

Subject: FW: Flyers Creek Water Flow
Date: Thursday, 28 January 2021 at 12:02:04 pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time
From: Matthew Armstrong <Matthew.Armstrong@newcrest.com.au>
To: John and Hilde Gerathy <jhgerathy@gmail.com>
CC: Jann Harries <jann@minebiz.com.au>, Annie and Garry Haines <gads1553@hotmail.com>, Patina Schneider <rosepark101@hotmail.com>
Attachments: image001.jpg, image003.jpg, Re: Aerial application of dust suppressant.eml, Residents Meeting pack and question responses.eml, Flyers Creek water levels.eml

Hi John,

Thanks for your email. I hope you and Hilde are well and had a good Christmas.

Thanks for the email below, working backwards on your list:

c. A response to my emails of 5/7/20 and 18/12/20 attached. Matt if I do not receive a prompt response I will have no alternative to moving and committing substantial \$s to halt any lifts on NTSF.

With regard to the questions you posed in your email of the 5/7/20 I responded to the list in my response on 13/10/20 – attached. I put that matter aside then, so I'm sorry if this wasn't clear in the way I communicated or I didn't adequately cover all the questions. I can see from re-reading the questions that I didn't cover the point about the ITRB. Cadia engaged Ashurst to form the ITRB. The ITRB came together for the specific purpose of the investigation, which was finished quite a while ago now. As such there isn't an 'ITRB' to contact.

The ITRB report is available from: https://www.newcrest.com/sites/default/files/2019-10/190417_Report%20on%20NTSF%20Embankment%20Failure%20at%20Cadia%20for%20Ashurst.pdf
The people who were on the ITRB are detailed in this document: https://www.newcrest.com/sites/default/files/2019-10/190430_Expert%20review%20of%20Cadia%20tailings%20-%20Appendix%20A.pdf

The other Appendices are all on the Newcrest website. If you'd prefer I can print a hardcopy of the complete report for you.

Further information about Tailings and Dams is available at: <https://www.newcrest.com/sustainability/dams-and-tailings-management>

If I can assist further pls let me know, particularly if there are any concerns about the report.

With regard to your email from the 18/12/20. I apologise as I missed that email. The email you replied to was the last email I sent before closing the computer to go on leave for a few weeks – no excuse though. This email was flagging your email of the 5/7/20, so the points above are the relevant points.

As an FYI – the new permanent air quality monitoring station and Old Errowanbang is installed. I think the Enviro team just has to do some commissioning tests before bringing it online.

b. Cadia intentions for neighbouring Meribah , now that drilling has been completed, also discussed.

The drilling program has concluded. However the site investigations that form part of studies examining the feasibility of constructing a new Tailings Storage Facility include a number of other programs of work such as (soil) test pits and environmental studies. Some of these programs of work are still occurring and aren't due to be completed for a number of weeks. It won't be until these studies are completed and the results fed into the feasibility study, Cadia will understand the suitability of the investigation area for a new tailings storage facility. Jane Chung is managing this piece of work and the engagement piece. If

you'd like to meet with Jane I can arrange a time or feel free to reach out to Jane yourself.

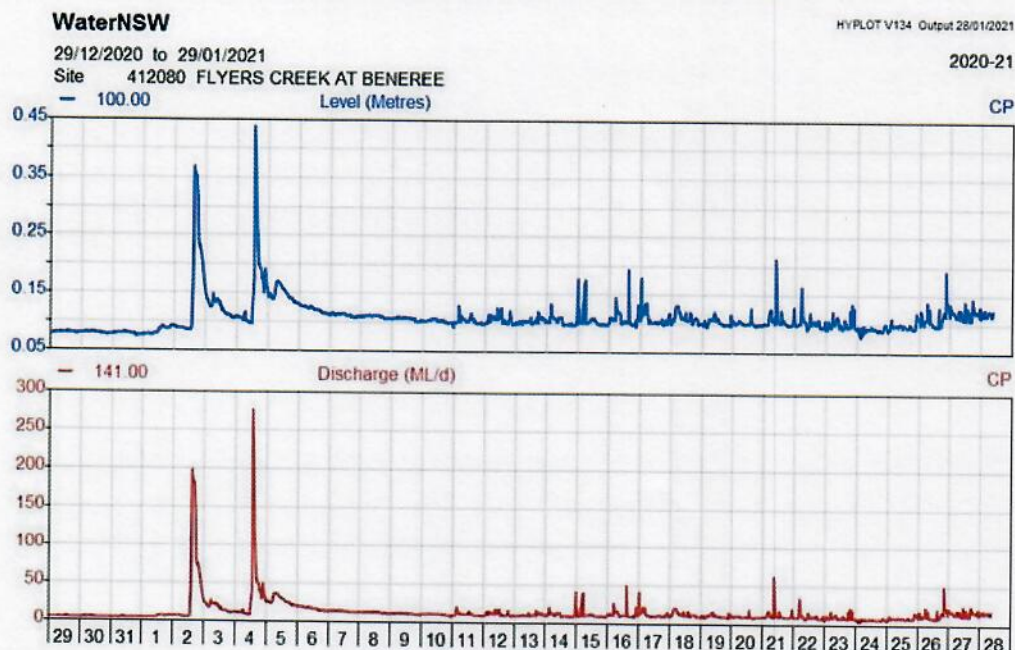
a. Despite storm events regularly taking out our flood gates water flow in the Flyers Creek is immediately thereafter drastically reduced.

We would like to convene a meeting with Cadia management and its water experts including pump operators to resolve what appears to be an evolving problem.

Jann Harries touched base with me in October about this, I believe the two of you had been talking about an instance where there was a dramatic drop in the stream level at your pump location. I investigated this at the time and provide a response to Jann (attached).

Further to the information in the email to Jann:

- The last time Cadia extracted water was 24/11/2020. So any observations from the last couple of months won't have been influenced by Cadia. If you alert me at the time you observe something a bit different with the stream flow
- Cadia publishes its Flyers Creek water extraction in the 'Stream Flow' monthly reports on the CVO website. These report provides an overview of Cadia water extraction activities – time, stream flow at the time of extraction and volumes.
- There's a really good public app / website that you can see stream flow in Flyers Ck in real time – <https://realtimedata.watarnsw.com.au/water.stm>. Below is a snip of the stream flow over the last month.
- I'd be happy to do something similar to what we did in October – look at stream flow data and our pumping rate – which basically brings all this information together.



As an FYI, in mid-October I was driving across the Panuara Rd Flyers Ck bridge on Saturday and noticed some guys fishing. I pulled up and spoke to them about the creek. The person I spoke to was Dave

Wickham from a local fishing club. He said that he'd been fishing along that stretch for 20 years, that the trout weren't biting during the drought but he'd been back a couple of times over the last few weeks because the trout were biting again.

Jann – you might know Dave, he thought he'd taught your daughter or had a child who attended school at the same time – I can't quite remember the story.

John – Can I suggest that we meet and make sure you feel that I've answered your questions. If I haven't then we can make a clean list of questions. I want to avoid assuming that I've adequately responded but I haven't from your perspective and are waiting on me. Also, I would bring Nic B with me and ask him to bring the stream flow reports and look to answer any questions you have about Flyers Ck.

Thanks

Matt

Matt Armstrong
Superintendent - Social Performance
Cadia Valley Operations
Newcrest Mining Limited – Miner of Choice™
1460 Cadia Road Orange NSW 2800

From: Hilde <jhgerathy@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 3:26 PM

To: Matthew Armstrong <Matthew.Armstrong@newcrest.com.au>; Patina Schneider <rosepark101@hotmail.com>

Cc: Jann Harries <jann@minebiz.com.au>; Annie and Garry Haines <gads1553@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: Flyers Creek Water Flow

Hi Matt

I have noted with interest your correspondence with Patina. Please keep me in the loop.

On other matters :-

a. Despite storm events regularly taking out our flood gates water flow in the Flyers Creek is immediately thereafter drastically reduced.

We would like to convene a meeting with Cadia management and its water experts including pump operators to resolve what appears to be an evolving problem.

b. Cadia intentions for neighbouring Meribah, now that drilling has been completed, also discussed.

c. A response to my emails of 5/7/20 and 18/12/20 attached. Matt if I do not receive a prompt response I will have no alternative to moving and committing substantial \$s to halt any lifts on NTSF.

Regards

JG

Subject: Flyers Creek water levels
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2020 at 2:21:29 pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time
From: Matthew Armstrong <Matthew.Armstrong@newcrest.com.au>
To: jann@minebiz.com.au <jann@minebiz.com.au>
Attachments: image001.jpg

Hi Jann,

In answer to your question about water levels in Flyers Ck, as background the Cadia pumps switch off and on depending on stream flow. At all times we have a licence criteria to have 3.5ML/day passing our gauge and we have the pump switches set on 5ML/day to give a good buffer.

