





# **GUJARAT NRE Wonga Pty Ltd**

NRE WONGAWILLI COLLIERY NEBO LONGWALLS N1-N6 EXTRACTION PLAN NOVEMBER 2012- REVISION 1

FOR THE NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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PERSON MANAGING THIS DOCUMENT	AUTHOR(S) OF THIS DOCUMENT		
CHRIS MCEVOY	CHRIS MCEVOY, MATTHEW RICHARDSON		
EXTERNAL REVIEW	NAME		
	CHRIS IRVING ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY MANAGER NRE WONGAWILLI COLLIERY		
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	GUJARAT NRE WONGA PTY LTD CNR BELLAMBI LANE & PRINCES HWY RUSSELL VALE NSW 2517		

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# SUMMARY

Gujarat NRE Wonga Pty Ltd (NRE) has recently received Part 3A Project Approval (of MP 09\_0161) from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoPI) for the continuation of mining in its leases in the Southern Coalfield of NSW.

This Extraction Plan has been prepared pursuant to Schedule 3 Condition 7 and other relevant Conditions of the Project Approval. It seeks approval for secondary extraction of coal in the Wongawilli Seam from NRE's Longwalls N1 to N6.

### Overview

This proposal will extend the longwall mining system currently utilised at NRE Wongawilli Colliery which involves a recovery of remnant coal resources in previously mined areas of ML1596 and therefore maximises utilisation of the State's coal reserves. The mining method results in a predicted maximum of 400mm of surface subsidence, which will occur above the pillars between Longwalls N1 and N5. Subsidence predictions for this Project are based on an extracted height of up to 3.6 m.

The surface tenure over the proposed Nebo longwall area is owned by the SCA. Natural surface features of the area include Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek, rocky outcrops and steep slopes. There are two upland swamps (No.22 and No.39) southwest of the Nebo area but are outside the potential subsidence footprint. The man made features include 4WD tracks and fire trails, two 33 kV power lines, two historic sites. The Upper Cordeaux No.1 and No.2 Reservoir are located to the east of the proposed longwalls but are located outside the predicted 20 mm subsidence contour.

The depth of cover between the mine workings and the surface varies between a minimum of 100 metres, over the northwest corner of Longwall N2, and a maximum of 345 metres, beneath the southern end of Longwalls N1 and N5.

In its Part 3A application, NRE has undertaken land tenure studies, legal reviews, ongoing community consultation, subsidence prediction studies, baseline desktop and field environmental studies, and impact assessments of rock features, flora, fauna, archaeology, heritage, surface water and groundwater.

Due to the relatively small predicted subsidence movements, impacts on the environment and infrastructure are predicted to be negligible or very minor.

The specific management plans in this Extraction Plan present management objectives, impact predictions, mitigation strategies, proposed monitoring and management programs for managing subsidence impacts. They outline future monitoring to be undertaken to substantiate the models on which this mine design and impact prediction has been developed.

### Mine Schedule

NRE will require Extraction Plan approval by DoPl prior to December 2012 to permit the secondary extraction of the Nebo longwalls as per the current mine schedule. Extraction in the Nebo Area is expected to be completed by the start of 2016 if the schedule proceeds as anticipated.

# **1** INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Gujarat NRE Wonga Pty Ltd (NRE) owns NRE Wongawilli Colliery, an underground longwall extraction mine that commenced operations in 1975. Currently, the Colliery is operated by Gujarat NRE Coking Coal Ltd (GNCCL) and is capable of producing approximately 2Mtpa of predominantly coking coal from the Wongawilli seam.

NRE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Gujarat NRE Coking Coal Limited, which is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX code: GNM). NRE Wongawilli Colliery consists of leases CCL766, ML1565 and ML1596 covering 14,767 hectares is owned by NRE and operated by GNCCL. The ultimate holding company Gujarat NRE Coke Limited (GNCL) is an Indian based company listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and the Indian National Stock Exchange (NSE). GNCL is India's largest independent manufacturer of low ash metallurgical coke

NRE received Project Approval of its Part3A Project Application MP 09\_0161 on 2 November 2011 from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoPI), for longwall extraction mining activities within Longwalls N1 to N6 at NRE Wongawilli Colliery.

This Extraction Plan has been prepared in order to obtain approval to conduct second workings (Longwall extraction), from DoPI (as required by the consent conditions of the MP 09\_0161 Section 75J Project Approval).

The proposed mining layout is shown on Drawing No. MSEC412-01 (Attachment A).

### 1.2 Scope

This Extraction Plan has been prepared for the Project in accordance with Conditions 7 and 8 of Schedule 3 of the Project Approval.

The Condition states:

### Extraction Plans

7. The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Extraction Plan for all second workings on site, to the satisfaction of the Director-General. The plan must:

- (a) be prepared by a team of suitably qualified and experienced persons whose appointment has been endorsed by the Director-General;
- (b) be approved by the Director-General before the Proponent carries out any of the second workings covered by the plan;
- (c) include detailed plans of existing and proposed first and second workings and any associated surface development;
- (d) provide revised predictions of the conventional and non-conventional subsidence effects, subsidence impacts and environmental consequences of the proposed second workings, incorporating any relevant information obtained since this approval;

- (e) include detailed performance indicators for each of the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2;
- (f) describe the measures that would be implemented to:
  - ensure compliance with the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2, and
  - manage or remediate any impacts and/or environmental consequences;
- (g) include a contingency plan that expressly provides for adaptive management where monitoring indicates that there has been an exceedance of any performance measure in Tables 1 and 2, or where any such exceedance appears likely;
- (h) include the following to the satisfaction of DRE:
  - a subsidence monitoring program to:
  - provide data to assist with the management of the risks associated with subsidence;
  - □ validate the subsidence predictions;
  - monitor the integrity of the overlying strata, particularly the Cordeaux Crinanite; and
  - analyse the relationship between the predicted and resulting subsidence effects and predicted and resulting impacts under the plan and any ensuing environmental consequences; and
  - □ inform the contingency plan and adaptive management process;
  - a coal resource recovery plan that demonstrates effective recovery of the available resource;
  - a Built Features Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with the owners of such features, to manage the potential impacts and consequences of subsidence on any built features;
  - a Public Safety Management Plan to ensure public safety in the mining area; and
  - appropriate revisions to the Rehabilitation Management Plan required under condition 26 of schedule 4; and
- (i) include a:
  - Water Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with OEH, SCA and NOW, which provides for the management of the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on watercourses and aquifers, including:
    - surface and groundwater impact assessment criteria, based on at least 2 years of baseline data, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts on water resources or water quality;
    - a program to monitor and report groundwater inflows to underground workings; and
    - a program to predict, manage and monitor impacts on any groundwater bores on privately-owned land;
  - Biodiversity Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with OEH and DRE, which provides for the management of the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna, with a specific focus on threatened species, populations and their habitats; endangered ecological communities, and water dependent ecosystems;

- Land Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with any affected public authorities, to manage the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on land in general, with a specific focus on cliffs and steep slopes; and
- Heritage Management Plan, to manage the potential environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage sites or values; and
- (j) include a program to collect sufficient baseline data for future Extraction Plans.

Note: An SMP that is substantially consistent with this condition and which is approved by DRE prior to 31 December 2011 is taken to satisfy the requirements of this condition.

- 8. The Proponent shall ensure that the management plans required under condition 7(i) above include:
- (a) an assessment of the potential environmental consequences of the Extraction Plan, incorporating any relevant information that has been obtained since this approval;
- (b) a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to remediate predicted impacts; and

This document addresses each relevant requirement of the Project Approval consent conditions, including those other conditions that require provision of certain information within the management plans within this document. These other conditions include:

- Schedule 3, Conditions 1, 2 (requiring performance indicators be defined for the approved Subsidence Impact Performance Measures set out in Tables 1 and 2 of the approval).
- Schedule 4, Conditions 26 (rehabilitation objectives).
- Schedule 6, Condition 2 (Management Plan Requirements).

The Project Approval conditions are provided in Attachment C.

# 1.3 Structure of the Extraction Plan and Compliance with the Approval

This document is structured to address and comply with each relevant requirement of the Project Approval consent conditions referred to in Section 1.2 above.

Table 1.1 outlines the consent conditions and where they are addressed in the document.

Table 1.1 Extraction Plan structure to address the	approval consent conditions
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	Consent Condition	Section
7	The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Extraction Plan for all second workings on site, to the satisfaction of the Director-General. The plan must:	This entire document
(a)	be prepared by a team of suitably qualified and experienced persons whose appointment has been endorsed by the Director-General;	Section 1.4
(b)	be approved by the Director-General before the Proponent carries out any of the second workings covered by the plan;	NA
(c)	include detailed plans of existing and proposed first and second workings and any associated surface development;	<i>Section 2 and Attachment D</i>
(d)	provide revised predictions of the conventional and non-conventional subsidence effects, subsidence impacts and environmental consequences of the proposed second workings, incorporating any relevant information obtained since this approval;	Section 3
(e)	include detailed performance indicators for each of the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2;	Section 3
(f)	<ul> <li>describe the measures that would be implemented to</li> <li>ensure compliance with the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2, and</li> <li>manage or remediate any impacts and/or environmental consequences;</li> </ul>	NA
(g)	include a contingency plan that expressly provides for adaptive management where monitoring indicates that there has been an exceedance of any performance measure in Tables 1 and 2, or where any such exceedance appears likely;	Section 12
	<ul> <li>a subsidence monitoring program to: <ul> <li>provide data to assist with the management of the risks associated with subsidence;</li> <li>validate the subsidence predictions;</li> <li>monitor the integrity of the overlying strata, particularly the Cordeaux Crinanite; and</li> <li>analyse the relationship between the predicted and resulting subsidence effects and predicted and resulting impacts under the plan and any ensuing environmental consequences;</li> </ul> </li> <li>a coal resource recovery plan that demonstrates effective recovery of the available resource;</li> <li>a Built Features Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with the owners of such features, to manage the potential impacts and consequences of subsidence on any built features;</li> </ul>	Section 4 Section 2 Section 5 Section 6
	<ul> <li>a Public Safety Management Plan to ensure public safety in the mining area; and</li> <li>appropriate revisions to the Rehabilitation Management Plan required under condition 26 of schedule 4; and</li> </ul>	NA

(i)	include a:	
	<ul> <li>Water Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with OEH, SCA and NOW, which provides for the management of the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on watercourses and aquifers, including:         <ul> <li>surface and groundwater impact assessment criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts on water resources or water quality;</li> <li>a program to monitor and report groundwater inflows to underground workings; and</li> <li>a program to predict, manage and monitor impacts on any groundwater bores on</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Section 7
	<ul> <li>privately-owned land;</li> <li>Biodiversity Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with OEH and DRE, which provides for the management of the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna, with a specific focus on threatened species, populations and their habitats; endangered ecological communities, and water dependent ecosystems;</li> </ul>	Section 8
	<ul> <li>Land Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with any affected public authorities, to manage the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on land in general, with a specific focus on cliffs and steep slopes; and</li> <li>Heritage Management Plan, to manage the potential environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage sites or values;</li> </ul>	Section 9 Section 10
(j)	include a program to collect sufficient baseline data for future Extraction Plans.	Section 11
8.	The Proponent shall ensure that the management plans required under condition 5(h) above include:	
(a)	an assessment of the potential environmental consequences of the Extraction Plan, incorporating any relevant information that has been obtained since this approval;	Sections 5- 11
(b)	a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to remediate predicted impacts ; and	Sections 5- 11

# 1.4 Extraction Plan Team

The following suitably qualified and experienced specialists have contributed to this Extraction Plan through the assessments of predicted subsidence impacts provided for the Part 3A Project Approval.

NRE	Mine planning and subsidence management
Andrew Nesbitt	Survey
SCT	Geotechnical Assessment
MSEC	Mine Subsidence Prediction
GeoTerra	Groundwater & Surface Water
Cardno Ecology Lab	Aquatic Ecology
ERM	Terrestrial Ecology
ERM	Cultural Heritage
ERM	Part 3A Environmental Assessment
Biosis Research	Biodiversity and Heritage Monitoring
Niche Environment and Heritage	Extraction Plan Preparation

The approved Part 3A Project Environmental Assessment was prepared by this team of suitably qualified and experienced persons to satisfy the requirements of the Director-General, as required by Schedule 3, Condition 7a of of the Project Approval. NRE have previously written to DoPI advising of the project team.

Other specialists may be engaged to conduct monitoring activities outlined in this extraction plan.

# 1.5 Extraction Plan Review and Update

In accordance with Condition 4, Schedule 6 of the Project Approval, strategies, plans and programs included in this Extraction Plan will be reviewed and if necessary revised, within three months of:

(a) the submission of an annual review under Schedule 6 condition 3;

(b) the submission of an incident report under Schedule 6 condition 6;

(c) the submission of an audit report under Schedule 6 condition 8; and

(d) any modification to the conditions of this approval (unless the conditions require otherwise),

to the satisfaction of the Director-General of the NSW Department of Planning (DoPl).

The revision status of this Extraction Plan is indicated on the title page of each copy.

# 1.6 Consultation

Consultation has been conducted with the primary stakeholders who own and/or manage land or infrastructure in the Application Area.

The Sydney Catchment Authority has been consulted over a 3 month period (early December 2011 to early March 2012) and invited to review the Draft Extraction Plan. Subsequently, comments have been received, and the monitoring and TARP's have been revised as appropriate to incorporate the SCA comments. Specifically, the subsidence monitoring program, the Built Features Monitoring and TARP's and the Water Management Plan Monitoring and TARP's have been modified as appropriate to incorporate the SCA comments. Specific correspondence is attached in Attachment E.

Sydney Water (who own a power transmission line in the Application Area) have been consulted and have agreed to the proposed monitoring and management program as outlined in Section 5, Built Features Monitoring and TARP's. Specific correspondence is attached in Attachment E.

The Dam Safety Committee (DSC) have been consulted verbally. The DSC advised that the groundwater monitoring program outlined in the Extraction Plan would probably suffice to meet most of the DSC's concerns and that any data gaps would be identified as they process the application for DSC approval.

Consultation on the project with relevant Agencies also occurred during the Part 3A Project Approval process.

# 2 EXTRACTION PLAN

This section addresses Schedule 3 Condition 7 (c) of the Project Approval..... "include detailed plans of existing and proposed first and second workings and any associated surface development". It also addresses the Schedule 3 Condition 7 (h) requirement to provide a Coal Resource Recovery Plan.

# 2.1 Background

NRE proposes to continue coal mining operations at NRE Wongawilli Colliery in the Southern Coalfield of New South Wales by extracting the proposed Longwalls N1 to N6 within the Wongawilli Seam in the Nebo Area.

The locations of the proposed Longwalls N1 to N6, and the previously extracted longwalls and workings are shown in **Drawing No. MSEC412-01**, which together with all other MSEC drawings for the Nebo Longwalls, is included in Attachment A.

Mine Subsidence Engineering Consultants Pty Ltd (MSEC) were commissioned by NRE to study the mining proposals, to identify all natural features and surface infrastructure, and to prepare subsidence predictions and impact assessments for all features which may be affected by the proposed longwalls. Their full report is appended in Volume 2 of the Part 3A Continuing Operations Environmental Assessment. Much of the data in Section 2 is extracted directly from MSEC 412.

The location of the proposed Longwalls N1 to N6, have been overlaid on an aerial photograph of the area and a topographic map of the area, as shown in Figure 2.1and Figure 2.2 respectively.

It can be noted from these figures that the surface areas within the General Application Area are predominantly natural bushland and have not been developed. These surface areas are part of the Metropolitan Special Area catchment that is managed by the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) with no public access in order to protect the catchment areas that supply clean drinking water to the Sydney region. Heavy fines apply for unauthorised or illegal access in these Special Areas.

To support this Extraction Plan, plans included in Attachment D have been prepared in accordance with DPI (2003) Guideline for Application of Subsidence Management Approvals. These plans are appended in Attachment D and include:

Plan 1: Existing and Proposed Workings.

Plan 2: Natural and Man Made Surface Features.

Plan 3: Geological and Seam Data.

Plan 5: Mining Titles and Land Ownership.

Plan 6: Stratigraphic Section



Figure 2.1 Aerial Photograph Showing Proposed Longwalls N1 to N6

Source: MSEC 2010



### Figure 2.2 Topographic Map Showing Proposed Longwalls N1 to N6

### 2.2 Mine Planning Overview

The Nebo area of the mine represents an opportunity to extract an available remnant reserve whilst expansion of the mine is untaken via the Western development.

However, due to the lack of coal clearance and men and material transport systems, major investment is required to access the area to win coal as pillar extraction activities were last conducted in this part of the Mine in 1992.

All the existing workings required for this proposal are accessible and have been recently inspected. Given their age, the roadways and pillars are stable and in good condition. The geological structure and geotechnical environments are well

understood. The area can be described as low in gas (methane and carbon dioxide) and is not prone to outburst or spontaneous combustion.

Recent inspection has assessed that the workings are dry, with a thinner seam section than the Elouera area. The absence of stone rolls contributes to the good coal quality.

Due to the unique geology (Cordeaux Crinanite), the depth of cover, proximity of stored waters and civil structures, continuous miner pillar extraction was initially considered however, even with the proposed reduced longwall dimensions and resultant relocation costs, the economics are driven by the fact that the Colliery can extract four times as much coal for the same operating costs.

Without the proposed layout and sequencing it is unlikely any of the remaining coal in this area would be mined due to the size of the resource, the restrictions on the amount of extraction, the lack of suitable infrastructure and services to the area.

Because of the hazards and economics, the Mining Plan presented does not plan to extract all of the available resource.

The proposed longwall configuration is controlled by the surface and inseam geology, shallow depth of cover, surface features, existing workings, coal quality, water and gas regimes, and existing underground services (ventilation, power, water).

Hydrology and hydrogeology studies as well as geotechnical investigations into the groundwater and fracturing/caving characteristics of the Cordeaux Crinanite together with avoidance of undermining the higher order surface watercourses and maintaining set-back distances from the reservoirs and infrastructure have been major longwall layout design parameters.

Other surface features such as the powerline easements have been considered in the layout.

Although the available longwall equipment measures 180m wide, the current layout has longwalls varying in width from approx 60m to 120m with substantial barrier/ chain pillars in the lower depth of cover areas to reduce subsidence impacts.

Reference to the longwall mining dimensions in adjacent areas "where the effects of complex geological conditions and shallow depth of cover may have contributed to previous water inflows and some significant mining induced surface deformations/fractures" have also been taken into account.

The current layout has evolved through a series of various geometries starting initially with conservative "Reynolds Report" guidelines via the inputs of geotechnical engineering (providing preliminary subsidence predictions) and consultation with the Dams Safety Committee officers.

# 2.3 Mining Geometry

**Drawing No. MSEC412-01** shows the location of the proposed Longwalls N1 to N6 in the Nebo Area with respect to previous pillar extraction workings in both the Bulli and Wongawilli Seams and previously extracted longwalls in the Wongawilli Seam. The pillar extraction areas were extracted more than twenty years ago and the previously extracted longwalls in the Elouera Area were mined progressively from 1993 to 2007.

The locations of the proposed longwalls in the Nebo Area are shown in **Drawing No**. **MSEC412-02** and details are provided in **Table 2.1**.

Longwall	Length (m)	Overall Void Width including headings (m)	Chain Pillar Width excluding headings (m)
LWN1	311	127	0
LWN2	1054	130	0
LWN3	1064	125	84
LWN4	440	125	0
LWN5	1672	130 (66)*	54
LWN6	753	87	54

### Table 2.1 Dimensions of Proposed Longwalls N1 to N6 in the Nebo Area

\* Note: Longwall N5 varies in width as shown in Drawing No. MSEC412-02. The width of the narrow section of the longwall is provided in brackets.

The surface level contours, seam floor contours, seam thickness contours, and depth of cover contours for the Nebo Area are shown in Attachment A, Drawings Nos. MSEC412-03, MSEC412-04, MSEC412-05 and MSEC412-06, respectively.

The depth of cover to the Wongawilli Seam above the proposed longwalls in the Nebo Area varies between a minimum of 100 metres, over the north east corner of Longwall N2, and a maximum of 345 metres, beneath the southern end of Longwalls N1 and N5. The overall thickness of the Wongawilli Seam is about 11 metres of which the bottom 2 to 4 metres is commonly mined. The seam thickness contours shown in Drawings No. MSEC412-05 were calculated between particular bands and these contours show a minimum seam thickness of 3.19 metres, at the north east corner of Longwall N3, and a maximum seam thickness of 3.55 metres, at the western side of Longwall N1. The existing Nebo roadways are approximately 5.0 metres wide by 2.8 metres high (dictated by roof support hardware and machine specifications). The proposed development roadways will be 5.0 metres wide by 3.3 metres high. The longwalls will extract a 3.6 metre high seam section, which has been used for subsidence predictions.

# 2.4 Geological Details

Geology has been comprehensively described in Volume 2 of the Part 3A Continuing Use Environmental Assessment, in MSEC412 and other supporting reports. Therefore this section will only briefly address the relevant localised geological feature of Cordeaux Crinanite which is predicted to have a mitigating effect on surface subsidence. The surface geology within the General Application Area can be seen in **Figure 2.3** which shows the proposed longwalls overlaid on a part of the 1:100,000 scale Geological Series Sheet 9029-9129.



Figure 2.3 Surface Geological Map

Source: MSEC 2010

It can be seen from **Figure 2.3** that the surface geology within the General Application Area around Longwalls N1 to N6 predominantly comprises Cordeaux Crinanite (Tc) with isolated areas of Hawkesbury Sandstone (Rh), Bulgo Sandstone (Rnbu) and Bald Hill Claystone/Newport and Garie Formations (Rnz).

A typical stratigraphic section for the Southern Coalfield is shown in **Figure 2.4**. Note that this typical section does not show the Cordeaux Crinanite intrusion which is evident over most of the Nebo area.



Figure 2.4 Typical Stratigraphic Section - Southern Coalfield

Source: MSEC 2010

The Cordeaux Crinanite is a large igneous sill intrusion which intruded into the Triassic sediments of both the Narrabeen Group and the Hawkesbury Sandstone. The Cordeaux Crinanite extends over the proposed Longwalls N2 to N6 as is shown in **Drawing No. MSEC413-07**. This figure also shows a contour plot of the thickness of the Cordeaux Crinanite that has been prepared by NRE from the available exploration boreholes. As shown in this figure, the main body of the Cordeaux Crinanite is generally 50 to 80 metres thick.

A cross section through the General Application Area is presented in **Figure 2.5** showing the thickness of the Cordeaux Crinanite and an elevation of the Wongawilli Seam. This section shows that the Cordeaux Crinanite becomes thinner towards the western side of the General Application Area, along with an associated increase in the depth of cover.

Exploration drilling indicates the crinanite has also intruded the overburden above the Wongawilli seam. These "fingers" of intruded crinanite, where present, have the potential to reduce the predicted magnitude and extent of subsidence, particularly in respect of Longwall N1. The thickness of the crinanite over the western side of the intrusion is based on interpolated contours from the available borehole data, hence the interpolated thickness of the crinanite over the proposed Longwalls N1, N5 and N6 is considered conservative and may be thicker than indicated.



Figure 2.5 Longitudinal Cross-Section through the Application Area

Source: MSEC 2010

The effects of undermining the Cordeaux Crinanite has been investigated by Strata Control Technologies (SCT) and their conclusions and findings are presented in a separate report. Refer Volume 2 of the EA.

The Cordeaux Crinanite intrusion is much stronger than the usual Southern Coalfield sedimentary overburden, with a reported unconfined compressive strength in excess of 300MPa [SCT (2010)]. As a result, the Cordeaux Crinanite can span over small mined voids, which was observed by SCT Operations over a previously mined 120 metre wide panel located between the proposed Longwall N4 and N6. The details of these investigations, which include downhole video footage are provided in the report by SCT (2010). SCT advised that the crinanite effectively bridged across this 120 metres goaf with little to no disturbance to the upper part of the crinanite.

Based on the borehole investigations and associated analyses, SCT have predicted that the Cordeaux Crinanite can span over the proposed 125 metre wide goaf over Longwall N2 to N5, where the crinanite is greater than 30 metres without causing perceptible surface subsidence. SCT also advised that extracting the proposed 125 metre wide goaf over Longwall N2 to N5, where the crinanite is greater than 30

metres thick, can be undertaken without impacting perceptibly on the shallow, groundwater system within the crinanite.

The interpolated thickness of the Cordeaux Crinanite above Longwall N6 shows that the crinanite may thin to less than 30 metres thick in areas. The interpolated thickness of the crinanite over Longwall N6 is considered conservative and may be thicker than indicated. It is not anticipated that the extraction of Longwall N6 will result in perceptible surface subsidence.

The proposed Longwall N1 is located partly outside the mapped and interpreted extent of the Cordeaux Crinanite and is anticipated to result in goafing and subsidence consistent with the sedimentary strata in the Southern Coalfield.

# 2.5 Resource Recovery and Project Schedule

The Nebo area layout contains approximately 3.3Mt of coal. Longwall mining is proposed to commence in the Nebo area in December 2012. Mining is expected to proceed as per the indicative schedule outlined in **Table 2.2** Indicative Mining Schedule Proposed Longwalls N1 to N6.

Longwall	Coal Extracted (tonnes)	Estimated Start Date	Estimated Finish Date
LWN2	690,000	December 2012	August 2013
LWN3	695,000	November 2013	May 2014
LWN4	290,000	July 2014	September 2014
LWN5	745,000	November 2014	June 2015
LWN1	200,000	July 2015	August 2015
LWN6	310,000	October 2015	December 2015

Table 2.2 Indicative Mining Schedule Proposed Longwalls N1 to N6

# 2.6 Effects on Future Resource Recovery

The proposed mining will prevent future extraction of the overlying Bulli seam in the area, as it will become subsided and goafed. It is not expected to impede any future mining of the lower seams. However, the Bulli seam at Nebo is regarded as uneconomic due to its thinner seam thickness. Similarly, the underlying American Creek and Tongarra coal seams at Nebo have excessively high ash content which makes extraction uneconomic.

# 2.7 Future Mine Plans

When mining is completed in the Nebo area, NRE plan to continue mining in the western area, subject to approvals being granted.



# **3 SUBSIDENCE MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

# 3.1 Compliance with the Approval

This section addresses Schedule 3 Condition 7 (e) and (f) of the Project Approval....

- (e) include detailed performance indicators for each of the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2;
- (f) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2, and manage or remediate any impacts and/or environmental consequences;

Schedule 3 Condition 7 (e) is addressed in the Monitoring and TARPS table outlined in **Section 3.5** and provided in their entirety as **Attachment B**. This table summarises the monitoring commitments, action triggers, actions and reporting protocols for the relevant natural and man made features. The table essentially summarises NRE's monitoring and management program.

The monitoring parameters outlined in the Monitoring and TARPS table essentially represents the performance indicators for the performance measures outlined in Tables 1 and 2, (Schedule 3 Conditions 1 and 4) of the Project Approval.

Further detail on the monitoring parameters are contained within the specific management plans (for the relevant natural and man made features) provided in the following sections of this document.

Schedule 3 Condition 7 (f) is addressed within the Monitoring and TARPS table outlined in Section 3.5, because this table outlines what monitoring and management actions will be undertaken to ensure compliance with DoPI's performance measures. Further detail on *"measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2, and manage or remediate any impacts and/or environmental consequences"* are provided in this Section, and within the specific management plans (for the relevant natural and man made features) provided in the following sections of this document.

### 3.2 Approved Performance Measures

The Project Approval Schedule 3 Conditions 1 and 4 outline the approved subsidence performance measures for natural and man made features and are provided on the following two pages.



#### Schedule 3 Condition 1

#### SUBSIDENCE

Performance Measures - Natural and Heritage Features, etc

1. The Proponent shall ensure that the project does not cause any exceedances of the performance measures in Table 1, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Table 1: Subsidence Impact Performance Measures

Water Resources	
Catchment yield to the Upper Cordeaux Reservoirs (No. 1 and No. 2) and Avon Reservoir	Negligible reduction to the quality or quantity of water resources reaching the reservoirs No connective cracking between the surface and the mine
Upper Cordeaux Reservoirs (No. 1 and No. 2) and Avon Reservoir	Negligible leakage from the reservoirs Negligible reduction in the water guality of reservoirs
Watercourses	
Wattle Creek, Little Wattle Tree Creek, Cordeaux River, Gallaghers Creek	<ul> <li>Negligible environmental consequences, including:</li> <li>negligible diversion of flows or changes in the natural drainage behaviour of pools;</li> <li>negligible gas releases and iron staining; and</li> <li>negligible increase in water cloudiness</li> </ul>
Other watercourses	No greater subsidence impact or environmental consequences than predicted in the EA
Upland Swamps (No 22 and No 39)	<ul> <li>Negligible environmental consequences including:         <ul> <li>negligible change in the size of swamps;</li> <li>negligible change in the functioning of swamps;</li> <li>negligible change to the composition or distribution of species within swamps; and</li> <li>negligible drainage of water from swamps, or redistribution of water within swamps</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Land	
Illawarra Escarpment State Conservation Area, Metropolitan Special Area	Negligible environmental consequences.
Cliffs	Negligible environmental consequences (that is occasional rockfalls, displacement or dislodgement of boulders or slabs, or fracturing, that in total do not impact more than 0.5% of the total face area of such cliffs within the longwall mining area)
Biodiversity	
Threatened species, threatened populations, or endangered ecological communities	Negligible environmental consequences
Heritage Features	
Aboriginal heritage sites	Negligible impact or environmental consequence
Non-Aboriginal heritage sites (including 'Historic 1', 'Historic 2' and 'Historic 3')	Negligible loss of heritage value

Notes to Table 1:

 The Proponent will be required to define more detailed performance indicators (including impact assessment criteria) for each of these performance measures in the various management plans that are required under this approval (see condition 7(i) of schedule 3 and conditions 20 - 21 of schedule 4 below).

Measurement and/or monitoring of compliance with performance measures and performance indicators is to be
undertaken using generally accepted methods that are appropriate to the environment and circumstances in
which the feature or characteristic is located. These methods are to be fully described in the relevant
management plans. In the event of a dispute over the appropriateness of proposed methods, the DirectorGeneral will be the final arbiter.

In the case of the Illawarra Escarpment State Conservation Area, the Director-General's satisfaction can only be
expressed following consultation with OEH.

 In the case of the Metropolitan Special Area, the Director-General's satisfaction can only be expressed following consultation with SCA.

The requirements of this condition only apply to the impacts and consequences of mining operations, construction
or demolition undertaken following the date of this approval.



#### Schedule 3 Condition 4

4. The Proponent shall ensure that the project does not cause any exceedances of the performance measures in Table 2, to the satisfaction of the Director-General of DRE.

Table 2	Subsidence	Impact	Performance	Measures
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Built Features		
Key public infrastructure: including SCA infrastructure (Avon Dam, Upper Cordeaux No.1 and No.2 dams, water supply pipelines), high pressure gas pipelines, electricity transmission lines, fibre optic networks	Always safe and serviceable. Damage that does not affect safety or serviceability must be fully repairable, and must be fully repaired.	
Gas distribution pipelines, electricity distribution lines, roads, fire trails, other public infrastructure, other built features	Always safe. Serviceability should be maintained wherever practicable. Loss of serviceability must be fully compensated. Damage must be fully repairable, and must be fully repaired or else replaced or fully compensated.	
Public Safety		

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Public safety	No additional risk			
Notes to Table 2:				

 The Proponent will be required to define more detailed performance indicators (including impact assessment criteria) for each of these performance measures in the various management plans that are required under this approval (see condition 7 below).

 Requirements regarding safety or serviceability do not prevent preventative or mitigatory actions being taken prior to or during mining in order to achieve or maintain these outcomes.

### 3.3 NRE's Subsidence Management Measures

#### 3.3.1 Subsidence Management Measures

The measures that NRE employs to manage subsidence can be described in the following six categories:

**Baseline Assessment** - natural features and infrastructure have been identified within the vicinity of the longwalls, including SCA dams and associated infrastructure, steep slopes, roads, survey marks and transmission lines. A comprehensive description of the surface and subsurface features is provided in the

Measurement and/or monitoring of compliance with performance measures and performance indicators is to be
undertaken using generally accepted methods that are appropriate to the environment and circumstances in
which the feature or characteristic is located. These methods are to be fully described in the relevant
management plans. In the event of a dispute over the appropriateness of proposed methods, the DirectorGeneral will be the final arbiter.

The requirements of this condition only apply to the impacts and consequences of mining operations undertaken following the date of this approval.

Any breach of this condition is taken to be a breach of this approval, and may be subject to penalty or offence
provisions under the EP&A Act or EP&A Regulation.



Part 3A Environmental Assessment (EA) and MSEC subsidence reports (Volume 2 of the EA).

**Baseline Monitoring** - monitoring has been undertaken in accordance with the various baseline studies that supported the Part 3A Environmental Assessment. Baseline monitoring programs have been revised and updated as part of the development of this extraction plan.

#### Informed Mine Planning

Section 2 outlined the major constraints in the mining area and explained how mine plans have been specifically designed to maximise the extraction of the resource and reduce the risk of subsidence impacts to sensitive natural and man made features.

Therefore, the exercise of mine planning guided by subsidence predictions and impact assessments is considered to be one of the major preventative measures to ensure compliance with the approved subsidence performance measures outlined in the Draft Project Approval Schedule 3 Conditions 1 and 4.

**Impact Assessment** - associated with the development was initially described in the Part 3A Environmental Assessment and MSEC subsidence reports.

**Impact Monitoring** - is based on knowledge gained from previous studies and management of subsidence associated with the extraction of previous areas in the district. Techniques used in previous mining areas are equally applicable to the current monitoring program. The proposed monitoring programs are summarised in the following sections and detailed in the following feature specific management plans within this document.

**Subsidence Management** - provides a basis for the design and implementation of any mitigation and remediation. Monitoring provides key data when determining any requirement for mitigation or rehabilitation. Baseline data is compared with monitoring results to determine any remediation that may be required.

Descriptions of potential mitigation and rehabilitation options are detailed in the following feature specific management plans within this document and Contingency Plan is provided in Section 12.

#### 3.3.2 Extraction Plan Performance Indicators

Indicators that this Extraction Plan is effective in managing subsidence impacts include:



- Subsidence impacts and risks are managed in a timely manner to the satisfaction of key stakeholders;
- Compliance with all monitoring commitments and TARPS during the extraction of the proposed longwalls
- Subsidence monitoring mechanisms provide appropriate data for ongoing analysis and implementation of management actions in a timely manner; and
- Any impacts outside of predictions are identified and managed appropriately in a timely manner.

Performance will be monitored and reported in End of Panel reports and the Annual Review. Should performance not be satisfactory, NRE will liaise with authorities to address issues as they arise.

### 3.4 Reporting

This section identifies the requirements for incident and ongoing management reporting as required by the Project Approval. The management of reporting includes the following:

- □ Incident Reporting;
- Annual Review; and
- Extraction Plan Annual Review (required within 3 months of the Annual Review referred to above).

### 3.4.1 Incident Reporting

Incident Reporting shall be conducted as per Schedule 6, Condition 6 of the Project Approval:

"The Proponent shall notify the Director-General and any other relevant agencies of any incident that has caused, or has the potential to cause, significant risk of material harm to the environment, at the earliest opportunity. For any other incident associated with the project, the Proponent shall notify the Director-General and any other relevant agencies as soon as practicable after the Proponent becomes aware of the incident. Within 7 days of the date of the incident, the Proponent shall provide the Director-General and any relevant agencies with a detailed report on the incident, and such further reports as may be requested."

"Incidents" are defined in the approval and discussed further in Section 12.



### 3.4.2 Annual Review

An Annual Review shall be prepared as per Schedule 6, Condition 3 of the Project Approval:

#### Annual Review

- 3. By the end of December each year (or other such timing as agreed by the Director-General), the Proponent shall review the environmental performance of the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This review must:
  - (a) describe the works (including any rehabilitation) carried out in the past year, and the works proposed to be carried out over the next year;
  - (b) include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the project over the past year, which includes a comparison of these results against the:
    - relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/ criteria;
    - monitoring results of previous years; and
    - · relevant predictions in the EA;
  - (c) identify any non-compliance over the past year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to ensure compliance;
  - (d) identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the project;
  - (e) identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the project, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and
  - (f) describe what measures will be implemented over the next year to improve the environmental performance of the project.

### 3.4.3 Annual Review of Extraction Plan

An Annual Review of this Extraction Plan shall be prepared as per Schedule 6, Condition 4 of the Project Approval:

#### Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs

4. Within 3 months of:

- (a) the submission of an annual review under condition 3 above;
- (b) the submission of an incident report under condition 6 below;
- (c) the submission of an audit report under condition 8 below; and
- (d) any modification to the conditions of this approval (unless the conditions require otherwise),

the Proponent shall review, and if necessary revise, the strategies, plans, and programs required under this approval to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

#### END OF PANEL REPORT

An "End of Panel Report" report, or other report as determined appropriate by DoPI, will be prepared to the satisfaction of the Director General which will be submitted within four (4) months of the completion of each longwall panel or other period as determined by the Director General.



The report will include the following:

- 1. a summary of the subsidence and environmental monitoring results for the applicable longwall panel;
- 2. include an analysis of these monitoring results against relevant:
  - a. impact assessment criteria;
  - b. monitoring results from previous panels; and
  - c. predictions in the SMP;
- 3. identify any trends in the monitoring results over the life of mining activity; and
- 4. describe what actions were taken to ensure adequate management of any potential subsidence impacts due to longwall mining.

It is expected that the End of Panel Reports will be provided to all relevant agencies (viz. DRE NSW, SCA, DSC, MSB, DECCW, NOW and DoPI) and will be made available for viewing on the website.

# 3.5 Monitoring and TARP's Table

The Trigger Action Response Plan (TARPs) relate to identifying, assessing and responding to identified subsidence impacts.

The TARPs represent actions to be taken as each defined trigger level is reached and provide a basis for the design and implementation of any mitigation and remediation.

Monitoring of environmental aspects of the area will provide key data when determining any requirement for mitigation or rehabilitation. The triggers are based on comparison of baseline with monitoring results. Specific triggers will be reviewed and if necessary continue to develop as the impact monitoring matures.

Refinement of triggers will be in consultation with key stakeholders and subject to approval by DoPI.

The complete Monitoring and TARP's table for Nebo Longwalls N1 to N6 is provided in Attachment B. The relevant section of the TARP's table is also provided within each feature specific Management Plan in this document.



# 4 SUBSIDENCE MONITORING PROGRAM

# 4.1 Subsidence Monitoring Objectives

The objectives of the subsidence monitoring program are to:

- provide data to assist with the management of the risks associated with subsidence;
- □ validate the subsidence predictions;
- monitor the integrity of the overlying strata, particularly the Cordeaux Crinanite;
- analyse the relationship between the subsidence effects and impacts under the extraction plan and any ensuing environmental consequences; and
- satisfy the requirements of the Project Approval, all agencies and address the expectations of the community.

### 4.2 Summary of Predicted Subsidence

A summary of the maximum predicted total systematic subsidence parameters within the potential subsidence footprint and along each prediction line, resulting from the extraction of the proposed Longwalls N1 to N6, is provided in Table 4.1 Predicted subsidence contours are shown on MSEC 412-14 (Attachment A).

Table 4.1 Maximum Predicted Total Subsidence, Tilt and Strain within the Potential Subsidence footprint

Location	Maximum Predicted Total Subsidence (mm)	Maximum Predicted Total Tilt (mm/m)	Maximum Predicted Total Tensile Strain (mm/m)	Maximum Predicted Total Comp. Strain (mm/m)	
Prediction Line 1	400	2.2	0.5	0.3	
Prediction Line 2	310	3.1	0.7	1.1	
Prediction Line 3	55	0.2	<0.1	<0.1	
Prediction Line 4	230	1.7	0.3	0.5	
Prediction Line 5	110	1.2	0.4	0.5	
Prediction Line 6	105	0.8	0.2	0.3	
Source: MSEC (2010)					

Due to the presence of the Cordeaux Crinanite, the predicted subsidence due to extraction of the Nebo longwalls is low. The maximum predicted total subsidence within the mining footprint is 400 mm which occurs above the pillar between



longwalls N1 and N5. As a result impacts to sensitive natural and manmade features are not likely (MSEC 2010).

Minor cracking may occur at surface over part of Longwall N1, as the remaining longwalls are overlain by Cordeaux Crinanite, which is predicted to span the longwall goafs without observable fracturing. Tensile fracturing in exposed sandstone is anticipated to coincide with maximum tensile strains, however open fractures could also occur due to buckling of surface beds subject to compressive strains.

Due to the low in-situ horizontal stresses that are expected above the Cordeaux Crinanite, the likelihood of valley upsidence and closure movement along the creeks overlying the proposed Mining Area is considered to be low. A maximum of 80mm upsidence and 50mm closure is predicted for Wattle Creek.

### 4.3 Monitoring Program

The area overlying the proposed Mining Area is wholly within the Metropolitan Catchment Area "Special Area 1" and has no impact on privately owned or occupied lands. There are no significant private or public operating activities within the proposed mining area.

The proposed subsidence monitoring lines shown in Figure 4.1 have been planned by NRE in consultation with Mine Subsidence Engineering Consultants (MSEC). The suggested monitoring lines (NM1,NM2,NM3,NM4) are shown in thick yellow lines in the drawing. There are four monitoring lines that cross the longwalls and will enable comparison with predicted subsidence parameters. Three of the lines are on 4WD tracks while the line NM4, on the south end of N1 and N6 may need clearing in some locations as it traverses bushland.

The NM2 survey line will assess subsidence/upsidence data in Wattle Tree Creek at the point that it passes over the creek. Being off the end of both Longwall 4 and 2 it is unlikely to suffer any statistically valid movement (i.e. outside survey tolerance).

Further monitoring lines and far field monitoring survey marks will be installed on a needs basis following a review of data collected and also in consultation with key stakeholders.

The establishment of these lines will involve the establishment of monitoring stations at nominally 15m centres, such marks being either star pickets driven to ground level or bolts drilled and anchored into rock faces as conditions dictate.

These marks will be measured to determine level values for each station and the distance between each station will be measured to allow determination of horizontal strain between adjoining marks.



Measurements will be undertaken using a Trimble S8 Total Station (or equivalent) with a stated accuracy of 1mm plus ppm for distance measurement and 1" of arc for angular measurement.

The results from subsidence monitoring will report the parameters of total and incremental subsidence and variation in horizontal strain.

 Table 4.2 outlines the nature and frequency of monitoring and the actions

 proposed to manage impacts resulting from subsidence monitoring.

Management Period	Monitoring Proposed	Trigger	Response
Baseline prior to mining	<ul> <li>2D Survey once prior to mining:         <ul> <li>Total subsidence;</li> <li>Incremental subsidence;</li> <li>Variation in horizontal strain.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Report as appropriate</li> </ul>	Documentation of pre- mining conditions	Document and report as appropriate
During Mining	<ul> <li>2D Survey required only if regular visual inspections indicate impacts appear to fall outside predictions</li> </ul>	Major surface cracking (>10mm)	<ul> <li>Notify Principal Subsidence Engineer – DRE and DoPl;</li> <li>Conduct subsidence survey and review against predictions;</li> <li>Review mining options</li> </ul>
Post Mining	<ul> <li>2D Survey on completion of each longwall block of:         <ul> <li>Total subsidence;</li> <li>Incremental subsidence;</li> <li>Variation in horizontal strain.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Survey measurement comparison with predictions</li> <li>Reported in Survey Reports</li> </ul>	Check against predictions within MSEC report to enable ongoing modeling of predictions	<ul> <li>End of Panel Summary report to Principal Subsidence Engineer – DRE, and DoPl within four (4) months after completion of each longwall block;</li> <li>Conduct subsidence survey and review against predictions;</li> <li>Document actual subsidence against predictions</li> </ul>

### Table 4.2 Subsidence Monitoring and Management



Figure 4.1: Subsidence Monitoring Plan 1098 Nebo Extraction Plan Drawn by: RJ Project Mgr: CM

\spatial\projects\a2011\a1098\_NeboExtractionPlan\Maps\1098\_Figure\_4\_1\_SubsMonitPlan.mxd

Date: 22/11/2012

Subsidence Monitoring Lines

Application Area





# 5 BUILT FEATURES MANAGEMENT PLAN

### 5.1 Objectives

The objectives of this management plan are to:

- provide a framework to manage the potential impacts and consequences of subsidence on any built features;
- satisfy the requirements of the Project Approval, all agencies and address the expectations of the community.

The monitoring program will specifically:

- □ visually monitor surface ground movements;
- □ undertake regular observational monitoring for impact and serviceability;
- compare actual movements and impacts with predicted movements and impacts.

### 5.2 Summary of Predicted Impacts on Man Made Features

#### Manmade Features

The following manmade features occur within or near the subsidence footprint and will be considered in the Extraction Plan:

- □ 4WD tracks (refer Drawing MSEC 412-10);
- □ 33 kV power lines(refer Drawing MSEC 412-11);
- □ Survey Marks(refer Drawing MSEC 412-13);
- **Exploration Boreholes(refer Drawing MSEC 412-13)**;
- □ The Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and No. 2 Reservoirs (refer Drawing MSEC 412-08).

#### 4wd Tracks and Fire Trails

There are no tracks over the area of maximum predicted subsidence, which is between Longwalls N1 and N5. The greatest subsidence parameters on 4WD track and Fire Trails are expected to occur where the 4WD track crosses Longwalls N2 and N3. The maximum predicted subsidence parameters for this 4WD track will be similar to the subsidence profiles for Prediction Line 4, which has a maximum predicted tensile and compressive strain of 0.3 mm/m and 0.5 mm/m respectively.


It is unlikely therefore, that the maximum predicted tilts would have any significant impacts on the track and trails, as they are an order of magnitude smaller than the existing grades.

The tracks are unsealed and it is unlikely that the maximum predicted strains along the tracks would result in noticeable tensile cracking or compressive rippling of the track surfaces.

#### Electrical Services

There are two 33 kV power lines within the potential subsidence footprint, which cross directly above the north west corner of Longwall N2 and close to the south east corner of N6. One power line is owned by Sydney Water and supplies power to the Avon pump station. The other (Line 6-94) is owned by NRE and supplies power to the Nebo #4 Shaft of NRE Colliery.

The maximum predicted subsidence along these power lines is 40mm and the maximum tilt is 0.1 mm/m. The maximum tilt across the power lines is <0.1mm/m.

These predicted subsidence parameters are very small and the probability of impacts to the power lines is negligible. The power lines are supported on timber poles, which are relatively straightforward to repair or adjust if required.

#### Survey Control Marks

The locations of the survey control marks within the vicinity of the proposed longwalls are shown in **Drawing No. MSEC412-13**. There is one survey control mark, No. TS4621, within the General Application Area. The survey mark is approximately 130 metres from the nearest proposed longwall.

The predicted total subsidence at the survey mark is less than approximately 50 mm and the marks will be subjected to negligible horizontal movement of less than approximately 5 mm. It will be necessary on completion of the proposed longwalls, when the ground has stabilised, to re-establish these survey control marks. Consultation between NRE and the Department of Lands will be required throughout the mining period to ensure that these survey control marks are reinstated at an appropriate time, as required.

If the predicted subsidence parameters were increased by factors of 1.25 to 2 times, the extent of any required remedial measures would not be significantly increased. It is anticipated that any impacts on the survey control marks will be insignificant.

#### Exploration Bores in the Nebo Area of the NRE Wongawilli Colliery

The locations of the exploration bores are shown in Drawing No. MSEC412-13. There are two exploration bores within the Application Area, S0188 and Nebo 4. Bore No. S0188 is an historical bore, drilled approximately 45 to 50 years ago. Nebo 4 was drilled as part of the exploration for this project. There are several



other exploration bores in the vicinity of but outside the General Application Area, most of which are located to the north east and east.

The maximum predicted total tensile and compressive strains at the bores are both less than 0.1 mm/m, and the associated minimum radii of curvature are greater than 150 kilometres.

It is unlikely that the bores would be impacted by these magnitudes of strains and curvatures. This is based on the crinanite spanning the goaf of the extracted longwalls. The sedimentary strata layers below the crinanite will be subjected to normal goafing and subsidence and therefore any boreholes extending below the crinanite could incur fracturing and breakout within the bore.

The exploration bores outside the General Application Area are unlikely to be affected by the extraction of the proposed longwalls.

### Upper Cordeaux No.1 and No.2 Reservoir

The distance from the upstream end of the nearest of these dams, that is, the waters of the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 Reservoir, to the nearest proposed longwall is approximately 660 metres from Longwall N3. The Upper Cordeaux No. 1 dam wall is approximately 820 metres from Longwall N3.

The distance from the upstream end of the reservoir of the Upper Cordeaux No. 2 Reservoir, to the nearest proposed longwall is approximately 440 metres from Longwall N3. The Upper Cordeaux No. 2 dam wall is approximately 1.4 kilometres, from Longwall N4.

These are well outside the predicted 20 mm subsidence contour, resulting from the extraction of the proposed longwalls.

Hence, it is unlikely that the proposed extraction of the NRE Longwalls N1 to N6 will cause measurable ground movements at and around the Upper Cordeaux No.1 Dam Wall and the Upper Cordeaux No.2 Dam Wall. It would be unlikely, therefore, that the reservoir would experience any significant systematic subsidence impacts, resulting from the extraction of the proposed longwalls, even if the predictions were increased by factors of 1.25 to 2 times (MSEC 2010).

The Dam safety Committee (DSC) has defined Notification Areas around all prescribed dams and storages, which it considers may be affected by mining. Prior to the commencement of mining within a Notification Area, mining companies must receive the consent of the Minister administering the Mining Act. The DSC advises the Minister on the extent and type of mining to be permitted and on any special conditions which should apply. The north eastern corner of LWN3 falls within the Cordeaux Notification Area and therefore the DSC have been consulted during the mine approval process for the Nebo area.



# 5.3 Monitoring and Management Program

Table 5.1 outlines the monitoring commitments proposed for man made features. The monitoring program includes fire roads and 4WD tracks and the 33kV transmission lines. Survey point and exploration boreholes monitoring is generally not required as the Survey Point will be re-established in consultation with the Department of Lands. The borehole will be destroyed by goafing and is no longer required by NRE.

Ground movements will be monitored as mining occurs, to measure the extent to which the actual movements may differ from those predicted. Any predicted impacts will be periodically reviewed in the light of additional data.

Power lines will be inspected by a suitably qualified person, to determine the existing condition, and whether any preventive measures are required prior to mining. Management strategies will be developed in liaison with the owners of the power lines (Sydney Water and NRE) so they can be maintained in a safe condition throughout the mining period.

Ongoing discussions with infrastructure owners are underway and appropriate management and monitoring plans have been developed where determined necessary. Appropriate plans, where required, are being implemented. These plans include trigger points for appropriate actions and remediation works.

## The Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Dam Walls and Reservoirs

Survey and monitoring results are regularly reviewed by SCA between the Mining and Infrastructure and Survey Groups, and during regular meetings with the mining company. At such meetings, the measured parameters are reviewed in terms of their historic behaviour. Trends and magnitude of movements are assessed as to their likely impacts on the SCA infrastructure.

Where any unusual displacements, changes in monitored behaviours, and movements exceeding the trigger levels are detected in the field, or during the acquisition and processing of data, the SCA (Senior Manager Asset Capability and Senior Manager Mining), and Dams Safety Committee shall be advised accordingly.

The following procedures shall be observed for the specific trigger levels applicable to monitoring in the vicinity of Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Dams and its associated surface infrastructures including the stored waters. It should be noted that some trigger levels are less than survey tolerance. If a trigger is exceeded, but is within survey tolerance, a resurvey should be considered to confirm actual movements.



			Мо	nitoring Commitments					TÆ	ARPS
Feature	Pri	or to Mining	Dui	ring Mining	Pos Mo	st Mining and Future nitoring	Trigger	Trigger		sponse
Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam Walls SCA Inspections and subsidence monitoring		Visual inspection by SCA prior to mining Annual subsidence surveys by SCA along Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls prior to mining		Visual inspection by SCA during mining Bi-Annual subsidence surveys by SCA along Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls during mining		Visual inspection by SCA up to 1 year post mining Annual subsidence surveys by SCA along Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls up to 1 year post mining		<ul> <li>&gt;10mm change in RL</li> <li>&gt;10mm Upsidence or &gt;2mm differential vertical movement between any 2 adjacent marks</li> <li>&gt;20mm horizontal movement or &gt;2mm differential horizontal movement between any 2 adjacent marks</li> <li>&gt;2mm Closure between readings</li> <li>Crack Widths &gt;3mm differential movement in 3</li> </ul>		Notification to SCA immediately, then to DoPI, DSC, DRE NSW Additional monitoring as agreed with SCA and as per DSC Management Plans. 6 Monthly 3-D crack monitoring where agreed with SCA. Make area safe as soon as practicable including warning signs Proposal for rectification within 1 week upon approval from SCA Completion of any required works following approval from SCA
Cordeaux Reservoir Stored Waters (SCA)		Survey of lake foreshores by SCA		6-monthly survey of lake foreshores by SCA		6-monthly survey of lake foreshores by SCA up to 1 year post mining		Cordeaux No.2 Dam >20mm change in RL >20mm horizontal movement		Notification to SCA immediately, then to DoPI, DSC, DRE NSW Additional monitoring as agreed with SCA and as per DSC Management Plans.

# Table 5.1Built Features Monitoring and Management Summary



								Liaise with the SCA and develop appropriate strategies and management plans.
33kV Transmission Lines (Owned by Sydney Water		Observation of tower condition	Fortnightly observation of tower		Observation of tower condition		Observation of unsafe tower conditions as noted	Report condition to Infrastructure owner and Mine Subsidence Board
and NRE)		Survey measurement	condition		Survey measurement		by NRE or consultant engineer.	Document in end of panel reports
	_	for later comparison			once following mining			Infrastructure owner to undertake
		Once before mining			mining			remediation as necessary
Fire Roads and 4WD Tracks		Observation of road	Fortnightly		Monthly observation		Minor cracking on roads	Notification to SCA within 24 hrs, using
(Fortnightly visual		condition once prior to mining	observation of roads, tracks and area	of roads, tracks and area within 10m of		and tracks (<10mm)	photographic record	
inspection)		Reported in End of panel reports and	within 10m of roads/tracks	roads/tracks for 6 months post mining		Major cracking (>10mm) or traffic impedance	Notification to SCA immediately, then to DoPI, DRE NSW and MSB	
		AEMR		pre 🗖	reported in End of panel reports and			Make area safe as soon as practicable including warning signs
					AEMR			Proposal for rectification within 1 week upon approval from SCA
								Completion of works following approval from SCA
								Additional monitoring as agreed with SCA



# 6 PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN

# 6.1 Objectives

The objectives of this Public Safety Management Plan are to:

- to provide a framework to manage the potential public safety risks due to subsidence on any built or natural features;
- □ satisfy the requirements of the Project Approval, all agencies and the expectations of the community.

# 6.2 Summary of Public Safety Considerations

As outlined in the previous section, no buildings, structures or notable infrastructure occurs within the approved mining area other than two 33kV transmission lines and the existing 4WD tracks. As predicted impacts to these features are negligible, it is therefore determined that no specific prevention or mitigation measures require implementation to address hazards or safety risks associated with these features.

Natural features potentially impacted by mining within the approved mining area include rocky outcrops and steep slopes. These features occur across the mining area, however no rock falls or tension cracks are predicted to occur. The relative safety risk from subsidence impacts on these features is considered low.

No cliffs occur in the mining area.

The approved mining area is within the Restricted Area of the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) and public access to the mining area is already limited under SCA terms.

Regular monitoring of these 4WD tracks and Fire trails before, during and after extraction will ensure coverage of any mining related surface impacts. In the event that such minor mining related impacts should occur, the hazard will be addressed.

Should observations show deterioration in surface conditions arising from mining within the application area, safety and remediation measures will be implemented to include timely notification of all relevant stakeholders.

# 6.3 Monitoring and Management Program

Table 6.1 outlines the Public Safety Management Plan Monitoring and TARPsSummary. The type and frequency of monitoring in the Public Safety ManagementPlan is consistent with previous Subsidence Management Plan submissionsdetermined through consultation with key stakeholders.



Monitoring of the key items will be undertaken as part of regular and routine assessments within the approved mining area. In the unlikely event that impacts are observed, the program will support development of any mitigation or rehabilitation plans required which would typically involve the following:

- □ Warning signs to be erected.
- □ Notify of any entry restrictions in consultation with key stakeholders.
- □ Any unstable areas to be secured and isolated as appropriate.
- Timely notification of mining to the community and key stakeholders where management of public safety is required.
- **D** Prompt remediation of any affected infrastructure.



# Table 6.1 Public Safety Monitoring and TARPs Summary

			Monitoring Commitments					TARPS			
Feature	Pri	or to Mining	Du	ring Mining	Pos Mo	Post Mining and Future Monitoring		Trigger		Response	
Public Safety		Observation of rocky		Observation of rocky		Observation of rocky		Minor cracking (<10mm)		Notification to SCA & DoPI within 24 hrs,	
(fortnightly during		outcrops and steep		outcrops and steep		outcrops and steep				using photographic record	
extraction)		4WD tracks;		4WD tracks;		tracks;		Major Cracking (>10mm),		Notification to SCA& DoPI immediately	
		Once prior to mining		Fortnightly during		Monthly following mining		noticeable instability or traffic impedance		Make area safe as soon as practicable	
				extraction		for 6 months				Proposal for rectification within 1 week	
										Completion of works following approval from SCA	
										Additional monitoring as agreed	



# 7 WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

# 7.1 Objectives

The objectives of this Water Management Plan are to:

- provide a framework to monitor and manage the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of subsidence over the proposed longwalls on watercourses and aquifers, including:
  - surface and groundwater impact assessment criteria based on at least 2 years of baseline data, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts on water resources or water quality;
  - a program to monitor and report groundwater inflows to underground workings; and
  - a program to predict, manage and monitor impacts on any groundwater bores on privately-owned land;
- satisfy the requirements of the Project Approval, all agencies and address the expectations of the community.

# 7.2 Summary of Predicted Impacts

## 7.2.1 Surface Water

## Introduction

A catchment surface water assessment was undertaken for the Project by GeoTerra Pty Ltd (GeoTerra). GeoTerra (2010a) monitored the existing baseline status and addressed potential surface water impacts relating to the proposed extraction of the Nebo area longwalls.

## Existing Environment

The thin soil of the Berkeley landscape overlying the crinanite has been observed to provide limited duration baseflow seepage into the local streams following sufficient rainfall. However the soil profile dries out relatively quickly and seepage discontinues after a few weeks.

There are no valley infill or headwater swamps in the potential subsidence area.

The potential subsidence area contains the catchments of Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek, both of which drain into Upper Cordeaux No.2 Reservoir within the Sydney Catchment Authority managed, Metropolitan Special Area.



The creeks are assessed to be "connected gaining streams" where shallow groundwater in the soil and crinanite can maintain a base flow during and after extended wet periods.

Seepage has been observed to support a continuous flow in the 3<sup>rd</sup> order channel of Wattle Creek, with the flow volume being dependant on the interaction between rainfall runoff / recharge and groundwater seepage applying at any one time.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> order channel of Little Wattle Tree Creek does not have permanent stream flow in the vicinity of the proposed workings.

#### Wattle Creek

Wattle Creek is characterised by interspersed pools containing exposed crinanite bedrock and crinanite boulder or cobble accumulations in the main channel.

Generally small pools are developed upstream of elevated rock bars or boulder / cobble accumulations, often with less than 0.5m drop between the pools. The pools are generally small due to the steep gradient of the creek bed.

The channel of Wattle Creek has been previously undermined and overlies three pillar extraction areas as well some access drives.

Three monitoring sites were initiated in Wattle Creek in June 2009;

- WC1 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> order tributary between LWN2 and LWN6 (known colloquially as Jacksons Creek)
- WC2 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> order channel upstream of the WC1 junction, and
- WC3 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> order channel downstream of the WC1 junction, at the access track culvert

A further upstream control site (WC4) has been established in the headwaters of Wattle Creek.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> order channel upstream, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> order channel downstream of the WC1 / WC2 junction have been continuously flowing since monitoring began in June 2009, whilst the 1<sup>st</sup> order tributaries, as well as the 2<sup>nd</sup> order WC1 tributary have ephemeral to intermittent flow.

No subsidence cracks have been observed in the outcropping, vertically columnar jointed crinanite stream bed of Wattle Creek over the previous pillar extraction areas.

No significant ferruginous seeps are present in Wattle Creek over the previously subsided pillar extraction areas, and no enhanced stream bed or bank erosion has been observed over or downstream of the pillar extraction areas.

Wattle Creek stream monitoring site details are listed in Table 7.1 Wattle Creek Stream Monitoring Sites and shown on Figure 7.1.



Site	Easting	Northing	Description
WC1	294560	6189435	2nd order tributary draining off Jacksons / Wanyambilli Hill
WC2	294530	6189470	2nd order tributary draining over LWN5
WC3	294875	6189570	3rd order channel downstream of WC1 / WC2 junction
WC4	293225	6189250	Upstream site on 1 <sup>st</sup> order tributary just north of Fire Trail 6J at downstream end of swamp
			Source: GeoTerra (2010a)

Table 7.1	Wattle Cree	ek Stream	Monitoring	Sites
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Volumetric stream flow monitoring has been conducted at Site WC3 since November 2009.

A summary of water quality results is available in **Table 7.2** Wattle Creek Water Quality. Further details regarding water quality are provided in *Annex* G to the EA.

#### Table 7.2 Wattle Creek Water Quality

рН	Salinity	Iron	Sulfate
5.7 to 7.5	117 - 185µS/cm	generally low	3 – 11mg/L
Source: GeoTerra (2010a)			

Monitoring indicates Wattle Creek is within the acceptable range for potable water. However it can exceed the ANZECC 2000 95% Species Protection Level for Freshwater Aquatic Ecosystem Guidelines for the following parameters, depending on the flow conditions at the time of sampling:

- □ filtered copper and / or zinc, very occasionally at all sites; and
- □ total nitrogen as well as total phosphorous at all sites, occasionally, with no regular pattern.

#### Little Wattle Tree Creek

Little Wattle Tree Creek is characterised by a series of small boulder and cobble based pools as well as small pools developed on exposed columnar jointed crinanite, often with less than a 0.5m drop between the pools. The stream gradient is relatively steep at its headwaters and reduces gradually with distance downstream.



The stream is well defined with steeply sloping banks up to 10m high. Well developed rainforest exists along the banks and there is no apparent erosion or bank instability.

The channel of Little Wattle Tree Creek has not been previously undermined.

One stream monitoring site was installed in June 2009 at LWTC1, downstream of the proposed longwalls LWN4 and LWN5 on the Fire Road 6 crossing. Due to the creek being generally dry or ponded during the majority of the study period, no stream flow or pool height monitoring has been initiated at this site.

Table 7.3 Little Wattle	Creek Stream	<b>Monitoring Sites</b>
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Site	Easting	Northing	Description
LWTC1	294920	6190020	Downstream of the proposed longwalls
			LWN4 and LWN5 on the Fire Road 6
			crossing. This site is for water quality only
			Source: GeoTerra (2010a)

A summary of water quality results is presented in Table 7.3. Further details regarding water quality are provided in *Annex G* of the EA.

#### Table 7.4 Little Wattle Tree Creek Water Quality

рН	Salinity	Iron	Sulfate
5.5 to 6.6	95 - 134µS/cm	generally low	2 – 7mg/L
Source: GeoTerra (2010a)	)		

Monitoring indicates Little Wattle Tree Creek is within the acceptable range for potable water. However it can exceed the ANZECC 2000 95% Species Protection Level for Freshwater Aquatic Ecosystem Guidelines for the following parameters, depending on the flow conditions at the time of sampling:

- filtered zinc very occasionally at all sites;
- total nitrogen, in all samples to date; and
- total phosphorous, infrequently.

#### Predicted Impacts on Surface Water Features, Flow and Quality

It is predicted that surface subsidence and the associated tilts and strains will be relatively minor due to the presence of the Cordeaux Crinanite (MSEC, 2010).

Based on geotechnical, hydrological and hydrogeological investigations within the potential subsidence footprint, it was assessed that the crinanite has retarded the



surface expression of subsidence as well as restricted the generation of connective hydraulic fracture pathways between Wattle Creek and the sedimentary overburden that underlies the crinanite. Refer *Annex G* of the EA for further details.

Based on the ability of the Cordeaux Crinanite to maintain its aquitard integrity following subsidence, it is anticipated that no significant adverse effects will be observed in the creek bed or catchment of Wattle Creek or Little Wattle Tree Creek including:

- negligible effects on water quality;
- negligible change in stream bed or bank stability;
- negligible effect on stream pools; and
- negligible gas emissions at the surface.

No adverse effect on the shallow groundwater system is anticipated as the crinanite is expected to maintain its aquitard status.

#### Stream Flow Loss

Transfer of stream flow to subsurface fracture flow is not anticipated over the proposed workings due to the low predicted subsidence and strains.

#### Upper Cordeaux No.2 Reservoir

Although the northern portion of Longwall N3 lies within the Cordeaux Dam Notification Area, neither the Upper Cordeaux No.2 Reservoir or dam wall are anticipated to be adversely affected.

Upper Cordeaux No.2 Reservoir and the Upper Cordeaux No.2 dam wall are not anticipated to experience loss of stored water as there will be no predicted connected hydraulic fracture pathway between the proposed longwalls and the reservoir as the crinanite is expected to maintain its aquitard status.

Due to the lack of subsidence, streambed cracking and associated stream flow changes in Wattle Creek or Little Wattle Tree Creek, negligible effect on Upper Cordeaux No.1 or No.2 Reservoirs' water quality is anticipated.



Figure 7.1: Surface Water Monitoring Plan 1098 Nebo Extraction Plan Surface Water Monitoring Locations Drawn by: RJ Application Area Project Mgr: CM Longwalls Date: 2/05/2012

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0 50100 200 300 400





# 7.2.2 Groundwater

#### Introduction

GeoTerra (2010b) provide a baseline, pre-mining assessment of the potentially affected groundwater systems and associated subsidence of the Wongawilli seam, with further details provided in *Annex I* of the EA.

### Existing Environment

### Hydrology

Due to the Cordeaux Crinanite, the hydrogeology of the Nebo area is markedly different to other underground mines in the Southern Coalfield.

The crinanite is up to 90m thick and has a very low permeability, thereby acting as an aquitard that hydraulically separates the shallow soil and creek beds from the sedimentary overburden under the crinanite.

Underneath the Cordeaux Crinanite, two aquifer systems are present:

- □ the dual porosity Narrabeen group sedimentary units; and
- □ the remnant Bulli / Balgownie and Wongawilli seam dual porosity coal seams and interburden.

The Narrabeen group is an assemblage of aquifers, aquitards and aquicludes with very low primary hydraulic conductivities. The sandstones provide porous storage with limited fracture flow and have very low transmitting capacity, whilst the mudstones, siltstones and shales effectively impede vertical flow.

Very minor groundwater supplies are obtained from the Narrabeen Group due to its generally deeper cover and very low permeability.

Groundwater is generally observed within the coal seams where cleats provide enhanced secondary permeability.

Previous access drives and first workings have essentially depressurised the Wongawilli seam at Nebo. Also, due to the radial nature of depressurisation away from the structural dome in the Wongawilli Seam, as well as the higher relative elevation of the Nebo longwalls, any depressurisation of the Dendrobium Area 2 workings would be unlikely to have significant lateral transgression into the proposed Nebo workings.

Due to the regional depressurisation in and above the existing Nebo workings, no notable groundwater bearing strata is anticipated in the crinanite or underlying sedimentary units above the proposed panels.



Water quality varies within and between Illawarra Coal Measures and the interburden due to the complex nature of the groundwater flow systems, whilst the coal seams are mostly brackish to saline.

The Balgownie, Bulli and Wongawilli seams do not outcrop within the Nebo or Western Driveage areas, however they are exposed along the basal section of the Illawarra Escarpment.

No direct vertical recharge occurs where the crinanite is present, whilst recharge to the seams occurs where they outcrop or subcrop along the escarpment.

There is no direct hydraulic connection between the seams and creeks in the Nebo area due to the crinanite.

#### Wongawilli Mine Inflow and Groundwater Access Licensing

An average annual inflow of 1 518ML/year has been measured into the entire NRE Wongawilli Colliery workings, of which Nebo and the Western Driveage are comparatively small components. Mine water inflows are comprised of

- **groundwater inflow**;
- surface water seeping through subsidence cracks following extraction of Elouera Longwalls 6 and 7; and
- □ surface water seeping into the previously extracted shallow collapsed workings near the Illawarra Escarpment.

The current Nebo workings are reported to be dry.

#### Existing Groundwater Monitoring Data

NRE installed six open standpipe piezometers (Nebo1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3 and 4) along with four multi-level vibrating wire piezometer arrays (Nebo 6, 7, 8 and 8A) at Nebo in January 2010.

Two multi-level vibrating wire piezometer arrays (WW11, WW20B) were installed in the Western Driveage area in March 2009.

Monitoring sites are shown on Figure 7.2.

#### Water Levels

Monitoring at Nebo indicates the following water levels below surface:

- **d** soil 1 5.5m;
- **crinanite 1 13m**;
- □ Narrabeen Group 44 45m; and
- **Bulli** seam 82 90m.





A summary of the open standpipe and vibrating wire piezometers is shown in Table 7.5 and Table 7.6 below.

Piezometer	License	E	Ν	RL mAHD	TD mbg	Intake (mbgl)
Nebo 1 (S)	10BL603365	295153	6188762	366.4	6.0	5.0 - 6.0
Nebo 1 (D)	10BL603365	295152	6188761	366.5	97.6	85.6 – 97.6
Nebo 2 (S)	10BL603365	294662	6189246	347.7	6.5	5.5 – 6.5
Nebo 2 (D)	10BL603365	294662	6189237	348.5	31.0	19.0 – 31.0
Nebo 3	10BL603365	295033	6189838	356.7	33.6	21.6 – 33.6
Nebo 4	10BL603365	294661	6189893	374.1	110.0	107.5 – 109.5
NOTE: n/a -	not available		mbg - r	metres below	/ ground	SWL - standing water level

#### Table 7.5 NSW Office of Water Registered Open Standpipe Piezometers

mbtoc - metres below top of casing

Nebo 5 was not drilled

all bores drilled in Dec 2009

#### Table 7.6 Multi Level Vibrating Wire Piezometer Bores

Piezometer	Installed	E	N	RL mAHD	TD mbg	VWP Intakes (mbgl)
Nebo 6	Dec 2009	295237	6189510	354.2	119	60, 80, 100 (CC), 119 (KS)
Nebo 7	Dec 2009	295477	6189585	336.4	92	30, 45, 63 (CC), 90 (WW)
Nebo 8	Dec 2009	294679	6189485	343.4	91	15, 35, 52 (CC), 72 (SS)
Nebo 8A	Jan 2010	294549	6189499	359.6	69	25, 45, (CC)
PE1	Nov 2009	291676	6187507	515.7	173.4	90 (HS) 135 (BHCS) 150 (BS) 165 (BS)
WW 11	Mar 2009	288343	6184339	467.1	330.4	60 (HS) 90 (BHCS) 104 (BS) 125 (BS)
WW 20B	Feb 2009	291099	6184158	488.2	231.6	33 (HS) 60 (BHCS) 75 (BS) 135 (BS)
NOTE: CC ·	- Cordeaux (	Crinanite	BS - I	Bulgo Sands	stone	SS - Scarborough Sandstone

SPCS - Stanwell Park Claystone BCS – Bulli Coal Seam WW – Wongawilli Coal Seam KS – Kembla Sandstone

HS – Hawkesbury Sandstone BHCS – Bald Hill Claystone

#### Groundwater Quality

Regular field and laboratory testing of the groundwater quality at Nebo has been conducted since January 2010. A summary of pH and electrical conductivity (EC) is presented in Table 7.7.

#### Table 7.7 Nebo Groundwater Quality Summary

Source	рН	EC µS/cm
Soil	6.54 – 8.65	268 - 1042
Crinanite	6.66 – 12.23	234 - 7060
Narrabeen Group Siltstone	7.60 – 10.44	587 - 958
Bulli seam	8.05 – 8.16	798 - 851
Source: GeoTerra (2010b)		



GeoTerra (2010b) indicates that the groundwater at Nebo is generally within the acceptable range for potable water. However it can be outside the ANZECC 2000 South Eastern Australia Upland Stream criteria for pH during extended dry periods.

The groundwater can also exceed ANZECC 2000 95% Species Protection Level for Freshwater Aquatic Ecosystem Guidelines for the following parameters:

- □ filtered copper lead and zinc; and
- □ total nitrogen and phosphorous.

#### Predicted Groundwater Impacts

Table 7.8 Predicted Groundwater Impacts Due to Mining at Nebo presents a summary of the predicted groundwater impacts in the Nebo area.

Table 7	8 Predicted	Groundwater	Impacts Due	e to Minina	at Nebo
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Unit	Predicted Impact
Cordeaux Crinanite	<ul> <li>No adverse hydraulic connection between the crinanite and the underlying Narrabeen Group and Illawarra Coal Measures aquifers and aquitards due to subsidence</li> <li>No temporary lowering of the crinanite piezometric surface</li> <li>No adverse effect on the crinanite groundwater quality is anticipated</li> </ul>
Narrabeen group and Illawarra Coal Measures	<ul> <li>Hydraulic interconnection and depressurisation of the sedimentary overburden under the crinanite following subsidence above the proposed longwalls, which will be tempered by the existing depressurisation regime from previous mining effects</li> <li>Lowering of the sedimentary overburden piezometric surface due to strata dilation and connection with the Nebo workings.</li> <li>Underground mine water inflows will not substantially rise as the Wongawilli seam and the sedimentary overburden are already depressurised.</li> <li>Potential limited iron hydroxide precipitation and acidification of the interstitial water due to exposure to atmospheric oxygen within shallow subsidence cracked Hawkesbury Sandstone or Narrabeen Group lithologies.</li> </ul>
Source: GeoTerra (2010b)	

No adverse water quantity or quality impacts are predicted to occur on Upper Cordeaux No.1 or No.2 Reservoirs based on the factors discussed in previous sections.



# 7.3 Monitoring and Management Program

# 7.3.1 Surface Water Monitoring and Management

Tables 7.9 to 7.11 outline the proposed Water Management Plan monitoring and TARPs. If impacts are identified, appropriate responses will be triggered as per the TARP summary outlined in Table 7.11 below.

Table 7.9 Sur	face Water	Monitoring	Program
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Monitoring Type	Method	Site	Frequency
Water level – automatic monitoring	Water level logger	WC1, WC2, WC3,WC4	1 hourly data log intervals, with monthly download during mining under creeks. Minimum 6 hour data log intervals and bi-monthly downloads during baseline and post mining.
Standing water level – manual monitoring	Manual measure against surveyed benchmark	WC1, WC2, WC3, WC4	Bi-monthly pre-mining Weekly preceding and during active undermining of creeks Bi-monthly post-mining
Field Water quality analysis – EC, pH	Grab sample field meter readings	WC1,WC2,WC3, WC4 and LWTC1	Bi-monthly pre-mining Weekly preceding and during active undermining of creeks Bi-monthly post-mining
Laboratory Water quality analysis – (EC, pH) + TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, Cl, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, hardness, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Se, Cd (metals filtered)	Grab sample for laboratory analysis	WC1,WC2,WC3, WC4 and LWTC1	Every 4 months pre-mining Monthly preceding and during active undermining of creeks Every 4 months post-mining
Observations of creek condition: erosion, pooling, iron hydroxide staining, rockbars, bedrock.	Visual observations assisted by photo point monitoring	WC1,WC2,WC3, WC4 and LWTC1	Bi-monthly pre-mining Weekly preceding and during active undermining of creeks Bi-monthly post-mining



Water level and flow monitoring will involve:

- automated monitoring of stream depth and volumetric flow at WC1 (upstream) and WC3, which will be compared to local rainfall. Automated monitoring of stream depth at WC2 and WC4. Monitoring of stream depth at 1 hourly log intervals during active undermining of stream during extraction; 6 hourly log intervals during baseline and post mining.
- water quality monitoring will include;
  - monthly monitoring before and after extraction occurs under Wattle Creek (at WC1,WC2,WC3,WC4) and Little Wattle Tree Creek (at LWTC1);
  - weekly monitoring in Wattle Creek during the period of extraction under the creek by longwall LWN5 at WC1,WC2,WC3,WC4;
  - weekly monitoring at LWTC1 whilst longwall LWN5 is within 100m of Little Wattle Tree Creek;
  - water quality monitoring will include the following parameters;
    - field pH, electrical conductivity, dissolved oxygen, oxidation / reduction potential and temperature;
    - total dissolved solids;
    - Na / Ca / K / SO4 /Mg / CI / F;
    - total alkalinity;
    - dissolved organic carbon;
    - total / filterable Fe, Mn, Al;
    - filterable Ni, As, Li, Ba, Sr, Cu, Pb, Zn;
    - total nitrogen and total phosphorous;
  - collection and analysis of samples will be conducted according to the ANZECC 2000 Guidelines for Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting;
  - setting of trigger values for selected parameters within the context of a Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP). Where trigger values are exceeded, the cause and effect of the exceedance will be investigated and a management plan developed if the cause is directly related to subsidence and requires management;
    - surface water TARPs are outlined in Table 7.11;



- TARPs will be reviewed annually and adjusted, if required, to account for the natural variability of stream water quality as indicated by additional data. Additional water quality monitoring sites may also need to be established as the monitoring program progresses;
- photographic recording of site conditions, including bed and banks, during site visits in Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek;
- visual and photo point monitoring of bank stability, bedload movement and riparian vegetation after significant stream flow events in Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek;
- measurement of daily water pumped into and out of the Nebo / Wongawilli workings;
- measurement of rainfall daily at the Colliery and nearest Bureau of Meteorology weather station for the duration of mining;
- preparation of an End of Panel summary report for each panel, which summarises all monitoring over the period; and
- Annual review of all data and an updating of the monitoring and remediation program if required.

In the event that on going monitoring indicates there has been a significant adverse hydrologic or aquatic ecotoxic effect, then management and mitigation measures may be required. Management measures may involve alteration to the extent of extraction.

The surface water monitoring program will be extended beyond the active mine life in order to assess longer term stream flow and water quality for an agreed period after closure of the relevant operations following consultation with NOW, SCA and OEH.

#### Potential Stream Remediation and Contingency Options

No adverse effects are anticipated on the surface water system due to the proposed extraction of the Nebo longwalls.

The following discussion is provided in the unlikely event that adverse hydrologic or aquatic ecotoxic effects occur, and that management and mitigation measures are required.

All relevant rehabilitation actions will be derived in association with the DoPI, DRE, NOW and SCA, and will be acted upon as outlined in the TARP.

Contingency plans will be developed if the observed impact exceeds the predicted impact on significant natural features, and approved adaptive management strategies will be used if geological disturbances or dissimilarities are recognised.



Monitoring will be used to measure the actual versus predicted impact and to measure the effectiveness of any management strategies that may be adopted. A Contingency Plan that provides for adaptive management is provided in Section 12.

Possible mitigation measures to reduce the potential impacts of subsidence on significant features may involve adaptive management measures through:

- restriction of ground movement by reducing mining height or longwall width or increasing the pillar width;
- isolation of ground movement by constructing slots at strategic locations adjacent to a feature to concentrate ground strain. This measure is still in a development stage and is generally considered to be expensive;

In addition, the following measures may be appropriate;

- maintenance responses measures used to maintain the physical state and function of a feature that may be impacted by subsidence;
- □ toleration of subsidence impacts no action taken to control or remediate the impacts. Tolerance would be used where subsidence effects are insufficient to warrant remediation and dissipate gradually over a large area or for locations that have no significant sub-surface or surface features, or;.
- Additional options such as offsets or compensation as well as adaptive management may be required if impacts exceed predictions and are required to compensate for unacceptable environmental consequences.

Remediation will not be used as a forward management strategy for highlysignificant features. However, it may be required as a contingency measure if actual subsidence impacts exceed predictions. Remediation measures may include:

- backfilling and/or grouting of cracks and fracture networks grout can be either cement-based or composed of plastic or resin, such as polyurethane which is injected into a fracture network, or;
- ☐ fractures may "self heal" or be anthropogenically filled in. Fractures may heal naturally in watercourses that have a moderate to high sediment load, with the success of natural remediation depending on the extent of damage and the type of watercourse.

#### 7.3.2 Groundwater Monitoring and Management

The proposed groundwater monitoring program for the Project is summarised in Table 7.10.



### Table 7.10 Groundwater Monitoring Program

Monitoring Required	Method	Site	Frequency
Standing water level – automatic monitoring	Water level logger	Nebo1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, 4	Twice daily, with bi-monthly download
Standing water level – manual monitoring	Dip meter	Nebo1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, 4	Bi-monthly
Pressure head – automatic monitoring	Vibrating wire piezometer	Nebo 6, 7, 8, 8A, WW11, WW20B	Twice daily, with quarterly download
Water quality – EC, pH	Pumped field meter readings	Nebo 1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, 4	Bi-monthly
Water quality – (EC, pH) + TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, Cl, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, hardness, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Se, Cd (metals filtered)	Pumped sample for laboratory analysis	Nebo 1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, 4	At the start and finish of each panel for piezometers adjacent to a panel, otherwise 1 sample per year

The groundwater monitoring program will be extended beyond the active mine life in order to assess longer term groundwater level recovery and water quality for an agreed period after closure of the relevant operations following consultation with NOW, SCA OEH and DoPI.

The volume of water pumped into and out of the NRE Wongawilli Colliery workings will be monitored daily to enable groundwater seepage into the workings to be assessed. If assessment of the groundwater make into the Nebo workings is not possible due to logistical constraints in the overall Wongawilli colliery, then semiquantitative observations of the mine roof, floor and wall seepage will be reported.

Daily rainfall data will be obtained from the SCA Cordeaux No.2 dam weather station for the duration of mining at Nebo.

All results will be reviewed after each panel is completed and should the need arise, an update to the monitoring and remediation program will be undertaken in consultation with NOW, SCA and DRE.

Quality assurance will be attained by calibrating all measuring equipment, ensuring that sampling equipment is suitable for the intended purpose, using NATA registered laboratories for chemical analyses. This will ensure that site inspections and reporting follow procedures outlined in the ANZECC 2000 Guidelines for Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting.



## Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) and Trigger Levels

The Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) provides guidance on the procedures and actions required to manage potential impacts on the groundwater systems at Nebo. The methodology for deriving trigger levels is described below.

Trigger levels for investigation of potential impacts to groundwater will be set prior to mining. Exceedances of these trigger levels will be investigated by a qualified hydrogeologist as outlined in Table 7.11.

Performance indicators will be identified and a statistical assessment will be undertaken to detect when, or if, a significant change has occurred in the groundwater system, and to benchmark the natural variation in groundwater quality and water levels.

#### Groundwater Level Triggers

The investigation trigger groundwater level will be a 10m or greater fall in standing water level or water head pressure over at least a 2 month period in the basement piezometers, or a greater than 10% reduction of the unconfined alluvial aquifer thickness over at least a 2 month period, as long as the reduction is greater than the pre-mining water level variability in the aquifer.

If a water level trigger is exceeded, the rate of change will be investigated to determine whether it is subsidence induced or due to other factors.

If a significant increase in the rate of water level decline is noted, then an assessment will be conducted to determine the cause of the change and to consider potential contingency measures that may be adopted.

#### Groundwater Quality Triggers

Groundwater quality trigger levels are based on the Australian Water Quality Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Waters (ANZECC, 2000) for Aquatic Ecosystems as shown in Error! Reference source not found..

If a groundwater quality investigation is triggered after there is a prolonged exceedance at a particular piezometer over at least 4 months, then:

- □ the significance of the impact/s will be assessed;
- measures to minimise the impacts will be investigated; and
- measures to reduce, minimise, mitigate or remediate impacts will be provided and agreed to by the Director-General, as well as NOW and the Sydney Catchment Authority and implemented as required.



### **Contingency Procedures**

Contingency procedures will be developed as required to manage any adverse impacts identified by monitoring.

Activation of contingency procedures will be linked to the assessment of monitoring results and exceedance of trigger levels.

A Contingency Plan that provides for adaptive management is provided in Section 12.

#### Reporting

Following completion of extraction of each panel, an End of Panel report will be prepared that summarises all relevant monitoring to date.

The report will outline any changes in the groundwater system over the relevant mining area and will contain an interpretation of the data along with:

- a basic statistical analysis (mean, range, variable, standard deviation) of the data;
- □ an interpretation of water quality and standing water level changes supported with graphs or contour plots; and
- an interpretation and review of the results in relation to the trigger levels.



# Table 7.11 Water Management Plan Monitoring and TARPs Summary

		Monitoring Commitments	TARPS
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining Post Mining an Monitoring	nd Future Trigger Response
Rainfall	Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station	Continuous Continuou	<ul> <li>Significant departure from standard rainfall – runoff relationship in extraction area creeks.</li> <li>Visual inspection of creek lines for cracking or water loss.</li> <li>Contract hydrologist investigate and report on changes identified</li> <li>Inform SCA, DoPI, OEH &amp; DRE NSW of results of investigation</li> <li>Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required</li> </ul>
Stream Water Quality Sites WC1, WC2,, WC3, WC4 and LWTC1	<ul> <li>Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp)</li> <li>Laboratory Analysis TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, CI, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Li, Ba, (filtered) DOC,tot. Alkalinity.</li> <li>Observable iron hydroxide staining using photo points</li> <li>Moathly for at least</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Weekly Field Analysis during active undermining of the main channel of Wattle Creek over LWN5</li> <li>Monthly Lab analysis during active mining</li> <li>Weekly observations during active undermining of stream using photo points</li> <li>Field Anal every 2 m one year a mining is d</li> <li>Lab analy four month year after mining is d</li> <li>Observations using photo</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>NoRMAL</li> <li>No change in water quality variability compared to baseline period</li> <li>Report in end of panel report</li> <li>Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR</li> <li>WITHIN PREDICTIONS</li> <li>Temporary reduction in water quality over less than 2 months at any site compared to baseline period, i.e.</li> <li>Observable increase in iron hydroxide precipitation in creek, banks, or bed)</li> <li>EC &lt; 250uS/cm</li> </ul>



		Monitoring Commitments			T,	ARPS	6	
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	ing Post Mining and Future Monitoring		ıger	Res	Response	
	two months prior to mining (for all parameters) Baseline monitoring commenced 2009.			C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	pH < 1.5 drop from minimum baseline value Fe (Tot) < 10mg/L Mn (tot) < 0.2mg/L Al (tot) < 0.2mg/L Zn (filt) < 0.2mg/L SO4 (filt) < 15mg/L CEEDS PREDICTIONS aporary reduction in water lity over more than 2 months at site compared to baseline od, i.e Long term increase in iron hydroxide precipitation in creek, banks, or bed) EC > 300uS/cm pH > 1.5 drop from minimum baseline value Fe (Tot) > 10mg/L Mn (tot) > 0.2mg/L Al (tot) > 0.2mg/L Zn (filt) > 0.2mg/L SO4 (filt) > 15mg/L		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE immediately Repeat water quality sampling and initiate laboratory water quality sampling on a monthly basis Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required Report in the Annual Review	



			Mor	itoring Commitments			TARPS				
Feature	Pri	Prior to Mining		During Mining		Post Mining and Future Monitoring		<u>g</u> er	Re	Response	
Stream Flow		Minimum 6 hourly		Minimum hourly		Minimum 2 hourly	NO	RMAL		Continue monitoring program	
Automated monitoring of		prior to mining, with 2 monthly		with weekly downloads_for 1		with downloads	No	change in stream flow or pool		Report in end of panel report	
Water Depth / Flow monitoring at WC3 and		downloads		month before / after		for one year after	leve bas	el variability compared to eline period		Summarise all actions and	
WC1 (upstream) which		Minimum hourly for 1		LWN5 undermines Wattle Creek		Nebo mining ceases		·		MONITORING IN AEMIR	
local rainfall		undermines Wattle					WIT	WITHIN PREDICTIONS		Continue monitoring program	
Automated monitoring of	_	Creek Temporary reduction in stream flow		Report in end of panel report							
water depth at WC2 and WC4.		Baseline data from Nov 2009					ot > con	of >20% over less than 2 months compared to the baseline variability		Summarise all actions and	
			at any site, i.e.		ny site, i.e.		monitoring in AEMR				
								Small cracks developed			
								No observable loss of stream flow, pool height or stream connectivity, compared to baseline regime			
							EXC	CEEDS PREDICTIONS		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE	
							Lor	ig term reduction in stream flow		immediately	
							vari	ability at any site, i.e.		Notify hydrology and ecology specialists immediately	
								Observable loss of stream flow, pool height or stream		Site visit with stakeholders	
								connectivity, compared to baseline regime		Take photographic record immediately	
										Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified	
										Review monitoring program within 2 weeks and implement additional	



			Mor	itoring Commitments			TARPS			
Feature	Pri	or to Mining	Du	ring Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring		Tri	gger	Res	sponse
										monitoring if required Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation
									with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required	
										Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.
										Report in Annual Report
Flooding		Observations every		Observations every		Observations every	NO	RMAL		Continue monitoring program
		month for at least two months prior to	week during active undermining of		2 months for one vear after Nebo	No change in flood extent variability			Report in end of panel report	
	mining using photo Wattle Creek by mining is completed points LWN5 using photo using photo using photo points	npared to baseline period		Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR						
				points			WIT	THIN PREDICTIONS		
							Ten	nporary increase in flood extent		Continue monitoring program
							to t	he baseline variability at any site		Report in end of panel report
										Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR
							EX	CEEDS PREDICTIONS		3
							Lor ove to t	ng term reduction in flood extent er more than 2 months compared he baseline variability at any		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE immediately
							site □	site, i.e.		Notify hydrology and ecology specialists immediately
		stream reach in excess of		Site visit with stakeholders						
	baseline conditions –		Daseline conditions – Identified		Take photographic record					



			Mon	itoring Commitments			TARPS			
Feature	Prie	or to Mining	Dur	ing Mining	Po: Mo	st Mining and Future nitoring	Trigger		Res	sponse
	by increased flooding within		eased flooding within the		immediately					
							baselin	baseline variability		Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified
										Review monitoring program within 2 weeks and implement additional monitoring if required
									Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required	
										Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.
										Report in Annual Report
Erosion of stream bed		Observations every		Observations every		Observations every	NORMAL			Continue monitoring program
and banks		month for at least		month during active		2 months for one	No change i	n stream, bed or bank		Report in end of panel report
		mining using photo points		and 2 <sup>nd</sup> order streams using photo points		mining is completed using photo points	erosion com period	npared to baseline		Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR
							WITHIN PRE	DICTIONS		Continue monitoring program
							Minor decre	ase in stream, bed or		Report in end of panel report
							bank stabilit	ty compared to baseline		Summarise all actions and
							i.e, small cracks with no observable change in stream stability			monitoring in AEMR
							EXCEEDS P	REDICTIONS		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE



			Mor	itoring Commitments			Т	ARPS	5
Feature	Prior to Mining         During Mining         Post Mining and Future Monitoring         Trigger		Res	sponse					
							Major decrease in stream, bed or		immediately
							bank stability compared to baseline period		Notify hydrology and ecology specialists immediately
							i.e. Cracks or other physical damage with permanent change in stream		Site visit with stakeholders
							stability		Take photographic record immediately
					Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified				
									Review monitoring program within 2 weeks and implement additional monitoring if required
									Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required
									Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.
									Report in Annual Report
Groundwater quality		Field water quality		Field water quality -		Field water quality -	NORMAL		Continue monitoring program
Using piezometers		(EC, pH) every 2 months		monthly during extraction	_	every two months	No change in groundwater quality		Report in end of panel report
Nebo1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, 4	, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, Laboratory analysis Laboratory analysis variability com – every four months – every four months – every two months – every two months – every four months – every two	period		Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR					
		□ Lab Parameters		- <b>,</b>		completed			Continue monitoring program
	_	TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, Cl, SO4, HCO3,							Report in end of panel report

NRE Wongawilli Colliery Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 Extraction Plan- Revision 1



		Monitoring Commitments			T,	ARPS	3	
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trigger		Res	sponse	
	NO3, Total N, Total			WIT	HIN PREDICTIONS		Summarise all actions and	
	P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Se, Cd, (filtered)			Red whice mor sigr even follo varia	Reduction in groundwater quality which extends for less than 2 months and does not persist after significant recharge (or lack of) events with the water having the following change above baseline variability;		monitoring in ALMR	
	EC <20% increase above baseline maximum							
					pH < 1.5 drop below minimum baseline value	_		
					Fe (Tot), Mn (tot), Al (filt), Zn (filt), SO4 (filt) < 20%		inform SCA, OEH & DRE immediately	
					increase above baseline maximum		Notify hydrogeology specialist immediately	
					Total N, Total P < 20% increase above baseline maximum		Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified	
				EXC	EEDS PREDICTIONS		Review monitoring program within 2	
				Red	uction in groundwater quality		monitoring if required	
				which mor sigr ever follo vari	ch extends for more than 2 hths and persists after ifficant recharge (or lack of) hts with the water having the owing change above baseline ability;		Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required	
					EC >20% increase above baseline maximum		Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.	



	Monitoring Commitments								TARPS			
Feature	Prior to Mining		During Mining		Post Mining and Future Monitoring		Trigger		Response			
									pH < 2.0 drop below minimum baseline value		Report in Annual Report	
									Fe (Tot), Mn (tot), Al (filt), Zn (filt), SO4 (filt) > 20% increase above baseline maximum			
									Total N, Total P > 20% increase above baseline maximum			
Ground Water Levels		Minimum 12		Minimum 12			Minimum 12	NOF	RMAL		Continue monitoring program	
Using vibrating wire piezometers Nebo 6, 7, 8, 8A, WW11, WW20B and dip meters/ transducers in open standpipe piezometers Nebo1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, 4		hourly in VWP and open standpipe piezometers		hourly in VWP and open standpipe piezometers			hourly in VWP and open standpipe piezometers	No change in groundwater level variability compared to baseline period		Report in end of panel report		
										Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR		
		Bi- monthly downloads and		Monthly downloads and dip meter			Bi- monthly downloads and dip meter	WIT	HIN PREDICTIONS		Continue monitoring program	
		aip meter						Reduction in groundwater level which extends for less than 2 months, or does not persist after significant recharge (or lack of) events and is within baseline variability;		Report in end of panel report		
										Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR		
								EXC	EEDS PREDICTIONS	_		
								Reduction in groundwater level which extends for more than 2 months, or persists after significant recharge (or lack of) events and is outside baseline variability;		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE immediately		
									ths, or persists after significant arge (or lack of) events and is		Notify hydrogeology specialist immediately	
										Contract specialist to investigate and		



	Monitoring Commitments							TARPS			
Feature	Prior to Mining		During Mining		Post Mining and Future Monitoring		Triç	Trigger		Response	
										report on changes identified	
										Review monitoring program within 2 weeks and implement additional monitoring if required	
										Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required	
										Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.	
										Report in annual report	
Inflow into mine workings or hydraulic connectivity between stream/s and the workings during active mining		Daily volumetric flow monitoring of mine inflow and discharge		Daily monitoring of mine inflow and discharge		Daily monitoring of mine inflow and discharge		Increase in water discharge of > 1ML/day for 7 successive days from active longwall or pillar extraction areas, which are suspected to be as a result of mine subsidence and excluding elevated inflows due to high rain events over the entire Wongawilli workings		Engage hydrogeologist to investigate and report on changes identified	
		Water quality analysis of any anomalous inflow event		Water quality analysis of any anomalous inflow event , with the sampling method and assessment parameters to be defined depending on what is being investigated, (i.e. major / minor elements, isotopes, algae etc.)		Water quality analysis of any anomalous inflow event (as required) with the sampling method and assessment parameters to be defined depending on what is being investigated, (i.e. major / minor elements, isotopes, algae etc.)				Inform relevant agencies of investigation	
										Investigation initiated within one week of trigger exceedance being observed	
								Note: the typical discharge from the overall Wongawilli underground is 6ML/day		Monthly updates of investigation process to SCA, NOW	
										Report on mitigation as soon as practicable to SCA, NOW	
										Report in Annual Review	



# 8 BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

# 8.1 Objectives

The objectives of this Biodiversity Management Plan are to:

- provide a framework to monitor and manage the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna, with a specific focus on:
  - threatened species, populations and their habitats;
  - endangered ecological communities, and;
  - water dependent ecosystems.
- □ satisfy the requirements of the Project Approval, all agencies and the expectations of the community.

# 8.2 Summary of Predicted Impacts

## 8.2.1 Aquatic Ecology

#### Introduction

An aquatic ecology assessment was undertaken for the Project by Cardno Ecology Lab Pty Ltd (Cardno). Cardno prepared two reports, the first a description of the aquatic biota and habitats of the Nebo area and the second provided an assessment of the likelihood and significance of potential impacts on aquatic habitat and biota. Refer to Volume 2, Annexures of the EA.

#### Existing Environment

Wattle Creek runs directly above the northern extent of the proposed Nebo longwalls where it is classified as a 3<sup>rd</sup> order stream immediately north of Longwalls N2 and N3. The balance of Wattle Creek, within the potential subsidence footprint is classified as a 2<sup>nd</sup> order stream in a steep valley dominated by rainforest vegetation with Eucalypt dominated vegetation on the valley sides. Vegetation extends to the edge of the watercourse to create considerable shading of the creek (Cardno, 2009).

The channel of Wattle Creek has a moderate gradient and continuous flow that is characterised by relatively small, shallow pools separated by frequent short riffle sequences. The stream banks consist mainly of well vegetated sandy soil or large boulders with little erosion or undercutting evident. There are numerous in-stream


habitat features including snags, tree roots and organic detritus (Cardno, 2009). Aquatic macrophytes have been observed within the stream channel (Biosis 2011).

A small tributary of Wattle Creek that runs along the south-eastern edge of the potential subsidence footprint was also inspected and found to contain very little aquatic habitat. Some water was observed in shallow shaded pools in the lower reaches of the tributary however no flow and diminishing pools were observed in a brief inspection of the upper reaches (Cardno, 2009).

The aquatic habitat in Wattle Creek was assessed to be in an excellent and relatively undisturbed condition with suitable habitat for an extensive suite of aquatic biota characteristic of ephemeral or intermittent streams in the area (Cardno, 2009).

One small section of the upper reach of Little Wattle Tree Creek is within the potential subsidence footprint. The creek is a 1<sup>st</sup> order watercourse at this location and becomes a 2<sup>nd</sup> order water course further downstream.

There is limited aquatic habitat within Little Wattle Tree Creek, apart from some small ephemeral pools separated by narrow shallow riffles, neither of which is expected to persist through prolonged dry periods.

## Threatened Species

Cardno (2009) indicated that three threatened species could potentially occur within the potential subsidence footprint. These species are:

- Adam's Emerald Dragonfly (Archaeophya adamsi), listed as vulnerable under the FM Act;
- Sydney Hawk Dragonfly (Austrocordulia leonardi), listed as endangered under the FM Act; and
- Macquarie Perch (Macquaria australasica), listed as vulnerable under the FM Act and as endangered under the EPBC Act.

## Impact Assessment

MSEC concluded that due to the low predicted subsidence and strain values, fracture of the bedrock along the watercourses and any observable loss of surface water is unlikely. MSEC (2010) also noted that predicted changes in stream gradient are much smaller than the natural stream gradients within the potential subsidence footprint, so are unlikely to cause additional ponding, flooding or scouring.

Subsidence arising from the extraction of the Nebo area longwalls is not expected to have any adverse effects on water quality in the sections of Wattle Creek or Little Wattle Tree Creek within the potential subsidence footprint (Geoterra 2010).

As subsidence arising from the mining of Nebo area longwalls is not expected to have any adverse effects on stream flow or water quality and it is highly unlikely



that there would be any observable flow-on effects on aquatic habitats or their biota within or immediately downstream of the potential subsidence footprint.

## Adams Emerald Dragonfly

Adam's Emerald Dragonfly is extremely rare, having been collected only in small numbers at four locations in New South Wales. There are no records of this species occurring within Wattle Creek, Little Wattle Tree Creek or Cordeaux River catchment. No specimens were found in the creeks surveyed during the baseline studies. The Upper Cordeaux River does however fall into what is understood as the historical range for this species.

Field investigations indicate that there is suitable habitat for Adam's Emerald Dragonfly, albeit of limited extent, within Wattle Creek. Although the current distribution records suggest that this species is unlikely to occur within the potential subsidence footprint, as a precautionary approach, a Seven-Part Test was prepared for this species (*Annex L of the EA*). The test concluded that Adam's Emerald Dragonfly is unlikely to be present within this habitat. In the unlikely case that this species is present within the potential subsidence footprint, it is further highly unlikely that the proposed mining would have any significant impact on this species.

## Sydney Hawk Dragonfly

Sydney Hawk Dragonfly is extremely rare, having originally been collected in small numbers at only a few locations in a small area south of Sydney. There are no records of this species occurring within Wattle Creek, Little Wattle Tree Creek or the Cordeaux River catchment.

The nearest watercourse to the Nebo area containing suitable habitat for the Sydney Hawk Dragonfly is likely to be the Cordeaux River, which is outside the potential subsidence footprint.

## Macquarie Perch

The upper Cordeaux River (upstream of the Number 2 dam) contains extensive suitable habitat for the Macquarie Perch, and is within what is understood as the historical range for the species. It is therefore considered possible that a remnant population of this species could exist in this sub-catchment.

The lower reaches of Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek contain suitable spawning habitat, including pools and riffles, for this species. If a remnant population is present within the Number 2 dam, it is possible that the lower reaches of these creeks may be utilised by this species. However barriers to passage in the form of road causeways are present between the potential subsidence footprint and the reservoir and it is therefore considered highly unlikely



that this utilisation would extend into the potential subsidence footprint. There are also very few persistent pools that could provide habitat for this species.

No Macquarie Perch were found during the Spring 2009 survey undertaken in Wattle Creek.

On the basis of current distribution records, available habitat, and barriers to passage, it is considered that this species is highly unlikely to occur within the potential subsidence footprint. Furthermore the predicted subsidence should not impact on these creeks.

## 8.2.2 Terrestrial Ecology

A terrestrial flora and fauna assessment was undertaken for the Project by ERM and included desktop investigations and field survey. Desktop research included analysis of relevant literature, databases and existing vegetation mapping for the ecology study area. Field surveys assessed the distribution and condition of habitat for threatened species, populations and ecological communities, and surveyed for threatened flora and fauna. Seasonal surveys were undertaken by two ecologists between 21 to 24 July, 30 November to 3 December and 14 to 17 December 2009.

## Existing Environment

## Flora

The vegetation communities identified within the ecology study area are listed below:

- □ Moist Gully Gum Forest;
- □ Tall Open Peppermint-Blue Gum Forest;
- □ Coachwood Warm Temperate Rainforest;
- **Tall Open Gully Gum Forest**;
- **D** Exposed Sandstone Scribbly Gum Woodland;
- □ Sandstone Gully Peppermint-Blue Gum Forest;
- □ Moist Blue Gum Blackbutt Forest;
- □ Upland Swamp: Sedgeland-Heath Complex (Swamp 22 and Swamp 39);
- □ Upland Swamp: Tea-tree Thicket (Swamp 22);
- Upland Swamp: Banksia Thicket; and
- □ Rock-Plate Heath-Mallee.

Two rare plant species listed on the RoTAP register, *Darwinia grandiflora* (listed as 2RCi) and *Boronia fraseri* (listed as 2RCa) were recorded during the field survey.



In addition it is recognised that potential habitat is available for the following 12 rare and threatened flora species:

- Deane's Melaleuca (*Melaleuca deanei*);
- Epacris coriacea;
- D Epacris purpurascens var. purpurascens;
- □ Fern-leaf Grevillea (Grevillea longifolia);
- □ Lizard Orchid (*Burnettia cuneata*);
- □ Prickly Bush-pea (Pultenaea aristata);
- □ River Mat-Rush *(Lomandra fluviatilis*);
- **D** Rufous Pomaderris (*Pomaderris brunnea*);
- □ Shiny-leaf Guinea Flower (*Hibbertia nitida*);
- □ Thick Lip Spider Orchid (*Caladenia tessellate*);
- □ White-flowered Wax Plant (*Cynanchum elegans*); and
- □ Woronora Beard-heath (*Leucopogon exolasius*).

One EEC listed under the TSC Act is mapped as occurring within the ecology study area; Illawarra Subtropical Rainforest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion. This EEC was not confirmed to occur within the ecology study area during field investigations.

## Fauna

A total of 62 fauna species were identified during the survey, including three threatened species listed under the TSC Act. A full list of fauna species recorded within the ecology study area is provided in *Annex M of the EA*.

## Frogs

Five frog species were recorded from direct observations of adults and tadpoles, and through auditory identification. No species listed on the TSC Act or EPBC Act were recorded, although suitable habitat for the Giant Burrowing Frog (*Heleioporus australiacus*), Red-crowned Toadlet (*Pseudophryne australis*), Littlejohn's Tree Frog (*Litoria littlejohni*) and Stuttering Barred Frog (*Mixophyes balbus*) was recorded.

## Reptiles

Five reptile species were recorded within the ecology study area. One individual Rosenberg's Goanna, which is listed as vulnerable under the TSC Act, was recorded to the west of the ecology study area. Suitable habitat containing west-facing rock ledges and overhangs is located west of the ecology study area where the species was recorded during field investigations. However, it is not expected that species



would occur east of the sandstone ridgeline due to occurrence of deep gullies and moist forests.

The Broad-headed Snake is expected to occur within the western portion of the ecology study area, as exfoliating sandstone suitable for use as shelter habitat was recorded. However, the habitat recorded is confined to a small area and would not be likely to contain a significant population.

## Insects

One threatened insect species was recorded within the ecology study area during field investigations (see *Figure 16.6*). The Giant Dragonfly is listed as endangered under the TSC Act and was recorded within the Swamp 22: Sedgeland-Heath Complex. Nine individuals and one mating pair were recorded during the December survey period

## Birds

Twenty eight bird species were recorded within the ecology study area including the threatened Powerful Owl (*Ninox strenua*) and Beautiful Firetail (*Stagonopleura bella*) as well as the Southern Emu Wren (*Stipiturus malachurus*) which was identified as susceptible to subsidence by DoP (2008). The majority of the species recorded are widespread and/or abundant species that commonly occur in woodland, heathland, regrowth vegetation and various other habitats. A full list of bird species recorded is provided in *Annex M of the EA*. However, the location of where the Beautiful Firetail was recorded is not available due to the record being incidental.

Suitable habitat for the Eastern Ground Parrot (*Pezoporus wallicus wallicus*) was recorded in the Swamp 22: Sedgeland-Heath Complex within upper Cordeaux River. Habitat for the Black Bittern (*Ixobrychus flavicollis*) was recorded within some areas of dense upland swamp and Upper Cordeaux No. 1 Reservoir and Upper Cordeaux No. 2 Reservoir. Call broadcasting and searches of suitable habitat failed to detect any evidence of either species.

## Mammals

Macropod scats were found within all habitats, with the most commonly observed species being the Swamp Wallaby. Wombat scats were also common across the ecology study area. Sugar Gliders (*Petaurus breviceps*) were recorded within the forested portions of the ecology study area during spotlighting.

Potential habitat for the Koala was identified within the ecology study area associated with Tall Open Peppermint - Blue Gum Forest. The Koala is a threatened species listed under the TSC Act and was heard calling within tall open forest to the north of Fire Road 6D. However, the species was unable to be visually identified.



Nine microchiropteran species were recorded from Anabat recordings, including the Eastern Bentwing-bat which is listed as vulnerable under the TSC Act.

Habitat searches recorded suitable habitat for the Spotted-tailed Quoll although no latrine sites, scats or dens of the species were recorded. Suitable sheltering and foraging habitat was recorded for the Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby, listed as endangered under the TSC Act and vulnerable under the EPBC Act. The Brush-tailed Wallaby has previously been recorded approximately 2km west of Longwall N5. However, searches of suitable habitat failed to detect evidence of the species.

Searches of rocky outcrops, overhangs and road culverts did not detect any bat roosts. There were no records of flying-foxes and no camps were detected within the ecology study area, although suitable habitat does occur.

## Impact Assessment

MSEC (2010) advises that as a result of the strength and bridging capacity of the Cordeaux Crinanite, the predicted subsidence values are significantly lower than the typical subsidence values that have been observed in normal sedimentary strata in the Southern Coalfield. Therefore, the potential impacts to sensitive areas are low.

Potential direct and indirect impacts from subsidence are summarised in Table 8.1 Potential Impacts to Flora and Fauna from Subsidence TARPs Summary. Further detail is provided in *Annex M of the EA*.



## Table 8.1 Potential Impacts to Flora and Fauna from Subsidence TARPs Summary

Natural Feature	Subsidence Impact	Potential Effect on Flora/Fauna	Potential to Occur within the ecology study area					
Rivers (creeks, streams,	Surface cracking due to subsidence.	Loss of surface flows or water levels (increased frequency, duration and magnitude of drying aquatic habitats).	Low - The maximum predicted subsidence along the creeks is approximately 250mm which occurs about a longwall N5. The predicted subsidence movement					
ti ibutai ies).		Drying of river pools, in-stream macrophyte beds and wetlands leading to loss of aquatic or in-stream habitats	and valley related movements along the creeks are predicted to be very low (MSEC 2010). GeoTerra					
		Loss of longitudinal connectivity (connectivity between pools and riffles) may reduce fauna migration opportunities	(2010) anticipate that no significant adverse effects will be observed in the creek bed or catchment of					
		Changes to water quality (increased iron oxides, manganese, sulphides and electrical conductivity, and lower dissolved oxygen).	Consequently the potential for related impacts on flora and fauna will be low.					
		Reduced diversity of in-stream habitat due to the growth of iron-oxidising bacteria which can also be seen as a rusty-coloured mass in the water						
		Release of gas into the water column - oxidation of gas may lead to death of riparian vegetation and in-stream fauna						
	Water-rock chemical	Changes in water quality / quantity in streams and creeks including increased						
	interactions along new flow pathways	iron-oxidisation and bacteria flocculation						
	Tilting of stream beds.	Stream bank erosion altering aquatic and riparian habitat	1					
	Ponding in subsidence troughs	Inundation of vegetation.						



Natural Feature	Subsidence Impact	Potential Effect on Flora/Fauna	Potential to Occur within the ecology study area
Vegetation	Permanent tree tilt due to subsidence.	Tree tilt/ fall causing damage to adjacent vegetation and loss of fauna habitat.	Low – Tree tilt and fall has potential to occur within terrestrial habitats.
	Depressurisation of groundwater from extraction of the coal seam	Lowering of the watertable beyond the reach of plants, causing degradation of vegetation communities	Low – The maximum subsidence prediction is within rainforest communities including Coachwood Warm Temperate Rainforest and Moist Gully Gum Forest. The potential for impacts on the water table in this locality are expected to be low. As a result the potential for associated consequences for flora and fauna are expected to be low
Upland Swamps	Draining of perched water table and loss of swamp soil moisture due to cracking of clay or shale seals which typically underlie upland swamps.	<ul> <li>Loss of swamp vegetation dependent on high soil moisture or change of species composition</li> <li>Loss of fauna, including threatened species dependent on swamp ecosystems</li> <li>Loss of water purification and flow regulation function for downstream ecosystems</li> <li>Increased susceptibility to fire which may increase impacts to swamp dependent species</li> <li>Gullying and erosion of swamps, exacerbating the draining of water from swamp soils</li> <li>Increased fire frequency due to drying events</li> <li>Potential drop in perched water table leading to: <ul> <li>loss of standing water, removing habitat for freshwater dependant flor and fauna;</li> <li>change in swamp vegetation communities.</li> <li>draining/ drying of springs, soaks and dams.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Low – Swamp No.22 and Swamp No.39 are at least 40m from the predicted subsidence footprint and over 400m from the greatest predicted subsidence. The potential for the predicted subsidence to impact on upland swamps is therefore expected to be low.



Natural Feature	Subsidence Impact	Potential Effect on Flora/Fauna	Potential to Occur within the ecology study area
Rocky habitats	Surface cracking, rock falls and	Loss of habitat for cave dependent species	Low - There are no rock faces or rocky areas within
	cave collapse	Short term damage to riparian vegetation an in-stream habitats	the zone of greatest subsidence.
		Loss of shelter sites for wintering reptiles and other animals	
	Surface cracking within cliffs	Loss of habitat for cliff dependent species and damage to riparian vegetation.	
		Large cracks may act as temporary pitfall for reptiles and small mammals.	
	Cliff collapse and rock fall	Loss of habitat for cliff dependent species (eg loss of roosts for bats and nest	
		sites for cliff-nesting birds).	
	Cracking and movement within	Potential drop in perched water table leading to:	
	rocks below swamps	<ul> <li>loss of standing pools, with impacts on amphibians;</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>change in swamp vegetation communities; and</li> </ul>	
		draining/ drying of springs, soaks and dams.	
	Surface cracking	Alter and possibly destroy rock shelters and burrows.	



## Assessments of Significance

Section 5A of the EP&A Act sets out seven factors that need to be considered in determining whether a proposed action will, or is likely to, have a significant impact on a threatened species, endangered population or endangered ecological community listed under the schedules of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (TSC Act).

The decision to assess a threatened species under Section 5A of the EP& A Act is based on a combination of the likelihood of occurrence within the potential subsidence footprint, and vulnerability of the species to subsidence. Four species were assessed using the seven-part test of significance (see Annex M).

The results of the seven-part test assessments are listed in Table 8.2 Summary of Findings In Regard To Significance Impacts

Species	Conclusion
Stuttering Barred Frog	no significant impacts to species habitat or its life cycle;
(Mixophyes balbus)	• the proposed action does not constitute a Key Threatening Process (KTP); and
	• if the species does occur within the ecology study area, Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek would be important breeding habitat in the local and regional context due to the marked decline in distribution and abundance of the species in Australia.
Eastern Bentwing-bat	<ul> <li>no significant impacts to species habitat or its life cycle;</li> </ul>
(Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis)	<ul> <li>the proposed action does not constitute a KTP; and</li> </ul>
	• due to the species being recorded within the ecology study area and quality of potential habitat observed during field surveys, the rocky outcrops and cliff lines are important roosting habitat for the Eastern Bentwing-bat in the local and regional context.
Woronora Beard-heath	<ul> <li>no significant impacts to species habitat or its life cycle;</li> </ul>
(Leucopogon exolasius)	<ul> <li>the proposed action does not constitute a KTP; and</li> </ul>
	• if the species occurred within the ecology study area, the Tall Open Peppermint- Blue Gum Forest, Sandstone Gully Peppermint Forest and Exposed Sandstone Scribbly Gum Forest would be important habitat within the local context due to its connectivity and being located within SCA land which is a protected area.
Rufous Pomaderris	<ul> <li>no significant impacts to species habitat or its life cycle;</li> </ul>
(Pomaderris brunnea)	<ul> <li>the proposed action does not constitute a KTP; and</li> </ul>
	• if the species occurred within the ecology study area, the Moist Gully Gum Forest along Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek would be important habitat within the local context due to the good quality of the community identified during field surveys and being located within SCA land which is a protected area.

 Table 8.2 Summary of Findings In Regard To Significance Impacts



## Commonwealth Threatened and Migratory Species

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999 (EPBC Act) requires approval for actions that may have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance or Commonwealth land. There are no World Heritage properties, National Heritage Places, Ramsar wetlands, Commonwealth marine areas or nuclear actions in or near the ecology study area.

## Endangered Ecological Communities

No Commonwealth listed endangered ecological communities were considered to have the potential to occur within the ecology study area, or within 10 km from the ecology study area and none were recorded during field investigations.

## Threatened Species

Twenty one Commonwealth listed threatened species have been recorded or have a high likelihood of occurring in the ecology study area. The proposed action is not predicted to have a significant impact on any threatened species or their habitat, listed under the EPBC Act.

## **Migratory Species**

Four migratory bird species have been identified as having the potential to occur within the ecology study area. The proposed action is not predicted to constitute a significant impact on any species listed as migratory under the EPBC Act.

## No Significant Impact to Threatened Flora or Fauna

MSEC (2010) predicts the systematic subsidence and valley related movements to be very low. The maximum predicted subsidence within the ecology study area resulting from the extraction of LWN1 to N6 is 410mm. Therefore, the Project is not predicted to have a significant impact on any threatened flora and fauna species or their habitat, listed under the TSC Act and EPBC Act.



## 8.3 Monitoring and Management Program

## 8.3.1 Aquatic Monitoring Program

The aquatic monitoring program, including site selection and development of methodology, has been prepared by Biosis Research Pty. Ltd., in consultation with Gujarat NRE Wonga Pty. Ltd. Biosis Research have provided the following data.

The existing program for aquatic monitoring for the Nebo Area includes the following sites:

Aquatic Sites (Refer Figure 8.1)

Eight creekline sites:

- □ Little Wattle Creek (LWC-AQ1);
- □ Little Wattle Creek (LWC-AQ2);
- □ Wattle Creek (WAC-AQ1);
- □ Wattle Creek (WAC-AQ2);
- □ Wattle Creek (WAC-AQ3);
- □ Wattle Creek (WAC-AQ4);
- □ Wattle Creek (WAC-AQ5); and ,
- □ Wattle Creek (WAC-AQ6).

Four Reference creekline sites:

- □ Kentish Creek Tributary (KCT-AQ1);
- □ Kentish Creek (KEC-AQ1);
- □ Meemi Creek (MEC-AQ1); and,
- □ Morans Gully Creek (MGC-AQ1).

Aquatic monitoring, including collection of baseline data, commenced in May 2011. Aquatic monitoring will be undertaken in each Autumn and Spring as per the methods described below.

## Aquatic Methodology

As freshwater streams are naturally variable and highly responsive to changes in broader environmental conditions (such as rainfall), it is important that a monitoring program has the potential to distinguish between changes in a waterway that are due to a putative impact (i.e. longwall mining) or due to an outside factor such as changed rainfall conditions or another disturbance such as sedimentation or runoff. This requires the addition of "reference" sampling sites that can be compared to the "impact" site downstream of the development. Reference sites are typically sites of



similar altitude, topography and with similar riparian condition that can be reasonably compared to the potential impact site. If a change is detected at the impact site, but is also detected at the reference sites, this suggests that a more regional impact - such as changes in aquatic ecology due to rainfall - has occurred. Conversely, a change in an impact site that is not reflected in the surrounding reference sites suggests that a localised impact has occurred, which may be due to the longwall mining operations.

## Aquatic Habitat and AUSRIVAS Monitoring

The NSW AUSRIVAS rapid assessment method is currently being used for each of the sampling sites. This method involves the collection of aquatic macroinvertebrate samples to measure the diversity and community structure, which is used to assess the overall ecological health of the site. By collecting regular samples from multiple sites, the ecological stability and response of biota to ecological disturbance at any given site can be quickly assessed. The AUSRIVAS computer model is designed to be applied for samples collected throughout the autumn and spring seasons only (15th March to 15th June, 15th September to 15th December). It is recommended that samples be collected biannually during these two seasons in order to maximise the value of the monitoring program.

General site assessments would also be conducted in combination with AUSRIVAS sampling. These would typically involve descriptions of instream habitat, algal levels, riparian condition, presence/absence of litter, flow level and water quality, all of which would be used in the interpretation of biological sampling results.

## Photo point monitoring

Photo point monitoring will be conducted at all monitored sites that will be mined beneath. Photographs will be taken at each site at a fixed location and view angle. These photos will be used to directly compare habitat condition from one year to the next. Photo point monitoring will be conducted in autumn and spring and will supplement the aquatic habitat and AUSRIVAS monitoring by providing a visual representation of the monitored sites. Fixed point photography will also be established to monitor the presence of iron oxidising bacteria and surface water levels at AUSRIVAS monitoring sites.

## Reference Sites

The BACI (Before-After/Control-Impact) approach is a widely used method for measuring the potential impact of a discharge, disturbance, or event on the aquatic invertebrates of a stream. Such effects can be analysed by measuring conditions before a planned activity and then comparing the findings to those conditions measured after. This approach is applicable for comparing the effects of anticipated



future activities. If it is an existing activity, it may not be possible to measure the before conditions. In these cases, studies often make use of an unaffected or control stream reach and use those data for comparisons to an affected or impacted reach.

## 8.3.2 Terrestrial Monitoring Program

The terrestrial monitoring program, including site selection and development of methodology, has been prepared by Biosis Research Pty. Ltd., in consultation with Gujarat NRE Wonga Pty. Ltd. Biosis Research have provided the following data.

Two creekline sites (Figure 8.1) are proposed:

- □ Wattle Tree Creek (WTC); and,
- □ Little Wattle Tree Creek (LWTC).

In addition to four reference sites:

- **Easement Creek (EC)**;
- **B** 8I Creek (8Ic);
- Donalds Castle Tributary; and,
- □ Flying Fox Creek 3#.

There are no significant swamp or ridgeline features in the vicinity of the proposed Nebo Area longwalls.

Terrestrial monitoring, including collection of baseline data, commenced in December 2010. Terrestrial monitoring will be undertaken in each Autumn and Spring as per the methods described below.

#### Terrestrial Methodology

The following section describes the existing terrestrial ecological monitoring methodology for Nebo Collieries.

Table 8.3 **Summary of Terrestrial Monitoring Methodology**Table 8.3 below represents a summary of this terrestrial ecological monitoring methodology and follows the same suite of methods that have been developed in consultation with the consent authorities (e.g. OEH) for other ecological monitoring programs in the Southern Coalfields.

Table 8.3 Summary of Terrestrial Monitoring Methodology and Frequency



Survey Type and	Creeklines						
Frequency	Sites	Methods					
Vegetation	Three 20 m x 20 m quadrats ~150-	Species inventory and modified Braun					
Spring and Autumn	200m apart per creekline	Blanquette cover Abundance score for each species					
Amphibians	Three locations ~150-200m	50 m nocturnal stream searches and tadpole					
Spring and Autumn	apart along each creekline conducted twice per season	surveys					
Winter Threatened Amphibian Surveys* Winter	Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek	Nocturnal stream searches and tadpole survey along length of creekline					

Source: (Biosis Research Pty. Ltd.)

#### Vegetation

Vegetation surveys will continue to be conducted in riparian vegetation along creek lines in spring and autumn (Table 3). Monitoring points have been permanently established in the field using star pickets and wooden stakes to mark out corner points of quadrats. The main point, marked using a star picket, is recorded using a handheld GPS unit and mapped on aerials.

Conducting vegetation surveys over both the spring and autumn season will account for the variation in optimal detection times for different plant species, and therefore, allow for the collection of a more complete spectrum of flora species. This methodology strengthens statistical analysis when comparing vegetation communities.

Photo point monitoring is undertaken during creek line surveys to provide a visual representation of changes in vegetation density and cover of the monitored sites.

Autumn and Spring Amphibian Monitoring

Amphibian surveys will continue to be conducted along creek lines in autumn and spring. Three monitoring points per site are surveyed twice per season (spring and autumn) to account for seasonal variability in species and ensure statistical adequacy.

Creek line surveys consist of 50 m nocturnal stream searches at fixed locations. Monitoring points have been permanently established in the field using wooden stakes and recorded using a handheld GPS unit. The monitoring points are then mapped on aerials.

Photo point monitoring is undertaken to complement the creek line amphibian monitoring by visually comparing amphibian habitats seasonally and annually.

Winter Threatened Amphibian Species Targeted Surveys



Due to the detection of a large population of the threatened species Littlejohn's Tree Frog within the Southern Coalfields area, targeted surveys for this species have been carried out annually in winter months, when the species is most detectable.

The aim of these targeted surveys is to monitor known locations of this threatened species of amphibian in order to detect any potential changes in distribution and abundance. In addition to surveying known locations of Littlejohn's Tree Frog, annual targeted surveys also aim to identify new areas of habitat for this species (during diurnal habitat assessments). Where suitable areas of Littlejohn's Tree Frog habitat are identified, they are then incorporated into future nocturnal targeted surveys.

The current standardised transects will be continued in order to maintain repeatable survey effort at the reference sites and at sites that are yet to be mined beneath. This will enable direct comparison of the numbers of individuals recorded at each site from one year to the next.

In the process of these surveys, opportunistic survey for other threatened amphibian species will be undertaken, including searches for the Red-crowned Toadlet and the Giant Burrowing Frog given the high number tadpoles of this species in previous winter surveys. Opportunistic searches for new sites where the Giant Burrowing Frog has the potential to occur in future impact areas will continue.

Photo Point Monitoring

Photo point monitoring is undertaken in autumn and spring to complement the vegetation and fauna monitoring by providing a visual representation of the monitored sites. The photos are used to directly compare habitat condition from one year to the next.

Two photos are taken at each creek line vegetation quadrat from the marked star picket. Two fauna photo points are taken upstream and downstream in creek lines sites. In order to compare with previous years, photos are taken from the same perspective each season.

Photo point monitoring will be conducted at all monitored sites (reference and impact sites). Photographs will be taken at each site at a fixed location and view angle.

#### Statistical Analysis

A hierarchical approach to statistical analyses will be undertaken, commencing with assessment of global community composition and data visualisation. Following this tests for impact will be undertaken followed by more in depth analysis of any areas where impacts have been detected.

The analysis will compare control sites with impacts sites and pre-mining data with post-mining data, as a part of the BACI design.





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## Table 8.4 Biodiversity Monitoring and TARPs Summary

	Monitoring Commitments						TARPS				
Feature	Pri	Prior to Mining		During Mining		st Mining and Future nitoring	Trigger		Response		
Aquatic Ecology 6 Monitoring sites on Wattle Tree Creek 2 sites on Little Wattle Tree Creek 4 Reference sites		Observational monitoring for presence/absence of aquatic habitat during water quality monitoring regime AUSRIVAS macroinvertebrate sampling of reference and impact sites. Descriptions of instream habitat, algal levels, riparian condition, presence/absence of litter, flow level and water quality (Biannually in Autumn and Spring)		Observational monitoring for presence/absence of aquatic habitat during water quality monitoring regime AUSRIVAS macroinvertebrate sampling of reference and impact sites. Descriptions of instream habitat, algal levels, riparian condition, presence/ absence of litter, flow level and water quality (Biannually in Autumn and Spring)Ongoing seasonal monitoring		Observational monitoring for presence/absence of aquatic habitat during water quality monitoring regime for a minimum of one year post-mining (in consultation with key regulators) AUSRIVAS macroinvertebrate sampling of reference and impact sites. Descriptions of instream habitat, algal levels, riparian condition, presence /absence of litter, flow level and water quality for a minimum of one year post- mining (in consultation with key regulators) (Biannually in Autumn and Spring)	NORMAL No change in aquatic biota compared to baseline observed WITHIN PREDICTIONS Water flow and quality results within baseline variability EXCEEDS PREDICTIONS Water flow and quality results exceed predictions. Statistically significant change observed in survey results against baseline		Continue monitoring Report in end of panel report Continue monitoring Report in end of panel report Notification to SCA/DoPI/OEH immediately Proposal for any proposed additional monitoring and management measures within 1 week if required Completion of agreed management task following approval from SCA/DoPI/OEH Additional monitoring as required by the relevant government agencies Report in end of panel report Reporting in Incident and Annual Review		



			Moni	toring Commitments			TARPS				
Feature	Pri	Prior to Mining		During Mining		st Mining and Future nitoring	Trigger		Response		
Terrestrial		Baseline ecological		Observational		Observational	NORMAL		Continue monitoring		
Ecology Amphibians		assessment.		monitoring– 50 m nocturnal stream		monitoring– Autumn and Spring for a	No change as compared to baseline		Report in end of panel report		
Amphibians		50 m nocturnal stream		searches and tadpole		minimum of one year	WITHIN PREDICTIONS	_			
		searches and tadpole surveys at three locations		locations ~150-200m		consultation with key	Survey results within baseline		Continue monitoring		
		~150-200m apart along		apart along Wattle Creek and Little	_	regulators	variability		Report in end of panel report		
		Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek		Wattle Tree Creek		Amphibian searches	EXCEEDS PREDICTIONS		Notification to SCA/DoDI/OEH immediately		
		conducted Autumn and		conducted Autumn and Spring during		in Winter period for	Observed physical impacts to habitat		Proposal for threatened species management		
C		Targeted Threatened Amphibian searches each Winter along Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek		entire extraction period Targeted Threatened Amphibian searches each Winter along Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek		year post-mining (in consultation with key regulators	Statistically significant decrease in population numbers and/or species composition against baseline		within 1 week if required		
									Completion of management task following approval from agencies		
									Additional monitoring as required by the relevant government agencies		
									Report in end of panel report		
									Reporting in Incident and Annual Reviews		
Riparian		Species inventory and		Species inventory and		Species inventory	NORMAL		Continue monitoring		
vegetation		modified Braun Blanquette cover Abundance for each		modified Braun Blanguette cover		and modified Braun Blanguette cover	No change as compared to baseline		Report in end of panel report		
Three 20 m x 20		species.		Abundance for each		Abundance for each					
m quadrats		At least once prior to	_	species.	_	species.	WITHIN PREDICTIONS		Continue monitoring		
per creek line		and Spring)	IJ	during entire	IJ	for a minimum of one	variability		Report in end of panel report		
				extraction period		year post-mining (in consultation with key	EXCEEDS PREDICTIONS				
						regulators	Observed deterioration in vegetation health against baseline surveys		Notification to SCA/DoPI/OEH immediately		



Feature	ſ		TARPS				
	Prior to Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trigger		Response		
				Significant change/decline in cover abundance against baseline surveys.		Proposal for management within 1 week if required	
				Statistically significant change in species composition against baseline surveys		Completion of management task following approval from agencies	
						Additional monitoring as required by the relevant government agencies	
				Report in end of panel report			
						Reporting in Incident and Annual Reviews	



# 9 LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

## 9.1 Objectives

The objectives of this management plan are to:

- provide a framework to manage the potential impacts of subsidence on land in general with a specific focus on cliffs and steep slopes;
- satisfy the requirements of the Project Approval, all agencies and the expectations of the community.

## 9.2 Summary of Predicted Impacts on Land Features

## Land Features

The following land features occur within or near the subsidence footprint and will be considered in the Extraction Plan:

- **D** Rock outcrops (refer **Drawing MSEC 412-09**);
- □ Steep Slopes (refer Drawing MSEC 412-09);
- □ No cliffs were identified in the application area.

## Predicted Impacts to Rock Outcrops

Rock outcrops are located across the extent of the Application Area and, therefore, will be subjected to the full range of predicted systematic subsidence movements.

Based on the maximum predicted tilts and strains in the Nebo Area, it is unlikely that fracturing of the bedrock will occur as a result of the extraction of the proposed longwalls and, hence, the probability of impacts to the rock outcrops is very low.

## Predicted Impacts to Steep Slopes

The locations of the steep slopes within the Nebo Area are shown in Drawing No MSEC412-09. The majority of the slopes are stabilised by the natural vegetation.

The steep slopes are distributed over much of the Application Area with the exception of the vicinity of Longwall N4 and the central and northern portions of N2 and N3 Application Area and are likely, therefore, to experience the full range of predicted systematic subsidence movements resulting from the extraction of the longwalls.

The maximum predicted total tensile and compressive strains are unlikely to result in surface cracking or slippage of soils down the steep slopes. If tension cracks



occurred and if they were left untreated it is possible that minor soil erosion could occur.

It is unlikely that mine subsidence would result in any large-scale slope failure since such failures have generally not been observed as a result of mining in the Southern Coalfield.

The steep slopes located outside the goaf areas of the proposed longwalls will not experience any significant systematic subsidence movements. It is unlikely, therefore, that the proposed longwalls would result in any significant impacts to these slopes, even if the predictions were increased by factors of 1.25 to 2 times.

## 9.3 Monitoring and Management Program

Table 9.1 outlines the Land Management Plan Monitoring and TARPs Summary proposed for land features. The monitoring program focuses on rock outcrops and steep slopes.

Ground movements will be monitored as mining occurs, to measure the extent to which the actual movements may differ from those predicted. Any predicted impacts will be periodically reviewed in the light of additional data.

Rock outcrops and steep slopes will be monitored by suitably qualified persons by random meander survey methods across the area once before mining, then on a monthly basis during mining and for six months after mining. Specific photo points to compare pre and post mining conditions of rock outcrops and steep slopes are not proposed for this extraction plan due to predictions indicating no or negligible impacts will be experienced.

In the event that cracks were to form on steep slopes, minor remediation could be implemented to ensure that any mining induced soil slippage does not result in the formation of soil erosion channels. However, considering the relatively low values of predicted strains within the Application Area, it is unlikely that the steep slopes would require any remedial works.

If cracking or rock falls are identified in rocky outcrops, appropriate responses will be triggered as per the TARPs in Table 9.1 below. Such events would also trigger management responses in accordance with the Public Safety Management Plan TARPs.



## Table 9.1 Land Management Plan Monitoring and TARPs Summary

		Monitoring Commitments			TARPS
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trigger	Response
Steep Slopes and Rock Outcrops	<ul> <li>Observation and documentation of steep slope and rock</li> </ul>	Monthly observations during mining	Monthly observations for 6 Months	Minor cracking on roads and tracks (<10mm)	Notification to SCA, DoPI, and DRE NSW within 24 hrs, using photographic record
identified in the area.	outcrop condition -				Warning sign/s erection
	Once phor to mining				Reported in Annual Review
				Major cracking (>10mm) c traffic impedance	r D Notification to SCA , DoPI, DRE Immediately
					Make area safe immediately including erection of warning sign/s and barrier fencing
					Incident Report and Mitigation Proposal to Agencies within a week.
					Mitigation Report and Annual Review.
					Review mining options
				Major cliff/rock collapse or	Notification to SCA/DoPI/DRE
				steep slope movement	Make area safe immediately including warning sign/s erection and barrier fencing
					Proposal for rectification within 1 week
					<ul> <li>Completion of works following approval from Agencies</li> </ul>
					Additional monitoring as agreed



Mitigation Report and Annual Report.
Review mining options
Reported in Annual Review



# 10 HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

## 10.1 Objectives

The objectives of this management plan are to:

- provide a framework to manage the potential impacts of subsidence on Aboriginal and non Aboriginal heritage sites or values;
- satisfy the requirements of the Project Approval, all agencies and the expectations of the community.

## 10.2 Summary of Predicted Impacts on Heritage Sites

The locations of the archaeological sites within or near the General Application Area are shown in **Drawing No. MSEC412-13**. There are two historic sites located within the Application Area, Cordeaux River Historic Site 2 and Cordeaux River Historic Site 3. There are no Aboriginal archaeological sites located within the General Application Area.

Cordeaux River Historic Site 2 and Cordeaux River Historic Site 3 both include nonnative floral species gardens, the remains of building foundations and historical artefact scatters of glass, metal and ceramics. The scientific significance for these sites has been assessed as low.

The low levels of subsidence predicted at the sites are not expected to result in any impacts to the Cordeaux River Historic Site 2 and Cordeaux River Historic Site 3.

## 10.3 Monitoring and Management Program

Table 10.1 outlines the Heritage Management Plan Monitoring and TARPs proposed. Ground movements will be monitored as mining occurs, to measure the extent to which the actual movements may differ from those predicted. Any predicted impacts will be periodically reviewed in the light of additional data.

The sites will be monitored by suitably qualified persons once prior to, once during and once after mining to ascertain if any impacts have occurred Specific photo points will be used to compare pre and post mining conditions of the sites

In the unlikely event that impacts are detected, appropriate responses will be triggered as per the TARPs in Table 10.1 below. Any remedial work will be collaboratively designed in consultation with the relevant stakeholders. However, considering the relatively low values of predicted strains within the Application Area, it is unlikely that the sites would require any remedial works.



## Table 10.1 Heritage Management Plan Monitoring and TARPs Summary

			Мо	nitoring Commitments			TARPS				
Feature	Prior to Mining		During Mining		Po: Mo	Post Mining and Future Monitoring		gger	Re	Response	
Heritage Sites:		Record significant heritage items once prior to mining		Once for any observed impacts such as: surface		Once 3-6 months post mining		Observation of unstable conditions or damage, cracking or tree falls		Report impacts as required if subsidence movement occurs above the expected maximum predictions in	
Two sites : Cordeaux River Historic 1 and Cordeaux River Historic 3 No Aboriginal Heritage sites in the application area		Two historic artefact scatters of low significance are present within the predicted subsidence footprint.	e	cracking, damage, erosion.				Subsidence movement exceeding the expected maximum predictions.		the SMP then site inspections of Dendrobium 5 and Wanyambilli Hill 1 (located outside the application area) should occur in consultation with Registered Aboriginal stakeholders, including the Illawarra LALC and	
										Notify OEH, DoPI, DRE NSW, SCA	
										Review and undertake remediation options as agreed with Agencies	
										Report in Mitigation report, End of panel report and Annual Review	



# 11 INVESTIGATIONS FOR FUTURE EXTRACTION PLANS

NRE is currently conducting investigations in the Avon Area to collect baseline data for a future Extraction Plan in this Area. The program can be summarised as follows:

#### Exploration

Preliminary mine plans based on existing exploration data have been developed and will be revised as exploration continues.

#### Geotechnical

• Completed initial geotechnical assessment to identify sensitive features such as cliff lines and waterfalls .

#### Surface Water

Sampling occurs bi-monthly and includes:

- 9 grab sample sites
- 5 in-stream piezometers
- 2 swamp piezometers

#### Groundwater

Sampling occurs bi-monthly and includes:

- 3 existing groundwater piezometers (2 of which are related to the Ventilation Shaft)
- 3 further proposed groundwater piezometers

#### Ecology

- Initial rapid assessment of Flora and Fauna completed for the area (by Niche) in Autumn 2011
- Monitoring plans for Terrestrial and Aquatic monitoring are being developed and will be finalized by end October 2011.
- Aquatic and Terrestrial ecology monitoring to commence Spring 2011 and to be ongoing.

#### Archaeology

• Baseline Archaeological Surveys will be planned with a view to commence in 2012.



# 12 CONTINGENCY PLAN AND POTENTIAL REMEDIATION MEASURES

## 12.1 Objectives

The objectives of this Contingency Plan are to:

- provide a framework that allows for adaptive management of any unforeseen or unexpected impacts of subsidence;
- satisfy the requirements of the Project Approval, all agencies and the expectations of the community.

## 12.2 Relevant Approval Conditions

There are several conditions in the Project Approval that relate to preparation of a Contingency Plan. These are:

## Schedule 3 Condition 2

The Proponent must assess and manage project-related risks to ensure that there are no exceedances of the performance measures in Table 1. Any exceedance of these performance measures constitutes a breach of this approval and may be subject to penalty or offence provisions under the EP&A Act or EP&A Regulation, notwithstanding actions taken pursuant to paragraphs (a)-(c) or condition 3 below.

Where any exceedance of these performance measures has occurred, the Proponent must, at the earliest opportunity:

- a. take all reasonable and feasible steps to ensure that the exceedance ceases and does not recur;
- b. consider all reasonable and feasible options for remediation and submit a report to the Department describing those options and any preferred remediation measures or other course of action; and
- c. implement remediation measures as directed by the Director-General, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

## Schedule 3 Condition 3

## Offsets

*If the Proponent exceeds the performance measures in Table 1 and the Director-General determines that:* 

a. it is not reasonable or feasible to remediate the impact or environmental consequence; or



b. remediation measures implemented by the Proponent have failed to satisfactorily remediate the impact or environmental consequence;

then the Proponent shall provide a suitable offset to compensate for the impact or environmental consequence, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Note: Any offset required under this condition must be proportionate with the significance of the impact or environmental consequence.

## Schedule 3 Condition 7 (g)

include a contingency plan that expressly provides for adaptive management where monitoring indicates that there has been an exceedance of any performance measure in Tables 1 and 2, or where any such exceedance appears likely;

The Approval Conditions outlined above provide the framework for the Contingency Plan, and a compensatory offset mechanism which could be used if remediation of any impacts was unfeasible. The Contingency Plan below addresses the requirements for a Contingency Plan outlined in the Conditions above.

## 12.3 Contingency Plan

The monitoring programs outlined in this Extraction Plan will identify subsidence impacts. Predicted impacts will be managed as outlined in the TARP's within this Extraction Plan. Contingency and emergency response options are available and will be implemented if environmental or public safety impacts are demonstrated to be greater than predictions.

An incident is defined in the Project Approval as "a set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment, and/or breaches or exceeds the limits or performance measures/criteria in the Project Approval".

The reporting of incidents will be conducted in accordance with Condition 6, Schedule 6 of the Project Approval. NRE will notify the Director-General of the DoP and any other relevant agencies of any incident associated with the Project as soon as practicable after NRE becomes aware of the incident. Within seven days of the date of the incident, NRE will provide the Director-General of the DoP and any relevant agencies with a detailed report on the incident.

In the event that subsidence management responses outlined in the TARPs and NRE's Rehabilitation Management Plan prove inadequate, or where agreed rehabilitation objectives are not met, NRE will implement the Contingency Plan described below.

NRE will report the reasons the management objective has not been met to DoP, DRE NSW and other relevant stakeholders.



- Impacts and corresponding contingency measures will be assessed and considered based on the significance, extent, scale or longevity of impact and practical aspects of mitigation/rehabilitation.
- NRE will identify an appropriate course of action with respect to the management objectives, in consultation with specialists and relevant agencies, as necessary.
- □ After stakeholder consultation, NRE will implement the agreed contingency measures.
- NRE is committed to implementing such agreed contingency measures within the shortest practical timeframe.
- NRE will review the effectiveness of the contingency measures within the shortest practical timeframe and report back to all stakeholders.
- □ This Contingency Plan provides for an adaptive approach with consultation and input from relevant Agencies and stakeholders.



# **13 CONCLUSION**

The extraction of coal from Nebo Longwalls N1 to N6 is not expected to result in significant impacts to any natural or man made feature.

This Extraction Plan has outlined mine planning considerations to mitigate impacts, and various measures to monitor and manage the subsidence impacts predicted. It also outlines contingency measures in case impacts are monitored, which exceed the impact predictions.

The Extraction Plan satisfies relevant Conditions of the Project Approval and provides a framework for NRE to continue monitoring in the Nebo area, and to satisfactorily manage any impacts identified when mining proceeds.



## **14 REFERENCES**

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# ATTACHMENTS



ATTACHMENT A

**MSEC Drawings** 

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ATTACHMENT B

Trigger Action Response Plan (TARPs)



# Built Features Monitoring and Management Summary

			Мо	nitoring Commitments						TARPS			
Feature	Pri	or to Mining	Du	ring Mining	Pos Mo	st Mining and Future nitoring	Trigg	ger		Re	sponse		
Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam Walls		Visual inspection by SCA prior to mining		Visual inspection by SCA during mining		Visual inspection by SCA up to 1 year			>10mm change in RL		Notification to SCA immediately, then to DoPI, DSC, DRE NSW		
SCA Inspections and subsidence monitoring		Annual subsidence surveys by SCA along Upper		Bi-Annual subsidence surveys by SCA along Upper		post mining Annual subsidence surveys by SCA			>10mm Upsidence or >2mm differential vertical movement		Additional monitoring as agreed with SCA and as per DSC Management Plans.		
		Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls prior to		Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls during		along Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls up to 1			between any 2 adjacent marks		6 Monthly 3-D crack monitoring where agreed with SCA.		
	mining			mining		year post mining			>20mm horizontal movement or >2mm differential horizontal		Make area safe as soon as practicable including warning signs		
									movement between any 2 adjacent marks		Proposal for rectification within 1 week upon approval from SCA		
									marks >2mm Closure between readings		Completion of any required works following approval from SCA		
									Crack Widths >3mm differential movement in 3 dimension (Upper Cordeaux No.2 Dam				
Cordeaux Reservoir Stored Waters (SCA)		Survey of lake foreshores by SCA		6-monthly survey of lake foreshores by		6-monthly survey of lake foreshores by			>20mm change in RL		Notification to SCA immediately, then to DoPI, DSC, DRE NSW		
				SCA		SCA up to 1 year post mining			>20mm horizontal movement		Additional monitoring as agreed with SCA and as per DSC Management Plans.		
											Liaise with the SCA and develop		



						appropriate strategies and management plans.
33kV Transmission Lines	Observation of tower	Fortnightly		Observation of tower	Observation of unsafe	Report condition to Infrastructure owner
(Owned by Sydney Water and NRE)	Survey measurement	condition		Survey measurement	by NRE or consultant	Document in end of panel reports
	for later comparison			once following	engineer.	Infrastructure owner to undertake
	Once before mining			mining		remediation as necessary
Fire Roads and 4WD Tracks	Observation of road	Fortnightly		Monthly observation	Minor cracking on roads	Notification to SCA within 24 hrs, using
(Fortnightly visual	condition once prior to mining	observation of roads, tracks and area		of roads, tracks and area within 10m of roads/tracks for 6 months post mining	 and tracks (<10mm)	photographic record
inspection	Reported in End of panel reports and	within 10m of roads/tracks			Major cracking (>10mm) or traffic impedance	Notification to SCA immediately, then to DoPI, DRE NSW and MSB
	AEMR			reported in End of panel reports and		Make area safe as soon as practicable including warning signs
				AEMR		Proposal for rectification within 1 week upon approval from SCA
						Completion of works following approval from SCA
						Additional monitoring as agreed with SCA



# Public Safety Monitoring and TARPs Summary

			Ν	Ionitoring Commitment	S		TARPS				
Feature	Pri	or to Mining	During Mining		Pos Mo	Post Mining and Future Monitoring		<u>g</u> er	Res	Response	
Public Safety	fety Observation of rocky outcrops and steep		Observation of rocky outcomes and steep			Observation of rocky		Minor cracking (<10mm)		Notification to SCA & DoPI within 24 hrs,	
(fortnightly during extraction) outcrops and slopes; Fire i 4WD tracks;	slopes: Fire roads:		outcrops and steep slopes: Fire roads:		outcrops and steep slopes: Fire roads: 4WD				using photographic record		
		4WD tracks;		4WD tracks;		tracks;		Major Cracking (>10mm),		Notification to SCA& DoPI immediately	
		Once prior to mining		Fortnightly during		Monthly following mining for 6 months		noticeable instability or traffic impedance		Make area safe as soon as practicable	
				extraction				traine impedance		Proposal for rectification within 1 week	
									Completion of works following approval from SCA		
										Additional monitoring as agreed	



## Water Management Plan Monitoring and TARPs Summary

		Monitoring Commitments				TARPS					
Prie	or to Mining	Dur	ing Mining	Pos Mo	st Mining and Future nitoring	Triç	Trigger		Response		
	Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station		Continuous		Continuous		Significant departure from standard rainfall – runoff relationship in extraction area creeks.		Visual inspection of creek lines for cracking or water loss. Contract hydrologist investigate and report on changes identified Inform SCA, DoPI, OEH & DRE NSW of results of investigation Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required		
	Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp) <u>Laboratory Analysis</u> TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, CI, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Li, Ba, (filtered) DOC,tot. Alkalinity. Observable iron hydroxide staining using photo points		Weekly Field Analysis during active undermining of the main channel of Wattle Creek over LWN5 Monthly Lab analysis during active mining Weekly observations during active undermining of stream using photo points		Field Analysis every 2 months for one year after Nebo mining is completed Lab analysis every four months for one year after Nebo mining is completed Observations every 2 months for one year after Nebo mining is completed using photo points	NOI Vari peri WIT Ten qua any peri	RMAL change in water quality ability compared to baseline iod 'HIN PREDICTIONS porary reduction in water lity over less than 2 months at site compared to baseline iod, i.e. Observable increase in iron hydroxide precipitation in creek, banks, or bed) EC < 250uS/cm		Continue monitoring program Report in end of panel report Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR Continue monitoring program Report in end of panel report Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR		
		Prior to Mining         Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station         Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp)         Laboratory Analysis TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, CI, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Li, Ba, (filtered) DOC,tot. Alkalinity.         Observable iron hydroxide staining using photo points         Monthly for at least	Prior to Mining       Dur         Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station       Image: Collier of the station         Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp)       Image: Collier of the station         Laboratory Analysis TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, Cl, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Li, Ba, (filtered) DOC, tot. Alkalinity.       Image: Collier of the stating using photo points         Monthly for at least       Monthly for at least	Prior to Mining       During Mining         Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station       Continuous         Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp)       Weekly Field Analysis during active undermining of the main channel of Wattle Creek over LWN5         TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, Cl, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Li, Ba, (filtered) DOC, tot. Alkalinity.       Monthly Lab analysis during active mining of stream using photo points         Observable iron hydroxide staining using photo points       Monthly for at least	Prior to Mining       During Mining       Pos Mon            Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station           Continuous <ul> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> </ul> Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp)           Weekly Field Analysis during active undermining of the main channel of Wattle Creek over LWN5 <ul> <li>Wonthly Lab analysis during active mining</li> <li>Monthly Lab analysis during active mining</li> <li>Monthly Lab analysis during active mining</li> <li>Monthly Lab analysis during active mining</li> <li>Weekly observations during active undermining of stream using photo points</li> </ul>	Prior to Mining       During Mining       Post Mining and Future Monitoring         Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station       Continuous       Continuous         Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp)       Weekly Field Analysis during active undermining of the main channel of Wattle Creek over LWN5       Field Analysis every four months for one year after Nebo mining is completed analysis during active mining         Monitoring       Monitoring       Observable iron hydroxide staining using photo points       Monthy for at least	Monitoring Commitments         Prior to Mining       During Mining       Post Mining and Future Monitoring       Trig Monitoring         Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station       Continuous       Continuous       Image: Continuous </td <td>Prior to Mining       During Mining       Post Mining and Future Monitoring       Trigger            <ul> <li>Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawill Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station</li> </ul>               Continuous         <ul> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Significant departure from standard rainfall – runoff relationship in extraction area creeks.</li> </ul>          Significant departure from standard rainfall – runoff relationship in extraction area creeks.                <ul> <li>Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp)</li> <li>Laboratory Analysis TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, Ci, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, AS, Li, Ba, (filtered) DOC,tot. Alkalinity.</li> <li>Weekly observations during active undermining of stream using photo points</li> </ul> <li>Field Analysis completed using photo points</li> <li>Monthly for at least</li>           Noremute mining is completed using photo points</td> <td>Prior to Mining       During Mining       Post Mining and Future Monitoring       Trigger       Rest Monitoring            <ul> <li>Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Significant departure from standard rainfall – runoff relationship in extraction area creeks.</li> <li>No. 2 Dam weather station</li> <li>Veekly Field Analysis during active undermining of the main channel of Wattle Creek over LWNS</li> <li>Monthy Lab analysis during active mining</li> <li>Goservable iron hydroxide staining using photo points</li> <li>Monthy for at least</li> </ul>      Norther of the main channel of Stream using photo points</td>	Prior to Mining       During Mining       Post Mining and Future Monitoring       Trigger <ul> <li>Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawill Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station</li> </ul> Continuous <ul> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Significant departure from standard rainfall – runoff relationship in extraction area creeks.</li> </ul> Significant departure from standard rainfall – runoff relationship in extraction area creeks. <ul> <li>Field Analysis (EC, pH, DO, ORP, temp)</li> <li>Laboratory Analysis TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, Ci, SO4, HCO3, NO3, Total N, Total P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, AS, Li, Ba, (filtered) DOC,tot. Alkalinity.</li> <li>Weekly observations during active undermining of stream using photo points</li> </ul> <li>Field Analysis completed using photo points</li> <li>Monthly for at least</li> Noremute mining is completed using photo points	Prior to Mining       During Mining       Post Mining and Future Monitoring       Trigger       Rest Monitoring <ul> <li>Daily rainfall monitoring at NRE Wongawilli Colliery and SCA Cordeaux No. 2 Dam weather station</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Continuous</li> <li>Significant departure from standard rainfall – runoff relationship in extraction area creeks.</li> <li>No. 2 Dam weather station</li> <li>Veekly Field Analysis during active undermining of the main channel of Wattle Creek over LWNS</li> <li>Monthy Lab analysis during active mining</li> <li>Goservable iron hydroxide staining using photo points</li> <li>Monthy for at least</li> </ul> Norther of the main channel of Stream using photo points		



		Monitoring Commitments		TARPS			
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Triç	jger	Res	sponse
	two months prior to mining (for all				pH < 1.5 drop from minimum baseline value		
	parameters)				Fe (Tot) < 10mg/L		
	Baseline monitoring commenced 2009.				Mn (tot) < 0.2mg/L		
					AI (tot) < 0.2mg/L		
					Zn (filt) < 0.2mg/L		
					SO4 (filt) < 15mg/L		
				EXC	CEEDS PREDICTIONS		
				Ten qua any	nporary reduction in water lity over more than 2 months at site compared to baseline		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE
					lou, i.e	-	Depent water quality compling and
				IJ	hydroxide precipitation in creek, banks, or bed)		initiate laboratory water quality sampling and sampling on a monthly basis
					EC > 300uS/cm		Contract specialist to investigate and
					pH > 1.5 drop from minimum		report on changes identified
					Eq. (Tot) $> 10 \text{mg/l}$		mitigation/action plan in consultation
					$I \in (I01) > I0IIIg/L$		with key agencies and in accordance
					$\frac{1}{1000} = 0.2119/L$		Management Act if required
					$\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1}$		Report in the Annual Review
					$\Sigma \prod_{i=1}^{2} (\prod_{j=1}^{2} 0.2 \prod_{j=1}^{2} I \Sigma \prod_{j=1}^{2} I$		
				IJ	304 (nit) >1011y/L		



			nitoring Commitments	3			TARPS				
Feature	Pri	or to Mining	Du	ring Mining	Pos Mo	st Mining and Future nitoring	Trig	ıger	Re	sponse	
Stream Flow		Minimum 6 hourly		Minimum hourly		Minimum 2 hourly	NOF	RMAL		Continue monitoring program	
Automated monitoring of		prior to mining, with 2 monthly		with weekly downloads for 1		with downloads every two months	No	change in stream flow or pool		Report in end of panel report	
monitoring at WC3 and		downloads		month before / after		for one year after	bas	eline period		Summarise all actions and	
WC1 (upstream) which will be compared to		Minimum hourly for 1		Wattle Creek		ceases					
local rainfall	undermines Wattle Creek						WIT	HIN PREDICTIONS		Continue monitoring program	
Automated monitoring of	_	<ul><li>Creek</li><li>Baseline data from Nov 2009</li></ul>					Temporary reduction in stream flow of >20% over less than 2 months compared to the baseline variability at any site, i.e.			Report in end of panel report	
WC4.	IJ									Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR	
							Small cracks developed				
								No observable loss of stream flow, pool height or stream connectivity, compared to baseline regime			
							EXC	CEEDS PREDICTIONS		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE	
							Lon	g term reduction in stream flow		immediately	
							vari	ability at any site, i.e.		Notify hydrology and ecology specialists immediately	
								Observable loss of stream flow, pool height or stream		Site visit with stakeholders	
								connectivity, compared to baseline regime		Take photographic record immediately	
										Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified	
										Review monitoring program within 2 weeks and implement additional	



			Mon	itoring Commitments			TARPS				
Feature	Pric	or to Mining	Dur	ring Mining	Pos Moi	t Mining and Future nitoring	Trig	ger	Res	sponse	
										monitoring if required	
										Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required	
										Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.	
										Report in Annual Report	
Flooding		Observations every		Observations every		Observations every	NOF	RMAL		Continue monitoring program	
		month for at least		week during active		2 months for one	No d	change in flood extent variability		Report in end of panel report	
	two months prior to mining using photo points		Wattle Creek by LWN5 using photo		mining is completed using photo points	com	pared to baseline period		Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR		
				points			WIT	HIN PREDICTIONS			
							Tem	porary increase in flood extent		Continue monitoring program	
							over to th	less than 2 months compared the baseline variability at any site		Report in end of panel report	
								, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Summarise all actions and	
							EXC	EEDS PREDICTIONS			
		Lon over to th	g term reduction in flood extent more than 2 months compared baseline variability at any		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE immediately						
							site,	i.e.		Notify hydrology and ecology	
						Increased extent of flooded stream reach in excess of			Site visit with stakeholders		
	baseline conditions – identified	baseline conditions - identified		Take photographic record							



			Mon	itoring Commitments			TARPS				
Feature	Prio	or to Mining	Dur	ing Mining	Pos Mo	st Mining and Future nitoring	Trigger		Response		
							by increased flooding within the			immediately	
								terrestrial habitat compared to baseline variability		Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified	
										Review monitoring program within 2 weeks and implement additional monitoring if required	
										Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required	
										Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.	
										Report in Annual Report	
Erosion of stream bed		Observations every		Observations every		Observations every	NOR	MAL		Continue monitoring program	
and banks		month for at least		month during active		2 months for one	No cl	hange in stream, bed or bank		Report in end of panel report	
		mining using photo points		and 2 <sup>nd</sup> order streams using photo points		mining is completed using photo points	erosi perio	ion compared to baseline od		Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR	
							WITH	IN PREDICTIONS		Continue monitoring program	
							Mino	r decrease in stream, bed or		Report in end of panel report	
							bank perio	stability compared to baseline		Summarise all actions and	
							i.e, sı chan	mall cracks with no observable ge in stream stability		monitoring in AEMR	
							EXC	EEDS PREDICTIONS		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE	



			Mor	itoring Commitments			TARPS				
Feature	Prie	or to Mining	Du	ring Mining	Po: Mo	st Mining and Future nitoring	Trigger	Re	Response		
							Major decrease in stream, bed or		immediately		
							period		Notify hydrology and ecology specialists immediately		
							i.e. Cracks or other physical damage with permanent change in stream		Site visit with stakeholders		
							stability		Take photographic record immediately		
									Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified		
									Review monitoring program within 2 weeks and implement additional monitoring if required		
									Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required		
									Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.		
									Report in Annual Report		
Groundwater quality		Field water quality		Field water quality –		Field water quality -	NORMAL		Continue monitoring program		
Using piezometers		(EC, pH) every 2 months		monthly during extraction	_	every two months	No change in groundwater quality		Report in end of panel report		
Nebo1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, 4		Laboratory analysis		Laboratory analysis		Laboratory analysis – every four months until Nebo mining is	s variability compared to baseline s period s		Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR		
Lab Parameters			completed			Continue monitoring program					
	_	TDS, Na, K, Ca, Mg, F, Cl, SO4, HCO3,							Report in end of panel report		

NRE Wongawilli Colliery Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 Extraction Plan- Revision 1



		Monitoring Commitments		TARPS				
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trig	ıger	Res	sponse	
	NO3, Total N, Total			WIT	HIN PREDICTIONS		Summarise all actions and	
	P, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Fe, Mn, As, Se, Cd, (filtered)			Red whice more sign even follo varia	uction in groundwater quality ch extends for less than 2 nths and does not persist after ificant recharge (or lack of) nts with the water having the owing change above baseline ability;		monitoring in AEMR	
					EC <20% increase above baseline maximum			
					pH < 1.5 drop below minimum			
					Fe (Tot), Mn (tot), Al (filt),		Inform SCA, OEH & DRE immediately	
					increase above baseline maximum		Notify hydrogeology specialist immediately	
					Total N, Total P < 20% increase above baseline maximum		Contract specialist to investigate and report on changes identified	
				EXC	EEDS PREDICTIONS		Review monitoring program within 2	
				Red	uction in groundwater quality		monitoring if required	
				mor sign ever follo varia	the and persists after ificant recharge (or lack of) nts with the water having the owing change above baseline ability;		Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required	
					EC >20% increase above baseline maximum		Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.	



		Monitoring Commitments	;	TARPS			
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trigger	Response		
				<ul> <li>pH &lt; 2.0 drop below minimum baseline value</li> <li>Fe (Tot), Mn (tot), AI (filt), Zn (filt), SO4 (filt) &gt; 20% increase above baseline maximum</li> <li>Total N, Total P &gt; 20% increase above baseline maximum</li> </ul>	Report in Annual Report		
<b>Ground Water Levels</b> Using vibrating wire piezometers Nebo 6, 7, 8, 8A, WW11, WW20B and dip meters/ transducers in open standpipe piezometers Nebo1S, 1D, 2S, 2D, 3, 4	<ul> <li>Minimum 12 hourly in VWF and open standpipe piezometers</li> <li>Bi- monthly downloads an dip meter</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Minimum 12 hourly in VWP and open standpipe piezometers</li> <li>Monthly downloads and dip meter</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Minimum 12 hourly in VWP and open standpipe piezometers</li> <li>Bi- monthly downloads and dip meter</li> </ul>	NORMAL No change in groundwater level variability compared to baseline period WITHIN PREDICTIONS Reduction in groundwater level which extends for less than 2 months, or does not persist after significant recharge (or lack of) events and is within baseline variability;	<ul> <li>Continue monitoring program</li> <li>Report in end of panel report</li> <li>Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR</li> <li>Continue monitoring program</li> <li>Report in end of panel report</li> <li>Summarise all actions and monitoring in AEMR</li> </ul>		
				EXCEEDS PREDICTIONS Reduction in groundwater level which extends for more than 2 months, or persists after significant recharge (or lack of) events and is outside baseline variability;	<ul> <li>Inform SCA, OEH &amp; DRE immediately</li> <li>Notify hydrogeology specialist immediately</li> <li>Contract specialist to investigate and</li> </ul>		



			Mon	itoring Commitments			TARPS				
Feature	Prie	or to Mining	Dur	ring Mining	Pos Moi	t Mining and Future hitoring	Trig	jger	Res	sponse	
										report on changes identified	
										Review monitoring program within 2 weeks and implement additional monitoring if required	
										Prepare and implement a site mitigation/action plan in consultation with key agencies and in accordance with Section 54 of the Water Management Act if required	
										Report on mitigation as soon as practicable.	
										Report in annual report	
Inflow into mine workings or hydraulic connectivity between		Daily volumetric flow monitoring of mine inflow and discharge		Daily monitoring of mine inflow and discharge		Daily monitoring of mine inflow and discharge		Increase in water discharge of > 1ML/day for 7 successive days from active longwall or pillar		Engage hydrogeologist to investigate and report on changes identified	
stream/s and the workings during active mining		Water quality analysis of any		Water quality analysis of any		Water quality analysis of any		<ul> <li>extraction areas, which are suspected to be as a result of mine subsidence and excluding elevated inflows due to high rain events over the entire Wongawilli workings</li> <li>Note: the typical discharge from the overall Wongawilli underground is 6ML/day</li> </ul>		Inform relevant agencies of investigation	
active mining		anomalous inflow event		anomalous inflow event , with the sampling method and assessment		anomalous inflow event (as required) with the sampling method and				Investigation initiated within one week of trigger exceedance being observed	
				parameters to be defined depending		assessment parameters to be				Monthly updates of investigation process to SCA, NOW	
				on what is being investigated, (i.e.		defined depending on what is being invostigated. (i.e.				Report on mitigation as soon as practicable to SCA, NOW	
				elements, isotopes, algae etc.)		major / minor elements, isotopes, algae etc.)				Report in Annual Review	



### Biodiversity Monitoring and TARPs Summary

		Monitoring Commitments		TARPS			
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trigger	Response		
Aquatic Ecology 6 Monitoring sites on Wattle Tree Creek 2 sites on Little Wattle Tree Creek 4 Reference sites	<ul> <li>Observational monitoring for presence/absence of aquatic habitat during water quality monitoring regime</li> <li>AUSRIVAS macroinvertebrate sampling of reference and impact sites. Descriptions of instream habitat, algal levels, riparian condition, presence/absence of litter, flow level and water quality (Biannually in Autumn and Spring)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Observational monitoring for presence/absence of aquatic habitat during water quality monitoring regime</li> <li>AUSRIVAS macroinvertebrate sampling of reference and impact sites. Descriptions of instream habitat, algal levels, riparian condition, presence/ absence of litter, flow level and water quality (Biannually in Autumn and Spring)Ongoing seasonal monitoring</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Observational monitoring for presence/absence of aquatic habitat during water quality monitoring regime for a minimum of one year post-mining (in consultation with key regulators)</li> <li>AUSRIVAS macroinvertebrate sampling of reference and impact sites. Descriptions of instream habitat, algal levels, riparian condition, presence /absence of litter, flow level and water quality for a minimum of no year poet</li> </ul>	NORMAL No change in aquatic biota compared to baseline observed WITHIN PREDICTIONS Water flow and quality results within predictions. Survey results within baseline variability EXCEEDS PREDICTIONS Water flow and quality results exceed predictions. Statistically significant change observed in survey results against baseline	<ul> <li>Continue monitoring</li> <li>Report in end of panel report</li> <li>Continue monitoring</li> <li>Report in end of panel report</li> <li>Notification to SCA/DoPI/OEH immediately</li> <li>Proposal for any proposed additional monitoring and management measures within 1 week if required</li> <li>Completion of agreed management task following approval from SCA/DoPI/OEH</li> <li>Additional monitoring as required by the relevant government agencies</li> <li>Report in end of panel report</li> </ul>		



		I	Moni	oring Commitments			TARPS			
Feature	Prie	Prior to Mining		During Mining		t Mining and Future hitoring	Trigger	Re	Response	
						mining (in consultation with key regulators) (Biannually in Autumn and Spring)			Reporting in Incident and Annual Review	
Terrestrial		Baseline ecological		Observational		Observational	NORMAL		Continue monitoring	
Ecology Amphibians	a n c	assessment. Observational monitoring– 50 m nocturnal stream searches and tadpole surveys at three locations ~150-200m apart along Wattle Creek and Little		monitoring – 50 m nocturnal stream searches and tadpole surveys at three locations ~150-200m apart along Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek conducted Autumn and Spring during entire extraction period Targeted Threatened Amphibian searches each Winter along Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek		monitoring– Autumn and Spring for a minimum of one year post-mining (in consultation with key regulators	No change as compared to baseline		Report in end of panel report	
лиршыанз 🗖							WITHIN PREDICTIONS		Continuo monitoring	
							Survey results within baseline variability EXCEEDS PREDICTIONS Observed physical impacts to		Report in end of panel report	
						Targeted Threatened				
		Wattle Tree Creek conducted Autumn and				Amphibian searches in Winter period for a minimum of one year post-mining (in consultation with key regulators			Notification to SCA/DoPI/OEH immediately	
		Spring					habitat.		Proposal for threatened species management within 1 week if required	
C		Targeted Threatened Amphibian searches each Winter along Wattle Creek					Statistically significant decrease in population numbers and/or species composition against baseline		Completion of management task following approval from agencies	
		and Little Wattle Tree Creek							Additional monitoring as required by the relevant government agencies	
									Report in end of panel report	
									Reporting in Incident and Annual Reviews	
Riparian		Species inventory and		Species inventory and		Species inventory	NORMAL		Continue monitoring	
vegetation		modified Braun Blanquette cover Abundance for each		modified Braun Blanguette cover		and modified Braun Blanquette cover	No change as compared to baseline		Report in end of panel report	
Three 20 m x 20				Abundance for each		Abundance for each	observed			



			Moni	oring Commitments			TARPS				
Feature	Prior to Mining		During Mining		Post Mining and Future Monitoring		Trigger		Response		
m quadrats		species.		species.		species.	WITHIN PREDICTIONS				
~150-200m apart		At least once prior to		Autumn and spring		Autumn and Spring	Survey results within baseline		Continue monitoring		
per creek line		mining (conducted Autumn and Spring)	ı duri extr	during entire extraction period		for a minimum of one year post-mining (in consultation with key regulators	variability EXCEEDS PREDICTIONS		Report in end of panel report		
		and spring)									
							Observed deterioration in vegetation health against baseline surveys				
							Significant change/decline in cover		Notification to SCA/DoPI/OEH immediately		
							abundance against baseline surveys. Statistically significant change in		Proposal for management within 1 week if		
		Stat spe base							required		
			species composition against baseline surveys		Completion of management task following approval from agencies						
							Additional monitoring as required by the relevant government agencies				
									Report in end of panel report		
									Reporting in Incident and Annual Reviews		



## Land Management Plan Monitoring and TARPs Summary

		Monitoring Commitments			TARPS
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trigger	Response
Steep Slopes and Rock Outcrops	Observation and documentation of steep slope and rock	Monthly observations during mining	Monthly observations for 6 Months	Minor cracking on ro and tracks (<10mm)	nds Dotification to SCA, DoPI, and DRE NSW within 24 hrs, using photographic record
identified in the area.	outcrop condition -				Warning sign/s erection
	once phor to mining				Reported in Annual Review
				Major cracking (>10r traffic impedance	nm) or D Notification to SCA , DoPI, DRE Immediately
					Make area safe immediately including erection of warning sign/s and barrier fencing
					Incident Report and Mitigation Proposal to Agencies within a week.
					Mitigation Report and Annual Review.
					Review mining options
				Major cliff/rock collap	se or D Notification to SCA/DoPI/DRE
				steep slope moveme	nt D Make area safe immediately including warning sign/s erection and barrier fencing
					Proposal for rectification within 1 week
					<ul> <li>Completion of works following approval from Agencies</li> </ul>
					Additional monitoring as agreed



Mitigation Report and Annual Report.

**D** Review mining options

□ Reported in Annual Review

### Heritage Management Plan Monitoring and TARPs Summary

			Мо	nitoring Commitments				TARPS				
Feature	Prior to Mining		During Mining		Po: Mo	Post Mining and Future Monitoring		Trigger		Response		
Heritage Sites: Two sites :Historic 1 and Historic 3 No Aboriginal Heritage sites in the application area	<ul> <li>Record significant heritage items once prior to mining</li> <li>Two historic artefact scatters of low significance are present within the predicted subsidence footprint.</li> </ul>		Once for any observed impacts such as: surface cracking, damage, erosion.		Once 3-6 months post mining		<ul> <li>Observation of unstable conditions or damage, cracking or tree falls</li> <li>Subsidence movement exceeding the expected maximum predictions.</li> </ul>			Report impacts as required if subsidence movement occurs above the expected maximum predictions in the SMP then site inspections of Dendrobium 5 and Wanyambilli Hill 1 should occur in consultation with Registered Aboriginal stakeholders, including the Illawarra LALC and CBNTCAC		
										Notify OEH, DoPI, DRE NSW, SCA		
										Review and undertake remediation options as agreed with Agencies		
										Report in Mitigation report, End of panel report and Annual Review		



ATTACHMENT C

Project Approval:

# **Project Approval**

#### Section 75J of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

As delegate of the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, the Planning Assessment Commission of New South Wales (the Commission) approves the project application referred to in Schedule 1, subject to the conditions in Schedules 2 to 6.

These conditions are required to:

- prevent, minimise, and/or offset adverse environmental impacts;
- set standards and performance measures for acceptable environmental performance;
- require regular monitoring and reporting; and
- provide for the ongoing environmental management of the project.

