

Our ref: SSI-9687-PA-139

Mr Ben Croome
Senior Environmental Advisor
SNOWY HYDRO LIMITED
PO Box 332
Cooma NSW 2630

08/01/2024

Snowy 2.0 - Main Works – CSSI-9687 - Independent Environmental Audit #4

Dear Mr Croome

Reference is made to your post approval matter, SSI-9687-PA-139, Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) report #4 [and Response to Audit Recommendations (RAR)] prepared as required by Schedule 4 condition 9 of CSSI 9687 (as modified) the approval and submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment (NSW Planning) on 11 September 2023.

NSW Planning considers the IEA report to generally satisfy the reporting requirements of the consent. Please note that acceptance of this IEA report is not an endorsement of the compliance status of the project.

NSW Planning notes IEA report #4 identified 12 non-compliances, with 4 new non-compliances, 8 non-compliances identified from previous IEA's and 372 compliant conditions assessed. Subsequent correspondence from Snowy Hydro Limited (SHL), dated 11 December 2023, provided the department with an update on the status of the 12 non-compliances and identified that 8 non-compliances remain open and 4 have been closed out.

In summary, the following non-compliances identified in the IEA report #4 being NC1, NC4, NC6, NC9 and NC11 have been assessed in accordance with NSW Planning's Compliance Policy and on this occasion, NSW Planning determining to record the non-compliances. The recording of these non-compliances does not preclude NSW Planning from taking alternate action in the future if it becomes apparent that a more appropriate action is necessary.

The non-compliances NC7, NC8 and NC10 identified in IEA report #4 are the subject of a Show Cause Notice issued on 20 December 2023 with a response due on 26 January 2024.

In relation to non-compliances NC5 and NC12 identified in IEA report #4, further information will be required, and correspondence will be sent separately in relation to these non-compliances.

In relation to the non-compliances identified as NC 2 and NC 3 in IEA report #4, which relates to management plans, NSW Planning took enforcement action in September 2023.

Please ensure, within 14 days of the date of this letter, a copy of the IEA and RAR is uploaded to the project's website and the website is up to date with all required documentation in accordance with Schedule 4 condition 12 of the consent.

Lastly, please also forward copies of the IEA report and RAR to the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), Environment Protection Agency, Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Transport for NSW (TfNSW), Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) and Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD) of the Department.

Should you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Michael Wood on 0459890661 or email compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. O'Reilly".

Katrina O'Reilly
Team Leader - Compliance
Compliance
As nominee of the Planning Secretary