

INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project

PA 06_0104



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2

14 August 2020

REPORT

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) were engaged by PF Formation Pty Ltd (the Operator), to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) of the Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project (“the Quarry”), Wisemans Ferry Road, Maroota NSW. This IEA has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of Condition 6 (a) – (e) of Schedule 5 of PA 06_0104 and also the *Independent Audit - Post Approval Requirements (Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment, 2018)*. The IEA covers the reporting period from April 2017 to 25 June 2020.

The audit team from RPS consisted of Ian Richardson (Lead Auditor) and Shaun Smith (Assisting Auditor), whose appointment was approved by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) on 15 June 2020. Site interviews and a site inspection were undertaken on 25 June 2020.

The audit included an assessment of compliance with the following Project Approval:

- Project Application 06_0104 approved 3 February 2009 for the continued extraction of sand and the processing of up to 400,000 tpa or 200 laden vehicle movements per day from the processing plant, and the importation of Virgin Excavated Natural Material (VENM) up to 20 laden trucks per day.

The audit also included an assessment of compliance with the site EMS, management plans, monitoring reports, and annual reporting, Community Consultative Committee (CCC) actions, and a comparison of predictions in the original Environmental Assessment and subsequent modifications to actual performance. The audit also included a review of EPL3407 for completeness.

The 2020 audit found 4 non-compliances under PA 06_0104.

Opportunities for improvement were also identified, including:

- Regular inspection and maintenance of screen plantings where required
- Undertake infill plantings in rehabilitated areas
- Undertake monitoring of rehabilitated areas every 2 years to monitor success
- Undertaken annual LIDAR mapping to provide pit survey information
- Undertake regular weed control throughout rehabilitated areas
- Undertake regular inspection and cleaning of site access to ensure any tracked materials are removed
- Undertake monthly inspection of erosion and sediment control structures.

Overall, the environmental performance of the operation is good. PF Formation operate the facility in accordance with the Environmental Management Strategy and management plans as required by the development consent.

2 INTRODUCTION

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) were engaged by PF Formation Pty Ltd (the Operator), to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) of the Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project (“the Quarry”), Wisemans Ferry Road, Maroota NSW (refer **Figure 1**). This IEA has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of Condition 6 (a) – (e) of Schedule 5 of PA 06_0104 and also the *Independent Audit - Post Approval Requirements* (Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment, 2018). The IEA covers the reporting period from April 2017 to June 2020.

The audit team from RPS consisted of Ian Richardson (Lead Auditor) and Shaun Smith (Assisting Auditor), whose appointment was approved by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) on 15 June 2020. Site interviews and a site inspection were undertaken on 25 June 2020.

2.1 Background

The Quarry extracts material from the Maroota Sand geological formation and is situated on the Hornsby Plateau approximately 50 kilometres (km) to the northwest of the Sydney Central Business District and about 8 km south of Wisemans Ferry. The Quarry has been in operation since the mid 1980’s supplying sand to the building and construction industry.

Approval for the Project was granted by the NSW Land and Environment Court in 1998 (following a non-determination by Council), with approval to produce a maximum of 400,000tpa of processed sand with a daily limit of 200 laden vehicle movements from the processing plant and a Project life to 30 November 2028.

The current Project Approval (PA 06_0104), granted 3 February 2009, approved sand extraction within additional parcels of land, amended the allowable depth of extraction from 187m AHD to 183m AHD, and approved the importation of 20 laden loads per day of Virgin Excavated Natural Material (VENM) to the site for recycling or processing.

Generally, the following activities are undertaken under the current approved consent:

- Extraction of tertiary sand, friable sandstone, clay and gravel to within two metres of the wet weather high groundwater table
- Loading and transport of sand via articulated vehicles to the sand slurry plant located at the northern end of the site. Other extracted material would be stockpiled for later reuse as backfill or for transport to the central wash plant on Lot 198 DP752025 prior to removal to market
- Staged clearance of vegetation within those areas designated for extraction
- Transport of extracted material as a slurry via pipeline to the central wash plant on Lot 198 DP752025
- Processing and stockpiling of extracted material at the central wash plant
- Importation and processing of clean material for recycling (VENM) up to a maximum of 20 laden trucks per day
- Return of wash water via pipeline and disposal of tailings from the processed sand into sedimentation ponds located in the south of the site
- Use of the existing access from Lot 1 DP34599 to Old Northern Road for transport of friable sandstone product not requiring processing at the central wash plant on Lot 198 DP752025
- Off-site transport of product
- Use of the existing dam on Lot 167 DP752039 to receive and detain runoff from the extraction area and return clean water to the sand slurry transport system and the existing dam on Lot 198 DP752025 to receive and detain runoff from the central wash plant area
- Rehabilitation of extracted areas on the site of the proposal to create an integrated, continuous landform across all extracted areas as the basis for productive future use.

The site is currently subject of a modification (MOD 1) which is under assessment by DPIE.

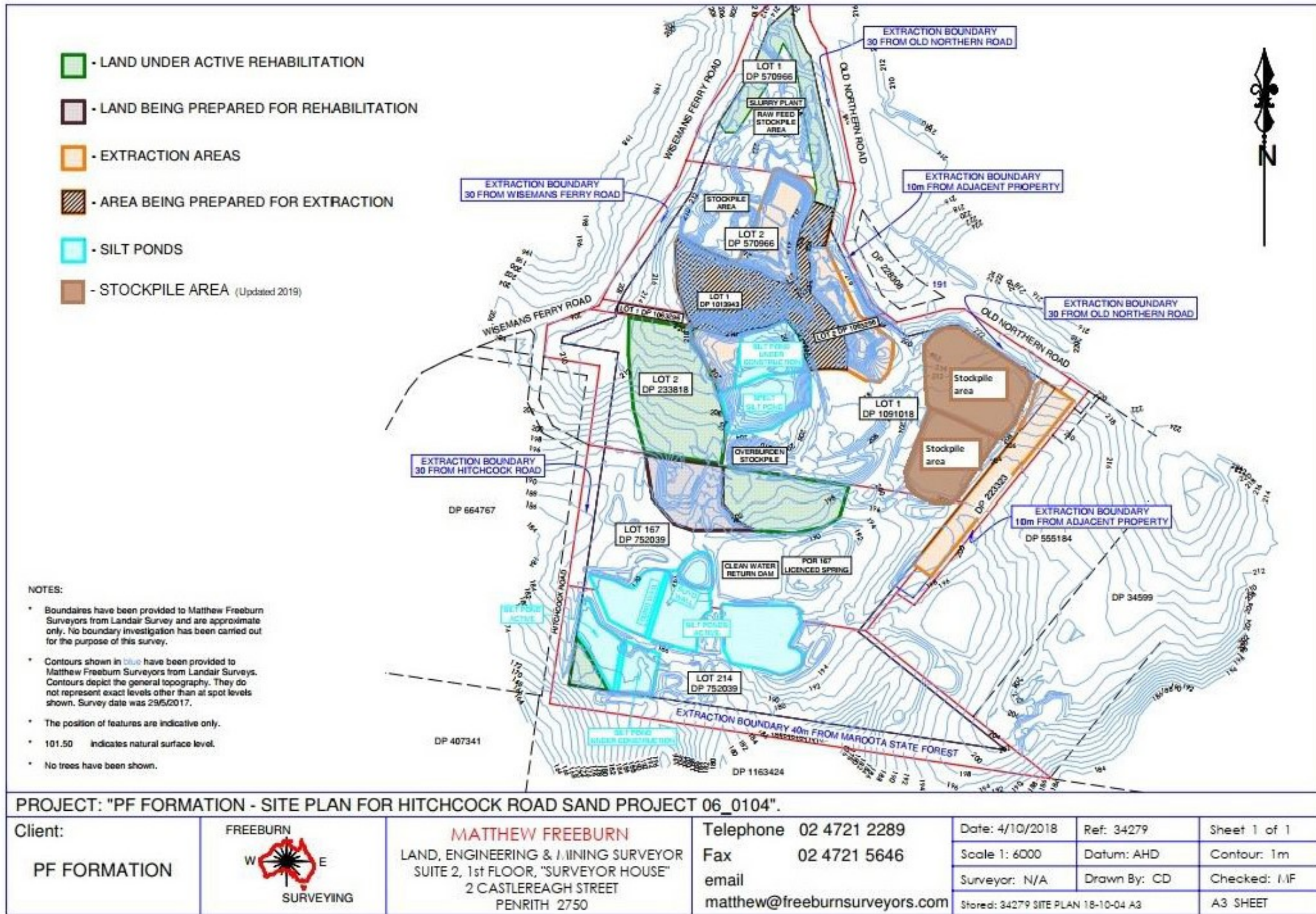


Figure 1 Site Location and Layout

2.2 Audit team

In accordance with Condition 6(a) of Schedule 5 of PA 06_0104 and Section 3 of the DPIEs *Independent Audit - Post Approval Requirements (2018)*, PF Formation requested the appointment of the RPS audit team by DPIE.

The audit team from RPS included Ian Richardson (Lead Auditor) and Shaun Smith (Assisting Auditor). Approval for RPS was provided to PF Formation by DPIE on 15 June 2020. The letter of endorsement from DPIE is provided in **Appendix A**.

2.3 Audit scope

The scope of the audit was limited to assessing the environmental performance of the operations in accordance with PA 06_0104 for the period between April 2017 to 25 June 2020. The scope of the audit included an assessment of the following matters:

- The conditions of all relevant approvals
- Management plan requirements
- The requirements of relevant regulatory agencies
- The status of the operation
- The key regulatory risks, including past or future risks
- The predictions of environmental impact assessments
- The performance of the operation
- Results from previous audits
- Any incidents or community complaints
- Feedback received from other regulatory agencies on the performance of the operation
- Feedback received from the community / community consultative committee on the performance of the operation
- Agency policy or other focus areas.

There was no requirement to formally audit the operations Environment Protection Licence (EPL3407) for the EIA, however for completeness a review of the conditions for EPL3407 was undertaken.

2.4 Audit objectives

In accordance with Condition 6 of Schedule 5 of PA 06_0104, this audit:

- Assesses the environmental performance of the project, and its effects on the surrounding environment
- Assesses whether the project is complying with the relevant standards, performance measure and statutory requirements
- Provides a review of the adequacy of the strategies/plans/programs required under the project approval and recommends measures and actions to improve the environmental performance of the project, and any plan or strategy required under the project approval.

The audit has been undertaken in accordance with DPIEs *Independent Audit - Post Approval Requirements (2018)* and ISO 19011: 2018 Guidelines for auditing management systems.

The audit findings presented in this report are based on the condition of the site at the time of the site inspection, consultation with relevant agencies, documentation publicly available and that provided by PF Formation. All reasonable efforts have been made to gather adequate evidence which is current and relevant to the site.

2.5 Audit period

This IEA covers the reporting period from April 2017 to 25 June 2020.

3 AUDIT METHODOLOGY

3.1 Selection and endorsement of audit team

The RPS audit team provided a fee proposal detailing the scope and objectives of the audit process in accordance with Condition 6(a) of Schedule 5 of PA 06_0104 and Section 3 of the DPIEs *Independent Audit - Post Approval Requirements (2018)*. The fee proposal also provided details of each auditor's experience. The audit team proposed by RPS included Ian Richardson (Lead Auditor) and Shaun Smith (Assisting Auditor). The following summary of experience is provided for each auditor.

Ian Richardson will be the Lead Auditor and document reviewer. Ian is a former Exemplar Global accredited Lead Auditor with 25 years' experience working in environmental assessment and monitoring, environmental compliance, work health and safety, hazardous materials and project management in both the private and government sectors. Ian has previously been accepted by NSW DPIE to lead numerous NSW Planning approval IEAs for a wide range of mining and industrial clients including Weston Aluminium, Wilpinjong Coal Mine, Bengalla Coal Mine, Glencore, Sibelco and Aurizon. Ian's auditing experience includes managing large scale audit programs in environmental management system compliance, health and safety compliance, construction compliance, waste and hydrocarbon management and hazardous chemical management.

Shaun Smith will assist with the audit. Shaun will undertake the background document review, site inspection, audit report preparation, and project coordination. Shaun has over 20 years' experience in the environmental and resource management sectors, with a focus on mining and major project approvals. Shaun is currently a Principal Environmental Planner for RPS and is responsible for the management and preparation of environmental assessment documentation across a wide range of disciplines including mining, extractive industries, infrastructure, and industrial sectors. Shaun has extensive experience in both internal and external environmental reporting, and the preparation of environment and planning documentation both pre and post project approval. Shaun also has extensive experience in the interpretation and application of NSW environmental legislation both in a compliance and technical capacity.

Copies of the auditor's CVs were also provided to DPIE as part of the endorsement process. Approval for RPS was provided to PF Formation by DPIE on 15 June 2020. The letter of endorsement from DPIE is provided in **Appendix A**.

3.2 Independent audit scope development

As required in *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (Section 3.2) the auditor must consult with the Department, and other agencies and stakeholders, including the Community Consultative Committee (CCC), to obtain their input into the scope of the audit. Comments received during such consultation must be recorded and reported in the IEA. Specific environmental issues raised during consultation must be investigated and findings of the investigation must be reported in the Independent Audit Report.

As detailed in **Section 3.6** below consultation has been undertaken with the relevant agencies in order to inform the scope for the audit. The Hills Council, EPA, DPIE - Crown Lands, and the CCC chair provided feedback for the audit scope.

The audit table was also reviewed against the requirements of Section 3.3 of the audit requirements. No changes were made.

3.3 Compliance evaluation

Compliance evaluation was undertaken through the following means:

- Document reviews
- Interviews with relevant personnel
- Site inspections

Further detail is provided in **Section 3.4, 3.5 & 3.6** below.

3.4 Document reviews

Documents reviewed to evaluate compliance included:

- Air Quality Monitoring Program
- Water Management Plan
- Noise Management Plan
- Landscape Management Plan
- Environmental Management System
- Environmental monitoring reports
- Complaints register and correspondence
- Incident reporting
- Rectification of non-conformances from internal audits (e.g. EMS) and complaints
- Annual environmental management review
- Regulator correspondence (emails and letters)

3.5 Site interviews

A pre-audit meeting was held by phone on 23 June 2020 with Joshua Graham from PF Formation and members of the audit team from RPS. The audit scope, methodology, documentation, safety, and induction requirements were discussed. Attendees of the pre-audit meeting are provided in **Table 1** and meeting minutes are provided in **Appendix B**.

Table 1 Pre-audit Meeting Attendees

Name	Initials	Company	Role
Joshua Graham	JG	PF Formation Pty Ltd	Joint Managing Director
Shaun Smith	SS	RPS	Assisting Auditor
Ian Richardson	IR	RPS	Lead Auditor

Onsite interviews were undertaken on 25 June 2020. Present for the interviews were management representatives from PF Formation, and Ian Richardson and Shaun Smith from RPS. Attendees of the onsite interviews, company, and roles are provided below in **Table 2** and an attendance register is provided in **Appendix B**. Opening and closing meetings were also undertaken as part of the interview process onsite. An audit agenda is included in **Appendix B** which details each component of the onsite audit.

Table 2 Onsite Interview Attendees

Name	Initials	Company	Role
Joshua Graham	JG	PF Formation	Joint Managing Director
Luke Graham	LG	PF Formation	Joint Managing Director
Shaun Smith	SS	RPS	Assisting Auditor
Ian Richardson	IR	RPS	Lead Auditor

3.6 Site inspections

A site visit was conducted on 25 June 2020 at the development site. During the site visit the following was sighted and/or inspected:

- Extraction areas
- Sediment control dams
- Process water dams and water storage dams
- Mobile plant and equipment
- Sand processing equipment
- Monitoring equipment and meteorological monitoring station
- Site office, workshop and storage areas (approved under The Hills Shire DA 2592/2005/HE)
- Site entry, weigh bridge and access roads
- Site signage
- Perimeter bund
- Landscaping
- Rehabilitated areas
- Tailings storage.

Observations were made in relation to the site's general environmental management and performance including air, noise, water, visual amenity, waste, hydrocarbon management, soil and erosion, and vegetation. Refer to **Plate 1** to **Plate 15** in **Appendix D** for photographs undertaken during the site inspection.

3.7 Consultation

3.7.1 Government

Relevant government agencies were informed of the audit via email and given the opportunity to provide comments or feedback on issues of concern. The consultation is summarised below in **Table 3** and copies of correspondence are provided in **Appendix B**.

Table 3 Government Consultation

Contact Details	Date	Method	Comment / Outcome
Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment			
Central Email	15.6.2020	Major Project web portal	Automated request notification received but no formal feedback response provided.
NSW Environment Protection Authority			
Central Email	15.6.2020	EPA.EDoperationsmetro@epa.nsw.gov.au	Letter response received dated 25.5.2020. EPA requested that dust generation from haul roads and dust tracking on to public roads be assessed. Also, stormwater management from

hardstand areas and chemical and oil storage to be considered.

The Hills Council

Central Email	15.6.2020	Email: council@thehills.nsw.gov.au	Response received from Kristine McKenzie. Requested to review landscape screening and setback markers to ensure setback areas are not encroached.
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DPIE – Water

Central Email	15.6.2020	Email: landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au	No response provided.
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NRAR

Central Email	15.6.2020	Email: nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au	No response provided.
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DPIE – Crown Lands

Central Email	15.6.2020	Email: landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au	Noted Crown Licence 190301 is in place for access between private land parcels. No specific comments in relation to the audit provided.
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3.7.2 Community consultative committee

The developments Community Consultative Committee (CCC) were informed of the audit via email and given the opportunity to provide comments or feedback on issues of concern. The consultation is summarised below in **Table 4** and copies of email correspondence are provided in **Appendix B**.

Table 4 Community Consultative Committee

Contact Details	Date	Method	Comment / Outcome
Lisa Aylward			
axismt@iinet.net.au	16.6.2020	Request for consultation through CCC Chairperson and PF Formation	Response received from Lisa Aylward 19.6.2020 stating no issues from either herself or the Maroota Public School.

3.8 Compliance status descriptors

Compliance status has been assessed in accordance with Section 3.8 of the *Independent Audit - Post Approval Requirements (2018)*. The following descriptors have been adopted as per **Table 5** below.

Table 5 Compliance Status Descriptors

Status	Description
Compliant	The auditor has collected sufficient verifiable evidence to demonstrate that all elements of the requirement have been complied with within the scope of the audit.
Non-compliant	The auditor has determined that one or more specific elements of the conditions or requirements have not been complied with within the scope of the audit.
Not triggered	A requirement has an activation or timing trigger that has not been met at the time when the audit is undertaken, therefore an assessment of compliance is not relevant.

4 AUDIT FINDINGS

4.1 Approval and document list

The developments project approval PA 06_0104, originally issued by the Department of Planning on 3 February 2009, was the primary approval document audited. Various elements of the following documents, were also audited or reviewed to assess compliance:

- Environmental Assessment, PF Formation Pty Ltd: Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project, Maroota (Volumes 1, 2 and 3), November 2007 prepared by DFA Consultants
- Environmental Protection Licence 3407.

In addition to the approvals listed above, other documentation sighted and reviewed included:

- Environmental Management System, July 2016, prepared by South East Environmental
- Air Quality Monitoring Program, July 2016, prepared by South East Environmental
- Landscape Management Plan, including Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan, Quarry Closure Plan, July 2016, prepared by South East Environmental
- Noise Management Plan, including Noise Monitoring Program, July 2016, prepared by South East Environmental
- Water Management Plan, including ESCP, Surface Water Monitoring Program, Groundwater Monitoring, July 2016, prepared by South East Environmental
- Amended Independent Environmental Audit of Hitchcock Road Sand Project, August 2017, prepared by Environmental Planning Pty Ltd
- 2017, 2018, 2019 Annual Environmental Management Review, prepared by South East Environmental
- Groundwater Report, Hitchcock Road Site & Annual Groundwater Management Plan 2018-2019, prepared by Earth2Water Pty Ltd
- Quarterly Attended Noise Monitoring Results 2019-2020
- Monthly Water Monitoring Results 2019-2020
- Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes 2017-2019.

4.2 Compliance performance

In summary, following a review of information, site inspection, interviews, and consultation the audit found the following:

PA 06_0104

- 56 Compliant
- 4 Non-compliant
- 11 Not triggered.

Non-compliances are detailed further in **Section 4.4**.

4.3 Summary of agency notices, orders, penalty notices or prosecutions

During the reporting period the Department of Planning and Environment (now DPIE) issued two voluntary undertakings for PA 06_0104. The voluntary undertakings were in relation to:

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- 29 June 2017
 - 1) The backfilling of all extraction pits so that they are in accordance with the approved maximum extraction depths
 - 2) The installation of pegs or RL markers at all extraction pits.
- 9 August 2019
 - 1) The design and construction of a bund at the location of the sediment pathways at the South-Western extraction pit, in accordance with relevant guidelines, to prevent any further discharge from the site at the Hitchcock Road (Trig Hill) Quarry site.

Evidence indicates that these voluntary undertakings have been completed to the satisfaction of DPIE.

4.4 Non-compliances

The following section provides details of the non-compliances under PA 06_0104. Further detail can also be found in the **Audit Table** attached as **Appendix C**.

PA 06_0104

Schedule 2, Condition 2 – Non-compliance

Terms of Approval

The Proponent shall carry out the project generally in accordance with the:

- (a) EA;*
- (b) preferred project report;*
- (c) statement of commitments; and*
- (d) conditions of approval.*

4 non-compliances were identified during the audit which are further detailed below.

Recommendation

The development is generally being carried out in accordance with the EA, statement of commitments and with the conditions of approval, however a number of non-compliances were identified. These are addressed against the specific conditions below.

Schedule 3, Condition 1 – Non-compliance

Identification of Boundaries

Within 3 months of the date of this approval, or as otherwise agreed by the Director-General, the Proponent shall:

- (a) engage an independent registered surveyor to survey the boundaries of the approved limit of extraction and the approved ancillary work areas;*
- (b) submit a survey plan of these boundaries to the Director-General; and*
- (c) ensure that these boundaries are clearly marked at all times in a permanent manner that allows operating staff and inspecting officers to clearly identify those limits.*

Extraction boundaries had previously been marked with star pickets, however during the 2020 site inspection it was observed that these boundaries were not clearly identified in some areas.

Recommendation

Extraction boundary markers should be reviewed, provided with clear signage, and updated and maintained to be permanent markers.

Schedule 3, Condition 18 – Non-compliance

The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan shall:

- (a) be consistent with the requirements of Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction, Volume 1, 4th Edition, 2004 (Landcom);*
- (b) identify activities that could cause soil erosion and generate sediment;*
- (c) describe measures to minimise soil erosion and the potential for the transport of sediment to downstream waters;*
- (d) describe the location, function, and capacity of erosion and sediment control structures;*
- (e) demonstrate that the design capacity of basins intended to collect storm runoff will not be compromised by storage of operational water; and*
- (f) describe what measures would be implemented to maintain (and if necessary decommission) the structures over time.*

During the site inspection, sediment fences on the southern boundary of the Pit 14 tailings dam were observed full of sediment and were damaged along the top wire of the sediment fence.

Recommendation

Sediment fences are to be cleaned out regularly to ensure they maintain their integrity and should form part of regular inspections and maintenance.

Schedule 3, Condition 23 – Non-compliance

Within 3 years of the date of this approval, the Proponent shall make suitable arrangements to provide appropriate long term security for the offset areas to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

The Landscape Management Plan references the offset strategy for the site, however there was no evidence available to confirm these arrangements have been implemented to the satisfaction of the Director-General. A revised Offset Strategy is currently being prepared as part of an application for a consent modification.

Recommendation

A revised Offset Strategy should be prepared and implemented as soon as practicable that is consistent with current offsetting requirements in NSW.

4.5 Previous audit recommendations

Detailed below in **Table 6** is a summary of the recommendations from the 2014-2017 independent environmental audit, actions undertaken, and the current status.

Table 6 2014 – 2017 Audit Recommendations and Action Status

2014-2017 Audit Recommendations	Action Taken	Status
1. The Wisemans Ferry Road access road entry/exit to the site needs to be checked daily for mud and dirt and cleaned off as per the environmental commitments	Road is inspected daily and washed down with water truck sprays	Complete
2. The breach in the landscaped bund along Hitchcock Road frontage providing access to the site needs to be filled in and access provided either over the bund or a new offset bund provided behind the existing bund to allow vehicular access	A set back bund has been installed which screens the pit from view but still allows vehicle access	Complete
3. The dust gauge located at Jurd's property needs relocation to meet the requirements of AS/NZS 3580.1.1:2016 <i>Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air Part 1.1: Guide to siting air monitoring equipment</i>	Dust gauge moved to Lot 1 DP548169	Complete

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4.	A permanent survey marker showing Australian Height Datum needs to be established within the main pit so that the maximum extraction levels can be surveyed from the benchmark as required. The maximum extraction depth levels for the project need to be monitored at least monthly to ensure compliance with the approved maximum extraction depth plan and the results recorded in future AEMRs	Additional groundwater wells have been established in pit. These wells have fixed steel monuments in place that have been surveyed and act as permanent survey markers	Complete
5.	A groundwater monitoring well needs to be established within the main pit with monthly monitoring of groundwater levels to ensure maximum extraction levels are at least two metres above the established wet weather groundwater level. The groundwater levels need to be recorded in future AEMRs	Two additional wells have been established and are monitored on a monthly basis	Complete
6.	The existing offset areas of rehabilitation need to be pegged out and established on a survey plan and shown in future AEMRs	An updated survey plan was prepared in 2018 which details rehabilitated areas onsite	Complete
7.	The long-term security for the offset strategy needs to be resolved and agreed with the Department of Planning and Environment	As part of a consent modification currently under assessment a new offset strategy has been prepared. This offset strategy will be agreed upon as part of the modification approval	In progress
8.	The December 2016 aerial photograph of the site shown in Figure 1 should be updated to show contours with one-meter intervals and this data and any future updates used to amend the Site Plan shown in Figure 2 and in future AEMRs	Survey plan dated 29.5.2017 provides 1 metre contours	Complete
9.	The Department of Primary Industries – Water issues outlined in February 2017 needs to be addressed and new information included in a revised Water Management Plan. The revised Water Management Plan also needs to include procedures for monthly monitoring of maximum extraction depth levels from the groundwater monitoring well within the main pit	The Water Management Plan was revised in 2017 and sign off was provided by DPIE	Complete
10.	The Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) should be amended to include a Hazardous Chemicals Register plus another Safety Data Sheet Register	The PIRMP was updated in November 2019 and includes a Hazardous Chemicals Register and Safety Data Sheet Register	Complete
11.	Both the Dangerous Hazardous Substance and Non-Dangerous Hazardous Substance Registers located in the weighbridge office need to be updated with nomenclature, a list of hazardous chemicals and safety data sheets to conform with the pollution incident response management plan	Both the PIRMP and registers held in the weighbridge site office now conform	Complete
12.	Future AEMRs should be based on the October 2015 NSW government publication <i>Annual Review Guideline</i>	AEMRs have been prepared in accordance with this guideline	Complete

4.6 EMS, sub-plans, and post approval documents

Following the 2017 audit, documents were reviewed but no changes or updates were made. The continual improvement process of an EMS should apply which requires regular updating of documents. On 23.11.2017 DPIE acknowledged that the documents were reviewed, however the versions are still dated 2016. The EMS and sub-plans are listed below with their most recent review date provided:

- Environmental Management Strategy, January 2016
- Air Quality Monitoring Program, January 2016
- Noise Management Plan, January 2016
- Water Management Plan, including ESCP, SWMP and GWMP, January 2016
- Landscape Management Plan, including Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan and Quarry Closure Plan, January 2016
- Pollution and Incident Response Management Plan, November 2019.

4.7 EMS

The developments Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) was reviewed in 2017 following the previous IEA, however the version has not been updated. DPIE confirmed the review by letter on 23.11.2017.

The document is structured to address the main aspects of an EMS, including Scope, Objectives, Statutory Requirements, Key Personnel, and Stakeholder Engagement, Incident Reporting, Complaints Management, Dispute Resolution, Non-compliances, and Training and Awareness.

The EMS should be updated annually in response to operational changes, changes in key personnel, changes to approvals, following an incident or management review.

4.8 Environmental performance

Following a thorough review of management plans, monitoring results, annual reporting, agency consultation, and a site inspection and interviews, the environmental performance of the quarry operations was found to be good. During the site visit there were no major areas of concern identified, however there are areas for improvement. Most recommendations from the 2017 audit had been implemented by the operator and management were aware of their environmental obligations, including site compliance, reporting, and documentation. All environmental records are either filed on site and reporting is hosted on the PF Formation website (www.pfformation.com.au).

No high-risk non-compliances were identified, with a total of 4 non-compliances determined. Most non-compliances identified during this audit are considered minor in nature and are the result of the operator failing to follow up on agency correspondence to close out undertakings, revising the site offset strategy in a timely manner, permanent extraction limit markers, and general site housekeeping for erosion and sediment control. Two of the non-compliances also relate back to the 2017 audit.

During consultation with government agencies and the CCC two requests were made for items to be followed up during the site inspection for the audit. The EPA requested that dust generation from haul roads and dust tracking on to public roads be assessed, and that stormwater management from hardstand areas and chemical and oil storage to be inspected. The Hills Shire Council requested a review of landscape screening and setback markers to ensure setback areas are not encroached.

Following the 2017 audit, works have been undertaken to rectify an open section of the landscaping bund that allowed views into the south-western pit from Hitchcock Road. An offset bund has been installed to block views into the pit, but also allows for vehicular access. It is recommended that screen plantings be established on this section of offset bund.

The offset strategy for the development is not aligned with current requirements for offsetting and does not provide for long term security at the site. The strategy was to be undated as part of a modification to the development's approval, however this modification has been rejected and the offset strategy remains as approved in 2017. Regardless of the status of the modification, the offset strategy should be updated as a priority.

Two additional groundwater monitoring wells have been established in the main pit area since the previous audit in 2017. These wells provide data on the wet weather groundwater level to ensure extraction does not exceed a distance of 2m from that wet weather level.

Rehabilitation established within Lot 2 DP 233818 was viewed during the site inspection and appeared to be well established, maintained, and providing habitat for wildlife onsite. RPS ecologists reviewed photographs and data of the rehabilitation and established that condition was excellent.

4.9 Consultation outcomes

Prior to the audit, consultation was undertaken with relevant government agencies and the CCC seeking feedback on issues or concerns to be addressed during the audit. Details of the consultation undertaken, and the responses are provided in **Table 3** and **Table 4**.

All audit consultation correspondence is attached as **Appendix B**.

4.10 Complaints

There were no complaints recorded for the audit period as reported in the AEMRs and as confirmed during the onsite interviews.

4.11 Incidents

There were no incidents recorded for the audit period as reported in the AEMRs and as confirmed during the onsite interviews.

4.12 Actual versus predicted environmental impacts

The audit process has involved the review of monitoring and annual environmental management reports for the quarry operations. The following comments are provided regarding actual and predicted environmental impacts.

Noise

Noise monitoring is undertaken annually at the development. Attended monitoring identified that operational noise emissions generated by the quarry comply with relevant statutory noise limits. Furthermore, project related noise emissions are generally masked by noise sources from road traffic and rural noise sources. Noise monitoring results also indicate that noise management controls are providing suitable mitigation.

Air Quality

Air quality monitoring results indicate that the summer months of 2017/2018/2019 recorded spikes in total deposited dust however this was attributed to the dust storms which occurred on a regular basis over this period as a result of the ongoing drought conditions in the western regions of NSW.

Overall results were consistent with previous years across all monitoring sites with none of the sites exceeding the nuisance criterion annual monthly average of 4 g/m²/month.

Groundwater

Ground water levels are monitored continuously throughout the year at 5 separate licenced bore locations, however in total 9 wells are monitored monthly throughout the year and an additional 3 were monitored for part of 2019. Pumping did occur from 2 licenced bores on Lot 198 throughout the year however the annual allocation of 60ML was not exceeded. Water pumping also took place from licenced spring with an annual allocation of 50ML. The extraction limit was not exceeded.

Ground water analysis met all requirements and showed no abnormalities or exceedances during the audit reporting period.

Surface Water

The site does not have any permanently flowing surface waters. Existing surface water is limited to a supply sump in an area of previous extraction and a number of small farm dams. The existing tailings ponds and sediment basins will maintain the quality of the intermittent surface water flows experienced on the site.

Monitoring of surface water quality outside of the property boundary in the Maroota State Forest south from Lot 214 DP 752039 commenced in March 2018. Quarterly samples are also taken from an existing monitoring site on the creek below Lot 198 DP 752025. The pH, electrical conductivity and oil and grease results were all within the expected ranges.

Rehabilitation

In November 2017, WSP undertook monitoring of the rehabilitated areas to determine rehabilitation success, including an assessment of 5, 10, and 15 year targets. Since the previous survey there has been a stabilisation or general improvement in the habitat quality and native species diversity cover and vegetation structure. Native species diversity and cover has increased while weed cover and diversity has decreased. Erosion noted in previous years appears to be stable with increasing cover of groundcover vegetation. Weed cover across all regions has decreased. Findings indicate that rehabilitation is progressing well and is generally meeting or exceeding the targets set for the above target periods. It has been recommended that monitoring, weed control and supplementary plantings be undertaken to further enhance rehabilitation success.

4.13 Site inspection

The following areas were viewed and photographed as evidence during the onsite inspection:

- Active extraction areas
- Processing plant and equipment
- Drying ponds
- Depositional dust gauges
- Groundwater piezometers
- Workshop and laydown areas on Lot 198
- Site entrance and access road
- Rehabilitation areas and remnant vegetation
- Site water storages
- Visual bunds and landscaping
- Setback markers
- Perimeter fencing.

Photographs taken during the site inspection are attached as **Appendix D**.

4.14 Site interviews

The following additional evidence was supplied as a result of the interview process for the audit:

- Pit shell plan dated 12.10.2017
- Pollution Incident Response Plan dated 13.11.2020
- Letter evidence of the acceptance of the 2017 audit by DPIE dated 9.7.2018
- Letter evidence from DPIE regarding the revision of management plans and Maximum Extraction Depth Map dated 23.11.2017
- Letter response by PF Formation for show cause letter dated 29.6.2017
- Copy of signed undertaking for RL markers and backfilling dated 29.6.2017
- Letter from DPI-Water dated 2.8.2017 regarding RL marker and backfilling undertaking
- Letter from DPIE regarding updated Maximum Extraction Depth Map dated 28.8.2017

- Copy of WAL42259 dated 6.2.2019
- Email evidence of request to Alfarid Hussain regarding lodgement of the 2019 AEMR dated 19.12.2019
- Copy of signed undertaking for design and construction of a bund dated 9.8.2017
- Unapproved Revised Water Management Plan dated 8 January 2018.

4.15 Previous annual review recommendations

Table 7 below details the actions from the 2019 Annual Review to be addressed during the 2020 reporting period.

Table 7 2019 Annual Review Actions and Recommendations

Aspect	Action	Timing	Status
Compliance	Complete independent audit	June 2020	Complete
Operations	Review and revise pit shell plan	2019-2020 AEMR reporting period	Outstanding
Operations	Start importing VENM material from Maroota Lodge	2019-2020 AEMR reporting period	Outstanding
Operations	Commence overburden removal in Lot 2 DP555184	2019-2020 AEMR reporting period	Outstanding
Biodiversity and Rehabilitation	Resolve long term security of biodiversity offset areas matter with DPIE	2019-2020 AEMR reporting period	Outstanding
Administrative	Review all Environmental Management Plans following Independent Environmental Audit and MOD 1	2019-2020 AEMR reporting period	Outstanding

4.16 Improvement opportunities

One of the main areas for improvement is to regularly update the EMS and management plans. Regular updating of these documents allows the operator to improve environmental performance and respond to operational changes proactively. The EMS and management plans were proposed to be updated during the 2019-2020 AEMR reporting period, however that period has now passed. These documents should be reviewed and updated as a priority.

It is also recommended that the site induction program for contractors is improved to provide more detailed information on exclusion areas, rehabilitated areas, spill response, and the management of noise and dust impacts. Contractors and staff should be made fully aware of their responsibilities and actions should an environmental incident occur. An environmental induction needs to focus on key environmental risks onsite and reporting requirements. It is recommended that all staff attend a half day environmental awareness training workshop onsite.

It is also recommended that a compliance database be implemented which contains all correspondence from regulators and also tracks due dates for reporting purposes. This database should also provide reminders of when to follow up regulators should they not respond to requests, ie. every 3 months.

4.17 Key strengths

A number of key strengths of the quarry operations were identified during the audit. These included:

- onsite water management within active disturbance areas
- no complaints were recorded for the audit reporting period
- no incidents were recorded for the audit reporting period
- landscape plantings are extremely well established and maintained providing ample screening
- Attended noise monitoring during the audit reporting period has indicated that there are no excessive noise impacts from the operation

REPORT

- Rehabilitated areas are well established and contain a diversity of plant species
- Good working relationship with the CCC.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Non-compliances

PA 06_0104

Table 8 below provides recommended actions for non-compliances identified during the audit of operations approved under PA 06_0104.

Table 8 Recommended Actions for Non-compliances under PA 06_0104

Item	Reference	Non-compliance	Recommended Action	Time Frame for Completion
1.	Schedule 2 Condition 2	The development is generally being carried out in accordance with the EIS and with the conditions of development consent, however a number of non-compliances were identified	Recommendations are provided against the specific conditions below	See below
2.	Schedule 3 Condition 1	Extraction boundaries had previously been marked with star pickets, however during the 2020 site inspection it was observed that these boundaries were not clearly identified in some areas	Extraction boundary markers should be reviewed, provided with clear signage, and updated and maintained to be permanent markers	3 months
3.	Schedule 3 Condition 18	During the site inspection, sediment fences on the southern boundary of the Pit 14 tailings dam were observed overloaded with sediment and were damaged in areas.	Sediment fences are to be cleaned out regularly to ensure they maintain their integrity and should form part of regular inspections and maintenance	1 month
4.	Schedule 3 Condition 23	The Landscape Management Plan references the offset strategy for the site, however there was no evidence available to confirm these arrangements have been implemented to the satisfaction of the Director-General. A revised Offset Strategy is currently being prepared as part of an application for a consent modification	A revised Offset Strategy should be prepared and implemented as soon as practicable that is consistent with current offsetting requirements in NSW	6 months

5.2 Opportunities for improvement

The following is a list of improvement opportunities identified from the audit. These include:

- Regular inspection and maintenance of screen plantings where required
- Undertake infill plantings in rehabilitated areas
- Undertake monitoring of rehabilitated areas every 2 years to monitor success
- Undertaken annual LIDAR mapping to provide pit survey information
- Undertake regular weed control throughout rehabilitated areas
- Undertake regular inspection and cleaning of site access to ensure any tracked materials are removed
- Undertake monthly inspection of erosion and sediment control structures.

6 CONCLUSION

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) were engaged by PF Formation Pty Ltd (the Operator), to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) of the Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project (“the Quarry”), Wisemans Ferry Road, Maroota NSW. This IEA has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of Condition 6 (a) – (e) of Schedule 5 of PA 06_0104 and also the *Independent Audit - Post Approval Requirements* (Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment, 2018). The IEA covers the reporting period from April 2017 to 25 June 2020.

The audit team from RPS consisted of Ian Richardson (Lead Auditor) and Shaun Smith (Assisting Auditor), whose appointment was approved by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) on 15 June 2020. Site interviews and a site inspection were undertaken on 25 June 2020.

The audit included an assessment of compliance with Project Application 06_0104, approved 3 February 2009. The approval permitted the continued extraction of sand and the processing of up to 400,000 tpa or 200 laden vehicle movements per day from the processing plant, and the importation of Virgin Excavated Natural Material (VENM) up to 20 laden trucks per day.

The audit also included an assessment of compliance with the site EMS, management plans, monitoring reports, and annual reporting, Community Consultative Committee (CCC) actions, and a comparison of predictions in the original Environmental Assessment and subsequent modifications to actual performance. The audit also included a review of EPL3407 for completeness.

An assessment of the actions recommended in the 2017 Independent Environmental Audit conducted by Environment Planning Pty Ltd (report dated August 2017) was carried out during this audit and it was found that 11 out of 12 actions were completed, with 1 action currently in progress.

The 2020 audit found 4 relatively minor non-compliances under PA 06_0104.

Recommendations and actions have been provided for all non-compliances which are to be undertaken in accordance with set timeframes.

Areas for improvement have been recommended, including:

- Regular inspection and maintenance of screen plantings where required
- Undertake infill plantings in rehabilitated areas
- Undertake monitoring of rehabilitated areas every 2 years to monitor success
- Undertaken annual LIDAR mapping to provide pit survey information
- Undertake regular weed control throughout rehabilitated areas
- Undertake regular inspection and cleaning of site access to ensure any tracked materials are removed
- Undertake monthly inspection of erosion and sediment control structures

Overall, the environmental performance of the operation is good. PF Formation operate the site in accordance with the consent, site EMS, and management plans. There were no complaints or environment incidents during the audit period which demonstrates that the facility is being operated in an environmentally sound manner and generally in accordance with the conditions of consent.

7 APPENDIXES

Appendix A – Planning Secretary Audit Team Agreement



PF Formation
1 Patricia Fay Drive
Maroota NSW 2756

Contact: Alfarid Hussain
Phone: 02 9274 6456
Email: compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au

19 May 2020

Attention: Joshua Graham, Managing Director, PF Formation
Email: josh@pfformation.com.au

Dear Mr Graham

**Agreement of Independent Auditor
Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project - PA 06_0104**

I refer to your request relating to MP06_0104-PA-3 seeking the agreement of the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (**Department**) of a suitably qualified, experienced and independent audit team to undertake the 2020 Independent Environmental Audit of the Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project.

In accordance with Schedule 5, Condition 6 of PA 06_0104 (**Consent**), the Secretary has agreed to the appointment of the following audit team:

1. Lead auditor - Ian Richardson of RPS Australia East Pty Ltd; and
2. Assisting auditor - Shaun Smith of RPS Australia East Pty Ltd

Please ensure this correspondence is appended to the Independent Audit Report.

The Independent Audit must be prepared, undertaken and finalised in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 5, Conditions 6 and 7 of the Consent. The Department also recommends consideration be given to the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (Department 2018) to the extent that it does not contradict Schedule 5, Condition 6 of the Consent. Failure to meet these requirements will require revision and resubmission.

The Department reserves the right to request an alternate auditor or audit team for future audits.

Notwithstanding the agreement for the above listed audit team for this Project, each respective project approval or consent requires a request for the agreement to the auditor or audit team be submitted to the Department, for consideration of the Secretary. Each request is reviewed and depending on the complexity of future projects, the suitability of a proposed auditor or audit team will be considered.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Alfarid Hussain on 02 9274 6456.

Yours sincerely

Julia Pope

Team Leader- Compliance - Metro

As the Secretary's nominee

Appendix B – Consultation

From: [Josh Graham](#)
To: [Shaun Smith](#)
Subject: FW: Hitchcock Road Quarry - Independent Environmental Audit
Date: Monday, 22 June 2020 1:06:37 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of RPS.

Hi Shaun,

As discussed, see below e mails.

Regards
Joshua Graham
Managing Director



1 Patricia Fay Drive
MAROOTA NSW 2756
Ph: 02 45668257
Mbl: 0418 439 923
www.pfformation.com.au

From: Axis Machine Tools <axismt@iinet.net.au>
Sent: Friday, 19 June 2020 8:30 AM
To: 'Josh Graham' <josh@pfformation.com.au>; 'Shaunagh Hitchcock' <skhitch@westnet.com.au>; 'Marianne Sheumack' <mmuir46@bigpond.com>; 'Lisa Aylward' <axismt@iinet.com.au>
Cc: 'Kristine McKenzie' <kmckenzie@thehills.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Hitchcock Road Quarry - Independent Environmental Audit

Hi

Thank you, no issues from me or the school.

Regards

Lisa Aylward
Director
Mb: 0438 406 493

AXIS
Machine Tools Pty Ltd

From: Josh Graham [<mailto:josh@pfformation.com.au>]
Sent: Thursday, 18 June 2020 8:21 AM
To: Shaunagh Hitchcock; Marianne Sheumack; Lisa Aylward
Cc: 'Kristine McKenzie'
Subject: FW: Hitchcock Road Quarry - Independent Environmental Audit

Hi All,

Please see below emails in relation to an Independent Environmental Audit for the Hitchcock Road Sand Project.

Regards
Joshua Graham
Managing Director



1 Patricia Fay Drive
MAROOTA NSW 2756
Ph: 02 45668257
Mbl: 0418 439 923
www.pfformation.com.au

From: Kristine McKenzie <kmckenzie@thehills.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 June 2020 2:13 PM
To: josh@pfformation.com.au
Subject: FW: Hitchcock Road Quarry - Independent Environmental Audit

Hi Josh,

As the PF Formation representative, can you please forward this email with attachments to the attendees (community and school representatives) of the CCC. Can you also please copy me in to the email so I am aware it has been sent and so the attendees have my email address - thanks. Below is a note for the attendees:

Hi All,

As per the email below, an independent audit is being undertaken by RPS Australia East Pty Ltd. Attached is also some further information regarding the audit. Can you please email me within 14 days (on or prior to 2 July 2020) whether you have any issues or concerns that you would like raised. I will collate any comments and forward them to RPS Australia.

Regards, Kristine

From: Shaun Smith [<mailto:Shaun.Smith@rpsgroup.com.au>]
Sent: Tuesday, 16 June 2020 9:19 AM
To: Kristine McKenzie
Subject: Hitchcock Road Quarry - Independent Environmental Audit

Hi Kristine,

As you would be aware from my email on 15 June 2020 RPS Australia East Pty Ltd have been engaged to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit of PF Formations Hitchcock Road Quarry. As part of the consultation for this audit we are required to engage with the Community Consultative Committee (CCC). As you are the Chair of this committee I am contacting you regarding consulting with the CCC. Could you please advise if the CCC have any issues or concerns they would like addressed as part of this audit.

Please feel free to drop me a line either by email or phone to discuss.

Regards

Shaun Smith

Principal Environmental Planner
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific
Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street
Carrington NSW 2294, Australia
T +61 2 4940 4200
D +61 2 4940 4226 **M** +61 419 715 665
E shaun.smith@rpsgroup.com.au



rpsgroup.com

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In response to COVID-19, RPS has adapted the way we work to ensure we remain connected with you and our colleagues, and continue to deliver good work.

We recognise that the months ahead will pose challenges for many of our clients and partners. We're here to help in any way we can. While COVID-19 might separate us physically in the short term, please know that we're here, we're with you and we're stronger together.

If you need support or would like to discuss your forward looking priorities, please get in touch. You can continue to contact me in the usual ways via phone and email, or we can set up a virtual meeting.

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DOC20/501729-1

Mr Shaun Smith
Principal Environmental Auditor
RPS Australia East Pty Ltd
Unit 2,45 Fitzroy Street
CARRINGTON NSW 2294

Email: shaun.smith@rpsgroup.com.au

25 June 2020

By Electronic Mail

Dear Mr Smith

Consultation for Independent Environmental Audit – PF Formation Sand Quarry – EPL 3407

On 15 June 2020 you advised the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) that the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has appointed RPS Australia East Pty Ltd as the independent auditor to undertake the 2020 Independent Environmental Audit. As required by Schedule 5, Condition 6(b) of the consent you are required to engage with relevant agencies as part of the audit process and have invited the EPA to raise any concerns or issues with the site.

PF Formation (Etra Pty Ltd) located at Wisemans Ferry Road, Maroota NSW 2756 (Premises), holds Environment Protection Licence 3916 which permits the following scheduled activities:

- Extractive activities - extraction or processing of more than 30,000 tonnes of extractive materials per year, and
- Concrete works – capacity to produce more than 30,000 tonnes per year of concrete products.

In response to your request, the following issues have been identified at the Premises and it is recommended that these be considered/assessed as part of the audit:

1. Dust generated from haul roads and tracking of dust onto main roads, such as Wisemans Ferry Road, Maroota;
2. Collection and management of surface/stormwater water, which may become contaminated, within the hardstand maintenance workshop area and surrounding area on Lot 198 DP 752025; and
3. Chemical, oil, grease and lubricant products in gallon drums and IBCs, in the maintenance workshop (Lot 198 DP 752025) and in other outdoor areas across the licenced premises, not being stored within an appropriate bunded storage area/bunded container.

All environment protection licences are available on the EPA's Public Register which is accessible via the EPA's website <https://apps.epa.nsw.gov.au/prpoeoapp/>. The Public Register also lists any non-compliances, with a short description, for each licence, annual return (12 month) period.

Should you have any questions, please contact Lisa Crambrook on 02 8837 6079 or email lisa.crambrook@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LARA BARRINGTON', written in a cursive style.

LARA BARRINGTON
Unit Head Regulatory Operations - Metropolitan West



Post Approval

Proponent Details

Personal Details

Title	Mr
First Name	Joshua
Last name	Graham
Email	josh@pfformation.com.au
Phone	0245668257
Role/Position	Director
Address	1774 Wisemans Ferry Road Maroota New South Wales 2756 AUS

Company Details

Applying as a company/business?

Yes

Company Name	PF FORMATION PTY LIMITED
ABN	30003178318
Branch Name	

Primary Contact

Title	Mr
First Name	Joshua
Last Name	Graham
Email	josh@pfformation.com.au
Phone	0245668257
Role/Position	Director

Post Approval Details

Project:

Hitchcock Road Quarry - MP06_0104-PA-4

Name of Document

PR147172_Hitchcock Rd Quarry_IEA_15062020

Related matter

Monitoring Report

Type of Document Lodgement

New Document

Description of the document and reason for submission / Overview of changes made to existing documents

Request for Consultation as part of an Independent Environmental Audit.

The purpose of this consultation is to address any concerns or issues that the DPIE may have with regard to this quarry operation.

Applicable Conditions

Schedule	Condition
5	6(b)

Consultation through the Major Projects portal

Consultation required as part of the preparation of the document?

No

Attachment of Post Approval application

File Name	Category
PR147172_Hitchcock Rd Quarry_IEA_15062020 ltr.pdf	Post Approval Document

From: [Josh Graham](#)
To: [Shaun Smith](#)
Subject: FW: Hitchcock Road Quarry - Post Approval Document Received - (MP06_0104-PA-4)
Date: Monday, 15 June 2020 3:36:27 PM
Attachments: [Untitled attachment 00112.dat](#)
[image002.png](#)
[Post Approval Form_20200615051806.pdf_.dat](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of RPS.

Hi Shaun,

Here is the e mail from DPIE.

Regards

Joshua Graham
Managing Director



1 Patricia Fay Drive
MARROOTA NSW 2756
Ph: 02 45668257
Mbl: 0418 439 923
www.pfformation.com.au

From: no-reply@majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au <no-reply@majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 15 June 2020 3:18 PM
To: josh@pfformation.com.au
Cc: josh@pfformation.com.au
Subject: Hitchcock Road Quarry - Post Approval Document Received - (MP06_0104-PA-4)

Dear Joshua ,

Thank-you, your post approval document in relation to the Hitchcock Road Quarry has been received by the Department. Details of this document are below and in the attachment.

Date Lodged
15/06/2020

Document Name
PR147172_Hitchcock Rd Quarry_IEA_15062020

Description of Document
Request for Consultation as part of an Independent Environmental Audit.
The purpose of this consultation is to address any concerns or issues that the DPIE may have with regard to this quarry operation.

Applicable Conditions

Schedule	Condition
5	6(b)

To sign in to your account click [here](#) or visit the [Major Projects Website](#).

Please do not reply to this email.

Kind regards

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment



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PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

From: [CS Connect Service Centre](#)
To: [Shaun Smith](#)
Subject: FIN0132452 - Hitchcock Road Quarry - PA06_0104 - Independent Environmental Audit
Date: Monday, 15 June 2020 11:55:02 AM
Attachments: [cs_footer.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of RPS.



Hi NRAR Customer,

Thank you for contacting the **Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR)**.

This is an automated email to advise you of the NRAR case number allocated to your enquiry: **FIN0132452**

We will register your enquiry/application and will be in contact with you in response to this matter:

Description - received from:

sydney.region@epa.nsw.gov.au, landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au, kmckenzie@thehills.nsw.gov.au, nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au

Dear Agencies,

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) have been engaged by PF Formation Pty Ltd to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit of their Hitchcock Road Quarry at Hitchcock Road Maroota. The operations relate to PA06_0104 (attached). The Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment approved RPS as the independent auditor on 19 May 2020 (attached).

As per Schedule 5, Condition 6(b) of consent there is a requirement to engaged with relevant agencies as part of the audit process. This email formally invites agencies to raise any concerns or issues that they may have with regard to this quarry operation.

Should you have any issues to discuss please feel free to respond to this email or contact Shaun Smith, Principal Environmental Planner, on 0419 715 665.

Regards

Shaun Smith
Principal Environmental Planner
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific
Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street
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[cid:image003.png@01D6430B.459285E0] <<http://rpsgroup.com>>
rpsgroup.com <<http://rpsgroup.com>>
LinkedIn <<https://www.linkedin.com/company/rps-group>> | Facebook <<https://www.facebook.com/RPSmakingcomplexeasy/>> |
Instagram <<https://www.instagram.com/rps-group/>> | YouTube <<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW82nGFvPwMSNpX-EMw8wFg>>

In response to COVID-19, RPS has adapted the way we work to ensure we remain connected with you and our colleagues, and continue to deliver good work.

We recognise that the months ahead will pose challenges for many of our clients and partners. We're here to help in any way we can. While COVID-19 might separate us physically in the short term, please know that we're here, we're with you and we're stronger together.

If you need support or would like to discuss your forward looking priorities, please get in touch. You can continue to contact me in the usual ways via phone and email, or we can set up a virtual meeting.

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- **Application fees for controlled activity approvals** - https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/160692/Fact-sheet-Application-fees-for-controlled-activity-approvals-2018-19.pdf
- **Guidelines for controlled activities on waterfront land** - <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/natural-resources-access-regulator/policies-and-guidelines>
- **Investigating alleged breaches FAQs** - https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/156893/NRAR-

Investigating-alleged-breaches-FAQs.pdf

· **Compliance with water legislation** - https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/156860/NRAR-Compliance-with-water-legislation.pdf

· **NRAR Prosecution guidelines** - https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/144041/NRAR-Prosecution-guidelines.pdf

· **NRAR compliance approach to Metering Regulations** - https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/205790/NRAR-compliance-approach-metering-regulations-fact-sheet.pdf

Yours sincerely

Natural Resources Access Regulator

Protecting lawful water users and the environment from harmful water activity.

Email: nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 1800 633 362

Website: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/nrar

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From: [Kristine McKenzie](#)
To: [Shaun Smith](#)
Date: Monday, 6 July 2020 9:13:42 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of RPS.

Hi Shaun,

In regard to the request for comments on the site audit report for PF Formation, your request was forwarded to the CCC representatives for review and any comments. I requested that any comments be received by 02 July 2020.

Please note that I received only one comment from a CCC member who also represents the Maroota Public School. She has advised:

Thank you, no issues from me or the school.

I received no other comments.

Regards,



Kristine McKenzie

Principal Executive Planner

+61298430319 | kmckenzie@thehills.nsw.gov.au

Administration Centre, 3 Columbia

Court Norwest NSW 2153

PO Box 7064, NORWEST NSW 2153 | DX 9966

Norwest

www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

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From: [Kristine McKenzie](#)
To: [Shaun Smith](#)
Date: Wednesday, 17 June 2020 2:38:30 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of RPS.

Hi Shaun,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your upcoming Independent Environmental Audit in regard to DA 06_0104 for PF Formation.

The two issues raised are:

1. Ensure that all setback areas are marked with survey markers or similar and that works have not encroached into the setback areas; and
2. The maintenance of landscape screening around the site.

