

PRB

17 April 2015

Department of Planning & Environment  
23-33 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

**Subject: Cowal Gold Mine Modification 13 – DA14/98 Mod 13**

Dear Sir Madam,

Forbes Shire Council has reviewed the information provided in the Environmental Assessment for the modification to the mine life for Cowal Gold operations. Council has also been provided with a briefing on the proposal from Evolution mining executive staff. I wish to advise of Forbes Shire Council's support to the increase to the life of the mine which has provided tremendous economic and social benefits for the Shire and surrounding Local Government Areas. Council believes that the extended life of the mine will continue to provide increased economic and social benefits throughout the Central West of NSW.

Council has also found Barrick Gold and now Evolution Mining to be good corporate citizens which was clearly shown through their assistance to local communities during the recent flood events.

During the life of the mine Council has been part of the Cowal Mine Community Environmental Monitoring & Consultative Committee and has found this has been very beneficial in ensuring a good working relationship between local stake holders and the mine operators.

The previous mine owners Barrick Gold assisted with maintenance of the preferred road route between Forbes and the mine being West Plains Road via Bogeys Island and the alternate route during times of flood being via Waroo Road. Council would like to see a formalised agreement with Evolution mining for assistance in the maintenance of these roads as part of the modification.

Should you have any enquiries regarding this matter, please contact me on 02 6850 2344

Yours faithfully



Paul Bennett  
**Director**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & PLANNING**

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