

## MINING, EXPLORATION & GEOSCIENCE ADVICE RESPONSE

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Dear Mandana

**Project: Rasp Mine – Modification 6**  
**Stage: Advice on Modification Report**  
**Development Application: MP07\_0018-Mod-6**

I refer to your correspondence dated 7 September 2021 inviting the Department of Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience (MEG) to provide comments on the Rasp Mine – Modification 6 (the Modification) submitted by Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd (the Proponent).

As part of the original project approval for the Rasp Mine current consent, the Proponent underestimated the amount of mine development that was required to access the Main Lode and Western Mineralisation ore bodies. Completion of this development has exceeded the void space available underground for the backfill of waste rock.

The Modification will enable the Proponent to:

- establish Kintore Pit as Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) 3 for naturally dried tailings to be co-disposed with excess waste rock from underground development
- relocate the mine portal and access decline with associated infrastructure to a boxcut
- utilise TSF2 for harvesting naturally dried (solar and air) tailings for transfer to TSF3
- conduct periodical crushing of non-ore material in Kintore Pit Tipple and/or BHP Pit
- utilise waste rock (containing on average <0.5% lead(Pb)) for rehabilitation capping
- include administrative amendments for site noise criteria and annual environmental reporting.

The Modification is based on a mine plan to the end of 2026, which includes extraction of 500,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) ore, 146,000 tpa of waste (to the surface) and 480,000 tpa of tailings harvested and transferred to the Kintore Pit TSF3 facility.

The proposed surface tailings facility, development of the decline and the new boxcut will not sterilise resources near surface and will aid in effective resource recovery and extraction. There will be no substantial change to the production rate or total metals (concentrates) produced.

Without the Modification, a deficit in available tailings storage would inhibit mine production by around mid-2022. MEG supports the project based on production optimisation, resource recovery and the security of regional jobs and state mineral royalties.

MEG requests the opportunity to review draft conditions before the determination of any development consent.

For further advice on this matter contact Adam Banister, Senior Advisor – Industry Development on 02 4063 6534 or [assessment.coordination@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:assessment.coordination@planning.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



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for  
Anthony Keon  
**Executive Director Strategy, Performance & Industry Development**  
**Department of Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience**