

**Report Title:** Annual Community Consultation Report

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**Coal Title:** Exploration Licence 9456

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**Original Grant Date:** 06 September 2022

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**Expiry Date:** 06 September 2028

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**Reporting Period:** 06 September 2023 – 05 September 2024

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**Project Name:** Narrabri

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**Title Holder:** Narrabri Coal Pty Ltd and others

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**Project Operator:** Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd

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**Date of Report:** 01 November 2024

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## **Executive Summary**

EL9456 is located approximately 12 km south-southeast of Narrabri in the North West Slopes region of NSW (Figure 1). The licence is located adjacent to the Narrabri Mine ML1609 and part of EL6243. The current area of the authority is approximately 1,746 ha.

There were no exploration activities undertaken in EL9456 during the reporting period.

There were no community complaints over the past year specifically related to exploration or other activities in EL9456.

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## 1. LOCATION AND ACCESS

EL9456 is located approximately 12 km south-southeast of Narrabri in the North West Slopes region of NSW (Figure 1). The licence is located adjacent to the Narrabri Mine ML1609 and part of EL6243.

## 2. TITLE, LAND OWNERSHIP, COMMUNITY GROUPS & GOVERNMENT

EL9456 was originally granted on 06 September 2022. The exploration licence is held by a joint venture comprising:

<b>Joint Venture Participant</b>	<b>Interest</b>
Narrabri Coal Pty Ltd (NCPL) (a subsidiary of Whitehaven Coal)	70.0%
Upper Horn Investments (Australia) Pty Ltd	7.5%
Narrabri Coal Australia Pty Limited (a subsidiary of Whitehaven Coal)	7.5%
J-Power Australia Pty Ltd	7.5%
POSCO International Narrabri Investment Pty Ltd	5.0%
KORES Narrabri Pty Ltd	2.5%

The company Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd (NCOPL) operate the Narrabri Mine and activities within EL9456 on behalf of the Narrabri Joint Venture.

The tenement is in the Narrabri Local Government Area (LGA) and the North West Local Land Services (LLS) area. The Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP's) are the Gomerioi Narrabri Aboriginal Corporation (GNAC) and the Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council (NLALC).