I would request that these matters be reviewed as part of your audit.

In regard to your second email regarding the CCC comments, I have prepared an email and have asked Josh Graham from PF Formation to forward it to the attendees. I have asked the CCC members to provide comments within 14 days – when the time period has closed I will collate the comments and forward them to you.

Please don't hesitate to call or email me if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Regards, Kristine



Kristine McKenzie

Principal Executive Planner

+61298430319 | kmckenzie@thehills.nsw.gov.au

Administration Centre, 3 Columbia

Court Norwest NSW 2153

PO Box 7064, NORWEST NSW 2153 | DX 9966

Norwest

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From: kirstyn.goulding@crowland.nsw.gov.au on behalf of [Lands Ministerials](#)
To: [Shaun Smith](#)
Date: Thursday, 2 July 2020 7:53:50 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of RPS.

Hi Shaun

Crown Lands provides the following comments:-

The proposed project crosses what is known as a haul road from extraction Lot 2 DP 555184 and Lot 1 DP 34599 across multiple private land parcels including a part of Crown land Lot 7005 DP 1005724, this is held under licence 190301 for the purpose of access to Lot 198 DP 752025. Additionally identified is a Crown road east of Lot 2 DP 1063296 which is not impacted by the proposal.

It is noted that:

Under schedule 2 of the project approval consent - Condition 15 refers to: *Crown land - The Proponent shall not commence any development authorised by this approval on Crown land without the prior approval of the Department of Lands.*

As such the Department has no objection to the proposal proceeding.

Thanks

Kirstyn

Lands Stakeholder Relations

Team telephone numbers: Rebecca Johnson, Principal Project Officer, 4920 5040; Kirstyn Goulding, Administration Officer - Customer Liaison, 4920 5058; Kim Fitzpatrick, Senior Project Officer, 4920 5015, Deb Alterator, Project Support Officer 4920 5172

Crown Lands | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

E lands.ministerials@industry.nsw.gov.au

Level 4, 437 Hunter Street Newcastle NSW 2295

www.dpie.nsw.gov.au



Our Vision: Together, we create thriving environments, communities and economies.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to

providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

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From: kirstyn.goulding@crowland.nsw.gov.au on behalf of [Lands Ministerials](#)
To: [Shaun Smith](#)
Subject: Hitchcock Road Quarry - PA06_0104 - Independent Environmental Audit
Date: Thursday, 25 June 2020 7:56:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of RPS.

Hi Shaun

Crown Lands is still investigating the above proposal, as a portion of a Crown road adjoining the proposal has been identified (between Lot 2 DP 228308 to the north and Lot 1 DP 1091018 to the south), as well as a linear parcel of Crown land (between Lot 2 DP 570966 to the west and Lot 2 DP 228308 in the east), but further investigation is required for certainty that these are not going to be affected by the Independent Environmental Audit Area.

Given that further investigation is required for clarification, is it possible to provide comments by Wednesday 1 July 2020?

Thanks

Kirstyn

Lands Stakeholder Relations

Team telephone numbers: Rebecca Johnson, Principal Project Officer, 4920 5040; Kirstyn Goulding, Administration Officer - Customer Liaison, 4920 5058; Kim Fitzpatrick, Senior Project Officer, 4920 5015, Deb Alterator, Project Support Officer 4920 5172

Crown Lands | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

E lands.ministerials@industry.nsw.gov.au

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The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

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From: [Shaun Smith](#)
To: [Kristine McKenzie](#)
Subject: Hitchcock Road Quarry - Independent Environmental Audit
Date: Tuesday, 16 June 2020 9:18:00 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Hi Kristine,

As you would be aware from my email on 15 June 2020 RPS Australia East Pty Ltd have been engaged to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit of PF Formations Hitchcock Road Quarry. As part of the consultation for this audit we are required to engage with the Community Consultative Committee (CCC). As you are the Chair of this committee I am contacting you regarding consulting with the CCC. Could you please advise if the CCC have any issues or concerns they would like addressed as part of this audit.

Please feel free to drop me a line either by email or phone to discuss.

Regards

Shaun Smith

Principal Environmental Planner
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific
Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street
Carrington NSW 2294, Australia
T +61 2 4940 4200
D +61 2 4940 4226 **M** +61 419 715 665
E shaun.smith@rpsgroup.com.au



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We recognise that the months ahead will pose challenges for many of our clients and partners. We're here to help in any way we can. While COVID-19 might separate us physically in the short term, please know that we're here, we're with you and we're stronger together.

If you need support or would like to discuss your forward looking priorities, please get in touch. You can continue to contact me in the usual ways via phone and email, or we can set up a virtual meeting.

From: [Shaun Smith](#)
To: sydney.region@epa.nsw.gov.au; landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au; [Kristine McKenzie](mailto:Kristine.McKenzie@nrar.nsw.gov.au); nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Hitchcock Road Quarry - PA06_0104 - Independent Environmental Audit
Date: Monday, 15 June 2020 11:51:00 AM
Attachments: [Project Approval 06_0104.pdf](#)
[Appointment of Experts5008032.pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)

Dear Agencies,

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) have been engaged by PF Formation Pty Ltd to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit of their Hitchcock Road Quarry at Hitchcock Road Maroota. The operations relate to PA06_0104 (attached). The Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment approved RPS as the independent auditor on 19 May 2020 (attached).

As per Schedule 5, Condition 6(b) of consent there is a requirement to engaged with relevant agencies as part of the audit process. This email formally invites agencies to raise any concerns or issues that they may have with regard to this quarry operation.

Should you have any issues to discuss please feel free to respond to this email or contact Shaun Smith, Principal Environmental Planner, on 0419 715 665.

Regards

Shaun Smith

Principal Environmental Planner
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific
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Carrington NSW 2294, Australia
T +61 2 4940 4200
D +61 2 4940 4226 **M** +61 419 715 665
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From: [Shaun Smith](#)
To: Epa.EDoperationsmetro@epa.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Hitchcock Road Quarry - PA06_0104 - Independent Environmental Audit
Date: Monday, 15 June 2020 12:06:00 PM
Attachments: [Project Approval 06_0104.pdf](#)
[_Appointment of Experts5008032.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Dear Agencies,

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) have been engaged by PF Formation Pty Ltd to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit of their Hitchcock Road Quarry at Hitchcock Road Maroota. The operations relate to PA06_0104 (attached). The Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment approved RPS as the independent auditor on 19 May 2020 (attached).

As per Schedule 5, Condition 6(b) of consent there is a requirement to engaged with relevant agencies as part of the audit process. This email formally invites agencies to raise any concerns or issues that they may have with regard to this quarry operation.

Should you have any issues to discuss please feel free to respond to this email or contact Shaun Smith, Principal Environmental Planner, on 0419 715 665.

Regards

Shaun Smith

Principal Environmental Planner
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If you need support or would like to discuss your forward looking priorities, please get in touch. You can continue to contact me in the usual ways via phone and email, or we can set up a virtual meeting.

Our ref: PR147172-1

Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street
Carrington NSW 2294
T +61 2 4940 4200

Date: 15 June 2020

Secretary
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
4 Parramatta Square
12 Darcy Street
PARAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Hitchcock Road Quarry PA06_0104 – Request for Consultation as part of an Independent Environmental Audit

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) have been engaged to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) of the Hitchcock Road Quarry at located on Hitchcock Road, Maroota. The operations relate to PA06_0104 (refer Attachment 1). The Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment (DPIE) approved RPS as the independent auditor on 19 May 2020 (refer Attachment 2).

As per Schedule 5, Condition 6 (b) of the subject consent, the audit is required to include consultation with relevant agencies. As DPIE is the consent authority and responsible for compliance, we are formally contacting to Department to request consultation.

The purpose of this consultation is to address any concerns or issues that the DPIE may have with regard to this quarry operation.

Should you wish to discuss any further and provide comments, please contact Shaun Smith, Principal Environmental Planner, on (02) 4940 4226 or shaun.smith@rpsgroup.com.au.

Yours sincerely,
for RPS Australia East Pty Ltd



Shaun Smith
Principal Environmental Planner
shaun.smith@rpsgroup.com.au
+61 2 4940 4226

Attachment 1 – PA06_0104

Attachment 2 – IEA Approval Letter from DPIE

Minutes

Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street
Carrington NSW 2294
T +61 2 4940 4200

Reference:	147172-1
Meeting Name:	PF Formation - Pre-Audit Meeting
Meeting date:	23 June 2020
Meeting location:	By Phone

Attendees

Name	Initials	Company	Role
Josh Graham	JG	PF Formation Pty Ltd	Managing Director
Shaun Smith	SS	RPS Group	Principal Environmental Consultant / Assisting Auditor
Ian Richardson	IR	RPS Group	Newcastle General Manager / Lead Auditor

Ref no.	Item	Initials
1.	Overview of audit process, information required, timing, and requirements	IR
2.	Documents to be reviewed	IR
3.	Site walk-over and PPE requirements	IR
4.	Interviews and review of information	IR
5.	EPL not to be audited as part of this audit as per IEA guidelines	IR
6.	Provision of compliance evidence	IR
7.	Stakeholder engagement and CCC	IR
8.	Comments from Hills Shire Council	IR
9.	Open and closing meetings with management	IR

MEETING AGENDA

Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street
Carrington NSW 2294
T +61 2 4940 4200

Reference:	147172
Meeting Name:	PF Formation – Independent Environmental Audit
Meeting date:	25 June 2020
Meeting location:	Hitchcock Road, Maroota

Invitees

Name	Initials	Company	Role
Josh Graham	JG	PF Formation Pty Ltd	Joint Managing Director
Luke Graham	LG	PF Formation Pty Ltd	Joint Managing Director
Shaun Smith	SS	RPS Group	Principal Environmental Consultant / Assisting Auditor
Ian Richardson	IR	RPS Group	Newcastle General Manager / Lead Auditor

Ref no.	Item	Presenter	Time
1.	Opening Meeting - Arrival on site and initial introductions - Site induction and safety briefing - Overview of audit process - Overview of site history, operations and monitoring	RPS, PF Formation	8:30 – 9:30am
2.	Inspection of Site Operations	PF Formation	9:30 – 10:30am
Mid-morning break			
3.	Site Interviews and Document Review - Environmental Management Strategy - Air Quality Management Plan - Water Management Plan (including ESCP, SWMP, and GMP) - Noise Management Plan - Landscape Management Plan		11:00 – 12:45
4.	Morning session re-cap	RPS	12:45pm
Break for Lunch			1:00pm
5.	Site Interviews and Document Review (continued) - Rehabilitation Plan	RPS	1:45 – 3:00pm

Agenda

Ref no.	Item	Presenter	Time
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan- Quarry Closure Plan- EPL		
6.	Additional site inspection	RPS	3:00pm – 4:00pm
7.	Close-out meeting	RPS, PF Formation	4:00pm
8.	Audit Close		4:30pm

