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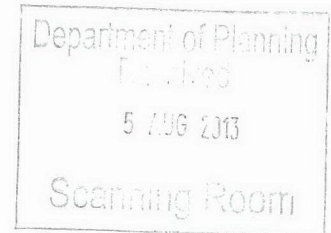


Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

WST11/00155/03

The Manager
Mining Projects
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Ms Elle Donnelley



Dear Ms Donnelley

MP11_0060: Northparkes Extension Project

Thank you for your email on 8 July 2013 referring MP11_0060 to Roads and Maritime Services (RMS). I confirm that the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Northparkes Extension Project was forwarded by Tim Crosdale to RMS on 9 July 2013.

The EA has been reviewed and RMS notes that the project includes:

- Extending current approved mining operations by developing a new underground mine, continuing existing underground mining and developing new open cut mining pits and associated infrastructure
- Extracting and processing up to 8.5 million tonnes per annum
- Extending the approved mining period by 7 years
- Closure of Northparkes Lane and upgrading of McClintocks Lane to provide suitable access to the mine site for all mine related traffic

From the documentation provided it appears there will be no increase in operational daily traffic movements and traffic impacts generated by the proposal will be limited to:

- Changed access arrangements to the mine site (Northparkes Lane to McClintocks Lane)
- Increased traffic during construction phases of the project
- Projected mine closure extended from 2025 to 2032

The EA and accompanying Traffic Study generally address the above-mentioned traffic impacts, however the study fails to properly address the impact of relocating the mine access from Northparkes Lane to McClintocks Lane. In particular, the study does not identify the routes staff accessing the mine site from centres such as Trundle, Bogan Gate, Bedgerebong and other localities to the west of the mine site will use. Staff from these areas accounts for 5.3% of mine staff generating 74 vehicle movements per day. It could be assumed that these vehicles will use roads which currently average as low as 2 vehicles per day (e.g. McClintocks Lane west of the proposed mine access) presenting a significant increase in traffic on these local roads.

Roads and Maritime Services

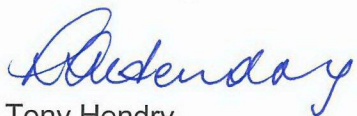
RMS will not object to the project and provides the following recommended conditions of consent for your consideration:

- Prior to relocation of the mine access to McClintocks Lane, a road safety audit of the local road network providing access to the mine site shall be prepared by a level 3 recognised road safety auditor and submitted to Parkes Shire Council and RMS for review. Corrective Action Requests identified in the audit shall be closed out in consultation with Parkes Shire Council. A level 3 road safety auditor can be located by visiting www.roadsafetyregister.com.au For more information on preparing a road safety audit, the proponent should also visit www.roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/downloads/road_safety_audit_practices.html
- Prior to any haulage requiring oversize/overmass vehicles and loads the proponent will be required to obtain special permits. To obtain a permit, the proponent will need to contact RMS Special Permits Unit in Glen Innes on 1300 656 371. The requirements outlined in the RTA publication *Operating Conditions: specific permits for oversize and overmass vehicles and loads* are to be followed. This publication is available online at: www.rta.nsw.gov.au/heavyvehicles/oversizeovermass.

It would be appreciated if a copy of the determination for this project could be forwarded to RMS at the same time it is forwarded to the proponent.

Should you require further information please contact Andrew McIntyre on (02) 6861 1453.

Yours faithfully



1 AUG 2013

Tony Hendry
Road Safety & Traffic Manager
Western