



Ms Lynelle Briggs
Chair - Planning Assessment Commission
GPO Box 3415
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms Briggs

Crayfish Deposit Extension (DA 251-09-01 MOD 9)

The Department has now completed its assessment of the merits of a modification to the Ginkgo Mineral Sands Mine known as the "Crayfish Extension".

The mine is owned and operated by Cristal Mining Pty Ltd and is located approximately 170 km south of Broken Hill in far western NSW within the Wentworth Local Government Area.

The application is being referred to the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) for determination as a result of an objection from Wentworth Shire Council. I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report and associated documents for the PAC's consideration.

I note that there were no public submissions received by the Department in regard to the modification, and none of the NSW Government agencies have objected to the proposal.

I also note that the Department expects to finalise its assessment of another modification application to Cristal's nearby Snapper Mineral Sands Mine in early January 2015. Council has objected to this application and hence it will also be forwarded to the PAC for determination.

Given the similarities in the issues raised by Council on both applications, I believe it would be an efficient use of the PAC's resources to consider both applications together.

The Crayfish application has been the subject of lengthy consultation with Wentworth Shire Council over a 2 year period and I believe the PAC would benefit from a detailed briefing from relevant Departmental officers prior to making its determination.

Finally, it would be appreciated if the PAC makes its determination by 20 February 2015.

For further information, or to arrange a briefing, please contact Mike Young, Manager Mining Projects, on 9228 2091.

Yours sincerely

Marcus Ray
A/Deputy Secretary
Planning Services

19/12/14