Response to media outlets re Coalpac

Response, first provided on 8 September, to a number of media outlets regarding the Department's adequacy review of Coalpac's environmental assessment for its consolidation project at Cullen Bullen:

Prior to allowing a development proposal to proceed to public exhibition, the Department first reviews the proponent's environmental assessment (EA) to ensure it adequately addresses all the necessary requirements (as outlined in the Director-General's Requirements for the project which can be viewed at http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=4332).

In the case of Coalpac's consolidation proposal in the Cullen Valley, the Department deemed that the EA did not adequately address a number of issues including the project's potential impacts on:

- biodiversity;
- natural, historic and Aboriginal cultural heritage;
- noise and air quality; and
- groundwater.

Should the proponent wish to proceed with the project, it will need to revise its EA to address the inadequacies and re-submit it to the Department for consideration.