



OUT19/16377

Lauren Evans
Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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Dear Ms Evans

**Glendell Continued Operations Project (SSD-9349)
EIS Exhibition**

I refer to your email of 4 December 2019 to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) – Water about the above matter.

The following advice for you to consider is from DPIE Water and NRAR. Please note Crown Lands, the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) – Fisheries and DPI - Agriculture all now provide a separate response directly to you.

Pre-approval Recommendation - the proponent should address the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy (DPIE Water, 2012) minimal impact consideration – “Highly Productive Groundwater Sources, Water Quality, Part 1(c)” – in relation to connected surface water impacts and an evaluation of the need for a low permeability barrier.

Post Approval Recommendations are provided in **Attachment A**.

Any further referrals to DPIE – NRAR & Water can be sent by email to:
landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Any further referrals to (a) Crown Lands; (b) DPI – Fisheries; and (c) DPI – Agriculture can be sent by email to: (a) lands.ministerials@industry.nsw.gov.au; (b) ahp.central@dpi.nsw.gov.au; and (c) landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au respectively.

Yours sincerely

Simon Francis
Senior Project Officer
DPIE Water – Strategic Relations
14 February 2020

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Post Approval Recommendations

Should the project be approved, the proponent should:

Water Balance and Licencing

- Report the water balance for Glendell mine operations separately to and in addition to the Mt Owen mine complex;
- The project should develop a strategy prior to the completion of mining activities to ensure the sufficient licences are obtained to cover the take of aquifer water from the Hunter Unregulated Water Sharing Plan within the Glennies water source (aquifer type); and
- The project must obtain the necessary licences for the dams prior to project commencement.

The project proposes to have 2 online sediment basins at the downstream section of the realigned Yorks Creek. It is noted that online basins are not permitted on 3rd order streams and above according to the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (NRAR 2019). Furthermore, new in-river dams on 3rd order streams and above are prohibited in the Glennies Water Source in the Water Sharing Plan for the Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2009.

If the project is approved to allow for the proposed dams then the necessary licences for them must be obtained prior to the commencement of the project.

Groundwater

Update the Water Management Plan to:

- Incorporate additional and replacement monitoring bores around the proposed project expansion area in their WMP, in consultation with DPIE Water;
- Include a requirement that the groundwater modelling be reviewed at least every two years and prior to mine closure;
- Include monitoring of the two private (non-mine owned) groundwater bores located on private property close to Bowmans Creek on land which is managed by Daracon; and
- Include make good arrangement in the WMP should a Trigger of 2m Drawdown occur with the two Private bores.

Surface Water

Address the following issues regarding Yorks Creek:

- Yorks Creek diversion is to be consistent with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (NRAR 2019), and include (but not limited to) a Vegetated Riparian Zone of 30 metres from top of bank;
- Prepare a final watercourse design and construction plan for the Yorks Creek diversion following the ACARP 2002 and Queensland government (DNRM 2014) guideline, and consistent with the design objectives outlined by Fluvial Systems (2019), and incorporate it into the final landform plan for the mine;
- Identify and report on the hydrologic stress and geomorphic alteration occurring due to the diversion of Yorks Creek;
- Investigate options for water release into Yorks Creek to enhance geomorphic processes; and
- Undertake performance monitoring and reporting of the Yorks Creek diversion following *A Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams* by Rutherford et al 2000.