Appendix C – Independent Audit Table

AUDIT TABLE: PA 06 0104 AUDIT DATE: 25 JUNE 2020

Approval (ID)	Requirement	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
Schedule 2 Administrative				
Schedule 2 Condition 1	<p>Obligation to Minimise Harm to the Environment</p> <p>The Proponent shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, or rehabilitation of the project.</p>		During site inspections on 25th June 2020 environmental practices observed were generally considered appropriate to minimise harm to the environment. No significant environmental incidents were identified during the audit.	Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 2	<p>Terms of Approval</p> <p>The Proponent shall carry out the project generally in accordance with the:</p> <p>(a) EA;</p> <p>(b) preferred project report;</p> <p>(c) statement of commitments; and</p> <p>(d) conditions of this approval.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The layout of the project is shown in the figure in Appendix 2; and The statement of commitments is included in Appendix 3. 	The development is generally being carried out in accordance with the EA, statement of commitments and with the conditions of approval, however a number of non-compliances were identified.	Recommendations are provided against the specific conditions below.	Non-Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 3	<p>If there is any inconsistency between the above:</p> <p>(a) the preferred project report shall prevail over the EA;</p> <p>(b) the conditions of this approval shall prevail generally, to the extent of the inconsistency.</p>	Noted		Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 4	<p>The Proponent shall comply with any reasonable requirement/s of the Director-General arising from the Department's assessment of:</p> <p>(a) any reports, plans, programs or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with the conditions of this approval; and</p> <p>(b) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these reports, plans, programs or correspondence.</p>	<p>Two voluntary undertakings cited.</p> <p>One for the backfilling of all extraction pits so that they are in accordance with the approved maximum extraction depths and the installation of pegs or RL markers at all extraction pits.</p> <p>The second for the design and construction of a bund at the location of sediment pathways at the South- Western extraction pit, in accordance with relevant guidelines, to prevent any further discharge from the site at the Hitchcock Road (Trig Hill) Quarry site.</p>	Works under both voluntary undertakings were completed during the audit period at the end of 2017. Letter correspondence from DPIE and discussion in the 2017 AEMR (and subsequent approval of the 2017 AEMR) indicates that the works have been undertaken to the satisfaction of the Department.	Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 5	<p>Existing Sand Mining Consent</p> <p>Subject to an agreement in accordance with condition 7 below, the Proponent may accept material extracted from Lot 2 DP 555184 and Lot 1 DP 34599 in accordance with the development consent issued by the Land and Environment Court on 14 July 1998 to be transported across the site and to the slurry plant on Lot 1 DP 570966 via the slurry pipeline and processed on Lot 198 DP 752025.</p>	Noted	Refer to condition 7 below.	Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 6	<p>Limits on Approval</p> <p>Extraction and processing operations may take place until 30 November 2028.</p> <p>Note: Under this approval, the Proponent is required to rehabilitate the site and provide offsets to the satisfaction of the Director-General. Consequently this approval will continue to apply in all other respects other than the right to conduct extraction and processing operations until the site has been rehabilitated and the offset provided to a satisfactory standard.</p>	Noted	Extraction is still within the approved extraction period.	Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 7	<p>The quantity of processed material produced at the site, together with material produced on Lot 2 DP 555184 and Lot 1 DP 34599 in accordance with the development consent issued by the Land and Environment Court on 14 July 1998, shall not exceed 400,000 tonnes a year.</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of any processing of extractive material (under the above consent) from activities on Lot 2 DP 555184 or Lot 1 DP 34599, the Proponent shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Director-General, that it has reached an agreement with the owners of those Lots regarding the proportion of the extraction limit as it applies to each Lot.</p>	Refer to AEMR for details. Sighted weighbridge records on site.	AEMR records demonstrate that quantity of processed material did not exceed 193,000 tonnes/year during the reporting period.	Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 8	<p>The Proponent shall restrict total laden truck movements associated with the project to:</p> <p>(a) 200 per day, for the Proponent's combined operations at Maroota;</p> <p>(b) 20 per day, for trucks importing VENM to the site; and</p> <p>(c) 10 per day, for trucks entering/exiting the site between 6.00am and 7.00am.</p> <p>Note: For the avoidance of doubt, 200 is the maximum laden truck movement volume allowed on any one day, including the VENM and early morning truck movements.</p>	Observed weighbridge records on the site. These indicated: <p>a) Peak movements per day up to 49 truck movements.</p> <p>b) Maximum truck movements for VENM were 20.</p> <p>c) Maximum truck movements between 6am and 7am was 10.</p>	The weighbridge system was restricted so as not to allow weigh off prior to 6am, or for weigh off to occur where peak truck movements had occurred within the 6:00am to 7:00am period.	Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 9	<p>The Proponent shall not undertake any extraction within 2 metres of the established wet weather groundwater level.</p> <p>Note: The wet weather groundwater level shall be established in accordance with condition 3 of Schedule 3.</p>	Department has approved the Pit Shell Plan dated 12/10/2017. Planned maximum depth of extraction is RL187. Current maximum depth of extraction is RL192.		Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 10	<p>The Proponent shall not disturb any SHTW vegetation (as shown on the plan in Appendix 5) on site without the prior written approval of the Director-General. In seeking this approval the Proponent shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Director-General, that it has established at least 3.7 hectares of SHTW on the site, to a standard that meets the criteria in Appendix 6.</p> <p>Note: This demonstration must include an assessment by a suitably qualified and independent ecologist.</p>	Refer to previous audit - SHTW was approved prior to this audit period. No change to this in the current audit period.		Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 11	<p>Management Plans / Monitoring Programs</p> <p>With the approval of the Director-General, the Proponent may submit any management plan or monitoring program required by this approval on a progressive basis.</p>	Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Letter from DPE dated 23 Nov 2017, noting that management plans and vegetation offset bond for the site have satisfied the Departments requirements and also meet the requirements for satisfaction of Schedule 5 Condition 8 as indicated below.	Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 12	<p>Demolition</p> <p>The Proponent shall ensure that all demolition work is carried out in accordance with AS 2601-2001: The Demolition of Structures, or its latest version.</p>	Noted - not triggered in this audit period.		Not Triggered
Schedule 2 Condition 13	<p>Protection of Public Infrastructure</p> <p>The Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) repair, or pay all reasonable costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the project; and</p> <p>(b) relocate, or pay all reasonable costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the project.</p>	Noted - not triggered in this audit period.		Not Triggered
Schedule 2 Condition 14	<p>Operation of Plant and Equipment</p> <p>The Proponent shall ensure that all plant and equipment used at the site is:</p> <p>(a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and</p> <p>(b) operated in a proper and efficient condition.</p>	Observed new equipment in use on site. Vehicles on servicing contract. Internal servicing is conducted as well as regular servicing by suppliers.		Compliant
Schedule 2 Condition 15	<p>Crown Land</p> <p>The Proponent shall not commence any development authorised by this approval on Crown land without the prior approval of the Department of Lands.</p>		Crown Lands email dated 2 July 2020 indicating that there is existing Crown approval under license 190301.	Compliant

Schedule 2 Condition 16	Section 94 Contributions The Proponent shall pay a monthly contribution to the Council for the upgrade and maintenance of roads in accordance with Baulkham Hills Shire Council's section 94 plan in force at the date of this approval.	Observed invoices and payment receipts for S94 contributions while on site.		Compliant																																																
Schedule 3 Environmental Performance																																																				
Schedule 3 Condition 1	GENERAL EXTRACTION AND PROCESSING PROVISIONS Identification of Boundaries Within 3 months of the date of this approval, or as otherwise agreed by the Director-General, the Proponent shall: (a) engage an independent registered surveyor to survey the boundaries of the approved limit of extraction and the approved ancillary work areas; (b) submit a survey plan of these boundaries to the Director-General; and (c) ensure that these boundaries are clearly marked at all times in a permanent manner that allows operating staff and inspecting officers to clearly identify those limits. <i>Note: The limit of extraction and ancillary areas is shown conceptually on the layout plans in Appendix 2, as amended/clarified by the conditions below.</i>		a) Approved survey plans were reviewed under the previous audit. Subsequent survey plans dated 4 Oct 2018 were also observed for the site during this audit. b) Extraction boundaries had previously been marked with star pickets, although during the site inspection it was observed that these boundaries were not clearly identified in some areas. These markings should be reviewed, provided with clear signage and updated.	Non-Compliant																																																
Schedule 3 Condition 2	General Limits of Extraction Notwithstanding the layout plans in Appendix 2, the Proponent shall not undertake extraction within: (a) 30 metres of Hitchcock Road; and (b) 10 metres of the property boundary of Lot 2 DP 555184, unless sand extraction has commenced on that lot, and extraction in this buffer has been agreed by the Director-General.	Observed survey plan and on site to indicate setbacks.	Site observations indicated extraction was within defined limits.	Compliant																																																
Schedule 3 Condition 3	Maximum Extraction Depth Map The Proponent shall: (a) establish the wet weather groundwater level for the site based on all available (and at least 12 months) site specific groundwater monitoring data; (b) engage a suitably qualified and experienced expert to establish the maximum extraction depths to which extraction can be undertaken on site, to comply with condition 9 of Schedule 2; (c) submit a Maximum Extraction Depth Map (contour map or similar) for the project to the Director-General within 3 months of the date of this approval; and (d) comply with the extraction depths specified in the map, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.		Letter from Department dated 23 November 2017 confirming receipt and approval of the updated pit shell plan dated 12 October 2017.	Compliant																																																
Schedule 3 Condition 4	Within 3 months of the completion of the Independent Environmental Audit (see condition 6 of Schedule 5), the Proponent shall review and update the Maximum Extraction Depth Map for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General.	Maximum Extraction Depth Map was submitted to Department on 25 July 2017. Following this the Department requested this be updated. The Pit Shell Plan was then developed and submitted as above.	Letter from Department dated 23 November 2017 confirming receipt and approval of the updated pit shell plan dated 12 October 2017.	Compliant																																																
Schedule 3 Condition 5	NOISE Operational Noise Assessment Criteria The Proponent shall ensure that the noise generated by the project does not exceed the noise impact assessment criteria in Table 1 at any residence or on more than 25 per cent of any privately-owned land. <table border="1"><thead><tr><th rowspan="2">Noise Assessment Location</th><th colspan="2">Day</th><th colspan="2">Night</th></tr><tr><th>L_{Aeq} (15 minute)</th><th>L_{Aeq} (15 minute)</th><th>L_{A1} (1 minute)</th><th>L_{A1} (1 minute)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>R1 - Hammond</td><td>41</td><td>35</td><td>45</td><td>45</td></tr><tr><td>R2 - Hitchcock</td><td>40</td><td>35</td><td>45</td><td>45</td></tr><tr><td>R5 - Pignataro</td><td>42</td><td>35</td><td>45</td><td>45</td></tr><tr><td>R6 - Camilleri</td><td>40</td><td>35</td><td>45</td><td>45</td></tr><tr><td>R7 - Maroota Public School</td><td>36(L_{Aeq} 1 Hour)</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td></tr><tr><td>R8 - Portelli</td><td>39</td><td>35</td><td>45</td><td>45</td></tr><tr><td>R9 - Young</td><td>39</td><td>35</td><td>45</td><td>45</td></tr><tr><td>R10 - Tornatola</td><td>39</td><td>35</td><td>45</td><td>45</td></tr></tbody></table> Table 1: Noise Impact Assessment Criteria <i>Notes:</i> • To determine compliance with the L _{Aeq} (15 minute) noise limits, noise from the project is to be measured at the most affected point within the residential boundary, or at the most affected point within 30 metres of the dwelling where the dwelling is more than 30 metres from the boundary. Where it can be demonstrated that direct measurement of noise from the project is impractical, alternative means of determining compliance may be accepted (see Chapter 11 of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy). The modification factors in Section 4 of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy shall also be applied to the measured noise level where applicable. • To determine compliance with the L _{A1} (1 minute) limit, noise from the project is to be measured at 1 metre from the dwelling façade. • The noise limits apply under meteorological conditions of: - wind speed up to 3m/s at 10m above ground level; - temperature inversion conditions of up to 3 degrees C/100m and wind speed up to 2m/s at 10m above the ground; where the wind velocity and temperature gradients are determined to be relevant to the project site in accordance with the NSW Industrial Noise Policy. • The Director-General may relax the noise limits in Table 1 for any property where the Proponent has an agreement with the relevant owner/s to generate higher noise levels, and the Proponent has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement. • For more information on the noise assessment locations see Appendix 4.	Noise Assessment Location	Day		Night		L _{Aeq} (15 minute)	L _{Aeq} (15 minute)	L _{A1} (1 minute)	L _{A1} (1 minute)	R1 - Hammond	41	35	45	45	R2 - Hitchcock	40	35	45	45	R5 - Pignataro	42	35	45	45	R6 - Camilleri	40	35	45	45	R7 - Maroota Public School	36(L _{Aeq} 1 Hour)	N/A	N/A	N/A	R8 - Portelli	39	35	45	45	R9 - Young	39	35	45	45	R10 - Tornatola	39	35	45	45	Noise monitoring results have been included in AEMRs. No exceedances noted during the audit period.	Compliant
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Schedule 3 Condition 6	Cumulative Noise Criteria The Proponent shall take all reasonable and feasible measures to ensure that the noise generated by the project combined with the noise generated by other extractive industries does not exceed the following amenity criteria on any privately owned land, to the satisfaction of the Director-General: • L _{Aeq} (11 hour) 50 dB(A) – Day; • L _{Aeq} (4 hour) 45 dB(A) – Evening; and • L _{Aeq} (9 hour) 40 dB(A) – Night.	Noise monitoring results have been included in AEMRs. No exceedances noted during the audit period.		Compliant																																																

Schedule 3 Condition 7	<p>Operating Hours</p> <p>The Proponent shall comply with the operating hours in Table 2.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="290 216 914 420"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Day</th> <th>Time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Construction work</td> <td>Monday - Friday</td> <td>7.00am to 6.00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday</td> <td>8.00am to 1.00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday and Public Holidays</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Quarrying and Processing, (inc. overburden removal)</td> <td>Monday – Saturday</td> <td>7.00am to 6.00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday and Public Holidays</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Product Transportation</td> <td>Monday – Saturday</td> <td>6.00am to 6.00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday and Public Holidays</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Maintenance</td> <td>Monday – Saturday</td> <td>7.00am to 6.00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday and Public Holidays</td> <td>None</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Product transportation prior to 7.00am is restricted as per condition 8 of Schedule 2. Maintenance activities may be conducted outside the hours in Table 2 provided that the activities are not audible at any residence beyond the boundary of the site. This condition does not apply to delivery of material if that delivery is required by police or other authorities for safety reasons, and/or the operation or personnel or equipment are endangered. In such circumstances, notification is to be provided to DECC and the affected residents as soon as possible, or within a reasonable period in the case of emergency. 	Activity	Day	Time	Construction work	Monday - Friday	7.00am to 6.00pm	Saturday	8.00am to 1.00pm	Sunday and Public Holidays	None	Quarrying and Processing, (inc. overburden removal)	Monday – Saturday	7.00am to 6.00pm	Sunday and Public Holidays	None	Product Transportation	Monday – Saturday	6.00am to 6.00pm	Sunday and Public Holidays	None	Maintenance	Monday – Saturday	7.00am to 6.00pm	Sunday and Public Holidays	None	Noted - refer previous comments regarding weighbridge records.		Compliant
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Schedule 3 Condition 8	<p>Noise Management Plan</p> <p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Noise Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan shall:</p> <p>(a) be submitted to the Director-General within 3 months of the date of this approval;</p> <p>(b) be prepared in consultation with DECC;</p> <p>(c) include details of how the noise performance of the project would be monitored, and include a noise monitoring protocol for evaluating compliance with the relevant noise limits in this approval; and</p> <p>(d) include an investigation and assessment (including modelling) of additional reasonable and feasible noise mitigation measures that would be implemented to ensure that noise emissions at all stages of the project comply with the noise impact assessment criteria in Table 1.</p> <p>Note: The EA predicted that receiver locations R5, R6, R9 and R10 would exceed the applicable noise criteria by between 2 and 5 decibels, during worst case operations.</p>	Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Letter from DPE dated 23 Nov 2017, noting that management plans and vegetation offset bond for the site have satisfied the Departments requirements and also meet the requirements for satisfaction of Schedule 5 Condition 8 as indicated below.	Compliant																									
Schedule 3 Condition 9	<p>If the additional noise mitigation measures identified in condition 8(d) are not able to reduce noise levels to within 2 decibels of the impact assessment criteria in Table 1 then, upon receiving a written request from the applicable landowner, the Proponent shall implement additional noise mitigation measures such as double glazing, insulation, and/or air conditioning at any residence on the land in consultation with the landowner.</p> <p>These additional mitigation measures must be reasonable and feasible.</p> <p>If within 3 months of receiving this request from the landowner, the Proponent and the landowner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Director-General for resolution.</p>	Noted - not triggered in this audit period.		Not Triggered																									
Schedule 3 Condition 10	<p>AIR QUALITY</p> <p>Impact Assessment Criteria</p> <p>The Proponent shall ensure that dust generated by the project does not cause exceedances of the criteria listed in Tables 3, 4 and 5 at any residence or on more than 25 per cent of any privately owned land.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="290 1039 914 1129"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Averaging period</th> <th>Criterion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter</td> <td>Annual</td> <td>90 µg/m³</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM₁₀)</td> <td>Annual</td> <td>30 µg/m³</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 3: Long Term Impact Assessment Criteria for Particulate Matter</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="290 1178 914 1241"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Averaging period</th> <th>Criterion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM₁₀)</td> <td>24 hour</td> <td>50 µg/m³</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 4: Short Term Impact Assessment Criteria for Particulate Matter</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="290 1289 914 1367"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Averaging period</th> <th>Maximum increase in deposited dust level</th> <th>Maximum total deposited dust level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Deposited dust</td> <td>Annual</td> <td>2 g/m²/month</td> <td>4 g/m²/month</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 5: Long Term Impact Assessment Criteria for Deposited Dust</p> <p>Note: Deposited dust is assessed as insoluble solids as defined by Standards Australia, 1991, AS 3580.10.1- 1991: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air - Determination of Particulates - Deposited Matter - Gravimetric Method.</p>	Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion	Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	90 µg/m ³	Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM ₁₀)	Annual	30 µg/m ³	Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion	Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM ₁₀)	24 hour	50 µg/m ³	Pollutant	Averaging period	Maximum increase in deposited dust level	Maximum total deposited dust level	Deposited dust	Annual	2 g/m ² /month	4 g/m ² /month	Air quality monitoring results have been included in AEMRs. No exceedances noted during the audit period.		Compliant		
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Deposited dust	Annual	2 g/m ² /month	4 g/m ² /month																										
Schedule 3 Condition 11	<p>Operating Conditions</p> <p>The Proponent shall ensure any visible air pollution generated by the project is assessed regularly, and that quarrying operations are relocated, modified, and/or stopped as required to minimise air quality impacts on privately owned land.</p>	Conditions on the day of the audit indicated roadways and extraction activities were being managed to minimise dust generation. There is an agreement with Dickson Sands that if a TEOM based at Maroota Public School demonstrates an exceedance this will be notified to the site. No exceedances have been noted during this audit period.		Compliant																									
Schedule 3 Condition 12	<p>Air Quality Monitoring</p> <p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Air Quality Monitoring Program for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This program shall:</p> <p>(a) be submitted to the Director-General for approval within 3 months of the date of this approval;</p> <p>(b) be prepared in consultation with DECC;</p> <p>(c) include details of how the air quality performance of the project would be monitored, providing for additional dust deposition monitoring in the vicinity of clusters of residences to the north and west of the site; and</p> <p>(d) include a protocol for evaluating compliance with the relevant air quality criteria in this approval.</p>	Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Letter from DPE dated 23 Nov 2017, noting that management plans and vegetation offset bond for the site have satisfied the Departments requirements and also meet the requirements for satisfaction of Schedule 5 Condition 8 as indicated below.	Compliant																									
Schedule 3 Condition 13	<p>METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING</p> <p>The Proponent shall ensure the project has a suitable meteorological station on the site or in the immediate vicinity that complies with the requirements in the Approved Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales publication.</p>	A meteorological station is located at the Workshop on Lot 198.		Compliant																									

