



OUT20/14980

Mr Philip Nevill
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Via Major Planning Projects Portal

Dear Mr Nevill

Response to the Narromine Underground Mine Stage 3 Extension Project (SSD 10269) (Narrabri Shire).

Thank you for the notification of the exhibition of the proposed Narromine Underground Stage 3 Project on 30 October 2020. Please excuse the lateness of this reply. The assessment of this projects impacts on agricultural resources and industries is commended.

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) Agriculture is committed to the protection and growth of agricultural industries, and the land and resources upon which these industries depend.

In order to complete an assessment on the impacts on agriculture further information is required as set out below. It is noted that information to support the Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) were spread throughout various parts of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS) and while we made our best efforts to locate the information requested below it may have been missed amongst these other sections.

1. Calculations of the soil resources required for the staged and final rehabilitation activities. The available soil resources are included but it is not clear whether this is sufficient for final closure. This is especially important for the surface disturbance area where agricultural land is removed from production and planned to be reinstated.
2. A map is required to show when land temporarily removed from agriculture will be returned.
3. Biodiversity offset areas are being considered but any relationship to the allocation of agriculture land is not shown in the agricultural impact statement. Any agricultural land being converted to this use needs to be identified as land being lost from agricultural use.

Should you have any questions in relation to this response I have asked the Ms Mary Kovac be available to answer your enquiries. Ms Kovac may be contacted on 02 6881 1250

Yours sincerely

3/12/20

Tamara Prentice
Manager Agricultural Land Use Planning