

Our ref: SSD_5581

Jacqueline Cooke
Compliance Manager
Centennial Airley Pty Limited

Via: NSW Planning Portal

28 May 2026

Airly Mine Extension Project (SSD_5581): Extraction Plan, Miniwalls 19-21

Dear Ms Cooke,

I refer to your submission dated 14 November 2025 requesting approval of the Panel and Pillar Mining Zone Extraction Plan for Miniwalls (MWs) 19-21 (Extraction Plan), prepared in accordance with condition 7 of Schedule 3 of the development consent for the Airly Mine Extension Project (SSD_5581).

It is acknowledged that the Extraction Plan has been updated in response to initial feedback from Airly Independent Expert Panel (the Panel) and agencies, including to reflect changes in mine layout (reduction from 4 to 3 miniwall panels); strengthen monitoring and Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) requirements; and incorporate more detailed mapping of cliffs and rock overhangs.

The Department has carefully considered the updated Extraction Plan in consultation with the Panel; NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS), Conservation Programs and Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR) and NSW Heritage of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW); and the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development – Resources Regulator.

The Panel:

- considered the subsidence predictions to be reasonable based on previous experience;
- recognised the opportunity to monitor the mining-related response of the most vulnerable features to confirm their performance and to improve understanding of the subsidence impacts on overhanging cliff formations;
- concurred with the expectation that the three miniwall layout provides a high level of protection to all adjacent identified Aboriginal heritage sites and to all external cliffs located within the Cliff Line Zone; and
- expected that low levels of subsidence can be achieved with the proposed three-miniwall mining geometry.

Given the design approach for MWs 19-21 is based on the same numerical modelling that has been successful in maintaining subsidence at below design levels in previous panels, the Panel concluded that it is not aware of any reasons why this design approach would not achieve similar outcomes for the proposed Extraction Plan area.

The Department notes that agencies have advised that they generally support the revised mine layout, however NPWS, CPHR and Heritage NSW maintain residual concerns and recommended:

- the total area of cliffs and pagodas in the Central Genowlan extraction plan area be better mapped and defined;
- a collaborative review of the subsidence monitoring network be undertaken with NPWS;
- update of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (Appendix 4 of the Extraction Plan) to include:
 - documentary evidence of consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties;

- mapping showing survey track logs and coverage data;
- confirmation that the four restricted Aboriginal sites are located outside the Extraction Plan area; and
- more detailed explanation of the assessment of significance for two newly recorded Aboriginal sites.

As detailed below, the Department considers that this information should be provided prior to commencement of extraction of MW 19.

The Department considers the TARP presented in the Extraction Plan is appropriate and provides for adaptive manage should greater than predicted subsidence occur. This includes triggers to cease mining and instigate mine design changes to ensure subsidence limits and performance measures are not exceeded.

Accordingly, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the MW 19-21 Extraction Plan (November 2025), subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the commencement of extraction of MW 19, Centennial Airly must:
 - (a) confirm the total surface area and provide mapping of all cliffs and pagodas in the Extraction Plan area; and
 - (b) undertake a review of the subsidence monitoring network,
in consultation with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).
2. Prior to the commencement of extraction of MW 19, Centennial Airly must update the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (Appendix 4 of the Extraction Plan) to include:
 - (a) documentary evidence of consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties;
 - (b) mapping showing survey track logs and coverage data;
 - (c) confirmation that the four restricted Aboriginal sites are located outside the Extraction Plan area; and
 - (d) more detailed explanation of the assessment of significance for two newly recorded Aboriginal sites,
in consultation with Heritage NSW.
3. During secondary extraction of MWs 19-21, Centennial Airly must consult with the Airly Mine Independent Expert Panel (the Panel) regarding subsidence monitoring results, at a frequency agreed with the Panel.
4. During secondary extraction of MWs 19-21, Centennial Airly must provide environmental monitoring data relevant to the Mugii Murum-ban State Conservation Area to the NPWS, at a frequency and in a format agreed with NPWS.
5. Prior to commencing the secondary extraction of MW 20 and each subsequent MW, Centennial Airly must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary that:
 - (a) subsidence is within predicted levels;
 - (b) subsidence is not expected to exceed 125 mm should full extraction of MW 20 and subsequent MWs proceed;
 - (c) the subsidence impact performance measures outlined in Table 1 of Schedule 3 of SSD-5581 are expected to be met should full extraction of MW 20 and subsequent MWs proceed;
 - (d) relevant monitoring data has been reviewed by the Panel and any recommendations of the Panel have been addressed.

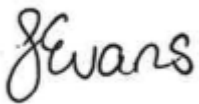
6. Within two months of the completion of each miniwall panel, or as otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary, Centennial Airly must prepare and submit to the Department and NPWS, an End-of-Panel Report, which:
 - (a) reports all subsidence (both individual and cumulative) for the panel and compares subsidence effects with predictions; and
 - (b) reviews implications for mine design/panel dimension and monitoring requirements for subsequent panels.

You are reminded that if there are any inconsistencies between the Extraction Plan and the conditions of consent, the conditions prevail.

Please ensure you make the Extraction Plan documentation publicly available on the company website as soon as possible.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Gabriel Wardenburg on (02) 9585 6810.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J Evans', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jessie Evans

Director, Energy and Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary