

Coonabarabran:
14-22 John Street
Coonabarabran NSW 2357
PO Box 191
Coonabarabran NSW 2357



Calls from within Shire
1300 795 099
Calls from outside Shire area
Coonabarabran:
02 6849 2000
Coolah: 02 6378 5000
Fax: 02 6842 1337
Email:
info@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au

ABN: 63 348 671 239

Coonabarabran - Coolah - Dunedoo - Baradine - Binnaway - Mendooran

Please address all mail to:
The General Manager

Please refer enquiries to: **Leeanne Ryan**
Doc ID 190106

11 March 2024

Mr James McDonough
Environmental Assessment Officer
Energy, Resources & Industry Assessments
Department of Planning & Environment
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

james.mcdonough@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear James,

Liverpool Range Quarry (SSD-68063715) – Council Input to the SEARs

Thank you for the invitation for Warrumbungle Shire Council ('WSC') to provide input to the SEARs for the above-mentioned proposed project.

Outlined below are WSC's requirements.

1. Developer Dialogue with Warrumbungle Shire Council

- a) Frequent and ongoing dialogue;
- b) Especially to discuss details pertaining to roads and traffic, a planning agreement and the other matters raised herein. WSC requests ARDG Deans Quarry Pty Limited (the proponent), meet with WSC by end March to introduce itself, outline the proposal and to learn of WSC's requirements.

2. EIS Content

- a) Council expects the EIS to contain robust, definitive details pertaining to the scope and extent of the project and the likely environmental, social and economic benefits and costs to Warrumbungle LGA residents and ratepayers. Including clear definition as to who reaps the benefits and who bears the costs?
- b) A clear outline of what the material will be used for – meaning besides Liverpool Range Wind Farm – what other project/s will the material be used for? The wording around Ancillary works in the Scoping Report is confusing and not clear.
- c) A comprehensive and detailed assessment of cumulative impacts, given the dozen or so other major developments in Warrumbungle and Upper Hunter LGAs (over and above emissions and biodiversity) including water, roads and traffic as a minimum.

3. Impacts of Traffic on Local Roads – Both Upper Hunter LGA and Warrumbungle LGA

- a) Full details of specified limits of the quarry development by time and by tonnage;

- b) A new, focussed Roads and Traffic Impact Assessment, with new and updated modelling, as distinct from the data provided under the banner of the Liverpool Range Wind Farm Modification Amendments 1 and 2;
- c) Detailed discussions and agreement with Upper Hunter and Warrumbungle Shire Councils regarding use, upgrades and maintenance provision of local roads and bridges, causeways, etc in their LGAs;
- d) Full details of the expected heavy and light vehicle movements (light, heavy, OSOM, etc) into and out of the quarry site during construction, operations and decommissioning.
- e) Full details of the expected annual tonnage of the different types of product to be transported from the quarry site during its operational life and the size and type of vehicle to be used to haul the material;
- f) Full details of the likely destination points for the quarry materials and which roads will be used to haul the materials and for what duration and during which calendar period;
- g) Full description and transparent and robust details of the assumptions behind the above calculations, in terms of industry-standard metrics (e.g. Austroads Equivalent Standard Axle Loads);
- h) Full details of the site water balance (e.g. for gravel conditioning, dust suppression, washing, process water, personnel use etc.), including quantities of water to be imported and exported by public roads and the types of vehicles that would be used;
- i) Full details of the likely cumulative road and traffic impacts as a consequence of coinciding with other major developments in Upper Hunter and Warrumbungle Shires;
- j) Full description of proposed road and intersection upgrades to be undertaken and funded by the Developer prior to commencement of construction and make good provisions post construction. Must be clear evidence of close collaboration and agreement with Local Councils on same;
- k) Full description of proposed road maintenance to be funded by the Developer throughout life of the project, including before, during and after construction, operations and decommissioning. Must be clear evidence of close collaboration and agreement with Local Councils on same;
- l) Full details on the impacts on local school bus runs, local residences located near impacted roads (noise and dust safeguards) and, inter alia, harvest season traffic, etc;
- m) Full details regarding a dedicated weighbridge for logging of all loads;
- n) Full details of the compliance audit program to be implemented to verify tonnage movements and to share same with Upper Hunter and Warrumbungle Councils; and
- o) Full details on any other relevant roading matters.

4. Water Supply

- a) How much is required? Full details behind how the quantity is determined;
- b) Source? Licensing status;
- c) If groundwater, what drawdown on bores within 2 kms radius;
- d) Haulage: number of movements during construction, refurbishment and decommissioning phases including routes and truck size.

5. Solid & Liquid Waste Management

- a) Full details of types and quantities of solid and liquid waste;
- b) Where waste is to be disposed/recycled? Note: WSC does not have the facilities to accept any project waste.

6. Construction Timetable

- a) When might construction might begin and full details of which other projects may also be in the construction phase at the same time.

7. Construction Workers

- a) The number and duration of construction workers. Where to be housed? Full details regarding Temporary Worker Accommodation, including site, design, fire safety, facility security, gatehouse, wet mess, roads to be used by workers, buses to convey workers;
- b) What proportion of workers to be locals? Explanation and rationale for that proportion;
- c) Full details on traineeships and apprenticeships for locals.

8. Bushfire Management

- a) Detailed provisions regarding stop work rules during extreme fire danger periods;
- b) Mandatory firefighting trailers at all construction sites and at the Temporary Worker Accommodation

9. Social Impacts across Upper Hunter LGA and Warrumbungle LGA: Costs & Benefits

- a) Impacts on provision of medical services, emergency services (police, ambulance, etc), public amenities, pre-schools, hospitals, recreation facilities, local service suppliers, etc, etc.

10. Planning Agreement

- a) WSC requires a planning agreement to be secured with it by the Developer;
- b) The Key Terms for the planning agreement must be settled between the Parties before the EIS is completed and placed on exhibition.

11. Cumulative Impacts: Costs & Benefits

This item might be listed last however is an absolutely critical matter that WSC requires to be comprehensively addressed.

This proposed project is one of more than a dozen proposed SSD projects in Upper Hunter LGA and Warrumbungle LGA. WSC requires robust and transparent details regarding the impacts of this project, together with the likely cumulative environmental, social and economic impacts arising from its interaction with other SSD projects.

The EIS is to document full details of likely impacts on Council's road assets, local communities and local traffic. Council requires a complete picture on the likely heavy and light vehicle movements on its roads and full details of the funding for ongoing road maintenance to be paid by the Developer for the life of the Project. There must be demonstrative evidence that such costs will not be outsourced to local ratepayers.

If there are any queries in relation to the above, please contact Council on 02 68 49200. Council looks forward to a meeting with the Senior Management of ARDG Deans Quarry Pty Limited as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



**LINDSAY MASON
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**