



THE HON TANYA PLIBERSEK MP

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

MS23-001825

The Hon Paul Scully MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
[REDACTED]
Sydney NSW 2001

[REDACTED]

Dear Minister

On 9 June 2023, you wrote to me requesting scientific advice from the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development (IESC) regarding the potential impacts to water resources from the proposed Modification 15 to the Cadia Valley Operations Project (the proposed development).

The IESC has considered the information you provided in the letter, as well as a preliminary assessment of the publicly available information on the proposed development prepared by the Office of Water Science. The IESC has confirmed that, at the current time, they have sufficient scientific expertise to consider the matters outlined in your request. I understand that your preference is for this IESC advice to be considered at the July 2023 IESC meeting.

In accordance with section 505D(2)(b) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act), I endorse this request.

Should the material or information regarding the proposed development be amended or change prior to the IESC considering their advice, or the timing of the request changes, a new request for IESC advice will need to be provided.

I will continue to consider any future requests under section 505D(2)(b) of the EPBC Act on a case-by-case basis.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

TANYA PLIBERSEK

19.6.23