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Member of the Commission

Member of the Commission

Sydney	2 November 2011	
		SCHEDULE 1
Application	Number:	09_0161
Proponent:		Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Approval Au	uthority:	Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
Land:		See Appendix 1
Project:		NRE Wongawilli Colliery – Nebo Area Project

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#### DEFINITIONS

Adaptive management	Adaptive management includes monitoring subsidence effects and impacts and, based on the results, modifying the mining plan as mining proceeds to ensure that the effects, impacts and/or associated environmental consequences remain within predicted and/or designated ranges and in complete the conditions of this approval.
Annual Review	The review required by condition 3 of schedule 6
Approved mine plan	The mine plans depicted in the figures in Appendix 2
BCA	Building Code of Australia
Built features	Includes any building or work erected or constructed on land, and includes dwellings and infrastructure such as any formed road, street, path, walk, or driveway; any pipeline, water, sewer, telephone, gas or other service main
CCC	Community Consultative Committee
Cliffs	Continuous rock face, including overhangs, having a minimum height of 10 metres and a minimum slope of 2 to 1, ie having a minimum angle to the horizontal of 63°.
Conditions of this approval	Conditions contained in schedules 2 to 6 inclusive
Construction	The demolition of buildings or works, carrying out of works and erection of
	buildings covered by this approval
Council	Wollongong City Council
Day	The period from 7am to 6pm on Monday to Saturday, and 8am to 6pm on Sundays and Public Holidays
Department	Department of Planning and Infrastructure
Director-General	Director-General of the Department, or delegate
DRE	Division of Resources and Energy, within the Department of Trade &
500	Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services
	Dams Salety Committee
EA	Environmental Assessment Volumes 1.2. dated October 2010, including the
	associated response to submissions
Environmental consequences	The environmental consequences of subsidence impacts including: damage to
Environmental consequences	infrastructure, buildings and residential dwellings: loss of surface flows to the
	subsurface: loss of standing pools: adverse water quality impacts:
	development of iron bacterial mats: cliff falls: rock falls: damage to Aboriginal
	heritage sites; impacts on aquatic ecology; and ponding
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
EP&A Regulation	Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000
EPL	Environment Protection Licence issued under the POEO Act
<b>Executive Director Mineral Resource</b>	es Executive Director Mineral Resources within DRE
Evening	The period from 6pm to 10pm
Feasible	Feasible relates to engineering considerations and what is practical to build or to implement
First workings	Development of main headings, longwall gate roads, related cut throughs and the like
Incident	A set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm to the
	environment, and/or breaches or exceeds the limits or performance
Land	measures/criteria in this approval
Lano	Act However in relation to the point and is consistent with the definition in the EP&A
	means the whole of a lot, or contiguous lots owned by the same landowner in
	a current plan registered at the L and Titles Office at the date of this approval
Material harm to the environment	Harm to the environment is material if it involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial
Minister	Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, or delegate
Mining operations	Includes all overburden removal and coal extraction, processing, handling,
5 1	storage and transportation activities carried out on site
Minor	Small in quantity, size and degree given the relative context
Mitigation	Activities associated with reducing the impacts of the project prior to or during
	those impacts occurring
MSB	Mine Subsidence Board
Negligible	Small and unimportant, such as to be not worth considering
Night	The period from 10pm to 7am on Monday to Saturday, and 10pm to 8am on
NOW	Sundays and Public Holidays
NOW	NSW Office of Water
	Unice of Environment and Heritage
FUEU AUL	Frotection of the Environment Operations ACT 1997

Privately-owned land Land that is not owned by a public agency, or a mining company (or its subsidiary) Project The project described in the EA Proponent Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd, or its successors in title Reasonable Reasonable relates to the application of judgement in arriving at a decision, taking into account: mitigation benefits, cost of mitigation versus benefits provided, community views and the nature and extent of potential improvements The costs agreed between the Department and the Proponent for obtaining Reasonable costs independent experts to review the adequacy of any aspects of the extraction plan, or where such costs cannot be agreed, the costs determined by a dispute resolution process Rehabilitation The treatment or management of land disturbed by the project for the purpose of establishing a safe, stable and non-polluting environment Remediation Activities associated with partially or fully repairing or rehabilitating the impacts of the project or controlling the environmental consequences of this impact ROM coal Run-of-mine coal Roads and Traffic Authority RTA Safe means no danger to users who are present, serviceable means available Safe, serviceable & repairable for its intended use, and repairable means damaged components can be repaired economically SCA Sydney Catchment Authority Second workings Extraction of coal from longwall panels, mini-wall panels or pillar extraction Site The land referred to in schedule 1, and listed in Appendix 1 The Proponent's commitments in Appendix 3 Statement of commitments Steep slopes An area of land having a gradient between 1 in 3 (33% or 18.3°) and 2 in 1 (200% or 63.4°) The totality of subsidence effects, subsidence impacts and environmental Subsidence consequences of subsidence impacts Subsidence effects Deformation of the ground mass due to mining, including all mining-induced ground movements, such as vertical and horizontal displacement, tilt, strain and curvature Subsidence impacts Physical changes to the ground and its surface caused by subsidence effects, including tensile and shear cracking of the rock mass, localised buckling of strata caused by valley closure and upsidence and surface depressions or troughs Surface facilities sites The Wongawilli and Avondale pit top areas; all ventilation shaft sites; sites used for gas drainage or for other mining purposes infrastructure; and any other site subject to existing or proposed surface disturbance associated with the project
# SCHEDULE 2 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS

## **OBLIGATION TO MINIMISE HARM TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

1. The Proponent shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, or rehabilitation of the project.

## **TERMS OF APPROVAL**

- The Proponent shall carry out the project generally in accordance with the:
- (a) EA;

2

- (b) statement of commitments; and
- (c) conditions of this approval.

Notes:

- The general layout of the project is shown in Appendix 2.
- The statement of commitments is reproduced in Appendix 3.
- The Department notes that approval of the Western Driveage component of the project does not indicate or imply any approval of future mining in the Western Area (as defined in the EA), which will be subject to a separate planning process and full merit assessment.
- 3. If there is any inconsistency between the above documents, the more recent document shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency. However, the conditions of this approval shall prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.
- 4. The Proponent shall comply with any reasonable requirement/s of the Director-General arising from the Department's assessment of:
  - (a) any strategies, plans, programs, reviews, audits, reports or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with this approval; and
  - (b) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these documents.

#### LIMITS ON APPROVAL

#### **Mining Operations**

5. Mining operations for the project may take place until 31 December 2015.

Note: Under this approval, the Proponent is required to rehabilitate the site and perform additional undertakings to the satisfaction of either the Director-General or the Executive Director Mineral Resources. Consequently this approval will continue to apply in all other respects other than the right to conduct mining operations until the rehabilitation of the site and these additional undertakings have been carried out satisfactorily.

#### **Coal Production & Transport**

- 6. The Proponent shall:
  - (a) not transport coal from the site by road (except in an emergency situation and with the prior approval of the Director-General in consultation with Council);
  - (b) restrict coal processing and transport to/from the site to a maximum of 2 million tonnes of ROM coal per calendar year; and
  - (c) restrict train movements to/from the site to a maximum of (except with the prior approval of the Director-General):
    - 8 train movements (calendar year average) a day;
    - 10 train movements (maximum weekly rolling average) a day;
    - 2 train movements a night during normal operations; and
    - 4 train movements a night during advertised campaigns, with a maximum of 10 such campaigns a year.

Notes:

- For the purposes of this condition:
  - each train entering and exiting the site is classified as 2 train movements; a day refers to the 24 hours from midnight to midnight the next day; and (notwithstanding the general definition of "night" under this approval) a night refers to the period from 11:00pm to 7:00am;
  - an advertised campaign means a short term increase in train movements (up to 11 days) for ship-loading that has been advertised in accordance with the procedures in the Noise Management Plan (see condition 8 of schedule 4);
- The Proponent is required to review the maximum number of train movements, particularly at night, as part of the Noise Audit (see condition 7 of schedule 4).

## Hours of Operation

7. The Proponent shall restrict loading and unloading to/from the coal stockpile as follows:

(a) normal operations:

(b)

- 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday;
- 8am to 4pm Saturdays; and
- at no time on Sundays and public holidays;
- during longwall change-outs:
  - 7am to 10pm Monday to Saturday; and
  - at no time on Sundays and public holidays.

At least 7 days prior to undertaking longwall change-outs involving extended hours of operation as allowed in (b) above, the Proponent shall provide written notification of the works to the Department, OEH, Council, the CCC and adjacent and affected residents, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Note: Underground mining operations, coal transport and other surface facilities operation may be undertaken at any time.

## SURRENDER OF CONSENTS AND APPROVALS

8. Within 6 months of this approval, or as otherwise agreed by the Director-General, the Proponent shall surrender all existing development consents and project approvals for mining operations relied on by the Proponent for the site (other than this approval) in accordance with Sections 75YA and 104A of the EP&A Act.

Note: This requirement does not extend to the surrender of construction and occupation certificates for existing and proposed building works under Part 4A of the EP&A Act. Surrender of a consent or approval should not be understood as implying that works legally constructed under a valid consent or approval can no longer be legally maintained or used.

9. Prior to the surrender of these consents and/or approvals, the conditions of this approval (including any notes) shall prevail to the extent of any inconsistency with the conditions of these consents and/or approvals.

## STRUCTURAL ADEQUACY

- 10. The Proponent shall ensure that all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structure, that are part of the project are constructed in accordance with:
  - (a) the relevant requirements of the BCA; and
  - (b) any additional requirements of the MSB where the building or structure is located on land within declared Mine Subsidence Districts.

#### Notes:

- Under Part 4A of the EP&A Act, the Proponent is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates for the proposed building works.
- Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the project.
- Under Section 15 of the Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961, the Proponent is required to obtain the MSB's approval before constructing any improvements within a Mine Subsidence District.

#### DEMOLITION

11. The Proponent shall ensure that all demolition work is carried out in accordance with *Australian Standard AS 2601-2001: The Demolition of Structures,* or its latest version.

#### **OPERATION OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

- 12. The Proponent shall ensure that all plant and equipment used at the site is:
  - (a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and
  - (b) operated in a proper and efficient manner.

# STAGED SUBMISSION OF STRATEGIES, PLANS OR PROGRAMS

13. With the approval of the Director-General, the Proponent may submit any strategies, plans or programs required by this approval on a progressive basis.

Note: The conditions of this approval require certain strategies, plans, and programs to be prepared for the project. They also require these documents to be reviewed and audited on a regular basis to ensure they remain effective. However, in some instances, it will not be necessary or practicable to prepare these documents for the whole project at any one time; particularly as these documents are intended to be dynamic and improved over time. Consequently, the documents may be prepared and implemented on a progressive basis. In doing this however, the Proponent will need to demonstrate that it has suitable documents in place to manage the existing operations of the project.

# SCHEDULE 3 SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS – UNDERGROUND MINING

# SUBSIDENCE

# **Performance Measures**

1. The Proponent shall ensure that the project does not cause any exceedances of the performance measures in Table 1, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Table 1: Subsidence Impact Performance Measures

Water Resources	
Catchment yield to the Upper Cordeaux Reservoirs (No. 1 and No. 2) and Avon Reservoir	Negligible reduction to the quality or quantity of water resources reaching the reservoirs
	No connective cracking between the surface and the mine
Upper Cordeaux Reservoirs (No. 1 and No. 2) and Avon Reservoir	Negligible leakage from the reservoirs
	Negligible reduction in the water quality of reservoirs
Watercourses	
Wattle Creek, Little Wattle Tree Creek, Cordeaux River, Gallaghers Creek	<ul> <li>Negligible environmental consequences, including:</li> <li>negligible diversion of flows or changes in the natural drainage behaviour of pools;</li> <li>negligible gas releases and iron staining; and</li> <li>negligible increase in water cloudiness</li> </ul>
Other watercourses	No greater subsidence impact or environmental consequences than predicted in the EA
Upland Swamps (No 22 and No 39)	<ul> <li>Negligible environmental consequences including:</li> <li>negligible change in the size of swamps;</li> <li>negligible change in the functioning of swamps;</li> <li>negligible change to the composition or distribution of species within swamps; and</li> <li>negligible drainage of water from swamps, or redistribution of water within swamps</li> </ul>
Land	
Illawarra Escarpment State Conservation Area, Metropolitan Special Area	Negligible environmental consequences.
Cliffs	Negligible environmental consequences (that is occasional rockfalls, displacement or dislodgement of boulders or slabs, or fracturing, that in total do not impact more than 0.5% of the total face area of such cliffs within the longwall mining area)
Biodiversity	
Threatened species, threatened populations, or endangered ecological communities	Negligible environmental consequences
Heritage Features	
Aboriginal heritage sites	Negligible impact or environmental consequence
Non-Aboriginal heritage sites (including 'Historic 1', 'Historic 2' and 'Historic 3')	Negligible loss of heritage value

Notes to Table 1:

• The Proponent will be required to define more detailed performance indicators (including impact assessment criteria) for each of these performance measures in the various management plans that are required under this approval (see condition 7(i) of schedule 3 and conditions 20 - 21 of schedule 4 below).

 Measurement and/or monitoring of compliance with performance measures and performance indicators is to be undertaken using generally accepted methods that are appropriate to the environment and circumstances in which the feature or characteristic is located. These methods are to be fully described in the relevant management plans. In the event of a dispute over the appropriateness of proposed methods, the Director-General will be the final arbiter.

• In the case of the Illawarra Escarpment State Conservation Area, the Director-General's satisfaction can only be expressed following consultation with OEH.

In the case of the Metropolitan Special Area, the Director-General's satisfaction can only be expressed following consultation with SCA.

The requirements of this condition only apply to the impacts and consequences of mining operations, construction
 or demolition undertaken following the date of this approval.

- The Proponent must assess and manage project-related risks to ensure that there are no exceedances of 2 the performance measures in Table 1. Any exceedance of these performance measures constitutes a breach of this approval and may be subject to penalty or offence provisions under the EP&A Act or EP&A Regulation, notwithstanding actions taken pursuant to paragraphs (a)-(c) or condition 3 below. Where any exceedance of these performance measures has occurred, the Proponent must, at the earliest opportunity:
  - take all reasonable and feasible steps to ensure that the exceedance ceases and does not recur; (a)
  - (b) consider all reasonable and feasible options for remediation and submit a report to the Department describing those options and any preferred remediation measures or other course of action; and

implement remediation measures as directed by the Director-General, (c)

to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

#### Offsets

- 3. If the Proponent exceeds the performance measures in Table 1 and the Director-General determines that:
  - it is not reasonable or feasible to remediate the impact or environmental consequence; or (a) (b) remediation measures implemented by the Proponent have failed to satisfactorily remediate the
    - impact or environmental consequence:

then the Proponent shall provide a suitable offset to compensate for the impact or environmental consequence, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

- Note: Any offset required under this condition must be proportionate with the significance of the impact or environmental consequence.
- The Proponent shall ensure that the project does not cause any exceedances of the performance measures 4. in Table 2, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Built Features	
Key public infrastructure: including SCA infrastructure (Avon Dam, Upper Cordeaux	Always safe and serviceable.
No.1 and No.2 dams, water supply pipelines), high pressure gas pipelines, electricity transmission lines, fibre optic networks	Damage that does not affect safety or serviceability must be fully repairable, and must be fully repaired.
Gas distribution pipelines, electricity distribution lines, roads, fire trails, other	Always safe.
public infrastructure, other built features	Serviceability should be maintained wherever practicable. Loss of serviceability must be fully compensated.
	Damage must be fully repairable, and must be fully repaired or else replaced or fully compensated.
Public Safety	

	-upile Salety	
P	Public safety	No additional risk
Not	tes to Table 2:	

- The Proponent will be required to define more detailed performance indicators (including impact assessment criteria) for each of these performance measures in the various management plans that are required under this approval (see condition 7 below).
- Measurement and/or monitoring of compliance with performance measures and performance indicators is to be undertaken using generally accepted methods that are appropriate to the environment and circumstances in which the feature or characteristic is located. These methods are to be fully described in the relevant management plans. In the event of a dispute over the appropriateness of proposed methods, the Director-General will be the final arbiter.
- The requirements of this condition only apply to the impacts and consequences of mining operations undertaken following the date of this approval.
- Any breach of this condition is taken to be a breach of this approval, and may be subject to penalty or offence provisions under the EP&A Act or EP&A Regulation.
- Requirements regarding safety or serviceability do not prevent preventative or mitigatory actions being taken prior to or during mining in order to achieve or maintain these outcomes.
- Any dispute between the Proponent and the owner of any built feature over the interpretation, application or 5. implementation of the performance measures in Table 2 is to be settled by the Director-General, following consultation with the MSB and the Executive Director Mineral Resources. Any decision by the Director-General shall be final and not subject to further dispute resolution under this approval.

## **First Workings**

6. The Proponent may carry out first workings on site, other than in accordance with an approved Extraction Plan, provided that DRE is satisfied that the first workings are designed to remain long-term stable and non-subsiding, except insofar as they may be impacted by approved second workings.

Note: The intent of this condition is not to require an additional approval for first workings, but to ensure that first workings are built to geotechnical and engineering standards sufficient to ensure long term stability, with zero resulting subsidence impacts.

## **Extraction Plan**

- 7. The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Extraction Plan for any second workings on site, to the satisfaction of the Director-General. The plan must:
  - (a) be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons whose appointment has been endorsed by the Director-General;
  - (b) be approved by the Director-General before the Proponent carries out any of the second workings covered by the plan;
  - (c) include detailed plans of existing and proposed first and second workings and any associated surface development;
  - (d) provide revised predictions of the conventional and non-conventional subsidence effects, subsidence impacts and environmental consequences of the proposed second workings, incorporating any relevant information obtained since this approval;
  - (e) include detailed performance indicators for each of the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2;
  - (f) describe the measures that would be implemented to:
    - ensure compliance with the performance measures in Tables 1 and 2; and
    - manage or remediate subsidence impacts and/or environmental consequences;
  - (g) include a contingency plan that expressly provides for adaptive management where monitoring indicates that there has been an exceedance of any performance measure in Tables 1 and 2, or where any such exceedance appears likely;
  - (h) include the following to the satisfaction of DRE:
    - a subsidence monitoring program to:
      - o provide data to assist with the management of the risks associated with subsidence;
      - o validate the subsidence predictions;
      - o monitor the integrity of the overlying strata, particularly the Cordeaux Crinanite; and
      - analyse the relationship between the predicted and resulting subsidence effects and predicted and resulting impacts under the plan and any ensuing environmental consequences; and
      - o inform the contingency plan and adaptive management process;
      - a coal resource recovery plan that demonstrates effective recovery of the available resource;
      - a Built Features Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with the owners of such features, to manage the potential impacts and consequences of subsidence on any built features;
      - a Public Safety Management Plan to ensure public safety in the mining area; and
      - appropriate revisions to the Rehabilitation Management Plan required under condition 26 of schedule 4; and
  - (i) include a:
    - Water Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with OEH, SCA and NOW, which provides for the management of the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on watercourses and aquifers, including:
      - surface and groundwater impact assessment criteria based on at least 2 years of baseline data, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts on water resources or water quality;
      - o a program to monitor and report groundwater inflows to underground workings; and
      - a program to predict, manage and monitor impacts on any groundwater bores on privately-owned land;
    - Biodiversity Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with OEH and DRE, which provides for the management of the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna, with a specific focus on threatened species, populations and their habitats; endangered ecological communities, and water dependent ecosystems;
    - Land Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with any affected public authorities, to manage the potential impacts and/or environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on land in general, with a specific focus on cliffs and steep slopes; and

- Heritage Management Plan, to manage the potential environmental consequences of the proposed second workings on both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage sites or values; and
- (j) include a program to collect sufficient baseline data for future Extraction Plans.

Note: An SMP that is substantially consistent with this condition and which is approved by DRE prior to 31 December 2011 is taken to satisfy the requirements of this condition.

- 8. The Proponent shall ensure that the management plans required under condition 7(i) above include:
  - (a) an assessment of the potential environmental consequences of the Extraction Plan, incorporating any relevant information that has been obtained since this approval; and
  - (b) a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to remediate predicted impacts.

# Payment of Reasonable Costs

9. The Proponent shall pay all reasonable costs incurred by the Department to engage suitably qualified, experienced and independent experts to review the adequacy of any aspect of an Extraction Plan.

# SCHEDULE 4 SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS – GENERAL

## NOISE

## Noise Criteria

1. The Proponent shall ensure that the noise generated by the project (including train loading and shunting within the yard but excluding train movements on the Wongawilli rail spur) does not exceed the criteria in Table 3 and Table 4 at any residence on privately-owned land or on more than 25 percent of any privately-owned land.

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Receiver Area	Day	Evening	Night	
Neverver Area	L <sub>Aeq</sub> (15 min)	L <sub>Aeq (15 min)</sub>	L <sub>Aeq</sub> (15 min)	LA1 (1 min)
RA1	43	43	43	59
RA2	44	43	43	60
RA3	40	40	38	48
All other existing residential receivers	40	40	38	48

Table 4: Noise Criteria dB(A) – Amenity Noise Limits – All Residences

Receiver Area	Day	Evening	Night	
Neverver Area	L <sub>Aeq</sub> (11 hour)	L <sub>Aeq</sub> (4 hour)	L <sub>Aeq</sub> (9 hour)	
All privately-owned land	60	50	45	

Notes to Tables 3 and 4:

 Noise generated by the project is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements, and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions), of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.

However, these noise criteria do not apply if the Proponent has an agreement with the relevant owner/s of the residence or land to generate higher noise levels, and the Proponent has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.

## **Noise Goals**

2. The Proponent shall make continual endeavours to reduce the noise generated by the project, with the objective being that noise generated by the project (including train loading and shunting within the yard but excluding train movements on the Wongawilli rail spur) does not exceed the criteria in Table 5 at any existing residence on privately-owned land or on more than 25 percent of any privately-owned land.

Table 5: Noise Criteria dB	A) – Intrusive Noise Goals	s – Existing Residences

Pacaivar Araz	Day	Evening	Night	
Neceiver Area	L <sub>Aeq (15 min)</sub>	L <sub>Aeq (15 min)</sub>	L <sub>Aeq (15 min)</sub>	L <sub>A1 (1 min)</sub>
RA1	40	40	38	51
RA2	40	40	38	51
RA3	40	40	38	48
All other existing residential receivers	40	40	38	48

Notes:

To interpret the locations referred to Table 5, see Appendix 4.

The noise goals in Table 5 may be varied by way of direction to the Proponent by the Director-General, following
consideration of the results of the noise audit required under condition 7 below.

## Rail Noise

3. The Proponent shall ensure that the noise generated by railway activities on the Wongawilli rail spur outside of the yard limits (excluding any train shunting or when loading is taking place) does not exceed the criteria in Table 6 at any existing residence on privately-owned land.

To interpret the locations referred to Tables 2 and 3, see Appendix 4.

Noise generated by the project is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements, and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions), of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.

Table 6: Noise Criteria dB(A) – Rail Noise Limits – Existing residences

Receiver Area	Day	Night	
	LAeq (period)	L <sub>Aeq</sub> (period)	
All existing residential receivers	65	60	

Note: Noise generated by the railway activities is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements, and exemptions of the Interim Guideline for the Assessment of Noise from Rail Infrastructure Projects.

However, these noise criteria do not apply if the Proponent has an agreement with the relevant owner/s of the residence or land to generate higher noise levels, and the Proponent has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.

- 4. By the end of July 2013, or other timing as may be agreed by the Director-General, the Proponent shall use its best endeavours to ensure that its rail spur is only accessed by:
  - (a) locomotives that are approved to operate on the NSW rail network in accordance with noise limits L6.1 to L6.4 in RailCorp's EPL (No. 12208); and
    - (b) trains comprising no less than 30 wagons.
- 5. The Proponent shall restrict train speeds on the Wongawilli rail spur to a maximum of 20 km/h.

## **Operating Conditions**

- 6. The Proponent shall:
  - (a) implement best practice noise management, including all reasonable and feasible noise mitigation measures to minimise the operational, road traffic and rail noise generated by the project; and
  - (b) regularly assess the results of noise monitoring to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this approval,
  - to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

## Noise Audit

- 7. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Noise Audit for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. The audit must:
  - (a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced expert, whose appointment has been approved by the Director-General;
  - (b) be prepared in consultation with OEH, and be submitted to the Director-General for approval by the end of June 2013;
  - (c) undertake improved background noise monitoring;
  - (d) investigate and evaluate:
    - all reasonable and feasible measures to mitigate operational noise levels to comply with the noise goals in Table 5; and
    - all reasonable and feasible measures to mitigate rail noise associated with the project (eg locomotive use, use of longer trains and 3-pack wagons, track works);
  - (e) review the feasibility of reducing the maximum train movements, particularly at night (see condition 6 of schedule 2), based on the minimum train length required under condition 4 above; and
  - (f) include an action plan to implement the audit recommendations and a protocol for monitoring the effectiveness of these measures.

## **Noise Management Plan**

- 8. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Noise Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan must:
  - (a) be prepared in consultation with OEH and Council, and submitted to the Director-General for approval within 6 months of this approval;
  - (b) describe the noise mitigation measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this approval;
  - (c) include a protocol for continual improvement of noise performance, and reporting progress in meeting the noise goals in Table 5;
  - (d) include a protocol for notifying residents of advertised campaigns (see condition 6 of schedule 2); and
  - (e) include a noise monitoring program that:
    - uses a combination of attended and unattended monitoring to evaluate the performance of the project; and
    - includes a protocol for determining exceedances of the relevant conditions of this approval.

## **AIR QUALITY & GREENHOUSE GAS**

#### Odour

9. The Proponent shall ensure that no offensive odours are emitted from the site, as defined under the POEO Act, unless otherwise authorised by an EPL.

#### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

10. The Proponent shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the release of greenhouse gas emissions from the site to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Note: This condition does not extend to Scope 3 emissions, as defined in the National Greenhouse Energy Reporting Guidelines.

## **Air Quality Criteria**

11. The Proponent shall implement all reasonable and feasible mitigation measures to ensure that the particulate emissions generated by the project do not exceed the criteria listed in Tables 7, 8 and 9 at any residence on privately-owned land or on more than 25 percent of any privately-owned land.

Tahle	7.1	ona	term	criteria	for	narticulate	matter
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Pollutant	Averaging period	<sup>d</sup> Criterion
Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	<sup>a</sup> 90 μg/m <sup>3</sup>
Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Annual	<sup>a</sup> 30 μg/m <sup>3</sup>

#### Table 8: Short term criterion for particulate matter

Pollutant	Averaging period	<sup>d</sup> Criterion
Particulate matter < 10 $\mu$ m (PM <sub>10</sub> )	24 hour	<sup>a</sup> 50 μg/m <sup>3</sup>

#### Table 9: Long term criteria for deposited dust

Pollutant	Averaging period	Maximum increase in deposited dust level	Maximum total deposited dust level
<sup>c</sup> Deposited dust	Annual	<sup>b</sup> 2 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month	<sup>a</sup> 4 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month

Notes to Tables 7-9:

<sup>a</sup> Total impact (ie incremental increase in concentrations due to the project plus background concentrations due to other sources);

<sup>b</sup> Incremental impact (ie incremental increase in concentrations due to the project on its own);

<sup>c</sup> Deposited dust is to be assessed as insoluble solids as defined by Standards Australia, AS/NZS 3580.10.1:2003: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air – Determination of Particulate Matter – Deposited Matter – Gravimetric Method; and

<sup>d</sup> Excludes extraordinary events such as bushfires, prescribed burning, dust storms, sea fog, fire incidents, illegal activities or any other activity agree to by the Director-General in consultation with OEH.

## Air Quality Acquisition Criteria

12. If the particulate matter emissions generated by the project exceed the criteria in Tables 10, 11, and 12 on a systematic basis at any residence on privately-owned land, or on more than 25 percent of any privately owned land, then upon receiving a written request for acquisition from the landowner the Proponent shall acquire the land in accordance with the procedures in conditions 4-5 of schedule 5.

	Table	10: Long term	acquisition criteria	for particulate matter
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Pollutant	Averaging period	<sup>d</sup> Criterion
Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	<sup>a</sup> 90 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Particulate matter < 10 $\mu$ m (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Annual	<sup>a</sup> 30 µg/m <sup>3</sup>

Table 11: Short term acquisition criteria for particulate matter

Pollutant	Averaging period	<sup>d</sup> Criterion
Particulate matter < 10 $\mu$ m (PM <sub>10</sub> )	24 hour	<sup>a</sup> 150 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Particulate matter < 10 $\mu$ m (PM <sub>10</sub> )	24 hour	<sup>ь</sup> 50 μg/m <sup>3</sup>

Table 12: Long term acquisition criteria for deposited dust

Pollutant	Averaging period	Maximum increase in deposited dust level	Maximum total deposited dust level
<sup>c</sup> Deposited dust	Annual	<sup>b</sup> 2 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month	<sup>a</sup> 4 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month

Notes to Tables 10-12:

<sup>a</sup> Total impact (ie incremental increase in concentrations due to the project plus background concentrations due to other sources);

<sup>b</sup> Incremental impact (ie incremental increase in concentrations due to the project on its own);

<sup>c</sup> Deposited dust is to be assessed as insoluble solids as defined by Standards Australia, AS/NZS 3580.10.1:2003: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air – Determination of Particulate Matter – Deposited Matter – Gravimetric Method; and

<sup>d</sup> Excludes extraordinary events such as bushfires, prescribed burning, dust storms, sea fog, fire incidents, illegal activities or any other activity agree to by the Director-General in consultation with OEH.

## **Operating Conditions**

- 13. The Proponent shall:
  - (a) implement best practice air quality management, including all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise off-site odour, fume and dust emissions generated by the project, including from any spontaneous combustion on site,
  - (b) minimise any visible air pollution generated by the project; and
  - (c) regularly assess the real-time air quality monitoring and meteorological forecasting data, and relocate, modify and/or suspend operations to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this approval;

to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

#### Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan

- 14. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a detailed Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan must:
  - (a) be prepared in consultation with OEH, and submitted to the Director-General for approval within 6 months of this approval;
  - (b) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this approval, including a real-time air quality management system that employs both reactive and proactive mitigation measures;
  - (c) describe the measures that would be implemented to minimise the greenhouse gas emissions from the site; and
  - (d) include an air quality monitoring program that:
    - uses a combination of real-time monitors and supplementary monitors to evaluate the performance of the project; and
      - includes a protocol for determining exceedances with the relevant conditions of this approval.

#### **METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING**

- 15. During the life of the project, the Proponent shall ensure that there is a suitable meteorological station operating in the vicinity of the site that:
  - (a) complies with the requirements in the Approved Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales guideline; and
  - (b) is capable of continuous real-time measurement of temperature lapse rate in accordance with the *NSW Industrial Noise Policy*, or as otherwise approved by OEH.

## SOIL & WATER

#### Water Licences

16. The Proponent shall ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the project, and if necessary, adjust the scale of mining operations to match its available water supply, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Note: The Proponent is required to obtain all necessary water licences and approvals for the project under the Water Act 1912 and/or Water Management Act 2000.

## **Baseflow Offsets**

17. The Proponent shall offset the loss of any baseflow to watercourses caused by the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This condition does not apply if the Director-General subsequently determines that the loss of baseflow is negligible.

Note: Offsets for long-term losses should be provided via the retirement of adequate water entitlements to account for the loss attributable to the project.

## **Compensatory Water Supply**

18. The Proponent shall provide a compensatory water supply to any landowner of privately-owned land whose water entitlements are adversely impacted (other than an impact that is negligible) as a result of the project, in consultation with NOW, and to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

The compensatory water supply measures must provide an alternative long-term supply of water that is equivalent to the loss attributed to the project. Equivalent water supply must be provided (at least on an interim basis) within 24 hours of the loss being identified.

If the Proponent and the landowner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Director-General for resolution.

If the Proponent is unable to provide an alternative long-term supply of water, then the Proponent shall provide alternative compensation to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

#### Surface Water Discharges

19. The Proponent shall ensure that all surface water discharges from the site comply with the discharge limits (both volume and quality) set for the project in any EPL.

#### Surface Water Management Plan

- 20. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Surface Water Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan must:
  - (a) be prepared in consultation with NOW, OEH and Council, and be submitted to the Director-General for approval within 6 months of this approval, or as otherwise agreed with the Director-General;
  - (b) include a comprehensive water balance for the project, that includes details of:
    - sources of water supply and water make;
    - water use; and
    - water discharges; and
  - (c) management plans for the surface facilities sites, that include:
    - a detailed description of water management systems for each site, including:
      - clean water diversion systems;
      - o erosion and sediment controls; and
      - any water storages;
      - measures to minimise potable water use and to reuse and recycle water;
      - measures to comply with surface water discharge limits;
      - measures to manage sewage wastewater in accordance with Council requirements; and
      - monitoring and reporting procedures.

Note: This plan must be suitably integrated with the Water Management Plans that form part of Extraction Plans.

#### HERITAGE

#### Heritage Management Plan

- 21. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Heritage Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan must:
  - (a) be prepared in consultation with OEH, the Aboriginal community, Council and any local historical organisations, and be submitted to the Director-General for approval within 6 months of this approval, or as otherwise agreed with the Director-General;
  - (b) include the following program/procedures for managing Aboriginal heritage management within the project area:
    - conserving, managing and monitoring Aboriginal sites and potential archaeological deposits within the project disturbance area;
    - conserving, managing, and monitoring Aboriginal sites outside the project disturbance area;

- managing the discovery of any new Aboriginal objects or skeletal remains during the project;
- maintaining and managing access to archaeological sites by the Aboriginal community; and
- ongoing consultation and involvement of the Aboriginal communities in the conservation and
- management of Aboriginal cultural heritage within the project area; and
- (c) include the following for managing other historic heritage on site:
  - a conservation management plan for the Wongawilli Colliery, that balances heritage management with the operational, safety, and rehabilitation requirements of the mine; and
    - a program/procedures for:
      - o photographic and archival recording of potentially affected heritage items;
      - o protection and monitoring of heritage items outside the project disturbance area; and
      - additional archaeological excavation and/or recording of any significant heritage items requiring demolition.

Note: This plan must be suitably integrated with Heritage Management Plans that form part of Extraction Plans.

## TRANSPORT

## Monitoring of Coal Transport

- 22. The Proponent shall:
  - (a) keep accurate records of the:
    - amount of coal transported from the site (on a monthly basis);
    - date and time of each train movement to and from the site; and
  - (b) make these records publicly available on its website at the end of each calendar year.

## VISUAL

## Visual Amenity and Lighting

- 23. The Proponent shall:
  - (a) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the visual and off-site lighting impacts of the project;
  - (b) ensure no unshielded outdoor lights shine above the horizontal; and
  - (c) ensure that all external lighting associated with the project complies with Australian Standard AS4282 (INT) 1995 Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting,

to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

## WASTE

- 24. The Proponent shall:
  - (a) minimise and monitor the waste generated by the project;
  - (b) ensure that the waste generated by the project is appropriately stored, handled and disposed of;
  - (c) manage on-site sewage treatment and disposal in accordance with the requirements of Council; and
  - (d) report on waste management and minimisation in the Annual Review,

to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

#### BUSHFIRE

- 25. The Proponent shall:
  - (a) ensure that the project is suitably equipped to respond to fires on site; and
  - (b) assist the Rural Fire Service and emergency services as much as possible if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site.

