

Quote No L21/2916 – 11/467
JN:TS

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23 November 2021

ABN 84 873 116 132

Energy, Resources and Industry Division
Planning and Assessment Group
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Sir/madam

Broken Hill North Project Modification 3 (SSD-7538-Mod-3)

Reference is made to the abovementioned Modification proposal.

According to information provided and exhibited, the Proposed Modification seeks consent for the following:

- An increase in ore throughput (i.e. extraction, crushing and transportation) from 300 000 tonnes per annum (tpa) to 400 000 tpa.
- An increase in the ventilation flow rate through the upcast ventilation shaft (also referred to as the No. 3 Ventilation Rise) from 235m³/s to 275m³/s.
- Construction of a 5m high stack at the upcast ventilation shaft outlet with no change to the outlet diameter (4.75m).
- An increase in the average daily ore laden truck movements per calendar year from 16 to 21, with the combined daily ore laden truck movements for the Mine and the Potosi Mine limited to 42 when averaged over a calendar year.

Truck movements:

Council understands that part of the proposed modification would require an increase in the approved average ore laden truck movements for the Mine from 16 to 21 over the calendar year. It is noted that there will be no increase in the maximum number of ore laden truck movements per hour (4) or the maximum number of ore laden truck movements per day (32) would be required as part of the Proposed Modification.

Council acknowledges that the proposed increase in ore throughput at the North Mine is required partially in order to compensate for declining ore volumes produced at Perilya's Potosi Mine where operations are currently ramping down. As such, it is anticipated that declining ore volumes produced at the Potosi Mine will result in a corresponding decrease in the number of ore laden truck movements generated by that mine. Both North Mine and Potosi use the same approved transportation route.

No change to the following are proposed:

- Approved daily maximum (i.e. 32 for the North Mine and 48 for the Potosi Mine) or hourly maximum (i.e. 4 for the North Mine and 4 for the Potosi Mine) ore laden movements.
- Approved hours of transportation.
- Approved transportation route.
- Approved management measures to be implemented to appropriately manage road transportation operations.

In light of the above, the Applicant proposes to amend Condition 8 of Schedule 2 of SSD 7538 as follows.

"The Applicant must ensure that the development does generate more than:

- a) 32 ore laden truck movements per day;
- b) 4 ore laden truck movements per hour;
- c) 21 ore laden truck movements per day when averaged over a calendar year; and
- d) 42 ore laden truck movements per day from the development and the Potosi Mine when averaged over a calendar year."

Council does not object to the proposed change in condition number 8 of schedule 2 of SSD 7538 as suggested by the applicant above. Council believes that this will provide clarity in approved vehicle movements from the two mine sites. Due to no expected increase in maximum overall traffic volumes or impact on intersections at peak times, it is agreed that no change to the existing Voluntary Planning Agreement (between Perilya and BHCC) is warranted at this time.

Human health risk assessment:

Council's Environmental Health Officer has considered information submitted, and has no issues to raise in regards to this matter. It is noted that the Human Health Risk Assessment Report prepared by SLR concluded that BPb (lead) concentrations in 1-2 year old children living in Broken Hill are not anticipated to be affected by activities associated with the Proposal.

Upcast Ventilation shaft:

Council does not object to the proposed increase in the ventilation flow rate and the construction of a 5m high stack, as it is considered necessary to ensure the safe ventilation of underground areas under intensified operations.

Heritage:

Heritage items associated with existing mining leases within Broken Hill are important to the overall heritage significance of the City. It is noted that this proposed modification will not impact on or provide risk of damage to, existing heritage listed items on the lease.

Council thanks DPIE for the opportunity to view the Modification application and provide comment.

Yours faithfully



JAY NANKIVELL
GENERAL MANAGER