

OUT14/39678

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

Attention: Elle Donnelly (elle.donnelly@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Reed

**Exhibition of Environmental Assessment
Rasp Mine Modification (PA 07_0018 Mod 3)**

I refer to the email of 17 November 2014 inviting comments from the Department of Trade and Investment (DTIRIS), Division of Resources and Energy (DRE) regarding an application from Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd (BHO) to modify its approval.

DRE has reviewed the "*Rasp Mine Environmental Assessment Modification 3 Mining Extension, Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd*", dated November 2014 for a western extension of underground mining operations and provides the following comments with respect to mining tenure, rehabilitation and mine closure.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) has conceptually addressed the requirements.

Subject to the approval of development consent for this proposal, DRE recommends that the following conditions be incorporated in any development approval that may be granted:

1. Rehabilitation Management Plan/Mining Operation Plan (RMP/MOP)

The proponent must prepare and implement a Rehabilitation Management Plan / Mining Operations Plan for the project area to the satisfaction of the Secretary of DTIRIS. This Plan must:

- a) be prepared in consultation with DRE, Office of Environment and Heritage, Planning and Environment, NSW Office of Water, NSW EPA and Broken Hill City Council;
- b) be prepared in accordance with the relevant DRE guidelines and in consultation with the DRE; and
- c) be submitted to the Secretary of DTIRIS within 3 months of this

approval.

2 Exploration Activities

- a) Exploration activities must be notified to, and approved by, DRE prior to commencement. Relevant due diligence assessment reports and environmental assessment reports must be provided and must address the following:
- summary of the Proposed Activity;
 - description of the Site(s);
 - existing Environment – including general description, surface and groundwater, threatened species, populations and ecological communities, aboriginal cultural heritage values, historic and natural heritage values;
 - impact assessment;
 - summary of Impacts;
 - conclusions; and
 - Statement of Commitments
- b) Details of exploration activities must be documented in the Annual Environmental Management Report.

Mine Subsidence

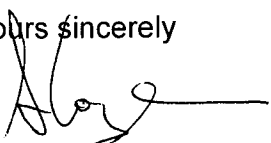
The requirements of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and *Mine Health and safety Regulation 2007* clause 36 Ground Instability, requires the mine operator to take into account any subsidence at or outside the mine.

A detailed review by DRE Mine Safety Operations (MSO) will be carried out to ensure that the specific mining plans, identified in the "*Rasp Mine Environmental Assessment Modification 3 Mining Extension, Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd*", address and control the risk of underground workings failing to the extent that the surface is impacted.

MSO will conduct this review over the next few weeks and a response to you is anticipated around 15 January (subject to the proponent demonstrating all matters are adequately addressed) with respect to the proposed mining and with any proposed consent conditions to address the risk, if any, to the surface above the mining activities.

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact Steve Cozens, Senior Project Officer, Industry Coordination on 8281 7335.

Yours sincerely

 19/12/14

per **ADRIAN DELANY**
A/DIRECTOR INDUSTRY COORDINATION