

## Office of Environment & Heritage



Your reference: Our reference: Contact: 08\_0129 MOD 1 DOC11/21692, File No. LIC07/2522-03 Hamish Rutherford, (02) 4908 6824

1 may 2011

Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Ms Felicity Greenway

Dear Ms Greenway

## ORICA KOORAGANG ISLAND UPRATE MODIFICATION REQUEST (08\_0129 MOD 1)

Reference is made to your letter to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) dated 3 May 2011 inviting submissions on the a request to modify the project approval granted in respect of Orica Australia Pty Ltd's Ammonium Nitrate Expansion Project at Kooragang.

It is understood that the modification request relates to changes to the layout of the project elements, and the choice of plant and equipment for the project associated with the proponent finalising technologies and capacities for individual plants associated with the expansion project.

OEH notes that predicted air emissions from the proposed modification are likely to result in a 0.2µg/m<sup>3</sup> exceedance of the National Environmental Protection Measures (NEPM) assessment criteria for fine particulates (as PM<sub>10</sub>) for a 24 hour averaging period in respect of Receptor 3.

OEH is aware from the original and Environmental Assessment and recent discussions with the proponent that they are investigating options for reducing emissions from the Ammonium Nitrate Plant No.1 (ANP1) Prill Tower, which represents the largest particulate point source at the premises. A reduction in emissions from the Prill Tower is may result in the reduction in fine particulate emissions to levels below the assessment criteria.

In addressing this issue OEH recommends that, should you intend on granting approval of the proposed modification to the project approval, a condition be included within the project approval that requires the proponent the investigate and implement options to reduce fine particulate emissions from the ANP1 Prill Tower within 2 years. Should you decide to grant approval OEH advises you to consult NSW Health for advice on potential impacts from fine particles at the predicted levels on Receptor 3.

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water is now known as the Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet

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If you require any further information regarding this matter please contact Hamish Rutherford on (02) 4908 6824.

Yours sincerely

2 ? MAY 2011

MARK HARTWELL Head Regional Operations Unit – Hunter Environment Protection and Regulation Office of Environment and Heritage Department of Premier and Cabinet