



10 February 2020

SF2012/046020; WST12/00135/10

The Manager  
Resource Assessments  
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, workforce and train movements  
Response to Submissions (RtS)**

**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 now be referred to as TfNSW.**

Thank you for the referral via the NSW Planning Portal dated 24 January 2020 inviting comment from Transport for NSW (TfNSW) in relation to the Response to Submissions (RtS) prepared by Centennial for the Airly Mine Extension project Modification 3 (MOD 3) as part of SSD5581.

By way of context and noteworthy in TfNSW responding the RtS, are the following comments made by TfNSW in relation to MOD 3, Airly Coal Mine:

- 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 vehicles per hour (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.

**Transport for NSW**

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- 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 (road) 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.
- Requested that the proponent consult John Holland Rail (JHR) in relation rail noise levels, pathing availability and train management.

Centennial provided the following RtS to TfNSW submission:

### **Response to the increase in workforce**

- The proponent has considered a shuttle bus service from Rylestone and Kandos however this service would only benefit a small percentage of the workforce that operate in these towns. Offering this service to employees in these two areas would be seen as a disadvantage to employees who travelled from other areas such as Lithgow and Bathurst. The impacts of a shuttle transfer service would also need to consider parking availability and impacts in these townships.

### **Response to coinciding with the Airly Solar Farm construction**

- The construction of the Airly Solar Farm is anticipated to be completed in Q1 2020. No increase in full time equivalent employees above the current approved 155 will occur until construction of the Airly Solar Farm has been completed.

### **Response to transport of explosives**

- The transportation of explosives required for the proposed blasting activities to site will be undertaken in accordance with the Australian Explosives Code in conjunction with the applicable legislative requirements. An Explosives Control Plan will be prepared which will include controls around the handling and management of explosives in transit. This Explosives Control Plan will be prepared prior to the transport or receipt of explosives or detonators to the Airly Mine.

### **Consultation with JHR**

- Centennial Coal has commenced consultation and committed to ongoing consultation with JHR in terms of the pathing availability, train management and rail noise levels from its rail operations on the Wallerawang-Gwabegar and Main Western rail lines.

Following review of the RtS, TfNSW does not object to MOD 3 as part of SSD5581 subject to the commitments as outlined by Centennial Airly in the RtS being included in any consent issued in relation to SSD5581 by the consent authority, to include:

- No increase in full time equivalent employees above the current approved 155 will occur until construction of the Airly Solar Farm has been completed.

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- Traffic Management Plan (TMP) is to be amended to include ongoing monitoring and measures to be undertaken by the proponent in relation to a need for either or both mine commuter traffic and solar farm construction traffic and provision for a shuttle bus service from Lithgow and Bathurst or other identified locations of development related staff in consultation with the relevant Councils and TfNSW.
- Commitment to an Explosives Control Plan to be prepared by the proponent and include controls around the handling and management of explosives in transit. This Explosives Control Plan will be prepared prior to the transport or receipt of explosives or detonators to the Airly Mine.
- A commitment to ongoing consultation with JHR in terms of the pathing availability, train management and rail noise levels from its rail operations on the Wallerawang-Gwabegar and Main Western rail lines.

Please forward a copy of the Department's determination of SSD5581 to TfNSW at the same time it is sent to the proponent. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Alexandra Power, Development Assessment Officer on (02) 6861 1428.

Yours faithfully



Ainsley Bruem  
A/Manager Land Use Assessment  
Western Region

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