## REHABILITATION

## **Rehabilitation Objectives**

26. The Proponent shall rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Executive Director Mineral Resources. This rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation strategy described in the EA, and comply with the objectives in Table 13.

Table 13: Rehabilitation Objectives	
Feature	Objective
Mine site (as a whole)	Safe, stable & non-polluting.
	Final land use compatible with surrounding land uses.
Surface infrastructure	To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Executive Director Mineral Resources agrees otherwise

Feature	Objective
Portals and vent shafts	To be decommissioned and made safe and stable.
	Retain habitat for threatened species (eg bats), where practicable
Watercourses of 2 <sup>nd</sup> order or above subject to subsidence impacts	Hydraulically and geomorphologically stable
Cliffs	No additional risk to public safety compared to prior to mining
Other land affected by the project	<ul> <li>Restore ecosystem function, including maintaining or establishing self-sustaining ecosystems comprised of:</li> <li>local native plant species (unless the Executive Director Mineral Resources agrees otherwise); and</li> <li>a landform consistent with the surrounding environment</li> </ul>
Built features damaged by mining operations	<ul> <li>Repair to pre-mining condition or equivalent unless:</li> <li>the owner agrees otherwise; or</li> <li>the damage is fully restored, repaired or compensated under the <i>Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961</i>.</li> </ul>
Community	Ensure public safety. Minimise the adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure

Notes to Table 13:

 These rehabilitation objectives apply to all subsidence impacts and environmental consequences caused by mining taking place after the date of this approval; and to all project surface infrastructure part of the project, whether constructed prior to or following the date of this approval.

 Rehabilitation of subsidence impacts and environmental consequences caused by mining which took place prior to the date of this approval may be subject to the requirements of other approvals (eg under a mining lease or an Subsidence Management Plan approval) or the Proponent's commitments.

## **Progressive Rehabilitation**

27. The Proponent shall carry out the rehabilitation of the site progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable following disturbance.

#### **Rehabilitation Management Plan**

- 28. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Rehabilitation Management Plan for the project, to the satisfaction of the Director-General of DRE. This plan must:
  - (a) be prepared in consultation with the Department, OEH, NOW, Council and the CCC, and be submitted to the Executive Director Mineral Resources in DRE for approval within 6 months of this approval, or as otherwise agreed with the Director-General;
  - (b) be prepared in accordance with any relevant DRE guideline, and be consistent with the rehabilitation objectives in the EA and in Table 13;
  - (c) build, to the maximum extent practicable, on the other management plans required under this approval; and
  - (d) address all aspects of rehabilitation and mine closure, including final land use assessment, rehabilitation objectives, domain objectives, completion criteria and rehabilitation monitoring.

Note: The Rehabilitation Management Plan should address all land impacted by the project, whether prior to or following the date of this approval.

# SCHEDULE 5 ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

## NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS

- 1. As soon as practicable following obtaining monitoring results showing:
  - (a) an exceedance of the relevant criteria in schedule 4, the Proponent shall notify the affected landowner and/or tenants in writing of the exceedance, and provide regular monitoring results to each of these parties until the project is complying with the relevant criteria again; or
  - (b) an exceedance of the relevant criteria in conditions 11 or 12 of schedule 4, the Proponent shall send a copy of the NSW Health fact sheet entitled "Mine Dust and You" (as may be updated from time to time) to the affected landowners and/or existing tenants of the land (including the tenants of any mine-owned land).

## INDEPENDENT REVIEW

2. If an owner of privately-owned land considers the project to be exceeding the relevant criteria in schedule 4, then he/she may ask the Director-General in writing for an independent review of the impacts of the project on his/her land.

If the Director-General is satisfied that an independent review is warranted, then within 2 months of the Director-General's decision the Proponent shall:

- (a) commission a suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, whose appointment has been approved by the Director-General, to:
  - consult with the landowner to determine his/her concerns;
  - conduct monitoring to determine whether the project is complying with the relevant criteria in schedule 4; and
  - if the project is not complying with these criteria then identify the measures that could be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant criteria; and
- (b) give the Director-General and landowner a copy of the independent review.
- 3. If the independent review determines that the project is complying with the relevant criteria in schedule 4, then the Proponent may discontinue the independent review with the approval of the Director-General.

If the independent review determines that the project is not complying with the relevant impact assessment criteria in schedule 4, and that the project is primarily responsible for this non-compliance, then the Proponent shall:

- (a) implement all reasonable and feasible mitigation measures, in consultation with the landowner and appointed independent person, and conduct further monitoring until the project complies with the relevant criteria; or
- (b) secure a written agreement with the landowner to allow exceedances of the relevant criteria,
- to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

If the independent review determines that any relevant acquisition criteria in schedule 4 are being exceeded and that the project is primarily responsible for this non-compliance, then upon receiving a written request from the landowner, the Proponent shall acquire all or part of the landowner's land in accordance with the procedures in conditions 4-5 below.

# LAND ACQUISITION

- 4. Within 3 months of receiving a written request from a landowner with acquisition rights, the Proponent shall make a binding written offer to the landowner based on:
  - (a) the current market value of the landowner's interest in the land at the date of this written request, as if the land was unaffected by the project, having regard to the:
    - existing and permissible use of the land, in accordance with the applicable planning instruments at the date of the written request; and
    - presence of improvements on the land and/or any approved building or structure which has been physically commenced on the land at the date of the landowner's written request, and is due to be completed subsequent to that date, but excluding any improvements that have resulted from the implementation of any additional mitigation measures undertaken by the Proponent on the land;
  - (b) the reasonable costs associated with:
    - relocating within the Wollongong local government area, or to any other local government area determined by the Director-General; and
    - obtaining legal advice and expert advice for determining the acquisition price of the land, and the terms upon which it is to be acquired; and
  - (c) reasonable compensation for any disturbance caused by the land acquisition process.

If the Proponent and landowner cannot agree on the acquisition price of the land and/or the terms upon which the land is to be acquired within 28 days after the Proponent makes its written offer, then either party may refer the matter to the Director-General for resolution.

Upon receiving such a request, the Director-General will request the President of the NSW Division of the Australian Property Institute to appoint a qualified independent valuer to:

- consider submissions from both parties;
- determine a fair and reasonable acquisition price for the land and/or the terms upon which the land is to be acquired, having regard to the matters referred to in paragraphs (a)-(c) above;
- prepare a detailed report setting out the reasons for any determination; and
- provide a copy of the report to both parties.

Within 14 days of receiving the independent valuer's report, the Proponent shall make a binding written offer to the landowner to purchase the land at a price not less than the independent valuer's determination.

However, if either party disputes the independent valuer's determination, then within 14 days of receiving the independent valuer's report, they may refer the matter to the Director-General for review. Any request for a review must be accompanied by a detailed report setting out the reasons why the party disputes the independent valuer's determination. Following consultation with the independent valuer and both parties, the Director-General will determine a fair and reasonable acquisition price for the land, having regard to the matters referred to in paragraphs (a)-(c) above, the independent valuer's report, the detailed report disputing the independent valuer's determination, and any other relevant submissions.

Within 14 days of this determination, the Proponent shall make a binding written offer to the landowner to purchase the land at a price not less than the Director-General's determination.

If the landowner refuses to accept the Proponent's binding written offer under this condition within 6 months of the offer being made, then the Proponent's obligations to acquire the land shall cease, unless the Director-General determines otherwise.

5. The Proponent shall pay all reasonable costs associated with the land acquisition process described in condition 4 above, including the costs associated with obtaining Council approval for any plan of subdivision (where permissible), and registration of this plan at the Office of the Registrar-General.

## SCHEDULE 6 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, REPORTING & AUDITING

## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

#### **Environmental Management Strategy**

- 1. The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Environmental Management Strategy for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This strategy must:
  - (a) be submitted to the Director-General for approval within 6 months of this approval;
  - (b) provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the project;
  - (c) identify the statutory approvals that apply to the project;
  - (d) describe the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the project;
  - (e) describe the procedures that would be implemented to:
    - keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the project;
    - receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints;
    - resolve any disputes that may arise during the course of the project;
    - respond to any non-compliance;
    - respond to emergencies; and
  - (f) include:
    - copies of any strategies, plans and programs approved under the conditions of this approval; and
    - a clear plan depicting all the monitoring required to be carried out under the conditions of this approval.

#### Management Plan Requirements

- 2. The Proponent shall ensure that the management plans required under this approval are prepared in accordance with any relevant guidelines, and include:
  - (a) detailed baseline data;
  - (b) a description of:
    - the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions);
    - any relevant limits or performance measures/criteria;
    - the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the project or any management measures;
  - (c) a description of the measures that would be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures/criteria;
  - (d) a program to monitor and report on the:
    - impacts and environmental performance of the project;
    - effectiveness of any management measures (see (c) above);
  - (e) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;
  - (f) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the project over time;
  - (g) a protocol for managing and reporting any:
    - incidents;
    - complaints;
    - · non-compliances with conditions of this approval and statutory requirements; and
    - exceedances of the impact assessment criteria and/or performance criteria; and
  - (h) a protocol for periodic review of the plan.

Note: The Director-General may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.

#### **Annual Review**

- 3. By the end of December each year (or other such timing as agreed by the Director-General), the Proponent shall review the environmental performance of the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This review must:
  - (a) describe the works (including any rehabilitation) carried out in the past year, and the works proposed to be carried out over the next year;
  - (b) include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the project over the past year, which includes a comparison of these results against the:
    - relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria;
    - monitoring results of previous years; and
    - relevant predictions in the EA;

- (c) identify any non-compliance over the past year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to ensure compliance;
- (d) identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the project;
- (e) identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the project, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and
- (f) describe what measures will be implemented over the next year to improve the environmental performance of the project.

#### **Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs**

- 4. Within 3 months of:
  - (a) the submission of an annual review under condition 3 above;
  - (b) the submission of an incident report under condition 6 below;
  - (c) the submission of an audit report under condition 8 below; and
  - (d) any modification to the conditions of this approval (unless the conditions require otherwise),

the Proponent shall review, and if necessary revise, the strategies, plans, and programs required under this approval to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Note: This is to ensure the strategies, plans and programs are updated on a regular basis, and incorporate any recommended measures to improve the environmental performance of the project.

#### **Community Consultative Committee**

5. The Proponent shall establish and operate a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for the project in general accordance with the *Guidelines for Establishing and Operating Community Consultative Committees for Mining Projects* (Department of Planning, 2007, or its latest version), or alternative consultative framework as may be agreed by the Director-General, to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This CCC or alternative framework must be operating within 6 months of this approval.

Notes:

- The CCC is an advisory committee. The Department and other relevant agencies are responsible for ensuring that the Proponent complies with this approval.
- In accordance with the guideline, the Committee should be comprised of an independent chair and appropriate representation from the Proponent, Council, recognised environmental groups and the local community.
- In establishing the CCC, the Department will accept the continued representation from existing CCC members.

#### REPORTING

#### **Incident Reporting**

6. The Proponent shall notify the Director-General and any other relevant agencies of any incident that has caused, or has the potential to cause, significant risk of material harm to the environment, at the earliest opportunity. For any other incident associated with the project, the Proponent shall notify the Director-General and any other relevant agencies as soon as practicable after the Proponent becomes aware of the incident. Within 7 days of the date of the incident, the Proponent shall provide the Director-General and any relevant agencies with a detailed report on the incident, and such further reports as may be requested.

#### **Regular Reporting**

7. The Proponent shall provide regular reporting on the environmental performance of the project on its website, in accordance with the reporting arrangements in any plans or programs approved under the conditions of this approval.

## INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

- 8. By the end of June 2013 (or other such timing as agreed by the Director-General), and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Director-General directs otherwise, the Proponent shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the project. This audit must:
  - (a) be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Director-General;
  - (b) include consultation with the relevant agencies;
  - (c) assess the environmental performance of the project and assess whether it is complying with the requirements in this approval and any relevant EPL or Mining Lease (including any assessment, plan or program required under these approvals);
  - (d) review the adequacy of strategies, plans or programs required under the abovementioned approvals; and
  - (e) recommend measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the project, and/or any strategy, plan or program required under these approvals.

Note: This audit team must be led by a suitably qualified auditor and include experts in any field specified by the Director-General.

9. Within 6 weeks of the completion of this audit, or as otherwise agreed by the Director-General, the Proponent shall submit a copy of the audit report to the Director-General, together with its response to any recommendations contained in the audit report.

# ACCESS TO INFORMATION

(a)

- 10. From the end of December 2011, the Proponent shall:
  - make copies of the following publicly available on its website:
    - the EA;
    - all current statutory approvals for the project;
    - approved strategies, plans and programs required under the conditions of this approval;
    - a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the project, which have been reported in accordance with the various plans and programs approved under the conditions of this approval;
    - a complaints register, which is to be updated on a monthly basis;
    - minutes of CCC meetings;
    - the annual reviews of the project;
    - any independent environmental audit, and the Proponent's response to the recommendations in any audit;
    - any other matter required by the Director-General; and
  - (b) keep this information up-to-date,

to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

# APPENDIX 1: SCHEDULE OF LAND

Property ID / Lot		a life and
Number	DP Number	Owner
Wongawilli - ML1596	5	
Lot 1	321054	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 1	44325	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 1	212322	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 1	216373	Sydney Water
Lot 2	216373	Sydney Water
Lot 3	216373	Lexosu Pty Ltd
Lot 1	255284	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 2	255284	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 3	255284	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 4	255284	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 5	255284	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 6	255284	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 7	255284	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 14	255284	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 8	255585	Krishnaswamy & Uma Ramasamy
Lot 12	255285	Endeavour Coal Pty Ltd
Lot 1	383829	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 14	751278	DECCW (National park)
Lot 16	751278	DECCW (National park)
Lot 171	751278	DECCW (National park)
Lot 196	751278	Sydney Catchment Authority
Part Lot 217	751278	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 219	751278	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 220	751278	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 221	751278	Sydney Catchment Authority
Part Lot 275	751278	Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd
Lot 295	751278	Springhill Farm Company Pty Ltd
Lot 281	751278	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 282	751278	DECCW (National park)
Lot 298	751278	DECCW (National park)
Lot 303	751278	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 304	751278	Sydney Catchment Authority
		Barbara Elaine Marshall, Katrina Jane
Lot 2	986776	Marshall, Kim Michele Marshall
		Barbara Elaine Marshall, Katrina Jane
Part Lot 1	986776	Marshall, Kim Michele Marshall
Part Lot 1	1001210	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 1	1001212	Sydney Catchment Authority

Property ID / Lot Number	DP Number	Owner
Lot 1	1001213	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 1	1006994	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 301	1087464	Sydney Catchment Authority
		Lawrence John Lawson & Dawn Mary
Lot 1	1033422	Lawson
Part Lot 1	1103666	Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd
Part Lot 3	1103666	Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd
Part Lot 1	1103781	Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd
Lot 2	1103781	Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd
Lot 3	1103781	Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd
Part Lot 18	1111734	Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd
Lot 422	1123956	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 423	1123956	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 424	1123956	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 425	1123956	Gujarat NRE FCGL Pty Ltd
Lot 19	1131362	Sydney Catchment Authority
Lot 1	1132869	The Minister for Public Works
Avondale - ML1565		
Lot 41	751263	Sherwood Hannington
Lot 42	751263	Gerard Kevin McCue
Part Lot 43	751263	Edward Roy Vergan & Kim Pamela Vergan
		Jason Bernard Voorwinden & Esther Olive
Lot 111	751263	Voorwinden
Part Lot 140	751277	Sydney Catchment Authority
Part Lot 181	751277	Sydney Catchment Authority
CCL 766	10	
Par Lot 27	3083	HTT Huntley Heritage Pty Ltd
Part Lot 111	585959	Craig Duren
Lot 2	751263	The Council of the City of Wollongong Angelo Vincenzo Di Martino & Sally
Part Lot 40	751263	Elizabeth Di Martino
Lot 49	751263	HTT Huntley Heritage Pty Ltd
Part Lot 55	751263	HTT Huntley Heritage Pty Ltd
Part Lot 3	852180	Caroline Joan Forbes
Lot 10	867347	HTT Huntley Heritage Pty Ltd
Across all leases		
Lot 32	1138149	Sydney Catchment Authority

# APPENDIX 2: PROJECT LAYOUT PLANS







# APPENDIX 3: STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS

Outcome	Commitment	Timing
Statutory Requirements		
Compliance with all conditional requirements in all approvals, licenses and leases.	<ul> <li>The development will be carried out as outlined in:</li> <li>this Environmental Assessment Report (EA);</li> <li>Project Approval;</li> <li>Environment Protection License;</li> <li>Subsidence Management Plans (SMPs);</li> <li>Mining Lease(s); and</li> <li>any other approvals, licenses or leases.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
All operations conducted in accordance with all relevant documentation.	<ul> <li>Undertake all activities in accordance with the accepted Mining Operations Plan; environmental procedures; safety management plan and/or site-specific documentation in force at that time.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
Stakeholder Consultation		
Effective communication/ consultation is undertaken throughout the life of the Project.	<ul> <li>NRE will conduct regular community liaison meetings and provide regular updates to the community during operation of the Project.</li> </ul>	At regular intervals of not less than three times a year
Land Use and Resource Manag	ement	
Maintaining the integrity of surrounding resources.	<ul> <li>A Bushfire Management Plan will be developed with mitigation measures for bush fire impacts including the following:</li> <li>slashing, landscaping and vegetation management to manage fuel;</li> <li>maintenance of fire breaks;</li> <li>ongoing communication with the NSW Rural Fire Service; and</li> <li>site fire fighting equipment and emergency response procedures.</li> </ul>	Within 6 months of approval
Subsidence		
Potential adverse impacts from subsidence are	<ul> <li>Ground movements will be monitored as mining occurs, to measure the extent to which the actual movements may differ from those predicted. Any unacceptable impacts can be addressed and appropriate remedial measures implemented, as required.</li> </ul>	During secondary extraction
manageu, monuoreu anu remediated where necessary.	• NRE will liaise with SCA, other regulatory authorities, and owners of infrastructure to ensure that the impacts of subsidence are managed to an acceptable standard.	During secondary extraction

Outcome	Commitment	Timing
	<ul> <li>An Extraction Plan will be developed prior to secondary extraction which will detail the monitoring measures to be implemented to manage subsidence impacts and their consequences on both natural and man made features in the Nebo area. The plan will include details of:</li> <li>appropriate triggers and monitoring systems to demonstrate how management strategies have been achieved and where improvements can be made;</li> <li>adaptive management processes for continually detecting impacts and validating predictions;</li> <li>contingency planning for any unpredicted impacts; and</li> <li>remediation of unpredicted impacts.</li> </ul>	Prior to secondary extraction
	Powerlines and other man made surface features will be subject to specific management plans developed in consultation with infrastructure owners.	Prior to, during and after secondary extraction
Surface Water		
Mining operations are managed such that adverse	Provided initial assessments indicate that the flow regimes allow for the collection of meaningful data, additional monitoring sites will be established in the upper reaches of Little Wattle Tree Creek and Wattle Creek.	Prior to secondary extraction
impacts to surface water are prevented or minimised.	<ul> <li>A baseline data report, documenting the existing environment will be submitted one month prior to secondary extraction in the Nebo area. The baseline monitoring report will include two years worth of data. Secondary extraction will not commence prior to all data being collected.</li> </ul>	Prior to secondary extraction
	<ul> <li>A Surface Water Management Plan will be prepared as detailed in <i>Section 10.6.1</i> of the EA and updated by the following. The Plan will include:</li> <li>a monitoring program including monthly monitoring conducted prior to, during and for a period of two years post mining;</li> <li>a Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP). Triggers will be determined using baseline data prior to mining, based on ANZECC guidelines.; and</li> <li>notification and reporting requirements including reporting exceedances of trigger levels within one week to NOW.</li> </ul>	Prior to secondary extraction, within three months of approval
	The following SCA performance measures will be adhered to:     Cordeaux Dam Wall - zero impact;     Theore Condonicy No. 1 and No. 2 Dam Walls and survised back	Ongoing
	<ul> <li>Opper Correction No.1 and No.2 Dam Waits - safe, service and repairable;</li> <li>fire trails - safe, serviceable and repairable;</li> <li>eatchment yield - negligible reduction in water quality and quantity;</li> <li>Avon, Cordeaux, Upper Cordeaux No.1 and Upper Cordeaux No.2 Reservoirs - negligible leaking and reduction in water quality; and</li> <li>Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek - negligible environmental consequences,</li> </ul>	

Outcome	Commitment	Timing
	Photographic records of site conditions, including bed and banks will be undertaken for Wattle Creek     and Little Wattle Tree Creek.	Prior to and after secondary extraction
	Visual monitoring of bank stability, bedload movement and riparian vegetation in Wattle Creek and Little Wattle Tree Creek.	Prior to and after secondary extraction
	Mine inflows will be monitored as part of the Extraction Plan	During secondary extraction
	Rainfall will be monitored daily for the duration of mining using a rainfall gauge at the NRE Wongawilli Pit Top	During secondary extraction
	An end of extraction report will be prepared for each panel, which summarises the results of all monitoring over the period.	After the mining of each panel
	• All results will be reviewed one year after each panel has been completed and the monitoring and remediation program will be updated and amended if required.	One year after secondary extraction
	<ul> <li>Contingency plans will be developed where the actual impact exceeds the predicted impact on significant natural features. Possible mitigation measures to reduce the potential impacts of subsidence on significant features will be undertaken if required</li> </ul>	Prior and during to secondary extraction
	<ul> <li>Remediation measures will be undertaken if required.</li> </ul>	If required
Coal handling operations are managed such that adverse impacts to surface water are prevented or minimised.	<ul> <li>A Pit Top Water Management Plan will be developed for the pit top including</li> <li>identification of significant water management features;</li> <li>volumes;</li> <li>volumes;</li> <li>extchment extents, including extent of clean, dirty and contaminated water on site;</li> <li>where water management can be improved; and</li> <li>consideration of water discharge impacts.</li> </ul>	Within 6 months
Groundwater		
Operations are managed such that adverse impacts to local and regional groundwater resources are prevented or minimised.	<ul> <li>A baseline data report, documenting the existing environment will be submitted one month prior to secondary extraction in the Nebo area. The baseline monitoring report will include two years worth of data.</li> </ul>	Prior to secondary extraction

Outcome	Commitment	Timing
	<ul> <li>A Groundwater Management Plan including a TARP will be prepared to provide guidance on the procedures and actions required to manage potential impacts on the groundwater systems in the Nebo area. Trigger levels will be determined using baseline data prior to mining, based on ANZECC guidelines. The Plan will include a monitoring program of monthly sampling conducted prior to, during and for a period of two years post mining.</li> <li>Groundwater modelling will be reviewed annually (unless triggered by an exceedance).</li> </ul>	Prior to and during secondary extraction
	<ul> <li>Contingency procedures will be developed as required, to manage any impacts identified by monitoring. Activation of contingency procedures will be linked to the assessment of monitoring results, including water quality, aquifer hydrostatic pressure levels and the rate of water level changes. Performance indicators will be identified prior to extraction of the proposed workings.</li> </ul>	If required
	<ul> <li>Following completion of extraction of each panel, a report will be prepared for all prior panels that summarises all relevant monitoring to date. The report will outline any changes in the groundwater system over the relevant mining area. And include an interpretation of the data along with:         <ul> <li>a basic statistical analysis of the results for the parameters measured;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	At the end of each panel
	<ul> <li>an interpretation of water quality and standing water level changes; and</li> <li>an interpretation and review of the results in relation to the impact assessment criteria.</li> </ul>	
Air Quality		
Operations are managed to	Water sprays will continue to be used on exposed areas to minimise dust as needs	Continuous
minimise potential adverse	A high volume dust sampler will be installed in the vicinity of Receptor 1.	Prior to secondary extraction
impacts to the environment,	Protocol to prevent overfilling of rail wagons is to be adhered to at all times	Continuous
residences and the	Subject to monitoring results, additional mitigation measures will be investigated if required.	Within 12 months
community.	Dust deposition gauges will be installed along the rail line.	Within 6 months of approval
Greenhouse Gasses		
Manage operations such that	• Energy audits will be held when practicable to ensure that the mine is using current practice techniques to minimise energy use and is operating at optimum energy levels.	Continuous and as required
the environment are	<ul> <li>Site management will ensure that equipment is maintained to retain high levels of energy efficiency and replaced with energy efficient equipment as required.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
minimised.	The inventory of emissions developed for this assessment will be maintained.	Continuous and as required
	• Emissions and abatement strategies will be reported annually as part of internal environmental reporting and National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System obligations.	Continuous and as required

Outcome	Commitment	Timing
Acoustics		
Operations are managed to minimise notential adverse	• If required as an outcome of the noise monitoring program, acoustic treatment of front end loaders and other stockpile machinery will be undertaken to achieve a sound power level of 103 dBA or less.	Within six months of approval
impacts on the environment,	• If required as an outcome of the noise monitoring program, noise mitigation options for the coal conveyor system and coal bins will be investigated.	Within six months of approval
residences and the community.	<ul> <li>Implementation of low noise equipment that is correctly maintained to the manufacturer's specification, including the conveyor systems, transfer stations and coal bins.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
	<ul> <li>All on-site, fixed and mobile diesel powered plant, excluding road vehicles, will be correctly fitted and maintained to the manufacturer's specifications. Particular attention will be given to engine exhaust systems and the care and maintenance of mufflers.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
	<ul> <li>Adoption of best practice methods and training of staff as required in regards to minimising noise impacts will be implemented.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
Managing residual noise impact on nearby residences.	<ul> <li>An operational Noise Management Plan (NMP) will be developed to specifically address potential noise impacts associated with the proposed operations during the evening and night time periods. This NMP will be used to manage the noise impacts at affected receivers in Wongawilli Village and Horsley in RA1 and RA2. The NMP will outline methods and procedures to manage the following;</li> <li>results of the regular noise monitoring program on-site and within the surrounding area;</li> <li>response to any complaints or issues raised by the owner of the affected residence; and</li> <li>noise mitigation measures and operating procedures to achieve compliance with noise goals.</li> </ul>	Within 12 months of approval and continuous and as required
	<ul> <li>An operational noise monitoring program will be developed to monitor noise emissions from the proposed operations to determine ongoing compliance with PSNLs and to identify any further feasible noise mitigation measures that can be implemented.</li> <li>The monitoring program will be implemented during evening and night time periods with the objective of confirming the acoustic performance of the proposed operations.</li> </ul>	Within 12 months of approval and continuous and as required
	• If following monitoring, further mitigation is required, noise mitigation will be implemented along the appropriate portions of railway track.	If required
Aquatic Ecology		
Operations are managed such that adverse impacts to native flora and fauna are	<ul> <li>Provided initial assessments indicate that the flow regimes allow for the collection of meaningful data, eight new aquatic ecology impact monitoring sites will be established in the Nebo area, three on Little Wattle Tree Creek and five on Wattle Creek with three control sites. The site establishment and first</li> </ul>	Prior to secondary extraction
prevented or minimised.	monitoring run will be undertaken in Autumn 2011 with monitoring continuing twice a year during Autumn and Spring.	

Outcome	Commitment	Timing
Acoustics		
Operations are managed to minimise notential adverse	• If required as an outcome of the noise monitoring program, acoustic treatment of front end loaders and other stockpile machinery will be undertaken to achieve a sound power level of 103 dBA or less.	Within six months of approval
impacts on the environment,	• If required as an outcome of the noise monitoring program, noise mitigation options for the coal conveyor system and coal bins will be investigated.	Within six months of approval
residences and the community.	<ul> <li>Implementation of low noise equipment that is correctly maintained to the manufacturer's specification, including the conveyor systems, transfer stations and coal bins.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
	<ul> <li>All on-site, fixed and mobile diesel powered plant, excluding road vehicles, will be correctly fitted and maintained to the manufacturer's specifications. Particular attention will be given to engine exhaust systems and the care and maintenance of mulfilers.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
	<ul> <li>Adoption of best practice methods and training of staff as required in regards to minimising noise impacts will be implemented.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
Managing residual noise impact on nearby residences.	<ul> <li>An operational Noise Management Plan (NMP) will be developed to specifically address potential noise impacts associated with the proposed operations during the evening and night time periods. This NMP will be used to manage the noise impacts at affected receivers in Wongawilli Village and Horsley in RA1 and RA2. The NMP will outline methods and procedures to manage the following;</li> <li>results of the regular noise monitoring program on-site and within the surrounding area;</li> <li>response to any complaints or issues raised by the owner of the affected residence; and</li> <li>noise mitigation measures and operating procedures to achieve compliance with noise goals.</li> </ul>	Within 12 months of approval and continuous and as required
	<ul> <li>An operational noise monitoring program will be developed to monitor noise emissions from the proposed operations to determine ongoing compliance with PSNLs and to identify any further feasible noise mitigation measures that can be implemented.</li> <li>The monitoring program will be implemented during evening and night time periods with the objective of confirming the acoustic performance of the proposed operations.</li> </ul>	Within 12 months of approval and continuous and as required
	• If following monitoring, further mitigation is required, noise mitigation will be implemented along the appropriate portions of railway track.	lf required
Aquatic Ecology		
Operations are managed such that adverse impacts to native flora and fauna are prevented or minimised.	<ul> <li>Provided initial assessments indicate that the flow regimes allow for the collection of meaningful data, eight new aquatic ecology impact monitoring sites will be established in the Nebo area, three on Little Wattle Tree Creek and five on Wattle Creek with three control sites. The site establishment and first monitoring run will be undertaken in Autumn 2011 with monitoring continuing twice a year during Autumn and Spring.</li> </ul>	Prior to secondary extraction
Terrestrial Ecology		
Operations are managed such that adverse impacts to native flora and fauna are	<ul> <li>Monitoring will be undertaken post mining, including surveys of the upland swamps and riparian zones to ascertain any impacts resulting from mining.</li> </ul>	Post secondary extraction
prevented or minimised.		

Outcome	Commitment	Timing
Non-Aboriginal Heritage		
Operations are managed such that adverse impacts to significant heritage items are avoided or minimised.	• To preserve and enhance the heritage values of the site, NRE will create greater awareness amongst staff of the significance of the heritage items at the Wongawilli pit top and how day to day activities may impact on these items. An education program will be created and implemented via the MOP, NRE will develop a Conservation Management Plan.	Within 6 months of approval, Continuous and as required
Traffic and Transport Operations are managed to ensure minimal impacts on the local road network.	<ul> <li>Current traffic and transport management measures will continue to ensure impacts on local road users from NRE Wongawilli Colliery are minimised. These measures include strict adherence to Council restrictions such as speed limits as well as other safety or warning requirements.</li> </ul>	Continuous and as required
Waste		
Avoidance of unnecessary	• All waste material will be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i> and the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC, 2008).	Continuous
reprocessing, recycling and	Waste will be reused and recycled where possible or disposed of at an appropriately licensed waste disposal facility.	Continuous
energy recovery wherever possible and, where this is not possible, disposal of	Onsite storage and disposal of different categories of waste will be defined. A sufficient number of covered storage bins will be provided for waste disposal on site, with separate bins for recyclable and non-recyclable waste.	Continuous
wastes in an environmentally responsible manner.	<ul> <li>All records will be retained as proof of correct disposal for environmental audit purposes.</li> </ul>	Continuous
Rehabilitation		
Progressive rehabilitation of mine access and disused portals	The Rehabilitation Plan will be developed, presented and undertaken in accordance with a REMP to the satisfaction of IIN	Continuous and as required
Restoration of disturbed	All mine entries surplus to operational requirements will be progressively sealed and rehabilitated.	Within seven years
areas with a vegetation cover similar in nature to that of the surrounding bushland	Progressive rehabilitation of all other disused areas and infrastructure will be undertaken where possible.	Continuous and as required

# APPENDIX 4: RECEIVER LOCATION PLAN





# ATTACHMENT D

**Plans** 







	1	2	3
	SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY - M	etropolitan Catchment Authority Area	
A	ML 1596 - MINING AUT LEASEHOLD TITLE - LONGWALL N1,	N2, N3, N4, N5 & N6 EXTRACTION AREAS	PLAN 5
	LEASE No. ACT	PORTIONS         PARISH         RIGHTS           15, 19, 33         70, 73, 194         195, 196, 197	LEASEHOLD COAL
	583 COAL ACQUISITION (T.P.) REGULATION 1982	195, 196, 197         198, 199, 200       MINES BEDS, VEINS A         213, 215, 217       SEAMS OF COAL ONLY         218, 219, 221       200	ND ENDERSEMENTS:
	583 COAL ACQUISITION (T.P.) REGULATION 1982	281, 283, 301 303, 304 23, 68, 275 KEMBLA COAL BELOW 100m	REBU CULLIERY WURKINGS DIGITISED FRUM LAND TITLE INFORMATION DIGITISED FROM NEBO COLLIERY ISG MINE PLANS (RT
	238 COAL MINING ACT 1973 1382 CROWN LAND MINING ACT 1906	214(D994)KEMBLACOAL BELOW 75mML55KEMBLACOAL BELOW 75m	CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY CERTI
B	623 CREWN LAND MINING ACT 1906 216 CEAL MINING ACT 1973 D4	ML13 WONGAWILLI & COAL BELOW 60.96 DENDROBIUM 614 (INCL 2) DENDROBIUM COAL BELOW 100m	S. March P. C. REGISTERED MINING SURVEYOR MANAGER
	D4614		NDTE:- ND KNDWN DEVELOPMENT CO
	N6190000		
	N6190000		
			NC BOUNDA
		-DY H	OLDING
		COLLERI	
	ML 13	Г NЛ 15	306 <sup>2</sup>
			<b>JJJJ</b>
D			
	B ANDAR		
	N6189000		
E			
   F	PARICIPA		
	KARSHOF		
G			
H			
	REV DESCR	RIPTION	DATE DRN CKD REV
	1	2	3






# ATTACHMENT E

**Consultation Documentation and Correspondence** 

# **Chris McEvoy**

From:	COX, RODNEY < RODNEY.COX@sydneywater.com.au>
Sent:	Tuesday, 27 March 2012 9:10 AM
То:	Chris McEvoy
Cc:	Ben Samcou (ben.samcou@networksa.com.au) (ben.samcou@networksa.com.au); NAGARAJAN, SUDHAKAR; LAM, KIMSON
Subject:	RE: Monitoring and TARP's for Sydney Water's 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls
Attachments:	image001.png; image004.wmz; image005.gif

Hello Chris,

Thankyou for the information. I have asked for feedback from another person in our business however I believe that the proposed Monitoring & Management Summary will be acceptable, however it will need to be formalised in a signed off agreement which, amongst other things, identifies roles & responsibilities along with financial liabilities for repairs of any damage.

