

18th July 2011

Major Projects Assessment
NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

**Re: DA 86-04-01 Mod 6 and LEC 10397 1995 - Mod 4
Proposed Modification
Weston Aluminium Dross Recycling Facility**

Dear Sirs,

We wish to provide supporting comment regarding the above development. Proposed trials of processing spent potlining materials by Weston Aluminium and subsequent development of a sustainable process to reuse the processed materials have the potential to provide direct benefit to improving the environmental performance and sustainability of our business.

Tomago Aluminium Company (Tomago) operates one of two primary aluminium smelters in NSW, and is one of six aluminium smelters in Australia. We produce 530,000 tonnes per year of aluminium, representing approximately 25% of Australian production capacity, and as a consequence of this activity we generate up to 10,000 tonnes per year of spent potlining materials. Tomago has actively sought and supported the development of sustainable Australian based solutions for reuse of spent potlinings over many years.

Our understanding is that Weston Aluminium proposes to specifically process the refractory component of spent potlining (otherwise termed second cut material, representing around 40% of the overall material generated) with a view to producing a material suitable as a substitute for a range of building and construction products. This focus on the refractory component is of particular value to Tomago as other alternative processes currently available to Tomago in Australia are limited and largely based on recycling the carbon (first cut) component only, failing to address the complementary refractory component, and thus providing only a partial solution to disposal of the material. Periodically in the past, we have exported spent potlining materials overseas for treatment and subsequent reuse in European industrial markets.

Tomago has supported previous research and development work carried out by Weston Aluminium to investigate the processing of spent potlining material and has committed to again provide feed material for the proposed trials subject of this Development Application. Based on the success of past work we are confident these proposed trials can be undertaken within the bounds of acceptable environmental impacts, supported by the professional competence of Weston Aluminium staff.

Tomago Aluminium Company Pty Limited ACN 001 862 228 • ABN 68 001 862 228

Tomago Road Tomago NSW 2322 • PO Box 405 Raymond Terrace NSW 2324 Australia • T 02 4966 9669 • F 02 4966 9212 • www.tomago.com.au

(Agents for the participants in the Tomago Aluminium Project, an unincorporated joint venture of Alcan Primary Metal Australia Pty Limited, Gove Aluminium Finance Limited, CATHJOH HOLDINGS PTY LIMITED, Hydro Aluminium Pty Limited and Hydro Aluminium Tomago, Inc.)

Please feel free to contact the undersigned should you require further information regarding these comments.

With thanks,



Warren Brooks
Environment and Sustainability Manager
ph: 02 49 669 326
email: warren.brooks@tomago.com.au