

## APPENDIX D: SUBMISSIONS

See attached CD ROM with submissions provided during the public exhibition period.

Issues raised in agency submissions are summarised in the table below:

### Key Issues Raised in Agency Submissions

<b>Noise Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EPA noted night-time project specific noise level exceedances at several residential receivers under calm/neutral conditions;</li> <li>EPA queried if all train loading scenarios had been modelled for the increased number of locomotives on site, and noted additional train movements would increase sound levels at residential receivers along the metropolitan rail network by &lt; 2dBA, which is within guidelines; and</li> <li>EPA requested a Construction Noise Management Plan to monitor noise and vibration levels and recommended the lowest project specific noise levels (Receivers 4 and 8) as the standard for the project, that mobile equipment be fitted with broad spectrum reversing alarms and an acoustic consultant certifies plant equipment is at, or below, the levels used for modelling.</li> </ul>
<b>Air Quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSW Health supports the proposed improvements in local air quality and sought clarification of the construction phase PM<sub>10</sub> emissions; and</li> <li>NSW Health recommended that a best practice particulate control plan be established with ongoing monitoring of results.</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NOW and EPA requested that Centennial obtains updated water and Environment Protection Licences (EPL) to include water sharing and to reflect the increased scale of activities on site;</li> <li>EPA is concerned that groundwater and surface water interaction is not sufficiently addressed through the Construction Environmental Management Plan. Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, Surface and Groundwater monitoring plans are to be developed in consultation with NOW and SCA and to monitor additional contaminants identified;</li> <li>EPA is concerned that the volume of treated groundwater discharged from dewatered construction excavations may place a strain on the current licensed surface water management system's capacity; and</li> <li>The site is vulnerable to flooding from Pipers Flat Creek, potentially transporting sediment contamination into Coxs River. A flood study was requested to address how the site's stormwater management system would manage flood events.</li> </ul>
<b>Heritage / Visual</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OEH expressed concerns that the Cultural Heritage Assessment did not refer to some previous studies in the area and appeared to have incorrectly mapped recorded sites within the study area; and</li> <li>The Heritage Council of NSW requested additional landscaped screening to mitigate visual impacts on the adjacent heritage-listed St John the Evangelist Church.</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OEH requested information regarding the impact of proposed Black Gum removal on the Tableland Hollows Black Gum – Black Sally Open Forest Community Endangered Ecological Community (EEC);</li> <li>NOW identified Pipers Flat Creek as a groundwater dependent ecosystem which should be included in the Groundwater Management Plan; and</li> <li>SCA requested removal of Willow trees from Pipers Flat Creek to be completed within two years of construction activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Traffic and Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council acknowledged the increased train movements and suggested safety measures, including additional signage and / or upgrade of the Main Street and Bray's Lane level crossings; and</li> <li>DRE supports reducing truck movements on the region's roads through the increased coal transportation to the ports via rail.</li> </ul>
<b>Contamination and Remediation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SCA requested that identification of contaminants and the preparation of a Contamination Management Plan within 12 months of approval, and remediation work accelerated to be within 18 months of project approval, as opposed to the five years proposed by Centennial; and</li> <li>EPA is satisfied with commitments within Centennial's EA and that contamination can be managed by varying the current EPL's conditions.</li> </ul>



**Ruth Murphy - RE: Lidsdale Coal Siding - Response to Submissions**

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**From:** Malcolm Hughes <Malcolm.Hughes@sca.nsw.gov.au>  
**To:** "Ruth.Murphy@planning.nsw.gov.au" <Ruth.Murphy@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 3:23 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Lidsdale Coal Siding - Response to Submissions  
**CC:** Girja Sharma <Girja.Sharma@sca.nsw.gov.au>, Robert Banens <Robert.Banens@sca.nsw.gov.au>

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Hi Ruth

Thank you for providing the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) a copy of Centennial Coal's Response to Submissions on the Environmental Assessment for the Lidsdale Siding Project (dated November 2012).

The SCA has reviewed the responses and has the following comments:

- 3.4.2 – Centennial Coal's response does not specify whether the proposed Flood Study will consider the impacts of flooding on stormwater management systems. If the study will not assess these impacts, the SCA suggests an additional study be undertaken to address this matter.
- 3.4.3 – as Centennial Coal are not proposing to line the main pollution control pond, as recommended by the SCA, the SCA recommends that Centennial include provisions in the Operational Environmental Management Plan to manage pond leakage, should this occur.
- 3.4.7 – the SCA would appreciate the opportunity to review the updated groundwater and surface water monitoring program prior to commencement of construction activities.

The SCA would also appreciate being involved in any further environmental assessment and consultation process associated with this application, and the opportunity to comment on additional information.

Please contact Dr Girja Sharma on 4724 2459 or via email at [girja.sharma@sca.nsw.gov.au](mailto:girja.sharma@sca.nsw.gov.au) if you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Hughes  
A/Senior Manager Sustainability  
Sydney Catchment Authority  
2-6 Station St Penrith NSW 2750  
47242452  
0427466934

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**From:** Ruth Murphy [<mailto:Ruth.Murphy@planning.nsw.gov.au>]  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 December 2012 3:33 PM  
**To:** [andrew.helms@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:andrew.helms@environment.nsw.gov.au); [Elizabeth.Cala@water.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Elizabeth.Cala@water.nsw.gov.au); Girja Sharma; [helen.ptolemy@swahs.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:helen.ptolemy@swahs.health.nsw.gov.au); [Katrina.Stankowski@heritage.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Katrina.Stankowski@heritage.nsw.gov.au); [land\\_Use\\_Western@rta.nsw.gov.au](mailto:land_Use_Western@rta.nsw.gov.au); [landuse.enquires@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landuse.enquires@dpi.nsw.gov.au); Skye Ellacott; Steve Cozens  
**Cc:** Carl Dupleton  
**Subject:** Lidsdale Coal Siding - Response to Submissions

Dear All

Please find attached Centennial's Response to Submissions document for the Lidsdale Coal Siding Project. It would be greatly appreciated if you could advise by the 14th December (RTS <25 pages) if there are any outstanding issues from your original submission which have not been satisfactorily addressed in the RTS.

Many thanks  
Ruth

**Ruth Murphy**

**Planner, Mining and Industry Projects**  
**NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure | GPO Box 39 | Sydney NSW 2001**  
**T 02 9228 2081 E [Ruth.Murphy@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ruth.Murphy@planning.nsw.gov.au)**



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Our Ref: D2012/97426

Mr. David Kitto  
Director Mining & Industry Projects  
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr. Kitto

**Environmental Assessment Lidsdale Siding Coal Loader Upgrade Project 08\_0223**

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) has provided the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) with the Environmental Assessment for the Lidsdale Siding Coal Loader Upgrade Project. RPS has requested that the SCA provide its comments on the Environmental Assessment to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

The SCA has reviewed the Environmental Assessment and provides its comments in the attached submission.

The SCA would appreciate being involved in any further environmental assessment and consultation process associated with the application and the opportunity to comment on any additional information.

If you wish to discuss any matter raised in this letter please do not hesitate to contact Dr Girja Sharma on 4724 2459 or via e-mail <[girja.sharma@sca.nsw.gov.au](mailto:girja.sharma@sca.nsw.gov.au)>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Davies", followed by the date "1/11/12" written in blue ink.

**DR PETER DAVIES**  
**Senior Manager Sustainability**

Cc. Mr Rob Dwyer  
RPS Australia East Pty Ltd  
PO Box 428  
Hamilton NSW 2303

**SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY SUBMISSION TO  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**LIDSDALE SIDING COAL LOADER UPGRADE PROJECT (08\_0223)  
(Transition Part 3A Project)**

**OCTOBER 2012**

The Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) has specific roles, objectives and functions specified in the *Sydney Water Catchment Management Act, 1998*. In particular the SCA has certain functions including managing and protecting Sydney's drinking water catchments.

The project is within the Upper Cox's River catchment which is part of Sydney's drinking water catchment, and which lies within the Warragamba Dam catchment - the main source of water for Sydney.

As the project has been assessed and determined under transitional Part 3A provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, it is not formally subject to the requirements of *State Environmental Planning & Policy (Drinking Water Catchment) 2011* (SEPP). Nevertheless, the SCA considers that the project should be constructed and operated in a manner that does not adversely affect the quality of surface and ground waters beyond the boundaries of the site, and is consistent with the SEPP requirement for achieving a neutral or beneficial effect on water quality.

The SCA has reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA), and notes that it has addressed all significant issues of concern to the SCA. Nevertheless the SCA provides the following comments, and requests the Department to require the proponent to address these and/or they be addressed in conditions of approval.

- Soil and shallow groundwater in the vicinity of the existing workshop, parking area and former above ground storage tank at the Lidsdale siding site has been identified as being contaminated with total petroleum hydrocarbons associated with the former storage tank. The EA states that the Centennial intends to develop management plans and undertake remediation works, if required, within next five 5 years. However, the SCA considers that Centennial should identify the need and extent of remediation works within 12 months of approval, and if the remediation works are required, they shall be undertaken within 18 months of the approval.
- Given that the site is prone to flooding and a flood study has not been undertaken, the SCA considers that a flood study for the project site should be undertaken that identifies, amongst other things, the impact on the facility's stormwater management systems.
- It is noted that the existing dirty water pond is not lined, and the SCA suggests that the lining of pond should be considered.
- The EA states that the willow trees within Pipers Flat Creek will be removed within five years after the completion of construction, however, the SCA suggests that this work be completed within two years of the completion of construction activities.
- The proposed extension of rail line is in close proximity to the banks of Pipers Flat Creek. The SCA requests that a detailed Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for the construction of the rail line be prepared in consultation with the SCA to ensure any disturbance or impact on the Pipers Flat Creek, its banks and direct inflows is avoided or minimised.

- The SCA considers that the existing groundwater water quality monitoring program should be updated to include phosphorus components, TPH, nickel, zinc, iron, lead and arsenic, and that phosphorus components be added to the surface water monitoring program.
- The SCA requests that the Environmental Management Strategy and associated plans including the site Water Management Plan, the updating of the groundwater and surface water monitoring programs, and creek rehabilitation program be prepared and undertaken in consultation with the SCA.







**Health**

Nepean Blue Mountains  
Local Health District

Our Ref: Trim 12/829

Your ref: Project Application no: 08\_0223

24<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Mining and Industry Projects,  
NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam,

**re: Lidsdale Siding Coal Loader Upgrade Project (Project Application no: 08\_0223)  
Exhibition of Environmental Assessment**

I am writing in regard to the development application for the upgrade of the existing Lidsdale Siding Coal Loader. Officers from the Public Health Unit have reviewed the documents with regard to the development proposal and provide the following comments for your consideration.

**Air quality issues**

Health impacts from coarse particulate matter emissions associated with mining operations are of concern to NSW Health. As mine impacted populations are generally small compared to populations subject to urban air pollution it has been difficult to conduct robust health studies of mine affected communities. Nevertheless there is a growing body of evidence that populations subjected to elevated coarse particulate matter emissions from mine operations have an increased risk of adverse health outcomes, particularly on the respiratory system.<sup>1,11</sup> With operations of this type human exposure to PM<sub>10</sub> is of most concern for health.

The annual average background levels for PM<sub>10</sub> and dust deposition used in the Air Quality Assessment were derived from the closest OEH air quality monitoring station to the project site at Bathurst with the addition of an incremental contribution from emissions sources in the area and were established as:

- Annual average PM<sub>10</sub> = max 19.2µg/m<sup>3</sup>, (receptor F) and
- Annual average dust deposition = 3.8g/m<sup>2</sup>/month

We note that these background values were derived from modelling of local power station emissions and the current emissions from the siding operations rather than any local monitoring data and so are subject to some uncertainty.

We note that exposure to PM<sub>10</sub> at local residences is predicted to decrease as a consequence of the proposal. We seek clarification of the predictions for Scenario 2 (construction) where PM<sub>10</sub> is also expected to decrease, however continuing current operational emissions during the estimated 12 month construction period do not appear to be taken into account.

Should the predicted improvement on local air quality impacts from the Project Site as a result of the upgrade project be achieved it would be a welcome reduction in risk of adverse health effects in the community.

**Recommendation:**

As mentioned in the Air Quality Impact Assessment, a site specific best practice particulate control plan for operations at the Project Site is yet to be completed. A monitoring program should also be established to assess whether modelled PM<sub>10</sub> and TSP concentrations are consistent with actual conditions.

If Planning Officers would like to discuss any of the above comments further please contact Helen Ptolemy, Environmental Health Officer on (02) 9840 3603.

Yours sincerely,



Kay Hyman  
Chief Executive

**Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District**

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<sup>1</sup> Brunekreef B, Forsberg B. Epidemiological evidence of effects of coarse airborne particles on health. *European Respiratory Journal*.26(2):309-18, 2005.

<sup>11</sup> Sheppard V, Puntsg O, Capon A. Health Effects of Coarse Particles. Proceedings of the 14th International Union of Air Pollution Prevention and Environmental Protection Associations (IUAPPA) World Congress, 9-13 September 2007, Brisbane.



Our reference: LIC07/2256-02: DOC12/37341  
Contact: Andrew Helms (02) 6332 7604

Mr Colin Phillips  
Senior Planner  
Mining and Industry Projects  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

19 October 2012

Dear Mr Phillips

I refer to an e-mail from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's (DPI) received by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on 5 September 2012 requesting comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) and advice on recommended conditions of approval for the Lidsdale Siding Upgrade Project .

The EPA has reviewed the proposal and has no objection to the proposal proceeding as described in the EA. If the DPI determines the project application by granting consent, the EPA recommends that the conditions provided within Attachment 1 be incorporated into the consent.

It is noted that the facility is currently licensed by the EPA under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*. In the event that the project is approved by DPI the proponent will need to make a separate application to the EPA to vary the environment protection licence 5129 such that the licence incorporates the relevant conditions of the planning approval including the proposed increase in the scale of operations at the facility.

Should you have any enquiries regarding this matter please contact Andrew Helms at the Bathurst Regional Office of the EPA by telephoning (02) 6332 7604.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darryl Clift', written over a light blue horizontal line.

**DARRYL CLIFT**  
**Head Regional Operations Unit – Bathurst**  
**Environment Protection Authority**

Attachment A: EPA comments and recommended conditions of project approval for the Lidsdale Siding Upgrade Project

## **Attachment A: Comments and recommended conditions of Project Approval**

### **Noise:**

The EPA has reviewed Section 8.4.1 of the EA and the Environmental Noise Impact Assessment (ENIA) – Appendix 2 of the EA – and provides the following comments:

