

Ms Cassie Hay Senior Environmental Advisor Santos NSW (Eastern) Pty Ltd

03/02/2021

Dear Ms Hay

Narrabri Gas Project (SSD 6456) Meteorological Monitoring

I refer to your request regarding the use of the Whitehaven Coal weather station for Phase 1 of the Narrabri Gas Project, in accordance with condition B25 of the Narrabri Gas Project development consent (SSD 6456).

The Department notes the advice and recommendations provided by the Environment Protection Authority. Accordingly, the Secretary <u>conditionally</u> approves the use of the Whitehaven Coal weather station for Phase 1 of SSD 6456, subject to Santos:

- 1. providing verification that the results of the monitoring are representative between the two locations;
- 2. obtaining a binding agreement with the coal mine licensee to access the data, as required for the purposes of SSD 6456 and environment protection licence; and
- 3. ensuring that:
 - a. during Phase 1, it continues to explore alternative options for the operation of a suitable meteorological station located permanently within the project area, including the potential use of its existing Leewood monitoring station; and
 - b. prior to Phase 2, it has installed and is operating a permanent meteorological station located within the project area.

The Department requests that Santos provides a further response on how it proposes to address these matters by 3 March 2021.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Philip Nevill on 8275 1036.

Yours sincerely

Stephen O'Donoghue

Director

Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary