

Ref 2465279

Office of
Groundwater Impact Assessment

25 October 2013

Department of
Natural Resources and Mines

Mr Patrick McKelvey
Groundwater Manager
QGC
Level 18, 69 Ann Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr McKelvey

I refer to the requirement in the Surat Underground Water Impact Report (UWIR) for QGC to install water monitoring points and provide implementation reports in relation to those requirements. The implementation report provided by QGC proposes variations to the requirements, arising from operational issues.

There have been negotiations between QGC and the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA) in relation to the proposed variations particularly with regard to the timing of installation and changes to location of monitoring points. OGIA has developed a summary spreadsheet to capture the outcomes of those negotiations and provided a copy to QGC. The spreadsheet will continue to be updated from time to time to incorporate any changes to status. I provide the following comments on the QGC current schedule for implementation.

The UWIR requires that specified works be installed by the end of 2013. This timing was set with a view to data from those works being available as input to projects that will strengthen impact assessments prior to the updating of the UWIR. The current QGC implementation schedule will result in some of the required works being completed after the required date. While a delay in completion to March 2014 would not cause significant difficulties, completion after that date would impact on the updating of the UWIR. Therefore, every opportunity to bring forward scheduled completion to March 2014 should be explored.

While raising the above matters, I wish to acknowledge that many of the variations that have been endorsed by OGIA arise from detailed cooperative discussions between QGC and OGIA about the relevant matters. The regional monitoring will provide a sound foundation to continue to improve knowledge of the groundwater flow system.

I have advised the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection of the current situation with regard to the implementation by QGC of its responsibilities under the UWIR.

Should you have any further enquiries, please contact me on 3199 7316.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Cox', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Randall Cox
General Manager
Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment