

Dennis Lee

From: Geoff Moore [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 29 August 2019 8:38 AM
To: Dennis Lee
Subject: Notes from Site Visit to Rix's Creek South Mine

Dear Dennis

In relation to the 'Notes from Site Visit' that has been posted on the IPCN website under Rix's Creek South Continuation of Mining Project SSD 6300, we believe there a couple of points that need to be clarified/corrected.

- First dot point under Stop 1 – *The Commission viewed the rehabilitated woodland that would be re-disturbed under Option 1 for the Western Overburden Emplacement Area (OEA). The area is woodland, with native grassland towards the middle where the canopy opens up.* The rehabilitated woodland that was inspected was on the North Pit dump not the Western Overburden Emplacement Area. Perhaps this was meant to read "in place of" after Option 1.
- Second dot point under Stop 1 – *The Applicant stated the rehabilitated woodland is now an established woodland with natural processes taking place. It is attracting species and there is secondary recruitment of species in the form of ants, earthworms and dung beetles.* The reference to earthworms and dung beetles was in relation to field testing of an area that is currently being grazed. The grazing area was not inspected on the day. There has not been any field analysis completed in the Stop 1 area to be able to state that earthworms and dung beetles are present at the inspected site. The secondary recruitment of species referred to establishment of eucalypt and acacia trees which have grown from seed derived from the planted woodland. The reference to ants, marsupials and birds was from evidence observed such as white ant nests, meat ant nests, kangaroo tracks and scats observed.
- Third dot point under Stop 2 – *The Applicant stated that there are better biodiversity outcomes with re-disturbing the north pit dump rehabilitation area, and not disturbing the proposed western out of pit dump area. This area is habitat for squirrel glider.* It was noted that the biodiversity offsets (credits) involved with re-disturbing the north pit dump rehabilitation area (for both Option 1 and Option 2) were less than those required for the Western Overburden Emplacement area . We did not state that the Stop 2 area was a habitat for the squirrel glider.
- Fourth dot point under Stop 2 – *The Applicant stated that noise and dust operational impacts are the same for using the north and south pit dumps only, or using the western out of pit dump as well.* It was noted that the noise and dust impact assessments were essentially the same for Option 1, Option 2 and the EIS. Operational impacts relating to noise and dust would be dependent primarily on meteorological conditions for different dump locations and levels.

Can you please also add Chris Quinn (Environmental Advisor) to the list of attendees.

Regards



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