



Office of  
Environment  
& Heritage



PCU51621

Ms Elle Donnelly  
Mining and Industry Projects  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

Your reference: DA 250-09-01 Mod 4  
Our reference: DOC14/16815  
Contact: Rachel Lonie 9995 6837

Dear Ms Donnelly

I refer to your email correspondence dated 13 February 2014 inviting the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) to comment on the Response to Submissions Report on the Old Northern Quarry, Maroota (Dixon Sands) proposed modification.

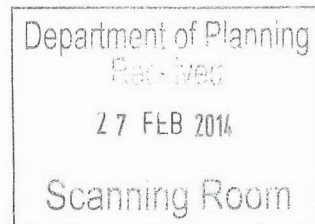
Comments are provided in Attachment 1.

Should you have any queries in regard to this correspondence please contact Rachel Lonie, Senior Operations Officer, on 9995 6837 or by email at [rachel.lonie@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rachel.lonie@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

*S. Harrison 24/02/14*

**SUSAN HARRISON**  
Senior Team Leader, Planning  
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## **ATTACHMENT 1**

### **Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) to comment on the Response to Submissions Report on the Old Northern Quarry, Maroota (Dixon Sands) proposed modification**

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) notes that Cumberland Ecology (CE) has undertaken some additional flora surveys and has addressed the inadequacies OEH raised in relation to flora and fauna surveys and groundwater impacts. OEH now considers that these issues have been adequately addressed.

OEH still has concerns with the proposed offsets, particularly in relation to the *Melaleuca deanei* and threatened fauna habitats on site. The proposal is to recreate a vegetation community of 6.83 ha to offset the loss of 4.3 ha of remnant woodland, including threatened species habitats. As stated in the previous response, this provides an offset ratio of only 1.58, which is very low for a recreated community. In addition, there is a commitment to prepare a Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP), however there is no commitment to the duration of the plan or the long term security of the revegetated lands.

OEH considers the offset area should be protected and managed in perpetuity. CE compares its proposed offsets against the Offset Principles in Appendix C. For Principle 5 ("Offsets must be enduring, enforceable and auditable") it is noted that the consultant's response is that the offsets will be enforceable and auditable, but is silent on whether the offsets will be enduring. OEH considers more detail is required to demonstrate that the offset will meet this requirement.