



Our Ref: DOC19/624905
Your Ref: SSD 5792

Ms Sheelagh Laguna
Team Leader, Industry Assessment
Planning and Assessment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms Laguna

Subject: Draft conditions for Cairncross Waste Management Facility Expansion (SSD 5792)

Thank you for your letter dated 22 July 2019 about the draft conditions for the Cairncross Waste Management Facility Expansion seeking comments from the Biodiversity and Conservation Division of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. I appreciate the opportunity to provide input.

We have reviewed the draft conditions provided and note that they incorporate the recommendations that we provided in our response dated 22 May 2019. The draft conditions include a consultation role for the Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD) for the following actions:

- timing for establishing a koala connectivity corridor
- preparation of a Vegetation Management Plan
- an unexpected finds protocol for any item or object of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance
- preparation of a Landfill Closure and Rehabilitation Plan.

We also note Condition B34 that requires the purchase and retirement of ecosystem and species credits as calculated in accordance with the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment. However, the condition does not describe the different species credits that have been calculated. It is recommended that the condition describe the different species credits that are required as per Table 2 in the Biodiversity Offset Strategy (6 December 2018).

Some suggested wording is provided below:

BIODIVERSITY

"B34. Before any clearing or construction works, the Applicant must purchase and retire 221 ecosystem credits to offset the removal of Blackbutt-Pink Bloodwood Shrubby Open Forest of the Coastal Lowlands of the NSW North Coast Bioregion and 84 species credits to offset the removal of koala habitat, 248 species credits to offset the removal of Green-Thighed Frog habitat and 3 species credits to offset the removal of Southern Myotis habitat on site as determined in accordance with the

OEH's *Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA)* and the *Biobanking Assessment Methodology 2014 (BAM)*.

Note: *If the Applicant seeks a variation to the offset rules, the Applicant must demonstrate that reasonable steps have been taken to find like-for-like offsets in accordance with Section 10.5.4.2 of the FBA and Appendix A of the OEH's NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects 2014."*

We also note that the draft conditions refer to noxious weeds. This should be updated to refer to weed categories and strategies according to the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

If you have any further questions about this issue, Ms Rachel Lonie, Senior Conservation Planning Officer, Biodiversity and Conservation, can be contacted on 6650 7130 or at rachel.lonie@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



09-08-2019

KRISTER WAERN
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