



13 February 2023

Office of the Independent Planning Commission  
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SYDNEY NSW 2001

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Dear Sir/Madam

**McPhillamys Gold Project – State Significant Development SSD 9505**

I refer to the above project currently under consideration by the Independent Planning Commission.

Council notes that it has had the opportunity to discuss issues directly with members of the Commission and that the current recommendation of the Department is that the project warrants approval subject to conditions.

Council is both indirectly and directly impacted by the Project. The mining activities are principally located within the Blayney LGA but is located in close proximity to the boundary with Bathurst Regional Council. The Assessment report observes that the Project has both negative and positive impacts with negative impacts focused on the Kings Plains and surrounding area (amenity, sense of place and rural way of life). Council is directly impacted by the proposed pipeline that passes through its LGA.

Council is supportive of the economic benefit of the project observed to be through employment (about 710 construction and about 260 operational jobs). Council would anticipate that there would be a significant proportion of this employment from within the Bathurst LGA.

The Social Impact Assessment (SIA) concludes that there is currently insufficient accommodation supply within the Blayney LGA. The observation is made within the assessment that there is potential flow on effects of accommodation shortage on vulnerable persons and rental prices and a Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) is proposed to address issues. Whilst those impacts are most likely to be directly within the Blayney LGA the SIMP needs to include consideration of the broader regional impacts.

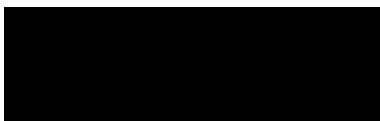
Council is supportive of the water supply pipeline concept. The pipeline passes through the Bathurst Regional LGA and utilises public road reserves under Council care and control. The pipeline also passes through land under Council's ownership. Council is involved in discussions with Regis as to land access arrangements for both the public roads and land.

As the pipeline passes within close proximity to the City it provides an opportunity to augment or provide a long term secure water supply for the City and Region. Council notes that the proposed Rehabilitation Objectives included in the conditions of consent (B95) include that the “water supply pipeline and associated infrastructure and services remain available for alternative uses following completion of the development”. Council notes that condition B98 Rehabilitation Strategy includes consultation with Bathurst Regional Council (amongst others) and supports this approach.

Council has received a number of direct representations from those associated with the bee keeping industry noting their concerns regarding the potential impacts upon the operation of that industry. Council notes that the IPC has received similar representations and the matter has been addressed within the assessment and through proposed conditions of consent.

Council thanks the Commission for the opportunity to provide direct feedback via the briefing and indirectly by way of submission.

Yours faithfully



Neil Southorn  
**DIRECTOR**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL, PLANNING & BUILDING SERVICES**