

Our ref: DOC21/428015 Your ref: MP09\_0186-Mod-1

Mandana Mazaheri Principal Planning Officer Energy Resource Assessment Department of Planning, Industry & Environment mandana.mazaheri@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Dear Ms Mazaheri

## Mod 1 – Lamberts North Ash Repository Upgrades

Thank you for your request dated 21 May 2021 to the Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate (BCS) requesting advice on the proposed upgrades to Lamberts North ash repository at Mount Piper.

BCS understands that the modification includes minor boundary adjustments that will result in an overall reduction of the approval area by 4.9 hectares.

## A biodiversity development assessment report is not required

A biodiversity development assessment report (BDAR) is required with a modification application, unless the determining authority is satisfied that that the modification will not increase the impact on biodiversity values.

Some sparse vegetation regrowth (0.25 hectares) located on excavated mine material will be cleared. This regrowth, consisting of Cootamundra wattle (*Acacia baileyana*), Sydney golden wattle (*Acacia longifolia*), introduced pine (*Pinus sp.*) and pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*), is unlikely to match any native plant communities in the area. The area has not been formally rehabilitated.

Given the overall decrease in the approval area, low biodiversity value of the regrowth to be cleared, and highly disturbed nature of the site, BCS considers that the modification is unlikely to increase the impact on biodiversity values and therefore a BDAR is not required.

BCS considers that the biodiversity assessment report accompanying the modification application adequately addresses biodiversity impacts.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Liz Mazzer, Conservation Planning Officer, via liz.mazzer@environment.nsw.gov.au or (02) 6883 5325.

Yours sincerely

Jamantha Myrr

Samantha Wynn Senior Team Leader Planning North West Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate

26 May 2021