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24 April 2020

Contact: Juri Jung Telephone: 98652503 Our ref: D2020/35258

Genevieve Lucas Team Leader Resource Assessments 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street Parramatta NSW 2150

## Angus Place Mine Extension Project (SSD 5602)

Dear Ms Lucas

I refer to the Department's correspondence dated 10 March 2020 seeking WaterNSW's comments on the Amended Report for the Angus Place Mine Extension Project (the Project). WaterNSW appreciates the opportunity to provide detailed comments on the Project.

A key legislative function of Water NSW is to protect and enhance the quality and quantity of water in the declared Sydney Drinking Water Catchment (SDWC). While mining activity would take place outside the SDWC, mine water would be transferred to the Springvale Water Treatment Plant, reused and discharged into the Coxs River (within SDWC) after treatment.

WaterNSW has reviewed the Amended Report and considers it does not satisfactorily demonstrate that the project would have a Neutral or Beneficial Effect (NorBE) on water quality. The Amended Report does not provide a detailed water balance and contingencies for various uncertainties associated with the management of mine water.

WaterNSW requests that the water balance includes details for various scenarios and uncertainties, including:

- Any temporary reductions in mine water reuse at Mount Piper Power Station and/or storage at Thompsons Creek Reservoir
- Mining at Springvale Mine is not completed in 2025 and dewatering is not turned off (i.e. mining at Angus Place overlaps with mining at Springvale)
- Actual mine water inflow is higher than predicted
- Springvale Mine's underground storage of mine water reaches full capacity earlier than the predicted, and
- Reverse osmosis system malfunction or break down.

WaterNSW also considers that further information is required on cumulative subsidence, groundwater and surface water impacts, particularly within the SDWC which adjoins the proposed mining area. In this regard, WaterNSW requests:

- further assessment of potential impacts on base flows in Kangaroo Creek, Lambs Creek, Kangaroo Creek swamp and Lambs Creek swamp, and
- clarification on whether Centennial has sufficient licences for predicted surface water take of 13ML/year from the Upper Nepean and Upstream Warragamba Water Source (Wywandy Management Zone).

WaterNSW requests to remain as a stakeholder and opportunity to continue to be involved in further assessment of the proposal.

If you wish to discuss further, please contact Juri Jung on 9865 2503 or email at <u>environmental.assessments@waternsw.com.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

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Clay Preshaw Manager Catchment & Protection