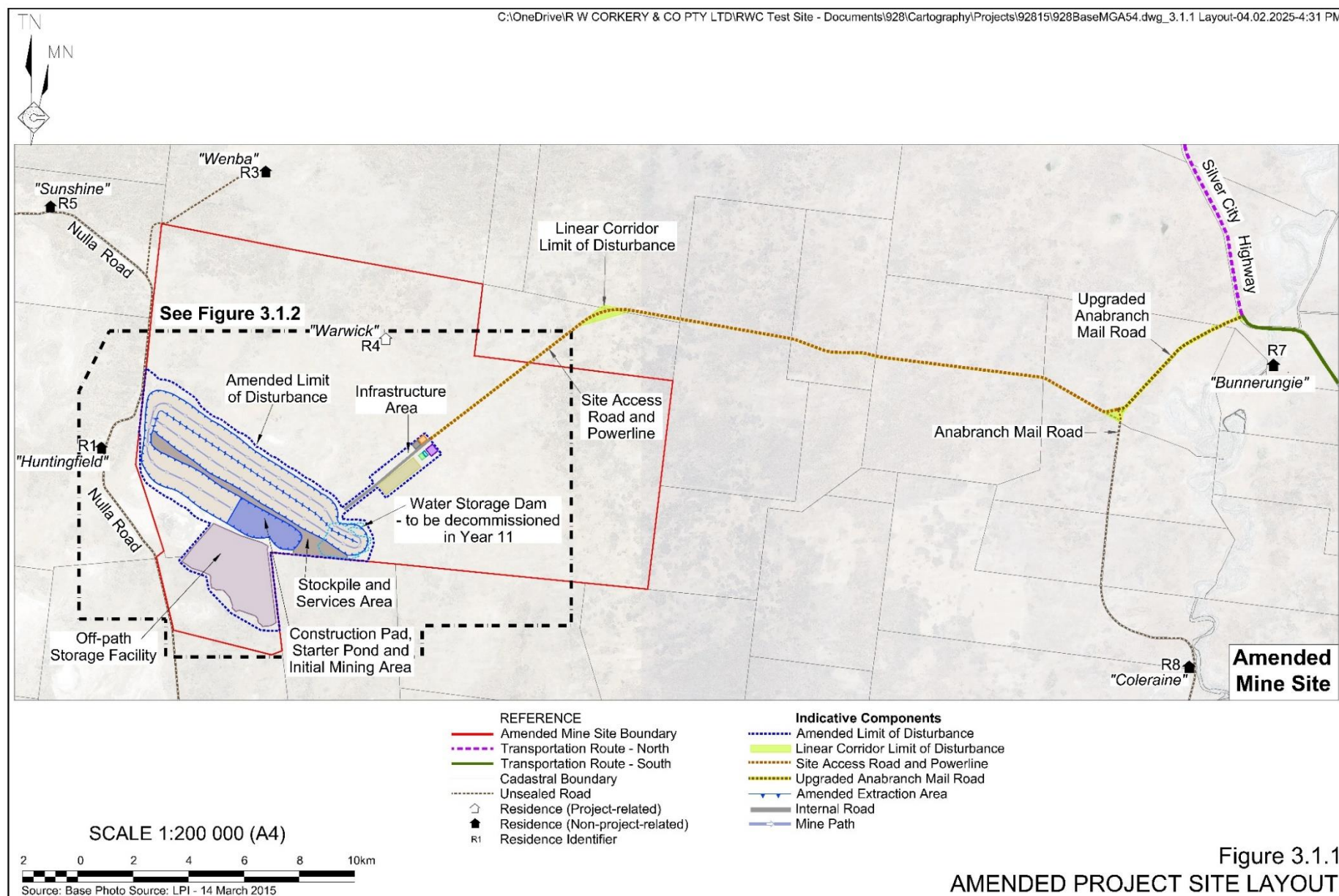


Figure B

