



20 June 2022

Mr Steve O'Donoghue
Director Resource Assessments
Energy, Resources and Industry
Department of Planning and Environment

By email: stephen.odonoghue@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr O'Donoghue

Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project (SSD-10418)

I refer to the above Application currently before the Independent Planning Commission (**Commission**) for determination.

Following the questions posed by the Commission to the Department of Planning and Environment (**Department**) during its meeting with the Commission on 16 June 2022, the Commission would be assisted by the Department providing a response to the following questions.

Blasting:

- 1) Can the Department provide clarification as to how blasting activities are co-ordinated between mining operations under the recommended conditions of consent and whether those arrangements are formalised?

Noise:

- 2) The EPA in its submission to the Department dated 26 July 2021 recommended draft noise limit conditions (pg 12) at sensitive receivers. The Commission notes that receivers 193, 667b, 667c, 667d and 667e were included in the EPA's recommended condition but not in the Department's recommended condition of consent. Can the Department advise the Commission if the inclusion of these receivers is warranted in any conditions of consent?

Biodiversity:

- 3) Can the Department comment on the potential impacts of the Project on the Squirrel Glider?

Rehabilitation:

- 4) Can the Department provide comment on the extent of the modelling used to determine the long-term stability of the final void? What are the potential impacts of highwall or batter slope failures and how would these be managed post mining?

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage:

- 5) Can the Department provide clarification as to how the recommended conditions would work in practice in the event of a conflict between biodiversity and Aboriginal heritage values (see conditions B62(h), B65 – B67 and B68 – B71)?

Social Impacts:


- 6) Can the Department provide comment on the potential impacts of the Project on housing availability and affordability?

Please provide a written response by 5pm on **Monday, 27 June 2022**.

This letter and your written response will be made publicly available on the Commission's website.

Should you require clarification in relation to this request, please contact Brad James, Principal Case Manager on 9383 2165 or bradley.james@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Barry', with a long horizontal line extending to the right and a small hook at the end.

Stephen Barry
Planning Director