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Via Major Projects Planning Portal

EPA Advice on Modification Report

Dear Mandana

Thank you for the request for a review by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) of the Modification Report (MR) for a proposed modification to the Project Approval (PA 07_0018 - Mod 6) for the Rasp mine at Broken Hill.

The EPA has reviewed the following document:

- Modification Report – Kintore Pit TSF3 – Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd - August 2021

The EPA understand the proposal is:

- To establish the Kintore Pit as TSF3 for dried tailings co-placed with waste rock.
- Relocate the mine portal access decline.
- Harvest TSF2 tailings for transfer to TSF3.
- Periodic crushing of non-ore material in the Kintore or BHP pits.
- Use waste rock for rehabilitation capping.

Based on the information provided there are minor predicted changes to existing environmental impacts from the proposed modification activities and we recommend the following conditions are incorporated into any approval of the modification.

1. No more than 500 thousand tonnes per annum (500 ktpa) of ore can be extracted and processed at the site.
2. Prior to the commencement of construction operations, the proponent must develop and implement a Construction Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). As a minimum, the plan must include;
 - i. *Proactive and reactive mitigation strategies for all significant, and potentially significant emissions sources*
 - ii. *Monitoring method(s), including but not limited to:*

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- a. *continuous Particulate Matter monitoring.*
- b. *meteorological monitoring*
- c. *Location, frequency and duration of monitoring.*

Note: All monitoring equipment associated with the monitoring network must be operated, maintained and calibrated to the minimum standard required by the equipment manufacturer or reference method. The number of monitors used must be appropriate for the effective management of dust at the premises.

- iii. *Trigger response management protocols to be used in combination with the continuous Particulate Matter and meteorological monitors. The selected trigger levels must be informed by the results and conclusions presented in the Updated Air Quality Impact Assessment³, and must be clear, measurable, and auditable.*
 - iv. *Identification of clear and specific reactive mitigation measures to be implemented in accordance with the trigger response management protocol.*
 - v. *Description of specific and measurable watering application rates/ targets*
 - vi. *Record keeping.*
3. Prior to the commencement of tailings harvesting, the proponent must update the sites air quality management plan to include proactive and reactive measures specific to managing dust emissions from all activities associated with tailings harvesting. The plan must be updated to include proactive and reactive management measures, including the use of a comprehensive water sprinkling system, portable ambient air monitoring equipment and weather forecasting to inform operational activities.

Where the modification is approved a variation to Environment Protection Licence No 12559 issued by the EPA and held by the proponent for activities at the mine will be required and we expect the proponent to submit a licence variation prior to any modification construction works. We have no further comments on the proposed modification.

If you have any further enquiries about this matter please contact me by telephoning 02 6969 0705 or by electronic mail at riverina.farwest@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



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