- The EPA notes that many of the existing mobile plant used for the current operations will be replaced by a conveyor system, coal reclaimers and a coal loading bin and as a consequence much of the noise that is currently generated by the multiple handling of coal by numerous front end loaders and trucks will be replaced by equipment with engineered acoustic controls.
- While the general noise environment following the proposed upgrade is reported to be lower than that currently experienced at the site there will be an increase in activity at the site across any 24 hour period with an average of 5 trains proposed to be loaded per day (maximum of 7) versus the existing 2 trains per day (maximum of 5). The potential to have up to 3 trains at once at the site and the undertaking of minor maintenance work on locomotives and rolling stock will be new sources of noise particularly if all locomotives are left running which is often the case at the Lithgow rail yards (with subsequent generation of noise complaints from the general public). It is not clear from Table 3.4 (ENIA, Section 3.4) whether the scenario of all locomotives (idling) from 3 trains on site (with one being loaded) has been considered. It is noted that the night time project specific noise levels are predicted to be exceeded at several of the modelled residential receivers under calm/neutral conditions.
- Section 2.2 of the ENIA (attended noise measurements) states that reversing beepers were audible. Given that the high pitch style of reversing alarm is often a source of annoyance for residential receivers, all mobile equipment should be fitted with broad spectrum reversing alarms.
- The EPA notes that the proposed additional train movements on the rail network will increase sound levels at residential receivers along the metropolitan component of the network by less than 2 dBA which is in line with the *Interim guidelines: assessment of noise from rail infrastructure projects* and the *Draft Rail Infrastructure Noise Guideline*.

### ***EPA recommended conditions of Project Approval:***

1. The EPA supports the proponent's Statement of Commitments relating to noise and vibration (Section 9.2 of the EA) and recommends that they are expanded to include the following elements:
  - *A suitably qualified acoustic consultant will be employed to provide certification that the sound power levels from all standard plant and equipment for the Project site are at or below those levels used in the noise assessment modelling prior to being used on the site;*
  - *A construction noise management plan will be implemented for the project. This will include monitoring of noise and vibration during the construction activity to ensure objectives are being achieved; and*
  - *All mobile equipment will be fitted with broad spectrum reversing alarms.*
2. The EPA also recommends that the project specific noise levels (PSNL) contained within Table 9 of Section 8.4.1.3 of the EA be adopted for this Project. In addition, the lowest respective PSNLs identified for day, evening and night periods at receivers Number 4 and 8 should be adopted as PSNLs for 'all other residential receivers' at Wallerawang and Lidsdale.

### **Air Quality:**

The EPA notes that the proposed modifications to the operations of the Lidsdale Rail Siding are likely to provide an overall improvement in air quality with the elimination of double handling of coal, the

reduction in the number of front end loader/vehicle movements and overall reduction in the foot print of stockpile and trafficked areas on site.

***EPA recommended conditions of Project Approval:***

The EPA is satisfied that the air monitoring requirements contained within the current Environment Protection Licence for the premises are appropriate for the operations described in the proposal.

The EPA supports the proponents Statement of Commitments relating to air quality as detailed in Section 9.2 of the EA.

**Surface Water Management:**

The EPA considers that the existing site surface water controls are adequate for the premises and that the proposed upgrade of the facility would not place any additional burden on this system.

The EPA is aware that the site is vulnerable to being impacted by flood waters from the adjacent Pipers Flat Creek. The site can be made inoperable during these periods and there is the potential for flood waters to mobilise coal, coal fines and other sediments off the site and in to the Coxs River which is located within the north-western portion of the site.

***EPA recommended conditions of Project Approval:***

In addition to the proposed willow removal program proposed within Pipers Flat Creek, as identified within Section 8.4.4.5 of the EA, the EPA recommends that the proponent commits to the construction of an appropriately designed flood levy between Pipers Flat Creek and the rail siding/rail line within the project area.

**Groundwater:**

Section 8.4.5.3 identifies the potential for groundwater to enter construction phase excavations. Little information is given on how and where this water is to be pumped and what treatment, if any, will be required prior to the discharge of this water through the site's surface water licence discharge point (LDP4). Table 24 of the EA indicates that a total of approximately 1,400,000 L (or 1.4 ML) will require dewatering within a three month period. This volume will potentially place a strain on the existing surface water management system which has a combined capacity of approximately 9.4 ML. This will particularly be the case in the event that the site experiences any significant or ongoing rainfall events prior to or during the construction period.

These details and appropriate procedures to successfully manage this groundwater/surface water interaction, including control of water quality, will need to be appropriately detailed within the groundwater management plan as part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan as committed to in Section 9.2 of the EA.

**Contamination:**

In February 2012 Centennial Coal notified the EPA, under s.60 of the *Contaminated Land management Act 1997*, of a number of sites that had the potential to contain significant contamination. This notification of sites included the Lidsdale Coal Loading Facility. The EPA has determined that the contamination identified at the Lidsdale Siding can be regulated under the existing environment protection licence 5129. To this end the EPA supports the commitments made in relation to contamination in Section 9.2 of the EA.