Schedule 3 Condition 14	WATER Water Supply The Proponent shall ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the project, and if necessary, adjust the scale of operations to match its water supply. <i>Note: The Proponent is required to obtain necessary water licences for the project under the Water Act 1912 and/or Water Management Act 2000.</i>	The site has a Water Licence for extraction. A copy of the WAL was sent via email.		Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 15	Discharges The Proponent shall not discharge any water from the quarry or its associated operations except in accordance with an EPL.	No discharges occurred from site during the audit period.		Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 16	Water Management and Monitoring The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Water Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan shall: (a) be submitted to the Director-General within 3 months of the date of this approval; (b) be prepared in consultation with DWE and DECC; and (c) include a: • Site Water Balance; • Erosion and Sediment Control Plan; • Surface Water Monitoring Program; and • Groundwater Monitoring Program.	Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Letter from DPE dated 23 Nov 2017, noting that management plans and vegetation offset bond for the site have satisfied the Departments requirements and also meet the requirements for satisfaction of Schedule 5 Condition 8 as indicated below.	Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 17	The Site Water Balance shall: (a) include details of: • sources and security of water supply; • water use on site; • water management on site, including the location and capacity of water storages on site and the means of access; • off-site water transfers; and • reporting procedures; and (b) investigate and describe measures to minimise water use by the project.	Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed. This included the Water Management Plan which contains the Site Water Balance. An updated water balance has been prepared in response to issues raised by DPI-Water in 2017. This was sent to DPI-Water in March 2018. This was most recently followed up 14 November 2018. No response has been received to date.	Update Site Water Balance post the 2020 audit and ensure feedback and acknowledgement is provided by DPIE.	Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 18	The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan shall: (a) be consistent with the requirements of Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction, Volume 1, 4th Edition, 2004 (Landcom); (b) identify activities that could cause soil erosion and generate sediment; (c) describe measures to minimise soil erosion and the potential for the transport of sediment to downstream waters; (d) describe the location, function, and capacity of erosion and sediment control structures; (e) demonstrate that the design capacity of basins intended to collect storm runoff will not be compromised by storage of operational water; and (f) describe what measures would be implemented to maintain (and if necessary decommission) the structures over time.	The Water Management Plan contains water balance, erosion and sediment control plan, surface water monitoring program and groundwater monitoring program. Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	During the site inspection, sediment fences on the southern boundary of the Pit 14 tailings dam were observed full of sediment, and with damage to the top of sediment fencing along the top wire. These sediment fences should be cleaned out to ensure they maintain their integrity, and should form part of regular inspections and maintenance.	Non-Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 19	The Surface Water Monitoring Program shall include: (a) detailed baseline data on surface water flows and quality in downstream watercourses that could be affected by the project; (b) surface water quality and stream health assessment criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse surface water impacts; and (c) a program to monitor: • surface water flows, quality, and impacts on water users; • stream health; and • channel stability.	The Water Management Plan contains water balance, erosion and sediment control plan, surface water monitoring program and groundwater monitoring program. Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Surface water monitoring results have been included in AEMRs. No exceedances noted during the audit period.	Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 20	The Groundwater Monitoring Program shall include: (a) provision of additional monitoring bores around the periphery of the site; (b) detailed baseline data on groundwater levels, flows and quality in the region, and particularly any groundwater bores, springs and seeps (including spring and seep fed dams) that may be affected by operations on site; (c) groundwater assessment criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse groundwater impacts; (d) a program to monitor: • groundwater levels and quality in new and existing monitoring bores; • the impacts of the project on: - any groundwater bores, springs and seeps (including spring and seep fed farm dams) on privately-owned land; and - any groundwater dependent ecosystems; and (e) a protocol for further groundwater modelling to confirm the limits to excavation depth across the site permitted in accordance with condition 9 of Schedule 2.	The Water Management Plan contains water balance, erosion and sediment control plan, surface water monitoring program and groundwater monitoring program. Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Groundwater monitoring results have been included in AEMRs. No exceedances noted during the audit period.	Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 21	LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT Rehabilitation The Proponent shall progressively rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Director-General, in a manner that is generally consistent with the concept final landform (Strategy A or Strategy B) in the preferred project report (as reproduced in Appendix 7).	The Landscape Management Plan contains details for the ongoing rehabilitation of the site. Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	The AEMR documents current rehabilitation status for the site in the attached Rehabilitation Monitoring report, and rehabilitation areas were reviewed during the site inspection. An inspection and review of rehabilitation monitoring results indicate that established rehab areas are meeting or exceeding rehabilitation targets. Review of these areas on site identified some minor areas of weed impact, although a number of these areas appeared to have been recently treated. It is recommended that regular inspections of these areas is undertaken to ensure weed management and general rehab health is maintained.	Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 22	Offset Strategy The Proponent shall implement the Offset Strategy described in the preferred project report, and summarised in Table 6 (shown conceptually on the plan in Appendix 5), to the satisfaction of the Director-General. <table border="1" data-bbox="290 1522 914 1648"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>Minimum Size (hectares)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>On-Site Revegetation Area (SHTW)</td> <td>7.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>On-Site Revegetation Area (Other Woodland)</td> <td>4.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <i>Table 6: Offset Strategy</i>	Area	Minimum Size (hectares)	On-Site Revegetation Area (SHTW)	7.9	On-Site Revegetation Area (Other Woodland)	4.1	Total	12	The Landscape Management Plan contains details for the ongoing rehabilitation of the site and offset strategies. Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Existing offset areas were observed during the site inspection. It is noted that a new modification is currently being prepared to confirm and consolidate the offset strategy for the site. Refer to SEE for details	Compliant
Area	Minimum Size (hectares)											
On-Site Revegetation Area (SHTW)	7.9											
On-Site Revegetation Area (Other Woodland)	4.1											
Total	12											
Schedule 3 Condition 23	Within 3 years of the date of this approval, the Proponent shall make suitable arrangements to provide appropriate long term security for the offset areas to the satisfaction of the Director-General. <i>Note: The Department acknowledges that the arrangements may provide for staged or delayed implementation, in accordance with the extraction in these areas.</i>	The Landscape Management Plan contains details for the ongoing rehabilitation of the site and offset strategies. Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	The Landscape Management Plan references the offset strategy for the site, however there was no evidence available to confirm these arrangements have been implemented to the satisfaction of the Director-General. A revised Offset Management Plan is currently being prepared as part of an application for a consent modification.	Non-Compliant								
Schedule 3 Condition 24	Landscape Management Plan The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Landscape Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan must: (a) be prepared in consultation with DECC by suitably qualified expert/s whose appointment/s have been approved by the Director-General; (b) be submitted to the Director-General for approval within 6 months of the date of this approval; and (c) include a: • Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan; and • Quarry Closure Plan.	The Landscape Management Plan contains details for the ongoing rehabilitation of the site and offset strategies. Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.		Compliant								

Schedule 3 Condition 25	<p>Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan</p> <p>The Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan must include:</p> <p>(a) the rehabilitation objectives for the site, vegetation offsets and landscaping;</p> <p>(b) a description of the short, medium, and long term measures that would be implemented to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rehabilitate the site; • implement the Offset Strategy; and • maintain and enhance existing site vegetation outside the disturbance area; <p>(c) detailed performance and completion criteria for the site rehabilitation and implementation of the Offset Strategy;</p> <p>(d) a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented over the next 3 years, including the procedures to be implemented for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • progressively rehabilitating disturbed areas; • implementing vegetation offsets; • protecting vegetation and soil outside the disturbance areas; • rehabilitating creeks and drainage lines on the site to ensure no net loss of stream length and aquatic habitat; • undertaking pre-clearance surveys; • managing impacts on fauna; • landscaping the site to minimise visual impacts; • conserving and reusing topsoil; • collecting and propagating seed for rehabilitation works; • salvaging and reusing material from the site for habitat enhancement; • controlling weeds and feral pests; • controlling access; and • bushfire management; <p>(e) a program to monitor the effectiveness of these measures, and progress against the performance and completion criteria;</p> <p>(f) a description of the potential risks to successful rehabilitation and/or revegetation, and a description of the contingency measures that would be implemented to mitigate these risks; and</p> <p>(g) details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing, and implementing the plan.</p>	The Landscape Management Plan contains details for the ongoing rehabilitation of the site and offset strategies. Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 26	<p>Quarry Closure Plan</p> <p>The Quarry Closure Plan must:</p> <p>(a) include provision for certification from a qualified geotechnical engineer that the final proposed landform is stable;</p> <p>(b) define the objectives and criteria for closure of the quarry;</p> <p>(c) investigate options for the future use of the site, including any final void;</p> <p>(d) describe the measures that would be implemented to minimise or manage the ongoing (post closure) environmental effects of the project; and</p> <p>(e) describe how the performance of these measures would be monitored over time.</p>	Noted - refer above		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 27	<p>Rehabilitation and Offset Bond</p> <p>Within 3 months of the approval of the Landscape Management Plan, the Proponent shall lodge a rehabilitation and offset bond for the project with the Director-General. The sum of the bond shall be calculated at:</p> <p>(a) \$2.50/m² for the area of disturbance in each 3 year review period, including the offset areas; and</p> <p>(b) \$1.00/m² for the total area of land previously disturbed by the quarry, or as otherwise directed by the Director-General.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the rehabilitation and offsets are completed to the satisfaction of the Director-General, the Director-General will release the bond. • If the rehabilitation and/or offsets are not completed to the satisfaction of the Director-General, the Director-General will call in all or part of the bond, and arrange for the satisfactory completion of the relevant works. 	Letter from Department dated 23 Nov 2017 confirming management plans and vegetation offset bond. Refer response to rehab and offset bond - Josh to send. Sighted bank transfer dated 19th May 2020.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 28	<p>ABORIGINAL HERITAGE</p> <p>Should the Proponent discover material suspected of being Aboriginal relics or skeletal remains, work in that area shall cease and the Proponent shall advise DECC and proceed in accordance with DECC instructions.</p>	Not triggered		Not Triggered
Schedule 3 Condition 29	<p>TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT</p> <p>Materials Transport</p> <p>The Proponent shall transport all excavated material between the extraction site and processing plant site, including processing residues, via slurry pipelines.</p> <p><i>Note: When the slurry system is unusable by reason of breakdown or essential maintenance, extractive material may be transported by truck during the period of such breakdown or maintenance. The Proponent shall ensure that such periods are as brief as possible and shall advise the Council each day that truck transport is to be used.</i></p>	No change from previous. Observed slurry pipeline transporting materials to the processing plant.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 30	<p>Haulage Records</p> <p>The Proponent shall record and maintain a log of the extraction quantities and traffic movement in and out of the site, available for inspection at the request of the Director-General or the Council.</p>	Observed records for weighbridge on site.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 31	<p>Road Haulage</p> <p>The Proponent shall ensure that:</p> <p>(a) all loaded vehicles entering or leaving the site are covered; and</p> <p>(b) all loaded vehicles leaving the site are cleaned of materials that may fall on the road, before they leave the site.</p>	Observed trucks leaving the site with covers in place during the site audit.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 32	<p>VISUAL</p> <p>Visual Amenity</p> <p>The Proponent shall minimise the visual impacts of the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General.</p>	Visual bunds were observed during the course of the audit. It was noted that the set back bund on the southern boundary of Lot 2 DP 228308 had been during installed during the audit period to reduce visibility into the site.	It is recommended that the set back bund on the southern boundary of Lot 2 DP 228308 is planted to provide some stabilisation of this bund and an additional visual barrier.	Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 33	<p>Lighting Emissions</p> <p>The Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) take all practicable measures to mitigate off-site lighting impacts from the project; and</p> <p>(b) ensure that all external lighting associated with the project complies with Australian Standard AS4282 (INT) 1995 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.</p>	No issues noted during the audit.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 34	<p>Advertising</p> <p>The Proponent shall not erect or display any advertising structure(s) or signs on the site without the written approval of the Director-General.</p> <p><i>Note: This does not include traffic management and safety or environmental signs.</i></p>	Location of advertising signs was consistent with those approved signs present during the previous audit.		Compliant

