

5th March 2018

Tim Stuckey
Environmental Assessment Officer
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Emailed: tim.stuckey@planning.nsw.gov.au

Your Reference: MP 10_0160
Our Reference: OUT18/3910

Dear Mr Stuckey

Re: White Rock Wind Farm Project (MOD 6) - Modification Proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the above matter. This is a response from the NSW Department of Planning & Environment – Division of Resources & Geoscience, Geological Survey of New South Wales (GSNSW).

General Information

GSNSW notes that the proposed Windemere Biobank Site (as indicated within the White Rock Wind farm MOD 6 – EA Main Report - Figure 6.4) is located within the Exploration Licence Application (ELA) 5592 held by New England Blue Pty Ltd (Refer to Figure 1). GSNSW has concerns relating to the biobanking application area regarding potential resource sterilisation. This area is prospective for sapphires and the proposed biodiversity offset area may adversely affect explorers locating potential resources. GSNSW requests the title applicant be consulted in relation to the proposed biodiversity location with a record of consultation included in the EIS. GSNSW requests to be consulted in relation to the proposed location of any biodiversity offset areas or any supplementary biodiversity offset measures to ensure there is no consequent potential sterilisation of mineral or extractive (construction material) resources. The contact details for New England Blue Pty Ltd (that the GSNSW currently has on record) are as follows:

Contact: Mr Graeme Weber (Director/ Geological Consultant PGM Management Pty Ltd).
Phone: 0395098629 & 0419303061
Email: geweber@netspace.net.au

Similarly, GSNSW note that the proposed location for the Matheson Block 1 Biobank Site – Huard (Figure 1), located within Lot 1 DP 1061812, is adjacent to the approved extractive industry (quarry) referred to as the Hugans Pit (Reference: Glen Innes Severn Council July 2016, Development Approval GD:CA:GP for DA No.52.15-16 dated 22nd July 2016). The existing approval comprises 1.42 ha and consists of a “discrete area located on the western side of the White Rock Wind Farm access road” (Reference: pp 18 SOEE Hugans Pit Mod). GSNSW requests the proponent consult with Glenn Innes Severn Council (as the Consent Authority for this extractive industry) regarding the potential for resource sterilisation and/or discussion around the potential for a reduced biodiversity offset area, resulting from future quarrying activities, with a record of consultation included in the EIS.

GSNSW advise that Exploration Licence Application (ELA) 5593 held by New England Blue Pty Ltd covers a broad regional area overlapping an eastern portion of the project area (Figure 1) This ELA should not impact the project or vice versa. Identification of the title application is to make the applicant aware that there are other stakeholders with interests in the region (Contact details as per above).

GSNSW recommend that consideration should also be made regarding the potential for a locally sourced supply of construction materials for the White Rock Wind Farm Project. Our previous response (OUT17/7915) for the White Rock Wind Farm (Mod 4), provided information regarding quarry modifications and proposals within the WRWF project area for both the Inverell LGA (Frazers Quarry DA190/2010/A – for increased extraction) & Glen Innes Severn LGA (White Rock Pit DA58/16-16 & the Hugans Pit – with DA information provided above).

Geoscience Information Services

The GSNSW has a range of online data related to mineral exploration, land use and general geoscience topics:

<http://www.resources.nsw.gov.au/geological/online-services>

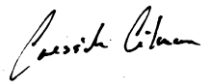
The location of current exploration and mining titles in NSW, explanations of mining and production titles and the roles of community and government in the decision making process for mining/resource projects may be accessed by the general public using the following online utilities:

<http://commonground.nsw.gov.au>

<https://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/miners-and-explorers/geoscience-information/services/online-services/minview>

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@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Cressida Gilmore
Manager - Land Use

Figure 1 - White Rock Wind Farm (Mod 6 area) - Proposed Biodiversity Offset areas proximity to ELAs and Extractive Industry (quarry) areas.

