



18 December 2019

SF2012/046020; WST12/00135/09

The Manager
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Andrew Rode

Dear Mr Rode

SSD5581: Airly Mine Extension Project MOD 3, Glen Davis Road, Capertee
Increased production rate from 1.8Mtpa to 3.0Mtpa, increased workforce and train movements

(Please note as at 01 December 2019, the legislation, including functions and responsibilities of Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and Transport for NSW (TfNSW) are now being performed by the integrated TfNSW organisation. All future references to Roads and Maritime will not be referred to as TfNSW).

Thank you for the email dated 26 November 2019 referring the above application to Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for comment pursuant to *section 4.55(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and clause 16 Transport of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007*. Based on the information provided the proposed modification will involve:

- Increase in the run-of-mine (ROM) production rate from the approved 1.8 million tonne per annum (Mtpa) to 3.0 Mtpa.
- Increase in workforce from the approved 155 full time equivalent (FTE) personnel to 200 FTE personnel.
- Increase in the movement of laden coal trains and water trains leaving the site from the approved average of two trains per day to three trains per day over any calendar year but maintaining the approved maximum five trains per day leaving the site on any day.
- Include underground blasting (or shot-firing) activities for the removal of geological structures in the event they are encountered within the mining areas

Roads and Maritime Services

Noteworthy context in relation to traffic generation associated with the Airly Coal Mine modification:

- DA033/19 approved the construction of the 2 megawatt Airly Colliery Solar Farm for the purpose of servicing the Airly Mine with renewable energy. The Airly Colliery Solar Farm generates a workforce of up to 20 employees with light vehicles accounting for 10 vehicle movements per a day and additional movements for heavy vehicle per a day.
- The construction of the Airly Colliery Solar Farm is anticipated to be three months with works commencing on the 19 of August 2019, the hours of operation are between 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. Access is provided via Torbane Road from Glen David Road.
- The mine operations and proposed modifications will increase the traffic generated from the Castlereagh Highway/Glen Davis Road to the Mine Access Road and Torbane Road. The total vehicles per hour to be generated from the increase in staff from 155 to 200 FTE at the AM weekday peak will be 32 vehicles per hour (vph), PM weekday peak 26 vph and weekend peak 43 vph, which will occur at shift change overs. The hours of operation for the mine are 7am to 3.30pm, 3pm to 11.30pm, 11pm to 7.30am Monday to Friday and 7am to 7pm Saturday and Sunday.
- The Airly Coal Mine currently generates 224 light vehicles per day with 22 heavy vehicles for light materials and maintenance. The heavy vehicles movements are not proposed to change as a part of this modification. The light vehicle movements per day will increase as a result of the proposed modification.
- Employees associated with the Airly Coal Mine travel in light vehicles from Kandos and Rylestone, 119 car parking spaces are provided at the Airly Pit Top. At maximum capacity the 100 of the 119 parking spaces are occupied.

Based on a review of the documentation submitted in support of this proposal, TfNSW does not object to the proposed modification and provide the following recommendations to the consent authority for consideration as part of the determination of the proposal:

- The hours of operation and access to the Airly Colliery solar farm coincide with the operation and access to the Airly Coal Mine. The modification proposes to increase the employees effectively increasing the vph along the Castlereagh Highway and Glenn Davis Road. The increase in vph accessing the Airly Coal Mine as a part of this modification in conjunction with the light and heavy vehicles associated with the construction of the Airly Colliery solar farm will result in a cumulative safety and traffic impact on the Castlereagh Highway and Glenn Davis Road. For this reason the increase in the production of coal from 1.8Mtpa to 3.0Mtpa should be delayed until the completion of the construction of the Airly Solar Farm.
- The transportation of explosives required for the proposed blasting activities to site is to be undertaken in accordance with and subject to the Australian Explosives Code in conjunction with the legislation applicable in each jurisdiction. Further to this, TfNSW supports the provision of the Explosives Control Plan being prepared for the handling and management of explosives in transit as part of this proposal.
- The increase in light vehicles per hour travelling to the Airly Coal Mine via Castlereagh Highway, Glenn Davis Road and Mine Access road as a part of this modification may have safety implications to employees travelling to and from the mine. Shuttle bus services from Kandos and Rylestone to the Airly Coal Mine should be considered by the proponent to reduce any safety risks to employees associated with the driving task to and from the Airly Coal Mine.

Please forward a copy of the modified determination to TfNSW when it is sent to the applicant. If you wish to discuss further please contact Alexandra Power, Development Assessment Officer on (02) 6861 1428.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Bruem', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ainsley Bruem
A/Manager Land Use Assessment
Western Region