



3 February 2025

NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcey Street PARRAMATTA NSW 2150 Via DPHI Portal

Dear Steve,

Cadia Continued Operations Project (Gateway Application GA 74105711) – Notification of amendments to the project design and associated disturbance area.

This correspondence has been prepared to provide the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel an update on the key changes to the Cadia Continued Operations Project (CCOP) since the determination of the Gateway Application (GA 74105711), being:

- the removal of the South Water Storage (SWS); and
- minor refinements to infrastructure layouts and the associated disturbance area for CCOP.

Following an assessment of the Gateway Application against the relevant criteria set out in Section 2.31 of the Resources State Environmental Planning Policy, on 25 October 2024, the Gateway Panel issued a Conditional Gateway Certificate and an accompanying Conditional Gateway Certificate Report.

Since the Gateway Application was submitted and receipt of the Gateway Panel determination, Cadia has continued to look for opportunities to minimise the impacts of CCOP which directly respond to information obtained through ongoing survey efforts and/or community consultation undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for CCOP.

This has subsequently resulted in some minor changes to the design of the CCOP (i.e. project description and layout) and prompted the need to seek an amendment to the Gateway Certificate in accordance with section 2.35 of the Resources SEPP.

Project Design changes

Removal of the SWS

Following lodgement of GA 74105711, further detailed field investigations and technical studies, CHPL has identified additional opportunities to reduce the CCOP disturbance footprint and improve social and environmental outcomes by removing the SWS and the associated infrastructure. The SWS was initially proposed to support water supplies over the CCOP mine life.

The removal of SWS from the CCOP therefore eliminates:

- all disturbance area impacts associated with this element (e.g. potential impacts relating to water, biodiversity, heritage, agricultural and visual amenity); and
- all amenity impacts associated with the construction of the SWS, (e.g. noise and blasting impacts).

Cadia will continue to minimise its operational water demands by reusing water held within the mine's existing surface water management system. Consistent with the existing approved operations, additional water demands would be sourced from the Cadiangullong Dam, Flyers Creek Weir, Cadia Creek Weir, the Belubula River, on-site groundwater bores and treated municipal wastewater. As part Newmont's commitment to minimise operational water usage, further studies into the optimisation of water use on site will continue throughout the Project life.





Refinement to infrastructure Layouts

Since the submission of the Gateway Application, Cadia has continued to progress with detailed design of the supporting infrastructure for CCOP and has identified opportunities to further refine the project design associated with the Panuara Road realignment and the STSFX and associated infrastructure.

These changes have resulted from the incorporation of community feedback into these project elements and caused a refinement (and reduction) in the proposed disturbance area.

The change in additional disturbance associated with the CCOP from Gateway Application (GA 74105711) to current as part of this amendment is shown in **Figure 1**.

All other aspects of the CCOP remain as outlined in the Gateway Application (GA 74105711).

Update on concurrent CCOP Planning Processes

We have also referred the CCOP to the Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water (DCCEEW). The EPBC Referral is consistent with the project as described within this letter and is currently under assessment. Cadia requested that the CCOP be assessed under the NSW/Commonwealth Bilateral Agreement, subject to DCCEEW's confirmation of a controlled action decision and issuing of amended SEARS by the Department.

It is expected that a controlled action decision will be made by DCCEEW in the coming week.

Consideration of Gateway Certificate Recommendations to Revised Project

These changes have resulted in some minor adjustments to the total hectares (i.e. a Gateway Disturbance Area reduction of 152 ha [down from 1253ha]) and verified BSAL (i.e. an increase of 33 ha [from 378ha]), that is proposed to be impacted by the CCOP. Importantly however, it does not change the general nature of the existing soil landscapes or the likely impacts of the CCOP on agricultural resources.

A review of the Conditional Gateway Certificate Recommendations in the context of the amended Project Description and its anticipated impacts has also been completed. Importantly, the amended Project Description and GAA do not manifestly change the nature of the proposed activities under CCOP. Cadia has therefore concluded that the Conditional Gateway Certificate Recommendations are applicable to the amended application and therefore seeks that these be carried forward unchanged.

Request

We request that the Department review the Amendment Memorandum and provide an updated Conditional Gateway Certificate and/or confirm that the current Gateway Certificate Recommendation be applied.

Should you require any further information or would like to discuss further please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Rodney Williams

Manager Approvals & Permitting

Cadia Holdings Pty Limited

