

258.5395 09/7; C10/1025

Senior Planner
Energy and Water
Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

Mt Piper Ash Placement Project; Lithgow Local Government Area; 09_0186

Thank you for your letter dated 8 September 2010 referring the Environmental Assessment for the Mt Piper Ash Placement Project (EA) to the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) for consideration.

The RTA notes that:

- The EA is for:
 - Concept approval and project approval for the proposed sites described as Lamberts North and Lamberts South; and
 - Concept approval for the proposed sites described as Neubecks Creek and Ivanhoe No. 4.
- It is yet to be determined whether the sites at Neubecks Creek and Ivanhoe No. 4 will be required, and if they are required it will not be for an estimated 16 years at minimum.
- Traffic generated by the project will be limited to the construction phase as the ash placement facilities will not impact the operational capacity of the power station.

Following review of the EA the RTA does not object to concept approval for the Lamberts North and Lamberts South part of the project but makes the following submissions regarding project approval for that part of the project:

- While the EA states that the impact on the road network will be minimal in terms of traffic volumes generated during the construction phase there is no detailed information regarding the quantity and nature of the traffic that will be generated.
- Before project approval for Lamberts North and Lamberts South detailed information should be provided setting out:
 - The nature of the traffic generated that will access public roads during the construction phase including materials, equipment and waste transport traffic.
 - The respective traffic volumes.
 - The hourly distribution of traffic. This information is required to validate the assertion in the EA that any traffic generated will not impact adversely on the road network. The information should be referred to the RTA for comment prior to project approval.

Roads and Traffic Authority

The RTA does not object to concept plan approval for the Neubecks Creek and Ivanhoe No. 4 part of the project subject to the following submissions, should project approval be sought:

- Detailed information should be provided setting out:
 - o The nature of the traffic generated that will access public roads during the construction phase including materials, equipment and waste transport traffic.
 - o The respective traffic volumes.
 - o The hourly distribution of traffic.
- Should the Castlereagh Highway be connected to or traversed by any means including a private access, private haul road or conveyor system RTA concurrence will be required under Section 138 of the *Roads Act 1993*. In order for concurrence to be given detailed information will be required regarding the nature of the access, the volumes and the nature of any traffic generation during both the construction and the operational phase.
- On provision of the requisite information the RTA will assess whether or not a Traffic Management Plan (TMP), Vehicle Movement Plan (VMP), Works Authorisation Deed (WAD), Road Occupancy Licence (ROL) or any other road safety or traffic management measure is required.

The RTA also draws to your attention that this project was not referred to it as a relevant public authority for the identification of issues prior to the preparation of the Director General's requirements. When the RTA is not provided with an opportunity for input into the Director General's requirements there is a risk that the EA will not address key road safety and traffic management issues that may have otherwise been addressed and dealt with at an earlier stage. In this instance the further details requested regarding traffic generation could have been easily dealt with in the EA had the project been previously referred to the RTA. Please ensure that any future applications for concept plan or project approval that: are adjacent to or in close proximity to a classified road; will generate any traffic during the construction or operational phase; or, would otherwise require concurrence or submissions from the RTA under the *Roads Act 1993*, *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*, *State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007* or *State Environmental Planning Policy – No 64 Advertising and Signage* are referred to the RTA under section 75F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Should you have any further enquiries please contact Susie Mackay (02) 6861 1688.

Yours faithfully



Tony Hendry
Road Safety and Traffic Manager
Western

8 OCT 2010