

## Jorge Van Den Brande

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**From:** Chris Lauritzen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 July 2018 11:42 AM  
**To:** Jorge Van Den Brande  
**Cc:** David Koppers  
**Subject:** FW: Mount Pleasant Operation - Modification 3

Dear Jorge,

MACH Energy notes that the Department of Planning and Environment recently sought clarification from NSW Health as to whether it has any residual concerns regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation Modification 3 proposal.

NSW Health's response dated 11 July 2018 that is available on the IPC website indicates that its previous concerns regarding air quality have been suitably addressed. However, it raises some residual concerns with respect to surface water and potable water as follows:

### **Surface Water**

*With regards Modification 3, we raised concerns regarding potential impacts on the Muswellbrook town water supply from extraction from and discharge to the Hunter River by the project. In the RTS for Modification 3 the proponent clarified that the current location of the water pipeline was significantly downstream of the town water supply offtake and unlikely to have any impact.*

*However, the proponent has since submitted another modification for approval (Modification 4), which changes the location of this pipeline, making it much closer to the town water supply offtake. Due to the close proximity, we seek clarification from the proponent regarding how the discharges and extraction of water at the proposed new location may impact on the Muswellbrook town water supply, particularly during periods of low flow in the river.*

### **Potable Water**

*In the EA and RTS the proponent stated that, as an alternative to treating Hunter River water to potable standard, they could source potable water from a reputable accredited supplier. Further information provided by the proponent indicates that the pipeline which would extract the water from the river for treatment to potable standards is bi-directional and would also be used to discharge surplus water from the site. Due to the unknown quality of water being discharged via this pipeline, and the risk of contamination, it would be preferable if the proponent opted for an approved potable water carter to supply treated water for potable purposes.*

MACH Energy would like to clarify the following with respect to these additional comments from NSW Health:

- MACH Energy's application to duplicate the approved Hunter River water supply pump station and associated water pipeline is contained in Modification 4, and is therefore not a component of the Modification 3 proposal that is currently before the IPC;
- a response to NSW Health's concerns regarding the future controlled water release system is provided on Page 17 of the Modification 4 Response to Submissions document (available on the NSW Major Projects website); and
- flows in the Hunter River are highly regulated via the Glenbawn and Glennies Creek Dams, Mount Pleasant Operation water extraction is undertaken in accordance with the relevant Hunter River water access licenses as administered by the NSW Government.

Regards

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