



Department of Primary Industries

OUT16/32952

Ms Rose-Anne Hawkeswood
Resource Assessments
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
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SYDNEY NSW 2001

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Dear Ms Hawkeswood

DPI response to request for comment on proposed Modification to Springvale Mine Extension Project (SSD 5594 MOD 1)

I refer to your email dated 29 July 2016 to the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in respect to the above matter. Comment has been sought from relevant divisions of DPI. Views were also sought from NSW Department of Industry - Lands that are now a division of the broader Department and no longer within NSW DPI. Any further referrals to DPI can be sent by email to landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

The Department has reviewed the request and provides the following advice:

- There are issues concerning comparisons of outcomes between the 2013 and 2015 versions of the numerical groundwater model (NGM). The proponent should present a NGM reflective of the one used in 2013 and thus representing all of the approved mine footprint, together with an amended application document for the Modification.
- There is a data mis-match in the interpretation based on hydrographs derived from the NGM. This should be addressed or otherwise clarified in an updated NGM.
- The proposal states;
"Whilst not identified as high priority groundwater dependent ecosystems in the Water Sharing Plan, the Newnes Plateau shrub swamps are listed as an ECC under the TSC Act and in accordance with the EPBC Act, the shrub swamps and hanging swamps are collectively referred to as the Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone (THPSS)."

The proponent should ensure that in all future documentation they acknowledge that the swampland of the Newnes Plateau is specifically listed in Schedule 4 of the [Greater Metropolitan Water Sharing Plan for Groundwater Sources 2011](#).

- The Proponent should correctly identify, when discussing the influence of the proposed works on nearby groundwater users' bores, that drawdown and other aquifer impacts, these occur against groundwater works and not Water Allocation Licences.

For further information please contact John Galea, Water Regulation Officer, 02 8838 7520,
john.galea@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Graeme White
A/Director, Planning Policy & Assessment Advice
7 September 2016