

Ms Georgia Dragicevic  
Senior Compliance Officer  
Department of Planning and Environment  
PO Box 5475  
Wollongong NSW 2520

10<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Dear Ms Dragicevic

**Boral Peppertree Quarry (MP 06\_0074) – Response to recommendations of an Independent Environmental Audit – Part D, Condition D13.**

I refer to the Peppertree Quarry Approval PA 06\_0074, Part D, Condition D13 regarding the submission of an Independent Environmental Audit. This Condition requires that the Independent Environmental Audit Report be issued to the Department accompanied with a response to the recommendations contained in the Audit Report.

Attached is the Independent Environmental Audit Report on Peppertree Quarry issued to Boral on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

The Independent Environmental Audit has provided valued feedback to the Peppertree Quarry operations. Our response to the recommendations are listed below in line with Section 3.11 “Improvement Opportunities,” and Section 4.1 “Summary of Recommendations.”

No.	Condition #	Improvement Opportunity	Response	Due Date
PQ 1/9	B60	Boral should further examine the rehabilitation methods and species selection for the outer faces of the overburden emplacement.	<p>The success of the Rehabilitation is measured towards a completion criteria with recommendations implemented through annual rapid visual assessments and 2 yearly ecological assessments</p> <p>The ecological assessment will be conducted in November 2022 and its recommendations reflected in the ongoing rehabilitation.</p>	31 <sup>st</sup> November 2022

A detailed rehabilitation implementation management plan has been prepared which outlines specific batter treatments and planting regimes for each area. This will be implemented as per the 3-year plan outlined in the Biodiversity and rehabilitation management plan.

PQ 2/9	B60	Consideration should be given to additional woodlot style tree planting in completed rehabilitation areas. Tree species should include key box gum woodland species such as Eucalyptus melliodora, E albens and E blakelyi. On steeper slopes, species such as E sieberi and E agglomerata could be used. These species still occur within the target BioNet Plant Community Type PCT1330 but often occur on dry ridgelines and rocky outcrops within the Marulan district.	<p>These tree species will be discussed with the ecologists and the planting list revised if appropriate</p> <p>Current planting and seeding list outlined in Appendix C of the Biodiversity and rehabilitation management plan.</p>	31 <sup>st</sup> November 2022
No.	Condition #	Recommendation	Response	Due Date
PQ 3/9	D16	Boral should ensure that their web page contains all current management plans and monitoring data.	With the recent approval of Marulan South Limestone SSD, it has been determined that the Boral website for Marulan south operations should be revised for both Peppertree Quarry and Marulan South Limestone mine. The current approved quarry management plans will be uploaded to the current website and maintained on the new site once live.	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
PQ 4/9	D16	All current management plans should be uploaded	As above It was noted in Appendix A-	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022

		onto the Boral Peppertree web page.	Compliance Status Table of the Independent Environmental Audit that the current Peppertree approval was not on the website, this will be uploaded inline with condition D16	
PQ 5/9	D16	Boral should ensure that monitoring data is uploaded onto the Boral Peppertree web page in accordance with the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1979.	Current monitoring data is uploaded and available on the website.  A process will be developed to align the uploading of monitoring data in accordance with the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1979.	Ongoing
PQ 6/9	B60	As part of any future review of the Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Management Plan provide additional information on specific native species to be used in the rehabilitation work.	Current planting and seeding list outlined in Appendix C of the Biodiversity and rehabilitation management plan.  Rehabilitation implementation plan outlines species mix to be used in the progressive rehabilitation of emplacement areas.  Will be assessed with any future Biodiversity and rehabilitation management plan reviews.	As required
PQ 7/9	B60	Identify any specific batter slopes of the overburden emplacement where pasture species may be preferable than native species to provide long term stability.	A detailed rehabilitation implementation plan has been prepared which outlines specific batter treatments and planting regimes for each area. This will be implemented as per the 3 year plan outlined in the Biodiversity and rehabilitation management plan.	Ongoing over the next 3 years

PQ 8/9	B33 (iv)	Align the monitoring program and scope of ongoing specialist consultants to centre on verifying the impact predictions made in the various environmental assessments.	This will be discussed with the groundwater consultants on the preparation of the next report.	31 <sup>st</sup> September 2022
PQ 9/9	B36 (a)	As part of any future consent modification, the requirement to monitor flow in Barbers Creek, as required by Condition B36, should be amended as per the current Water Management Plan.	Boral has sort DPE advice previously on having this condition modified as part of the Modification 5 development approval. It was advised that this was not possible however the new monitoring regime be included in the Water Management plan and reported in the Annual Review. In line with any new modification this condition will be discussed.	As required

Our performance against implementing the Improvement Opportunities and Recommendations will be reported in the Peppertree Quarry 2022 Annual Review (March 2023).

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on 0401 894 082.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Higgins  
Operations Manager – Peppertree Quarry

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