



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

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MP 06 0261 MOD 5

Ms Lauren Evans
Planning Officer
Resource Assessments, Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
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Dear Ms Evans

Hunter Valley Operations South - Modification 5

I refer to your e-mail dated 15 June 2017 seeking comment on the Response to Submissions report (RTS) prepared for the Hunter Valley Operations South Modification 5. The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) provided advice for this project in a letter dated 7 March 2017 (reference DOC17/100323-2).

The proposed modification does not involve any new areas of clearing, nor does it include any activities that are likely to have impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage, flood plain management, flood risk or threatened biodiversity that are not already covered by the current consent. This has been confirmed in the RTS report. However, this report did not address OEH's comment on the now-passed due date to secure the mine's biodiversity offset (Schedule 3, Condition 29A 'Long Term Security of Offset'). OEH acknowledges that the proponent is taking steps to secure this offset. Therefore, OEH recommends that any new consent issued includes a due date for the securing of the biodiversity offset for this project.

If you require any further information regarding this matter please contact Robert Gibson, Regional Biodiversity Conservation Officer, on 4927 3154.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Molloy 29/6/2017

SHARON MOLLOY
Director Hunter Central Coast
Regional Operations