

4 March 2013

Manager – Industry, Mining and Industry Projects
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure
Emailed to: plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au
c/c: andrew.hartcher@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sirs,

Application SSD-5119

This letter is to support the application by Crawfords Freightlines for an Ammonium Nitrate Storage and Distribution Facility at Old Maitland Road, Sandgate.

There is a need for suitable ammonium nitrate storage in the Newcastle area with relatively close access to the Newcastle Port. Current facilities do not provide enough storage, or are restricted to the sole use of the owner of the facility.

Regulations require AN to be moved from port precincts in a timely manner, and this is an important factor in selecting a suitable site, as well as assisting in mitigating port congestion by discharging cargos quickly. The site proposed by Crawfords Freightlines meets these needs, as well as already being a current AN storage site which means a minimum of infrastructure is required. A rail siding is already in place, which reduces the need to move AN by road from Port Botany.

Keeping truck movements in the Newcastle area to a minimum is important, and it is felt that this location will assist in this. A centralised storage facility that can store AN for more than one party allows AN to be moved efficiently and cost effectively within the Hunter region. The movement and storage of AN is strictly controlled, and the mining industry will always require a supply of AN to operate. Having a single, centralised, storage operation allows a focussed regulatory control over AN storage and movements. Having a number of small sites scattered over a large area is less than desirable.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cliff Gale', written in a cursive style.

Cliff Gale
Executive General Manager