

Quote No TS

Telephone / Personal Enquiries  
Ask for Mrs T Stephens

Please address all communications to:  
The General Manager  
240 Blende Street  
PO Box 448  
Broken Hill NSW 2880  
Phone 08 8080 3300  
Fax 08 8080 3424  
council@brokenhill.nsw.gov.au  
www.brokenhill.nsw.gov.au

ABN 84 873 116 132

16 September 2021

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Sir/madam

**RASP MINE, BROKEN HILL - MOD 6 - (MP07\_0018-Mod-6)**

Reference is made to the abovementioned Modification application.

Prior to the lodgement of Mod 6, Council had specified the following to be addressed in the Application:

- Noise – particularly works around the portal and decline and new boxcut, vehicle movements, and waste rock placement,
- Dust – particularly during construction phase; and truck movements associated with transporting waste rock and waste materials;
- Impact on heritage items on the mining lease – based on the information provided, it appears that no heritage items would be directly impacted by the works/operation changes. Consideration needs to be given to ensure that heritage items located in and near BHP Pit would not be impacted by the placement of waste rock.
- Community health – consideration to be given to lead dust/contamination, and impact on community blood lead levels;
- Rehabilitation – consideration should be given to rehabilitation of the boxcut and portal (at time of mine closure).

Upon reviewing the information submitted in MOD 6 Application, Council is satisfied that these matters have been considered and appropriately addressed.

In particular, the following comments are provided by Council:

- Noise – Council is satisfied that no additional noise impacts from future MOD6 operations are predicted to affect surrounding residential receivers as a result of proposed future MOD6 operations. Council notes the overall benefit of a reduction in noise from the reduced ore haulage route from the new portal to the ROM Pad. It is anticipated and expected that there will be noise generated from construction activities during construction stage. Council would support the imposition of conditions aimed to manage noise during construction stage. Suggested conditions include (but not necessarily limited to): Construction activities (other than within Kintore Pit) should be during daytime hours only. No construction work on Public holidays.

- Dust – Council acknowledges the haul route will be shorter distance from the new Portal to the ROM Pad, and believes that this will be beneficial to dust reduction during operations. It is noted that this haulage road is to be sealed.

- Impact on heritage items on the mining lease – Council notes that the works and operations as a result of Mod 6, will not have any direct impact on any heritage listed items on the Mining Lease. There are no concerns raised from a heritage perspective.

- Community health – A long-held concern of the local community has centered around health risk from the generation of Pb (lead) bearing dust emitted from local mining leases and its potential impact on blood lead levels, particularly young children.

It is noted that a human Health Risk Assessment report was provided with the Modification application. The report outlined that Blood Pb (lead) concentrations in children living in Broken Hill were not anticipated to be affected by activities associated with Mod 6, and that the risk of exceeding health-based toxicity reference values for other metals as a result of the modification construction or operations was very low.

The proposed mitigation measures for air quality are expected to assist with reducing Pb (lead) dust, and Council re-iterates the importance that these measures are implemented and enforced through the approval.

- Rehabilitation – Council notes that the applicant has developed a closure strategy for each of the areas impacted by the Mod6 works. Proposed final landforms are consistent with current mining landforms at the site and with Schedule 3 of Project Approval, Condition 35, being “sympathetic to the mining heritage of Broken Hill”. Council supports this approach.

It is expected that the modification would allow a number of benefits, including in particular mining at Rasp being able to continue past 2022 with the additional storage of tailings; continued employment of workers (vast majority locally residing); and also reduction in haulage distance within the site which should assist in reducing noise and dust. Council considers the continued mining at Rasp Mine important in the economic stability and future of Broken Hill.

Council has no objection to the proposed Modification of consent for Rasp Mine (Mod 6).

For any further queries, please contact the undersigned on telephone 08 80803300.

Yours faithfully



TRACEY STEPHENS  
TOWN PLANNER