



OUT16/30478

Mr Thomas Watt
Resource Assessments
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Thomas.watt@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Watt

**Additional Comment on the Response to the Planning Assessment Commission Review
Report – Mount Owen Continued Operations Project (SSD 5850)**

The Department of Primary Industries- Water (DPI Water) has reviewed the additional information provided by the proponent dated 12 July 2016. A meeting was also held at the DPI Water office in Newcastle on 3 August 2016 where the proponent and the consultant presented information on how loss of catchment and take of water was calculated.

DPI Water is satisfied with the methodology used to calculate catchment loss and the estimated volume of water take in the proposed final landform (inclusive of voids). It is noted that this approach is consistent with the methodology used for other projects such as Drayton South.

The new information indicates that sufficient water entitlement may be obtained from the Glennies Water Source from the existing market share. The total loss from the Jerrys Water Source equates to 769 ML and we note that this will occur at cessation of mining and in the final landform.

DPI Water considers that all take in the final landform will require licensing. There is a total of 11,053 shares in the Jerrys Water Source with 3,343 of those shares being aquifer and unregulated category.

Recommended Conditions:

- The applicant should ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of operations on site to match its available water supply.
- The Water Management Plan for the site should be updated in consultation with DPI Water.
- The final landform should be designed in consultation with DPI Water and this design should consider impacts on Jerrys Creek and Glennies Creek catchments.
- The proponent should continue to consult with DPI Water regarding licensing requirements for the final landform.

Should you require further information please contact Hannah Grogan, Water Regulation Officer on 4904 2516.

Yours sincerely

Rebekah Gomez-Fort
A/Director, Planning Policy & Assessment Advice
16 August 2016