

MINING, EXPLORATION & GEOSCIENCE ADVICE RESPONSE

Rose-Anne Hawkeswood
Energy, Industry & Compliance Division
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
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Dear Rose-Anne

Project: Northparkes Extension Project – E22 Portal, TSF2 Buttressing and E31
Stage: Modification Report
Development Application: MP11_0060-Mod-6

I refer to your correspondence dated 3 December 2021 inviting the Department of Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience (MEG) to provide comments on the Northparkes Extension Project – E22 Portal, TSF2 Buttressing and E31 (the Modification) submitted by CMOC Northparkes (the Proponent).

MEG has reviewed the information supplied and raises no issues regarding the Modification. MEG finds that the benefits of the Modification stated by the Proponent are reasonable and for this reason is supportive of the application.

The stated benefits include:

- improved operational efficiencies (including reduced overland ore transport) associated with E22 underground operations
- facilitating improvements to the approved TSF2 and the Infill TSF to meet updated design and safety requirements
- improved resource recovery from within the E31 and E31N open cut areas
- avoiding or mitigating potential future impacts associated with the proposed Northparkes E44 Rocklands Project by avoiding potential operational conflicts, improving operational synergies and minimising future material rehandling that will be required for the proposed Rocklands TSF.

Furthermore, MEG notes that Section 5.1.5 of the Modification Report states offsetting residual biodiversity credits is required. We would appreciate the opportunity for early consultation in relation to the proposed location of any biodiversity offset areas or any supplementary biodiversity measures. This is to ensure there is no consequent reduction in access to prospective land for mineral exploration or potential for sterilisation of mineral or extractive resources.

For further advice concerning this matter, please contact the Industry Advisory & Mining Concierge – on 02 4063 6534 or mining.concierge@regional.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Adam Banister

Senior Advisor Industry Advisory & Mining Concierge
Industry Development
Department of Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience
13 December 2021

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