Office of  
Environment  
& Heritage

Your reference: 110912  
Our reference: DOC12/43643  
Contact: Liz Mazzer (02) 68835325  
Date: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Matthew Riley  
Mining and Industry Projects  
NSW Dept of Planning & Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Riley,

**RE: Lidsdale Siding Upgrade Project (08\_0223)**

I refer to your email dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012 regarding the above development proposal. Thank you for providing the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

The OEH has responsibilities under the:

- *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* - namely the protection and care of Aboriginal objects and places, the protection and care of native flora and fauna and the protection and management of reserves; and the
- *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* - which aims to conserve threatened species of flora and fauna, populations and ecological communities to promote their recovery and manage processes that threaten them.
- *Native Vegetation Act 2003* – ensuring compliance with the requirements of this legislation.

The OEH can provide advice on the Environmental Assessment Report (EA) where the EA deals with natural and cultural heritage conservation issues. The OEH may also comment on the legitimacy of the conclusions reached regarding the significance of impacts by the proposed development to these components of the environment.

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) requires that the EA should fully describe the proposal, the existing environment and impacts of the proposal. It is the responsibility of the proponent and consent authority to adequately consider the requirements under the EP&A Act, including flora, fauna, threatened species, populations and ecological communities and their habitats, and cultural heritage.

It is also up to the proponent (and later the consent authority after appropriate consultation) to determine the detail and comprehensiveness of the surveys and level of assessment required to form legally defensible conclusions regarding the impact of the proposal. The scale and intensity of the proposed development should dictate the level of investigation, with all conclusions supported by adequate data.

### *Flora, Fauna and Threatened Species*

OEH recognises the proposed works are largely within a previously disturbed footprint, and that clearing of native vegetation is to be minimised. Section 8.4.12.3 of the EA indicates that some trimming or minor tree removal may be necessary during construction to allow safe clearance from the rail line. The EA states,

*"Within the Project Site there is approximately 0.25ha of native vegetation being the Tableland Hollows Black Gum – Black Sally Open Forest (degraded) (EEC)..."*

*"Thirty-seven individual Black Gum trees occur within the Project Site and therefore have the potential to be removed. This species is strongly associated with the Tableland Hollows Black Gum – Black Sally Open Forest Community..."*

*"Two of the 37 Black Gum trees have been recorded within an area mapped as degraded Tableland Hollows Black Gum – Black Sally Open Forest, of which approximately 0.25ha occurs within the Project Site and may potentially be removed. The remaining 35 Black Gum trees were recorded on cleared land alongside the rail line. These individuals include young regrowth specimens growing on top of an existing dam wall"*

Based on the above statements, OEH is unclear about the likely extent of the impact on the Tableland Hollows Black Gum – Black Sally Open Forest Community EEC and Black Gum (*Eucalyptus aggregata*), and requires clarification of the quantum of impact.

OEH recommends an additional mitigation measure be protection and rehabilitation of the remnant native vegetation on-site, particularly the EECs. This may include replanting of *E. aggregata* in appropriate areas.

### *Cultural Heritage*

Three issues have been identified relating to the Cultural Heritage Assessment for the proposal:

#### Care Agreement

Recommendation 3 of the Cultural Heritage Assessment states,

*"In the event that proposed works may impact on any Aboriginal sites within the Study Area, the artefacts from the site must be salvaged according to the Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) for Lidsdale Siding"*

Recommendation 3 should also specify that, if objects are to be salvaged, an application for a care agreement will need to be lodged.

#### Review of previous archaeological work

Under the Code of practice for Archaeological investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW, a review of previous archaeological work is required. While a number of local Aboriginal studies have been included, the Cultural Heritage Assessment does not appear to include reference to all previous archaeological relevant to the project area. For example, there is no mention of an Archaeological report relating to the Spring Valley Colliery and Conveyer that traverses part of the project area (AHIMS report ID 2300). There is a map in this report that shows the location of sites that may be within the project area. All relevant reports should be reviewed as required by the Code of Practice, and the Cultural Heritage Assessment amended accordingly.

#### Mapping of AHIMS data

Figure 5-1 of the Cultural Heritage Assessment shows the project area with AHIMS. OEH has found that some sites are incorrectly plotted on this map. For example, site 45-1-0211 is plotted as being located outside the project area. However, inspection of the AHIMS site record for 45-1-0211 indicates that it is inside the project area. It is therefore unclear whether the site will be impacted upon by the proposed development. Other sites located in or near the project area may also have been mapped incorrectly.



The relevant site cards and reports will need to be checked to confirm whether sites are located within the project area. A field inspection to verify exact location and extent of the sites will also be required. Mapping for the EA will need to be amended to showing correct site locations. If additional sites are located within the project area, there would be a need for appropriate recommendations.

If additional information relating to the proposal indicates that areas within the OEH's responsibility require further investigation, we may provide future input. Should you require further information please contact Liz Mazzer, Conservation Planning Officer on (02) 68835325 or email [liz.mazzer@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liz.mazzer@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'R' and 'T'.

**ROBERT TAYLOR**  
**Manager, Environment and Conservation Programs**  
**Conservation and Regulation Division**





Mr Howard Reed  
Manager Mining  
Major Project Assessments  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Reed

**Lidsdale Siding Upgrade Project – (08\_0223)**

I refer to your email dated 5 September 2012 regarding the Lidsdale Siding Upgrade Project.

