

Jason Desmond
Environment and Community Manager
Mt Owen PTY LTD
158 Hebden Road
Ravensworth NSW 2330

16/06/2021

Dear Mr Desmond

**Mount Owen Continued Operations Project (SSD-5850)
Extension of Time to Secure Biodiversity Offset Areas (BOA)**

I refer to your letter dated 25 February 2021 seeking a further time extension to make suitable arrangements for the long-term security of four biodiversity offset areas, as required under conditions 27 and 29 of Schedule 3 of SSD-5850.

The Department understands that Glencore submitted the final applications to the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) on 14 July 2020 and the BCT has requested further information to allow the four applications to progress. As such the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements (BSAs) are unlikely to be finalised before 4 December 2021.

Consequently, I wish to advise that the Planning Secretary has approved a further twelve-month extension of time for the finalisation of the following BSAs:

- Cross Creek Offset;
- Stringybark Creek Habitat Corridor Offset;
- Esparanga Offset; and
- Mitchell Hills Offset.

The Department approves the request on the condition that the Applicant provides quarterly progress updates on the securement of the biodiversity offsets.

Please ensure BSAs are finalised by no later than 4 June 2022. If you have any further enquiries in relation to this matter, please contact Charissa Pillay on 02 99955944.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Sprott
Director
Resource Assessments (Coal & Quarries)

As nominee of the Planning Secretary