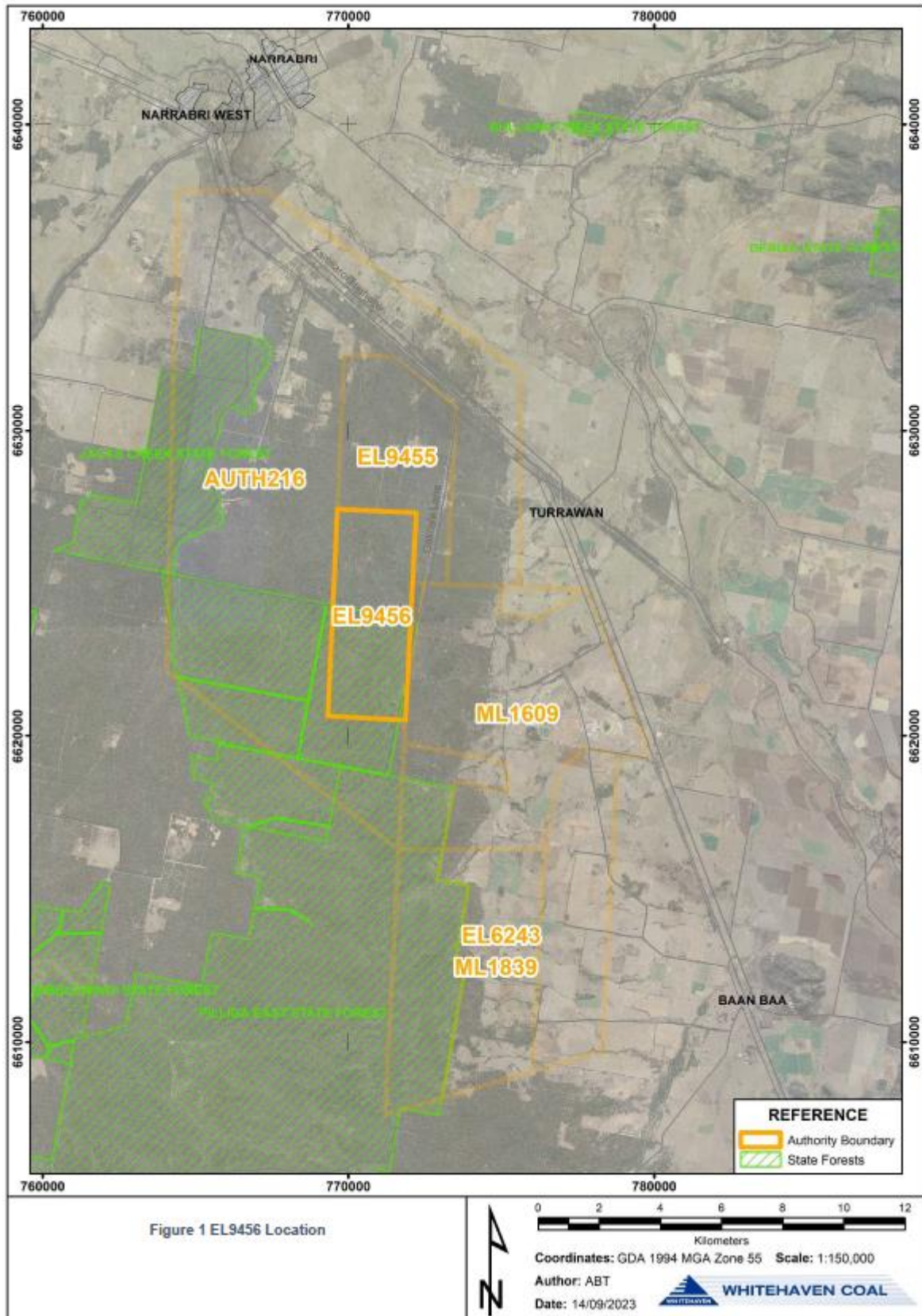


Figure 1: EL 9456 regional location map.

### 3. CONSULTATION COMPLETED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

No exploration drilling was undertaken within the EL boundary during the reporting period. Survey work was undertaken within the EL boundary during the reporting period.

NCOPL engages with local residents and the broader community in a number of ways:

- A Community Consultative Committee (CCC) which meets quarterly, comprising of an independent chairperson, local community representatives and a representative from the Narrabri Shire Council;
- The Whitehaven Coal Limited website <http://www.whitehavencoal.com.au> has links to CCC minutes, the complaints register, newsletters and factsheets as well as environmental monitoring, reporting and approvals documentation; and
- Personal contact through community liaison and exploration personnel.

#### 3.1 Community Consultative Committee

The Narrabri Mine CCC is updated on exploration activities within EL9456 at quarterly meetings when relevant. Table 1 provides a summary of items relevant to EL9456 that were discussed during Narrabri Mine CCC meetings during the reporting period; meeting minutes are available on the Whitehaven Coal website.

**Table 1:** Summary of Narrabri Mine CCC minutes (relating to Exploration activities) during the reporting period

Date of CCC Meeting	CCC member	Issue Raised	Narrabri Mine response
13 September 2023	Narrabri Coal Operations employee	Provided update that initial survey work has commenced in EL9456 however still at a very early stage of exploration and investigation	n/a
7 December 2023	Narrabri Coal Operations employee	Provided update that NCO have met with landholders for initial survey work to commence in EL9456	n/a
13 March 2024	Narrabri Coal Operations employee	Provided update that all exploration on EL9456 is delayed due to budget restraints.	n/a

### 3.2 Engagement with Landowners

During 2023 land access agreements were executed with several landholders, in order to gain access for environmental surveys necessary to prepare the Review of Environmental Factors, required to support the Application for Prospecting Operations form.

January 2024 several landholders were mailed draft Land Access Agreements to allow access for proposed exploration activities under APO0001644 (EL9456) and APO0001655 (EL9455).

May 2024 contacted landholders to advise that exploration activity had been postponed, and that land access was no longer required.

### 3.3 Engagement with Government Agencies

Application for Prospecting Operation APO0001644 were prepared and submitted to the Resources Regulator on 20 December 2023.

Prior to the APO0001644 being approved by the Resources Regulator, due to reduction in exploration expenditure in the site budget it was necessary to delay the exploration program, subsequently NCOPL submitted a request to withdraw the APO0001644

Resources Regulator processed the request to withdraw APO0001644 effective 28 February 2024

## 4. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND ACTIONS TAKEN

There were no outcomes of consultation requiring action.

## 5. PROPOSED CONSULTATION IN THE FUTURE

NCOPL is committed to continuing the process of community engagement and consultation in the following ways:

- Matters relating to the exploration licence will be notified to the CCC;
- Regular discussions with key local and State government agencies regarding proposed NCOPL exploration activities; and
- Continued implementation of the *Exploration code of practice: Community consultation (2023)*.

## 6. ENQUIRIES AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

A register of feedback and complaints for exploration activities at Narrabri Mine is maintained by the Environmental Superintendent, as well as a record of community engagement. These records are available for inspection by the Department. There were no community complaints over the past year specifically related to exploration in EL9456.

## 7. REFERENCES

Department of Regional NSW, *Exploration code of practice: Community consultation V2.1*, May 2023.

NSW Minerals Council, *NSW Minerals Industry Exploration Handbook*, December 2013.

Whitehaven Group Health, Safety and Environment Policy (WHC\_POL-Health, Safety and Environment Issue 3.0).