

JKH:AM  
Environment & Development Dept.



3 October 2013

Mr Colin Phillips  
Mining & Industry Projects  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir,

**(SSD-5579) CENTENNIAL WESTERN COAL SERVICES PROJECT – LITHGOW COUNCIL SUBMISSION**

Thank you for your referral of the abovementioned project, which was received on 21 August 2013.

Council thanks you for the opportunity to provide comment on the abovementioned project, and acknowledges that the project will provide a number of benefits and in particular will significantly reduce traffic movements in the locality.

Lithgow City Council Land Ownership

The development proposes to construct a haul road through property owned by Lithgow City Council known as Lot 42 DP751636. This development is not to impact on Council's approval for a new waste facility and is to minimise any potential impacts on future traffic movements in conjunction with that development. It is considered that the proposal to utilise Council land is acceptable subject to continued consultation and negotiation with Council throughout the processes until construction of the haul road is finalised. Naturally the proposed construction on and use of Council land will require some commercial consideration between the parties which may be able to be accommodated as part of a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA).

Noise

It is considered in the noise assessment that the Mt Piper Haul Road will not be used in prevailing noise enhancing weather conditions. However, it is not indicated how this will be managed, where the data will be collected i.e. weather station, real time monitoring or reliance on other sources.

In Table 17 (EIS p102) 11 out of the 16 receptors for Scenario 2 at Blackmans Flat will not meet the noise criteria for the project during evening and night periods. Only one negotiated agreement will be arranged for the worst case receptor B17, with no other negotiations stated. It is noted that out of these 11 receptors the following averages are evident from modeling:

- on a calm evening the average noise level is 2.4dBA above the project specific criteria

☎ (02) 6354 9999  
📠 (02) 6351 4259

🌐 [www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au)  
✉ [council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au)

✉ ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE  
TO GENERAL MANAGER  
PO BOX 19, LITHGOW NSW 2790

- on a windy evening the average noise level is 4dBA above the project specific criteria
- on a calm night the average noise level is 2.4dBA above the project specific criteria
- on a windy night the average noise level is 1.2dBA above the project specific criteria
- on a night with inversion the average noise level is 4.2dBA above the project specific criteria

Further in Table 29 (EIS p.108) that the predicted maximum (worst case scenario) noise levels (L<sub>Amax</sub> dBA) will not meet the 'Sleep Disturbance Noise Goal' at 13 of the receptors in Blackmans Flat. These levels are on average 12.7dBA above the criteria set, even if the applied 10dBA is taken into consideration (for difference of outdoor noise level to indoor noise level with all openings closed), the average is still 2.7dBA above the criteria. Table 32 (EIS p.109) also states exceedences for sleep disturbance criteria at Wolgan Road receptors on an average of 7dBA.

Council considers that these noise levels, although worst case scenario, do not meet the set criteria for the project and require mitigation. Additional noise mitigation measures such as limiting movements during evening and night could be implemented to reduce issues of noise, especially on Blackmans Flat. Additionally, the use of acquisition agreements could be implemented for additional receptors to give residents an option, if ongoing issue of noise at Blackmans Flat becomes evident once the development is operational.

#### Visibility

There will be some visual impacts on the nearby area, however is not significant. Council would request that the construction earthworks/mounds for the bridge over the Castlereagh Highway to be re-vegetated as soon as practical. This will potentially minimise visual impacts and mitigate against erosion and sedimentation issues.

#### Construction

The construction of all new buildings and infrastructure will require Construction Certificates. These applications will require all appropriate structural details and plans to be submitted along with the associated Council fees, should Council be chosen to be the certifier.

#### Onsite Waste Management

The increased use of the existing onsite sewerage management system from 15 employees to 18 employees needs to be justified with details of the existing system provided. This will require an assessment by a qualified person to advise Council that the existing system can handle the proposed loadings adequately and that the system is fully functional. If any upgrades are required, these will have to be undertaken in conjunction with the project. If the existing system requires full replacement then a Section 68 Application under the *Local Government Act* will be required.

#### Community Contribution

Council is interested in a community contribution by way of a VPA. This may also be a way of covering the construction on and use of Council land.

Please do not hesitate to contact Jessica Heath during business hours, between Monday and Friday on (02) 6354 9989 in Council's Environment and Development Department should you have any queries in relation to this matter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Muir', followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right.

**Mr Andrew Muir**

GROUP MANAGER ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT