

Our Ref: DOC18/28083 Your Ref: MP 05_0103B MOD 2

> Department of Planning and Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

Attention: Mr Joel Herbert

Dear Mr Herbert

Re: Cudgen Lakes Sand Extraction Project - Modification 2

Thank you for your email dated 17 January 2018 about the proposed modification to the Cudgen Lakes Sand Extraction Project Approval seeking comments from the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH). I appreciate the opportunity to provide input.

We note the submitted modification proposes to make changes to the nominated Processing Areas, consolidate the Northern and Southern Extraction Areas into a single extraction area, modify the lake batter gradients, and extend the life of the project to the year 2047.

It is unclear from the information provided whether the proposed changes to batter gradients from 1:5 to 1:3 will impact on the extent of potential backfilling for future creation of wetland areas in accordance with the revised Statement of Commitments - Action 3.1. The design cross-sections provided in Appendix 1 of the modification Environmental Assessment illustrate the location and extent of created wetland areas based on the approved extraction areas and 1:5 batters rather than the proposed extraction area with 1:3 batters.

With regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage matters, the Environmental Assessment does not contain evidence of the revised Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan reviewed in consultation with the Aboriginal community.

The OEH recommends that:

- 1. the extent of wetland areas to be created under the modified proposal be equivalent to those in the approved project.
- 2. the design cross-sections provided in the modification Environmental Assessment be amended to illustrate the revised location and extent of created wetland areas.
- 3. the Rehabilitation & Landscape Management Plan be amended to reflect any changes resulting from the proposed extended project life and revised batter gradients.

Locked Bag 914 Coffs Harbour NSW 2450 Federation House, Level 8, 24 Moonee Street Coffs Harbour NSW 2450 Tel: (02) 6659 8200 Fax: (02) 6659 8281 ABN 30 841 387 271 www.environment.nsw.gov.au 4. the maps, figures and processes outlined in the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan be reviewed in consultation with the Aboriginal community and revised as required to adequately reflect the changes detailed in the proposed modification.

If the recommendations above are implemented by the applicant, then the OEH has no further issues with the proposed modification.

If you have any questions about the matters raised or recommendations provided above, Mr Don Owner, Senior Conservation Planning Officer, Regional Operations, OEH, can be contacted on 6659 8233 or at don.owner@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

ung

7 February 2018

DIMITRI YOUNG Senior Team Leader Planning, North East Branch **Regional Operations**

Contact officer: DON OWNER 6659 8233