

20 December, 2024

Stephen O'Donoghue
NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
4 Parramatta Square,
12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Via email

Dear Steve,

Cadia Continued Operations Project (SSD-71290981) – Notification of amendments to the project design and associated disturbance area

On 24 June 2024, the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the Cadia Continued Operations Project (CCOP) were issued. Since that time, Cadia has made further refinements to improve the CCOP design and respond to information obtained through ongoing environmental survey efforts and community consultation as part of the Environmental Impact Statement process.

This correspondence has been prepared to provide the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (the Department) with an update on the key changes to the CCOP since submission of the Scoping Report. These refinements include:

- the removal of the South Water Storage (SWS); and
- minor refinements to infrastructure layouts and the associated disturbance area for CCOP.

Removal of the SWS

As outlined in the Scoping Report (May 2024), Cadia proposed to construct and operate an additional water storage facility (the South Water Storage, or SWS) within the Cadiangullong Creek catchment.

Following further technical assessments and community consultation, the SWS was removed from the CCOP and is no longer proposed. The removal of SWS from the CCOP:

- avoids disturbance area impacts to Cadiangullong Creek, including impacts relating to water, biodiversity, heritage and agricultural; and
- avoids amenity impacts from the construction of the SWS, such as noise blasting and visual impacts at nearby landholders to the south-west.

Cadia will continue to minimise its operational water demands by reusing water held within the mine's surface water management system. Consistent with the existing approved operations, additional water demands would be sourced under its existing licences from the Cadiangullong Dam, Flyers Creek Weir, Cadia Creek Weir, the Belubula River, on-site groundwater bores and treated municipal waste water. As part Newmont's commitment to minimising operational water usage, further studies into the optimisation of water use on site will continue throughout the Project life.

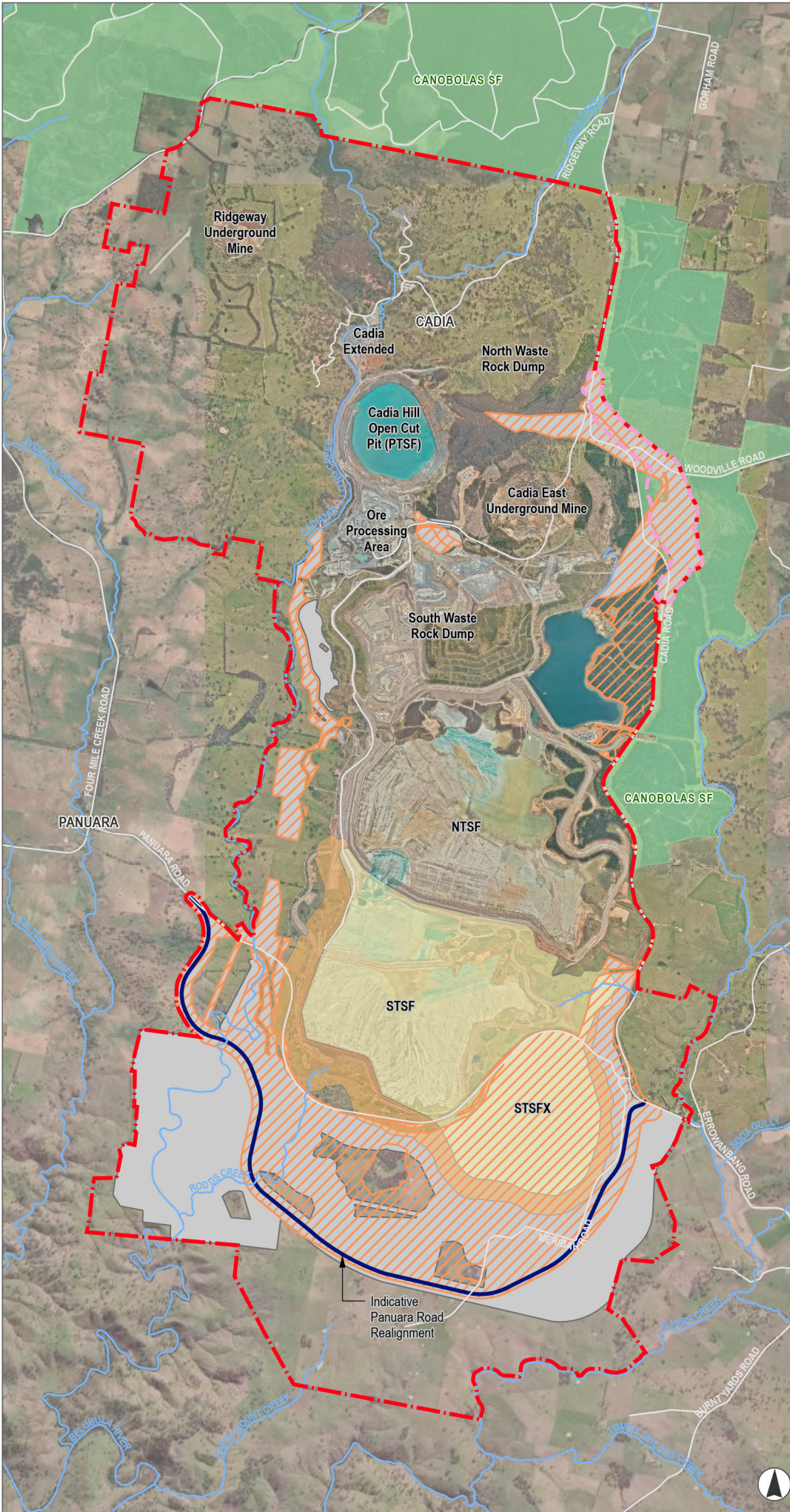
The conceptual project layout showing the key features of the CCOP is shown in **Figure 1**.

