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Our Ref: D2011/22668

Mr Howard Reed  
Manager, Mining Projects  
Mining & Industry Projects  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: George Mobayed

Dear Mr Reed

**MODIFICATION TO PEPPERTREE QUARRY PROJECT (06\_0074 Mod 2)  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

I refer to your letter dated 16 June 2011 inviting the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) to make a written submission on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed modification of the Peppertree Project Approval. The SCA has prepared the attached submission which includes recommended conditions of approval.

The project is located within the Bungonia Creek catchment that is part of the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment. In particular the project is located in the catchment of Tallowa Dam – an important source of water for Sydney.

The SCA has reviewed the EA document and is concerned that water quality issues associated with the modifications have only been assessed at a cursory level. The EA does not provide sufficient details of the rail embankment design, the revised plant and rail loading infrastructure designs or the revised drainage paths.

If you wish to discuss any matter raised in this letter please do not hesitate to contact Neil Cowley on 4886 9417 or via e-mail [neil.cowley@sca.nsw.gov.au](mailto:neil.cowley@sca.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Malcolm Hughes".

**MALCOLM HUGHES**  
**A/Senior Manager Sustainability**

8/7/11

**SUBMISSION TO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
FROM  
SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY**

**SECTION 75W MODIFICATION TO PART 3A APPROVAL  
PEPPERTREE QUARRY PROJECT (06\_0074 Mod 2)**

**July 2011**

The Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) has specific roles, objectives and functions specified in the *Sydney Water Catchment Management Act, 1998*. In particular the SCA has certain functions including managing and protecting Sydney's drinking water catchment areas.

The project is located within the Bungonia Creek sub-catchment which is part of the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment. The Bungonia Creek sub-catchment is located within the catchment of Tallowa Dam.

As the project has been assessed as a Major Project under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, it is not formally subject to the provisions of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Drinking Water Catchment) 2011* (the SEPP). Nevertheless, the SCA considers that the project should be constructed and operated in a manner which does not adversely affect the quality of surface and ground waters beyond the boundaries of the site (consistent with the SEPP).

The information on water quality impacts contained in the modification EA report is generally cursory in nature. This is a similar approach to the original proposal EA, with an implied expectation that further detail would be provided in the Water Management Plan after approval. The need to update the Water Management Plan is not discussed.

The SCA considers the proposal has the potential to achieve a neutral effect on water quality providing the Water Management Plan is updated and the following conditions are included in the approval:

- The Water Management Plan shall be updated to include revised catchment areas, drainage paths and basin sizing etc, resulting from the project modifications, in particular from the construction of the rail loop embankment, the relocation of the processing plant and rail loading facility and the creation of the western emplacement area. The plan shall incorporate the identified mitigation measures. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with the Sydney Catchment Authority and other relevant agencies and approved before commencement of the development.
- An updated Soil and Water Management Plan shall be prepared for all construction activities associated with the project modifications and shall be consistent with the requirements of NSW Landcom's *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction, Volume 1, 4th Edition, 2004 and Volume 2E Mines and Quarries*. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with the Sydney Catchment Authority and other relevant agencies, and approved before commencement of the development;
- An onsite wastewater report shall be prepared for the proposed effluent management system which complies with *Sydney Catchment Authority- "Developments in Sydney's Drinking Water Catchment"- Water Quality Information Requirements (2011)*. The effluent management system installed at this site shall be compatible with the onsite wastewater report and shall be approved by council prior to construction of the effluent management system.

- An Operational Environmental Management Plan (including an Incident management plan) shall be prepared for the quarry and associated infrastructure including the rail system. The plan shall include appropriate provisions to respond to a spill or accident on the Tangarang Creek rail embankment. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with the Sydney Catchment Authority and other relevant agencies and shall be approved before commencement of the development.