

PART B – AEIS

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17. AIR QUALITY

17.1. Predicted Dust Deposition Rates

A submitter requested clarification of units used to represent potential dust deposition impacts in Figure 17-8 of the EIS. In accordance with the dust deposition criteria, the units used in Figure 17-8 were mg/m²/d.

The submission also stated that the EIS did not clearly define the cumulative impacts of the Project as it did not incorporate the background dust deposition values into Figure 17-8. Background dust deposition at the nearest sensitive receivers ranged between 84 and 105 mg/m²/d. The modelled increase due to dam construction was less than 4 mg/m²/d. As such, the criterion of 120 mg/m²/d is not exceeded.

17.2. Alternative clay extraction areas

One submission requested additional clarity be provided with respect to the location and impacts of alternative sites to clay borrow area 8 to ensure the Project has a viable source of clay for constructing the dam. Numerous prospective sources of clay near the dam construction footprint have been identified. Geotechnical investigations will be carried out to determine the most appropriate source from these sites.

Section 2.2.3.2 of the EIS stated that the preferred area for clay extraction is area 4 and it was shown on Figure 2-9 along with eight other potential areas. Section 17.2.3.1 of the EIS identified there is a potential risk of clay borrow activities exceeding the air quality criteria at sensitive receivers located within 600 m of clay borrow areas. All sensitive receivers are located more than 600 m from potential clay borrow areas and therefore are not likely to be impacted by extraction.

17.3. Complaints management

A submitter requested the provision of a manned Project phone number that can be accessed by the community and that the representative on the phone have authority to take action such as cease work till the issue was resolved. As discussed in Section 29.4.4 of the EIS, complaints management will include a designated phone line as well as other avenues via which complaints can be communicated. It is not possible to guarantee that the line will always be manned, in such instances a recording service will be employed. However, the EIS committed to a prompt and effective response followed by appropriate resolution of the issue. All complaints will be brought to the attention of a person with authority to take the appropriate action within 24 hours of receipt.