NSW Trade & Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services, Division of Resources & Energy (DRE) understands that the project involves the upgrade of the Lidsdale Siding Coal Loader, including the construction and use of coal conveyors, stockpiles, train loading bin and extensions of rail tracks.

The Department has no specific comments on the project but offers general support as:

1. the upgrade will provide a more efficient and higher capacity coal distribution system for mines within the Western Coalfield, including mines owned by Centennial Coal, Pine Dale mine and potentially mines to be developed in the future.
2. it will reduce the number of truck movements on roads within the Region.
3. the project will integrate with the proposed upgrade of the Centennial Coal Services site, which is being assessed as part of a separate development application. Should the Lidsdale Siding Upgrade Project not be approved it would reduce the effectiveness of the Centennial Coal Services site upgrade by limiting the amount of coal product which could be transported by rail.

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact Steve Cozens, Senior Project Officer, Industry Coordination on (02) 8281 7335.

Yours sincerely

  
**WILLIAM HUGHES  
A/DIRECTOR  
MINERALS OPERATIONS**





Heritage Council



of New South Wales

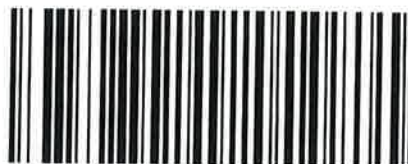
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Facsimile: 61 2 9873 8599

[heritage@heritage.nsw.gov.au](mailto:heritage@heritage.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.heritage.nsw.gov.au](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au)

Department of Planning  
Received  
27 SEP 2012  
Scanning Room



3U

Colin Phillips  
Senior Planner  
Major Projects  
GPO BOX 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Phillips

I refer to the letter received by the Heritage Branch (on behalf of the Heritage Council) from RPS requesting any comment the Heritage Branch may have on the Environmental Assessment (EA) currently on public exhibition for the Lidsdale Siding Coal Loader Upgrade Project (MP08\_0223). A copy of the EA and its associated appendices (including Appendix 14 – 'Cultural Heritage Assessment Lidsdale Siding Project' by RMS dated August 2012) was sent to the Heritage Branch by RPS on behalf of Centennial Coal.

It is noted that this project is for the upgrade of the Lidsdale Siding facility to improve its operational efficiency and increase its through put capacity to approximately 6.3 million tonnes per year.

Accordingly after review of the EA, the following comments are provided for your information:

1. The State Heritage Listed St. John the Evangelist Church (Item No. 1702) is located opposite the Lidsdale Siding facility and will not directly impacted by any of the works, but will be in view of the proposed works.
  - Based on the above, the Heritage Council recommends that additional visual screening (in the form of tree plantings) should be considered to shield the proposed works from St. John the Evangelist Church to ensure views from the Church are not impacted by the works.
2. A single item of historic heritage was found within the project area during the survey result – a concrete and wooden culvert. This culvert was not assessed as being of heritage significance.

While the Heritage Branch accepts the overall assessment of heritage significance for this item, it is noted that the text used within the Cultural Heritage Assessment report (page 48) to justify this assessment - that the item did not appear to be historically significant because it was not listed in a search on any heritage databases. In this regard, it should be noted that heritage databases are not complete and therefore an item not being listed does not mean that it is not significant, only that no one has recorded it before.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please feel free to contact Katrina Stankowski at [Katrina.Stankowski@heritage.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Katrina.Stankowski@heritage.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



24/09/2012

**Vincent Sicari**  
Manager – Conservation Team  
Heritage Branch  
Office of Environment & Heritage

**As Delegate of the NSW Heritage Council**



SRE  
Environment and Development

22 October 2012

Mr Colin Phillips  
Mining & Industry Projects  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Colin,

**MP 08\_0223 – LIDSDALE SIDING UPGRADE PROJECT**

Council thanks you for the opportunity to provide comment on the abovementioned project, and acknowledges that the project will provide a number of benefits and in particular will significantly improve noise outcomes in the locality.

Railway Crossings

Council acknowledges that the proposed increase in rail movements will have the potential to impact on traffic in Main Street and Brays Lane by up to 10 additional movements per day (4 movements being undertaken at present).

Council requests that the Proponent further consult with John Holland Pty Ltd and Lithgow City Council, and comply with any requirements in relation to the formation of an Interface Agreement. Such agreement may involve additional signage and /or upgrade of the existing level crossings on Brays Lane and Main Street, Wallerawang.

Community Contribution

Council is interested in a community contribution by way of a Voluntary Planning Agreement or otherwise, and is happy to discuss this with the Department and Centennial Coal Pty Ltd further.

Please do not hesitate to contact Skye Ellacott on (02) 6354 9991 in Council's Environment and Development Department should you have any queries in relation to this matter.

Yours faithfully

**Mr Andrew Muir**  
GROUP MANAGER ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT

(02) 6354 9999  
(02) 6351 4259

[www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au)  
[council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au)

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE  
TO GENERAL MANAGER  
PO BOX 19, LITHGOW NSW 2790







Department of  
Primary Industries



PCU039171

OUT12/26536

23 OCT 2012

Mr Colin Phillips  
Mining and Industry Projects  
NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Dear Mr Phillips

**Lidsdale Coal Loader Project (08\_0223)  
Response to exhibition of Environmental Assessment (EA)**

I refer to your email of 6 September 2012 requesting advice from the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in respect to the above matter.