The pumps turning on will drop the water level to some degree. At our gauge it can be about 15 cm because it's a very narrow passage at that point. At the Water NSW gauge closer to you the drop is only about 4 cm (based on Water NSW data) because it is a broader section.

So the overnight drop that was observed may have been related in part to our pumps turning on but our pumps have been switching on and off fairly regularly these last few weeks so if it was an event that really stood out as unusual it probably wasn't.

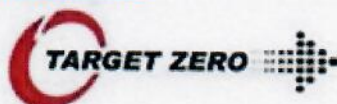
I could look into it further if you provide a date and times of the observed drop.

Hope that assists.

Thanks

Matt

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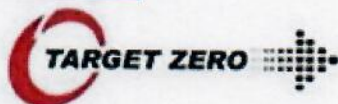
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Matt

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Environmental Performance Reported Incidents

Environmental incidents have been reported to regulatory agencies since the June 2018 Newsletter:

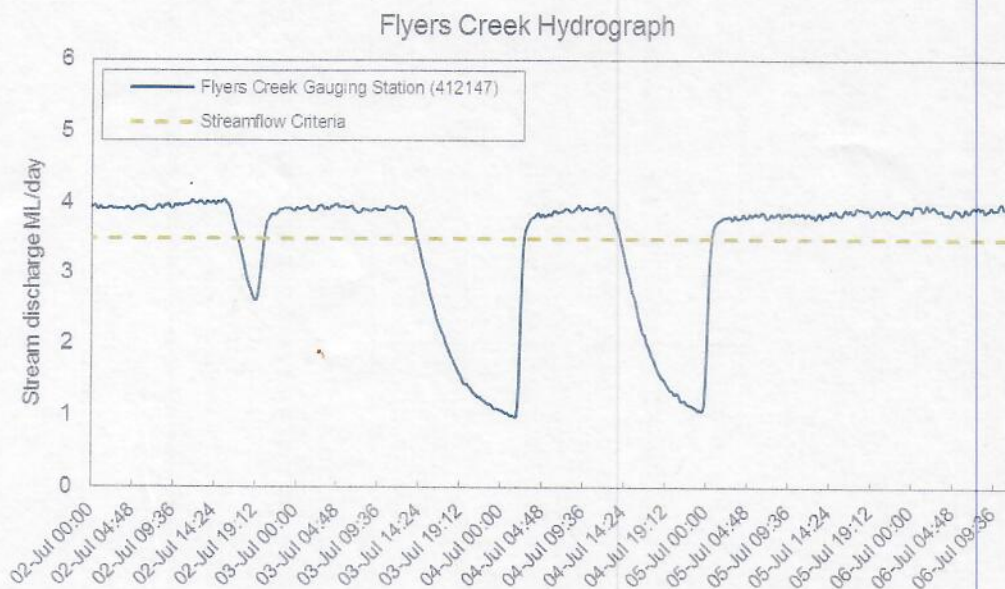
Extraction from Flyers Creek

Cadia has a weir on Flyers Creek, just to the east of its operations, which allows extraction within licence conditions as long as flows at a downstream gauging station on the Creek are maintained at 3.5ML/day or above. Between Monday 2 July and Thursday 5 July 2018, while Cadia was testing its pumping system and correcting telemetry issues, three inadvertent periods of extraction occurred which dropped the downstream flows below 3.5ML/day. The periods of extraction were of relatively short duration and the downstream flows were greater than 1.0ML/day during the period.

Cadia has undertaken an investigation into the causes of the incident, and the following is a summary of the key findings:

1. The alignment between the downstream creek level sensor and the pump controlling sensor was incorrect. The stream height gauge was measuring 340mm while the level sensor was registering 625mm.
2. A bump test was conducted on the Flyers Creek pumps to ensure their operability. Following the test the pumps were inadvertently left in "auto" setting.
3. Power and communication faults were in the process of being rectified. As power and communications were restored over several days, the pumps turned on automatically.
4. The underflow pipe of the weir (that allows downstream flows to be maintained while pumping) is blocked.

The pumps have been set to 'manual operation' and isolated while corrective actions for the other findings are being implemented.



The graph above indicates the extraction periods which dropped the downstream flows to less than 3.5ML.