

Ms Anna Kerr
President
Save Balickera Inc.
savebalickera@proton.me

28 June 2024

Subject: Exhibition of the Seaham Quarry Project

Dear Ms Kerr

Thank you for your correspondence to the Hon Paul Scully MP, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces about the recent public exhibition of the proposed Seaham Quarry Project (SSD- 59254474). The Minister asked me to respond on his behalf.

I note your concerns about the difficulties community members have faced in using the NSW Planning Portal to lodge submissions on the above proposal. I also acknowledge your request for the exhibition period to be extended.

The Department undertakes its community engagement, including the exhibition of State significant developments, in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (the Regulation). From 1 April 2024, the Regulation requires all submissions on State significant project applications to be made through the NSW Planning Portal during the exhibition period.

Resources to help individuals use the NSW Planning Portal, including a step-by-step guide on how to make a submission, are available at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/help.

Further assistance is also available by contacting Service NSW on 1300 305 695. This information is provided on the Notice of Exhibition which is displayed on the Department's website at the commencement of the exhibition for every State significant development. For any future exhibitions, it's recommended that anyone experiencing issues with either the NSW Planning Portal or the Department's website contacts Service NSW well in advance of the exhibition period closing to give themselves enough time to make a submission.

In terms of the length of the public exhibition, the exhibition for the Seaham Quarry Project ran for 28 days, commencing on Wednesday 17 April 2024 and ending on Tuesday 14 May 2024. This 28-day timeframe is typical for State significant developments and meets the requirements of the Regulation.

The Department will carefully consider matters raised during the exhibition of the project and has also requested that the applicant provide a formal response to all issues raised during the exhibition. When it receives the applicant's response, the Department will complete a rigorous assessment of the proposal in accordance with requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Should any members of the community wish to make further representations to the Department regarding the Project, they are welcome to post or email them to the Department. All representations will be taken into consideration during the Department's assessment of the project.

Should you have any questions, James McDonough, Team Leader, Resource Assessments, at the Department can be contacted on 02 9585 6313 or james.mcdonough@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clay Preshaw".

Clay Preshaw
Executive Director
Energy, Resources and Industry