



Our Ref: 1296_DP&E_Seed_20170801

1 August 2017

Genevieve Seed
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Genevieve

Re: Oberon Quarry 2017 Independent Environmental Audit (SSD_6333)

In accordance with Schedule 5, Condition 11, of the Oberon Quarry Continuation Project Development Consent (SSD_6333) (the consent), please find enclosed the first Independent Environmental Audit, on behalf of Oberon Quarry Pty Ltd (Oberon Quarry). The audit was undertaken by James Hart of Australian Quality Assurance and Superintendence (AQUAS) Pty Ltd, in accordance with Schedule 5, Condition 10, of the consent and was provided to Oberon Quarry on 17 July 2017.

The audit identified one non-compliance, nine administrative non-compliances and four observations. These findings are reproduced in **Table 1** below, together with Oberon Quarry's response for your reference.

As per email correspondence regarding submission of revised management plans, dated 30 June 2017, Oberon Quarry committed to review and update relevant strategies, plans and programs with consideration of the audit actions, by the end of July 2017. Due to the delay in receipt of the Final Independent Environmental Audit Report, Oberon Quarry seeks an extension of one week (i.e. to close of business Monday 7 August 2017), to revise and resubmit the relevant management plans.

Please do not hesitate to contact Rod Williams (02) 49 505 322 or myself if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Luke Bettridge
Principal Environmental Consultant

Enc: *Oberon Quarries Pty Ltd Independent Environmental Audit: Oberon Quarry Continuation Project SSD 6333, NSW (January 2017)*

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Table 1 –Independent Environmental Audit Non-Compliances Findings and Plan of Action

Issue No.	Project Approval Condition	Requirement	Audit Finding	Oberon Quarry Audit Response
Identified Non-Compliance				
N-01	Schedule 3 Condition 19	Within 6 months from the date of this consent the Applicant shall provide and install “Intersection Advance” (G1-207) warning signage on the eastbound approach to the intersection of Duckmaloi Road and Titania Road.	“Intersection Advance” (G1-207) warning signage had not been installed on the eastbound approach to the intersection of Duckmaloi Road and Titania Road.	Oberon Quarry will install the relevant warning signage as required.
Identified Administrative Non-Compliances				
A-01	Schedule 3 Condition 4	The Applicant shall: a) implement best practice management to minimise the operational and road transportation noise of the development; b) minimise the noise impacts of the development during meteorological conditions when the noise criteria in this consent do not apply (see Appendix 4); c) carry out noise monitoring (at least every 3 months, unless otherwise approved by the Secretary) to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this consent; and d) regularly assess noise monitoring data and modify and/or stop operations on site to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	Noise monitoring was not conducted at least every 3 months. Monitoring conducted in March 2016, August 2016 and October 2016.	Noted. Further, Oberon Quarry has established an agreement with relevant landowners to exceed the noise criteria in the Development Consent. Oberon Quarry notified the Secretary of these agreements on 25 January 2017. Oberon Quarry obtained approval from the Secretary on 2 February 2017 to discontinue noise monitoring. Future monitoring will only be undertaken should a noise complaint be received.

Issue No.	Project Approval Condition	Requirement	Audit Finding	Oberon Quarry Audit Response
A-02	Schedule 3 Condition 16	The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Water Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must: a) be prepared by suitably qualified person/s approved by the Secretary; b) be prepared in consultation with the EPA and DPI-Water; c) be submitted to the Secretary for approval within 6 months of the date of this consent, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary;	The Water Management Plan had not been submitted within the required timeframes. Water Quality Management Plan Extension provided by the Secretary for the Water Management Plan to be provided by 31/05/16. Submitted on 2/06/16.	Noted. No further action proposed

Issue No.	Project Approval Condition	Requirement	Audit Finding	Oberon Quarry Audit Response
A-03	Schedule 3 Condition 18	The Applicant shall ensure that: a) all reasonable measures are taken such that laden trucks have appropriate signage, including a contact phone number, so they can be easily identified by road users.	While signage was displayed on Oberon Quarry trucks, some subcontractor trucks on site on the day of audit did not have signage displaying Oberon Quarry or the contact phone number.	Noted. In accordance with the Oberon Quarry approved Transport Management Plan, all drivers are notified of the requirements for the transport of material offsite and the approved Transport Management Plan dated March 2016. In addition to its own trucks, Oberon Quarry utilises a number of external contractors to transport quarry products to customers. Oberon Quarry believes it is not reasonable for Oberon Quarry contact details to be displayed on contractor trucks as they do not work solely for Oberon Quarry. Oberon Quarry does however maintain a register of all vehicles entering and departing the quarry on a daily basis. This register can be used to assist in identifying trucks in the event of a complaint.

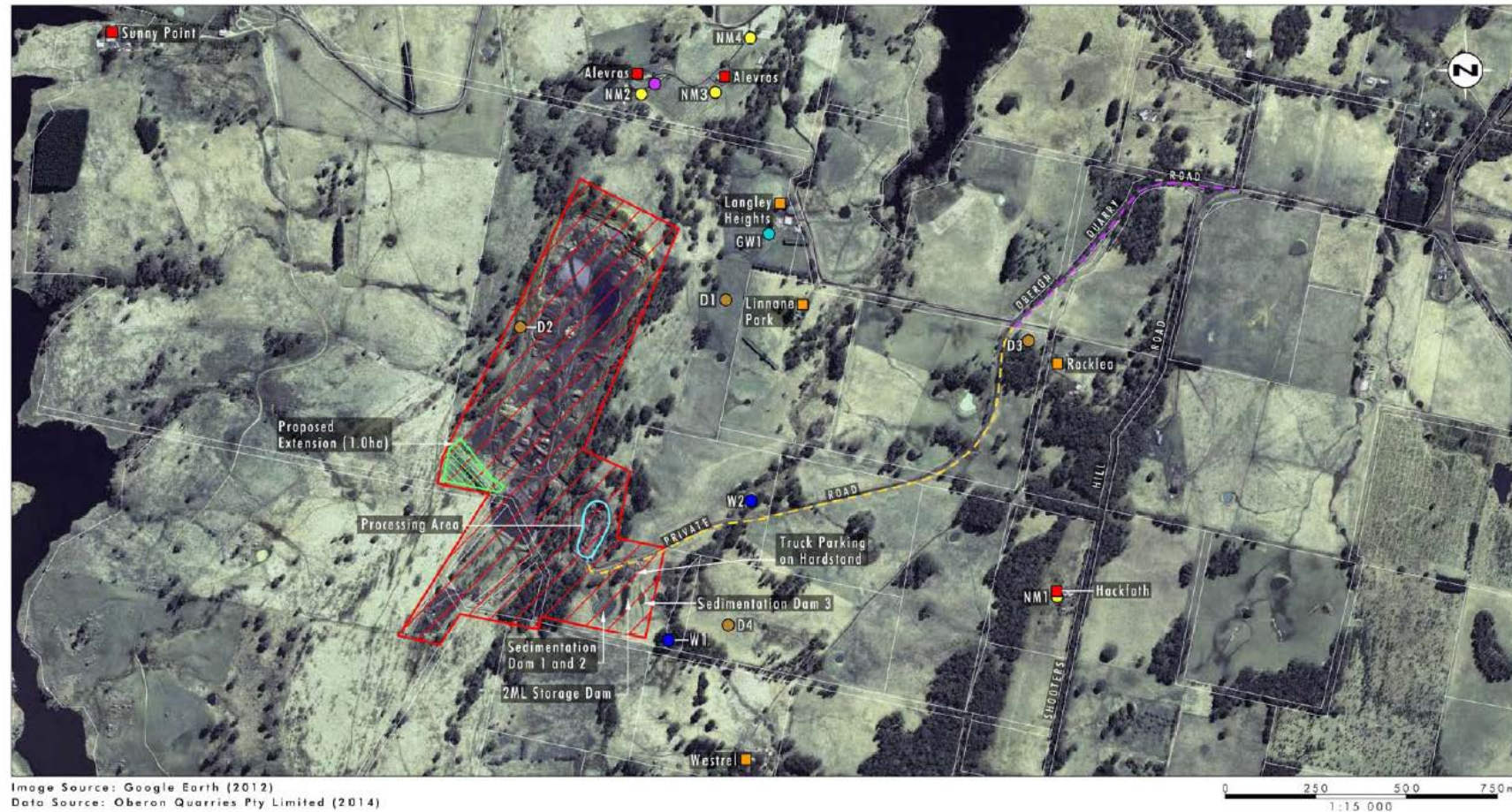
Issue No.	Project Approval Condition	Requirement	Audit Finding	Oberon Quarry Audit Response
A-04	Schedule 3 Condition 25	Within 6 months of the approval of the Landscape and Rehabilitation Management Plan, the Applicant shall lodge a Rehabilitation Bond with the Department to ensure that the rehabilitation of the site is implemented in accordance with the performance and completion criteria set out in the plan and relevant conditions of this consent.	While the rehabilitation bond was due in November 2016, the bond had not been submitted at the time of audit.	As required by the Development Consent Oberon Quarry has obtained DPE approval of an Independent Expert to prepare the Rehabilitation Bond. A draft Rehabilitation Bond has been prepared and is currently being reviewed by Oberon Quarry. Oberon Quarry will submit the Rehabilitation Bond to DPE by 31 August 2017.
A-05	Schedule 3 Condition 28	The Applicant shall: d) report on waste management and minimisation in the Annual Review, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	Waste management and minimisation had not been included in the Annual Review for 2015.	Oberon Quarry has included this information within the 2016 Annual Review with the information to continue to be included in subsequent Annual Reviews.
A-06	Schedule 5, Condition 10	Within a year of the date of this consent, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development.	The initial audit of the development had not been conducted within 12 months of the date of the consent. Audit due 12/09/16, conducted 12/01/17.	Noted. Subsequent audits will be conducted in accordance with the timeframes included within the Development Consent.
A-07	Management Plan Commitment - Water Management Plan – Section 4.3	Water use including the extraction from Racecourse Creek and management of water consumption will be reported in the Oberon Quarry Annual Review.	While Section 7.1.1 of the Annual Review discusses water take, it does not identify volumes extracted from Racecourse Creek.	Oberon Quarry has included this information within the 2016 Annual Review with the information to be included in subsequent Annual Reviews.

Issue No.	Project Approval Condition	Requirement	Audit Finding	Oberon Quarry Audit Response
A-08	Management Plan Commitment - Environmental Management Strategy (EMS)- Section 5.2	As a minimum, environmental inspections will be undertaken monthly to assist in environmental management of the Quarry and determine compliance with legislation, standards, codes and other external requirements, the Project Approval and EPL. Outcomes of inspections shall be documented within the monitoring checklist to capture and track all actions.	While diary entries showed that environmental issues had been identified on site, the monitoring checklist had not been utilised to record the outcome of inspections and to track actions through to completion.	A formalised monitoring checklist has been developed. The checklist has been implemented and will be utilised for monthly environmental inspections of the quarry.
A-09	Development Consent Statement of Commitments - Aboriginal Archaeology	Oberon Quarries should ensure that all parties involved in the project are aware that it is an offence under Section 86 of the NPW Act to harm or desecrate an Aboriginal object unless that harm or desecration is the subject of an AHIP.	While statement of commitments relating to Aboriginal archaeology displayed in the site office, it is not clear how the Section 86 requirements are communicated to all parties involved in the project. This information was not specifically included in the site induction.	Noted. There are no known archaeological sites identified within the Project Area. Oberon Quarry will continue to notify all parties of their responsibilities as part of the site induction process and display this information in the site office.

