

05 August 2020

Lauren Evans Energy and Resource Assessments – Planning and Assessment NSW Planning Industry and Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

## Mt Owen Continued Operations Project (SSD 5850): Extension of the timeframe to secure Biodiversity Offset Areas

Dear Lauren,

Mount Owen writes to seek an extension to the timeframe to put in place long-term security arrangements for Mount Owen Offsets (Cross Creek, Stringybark Creek Habitat Corridor Offset, Esperanga Offset and Mitchell Hills Offsets). These four offset areas are required as per conditions 27 and 29 of Schedule 3 of the Mount Owen Continued Operations development consent SSD-5850 (as modified).

The submissions of our new Stewardship Agreements for the four Mount Owen biodiversity offsets has been delayed. A further time extension is requested until  $4^{th}$  December 2020. We have submitted final applications to Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) on the  $14^{th}$  July 2020 after several months of ongoing consultation to ensure the correct detail was provided. The BCT have indicated a 14-week approval process with no stop-clocks. Due to the approval timeline, we are unable to have the agreements secured by  $4^{th}$  September 2020 as set by the previous DPIE extension letter dated  $5^{th}$  March 2020.

We look forward to your reply. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0448 077 270 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Kind regards,

Jason Desmond

Environment and Community Manager

Mt Owen / Glendell Operations

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