FIGURE 1

Cadia Continued Operations Project - Refinements

Legend

- CCOP Project Area
 - Cadia Road Realignment Study Area
 - Indicative Panuara Road Realignment
 - Additional Disturbance Area (Current)
 - Additional Disturbance Area (Scoping Report)
 - State Forest
 - Road
 - Creek/River
- Indicative Southern Tailings Storage Facility Extension (STSFx)**
- Proposed Final Tailings
 - Proposed Hydrocycloned Sand Embankment



Scale 1:65,000 at A4
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

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Refinement to infrastructure footprints

Since the Scoping Report was submitted in May 2024, Cadia has continued to progress the detailed design of the CCOP and has identified opportunities to further refine the designs associated with the Panuara Road realignment and the STSFX and associated infrastructure.

These changes have resulted from the incorporation of community feedback into these project elements and necessitate a refinement (and reduction) in the proposed disturbance area.

The change in additional disturbance associated with the CCOP from Scoping Report to current as proposed is shown in **Figure 1**.

All other aspects of the CCOP remain as outlined in the Scoping Report.

Update on concurrent CCOP Planning Processes

A Conditional Gateway Certificate for the CCOP was issued by the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel on 25 October 2024. We will be seeking an amendment to the Gateway Certificate for the CCOP to reflect the changes described above and expect a Conditional Gateway Certificate to be issued in the New Year.

We have also referred the CCOP to the Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water (DCCEEW). The EPBC Referral is consistent with the Project as described within this letter and is currently under assessment. Cadia requests that the CCOP be assessed under the NSW/Commonwealth Bilateral Agreement, subject to DCCEEW's confirmation of a controlled action decision and issuing of amended SEARS by the Department.

Request

In consideration of the above information, Cadia believes that the existing SEARs are generally appropriate for the Project. However, Cadia notes that some elements (such as the requirement for a cold water pollution study) are no longer relevant to the Project following the removal of the SWS.

We request that the Department review the SEARs and either confirm their ongoing applicability for CCOP or update and reissue the SEARs to reflect the refined Project.

Should you require any further information or would like to discuss further please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Rodney Williams

Manager Approvals & Permitting