Issue No.	Project Approval Condition	Requirement	Audit Finding	Oberon Quarry Audit Response
Observations				
O-01	Schedule 3 Condition 16	The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Water Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. d) This plan must include a Surface Water Management Plan, that includes: - a detailed description of the surface water management system on site including the: - erosion and sediment controls	While controls had been implemented, an erosion and sediment control plan, identifying the types and locations of erosion and sediment control structures (e.g. rock weirs, localised sediment and erosion controls) were not specifically identified / documented.	Quarry operations are undertaken in accordance with the Water Management Plan. The water management controls were established at commencement of operations in 1995 and can be seen on Figure 3.1 of the approved Water Management Plan. Temporary erosion and sediment controls will continue to be implemented on an as needs basis. The implementation of these measures will be reported, as part of the annual review process.
O-02	Schedule 3 Condition 28	The Applicant shall: - manage on-site sewage treatment and disposal in accordance with the requirements of its EPL, and to the satisfaction of the EPA and Council; - minimise the waste generated by the development; - ensure that the waste generated by the development is appropriately stored, handled, and disposed of	While processes had been implemented for the management of waste, the site had not documented how waste will be managed on site.	The Oberon Quarry Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) will be updated to document waste management practices to be implemented on site. .

Issue No.	Project Approval Condition	Requirement	Audit Finding	Oberon Quarry Audit Response
O-03	Management Plan Commitment - Blast Management Plan – Section 6.2	Blast monitoring will be undertaken at the nearest private residence and/or other sensitive locations (as required) to verify compliance with the relevant criteria.	While blast monitoring had been conducted at the nearest residence, a standardised location for monitoring has not been nominated.	Oberon Quarry continues to monitor blasts at nearest Private and / or Sensitive Receptor in accordance with Project Approval and EPL requirements. Blast monitoring has and will continue to be undertaken at the Alvarez residence in accordance with DPE Blast Management Plan. The location of the blast monitoring which has been and will continue to be undertaken is shown on Figure 3.1 of the Blast Management Plan.

Issue No.	Project Approval Condition	Requirement	Audit Finding	Oberon Quarry Audit Response
O-04	Development Consent Statement of Commitments – Section 5.11.1	There are a number of mitigation and management measures proposed to be implemented for the ongoing operations. Improving Transport Diesel Use efficiency - Limiting the length of transport routes - Fuel efficient haul trucks - Maximising payloads - Reducing idling times Improving on-site diesel use efficiency - Scheduling activities so that equipment and vehicle operation is optimised. - Fuel efficient equipment - Blast strategies to improve extraction efficiency - Working machines to their upper design performance Haul Truck Options - Limiting the length of material haul routes - Optimising ramp gradients - Fuel efficient haul trucks - Maximising payloads - Improving rolling resistance of haul roads - Reducing idling times - Improving Electrical efficiency of processing equipment - Reducing reject percentage - High efficiency motors - Variable speed drives - Optimising motor size to load - Optimising basalt throughput.	While strategies for the minimising of greenhouse gas emissions and energy mitigation and management measures have been implemented onsite, these strategies have not been identified in management plans provided.	Noted. Oberon Quarry currently considers and implements each of these measures as part of routine business practices which are undertaken under the standard supervision by the Quarry Manager. The implementation of these measures will be reported in the Annual Review.



Legend

- ▨ Project Area
- ▨ Proposed Extension (1.0ha)
- Right of Carriageway (12m Wide)
- Depositional Dust Gauge Location
- Surface Water Monitoring Location
- Groundwater Monitoring Location
- Private Residence
- Residence Owned by Oberon Quarries/Associated with Oberon Quarry
- Processing Plant
- Noise Monitoring Location
- Blast Monitoring Location

FIGURE 3.1

Environmental Monitoring Locations