

MINING, EXPLORATION & GEOSCIENCE ADVICE RESPONSE

Sheelagh Laguna
Principal Planning Officer
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
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Dear Sheelagh

Project: Blue Bush Project
Stage: Request for SEARs
Development Application: SSD-8968782

I refer to your correspondence dated 4 March 2021 inviting Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration and Geoscience (MEG) to provide comments on the Blue Bush Project (the Project) submitted by Tellus Holdings Pty Ltd (the Proponent).

The relevant units internal to MEG have been consulted in generating this advice.

Mineral resource management considerations

Where the development application involves extraction for clay, MEG's focus is to ensure the project does not preclude access for future resource discovery and extraction has been adequately considered.

Project overview

The proposed Blue Bush Project, consists of two parts:

1. The Blue Bush Facility – a near-surface geological repository to accept, store and permanently contain up to 200,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of hazardous waste materials; and
2. The Blue Bush Transfer Station – an inter-modal (rail/road) transfer station to receive up to 200,000 tpa of hazardous waste materials prior to their transfer to the Blue Bush Facility.

Consultation with MEG required for biodiversity offset areas

MEG's Geoscience Assessment & Advice - Land Use unit must be consulted in relation to the proposed location of any biodiversity offset areas (both on and off-site) or any supplementary biodiversity measures to ensure there is no consequent reduction in access to prospective land for mineral exploration, or potential for sterilisation of mineral or extractive resources.

Potential *Mining Act 1992* considerations

MEG specifically notes that the scoping report refers to the extraction and stockpiling of clay and kaolin (scheduled minerals) for processing and reuse within the site to construct the geological repository. If any scheduled minerals required to construct the project are considered surplus and are proposed to be exported from the project site this will require further consideration under the *Mining Act 1992*. Early consultation with MEG is recommended in this instance.

For further advice concerning this matter, please contact the Assessment Coordination Unit on 02 4063 6534 or assessment.coordination@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SA' followed by a flourish.

Scott Anson
Manager Assessment Coordination
Resource Operations
Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience
26 March 2021

for
Param Dogra
A/Executive Director Resource Operations
Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience