

APPENDIX 1 RECORDS OF COMMISSION MEETINGS

Notes of briefing from the Department

This meeting is part of the Determination process		
Meeting note taken by Robert Bisley	Date 9 May 2017	Time: 9:00am
Project: Springvale Water Treatment Project (SSD 7592), Springvale Mine Extension Project MOD 2 (SSD 5594) and Western Coal Services Project MOD 1 (SSD 5579)		
Meeting place: Planning Assessment Commission (PAC Office)		
Attendees: <u>Commission Members:</u> Ross Carter (Chair), Lynelle Briggs AO and David Johnson <u>Commission Secretariat:</u> David Koppers and Robert Bisley <u>Department of Planning and Environment:</u> Clay Preshaw		
The purpose of the meeting: For the Department to brief the Commission on the Projects.		
Meeting notes: The Department discussed the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Treatment of the water currently being discharged through Licensed Discharge Point (LDP) 009 is the only option available to bring salinity levels under control. - At present, the mine discharges approximately 18/19 megalitres (ML) of mine water per day. - LDP009 discharges into the upper reaches of the Sydney drinking water catchment. - The requirement to reduce the salinity levels within discharged water to meet the conditions of the previous PAC's granted consent by June 2017 was, in hindsight, unachievable. A major water treatment project like this takes quite some time to plan and implement. - The proposed pipeline between Springvale mine and the Mt Piper Power Station is supported by other agencies. The path of the pipeline was chosen based on advice provided by the Office of Environment and Heritage. - There has been no objection to the location of the water treatment facilities as the site is already disturbed. - The water treatment facility will treat all the mine water discharged from Springvale mine. A residual 0.43ML/day of 'waste' product will be produced at the water treatment facility and require disposal. The Applicant has proposed to transfer the residual waste to the Western Coal Services Site for emplacement. The Western Coal Services Site flows towards LDP006 which currently discharges 4-5 ML/day and has no restriction on discharge volumes or salinity levels. - The Department recognises that the additional 0.43ML/day of residuals being placed into the Western Coal Services Site may increase both the volume and salinity of water discharged at LDP006. - Concentrated brine slurry from the water treatment plant will be transferred to the Mt Piper Power Station residual emplacement area under the existing consents for that site. - The Department has reviewed the Application against the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Drinking Water Catchment) 2011</i> neutral or beneficial effect on water quality guidelines. The Department sought legal advice as to how to apply the test when assessing a modification. The Department agreed to provide the legal advice to the Commission. 		

- The Department received submissions stating that additional waste water from other mines within the vicinity (such as Clarence Colliery) should also be treated at the water treatment facility. The Department acknowledges that these initiatives are not within the remit of this project.
- The Department agreed to review the feasibility of a milestone condition that would provide the community more assurance that the Applicant will progress the construction of the water treatment facility.

Outcomes/Agreed Actions: Department to provide further information on a possible milestone condition and a copy of the legal advice for assessing the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Drinking Water Catchment) 2011* neutral or beneficial effect on water quality.

Meeting closed at 9:45am

Notes of briefing from the Environment Protection Authority

This meeting is part of the Determination process		
Meeting note taken by Robert Bisley	Date 9 May 2017	Time: 9:45am
Project: Springvale Water Treatment Project (SSD 7592), Springvale Mine Extension Project MOD 2 (SSD 5594) and Western Coal Services Project MOD 1 (SSD 5579)		
Meeting place: Planning Assessment Commission (PAC Office)		
Attendees: <u>Commission Members:</u> Ross Carter (Chair), Lynelle Briggs AO and David Johnson <u>Commission Secretariat:</u> David Koppers and Robert Bisley <u>Department of Planning and Environment:</u> Clay Preshaw <u>Environment Protection Authority (EPA):</u> Darryl Clift, Sandie Jones, Allan Adams and Sheridan Ledger		
The purpose of the meeting: For the EPA to brief the Commission on the Projects.		
Meeting notes: The EPA discussed the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Licensed Discharge Point (LDP) 009:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Will cease to operate once the water treatment facility is operational.o Releasing mine water at LDP009 has only ever been an interim solution.o The community has raised concerns that if the extension to manage discharge at LDP009 is approved, the Applicant can continue to discharge minimally treated mine water until the water treatment facility is operational.- LDP006:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Main issue is that the Applicant has made no solid commitment identifying treatment of the 0.43ML/day discharge into the Western Coal Services Site.o Historically, discharge at LDP006 was no more than a 'trickle'.o In 2009-10, works at Lamberts North impacted on the catchment and increased the discharge flow to 4-5ML/day. Work is underway to understand the source of the problem.- EPA acknowledges the Applicant's proposal may exacerbate the volume and concentration of the discharge from the Western Coal Services site through LDP006, but the overall effect of the Project is positive.- Wallerawang Power Station is owned by Energy Australia and is currently using geotextile bags to treat flocc sludge material.- EPA supports the use of geotextile bags to further treat the residuals rather than emplacement at the Western Coal Services site.		
Outcomes/Agreed Actions: Nil.		
Meeting closed at 10:30am		

Notes of briefing from Lithgow City Council

This meeting is part of the Determination process		
Meeting note taken by Robert Bisley	Date 16 May 2017	Time: 1:00pm
Project: Springvale Water Treatment Project (SSD 7592), Springvale Mine Extension Project MOD 2 (SSD 5594) and Western Coal Services Project MOD 1 (SSD 5579)		
Meeting place: Lithgow City Council office		
Attendees: <u>Commission Members:</u> Ross Carter (Chair), Lynelle Briggs AO and David Johnson <u>Commission Secretariat:</u> David Koppers and Robert Bisley <u>Lithgow City Council:</u> Stephen Lesslie (Mayor), Wayne McAndrew (Deputy Mayor), Andrew Muir, Paul Cashel and Lauren Stevens		
The purpose of the meeting: For Lithgow City Council to brief the Commission on the Project.		
Meeting notes: Lithgow City Council (Council) discussed the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Council agrees with the findings of the Department of Planning and Environment's assessment report and supports the project unanimously.- Primary concerns are economic and the implications to the community if the project was not to proceed.- Council believes the project's environmental impacts are acceptable.- Events occurring at Clarence mine are not considered relevant to operations relating to Springvale Mine.- Council recognises that there are 600 jobs in the community tied to the outcomes of these projects. Council supports the additional jobs that will be created during the construction and ongoing management stages at the water treatment facility. Council also recognises the future interdependence between Springvale mine and Mt Piper Power Station.- Lithgow LGA has a high unemployment rate and supports the creation of additional employment.- Council has no concerns with the proposed discharge or pipeline alignments.		
Outcomes/Agreed Actions: Nil.		
Meeting closed at 1:20pm		

Notes of briefing from Centennial Coal and Energy Australia, and site visit.

This meeting is part of the Determination process		
Meeting note taken by Robert Bisley	Date 16 May 2017	Time: 2:00pm
Project: Springvale Water Treatment Project (SSD 7592), Springvale Mine Extension Project MOD 2 (SSD 5594) and Western Coal Services Project MOD 1 (SSD 5579)		
Meeting place: Lidsdale House		
Attendees: <u>Commission Members:</u> Ross Carter (Chair), Lynelle Briggs AO and David Johnson <u>Commission Secretariat:</u> David Koppers and Robert Bisley <u>Centennial Coal:</u> James Wearne, Greg Banning, Nagindar Singh, Steve Burgess and Karl Rosen (GHD) <u>Energy Australia:</u> Mark Collette, Malcolm Murphy and Peter Griffiths <u>Department of Planning and Environment:</u> Anthony Ko		
The purpose of the meeting: For Centennial Coal and Energy Australia (the Applicant) to brief the Commission on the Project.		
Meeting notes: Prior to the briefing, the Commission was taken by the Applicant to LDP006, LDP009, proposed water treatment facility site and western coal services site. The Applicant discussed the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mt Piper Power Station is essential to NSW's supply of energy.- Energy Australia supplies energy to 1 in 4 households in NSW.- The proposed project will deliver a better environmental outcome than that currently operating.- The water treatment facility can treat up to 42 megalitres of water per day.- The treated water will form the primary source of water used in the Mt Piper Power Station cooling towers.- The water treatment facility will include a crystalliser to control the brine levels within the mine water.- Geotextile bags were considered by the Applicant, with 5 geotextile bags required for management of residuals stream with a bunded footprint of approximately 1 hectare. The geotextile bags were not considered an acceptable alternative due to the high capital costs for sludge storage ponds and bunded drain system as well as high operating costs to manage the bags.- If approved, the project will deliver a nil discharge by 30 June 2019.- The project has been specifically designed to resolve the current water issues associated with the Springvale Extension Project water discharge requirements, which is a highly technical and complex process. It hasn't been designed to take and treat water from other mines within the vicinity, which would involve new and different chemistry because the water from any two different mining sites tends to have a different chemical composition.- Recognition of a ground water anomaly currently impacting on the Western Coal Services site. Energy Australia is investigating the source of the anomaly.- The new pipeline route has been selected for safety, efficiency and effectiveness reasons over the current route.		

- Work began on this project straight after the 2015 PAC approval. Determining the correct and best water treatment solution and designing how it will be achieved is highly complex and takes time and a lot of money. Added to this is the complexity of a joint project with Energy Australia to secure the development. Both companies are committed to implementation of the project in accordance with the proposed timeline.

Outcomes/Agreed Actions: Applicant to provide a timeline of how the Applicant will deliver the pipelines and water treatment facility by 30 June 2019.

Meeting closed at 5:10pm