

## Notice of Intent

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### Notice of Intent (NoI) Lodgement Details

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### NoI Project Name and Location

Name: Boyer Mill Coal Transition Plan

Location: Norske Skog Boyer Mill. See **Appendix A** for site photograph.

### Background

The Boyer Mill uses between 80-90,000 tonnes of coal a year to produce steam for the pulp and paper making processes. Our current supplier, Cornwall coal can no longer supply the Boyer Mill coal beyond April 2023. This NoI is to inform the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Norske Skog Boyer's intent to secure and deliver alternative coal from interstate.

The aim is to provide as smooth a transition as possible for the boiler, ensure no interruptions to steam supply, the effects on the environment are prevented, and costs are minimised. As part of this transition, it is our intention to apply for a development application to screen and potentially crush the alternative coal at a point in the process where we better understand the different physical properties of the coal and their impacts on efficient combustion in the boiler.

The alternative coal will start to arrive on site the week of the 20<sup>th</sup> of March with the processing trials (screening and potentially crushing) starting from the 29<sup>th</sup> of March (subject to equipment availability) and the Boiler trials to commence in April and the main transition in early in May. It should be noted that Norske Skog Boyer has received an interim Environmental Protection Notice (EPN) (No. 11396/1) for the screening operation.

### Project Description

The new supply of coal has been selected to have similar properties as the current Cornwall coal however the particle size of the coal from Yancoal includes approximately 10% that is over the Boiler allowable 40mm and has an increased load of fines. As a result, we need to screen the coal to remove the oversize. We will run the initial trials with the fines included to assess the impact with the preference not to remove any portion of them. If fines are an issue for combustion or emissions, we will then screen these out as well, and look to then either on-sell these or briquette them for reuse as feed to the boiler.

## **Boyer Mill Coal Transition Planning**

Oversize coal will be assessed for the volume or percentage of overall supply. It may be an option to use mobile equipment to crush this and then rescreen. However, it may also be necessary to use a crushing device to resize the oversize in a way that minimises the generation of fines in an economical manner. Early trials may involve a crushing bucket attached to an excavator or similar.

Following the initial trials and assessment of the requirements we will discuss the path forward with the Derwent Valley Council and the EPA

### **Physical Environment Considerations**

This project should have none to minimal impact on the physical environment as the project will be taking place in the current coal storage area. See **Appendix A** for site photograph, circled location is the current coal storage area.

### **Environmental, Health, Economic and Social Issues**

#### **Health, Economic and Social Issues**

This proposed project is necessary for the continuation of the pulp and paper manufacturing process at Norske Skog Boyer. This provides employment and economic benefits to the region. The project may create additional employment opportunities due to operational requirements of the screening equipment. Due to the ongoing nature of the project this may enable further business opportunities in the future for the Boyer Mill. No health issues are expected to arise from this proposed project.

#### **Environmental Issues**

The environmental issues that could potentially arise from this proposed project may be an increase in the noise levels while the screening is in operation and/or an increase in dust produced due to the increased handling of the coal. It should be noted that during the initial screening that has already occurred onsite (approved by EPN No. 11396/1) minimal if any increase to noise and/or dust was seen. This is expected to remain the case throughout the duration of the proposed project. Noise and dust emissions as well as all other environmental impacts, including groundwater and stormwater runoff, are expected to remain unchanged. All these environmental parameters will be monitored via routine measurement as required in the Norske Skog Permit No. 3411 as varied by EPN 657/3. Boiler stack emission testing and elemental analysis of both Fly and Bed/Grate ash will be undertaken when settled on 100% Yancoal coal. This information will be shared with the EPA.

### **Project Timeline**

- 20<sup>th</sup> March – New coal supply begins arriving onsite via truck
- 28<sup>th</sup> March – Screen arrives onsite
- 29<sup>th</sup> March – Screening activities begin
- 5<sup>th</sup> April – New coal supply begins to be trialled in No. 5 Boiler
- April – ongoing trials of new coal
- 1<sup>st</sup> May – Current coal supply ceases. All coal delivered to site via rail will be from the new coal supplier

## **Boyer Mill Coal Transition Planning**

- Ongoing from May – New coal supply to be used in No. 5 Boiler on an ongoing basis

It should also be noted that Norske Skog is in the process of looking at alternative thermal energy sources and our ambition is to transition away from a coal fired boiler, toward more sustainable energy sources, within the next 5 years. We are currently in a Main Study Phase of the project which will detail the two likely options and provide a cost estimate for the project. This detail will be evaluated as part of the business case analysis to determine the recommended course of action, assuming a favourable outcome from the analysis a submission to the board will be prepared for project approval.

### **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999**

No Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act approval is anticipated from the proposed project.

### Appendix A

Circled area shows the location of the current coal storage area which is also where the proposed trial will take place.

