

Our ref: OUT23/16054

Jack Turner

Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning and Environment

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28 September 2023

Subject: **Rasp Mine (MP07_0018) Modification 11 – Ventilation Intake and Underground Exploration Modification Report**

Dear Jack Turner

I refer to your request for advice sent on 1 September 2023 to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Water about the above matter.

Modification 11 is for a ventilation intake and an extension of development workings in Main Lode Blocks 13, 14 & 15. This is to allow for continued access to future ore reserves and to augment safety systems. The proposed modification will be undertaken within the existing disturbed area. No changes to the approved extraction rate, processing rate and water management approach are proposed as part of Modification 11.

DPE Water has reviewed the Modification Report and has recommendations regarding water take and groundwater impacts. Please see Attachment A for more detail.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this submission please do not hesitate to contact DPE Water Assessments water.assessments@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Harris".

Daniel Harris
A/Manager, Assessments, Knowledge Division
Department of Planning and Environment: Water

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPE Planning & Assessment regarding the Rasp Mine (MP07_0018) Modification 11 – Ventilation Intake and Underground Exploration Modification Report

1.0 Water Take

1.1 Recommendation – Prior to Determination

The proponent should quantify the maximum annual volume of water take required for the project due to aquifer interference activities.

Explanation

The Modification Report notes that the proponent expects 4.5 ML inflows into the excavation for construction of the ventilation intake and 250 ML/year for the extension of underground workings. It is unclear if this number is the maximum potential take or annual average take.

The proponent should:

- provide the maximum potential inflows for the current mine and modification and
- compare the maximum potential inflow to the held entitlement to demonstrate that sufficient entitlement is held to account for take.

2.0 Groundwater Impact Assessment

2.1 Recommendation – Prior to Determination

The proponent should provide a statement of impact against the minimal impact considerations of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy (2012).

Explanation

The potential impacts of water take are unclear, even though the take volumes have been estimated. The proponent should provide an assessment of potential impacts on the water source and nearby users.

Rasp Mining is undertaking an aquifer interference activity. This activity requires assessment of the impact against the criteria defined by the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy. This must include an evaluation of how the proposed developments may interact with, and potentially influence, the groundwater resources in the surrounding area. The proponent must make their statement of impact against the minimal impact considerations of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy.

End Attachment A
