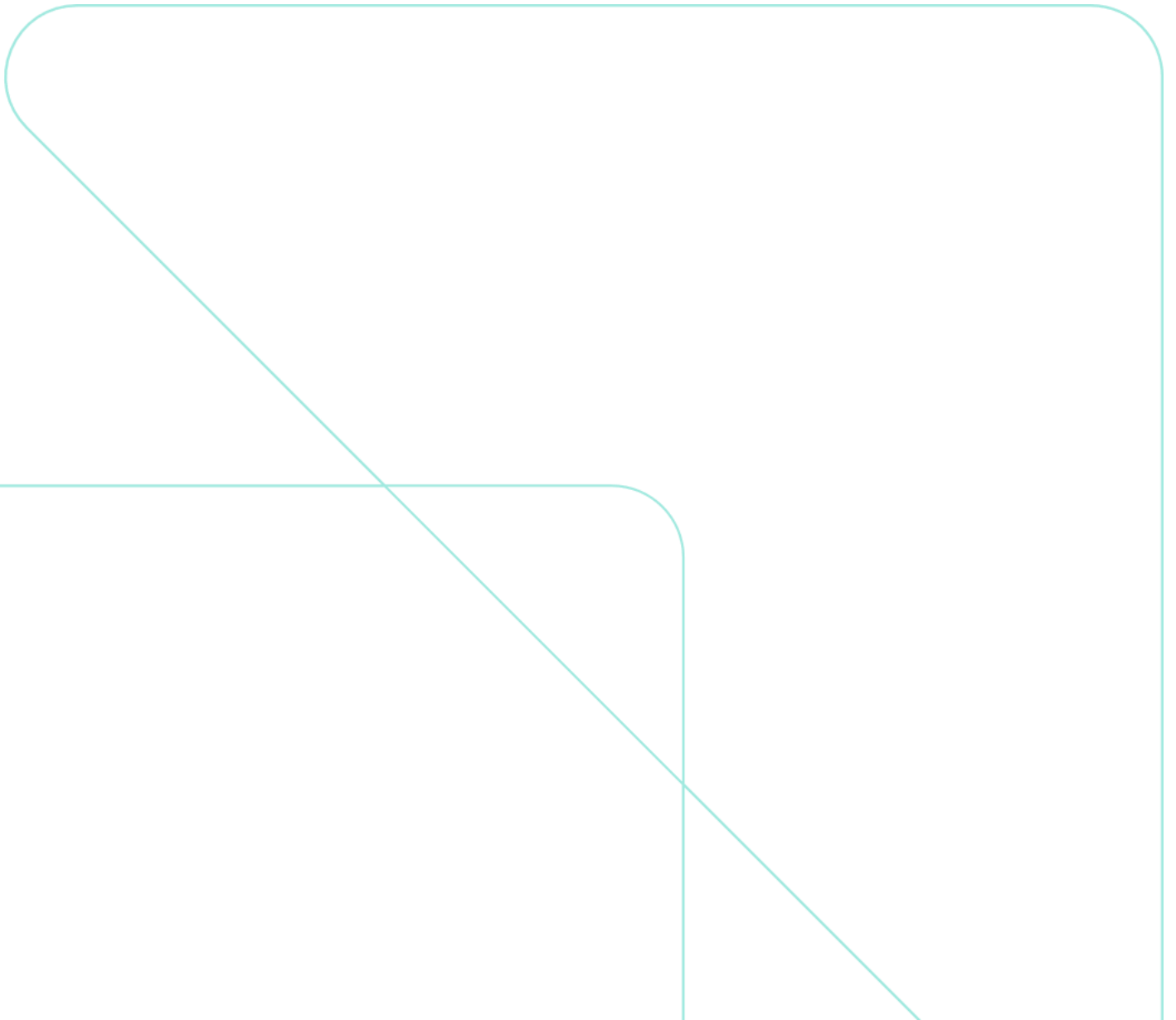


# Narrabri Mine Rehabilitation Strategy





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## Acronyms and abbreviations

