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26 September 2019

Philip Nevill Environmental Assessment Officer Energy and Resources | Planning and Assessment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001 Contact:Juri JungTelephone:98652503Our ref:D2019/103649

Dear Mr Nevill,

Springvale Water Treatment Project (SSD 7592) MOD4

I refer to your e-mail dated 6 September 2019 inviting WaterNSW to provide advice on the Modification Report for above project. WaterNSW appreciates the opportunity to provide comment on the report.

WaterNSW notes that the report predicts a negligible increase in salinity levels in the Coxs River due to the proposed increased storage of filtered mine water in the Thompsons Creek Reservoir (TCR) compared to the approved levels in the previous modification (approved May 2019).

Since the previous modification, the Springvale Water Treatment Facility has been partially commissioned and the Springvale Mine has discontinued mine water discharges from LDP009.

WaterNSW does not object to this modification considering the overall improvements in the water quality of the Coxs River catchment due to the cessation of high salinity mine water discharges from LDP009. WaterNSW notes the increase in salinity levels in the Coxs River will only be temporary and will decrease when the reverse osmosis modules are completely commissioned in February 2020.

WaterNSW requests that any water quality monitoring results that exceed predictions or any spills from TCR are reported immediately to WaterNSW during the temporary period of increased storage of filtered mine water.

It is also requested that WaterNSW remain as a stakeholder for the proposal and any updates to relevant plans. WaterNSW would appreciate having an additional opportunity to comment on the proposed modification as the assessment progresses.

If you wish to discuss this letter further please contact Juri Jung on 9865 2503 or email at <u>environmental.assessments@waternsw.com.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

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Clay Preshaw Manager Catchment Protection