



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

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SSD_5144 MOD 8

Mr Anthony Barnes
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Dear Anthony

Mandalong Southern Extension project – Modification 8 (SSD_5144 MOD 8)

I refer to your e-mail dated 30 April 2019 in which the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) provided the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) with a link to the Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) for the proposed modification for the development consent for the Mandalong Southern Extension Project (SSD_5144 MOD 8). The proposed modification includes the clearing of about 0.18 hectares of native vegetation around the Mandalong Mine Access Site for an upgrade of the existing car park and substation areas.

OEH is satisfied that there are no flooding issues that would need to be managed for this project.

OEH's recommendations on Aboriginal cultural heritage and biodiversity issues are provided in **Attachment A** with detailed comments provided in **Attachment B**. If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Robert Gibson, Regional Biodiversity Conservation Officer, on 4927 3154 or via email at rog.hcc@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

15 May 2019

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Enclosure: Attachments A and B

Attachment A**OEH's recommendations****Mandalong Southern Extension Project – Modification 8 (SSD_5144 MOD 8)**

1. OEH recommends that Centennial Mandalong sends the registered Aboriginal parties a copy of the final report *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment – Proposed Works within the Mandalong Mine Access Site, Mandalong* (Umwelt 2019).
2. OEH is satisfied with the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment undertaken and no further assessment is required.
3. OEH is satisfied with the assessment of the impacts of the project on biodiversity and the commitment to retire four ecosystem credits in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme.

OEH's detailed comments

Mandalong Southern Extension Project – Modification 8 (SSD_5144 MOD 8)

Aboriginal cultural heritage

1. A final copy of the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment has not been sent to the RAPs

The Aboriginal consultation for this project was described in the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment – Proposed Works within the Mandalong Mine Access Site, Mandalong* (Umwelt, 2019) and was undertaken in accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010). Aboriginal cultural values for the local and broader area around Mandalong Mine were recorded and an archaeological assessment was completed with participation in the field survey by four registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs). The area was assessed as having low archaeological potential and no Aboriginal sites were identified within or near to the modification area. No response or comments to the draft report were received from the RAPs. However, OEH notes that a copy of the final report has not been sent to the RAPs.

Recommendation 1

OEH recommends that Centennial Mandalong sends the registered Aboriginal parties a copy of the final report *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment – Proposed Works within the Mandalong Mine Access Site, Mandalong* (Umwelt 2019).

2. OEH is satisfied with the outcomes of the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment

OEH is satisfied that the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment for Modification 8 comprising the upgrade of the existing car park and substation areas at Mandalong Mine identified no Aboriginal sites. No previously recorded Aboriginal sites within the Modification 8 boundary nor in the surrounding area are expected to be directly impacted by the proposed Modification.

Recommendation 2

OEH is satisfied with the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment undertaken and no further assessment is required.

Biodiversity

3. OEH is satisfied with the biodiversity assessment of the project site

The Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) for the project (EMM consulting, Sydney; April 2019) included a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) (RPS group, 21 March 2019) and a Biodiversity Inventory Report (BIR) (RPS Group, 16 March 2019). The streamlined assessment module of the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology (BAM) was applied given the small scale of the development footprint, and that the land was not shown to have biodiversity on the Biodiversity Values Map. OEH reviewed the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) calculator file for this project which was found to generate 4 ecosystem credits to be retired. The proponent will retire those credits in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme.

Recommendation 3

OEH is satisfied with the assessment of the impacts of the project on biodiversity and the commitment to retire four ecosystem credits in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme.