



OUT20/14372

Joe Fittell
Planning & Assessment
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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Dear Mr Fittell

**Mount Owen Continued Operation Project - Mod 6 (SSD 5840)
Modification Report**

I refer to your email of 18 November 2020 to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Water and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) about the above matter. The following recommendations are provided by NRAR.

Post Approval Recommendations

The proponent must:

- The project should show due considerations to the NRAR Guidelines for controlled activities on waterfront land, found here:
https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/156865/NRAR-Guidelines-for-controlled-activities-on-waterfront-land-Riparian-corridors.pdf.
- Clearly show the aboveground pipeline alignment located outside the inner riparian zone for Betty's Creek a 4th order watercourse, Bowmans Creek a 6th order watercourse and Swamp Creek a 3rd order watercourse.

Comment: The pipeline will be under bored at Bowmans and Swamp Creeks, and therefore minimal impact to the watercourse is expected. It is unclear if the pipeline aboveground section along the lower Bettys creek diversion is located outside the riparian area for this modified watercourse. During the underboring process (namely the entry and exit pits), riparian vegetation disturbance should be avoided and the installation of the pipeline should be above ground or alternatively any disturbed riparian zone is to be re-vegetated (as part of the rehabilitation of the pipeline area following its removal). It is unclear if the proposed alignment is in compliance with the NRAR guidelines regarding non-riparian uses located within the Vegetation Riparian Zone.

- Clearly show offsetting along the same watercourse (as per the averaging rule explained in the NRAR Guideline) for any pipeline alignment located within the outer riparian zone.

Yours sincerely

Simon Francis
Senior Project Officer, Assessments
Water – Knowledge Office
10 February 2021