

15 September 2015

CR2015/003978 SF2012/000805 KM

Mining and Industry Projects
NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Ms Keara McDonagh

NELSON BAY ROAD (B63): EXHIBITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - SECTION 75W MODIFICATION OF ACCESS TO MACCAS SAND PROJECT, LOT 218 DP1044608 (08_0142 MOD 2)

Reference is made to the abovementioned modification which was referred to Roads and Maritime Services (Roads and Maritime) for comment in accordance with Clause 16 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007.

Roads and Maritime response

Roads and Maritime has reviewed the information provided, including the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) prepared by Umwelt dated July 2015, and objects to any increased truck movements during the AM peak traffic period of 6am to 9am, however concurs with the increases proposed during the other periods.

Due to the volume of southbound traffic on Nelson Bay Road during the AM peak period, it is recommended that an additional transportation period be adopted to minimise the impacts of the proposed modification in regards to road safety and traffic efficiency. The recommended transportation periods, and corresponding truck movements, are outlined below.

Monday to Friday

Transportation Period	RMS Proposed Truck Movements
5am to 6am	28 (14 in / 14 out)
6am to 9am	16 (8 in /8 out)
9am to 10pm	48 (24 in / 24 out)

Roads and Maritime Services

Saturday

Transportation Period	RMS Proposed Approval
5am to 6am	No change requested
6am to 7am	18 (9 in /9 out)
7am to 4pm	48 (24 in / 24 out)

It is noted that no additional truck movements are proposed on Sundays or Public Holidays.

Comment: Roads and Maritime do not consider that the SIDRA modelling as submitted in support of the TIA by the proponent was configured appropriately, and therefore additional SIDRA and microsimulation traffic modelling was undertaken by Roads and Maritime. Roads and Maritime also undertook several site visits to ensure that any traffic modelling undertaken accurately reflected the current operating conditions of the intersection.

The SIDRA model, when configured appropriately and in accordance with Roads and Maritime requirements, demonstrated that the proposed additional truck movements could not be accommodated during the AM peak periods, with the merge movement from the development onto Nelson Bay Road showing a LOS F. Outside the peak period however, the modelling demonstrated that there is sufficient capacity on Nelson Bay Road to accommodate proposed additional movements, with a LOS C.

The VISSIM microsimulation modelling similarly demonstrated that an increase in truck movements could not be accommodated during the AM peak period without impacting on through vehicles travelling southbound Nelson Bay Road. Outside the peak period however, the modelling demonstrated that there is sufficient capacity on Nelson Bay Road to allow the merge movement to occur with minimal impacts on through traffic.

Advice to the Department

Roads and Maritime, on behalf of Transport for NSW, are developing a Corridor Strategy for Nelson Bay Road. The purpose of the Corridor Strategy is to make planning and investment decisions transparent to the community, councils and other government agencies. The strategy, a draft of which is planned to be finalised mid-2016, will set out the NSW Government's 20 year plan to manage and guide the development of Nelson Bay Road to improve safety, traffic efficiency and sustainability. An opportunity will be available for the community to provide feedback on the draft corridor strategy.

On the Ministers determination of this matter, please forward a copy of the Project approval to Roads and Maritime for record and / or action purposes. Should you require further information please contact me on 49240 688 or by email at development.hunter@rms.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Kellee McGilvray

Manager Land Use Assessment

Hunter Region