

Our ref: DOC20/917734 Senders ref: SSD 10422

Shaun Williams Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Industry Assessments E-mail: shaun.williams@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Williams

**Subject:** EES Comments - New Berrima Brickworks SSD 10422 - 416 & 524 Berrima Road, Moss Vale – Response To Submissions

Thank you for your referral of the abovementioned major project response to submissions dated October 2020. In response, our comments are as follows:

- Following email correspondence with the applicant dated 29/9/20 and submission of the subsequent flood assessment (SMEC, 13/10/20), flooding issues have been addressed and no further comment on this matter is provided.
- The proposal has assessed biodiversity impacts by way of a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR), in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM). The proponent must also submit the BAM-Calculator case for EES to review prior to approval. Plot data must be submitted to EES for review. The original datasheets are preferred. Credit reports should also be generated within 14 days of the BDAR submission date, and this will need to be updated.
- Figures 3 and 8 of the BDAR indicate that "complete clearing" will occur in the Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) area. It is noted that this area is to be wholly revegetated with Southern Highlands Shale Woodland threatened ecological community. We therefore suggest retaining the existing paddock trees in the VMP area where possible, particularly as many of these existing trees are outside the proposed asset protection zone.
- The proposal will require changes to the site's hydrology, and this is assessed in Section 8.2.1 of the BDAR as a prescribed impact. Drainage features to be impacted flow into Stony Creek offsite where intact native vegetation occurs. The BDAR should further address potential indirect impacts on biodiversity values which may occur on Stony Creek and other downstream areas.

Finally, please note that we remain available to provide specific advice on draft conditions of consent as required. If you have any questions about this advice, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Calvin Houlison, Senior Conservation Planning Officer, via calvin.houlison@environment.nsw.gov.au or 4224 4179.

Yours sincerely

Chris Page

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9 November 2020

Senior Team Leader, Planning (Illawarra) Biodiversity & Conservation Division Environment, Energy and Science