Comment by NSW Office of Water

The project site is located on alluvium connected to Pipers Flat Creek, which has implications for site water management. The EA has identified existing licensed groundwater users in the broader study area. The Office of Water has identified Pipers Flat Creek as a groundwater dependent ecosystem because it is fed in part by groundwater.

It is noted that the proposed project has been designed to avoid significant impacts on surface water sources, connected groundwater sources and existing water users. Detailed comments on the proposed project and recommended conditions of approval are provided in Attachment A.

For further information please contact Elizabeth Cala, Planning and Assessment Coordinator (Newcastle office) on 4904 2533 or at: [elizabeth.cala@water.nsw.gov.au](mailto:elizabeth.cala@water.nsw.gov.au).

Comment by Agriculture NSW

Agriculture NSW notes that the EA has included a soils, land resources and agricultural assessment. Agriculture NSW raises no issues with this assessment and with the proposal generally.

For further information please contact Mary Kovac, Resource Management Officer (Dubbo office) on 68811250 or at: [mary.kovac@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mary.kovac@industry.nsw.gov.au).

Comment by Fisheries NSW

Fisheries NSW raises no issues with the proposal.

For further information please contact David Ward, Fisheries Conservation Manager (Tamworth office) on 6763 1255 or at: david.ward@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Other comment

It is noted that the proponent's existing site includes Crown roads, over which the proponent holds enclosure permits. However, the proposed works as identified in the environmental assessment do not affect or rely on these lands.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anquetil', written in a cursive style.

Phil Anquetil  
**Executive Director Business Services**

## Attachment A

### Lidsdale Coal Loader Project (08\_0223) Response to exhibition of Environmental Assessment (EA) Additional comments by NSW Office of Water

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#### 1. Water legislation and licence requirements

Section 5.2.7 of the EA incorrectly provides that, as no water sharing plan has commenced in the Project Site or broader study area, it is the provisions of the *Water Act 1912* that are relevant to the project with respect to potential licensing requirements.

The project site is within the Upper Nepean and Upstream Warragamba Water Source under the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2011* and the Sydney Basin Coxs River Groundwater Source under the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2011*. These water sharing plans commenced in 1 July 2011. Accordingly, the provisions of the *Water Management Act 2000* are relevant to the proposed project. In addition, some provisions of the *Water Act 1912* also remain relevant to the proposed project.

The EA describes that dewatering of the excavation for the reclaim tunnel will be required during construction. If the proposed project is approved, any dewatering undertaken in the course of construction must be appropriately authorised by a water access licence under the *Water Management Act 2000*. Also, the excavation for the reclaim tunnel must be authorised by a Part 5 licence under the *Water Act 1912*.

The EA describes that dewatering of the excavation for the reclaim tunnel is predicted to impact on base-flow contributions to Pipers Flat Creek, with a maximum residual loss of 0.2m<sup>3</sup>/day. If the proposed project is approved, any loss of base-flows should be offset by the retirement of sufficient water entitlement to account for the loss attributable to the project.

#### 2. Water management plans

The EA describes that a detailed site water management plan and groundwater management plan will be prepared prior to construction and operational activities as part of the mitigation measures for impacts on surface and groundwater sources. If the proposed project is approved, the Office of Water should be consulted on the development of these plans.

#### 3. Groundwater dependent ecosystems

The EA describes that no groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) were identified during a field inspection undertaken in December 2011. The *NSW State Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Policy (2002)* provides that ecosystems which are dependent on groundwater include ecosystems in streams fed by groundwater. The EA describes that Pipers Flat Creek is fed in part by groundwater. Accordingly, it is considered that Pipers Flat Creek is a facultative GDE. If the proposed project is approved, this should be considered in the groundwater management plan.

#### 4. Monitoring bore BH04/MW04

The EA describes that all 6 monitoring bores have been installed in shallow alluvium. The monitoring well log for BH04/MW04 shows that this bore is partly screened in the underlying weathered bedrock. This should be taken into account in the interpretation of monitoring results.

## 5. Recommended conditions of approval

If the proposed project is approved, the Office of Water recommends the following conditions of approval:

### Water supply

- The Proponent shall ensure that:
  - i. all water supplies for construction and operations are sourced from an authorised and reliable supply,
  - ii. the taking of water for purposes other than water supply, such as dewatering during construction, is appropriately authorised, and
  - iii. the Proponent has sufficient water for all stages of the project and, if necessary, adjust the scale of operations to match its water supply.

### Base-flow offsets

- The Proponent shall formulate a method to offset the measureable loss of base-flows to watercourses caused by the project in consultation with the Office of Water. Offsets should be provided by the retirement of adequate water entitlements to account for the loss attributable to the project.

