CANYON COAL MINE

BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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ACRONYMS USED THROUGHOUT THIS DOCUMENT

DA - Development Application
RFS - Rural Fire Service
1 INTRODUCTION

The Whitehaven Coal Mine (now known as Canyon Coal Mine) is located within the Narrabri Shire, approximately 30 km north-west of Gunnedah and 15 km east of Boggabri in the Gunnedah coalfields of NSW. The mine lies within the mining leases (MLs) 1464 and 1471, and is approved under DA 8-1-2005, as modified (a copy of which is available on the Whitehaven website).

The mine commenced operations in 2000 and ceased mining in 2009 following exhaustion of the resource. The site has undergone extensive rehabilitation and the majority of surface infrastructure, including all coal handling and processing infrastructure, has been removed.

This Bushfire Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with Schedule 3 Condition 42 of DA 8-1-2005, as modified.

2 POTENTIAL CAUSES OF BUSHFIRE

The following are recognised as the principal potential causes of bushfires at the site:

- Lighting strike;
- Fires on plant and equipment and/or occurring as a consequence of maintenance activities on that plant or equipment;
- Rehabilitation maintenance activities;
- Personnel behaviour (e.g. smoking or undertaking specific activities in inappropriate areas or without adequate controls).

There is also potential for bushfires that are unrelated to the site’s activities (e.g. regional bushfires).

3 CONTROLS

Bushfire controls for the site include:

- Monthly inspections, including assessment of fuel load;
- Implementation of the site’s Closure Mining Operations Plan, including maintenance of fire breaks;
- Maintenance of earthmoving equipment and provision of fire extinguishers and/or fire suppression systems, as appropriate;
- Vehicle movements confined to defined roads and tracks, where possible;
- Enforcement of Whitehaven’s Smoke Free policy;
- Access to road registered water carts at nearby Whitehaven sites;
- Water storages on nearby Whitehaven sites;
• Whitehaven emergency management processes, including trained Mines Rescue personnel at nearby Whitehaven sites;
• Consultation with local Rural Fire Service (RFS);
• Assistance with control of offsite bushfires, if directed by RFS;

4 RELEVANT CONTACTS

Narrabri Fire Control Centre: (02) 6792 3667
Whitehaven Coal: (02) 6741 9301

Personal contact details for relevant Whitehaven Coal personnel, adjoining landholders/tenants and RFS personnel are also maintained separately to this plan.

5 DOCUMENT REVIEW AND REPORTING

This document will be reviewed in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 5 Condition 12 of DA 8-1-2005, as modified.

The Annual Review will include discussion on bushfire management.