

Major Development Planning Assessment,

NSW Department of Planning,

GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW, 2001

21<sup>st</sup> November, 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: DA 401-11-2002-i-MOD 7**

I refer to DA 401-11-2002-i-MOD 7 which addresses the introduction of blast furnace slag into the cement manufacturing process at Boral's Berrima cement works. I note that after an initial successful trial of 3000 tonnes it is proposed to proceed with that use of 150,000 tonnes per annum of this material.

Cement manufacture is an essential industrial process in a carbon constrained world and I applaud every smart move to reduce its CO2 emissions.

I am therefore supportive of this process in principle because it has the potential to:

1. Significantly reduce carbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions through both a reduction in CO2 liberated by calcining and also through the reduction in coal that is burned.
2. It will reduce the amount of coal and limestone hauled to the site and therefore a reduction in road and rail traffic.
3. It will also reduce carbon emissions associated with transport of coal and limestone to the plant.

I note that Boral propose to back load that blast furnace slag using trucks that currently deliver clinker to Port Kembla. Clearly, this increased efficiency in transport is a good thing. It would be even better if rail could be used for this two way transport process.

I have however a concern that these positive results may be cancelled out if at some time in the future the blast furnace slag is back loaded from the Illawarra region as a way to offset the costs of additional coal exported by Boral from the Medway Colliery.

I consider that in view of accelerated greenhouse warming caused by manmade greenhouse gas emissions Boral should be requested prepare a greenhouse gas emissions study. This should take account of:

1. Improvements in emissions resulting from the introduction of blast furnace slag to cement manufacture,
2. Improvements in the transport emissions as a result of improved transport efficiency where the slag is back loaded from clinker delivered to Port Kembla.

3. Increased CO2 emissions which could occur if the slag is back loaded from coal exported through Port Kembla. This would also include the emissions from the coal when it is burned anywhere in the World.

In summary I am supportive of Boral's endeavours to reduce greenhouse gas emissions provided they are not negated by the increased carbon emissions from burning of the coal exported from Medway Colliery.

Yours faithfully

Robert Parker

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