### Site water management plan

- The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Site Water Management Plan. This Plan must be developed in consultation with the Office of Water and include:
  - i. a Site Water Balance,
  - ii. a Surface Water Monitoring Program, and
  - iii. an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.
- The Site Water Balance must include details of:
  - i. sources and security of water supply,
  - ii. water use on site,
  - iii. water management on site, and
  - iv. procedures for reporting to the Office of Water regarding site water balance inflows and outflows.
- The Surface Water Monitoring Program must include:
  - i. detailed baseline data of surface water flows and quality,
  - ii. surface water impact assessment criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse surface water impacts,
  - iii. a program to monitor surface water flows and water quality in Pipers Flat Creek, and
  - iv. a protocol for the investigation and mitigation of identified exceedences of the surface water impact assessment criteria.

### Groundwater management plan

- The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Groundwater Management Plan. This Plan must be developed in consultation with the Office of Water and include:
  - i. detailed baseline data on groundwater levels and quality,
  - ii. groundwater impact assessment criteria, including trigger levels based on analysis of baseline data for investigating any potentially adverse groundwater impacts,
  - iii. a program to monitor the rate and quality of groundwater inflows to the reclaim tunnel,
  - iv. a program to monitor groundwater dependent ecosystems in the project area, and
  - v. a protocol for the investigation and mitigation of identified exceedences of the groundwater impact assessment criteria.

**End Attachment A**

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Department of  
Primary Industries

OUT12/31672

11 DEC 2012

Ms Ruth Murphy  
Mining & Industry Projects  
NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Ruth.Murphy@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Murphy,

**Lidsdale Coal Loader Project (MP 08\_0223)  
Comment on the Response to Submissions Report**

I refer to your email of 3 December 2012 to the Department of Primary Industries in respect to the above matter.

Comment by NSW Office of Water

The detailed comments provided by the Office of Water in Attachment A to the Department of Primary Industries response dated 23 October 2012 to the exhibition of the Environmental Assessment have not been addressed in the proponent's Response to Submissions.

Due to the implications of these comments with specific regard to existing Water Sharing Plans and the predicted impact to baseflow in Pipers Flat Creek, it is advised the proponent should provide further information and commitments on how these issues will be addressed.

For further information please contact Elizabeth Cala, Planning and Assessment Coordinator (Newcastle Office) on 4904 2533 or at: [elizabeth.cala@water.nsw.gov.au](mailto:elizabeth.cala@water.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Anquetil'.

Phil Anquetil  
**Executive Director Business Services**

NSW Department of Primary Industries  
Level 6, 201 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
PO Box K220, Haymarket NSW 1240

Tel: 02 8289 3999 Fax: 02 9286 3208 [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au) ABN: 72 189 919 072



## Colin Phillips - Submission Details for Roger TAIG (comments)

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**From:** Roger TAIG <rogertaig@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <Colin.Phillips@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** Monday, 17 September 2012 11:25 AM  
**Subject:** Submission Details for Roger TAIG (comments)  
**CC:** <assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au>

---

✕ Department of

Confidentiality Requested: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Roger TAIG  
Email: rogertaig@yahoo.com.au

Address:  
1148

Portland, NSW  
2847

**Content:**

As indicated i live in Portland with my family and my property backs onto the rail line some 400 to 500 metres south of the level rail crossing in East Portland. We have lived here for about 7 years and in that time i have heard many coal trains both loaded and unloaded pass by. As such i have noted that south bound trains when loaded are on occasions very noisy as the driver drives the battery charging motors hard right up through the East Portland crossing and on past my place. Conversely i have heard many other loaded coal trains pass by with relatively minor noise levels with the driver backing off the motors, which pays great dividends in the quiet enjoyment of life. I would submit that the training and skills of the train drivers in this regard could have a great impact on addressing this concern.

The other issue i want to raise is the dangers posed with greater train movements across the level crossings at Portland/Cullen Bullen Road, East Portland and Pipers Flat Road at Wallerawang. As would be expected greater train movements would mean more frequent road closures, which while may be an added inconvenience to regular road users poses a significant concern to emergency services vehicles servicing the communities of Capertee, Cullen Bullen, Portland, Wallerawang and Lidsdale. Of particular concern is the Pipers Flat road level crossing, where on occasion the trains have actually come to a stop and have remained stationary for several minutes. This level crossing impacts on the main route used from Lithgow to Portland with ambulances often making these emergency runs to assist an elderly population in Portland. Whilst there are three alternate routes to get to Portland once you have committed to a particular route the time taken to get to an alternate route may be the difference of providing emergency help or not.

I would greatly appreciate these issues being given due consideration as the project moves forward.

Please don't hesitate to contact me, should you need any further information.

IP Address: 89.161.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.161.89  
Submission: Online Submission from Roger TAIG (comments)  
[https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view\\_diary&id=41745](https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_diary&id=41745)

Submission for Job: #2709 Siding Upgrade Project  
[https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view\\_job&id=2709](https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_job&id=2709)

Site: #1716 Lidsdale Siding  
[https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view\\_site&id=1716](https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_site&id=1716)

**Roger TAIG**

E : rogertaig@yahoo.com.au

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