ADDITIONAL INFORMATION POST PANEL BRIEFING ON 11 MAY 2020

A briefing meeting was held between panel member and Council's independent planning consultant, Mr Ian Graham at 11am on 11 May 2020. At that briefing the panel members requested some additional clarification around the following matters:

- Truck movements through the site, including from and to the stockpile area – the noise, dust, volumes and visual aspects;
- The amount from the stockpile that will be removed by Council – rate of removal; how often, in what volumes, over what period;
- The progressive treatment of the stockpile area as material is removed to control dust, weeds, erosion, vegetation cover, bushfire, etc;
- Assessment of the cumulative impact of truck movements for both the landfilling and stockpile area;
- Timeframes for excavation of material to create the quarry void for landfilling – projected commencement date, length of time, controls to ensure that total volumes as conditioned by the EPA are not exceeded;
- Deposition rates of material – there was a question that suggested the volumes and truck movements did not add up – the annual volume is 60,000 tonnes and when taken over 5 days for 48 weeks (assumptions of course) assumes 250 tonnes per day. Over an 8-hour working day that is approximately 31 tonnes per hour
- Some submissions referred to a public meeting and clarification is sought as to the public consultation that was undertaken by the applicant (outside of the formal legislative process). Where there any community meetings, individual visits to residences/residents, flyers, letterbox drops, etc?
- Any consultation with the local Aboriginal community (both by the applicant and Council);
- Where is the clay for the lining of the quarry void to be sourced, given that by the very nature of the gravel material and its suitability for use as gravel, would suggest that it is not high in clay content;
- Where is the topsoil to be used for the rehabilitation to come from, site visits suggest that there is very little in the way of topsoil stockpile and no opportunity to garner enough topsoil from the site to adequately facilitate rehabilitation;
- There is no mention of landscaping to the stockpile area to visually screen it from residences and road users.

<u>Truck Movements</u>

Truck movements to the stockpile site were not included in the overall traffic assessment and therefore not included in the report. The excavation of the quarry void is expected to take two weeks. This material will be stockpiled as indicated in the EIS in the south west corner of Lot 10. The movement of vehicles through the site during this period is expected to be extensive in regularity, noise, dust and vibration. The applicant will be required to implement dust suppression measures during this period to minimise the impact on air quality. Furthermore, limited operational hours will restrict the impact to daylight hours. It is expected that due to the location of the stockpile area, close to the boundary, that there is little opportunity for visual screening. The stockpile has been nominated for location in this area due to the existence of vegetation of biodiversity significance elsewhere on the site.

<u>Rate of Removal by Council</u>

Material stockpiled from the quarry void is to be utilised by Council for ongoing road works. Due to the nature of the works that require gravel it is difficult to predict with certainty total daily truck

movements. Information from Council's engineering staff indicate that the material would typically be moved by a combination of Council's own vehicles, truck and dog combination and contractors working with Council on roadwork projects. Typically, there are three trucks involved in Council roadwork operations.

It is estimated, by Council, that the maximum amount that would be hauled out of the pit in any given day, during roadworks construction periods, would be in the vicinity of 500 tonnes. This would equate to a maximum daily vehicle return rate would be 32 truck movements by a maximum of three vehicles. Truck movements estimated are counted as one movement in and another movement out. Whilst that is the maximum amount possible per day, the resources of the stockpile are only likely to be five times in any one year. The duration of use of the gravel from this area would only be a short window of operations in the order of one or two weeks at a time. The truck movements associated with the removal of graved from the stockpiled area would only occur during the approved and authorised operational hours. Typically, this would be approximately 50 days in any 365-day period. Overall, it is considered that this would not adversely impact on the road conditions or users due to the limited time period. Similarly, whilst the stockpile use may be intense during removal times, the length of time the intensity is experienced is extremely limited.

Stockpile Treatment

The applicant has indicated that the stockpile area will be subject to ongoing hydroseeding. This would have the benefit of blending the stockpile into the natural environment as well as stabilising during removal operations. The applicant will be required to implement an ongoing hydroseeding and vegetation maintenance program. This shall be submitted and approved by Council prior to the commencement of operations on site.

Cumulative Impact of Truck Movements

The cumulative impact of truck movements through the site were considered in Section 10 of the EIS. It was determined, when averaged over a year, the cumulative impact of the stockpile removal and deposit of material to the site were not dissimilar to the truck impacts as assessed. Further discussion in this regard has been provided elsewhere in this report.

Extraction Timeframe

The applicant has indicated that they wish to commence excavation operations as soon as possible. The extraction of the quarry void would take approximately two weeks to complete.

Volumes and Rate of Waste Deposit

The applicant has indicated that, based on similar facilities, they expect that an average of 300 tonnes of waste per day to be delivered to site. The facility then experiences periods of inactivity where waste is not transported to site. The applicant indicates that the facility, in reality, will only accept waste for approximately 200 days per year. It would be optimal for waste not to be accepted at the facility during the periods when Councils is retrieving gravel from the stockpile to limit the overall impact of truck movements associated with this operation. It is acknowledged however that this may not always be possible, and the applicant will be required to negotiate with Council regarding stockpile removal times.

Public Consultation

The applicant has indicated that approaches were made to neighbouring landowners early in the process to evaluate the proposal. Responses from those consulted indicated that they would review the details of the proposal during the formal notification process.

The applicant became aware that a meeting had been organised by nearby residents and landowners; the applicant approached the residents with an offer to attend the meeting, however this offer was not accepted.

Consultation with the local Aboriginal Community

Council held discussions with Brungle Tumut Local Aboriginal Land Council (BTLALC) in relation to this land during 2019. The BTLALC have acknowledged the work that will be undertaken on the site and have not offered any objections to the proposal.

In addition to the consultation undertaken by Council with the BTLALC members also attended site and were involved during the early preparation of the EIS documentation.

Source of Clay

The applicant has indicated that there is *silty clay material present in stockpile on site*. The applicant has also indicated that clay is *not the primary leachate barrier* with geosynthetic clay liner and high-density polyethylene geomembrane to be used. Whilst acknowledging this, the statement is also made that additional 2160m^3 is required *to contract the Cell 1-1 intercell bund*. There is no indication given as to where this material is to be sourced. A condition is recommended to be imposed that the details of the source of the clay material be provided.

Source of Topsoil

The applicant has indicated that *remnant soil stockpiles* exist on site. The applicant also advises that topsoil has recently been imported to site. This together with the existing stockpile is to be blended with compost to provide sufficient material for the topsoil cover layer.

Landscaping of Stockpile Area

The applicant has indicated that due to the location of the stockpile area in the south west corner of the site it is not possible to provide a screened vegetative area within the site. It is not possible to move the stockpile area further into the site as this would encroach on the vegetation which is considered to have high biodiversity values. Nonetheless the applicant has indicated that due to the distance of the closest dwelling to the stockpile area, the low, and progressively diminishing, profile of the stockpile and the ongoing hydroseeding that the stockpile is likely to blend into the natural environment sufficiently to not result in negative visual impacts.

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