

10 December 2013

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
PO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

**Subject: MISC/30/2011 - Mandalong Southern Extension Project**

**LOT 54 DP 9632 LOTS 5/6 8 & 10 DP 262159 ML 1443 & 1543 SURFACE  
43.386Ha SUBSURFACE 3820.5Ha**

**12 Kerry Anderson Drive, MANDALONG NSW 2264**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed development.

Council staff has considered the environmental assessment and provides the following advice.

Prior to determination of the project approval, it is recommended that the following matters be resolved:

#### Air Quality

The AQIA presents results from air pollution modelling, to identify exceedances to the National Air Quality Standard. Council has identified several issues with the AQIA which should be addressed prior to approval being granted for the project.

Issues with the AQIA include:

- 1- First and foremost, the project is predicted to exceed the health based guidelines prescribed in the National Air Quality Standard for both particulate matter (PM2.5, advisory goal) and odour, at three (3), and eight (8) sensitive receptors respectively. Operations should be revised to ensure sensitive receptors are not impacted beyond the National Air Quality Standard.
- 2- The consultants have used a 20% NO<sub>x</sub> – NO<sub>2</sub> transformation factor to guide NO<sub>2</sub> modelling. The Approved Methods recommend a transformation factor of 100%, (ie. five [5] times higher than that used in modelling), which would in turn result in a higher predicted NO<sub>2</sub> pollution level at sensitive receptors. It is unclear why the proponent used a 20% transformation factor for NO<sub>x</sub>- NO<sub>2</sub>.
- 3- NO<sub>2</sub> emissions from road traffic sources have been extensively modelled for the M1 Pacific Motorway (previously the F3 Freeway, Holmes Air Sciences 2008). Results from the study suggest that at 50 meters from the motorway, the background concentration of NO<sub>2</sub> is expected to be 190.6 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. This value is in exceedance of the annual NO<sub>2</sub> annual impact assessment criteria for NO<sub>2</sub>. The proponent has used the NO<sub>2</sub> pollution values for the Newcastle AQMS, which reports an annual background of 31.3 ug/m<sup>3</sup> NO<sub>2</sub>, importantly, significantly lower than the levels reported in the former study. Given that the mine entrance is adjacent to the M1 Pacific Motorway, and sensitive receptors are located within close proximity to the motorway, it is unclear why the Holmes Air Sciences 2008 study was not

used to provide background NO<sub>2</sub> levels for the study. Sensitive receivers of particular interest are (R1-10, and R22).

4- Emissions from the ventilation shaft were based on direct measurements, performed in August and June 2012. It is unclear if these samples are indicative of the daily/ monthly average for emissions from the ventilation shafts, without viewing longer term data.

5- As no information was available for Total Suspended Particulate (TSP) emissions for Lake Munmorah Power-Station, TSP was taken to be equivalent to the PM<sub>10</sub> emissions for this site. PM<sub>10</sub> is a subset of TSP emissions only, and therefore, there is a strong possibility that TSP emissions were significantly underestimated for the Lake Munmorah Power-Station site. Of note, the other Power-Stations (included in the assessment) had a TSP/PM<sub>10</sub> ratio was in the order of 5:1.

6- The report notes that NO<sub>2</sub> is not reported for the Wallsend Air Quality Monitoring Station, and therefore the results from the Newcastle AQMS was used for the study. The Wallsend AQMS does indeed report NO<sub>2</sub> pollution levels and the Newcastle AQMS does not report NO<sub>2</sub> pollution levels. It is unclear which site the consultants used to measure background NO<sub>2</sub> emissions levels.

7- It is unclear why control factors, as detailed in the NPI EETM, were not adopted for some activities during the project, including the scraper and wind erosion.

#### Social Impacts

the proponent has made a commitment that within six months following development consent, that they will develop and implement a mutually agreeable planning agreement with Council which will be aimed at providing and/or improving public amenities and public services. Council staff are supportive of this action, however, recommend that any planning agreement be developed prior to project approval and be included within the project's Statement of Commitments, in order to provide greater certainty regarding what shall be provided by the proponent, the method of service delivery and the timing.

#### Traffic Management

##### 1. Mandalong Road main entrance (Kerry Anderson Drive):

The existing line marking on Mandalong Road at this private entrance is worn and requires remarking. It is recommended that the applicant fund the on-going maintenance of this line marking along the extent of the intersection (from Old Maitland Road to approximately 150 metres west of Kerry Anderson Drive).

##### 2. Mandalong Road southern entrance.

The traffic report indicates that the on-going traffic post construction at this intersection is in the order of six vehicles per hour. At this number, the proposed CHL / BAR intersection treatment is supported.

It is recommended that the intersection works, consisting of the intersection upgrade and tree clearing to meet SISD be undertaken prior to construction of the southern access and internal works. Additionally, the CTMP should be submitted to ensure that during construction the right turning traffic out of the southern mine entrance can exit safely.

It is further recommended that the applicant compose a maintenance program for both the line marking at this intersection and tree maintenance to ensure that on-going maintenance is undertaken to maintain both the SISD and visibility to the intersection.

Review of street lighting at this location is to occur as the mine is a 24 hour operation.

**Recommendations**

Council recommends that the air quality and social impacts issued be resolved prior to project approval. Council is happy to meet with the proponent to discuss the creation of a planning agreement.

Should you require further information, please contact the undersigned on 4921 0197 or by e-mail on [dlovell@lakemac.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dlovell@lakemac.nsw.gov.au).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Lovell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Lovell  
Senior Development Planner  
Development Assessment and Compliance

## Sophie Butcher - Fwd: FW: MISC/30/2011- MODIFICATION TO MANDALONG SOUTHERN COAL MINE

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**From:** Colin Phillips  
**To:** Sophie Butcher  
**Date:** 16/12/2013 9:22 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: MISC/30/2011- MODIFICATION TO MANDALONG SOUTHERN COAL MINE

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>>> "David Lovell" <DLovell@lakemac.nsw.gov.au> 13/12/2013 1:16 PM >>>

Dear Colin, please see the additional issues raised below with regard to the proposed Mandalong south extension project. Council requests that these matters be addressed in addition to those recently forwarded to the Department of consideration.

- The Project proposes to clear 15.6ha of MU 15: Coastal Foothills Spotted Gum Ironbark Forest for the surface infrastructure. Centennial Mandalong is not proposing to provide a direct offset strategy but instead develop a Land Management Plan for land owned by Centennial in the Valley. The Flora and Fauna Assessment identified several threatened species within the site and this vegetation community could provide potential habitat for some of these species. Therefore, it is recommended that a Biodiversity offset is provided in accordance with the Bio banking Assessment Methodology (DECC) as per the Director-General requirements.
- There is no detailed assessment of the potential impacts of changes in water quality upon the EECs from the release of the waste water into the freshwater system on the eastern side of Muddy Lake, further information should be provided or an alternative disposal strategy for this waste-water should be investigated.
- The quadrat data for flora species recorded within the Alluvial Tall Most Forest should be provided to determine if this community is represented of the River-Flat Eucalypt Forest on coastal Floodplains of the NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East corner bioregions that is listed as an EEC under the TSC Act 1995.

The above information should be provided in order for a full assessment to be undertaken on the impacts of the proposal.

Kind regards,

**David Lovell** | Senior Development Planner  
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