

Our Ref: SC34996/KC (in reply please quote)

Ms Catherine Sullivan

Dear Ms Sullivan Catherine,

I refer to earlier correspondence regarding Broula King Gold Mine.

You may recall I wrote informing you I had made representations on your behalf to the Minister for Energy and Environment, The Hon Matt Kean MP. A response from the Minister has been received, a copy of which is attached for your information.

I appreciate you taking the time to bring your concerns to my attention. Please do not hesitate to stay in touch should you require any further assistance.

I note that a response is still outstanding from the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW, Industry and Trade.

Yours sincerely

Steph Cooke MP Member for Cootamundra

29.10.20.



## Steph Cooke MP, Member for Cootamundra

Your ref: SC34996/KC Our ref: MD20/6063

Ms Steph Cooke MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier
Member for Cootamundra
PO Box 350
YOUNG NSW 2594

By email:

Dear Ms Gooke Sleph

Thank you for your representations on behalf of Ms Catherine Sullivan and Mr Craig Day about the Broula King Gold Mine. I appreciate you bringing their concerns to my attention. Ms Sullivan and Mr Day also wrote directly to me on this matter and I ask that this be accepted as a response to all correspondence.

I have been advised that the Broula King Gold Mine has been in care and maintenance since October 2017. The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), which regulates pollution activities from the mine has been in contact with Ms Sullivan and Mr Day and have taken samples from the site in response to their concerns. Analysis of these samples does not indicate that there are any offsite impacts to surface waters and there has been no discharge from the dam since September 2016. Similarly, groundwater monitoring shows an increase in standing water level, but no quality impacts of concern.

I understand that the EPA has been working with the site managers to develop a water management plan which is designed to divert water from undisturbed catchments away from the tailings area and reduce the volume of water in the dam at the base of the tailings dam wall. I would encourage Ms Sullivan and Mr Day to work with the site consultants to reach agreement on an acceptable outcome for these improvements.

I also understand that the EPA has been working with the NSW Resource Regulator, who is the lead regulator for the site, to seek a resolution for the site, including options for either the sale of the mine or the ultimate closure and rehabilitation of the site.

As these issues also relate to the NSW Resources Regulator, which fall under the portfolio responsibilities of the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, the Hon John Barilaro MP, your correspondence has been referred for his consideration.

If Ms Sullivan or Mr Day have any further questions about this issue, they can contact Ms Cate Woods, Director Regulatory Operations, Environment Protection Authority at

Yours sincerely

Matt Kean MP

Minister for Energy and Environment

cc: The Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier