

OUT21/6273

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Attention: James Mcdonough

By email: james.mcdonough@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Mcdonough

Major Projects; Hanson Tweed Sand Plant Expansion (SSD-10398) Tweed Shire

Thank you for your correspondence dated 14 April 2021 requesting advice about the Hanson Tweed Sand Plant Expansion project.

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.

DPI understands that DPIE is seeking advice with respect to matters it should consider in determining this Major Project. NSW DPI would like DPIE to note that the area is mapped as 'regionally significant farmland' under the Northern Rivers Farmland Protection Project.

While the classification of 'regionally significant farmland' is given weight with respect to agricultural land being rezoned for urban or rural residential purposes, this proposal sets a precedent for development of a highly important agricultural resource that both the government and community have indicated should be protected for primary production purposes into the future.

Should you require clarification on any of the information contained in this response, please contact me by email at <u>landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au</u>

Yours sincerely

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20/5/21

Tamara Prentice Manager Agricultural Land Use Planning