



9<sup>th</sup> June 2015

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Resource Assessments  
Department of Planning & Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Emailed: [thomas.watt@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:thomas.watt@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Your Reference: SSD 6624  
Our Reference (TRIM): OUT15/12615

Dear Mr Watt

**Re: Exhibition Notice - Slys Quarry Expansion Project (SSD 6624)**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the above matter. This is a response from NSW Trade & Investment (DTIRIS) – Geological Survey of New South Wales (GSNSW).

**Specific Issues**

The building and construction industries in NSW require ongoing replacement of supplies as sources are exhausted. The expansion of existing quarries subject to environmental assessment helps to ensure a continued supply of material for a range of building and construction uses in NSW. The resource in the subject area represents a regionally important source of sandstone construction materials for the Mid North Coast area and the Pacific Highway upgrade.

It is in the best interests of both the proponent and the community to fully assess the resources which are to be extracted. This means that a thorough geological assessment should be undertaken to determine the nature, quality and extent of the resource. Failure to undertake such an assessment could lead to operational problems and possibly even failure of the proposal.

The EA (Section 2.0, 2.3 - Resource Characteristics, p.6) refers to Hensel Geosciences (2014), *Overview of the Existing Newman's Sandstone Quarry and Proposed Extensions, Woodburn, NSW*. All environmental reports (EISs or similar) accompanying Development Applications for extractive industry lodged under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* should include a resource assessment (as detailed in GSNSW Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements, (our ref. OUT14/23073), Attachment A) which:

- Documents the size and quality of the resource and demonstrates that both have been adequately assessed; and
- Documents the methods used to assess the resource and its suitability for the intended applications.

While the assessment describes a resource continuous to the existing operation, the referenced geological assessment should be included in, or appended to the EA. GSNSW notes SEARs provided on 30/7/2014 (our ref. OUT14/23073) are not included in the EA, Appendix B – Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements.

DTIRIS - Mineral Resources Branch collects data on the quantity and value of construction materials produced annually throughout the State. Forms are sent to all operating quarries at the end of each financial year for this purpose. The statistical data thus collected is of great value to Government and industry in planning and resource management, particularly as a basis for analysing trends in production and for estimating future demand for particular commodities or in particular regions.

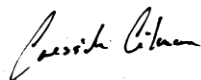
In order to assist in the collection of construction material production data, the proponent should be required to provide annual production data for the subject site to DTIRIS - Mineral Resources Branch, in addition to existing reporting to Clarence Valley Council and the EPA, as a condition of any new or amended development consent.

### **General Information**

Please note Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) 457 held by ERM GAS Pty Ltd exists over a broad regional area that includes the subject site. Identification of the title is to make the consent authority aware that there are other stakeholders with interests in the region.

Queries regarding the above information, and future requests for advice in relation to this matter, should be directed to the GSNSW Land Use team at [landuse.minerals@trade.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landuse.minerals@trade.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Cressida Gilmore  
Team Leader - Land Use