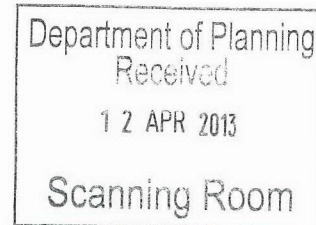




Our Reference (TRIM): OUT13/7965

9 April 2013

Ms Sophie Butcher
Planner – Mining Projects
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Dear Ms Butcher,

Re: Karuah East Quarry Project (09_0175) – Environmental Assessment Exhibition

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the above major project proposal. This is a response from the NSW Department of Trade & Investment (DTIRIS) – Mineral Resources Branch (MRB). The Department of Primary Industries, incorporating advice from Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests NSW may respond separately.

MRB has no concerns to raise in regard to the above project however the following observations have been made.

- It is acknowledged that cross sections of the proposed quarry have been included as Figure 3 and 4 in Appendix C (as suggested by MRB's during the adequacy review) however these figures do not depict the geology of the resource. Cross sections showing the stages of the quarry development (illustrated in plan view in Appendix D) have also not been included.
- It is noted in *Section 2.3.1 - Exploration Program* that reference is made to **seven** cored boreholes being drilled over the site. Figure 2 from Appendix C shows the location of **nine** boreholes however the bore logs for only **four** of these holes have been provided. It is assumed that given there is an existing quarry immediately adjacent to the proposed quarry that the proponent would have a good understanding of the resource through prior extraction combined with geological mapping of the current quarry exposures and the bore hole information.
- MRB noted in the adequacy review that an extension to the existing quarry would be preferable to a standalone quarry to maximise the extraction of the resource however MRB acknowledges that a standalone quarry rather than an extension to the existing quarry is necessary in this instance due to access issues over Lot 11 DP 1024564.

- MRB has previously provided advice in relation to a proposal to convert a storage shed to a residence on Lot 11 DP 1024564. As a sensitive receiver is not listed in either Table 3 (p58) or shown in Figure 10 (p59), MRB assumes that the affected dwelling is project related and owned by either RMS or the quarry.

For further information regarding mineral issues please contact Malcolm Drummond, on (02) 4931 6704 or malcolm.drummond@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Francis', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Simon Francis
A/Team Leader Land Use