Do you have a copy of such an agreement that I can review.

# *Rod Cox* | Operations Contracts Team Leader

Operations Treatment | Sydney Water Prospect Treatment Office PO Box 3405, Wetherill Park NSW 2164 **T** 9688 0268 **M** 0428 867 528 rodney.cox@sydneywater.com.au

From: Chris McEvoy [mailto:cmcevoy@niche-eh.com]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 March 2012 9:45
To: COX, RODNEY
Cc: David Clarkson (dclarkson@gujaratnre.com.au)
Subject: Monitoring and TARP's for Sydney Water's 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls

Hi Rodney.

Thanks for confirming the Timber Poled 33kV Power line is owned by Sydney Water and managed by Veolia Water as I understand.

As discussed:

- 1. Wongawilli Colliery (NRE) has recently received Part 3A Approval for Continuing operations including extraction of Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 (following approval of an Extraction Plan).
- 2. Wongawilli Colliery is submitting an Extraction Plan to DoPI for Approval to extract Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 prior Christmas. (An Extraction Plan is similar to a Subsidence Management Plan or SMP). Extraction is planned to commence around June 2012 until July 2014.
- 3. We need to confirm what monitoring and TARP's Sydney Water prefer to have included in the Extraction Plan **RE the 33kv power line within the potential subsidence footprint, which cross directly above the north west corner of Longwall N2 and close to the south east corner of N6, that supplies power to the Avon pump station.**

Below I attach some suggested standard Monitoring Arrangements and TARP's (Trigger, Action, Response Plans) in red font for your consideration and discussion after you have reviewed the relevant information below. Could you please give me a call after you have reviewed this so we can finalise the Monitoring Arrangements and TARP's for these items. If you are OK with these we will proceed on this basis.

Below, I also attach a Plan of the layout, and extract of the relevant section of the Extraction Plan RE impacts on the powerlines.

### **Electrical Services- Impact Assessment**

There are two 33 kV power lines within the potential subsidence footprint, which cross directly above the north west corner of Longwall N2 and close to the south east corner of N6. One power line is owned by **Sydney Water** and supplies power to the Avon pump station. The other (Line 6-94) is owned by NRE and supplies power to the Nebo #4 Shaft of NRE Colliery.

The maximum predicted subsidence along these power lines is 40mm and the maximum tilt is 0.1 mm/m. The maximum tilt across the power lines is <0.1mm/m.

These predicted subsidence parameters are very small and the probability of impacts to the power lines is negligible. The power lines are supported on timber poles, which are relatively straightforward to repair or adjust if required.

		Monitoring Commitments		TARPS		
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trigger	Respons	
33kV Transmission Lines (Owned by Sydney Water and NRE)	<ul> <li>Observation of tower condition</li> <li>Survey measurement for later comparison</li> <li>Once before mining</li> </ul>	Fortnightly observation of tower condition	<ul> <li>Observation of tower condition</li> <li>Survey measurement once following mining</li> </ul>	Observation of unsafe tower conditions as noted by NRE	<ul> <li>Rep own</li> <li>Doci</li> <li>NRE</li> <li>nece</li> <li>with</li> <li>Line</li> </ul>	

### Monitoring and Management Summary



#### Many Thanks

Regards

Chris



Chris McEvoy (B. Env. Sci., Dip. Ed.) Senior Environmental Scientist

PO Box 12, Macarthur Square, NSW 2560 cmcevoy@niche-eh.com **Web:** www.niche-eh.com **Mob:** 0407 060 163 **Fax:** 02 4017 0071

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# **Chris McEvoy**

From: Sent:	Ravi Sundaram <ravi.sundaram@sca.nsw.gov.au> Thursday, 16 February 2012 3:27 PM</ravi.sundaram@sca.nsw.gov.au>
To:	Chris McEvov
Cc:	Giria Sharma: Ross Wallis: Jerzy Jankowski: Maria Dubikova
Subject:	RE: Nebo Extraction Plan Monitoring and TARP's - Request for SCA Feedback
Attachments:	image003.wmz; image005.gif; image006.png

#### Chris

Illawarra Coal Dendrobium Mine worked with SCA and other government agencies recently in revising the TARPs for water, swamp and landscape features with regards to Dendrobium Area 3A and 3B SMPs. I suggest that you contact Gary Brassington at Illawarra Coal and see if you can get a copy of these TARP tables and consider them in developing the TARP trigger values, criteria and action plans for the Nebo Extraction Plan where relevant. I have suggested below triggers for water quality pH and Groundwater level based on the Dendrobium example. It is important to develop TARPs for water flow/level in pools and some other water quality parameters like EC.

The Built Features Monitoring and Management is ok with regards to SCA infrastructure and I understand you have already consulted Marlo Vergara at the SCA regarding this.

The SCA has the following comments relating mostly more specifically to the Water Management Plan sub-section:

- 1. 'End of Panel' reports should be provided to agencies within 2 months of completion of the longwall (rather than 4 as stated on page 29-30) to assist revising triggers, responses and management measures for mining of subsequent panels.
- 2. Please clarify whether the subsidence monitoring location NM2 will monitor subsidence impacts on Wattle Creek (page 34).
- 3. Piezometer locations 1A and 2A and WW11, WW20B for groundwater monitoring referred in text on page 51 and monitoring sites 1S, 1D, 2S and 2D referred in Tables 7.8 and 7.10 are not shown in Figure 7.2. Similarly depth of these groundwater monitoring bores has not been provided in the extraction plan.
- 4. Trigger Action Response for surface water pH has been set to 4.5 (page 57) which appears to be low and falls within very acidic range. Given that the baseline pH of surface water has been monitored to be in the range of 5.5 to 7.5 (pages 48 & 49), the trigger action response for surface water pH should be set as follows: Temporary reduction in water quality observed for 2 consecutive months at any site when comparing to the baseline period to mining period for that site, i.e.:

Within Prediction (Level 1): pH drop of between 1 and 1.5 units from the baseline value

Within prediction (Level 2): pH drop between 1.5 and 2 units from the minimum baseline value Reduction in water quality observed for more than 2 consecutive months at any site when comparing to the baseline period to mining period for that site, i.e.:

pH drop of > 2 units from the minimum baseline value.

- 5. Triggers for other surface water monitoring parameters like EC have not been specified in the extraction plan.
- 6. Trigger Action Response for groundwater pH has been set to 4.5 (page 62) and appears to be very low. Given that the baseline pH of groundwater has been monitored to be in the range of 7.6 to 10.0 (page 54), the trigger action response for groundwater pH should be set in a similar manner as for surface water suggested above. Similarly trigger values for conductivity, nitrogen and phosphorus appears to be optimistic and need to be revised.
- 7. Groundwater level changes with rainfall and therefore the SCA recommends the triggers for these be set as follows:

Within Prediction (Level 1) – Temporary (i.e. effect not persisting after significant groundwater recharge rainfall events) reduction in groundwater level at one site beyond variability determined in baseline monitoring due to rainfall

- Within Prediction (Level 2) Temporary (i.e. effect not persisting after significant groundwater recharge rainfall events) reduction in groundwater level at majority of sites beyond variability determined in baseline monitoring due to rainfall
   Exceeding predicted impact criteria Long term (i.e. effect persisting after significant groundwater recharge events) reduction in groundwater level at majority of sites beyond variability determined
  - in baseline monitoring due to rainfall.
- 8. The Contingency Plan does not contain details of all relevant procedures, specifications and actions and responsibilities for implementation of the actions.

Please call if you wish to discuss.

Regards.

Ravi

From: Chris McEvoy [mailto:cmcevoy@niche-eh.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 January 2012 11:03 AM
To: Malcolm Hughes; Ravi Sundaram
Cc: Marlo Vergara; David Clarkson (dclarkson@gujaratnre.com.au); Chris Irving (cirving@gujaratnre.com.au)
Subject: FW: Nebo Extraction Plan Monitoring and TARP's - Request for SCA Feedback

### Good morning Malcolm and Ravi.

I have been liaising with Marlo Vergara RE the Nebo Extraction Plan Monitoring and TARP's for Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls (refer below).

Marlo suggested I also send this to you for any comment you may have in relation to other issues, prior to us sending the Extraction Plan to DoPI for assessment/approval. I assume most comments would have been addressed during the Part 3A Project Assessment process.

Please find the Draft Extraction Plan attached FYI. Any comments would be appreciated as soon as practical. The doc is in word so track changes/comments may be inserted if you wish.

I will send the MSEC report following this in case you need the drawings to refer to.

Regards

Chris



Chris McEvoy (B. Env. Sci., Dip. Ed.) Senior Environmental Scientist

PO Box 12, Macarthur Square, NSW 2560 cmcevoy@niche-eh.com **Web:** www.niche-eh.com **Mob:** 0407 060 163 **Fax:** 02 4017 0071 From: Chris McEvoy
Sent: Tuesday, 13 December 2011 9:55 PM
To: 'marlo.vergara@sca.nsw.gov.au'
Cc: 'malcolm.hughes@sca.nsw.gov.au'; David Clarkson (dclarkson@gujaratnre.com.au)
Subject: Nebo Extraction Plan Monitoring and TARP's for Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls-Request for SCA Feedback

Hi Marlo.

Thanks for your time on the Phone today. As discussed:

- 1. Wongawilli Colliery (NRE) has recently received Part 3A Approval for Continuing operations including extraction of Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 (following approval of an Extraction Plan).
- 2. Wongawilli Colliery is submitting an Extraction Plan to DoPl for Approval to extract Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 prior Christmas. (An Extraction Plan is similar to a Subsidence Management Plan or SMP). Extraction is planned to commence around June 2012 until July 2014.
- 3. A small portion of Longwall N3 lies within the Dam Safety Committee's Cordeaux Notification Area, so Wongawilli Colliery also require DSC approval to mine Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 (refer attached letter from DSC).
- 4. MSEC predicted there will be no impacts on the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls
- 5. We approached the DSC to determine what monitoring and TARP's they prefer to have included in the Extraction Plan RE the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls.

Bill Ziegler, Executive Engineer at the DSC, advised us today that:

- 1. The groundwater monitoring program outlined in the Extraction Plan would probably suffice to meet most of the DSC's concerns and that any data gaps would be identified as they process the application for DSC approval.
- 2. In terms of monitoring dam walls, DSC suggested I contact you (the SCA) and negotiate suitable monitoring and Trigger, Action, Response, Plans (TARPs) for inclusion in the Extraction Plan.
- Bill indicated he thought SCA either conducts (or conducted) subsidence monitoring on these dam walls (Can you pls confirm if this is the case) and that Wongawilli Colliery could perhaps either use this monitoring data and if appropriate contribute to additional subsidence monitoring on the dam walls as agreed with SCA.

Below I attach some Draft Monitoring Arrangements and TARP's (in red font) for your consideration and discussion after you have reviewed the relevant information below. Could you please give me a call after you have reviewed this so we can finalise the Monitoring Arrangements and TARP's for these items. Once we finalise the Extraction Plan, we will send the document to the SCA (expected next week).

Below, I also attach a Plan of the layout, and extract of the relevant section of the Extraction Plan Referring to the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls.

If you would also like a hard copy of the Part 3A Application with all technical reports, let me know.

Table 5.1	<b>Built Features</b>	Monitoring an	nd Management	Summary
		0	0	<b>,</b>

		Monitoring Commitments	TARF			
Feature	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	iture Trigger		
Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam Walls	Visual inspection by SCA prior to mining	Visual inspection by SCA during mining	Visual inspection by SCA up to 1 year	Observed cra or compromis	cking 🗖 Notif sed_stru DoP	
SCA Inspections and	Annual subsidence surveys along Upper	<ul> <li>Bi-Annual subsidence surveys</li> </ul>	<ul><li>post mining</li><li>Annual subsidence</li></ul>	ctural integrity dam walls	of the  Make	

subsidence monitoring	Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls prior to mining	along Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls during mining		surveys along Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls up to 1 year post mining	Measurable subsidence impacts during or after the mining	inclu Prop upor Com from Addi SCA
33kV Transmission Lines (Owned by Integral and NRE)	Observation of tower condition Survey measurement for later comparison Once before mining	Fortnightly observation of tower condition		Observation of tower condition Survey measurement once following mining	Observation of unsafe tower conditions as noted by (the owner and operator of the transmission line who are responsible for observational monitoring)	Repo and Docu Infra reme
Fire Roads and 4WD Tracks (Fortnightly visual inspection)	Observation of road condition once prior to mining Reported in End of panel reports and AEMR	Fortnightly observation of roads, tracks and area within 10m of roads/tracks	-	Monthly observation of roads, tracks and area within 10m of roads/tracks for 6 months post mining reported in End of panel reports and AEMR	Minor cracking on roads and tracks (<10mm) Major cracking (>10mm) or traffic impedance	Notif phot DoP Make inclu Prop upor Com from Addi SCA



### Upper Cordeaux No.1 and No.2 Reservoir (MSEC 2010)

The distance from the upstream end of the nearest of these dams, that is, the waters of the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 Reservoir, to the nearest proposed longwall is approximately 660 metres from Longwall N3. The Upper Cordeaux No. 1 dam wall is approximately 820 metres from Longwall N3.

The distance from the upstream end of the reservoir of the Upper Cordeaux No. 2 Reservoir, to the nearest proposed longwall is approximately 440 metres from Longwall N3. The Upper Cordeaux No. 2 dam wall is approximately 1.4 kilometres, from Longwall N4.

These are well outside the predicted 20 mm subsidence contour, resulting from the extraction of the proposed longwalls.

Hence, it is unlikely that the proposed extraction of the NRE Longwalls N1 to N6 will cause measurable ground movements at and around the Upper Cordeaux No.1 Dam Wall and the Upper Cordeaux No.2 Dam Wall. It would be unlikely, therefore, that the reservoir would experience any significant systematic subsidence impacts, resulting from the extraction of the proposed longwalls, even if the predictions were increased by factors of 1.25 to 2 times (MSEC 2010).

The Dam safety Committee (DSC) has defined Notification Areas around all prescribed dams and storages, which it considers may be affected by mining. Prior to the commencement of mining within a Notification Area, mining

companies must receive the consent of the Minister administering the Mining Act. The DSC advises the Minister on the extent and type of mining to be permitted and on any special conditions which should apply. The north eastern corner of LWN3 falls within the Cordeaux Notification Area and therefore the DSC have been consulted during the mine approval process for the Nebo area.

Many thanks

Regards

Chris



Chris McEvoy (B. Env. Sci., Dip. Ed.) Senior Environmental Scientist

PO Box 12, Macarthur Square, NSW 2560 cmcevoy@niche-eh.com **Web:** www.niche-eh.com **Mob:** 0407 060 163 **Fax:** 02 4017 0071

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# **Chris McEvoy**

From:	Marlo Vergara <marlo.vergara@sca.nsw.gov.au></marlo.vergara@sca.nsw.gov.au>
Sent:	Thursday, 22 December 2011 10:13 AM
То:	Chris McEvoy
Cc:	David Clarkson (dclarkson@gujaratnre.com.au)
Subject:	RE: Nebo Extraction Plan Monitoring and TARP's for Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls- Request for SCA Feedback
Attachments:	image003.png; image004.wmz; image005.gif

Hi Chris,

The Part 3A approval specifies the following as the performance measure for the dams – **always safe and serviceable** and **damage that does not affect safety, or serviceability must be fully repairable, and must be fully repaired** (defined as:– safe means no danger to users who are present, serviceable means available for its intended use and repairable means damaged components can be repaired economically). The Part 3A approval requires extraction plans which include a Built Features Management Plan – and this subplan must be prepared in consultation with owners of such features to manage the potential impacts and consequences of subsidence.

For subsidence monitoring, frequency of survey will depend on the location of the longwall being extracted and the face position, magnitude of movement, trigger levels, visual impact. SCA undertakes dam and ground (immediately around the dam structure) movement monitoring. SCA also monitors cracks on the dam wall and crest. I assume the mining company undertakes a program of ground or surface deformation surveys.

The SCA therefore requires to review the mining company's **Built Features Management Plan** or **Asset Protection Plan (APP)** that includes a Cordeaux Dam Notification Area Management Plan and the following sub-plans: subsidence monitoring management plan, inrush management plan and mine closure plan and contingency plan. The SCA needs to ensure that its requirements for the performance measure for the dams are being met.

Regards. Marlo

#### Marlo Vergara | Senior Manager

Mining & Specialist Services | Assets and Major Projects SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY | <u>www.sca.nsw.gov.au</u> Level 4, 2-6 Station Street PENRITH NSW 2750 | PO Box 323 PENRITH NSW 2751 T: 02 4724 2378 | F: 02 4725 2594 | M: 0425 212 542 | E: <u>Marlo.Vergara@sca.nsw.gov.au</u>



Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Chris McEvoy [mailto:cmcevoy@niche-eh.com]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 December 2011 9:55 PM
To: Marlo Vergara
Cc: Malcolm Hughes; David Clarkson (dclarkson@gujaratnre.com.au)
Subject: Nebo Extraction Plan Monitoring and TARP's for Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls-Request for SCA Feedback

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- 3. A small portion of Longwall N3 lies within the Dam Safety Committee's Cordeaux Notification Area, so Wongawilli Colliery also require DSC approval to mine Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 (refer attached letter from DSC).
- 4. MSEC predicted there will be no impacts on the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls
- 5. We approached the DSC to determine what monitoring and TARP's they prefer to have included in the Extraction Plan RE the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls.

Bill Ziegler, Executive Engineer at the DSC, advised us today that:

- 1. The groundwater monitoring program outlined in the Extraction Plan would probably suffice to meet most of the DSC's concerns and that any data gaps would be identified as they process the application for DSC approval.
- 2. In terms of monitoring dam walls, DSC suggested I contact you (the SCA) and negotiate suitable monitoring and Trigger, Action, Response, Plans (TARPs) for inclusion in the Extraction Plan.
- Bill indicated he thought SCA either conducts (or conducted) subsidence monitoring on these dam walls (Can you pls confirm if this is the case) and that Wongawilli Colliery could perhaps either use this monitoring data and if appropriate contribute to additional subsidence monitoring on the dam walls as agreed with SCA.

Below I attach some Draft Monitoring Arrangements and TARP's (in red font) for your consideration and discussion after you have reviewed the relevant information below. Could you please give me a call after you have reviewed this so we can finalise the Monitoring Arrangements and TARP's for these items. Once we finalise the Extraction Plan, we will send the document to the SCA (expected next week).

Below, I also attach a Plan of the layout, and extract of the relevant section of the Extraction Plan Referring to the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Reservoirs and Dam walls.

If you would also like a hard copy of the Part 3A Application with all technical reports, let me know.

Table 5.1	Built Features	Monitoring	and Management	Summary
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			Мог	nitoring Commitments						TARPS	
Feature	Prior to Mining		Dui	During Mining		Post Mining and Future Monitoring		ger	Re	spons	
Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam Walls		Visual inspection by SCA prior to mining		Visual inspection by SCA during mining		Visual inspection by SCA up to 1 year		Observed cracking or compromised stru		Notif DoP	
SCA Inspections and subsidence monitoring		Annual subsidence surveys along Upper	Bi-Annual post mining subsidence     subsidence surveys     Annual subsidence			<ul><li>post mining</li><li>Annual subsidence</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Annual subsidence surveys along Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2</li> <li>Dam walls up to 1</li> </ul>		ctural integrity of the dam walls		Mak inclu
	Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls prior to mining		along Upper Cordeaux 1 and 2 Dam walls during			Measurable subsidence impacts during or after, the			Prop upor		
		mining		mining		year post mining		mining		Com from	
										Addi SCA	
33kV Transmission Lines		Observation of tower		Fortnightly		Observation of tower		Observation of unsafe		Repo	

(Owned by Integral and NRE)		condition Survey measurement for later comparison Once before mining		observation of tower condition	condition Survey measurement once following mining	tower conditions as noted by (the owner and operator of the transmission line who are responsible for observational monitoring)	and Docu Infra reme
Fire Roads and 4WD Tracks (Fortnightly visual		Observation of road condition once prior		Fortnightly observation of roads,	Monthly observation of roads, tracks and	Minor cracking on roads and tracks (<10mm)	Notif phote
inspection)		to mining Reported in End of panel reports and AEMR		tracks and area within 10m of roads/tracks	roads/tracks for 6 months post mining	Major cracking (>10mm) or traffic impedance	Notif DoP
					reported in End of panel reports and		Make inclu
					AEMR		Prop upor
							Com from
							Addi

SCA



Upper Cordeaux No.1 and No.2 Reservoir (MSEC 2010)

The distance from the upstream end of the nearest of these dams, that is, the waters of the Upper Cordeaux No. 1 Reservoir, to the nearest proposed longwall is approximately 660 metres from Longwall N3. The Upper Cordeaux No. 1 dam wall is approximately 820 metres from Longwall N3.

The distance from the upstream end of the reservoir of the Upper Cordeaux No. 2 Reservoir, to the nearest proposed longwall is approximately 440 metres from Longwall N3. The Upper Cordeaux No. 2 dam wall is approximately 1.4 kilometres, from Longwall N4.

These are well outside the predicted 20 mm subsidence contour, resulting from the extraction of the proposed longwalls.

Hence, it is unlikely that the proposed extraction of the NRE Longwalls N1 to N6 will cause measurable ground movements at and around the Upper Cordeaux No.1 Dam Wall and the Upper Cordeaux No.2 Dam Wall. It would be unlikely, therefore, that the reservoir would experience any significant systematic subsidence impacts, resulting from the extraction of the proposed longwalls, even if the predictions were increased by factors of 1.25 to 2 times (MSEC 2010).

The Dam safety Committee (DSC) has defined Notification Areas around all prescribed dams and storages, which it considers may be affected by mining. Prior to the commencement of mining within a Notification Area, mining companies must receive the consent of the Minister administering the Mining Act. The DSC advises the Minister on the extent and type of mining to be permitted and on any special conditions which should apply. The north eastern corner of LWN3 falls within the Cordeaux Notification Area and therefore the DSC have been consulted during the mine approval process for the Nebo area.

Many thanks

Regards

Chris



Chris McEvoy (B. Env. Sci., Dip. Ed.) Senior Environmental Scientist

PO Box 12, Macarthur Square, NSW 2560 cmcevoy@niche-eh.com **Web:** www.niche-eh.com **Mob:** 0407 060 163 **Fax:** 02 4017 0071

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# Chris McEvoy

From:	Marlo Vergara <marlo.vergara@sca.nsw.gov.au></marlo.vergara@sca.nsw.gov.au>
Sent:	Wednesday, 7 March 2012 4:02 PM
То:	Chris McEvoy
Cc:	David Clarkson (dclarkson@gujaratnre.com.au)
Subject:	RE: Monitoring and TARP's for 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls
Attachments:	image002.wmz; image003.gif; image004.png; image005.png; Monitoring
	Management Summary and Trigger Levels for Nebo LWs 1 to 6.docx

Chris,

Apologies for the delay.

Attached please find SCA Built Features Monitoring Management and TARPS.

Re-33kV: Have not yet received confirmation if it belongs to SCA. Will inform as soon as confirmation is received.

#### **Regards.**

Marlo Vergara | Senior Manager Mining & Specialist Services | Assets and Major Projects SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY | www.sca.nsw.gov.au Level 4, 2-6 Station Street PENRITH NSW 2750 | PO Box 323 PENRITH NSW 2751 T: 02 4724 2378 | F: 02 4725 2594 | M: 0425 212 542 | E: Marlo.Vergara@sca.nsw.gov.au



Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Chris McEvoy [mailto:cmcevoy@niche-eh.com] Sent: Tuesday, 6 March 2012 11:52 AM To: Marlo Vergara Cc: David Clarkson (dclarkson@gujaratnre.com.au) Subject: FW: Monitoring and TARP's for 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls

Hi Marlo.

Pls see the previous e-mail I sent (below) as just discussed. The MSEC dwg is attached.

Can you pls check if one of the 33kV feeders shown in the application area is a SCA asset-If it is, I assume you will need to review the monitoring and TARP's in the Extraction Plan accordingly.

As per the e-mail below, Endeavour Energy believe it serves the Avon Pump Station.

See the e-mail below.

This is super urgent, as is any comments you have on the Built Features Management Plan in the Draft Extraction Plan previously sent.

We have received the other comments from SCA. If we don't receive your comments by Friday we will have no choice but to submit the Plan to DoPI, as the future mining area will be delayed.

Regards

Chris



Chris McEvoy (B. Env. Sci., Dip. Ed.) Senior Environmental Scientist

PO Box 12, Macarthur Square, NSW 2560 cmcevoy@niche-eh.com Web: www.niche-eh.com Mob: 0407 060 163 Fax: 02 4017 0071

From: Chris McEvoy
Sent: Thursday, 9 February 2012 6:41 PM
To: marlo.vergara@sca.nsw.gov.au
Cc: Ravi Sundaram <ravi.sundaram@sca.nsw.gov.au> (ravi.sundaram@sca.nsw.gov.au)
Subject: FW: Monitoring and TARP's for 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls

Hi Marlo and Ravi.

We are having trouble identifying who owns one of the 33kV powerlines that runs over the Nebo area.

Endeavour has told us it is not theirs and NRE owns the other one (or soon will, it is an old BHP line).

Can you pls check if it is a SCA asset- if it is, I assume you will need to review the monitoring and TARP's in the Extraction Plan accordingly.

See correspondence below.

Will call to discuss tomorrow.

Regards

Chris



Chris McEvoy (B. Env. Sci., Dip. Ed.) Senior Environmental Scientist

PO Box 12, Macarthur Square, NSW 2560 cmcevoy@niche-eh.com **Web:** www.niche-eh.com **Mob:** 0407 060 163 **Fax:** 02 4017 0071

From: Andrew Michielin [mailto:Andrew.Michielin@endeavourenergy.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 3 February 2012 3:27 PM
To: Chris McEvoy
Subject: RE: Monitoring and TARP's for 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls

Chris,

On my screen the feeder is listed as Privately Owned, but given that it serves the Avon Pump Station, it would be more than likely be owned by the Sydney Water Board.

Hope that helps.

Regards,

Andrew Michielin Transmission Asset Engineer (South) P: (02) 4252 2616 M: 0478 304135 andrew.michielin@endeavourenergy.com.au Cnr Five Islands Rd & Glastonbury Avenue Unanderra NSW 2526 AUSTRALIA www.endeavourenergy.com.au



From: Chris McEvoy [mailto:cmcevoy@niche-eh.com]
Sent: Friday, 3 February 2012 3:06 PM
To: Andrew Michielin
Subject: RE: Monitoring and TARP's for 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls

Thanks Andrew.

Do you know whose it is ?

We were told it is owned by Integral Energy (now Endeavour I assume) and supplies power to the Avon pump station?

From: Andrew Michielin [mailto:Andrew.Michielin@endeavourenergy.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 3 February 2012 2:51 PM
To: Chris McEvoy
Cc: Gary Brennan; Drew Rodwell
Subject: RE: Monitoring and TARP's for 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls

Hi Chris,

In regards to your enquiry below, it has been determined that the 33kV powerlines identified within the subsidence footprint are not Endeavour Energy assets and hence not the responsibility of Endeavour Energy.

The only Endeavour Energy assets on Drawing MSEC412-11 is Feeder 7092/3, highlighted in the attached marked-up drawing, which is outside of the subsidence footprint in any event.

## Kind Regards,

Andrew Michielin Transmission Asset Engineer (South) P: (02) 4252 2616 M: 0478 304135 andrew.michielin@endeavourenergy.com.au Cnr Five Islands Rd & Glastonbury Avenue Unanderra NSW 2526 AUSTRALIA



From: Chris McEvoy [mailto:cmcevoy@niche-eh.com]
Sent: Monday, 30 January 2012 5:01 PM
To: Gary Brennan
Subject: FW: Monitoring and TARP's for 33kV Powerlines over Nebo Longwalls

Hi Gary

Drew Rodwell has referred you to me as the relevant contact for this enquiry.

As discussed briefly with Drew:

- 1. Wongawilli Colliery (NRE) has recently received Part 3A Approval for Continuing operations including extraction of Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 (following approval of an Extraction Plan).
- 2. Wongawilli Colliery is submitting an Extraction Plan to DoPI for Approval to extract Nebo Longwalls N1-N6 prior Christmas. (An Extraction Plan is similar to a Subsidence Management Plan or SMP). Extraction is planned to commence around June 2012 until July 2014.
- 3. We need to confirm what monitoring and TARP's Endeavour Energy prefer to have included in the Extraction Plan **RE the 33kv power line within the potential subsidence footprint, which cross directly above the north west corner of Longwall N2 and close to the south east corner of N6, that supplies power to the Avon pump station.**

Below I attach some Draft Monitoring Arrangements and TARP's (in red font) for your consideration and discussion after you have reviewed the relevant information below. Could you please give me a call after you have reviewed this so we can finalise the Monitoring Arrangements and TARP's for these items. The Extraction Plan is also attached FYI.

Below, I also attach a Plan of the layout, and extract of the relevant section of the Extraction Plan RE impacts on the powerlines.

If you would also like a hard copy of the Part 3A Application with all technical reports, let me know.

### **Electrical Services- Impact Assessment**

There are two 33 kV power lines within the potential subsidence footprint, which cross directly above the north west corner of Longwall N2 and close to the south east corner of N6. One power line is owned by Endeavour Energy and supplies power to the Avon pump station. The other (Line 6-94) is owned by NRE and supplies power to the Nebo #4 Shaft of NRE Colliery.

The maximum predicted subsidence along these power lines is 40mm and the maximum tilt is 0.1 mm/m. The maximum tilt across the power lines is <0.1mm/m.

These predicted subsidence parameters are very small and the probability of impacts to the power lines is negligible. The power lines are supported on timber poles, which are relatively straightforward to repair or adjust if required.

### Monitoring and Management Summary

Feature		Monitoring Commitments	TAF			
	Prior to Mining	During Mining	Post Mining and Future Monitoring	Trigger	Respons	
33kV Transmission Lines	Observation of tower condition	Fortnightly observation of tower	Observation of tower condition	• Observation of unsafe tower conditions as noted by (the	Rep and	

Survey measurement for later comparison

condition

Survey

measurement once following mining owner and operator of the transmission line who are responsible for observational monitoring) Doci Infra reme

Once before mining



### Many Thanks

### Regards

Chris



Chris McEvoy (B. Env. Sci., Dip. Ed.) Senior Environmental Scientist

PO Box 12, Macarthur Square, NSW 2560 cmcevoy@niche-eh.com Web: www.niche-eh.com Mob: 0407 060 163 Fax: 02 4017 0071

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### **Trigger Levels**

Survey and monitoring results are regularly reviewed by SCA between the Mining and Infrastructure and Survey Groups, and during regular meetings with the mining company. At such meetings, the measured parameters are reviewed in terms of their historic behaviour. Trends and magnitude of movements are assessed as to their likely impacts on the SCA infrastructure.

Where any unusual displacements, changes in monitored behaviours, and movements exceeding the trigger levels are detected in the field, or during the acquisition and processing of data, the SCA (Senior Manager Asset Capability and Senior Manager Mining), and Dams Safety Committee shall be advised accordingly.

The following procedures shall be observed for the specific trigger levels applicable to monitoring in the vicinity of Upper Cordeaux No. 1 and 2 Dams and its associated surface infrastructures including the stored waters. It should be noted that some trigger levels are less than survey tolerance. If a trigger is exceeded, but is within survey tolerance, a resurvey should be considered to confirm actual movements.

Infrastructure (& Responsible Authority)	Predicted Subsidence Impacts	Survey and Inspection Frequency	Trigger Level	Preventative or Remedial Measures
Cordeaux Dam (SCA)	<ul> <li>Subsidence and regional horizontal movements would be negligible.</li> </ul>	•	•	<ul> <li>No action required.</li> </ul>
Upper Cordeaux No 1 and 2 Dams. (SCA)	<ul> <li>Subsidence &lt; 1mm</li> <li>Upsidence = 1mm</li> <li>Differential farfield horizontal movement = 1mm.</li> <li>Closure = 1mm</li> <li>Check against MSEC prediction!!!!!</li> </ul>	6-monthly survey and visual inspection	<ul> <li>&gt;10mm change in RL</li> <li>&gt;10mm Upsidence or &gt;2mm differential vertical movement between any 2 adjacent marks</li> <li>&gt;20mm horizontal movement or &gt;2mm differential horizontal movement between any 2 adjacent marks</li> <li>&gt;2mm Closure between readings</li> <li>Crack Widths &gt;3mm differential movement in 3 dimension (Upper Cordeaux No.2 Dam</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Liaise with the SCA. Notify SCA of any unusual movement</li> <li>Monitor any movements of the dam, in accordance with the survey monitoring plan and the DSC management plans.</li> <li>6-Monthly 3-D Crack Monitoring.</li> </ul>

Infrastructure (& Responsible Authority)	Predicted Subsidence Impacts	Survey and Inspection Frequency	Trigger Level	Preventative or Remedial Measures
Stored Waters in Cordeaux Reservoir (SCA)	<ul> <li>Max. subsidence of lake foreshore = &lt;5mm.</li> <li>regional horizontal movement= ? mm</li> <li>Potential for water losses from Cordeaux Reservoir</li> </ul>	6-monthly survey of lake foreshores	<ul> <li>&gt;20mm change in RL</li> <li>&gt;20mm horizontal movement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Liaise with the SCA and develop appropriate strategies and management plans.</li> <li>Preparation of</li> </ul>
				Contingency and Closure Plans, including Triggered Action Response Plans (TARPs).
SCA Fire Trails and 4WD Tracks	Potential Subsidence impact	Inspection by SCA Catchment Officers	Damage to tracks and trails	<ul> <li>Liaise with the asset owners.</li> <li>Conduct initial dilapidation survey and monitor condition of road as mining occurs.</li> </ul>
				<ul> <li>Repair and/or minor regrading as appropriate and necessary as mining occurs</li> </ul>

Note: A Master Agreement between SCA and GNRE is required to be set up to recompense SCA for any damages to infrastructure and catchment as well as disruption to water supply caused by GNRE's mining activities at NRE's Wongawilli Coal Project.

Marlo Vergara 07 March 2012