

PCU057022

17 November 2014

Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39

Sydney NSW 2001

Department of Planning
Received
20 NOV 2014
Scanning Room

Subject: Northern Coal Logistics Project - Environmental Assessment

Council has reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Northern Coal Logistics Project and provides the following comments:

Surrendering of Development Consents

The application proposes to surrender a number of consents that currently provide approval for mining and the subsequent environmental controls.

Council is concerned that the surrender of these consents may affect the ability to mine and remove substantive environmental controls that have been developed for these sites over many years.

In this regard, Council requires greater assurance from the proponent that the environmental controls and approvals to mine under the various consents will be successfully transferred to a new single consent as proposed.

In this regard, prior to determination, Council recommends that a table be supplied by the applicant showing a comparison between all of the existing/prevaling conditions of consents with those proposed to be transferred to a new consent.

Creeks and Watercourses

The application does not propose any improvements to LPD0002. Whilst this discharge point has not experienced regular exceedances of licence conditions, where this has occurred the exceedance has been significant.

Centennial Coal's environmental audit report for 2014, reports a total suspended solids (TSS) reading of 688mg/L in March 2013.

This is 13 times above the licensed 50mg/L limit. In this regard, it is requested that the proponent provide mitigation measures to prevent further incidences in the future.

Council officers are aware of significant concerns in the local community regarding the need for dredging of LT Creek to address the historic impacts of mining activities on the Newstan Colliery site.

Council is aware that Centennial Coal had previously discussed including contributions to the remediation of LT Creek as part of future applications relevant to the site, but noted that this

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issue is not addressed in the current application. It is considered that clarification from Centennial Coal be provided as to their intentions with regards to contributions to dredging as part of this current application.

Property Management

Hawkmount Quarry (Lot 7306 DP 1164232) is affected by PERMISSIVE OCCUPANCY No: 146079 from Crown Lands.

This is a dual permissive occupancy with Centennial Coal.

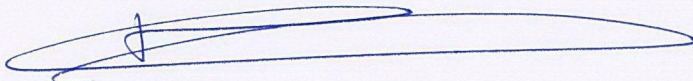
Should the Department countenance approval of the project then the development should contain a condition requiring relinquishment of the PO with Crown Lands as it can no longer gain access to the site and has finished quarrying activities on the site.

Rail Study

The EA does not include a rail study.

It is recommended that a rail study be undertaken that assesses the likely cumulative impacts of the proposed development under the scenario where both the Wallarah 2 and Cobbora Coal projects are additionally using the existing rail network as proposed. The study should consider whether any additional network improvement are required to support the proposed development.

Yours faithfully



David Lovell
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