

## Matthew Sprott

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**From:** Brian Jenkins  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 November 2015 12:17 PM  
**To:** Matthew Sprott  
**Cc:** OEH SD BSAL SVC Mailbox; Humphrey Milford; Casey Murphy; Gregory Summerell; Tim Kirby  
**Subject:** RE: OEH response to Mt Owen SVC application  
**Attachments:** 15\_7274\_Mount\_Owen\_Continued\_Operations\_assessment\_revised\_151110.pdf

Hi Matthew,

### **RE: OEH response to Mt Owen SVC application**

Please find attached the revised OEH response to the Mt Owen SVC application.

The proponents application fails to meet the Interim Protocol in a number of areas, however the data provided for the area clearly shows that the area is unlikely to contain BSAL. Your department expressed concern over OEHs response, particularly our response to the "Applicant's project area, or part thereof, is likely to contain BSAL according to the protocol for site verification and mapping of biophysical strategic agricultural land". OEH believes that the original wording in response to this question was adequate for DPE to proceed but accepts your concerns and we are willing to change our wording to make it more definitive. By doing so we do not believe that we have changed the intent of our response.

Please note that none of the sites assessed are BSAL, as they fail BSAL criteria. This is due to one of more of the following

- sodicity
- fertility
- drainage
- soil type
- salinity

All the available OEH data backs the assertion that there is no BSAL in the area. No BSAL has been mapped on the regional mapping.

Regards

Brian

#### **Brian Jenkins**

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**From:** Matthew Sprott

**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 November 2015 10:43 AM

**To:** Brian Jenkins; Matthew Sprott

**Cc:** Tim Kirby; Humphrey Milford; OEH SD BSAL SVC Mailbox; David Morand; Gregory Summerell; Monica Collins

**Subject:** RE: OEH response to Mt Owen SVC application

Hi Brian,

Thank you for providing OEH's report on the SVC Application (SVC 7274) for the Mount Owen project.

As agreed at yesterday's meeting between DPE and OEH, I am writing to seek further clarification of your advice on this SVC application.

DPE notes that OEH's advice confirms that the application area is unlikely to contain BSAL. Following yesterday's meeting, DPE also understands that while Glencore's SVC application does not strictly comply with the Interim Protocol, OEH is satisfied that the company has provided sufficient information to determine whether BSAL is or is not present within the subject land.

It would therefore be appreciated if OEH could confirm its final position on the presence, or otherwise, of BSAL within the application area. In providing this advice, it would also be appreciated if OEH could indicate why it is satisfied that a recommendation can be made, based on the soil and land data available.

Regards,  
Matthew

**Matthew Sprott**

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**From:** Brian Jenkins [<mailto:Brian.Jenkins@environment.nsw.gov.au>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 3 November 2015 2:52 PM

**To:** Matthew Sprott

**Cc:** Tim Kirby; Humphrey Milford; OEH SD BSAL SVC Mailbox; David Morand; Gregory Summerell; Monica Collins

**Subject:** OEH response to Mt Owen SVC application

Hi Matthew,

**Re: OEH – Report on Site Verification Certificate (SVC) Mount Owen Continued Operations Assessment 15-7274**

Please find attached the OEH report on the SVC Application for the Mount Owen project.

To summarise, the application fails to satisfy the Protocol BUT the soils are so poor that OEH was able to determine from the data provided that BSAL is unlikely to occur.

Could you please acknowledge receipt of the report.

Regards,

Brian

**Brian Jenkins**

Senior Team Leader - Assessment | Science Division | **NSW Office of Environment and Heritage**

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