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By email: andrew.ode@planning.nsw.gov.au

**ATLAS-CAMPASPE MINERAL SANDS PROJECT OPTIMISATION MODIFICATION:
ADEQUACY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)**

Dear Andrew,

I refer to the email dated 29 July 2019 inviting the Resources Regulator to provide advice regarding the adequacy of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Atlas-Campaspe Mineral Sands Project - Optimisation Modification (The Project).

Development Details

The Atlas/Campaspe Mine is an mineral sands operation located approximately 85.35 kilometres from Balranald, NSW. The Project is a modification to Development Consent SSD_5012 and proposes to:

- *Optimise mineral concentrate production without increasing the approved ore recovery rate;*
- *Relocate the Atlas/Campaspe Mine accommodation camp;*
- *Construct an emergency airstrip on the Atlas/Campaspe Mine;*
- *Option to construct an overland conveyor to transport overburden;*
- *Construction of a telecommunications tower at the Atlas/Campaspe Mine; and*
- *The option to develop on-site solar power generation infrastructure.*

Environment and Rehabilitation

Compliance Operations within the Resources Regulator has responsibility for providing strategic advice for environmental issues pertaining to the proposed project in so far as they relate to or affect rehabilitation.

The Resource Regulator provides the following advice:

1. The Atlas Mine - MINING LEASE 1767 (Act 1992) currently operates under an approved Mining Operations Plan (MOP) titled "*Atlas Mineral Sands Mine Mining Operation Plan – Clearing and Construction 2018 – 2020*" approved on 27 February

2018 (OUT18/3057). The Project involves works that will require a MOP amendment prior to construction activities commencing on the modifications.

2. The modifications impact on the existing approved surface footprint, and new infrastructure will be added to that already approved. A new Rehabilitation Cost Estimate (RCE) will be required to accompany the MOP amendment.

The Resources Regulator requests a review of the draft development consent conditions prior to finalisation and any granting of development consent.

Mine Safety

Mine Safety Operations within the Resource Regulator is responsible for ensuring mine operators manage the risk to worker health and safety through compliance with the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013* and the subordinate mining legislation. In particular the effective management of risk associated with the principal hazards as specified in the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014*.

The Resource Regulator - Mine Safety Operations have not identified any risk that would require comment in relation to the Project.

For enquiries regarding this matter please contact me on 4063 6444 or minres.environment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Stephen Clipperton
Senior Inspector Environment

On behalf of
Steve Orr
A/Director Compliance Operations
Resources Regulator
NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment

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