Schedule 3 Condition 35	WASTE MANAGEMENT Waste Minimisation The Proponent shall: (a) only import VENM to the site; and (b) minimise the amount of waste generated by the project to the satisfaction of the Director- General.	Records for import of VENM were observed, including separate weighbridge records for VENM. Records for waste disposal from site were also observed, including invoices from waste contractors for transport and disposal.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 36	EMERGENCY AND HAZARDS MANAGEMENT Dangerous Goods The Proponent shall ensure that the storage, handling, and transport of dangerous goods are conducted in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards, particularly AS1940 and AS1596, and the Dangerous Goods Code.	Observed storage of dangerous goods on site. This consisted of oils, coolants, greases and diesel. These goods were stored in manufactured storage containers to meet the requirements of AS1940.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 37	Safety The Proponent shall secure the project to ensure public safety to the satisfaction of the Director- General.	Signs and fencing are in place to identify and secure the site to prevent access by the public.		Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 38	Bushfire Management The Proponent shall: (a) ensure that the project is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on-site; and (b) assist the Rural Fire Service and emergency services as much as possible if there is a fire on site.	Covered under PIRMP.	PIRMP cited.	Compliant
Schedule 3 Condition 39	PRODUCTION DATA The Proponent shall: (a) provide annual production data to the DPI using the standard form for that purpose; and (b) include a copy of this data in the AEMR.	a) Observed records of forms submitted to DPI- Lands, however this b) Discrepancy between values of total site production on the form required in Section a). This appears to be due to the inclusion of Lot 198 in the form response data. The Lot 198 AEMR indicates the difference.		Compliant
Schedule 4 Additional Procedures				
Schedule 4 Condition 1	NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS If the results of monitoring required in Schedule 3 identify that impacts generated by the project are greater than the relevant impact assessment criteria, then the Proponent shall notify the Director- General and the affected landowners and/or existing or future tenants accordingly, and provide quarterly monitoring results to each of these parties until the results show that the project is complying with the relevant criteria.	Not triggered, however monitoring results are available on line.		Not Triggered
Schedule 4 Condition 2	INDEPENDENT REVIEW If a landowner of privately owned land considers that the operations of the quarry are exceeding the impact assessment criteria in Schedule 3, then he/she may ask the Proponent in writing for an independent review of the impacts of the project on his/her land. If the Director-General is satisfied that an independent review is warranted, the Proponent shall within 3 months of the Director-General advising that an independent review is warranted: (a) consult with the landowner to determine his/her concerns; (b) commission a suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, whose appointment has been approved by the Director-General, to conduct monitoring on the land, to determine whether the project is complying with the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, and identify the source(s) and scale of any impact on the land, and the project's contribution to this impact; and (c) give the Director-General and landowner a copy of the independent review.	Not triggered.		Not Triggered
Schedule 4 Condition 3	If the independent review determines that the quarrying operations are complying with the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, then the Proponent may discontinue the independent review with the approval of the Director-General.	Not triggered.		Not Triggered
Schedule 4 Condition 4	If the independent review determines that the quarrying operations are not complying with the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, and that the quarry is primarily responsible for this non-compliance, then the Proponent shall: (a) implement all reasonable and feasible measures, in consultation with the landowner, to ensure that the project complies with the relevant criteria; and (b) conduct further monitoring to determine whether these measures ensure compliance; or (c) secure a written agreement with the landowner to allow exceedances of the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, to the satisfaction of the Director-General. If the additional monitoring referred to above subsequently determines that the quarrying operations are complying with the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, then the Proponent may discontinue the independent review with the approval of the Director-General. If the Proponent is unable to finalise an agreement with the landowner, then the Proponent or landowner may refer the matter to the Director-General for resolution. If the matter cannot be resolved within 21 days, the Director-General shall refer the matter to an Independent Dispute Resolution Process (see Appendix 8).	Not triggered		Not Triggered
Schedule 4 Condition 5	If the landowner disputes the results of the independent review, either the Proponent or the landowner may refer the matter to the Director-General for resolution. If the matter cannot be resolved within 21 days, the Director-General shall refer the matter to an Independent Dispute Resolution Process (see Appendix 8).	Not triggered		Not Triggered
Schedule 5 Environmental Management, Monitoring, Reporting & Auditing				
Schedule 5 Condition 1	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Environmental Management Strategy for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This strategy shall be submitted to the Director-General within 3 months of the date of this approval, and; (a) provide the strategic context for environmental management of the project; (b) identify the statutory requirements that apply to the project; (c) describe in general how the environmental performance of the project would be monitored and managed; (d) describe the procedures that would be implemented to: • keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the construction, operation and environmental performance of the project; • receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints; • resolve any disputes that may arise during the life of the project; • respond to any non-compliance; • manage cumulative impacts; and • respond to emergencies; and (e) describe the role, responsibility, authority, and accountability of the key personnel involved in the environmental management of the project.	Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Letter from DPE dated 23 Nov 2017, noting that management plans and vegetation offset bond for the site have satisfied the Departments requirements.	Compliant
Schedule 5 Condition 2	ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM The Proponent shall prepare an Environmental Monitoring Program for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This program shall be submitted to the Director-General concurrently with the submission of the various monitoring programs and consolidate the various monitoring requirements in Schedule 3 of this approval into a single document.	Management plans were updated post the previous audit. Records of approval for these were observed.	Letter from DPE dated 23 Nov 2017, noting that management plans and vegetation offset bond for the site have satisfied the Departments requirements.	Compliant

Schedule 5 Condition 3	REPORTING Incident Reporting Within 24 hours of detecting an exceedance of the limits/performance criteria in this approval or the occurrence of an incident that causes (or may cause) harm to the environment, the Proponent shall notify the Department and other relevant agencies of the exceedance/incident.	Not triggered. Although refer to undertakings.		Not Triggered
Schedule 5 Condition 4	Within 6 days of notifying the Department and other relevant agencies of an exceedance/incident, the Proponent shall provide the Department and these agencies with a written report that: (a) describes the date, time, and nature of the exceedance/incident; (b) identifies the cause (or likely cause) of the exceedance/incident; (c) describes what action has been taken to date; and (d) describes the proposed measures to address the exceedance/incident.	Refer above		Not Triggered
Schedule 5 Condition 5	Annual Reporting Within 12 months of the date of this approval, and annually thereafter, the Proponent shall submit an AEMR to the Director-General, relevant agencies and CCC. This report shall: (a) identify the standards and performance measures that apply to the project; (b) describe the works that will be carried out in the next 12 months; (c) include a summary of the complaints received during the past year, and compare this to the complaints received in previous years; (d) include a summary of the monitoring results for the project during the past year; (e) include an analysis of these monitoring results against the relevant: • impact assessment criteria/limits; • monitoring results from previous years; and • predictions in the EA; (f) identify any trends in the monitoring results over the life of the project; (g) identify any non-compliance during the previous year; and (h) describe what actions were, or are being, taken to ensure compliance.	No evidence of receipt of the AEMR by the Director General for 2018-2019 period, however an email follow up to the Department was observed dated 19.12.2019 demonstrating that the report was provided to the Department.		Compliant
Schedule 5 Condition 6	INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT Within 12 months of the date of this approval, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Director-General directs otherwise, the Proponent shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the project. This audit shall: (a) be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced, and independent person(s) whose appointment has been approved by the Director-General; (b) include consultation with the relevant agencies; (c) assess the environmental performance of the project, and its effects on the surrounding environment; (d) assess whether the project is complying with the relevant standards, performance measures and statutory requirements; and (e) review the adequacy of any strategy/plan/program required under this approval, and, if necessary, recommend measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the project, and/or any strategy/plan/program required under this approval. <i>Note: The person(s) conducting the audit should have expertise in flora and fauna assessment, hydrogeology and quarry rehabilitation.</i>	Noted - this audit		Compliant
Schedule 5 Condition 7	Within 6 weeks of completion of each Independent Environmental Audit, the Proponent shall submit a copy of the audit report to the Director-General, with a response to any of the recommendations in the audit report.	Sighted copy of submission of the original audit report to the Department dated 13th June 2017. The Department subsequently required review of the IEA, with the amended report submitted 30 August 2017. Acceptance of this audit report was observed in a letter from the Department dated 9 July 2018.		Compliant
Schedule 5 Condition 8	Within 3 months of submitting a copy of the audit report to the Director-General, the Proponent shall review and if necessary revise: (a) each of the environmental management and monitoring strategies/plans/programs in Schedules 3 and 5; and (b) the sum of the Vegetation Offset Bond (see Schedule 3). This review shall consider: • the effects of inflation; • any changes to the total area of disturbance; and • the performance of the vegetation offsets against the completion criteria of the Rehabilitation and Vegetation Offset Management Plan, to the satisfaction of the Director-General	Letter from DPE dated 23 Nov 2017, noting that management plans and vegetation offset bond for the site have satisfied the Departments requirements and also meet the requirements for satisfaction of Schedule 5 Condition 8.	Letter from DPE dated 23 Nov 2017, noting that management plans and vegetation offset bond for the site have satisfied the Departments requirements and also meet the requirements for satisfaction of Schedule 5 Condition 8.	Compliant
Schedule 5 Condition 9	COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE The Proponent shall establish a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General, in general accordance with the Department's Guideline for Establishing and Operating Community Consultative Committees for Mining Projects. <i>Note: The Proponent may continue the operation of the Liaison and Review Committee established under condition 6.7 of the development consent issued by the Land and Environment Court on 14 July 1998 to fulfil this condition.</i>	Noted. A community consultative committee has been established, and consultation was undertaken with this committee for this audit.		Compliant
Schedule 5 Condition 10	ACCESS TO INFORMATION Within 1 month of the approval of any plan/strategy/program required under this approval (or any subsequent revision of these plans/strategies/programs), or the completion of the audits or AEMR required under this approval, the Proponent shall: (a) provide a copy of the relevant document/s to the relevant agencies and to members of the general public upon request; and (b) ensure that a copy of the relevant document/s is made publicly available on its website and at the Proponent's office.	Noted - documents are available publicly on the website.		Compliant
Schedule 5 Condition 11	During the project, the Proponent shall: (a) make a summary of monitoring results required under this approval publicly available on its website and at the site office; and (b) update these results on a regular basis.	Noted - documents are available publicly on the website.		Compliant

Appendix D – Site Inspection Photographs



Plate 1 – Site Signage



Plate 2 – Pit 14 Tailings Dam



Plate 3 – Pit 14 Tailings Dam



Plate 4 – Maroota State Forest to the south of Pit 14 Tailings Dam



Plate 5 – Sediment Fencing adjacent to Pit 14 Tailings Dam



Plate 6 – Collapsed Sediment Fencing adjacent to Pit 14 Tailings Dam



Plate 7 – Onsite Self Bunded Container for Machinery Lubricants



Plate 8 – Rehabilitated Area on Lot 2 DP233818



Plate 9 – Rehabilitated Area on Lot 2 DP233818



Plate 10 – Quarry Void



Plate 11 – Additional Silt / Tailings Ponds



Plate 12 – Sand Processing Plant



Plate 13 – Maintenance Workshop on Lot 198



Plate 14 – Bulk Re-fuelling Bay on Lot 198



Plate 15 – Offset Bund installed post the 2017 IEA

Appendix E – Independent Audit Declaration Form

INDEPENDENT AUDIT DECLARATION

Project Name:	Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project - Independent Environmental Audit
Consent Number:	PA 06_0104
Description of Project:	Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project - Independent Environmental Audit
Project Address:	Wisemans Ferry Road, Maroota, NSW 2756
Proponent:	PF Formation Pty Ltd
Title of Audit:	Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project - Independent Environmental Audit
Date:	14 August 2020

I declare that I have undertaken the Independent Audit and prepared the contents of the attached Independent Audit Report and to the best of my knowledge:

- the audit has been undertaken in accordance with relevant condition(s) of consent and the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (Department 2018)*;
- the findings of the audit are reported truthfully, accurately and completely;
- I have exercised due diligence and professional judgement in conducting the audit;
- I have acted professionally, objectively and in an unbiased manner;
- I am not related to any proponent, owner or operator of the project neither as an employer, business partner, employee, or by sharing a common employer, having a contractual arrangement outside the audit, or by relationship as spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- I do not have any pecuniary interest in the audited project, including where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain or loss to me or spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- neither I nor my employer have provided consultancy services for the audited project that were subject to this audit except as otherwise declared to the Department prior to the audit; and
- I have not accepted, nor intend to accept any inducement, commission, gift or any other benefit (apart from payment for auditing services) from any proponent, owner or operator of the project, their employees or any interested party. I have not knowingly allowed, nor intend to allow my colleagues to do so.

Notes:

- a) Under section 10.6 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* a person must not include false or misleading information (or provide information for inclusion in) in a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is false or misleading in a material respect. The proponent of an approved project must not fail to include information in (or provide information for inclusion in) a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is materially relevant to the monitoring or audit. The maximum penalty is, in the case of a corporation, \$1 million and for an individual, \$250,000; and
- b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

Name of Auditor:	Ian Richardson
Signature:	
Qualification:	Bachelor of Environmental Science Graduate Diploma in Occupational Health & Safety
Company:	RPS Australia East Pty Ltd
Company Address:	Unit 2A, Fitzroy Street, Carrington NSW 2294