



14 August 2014

Carl Dumbleton
Senior Planner, Mining Projects
NSW Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Emailed: Carl.Dumbleton@planning.nsw.gov.au

Your Reference: SSD_4978
Our Reference (TRIM): OUT14/25807

Dear Mr Dumbleton

Re: Tinda Creek Sand Extraction (SSD_4978) – EIS Exhibition

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the above matter. This is a response from the NSW Department of Trade & Investment (DTIRIS) – Mineral Resources Branch (MRB).

The building and construction industries in NSW require ongoing replacement of supplies as sources are exhausted. The expansion of existing quarries, subject to environmental assessment, helps to ensure a continued supply of material for a range of building and construction uses in NSW. The resource in the subject area represents a regionally important source of sand for the Greater Sydney area and in particular the growth area of northwest Sydney.

Resource Assessment

MRB considers that the EIS includes an adequate assessment of the resource in the subject area. The site has a long history of quarrying giving the proponent a good understanding of the geology and characteristics of the material and its suitability for its intended applications. MRB notes that resources within the subject area have been assessed in detail through two drilling programmes, as referenced by the Environmental Impact Statement.

Annual Production Data

MRB collects data on the quantity and value of construction materials produced annually throughout the State. Forms are sent to all operating quarries at the end of each financial year for this purpose. The statistical data thus collected is of great value to Government and industry in planning and resource management, particularly as a basis for analysing trends in production and for estimating future demand for particular commodities or in particular regions.

In order to assist in the collection of construction material production data, the proponent should be required to provide annual production data for the subject site to MRB as a condition of any new or amended development consent.

Biodiversity Offsets

MRB has previously provided comments regarding the proposed biodiversity offset areas. MRB has reviewed the EIS documents and considers that access to valuable extractive resources should be maintained over the subject area to allow for possible future extraction. MRB's preference would be for a proposal to establish biobanking sites rather than the intention of dedicating the offset areas as additions to the National Park Estate.

Geoscience Information Services

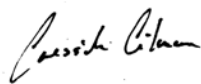
MRB has a range of online data available on line through the following website address:
<http://www.resources.nsw.gov.au/geological/online-services>

This site hosts a range of data to enable research into exploration, land use and general geoscience topics. Additionally, the location of exploration and mining titles in NSW may be accessed by the general public using the following online utilities:

1. **MinView** allows on-line interactive display and query of exploration tenement information and geoscience data. It allows spatial selection, display and download of geological coverages, mineral deposits and mine locations, geophysical survey boundaries, drillhole locations, historical and current exploration title boundaries and other spatial datasets of New South Wales. This online service is available at:
<http://www.resources.nsw.gov.au/geological/online-services/minview>
2. **NSW Titles** enables the public to access and view frequently updated titles mapping information across NSW. This online service is available at:
<http://nswtitles.minerals.nsw.gov.au/nswtitles/>

Queries regarding the above information, and future requests for advice in relation to this matter, should be directed to the MRB Land Use team at landuse.minerals@trade.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Cressida Gilmore
Team Leader - Land Use