

310-00074



## Department of Primary Industries

Our Ref: 11/00159

The General Manager  
Cobar Shire Council  
PO Box 223  
COBAR NSW 2835

Attention Mr Garry Ryman

### Notice of Application to Modify Development Consent Wonawinta Silver Project

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the application to modify Development Consent 2010/LD-00074 for the above mentioned project.

I have the following comments to make:

#### Water pipeline between the mine site and the "Wirlong" (WLL 6239) property

I refer to my letter of 23 March 2011 (copy enclosed) and reiterate that where the pipeline traverses Crown land held under a Western Lands Lease it should be authorised by the grant of a Crown land licence from the Crown Lands Division of the Department of Primary Industries, with the consent of the registered lessee. The applicant must apply for and obtain a Licence prior to the construction and operation of the pipeline.

#### The sourcing of water for the mine project from a ground water sources on the "Wirlong" property.

Prior to the construction of a water bore on "Wirlong", the applicant will require authority to occupy the Crown land, again with the consent of the registered lessee of Western Lands Lease 6239. It may be possible to authorise the occupation of Crown land by both the water bore and pipeline in the one Crown land licence.

#### The winning of gravel from the identified mining area for road construction.

The Crown Lands Division also considers gravel to be a valuable rehabilitation resource and consideration should be given as to whether road construction is the best and highest use of this resource.

If you have and queries regarding this correspondence please contact Amanda Beetson on phone 02 6883 5402 or email [amanda.beetson@lands.nsw.gov.au](mailto:amanda.beetson@lands.nsw.gov.au)

  
Shaun Barker  
Group Leader – Natural Resources and Property Management

15 November 2011

NSW Department of Primary Industries  
Crown Lands Division – Far West Area  
45 Wingewarra Street, Dubbo NSW 2830  
PO Box 1840, Dubbo, NSW 2830  
Tel: 02 6883 5400 Fax: 02 6884 2067

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Department of  
Primary Industries

Reference: DOC11/147209

General Manager  
Cobar Shire Council  
PO Box 223  
COBAR NSW 2830

Attention: Mr Garry Ryan  
Director- Planning and Environmental Services

**SUBJECT: Final Comments on Application to Modify Development  
Consent 2010/LD-00074 (Wonawinta Silver Mine)**

Dear Garry,

I refer to your email (dated 02/12/2011) requesting that the Department of Primary Industries (Catchments and Lands Division) review the application to Modify Development Consent 2010/LD-00074 (being the Wonawinta Silver Mine) in light of CCR Ltd's response to Council's request for further information.

Water pipeline between Wonawinta Silver Mine and 'Wirlong' (WLL 6239- Lot 3633 in DP 766015) and sourcing of water from 'Wirlong'

I can confirm that the Department is in receipt of an application for Crown Lands Licence 491545, which (if granted) will authorise the construction and operation of a pipeline, bore sites and access across 'Wirlong'. Licence 491545 is in the process of being assessed, and as such has not been determined.

Winning of Gravel for Road Construction

While the Department accepts the response from CCR Ltd to the Department's comments, it is noted that CCR Ltd (in its response to Cobar Shire Council's Engineering Staff) suggests that, should material from the mine pit prove unsuitable for road construction, sources external to the site will be utilised.

CCR Ltd must ensure that any material sourced externally is from a quarry that has a current Crown Lands Licence for 'Extractive Industries'.

If a new site is to be used, CCR Ltd will be required to obtain a Crown Lands Licence prior to any extraction occurring. Given that an application for a Crown Lands Licence is highly likely to require additional environmental assessment (including a local Aboriginal heritage inspection and associated report, and written correspondence from the Western Catchment Management Authority if an approved Property Vegetation Plan is needed or not), it is strongly recommended that CCR Ltd commence this process as soon as possible.

For any further enquiries about this letter, please contact myself on 02 6883 5411 (phone) or [shaun.barker@lands.nsw.gov.au](mailto:shaun.barker@lands.nsw.gov.au) (email).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shaun Barker', followed by a horizontal line.

Shaun Barker  
Group Leader- Natural Resources and Property Services  
Far West Area, West Region  
Catchment and Lands Division

8 December 2011



Department of  
Primary Industries

Reference: DOC11/149452

General Manager  
Cobar Shire Council  
PO Box 223  
COBAR NSW 2830

Attention: Mr Gary Ryan, Director- Planning and Environmental Services

**SUBJECT: Confirmation of Final Comments on Application to Modify  
Development Consent 2010/LD-00074 (Wonawinta Silver Mine)**

Dear Gary,

I refer to our phone conversation this morning and my letter (dated 08/12/2011) to Council regarding the Department of Primary Industries (Catchments and Lands Division) final comments on the application to modify Development Consent 2010/LD-00074 (being the Wonawinta Silver Mine) in light of CCR Ltd's response request for further information.

Winning of Gravel for Road Construction

I can confirm that any material obtained from the mine pit for use during road construction and maintenance does not require an extractive industries licence from the Department under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. However, any material sourced externally from the mine site must be from a quarry that has a current Crown Lands Licence for 'Extractive Industries'.

However, I would like to reiterate that, should material from the mine pit prove unsuitable for road construction, sources external to the site will be utilised. CCR Ltd must ensure that this material is sourced from a quarry that has a current Crown Lands Licence for 'Extractive Industries'.

Please note that, while such material can be used during road construction, the Department does not and cannot ensure that any of the material is suitable for this use and/or is free from contamination. Furthermore, the Department cannot ensure that any construction or maintenance on both public roads (such as Shire Roads 13 and 14) and private access tracks is to an appropriate standard. As such, it is the strong recommendation of the Department that both Council and CCR be aware of each party's legal obligations, construction and maintenance responsibilities, and liabilities (such as contamination issues) when it comes to the use of the extracted material.

Please contact me if needed on 02 6883 5411 (phone) or [shaun.barker@lands.nsw.gov.au](mailto:shaun.barker@lands.nsw.gov.au) (email).

Yours sincerely,

Shaun Barker  
Group Leader- Natural Resources and Property Services  
Far West Area, West Region, Catchment and Lands Division

14 December 2011