Acronym	Description
ANZMEC	Australian and New Zealand Minerals and Energy Council
BCT	NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust
BMP	Biodiversity Management Plan
BOA	Biodiversity Offset Area
BOP	Biodiversity Offset Properties
CA	Conservation Agreement
CCC	Community Consultative Committee
CF	Cut and flit mining area
CHPP	Coal handling and preparation plant
CoC	Conditions of Consent
DCCEEW	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DPHI	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
DPIE	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
EMS	Environmental Management Strategy
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)</i>
EPL	environment protection licence under the POEO Act
FLRP	Final Landform and Rehabilitation Plan
ha	hectares
km	kilometre
LW	longwall mining area
LoM	Life of mine
MCA	Minerals Council Australia
Mining Act	<i>Mining Act 1992 (NSW)</i>
Mining Regulation	<i>Mining Regulation 2016 (NSW)</i>
ML	mining lease
MLA	Mining Lease Application
Mod	Modification
Mtpa	million tonnes per annum
Narrabri LEP	<i>Narrabri Local Environmental Plan 2012</i>
NCOPL	Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd
NSC	Narrabri Shire Council
NSW	New South Wales
PCT	Plant Community Type
RAO	Rehabilitation Area Offset
RBOS	Stage 2 Revised Biodiversity Offset Strategy
RCE	Rehabilitation Cost Estimate
REA	Reject Emplacement Area
REA Closure Design Report	<i>The Narrabri Mine Rejects Emplacement Area Capping Assessment and Closure Design</i>
RMP	Rehabilitation Management Plan
ROM	run of mine
SSD	State Significant Development



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Acronym	Description
The strategy	This rehabilitation strategy
WHC	Whitehaven Coal
WMP	Water Management Plan
Whitehaven	Whitehaven Coal Limited



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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Overview of approved operations

The Narrabri Mine is an underground coal mining operation situated in the Gunnedah Coalfield, approximately 25 kilometres south-east of Narrabri and approximately 60 km northwest of Gunnedah, within the Narrabri Shire Council (**NSC**) Local Government Area, in New South Wales (**NSW**). The mine is covered by Mining Lease (**ML**) 1609 and ML1839 that covers an area of 7,383 hectares (**ha**) for the purpose of mining for coal from the Hoskissons Coal Seam.

The Narrabri Mine is operated by Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd (**NCOPL**), on behalf of the Narrabri Mine Joint Venture<sup>1</sup>. The Narrabri Mine includes an underground longwall (**LW**) and cut and flit (**CF**) mining areas, a coal handling and preparation plant (**CHPP**), and associated rail siding and surface infrastructure.

Stage 1 was approved in November 2007 (as PA 05\_0102) under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (**EP&A Act**). Construction of the mine and supporting infrastructure commenced in 2008, with production using a continuous miner commencing in 2010. Following the approval of the Stage 2 Environmental Assessment (R.W Corkery & Co., 2009) (the **EA**) and the issue of the Stage 2 Project Approval 08\_0144 (Project Approval) in July 2010, and *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (**EPBC Act (Commonwealth [Cwlth])**) approval (2009/5003) in January 2011, the Narrabri Mine was converted to an 8 million tonnes per annum (**Mtpa**) run of mine (**ROM**) longwall mining operation, which commenced in 2012.

The Project Approval has been modified on seven occasions. The environmental assessment for Modification 5 (Resource Strategies, 2015) (**MOD 5**), approved in December 2015, changed the mine geometry by reducing the number of from 26 to 20, increased some LW panel widths and increased the production to 11 Mtpa of ROM coal until July 2031.

Modification 7 was approved on 23 November 2021. The environmental assessment for Modification 7 (Resource Strategies, 2021) allows for up to 0.7 Mtpa via bord and pillar extraction at pillar reduction panels 201 to CF 205. There is no change to the previously approved longwall panels LW 203 to LW 209. The bord and pillar mining will occur concurrently with existing longwall operations for a period of approximately five years, with the maximum ROM coal production rate remaining within the approved limit of 11 Mtpa.

The Narrabri Underground Mine Stage 3 Extension Project (Stage 3) involves a southern extension to the Stage 2 mining area (approximately 609 ha of additional surface development footprint) to gain access to additional areas of coal reserves within ML 1839, MLA 2, an increase in the mine life to 2044, and the development of supporting surface infrastructure.

The Stage 3 Extension Project State Significant Development (**SSD**) was granted approval under section 4.38 of the EP&A Act on 1 April 2022, following the determination by the Independent Planning Commission (**SSD-10269**). Approval for Stage 3 under the EPBC Act (**EPBC 2019/8427**) was granted on 24 September 2024 by the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (**Cwlth DCCEEW**). The conditions of EPBC 2019/8427 are primarily relevant to threatened species and water resources.

In accordance with condition of consent (**CoC**) A14, on 20 June 2025, NCOPL notified the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (**DPHI**) that physical commencement of the development, mining operations, and the extraction of ROM coal phases would commence on 1 August 2025.

### 1.2 Purpose and scope

This Rehabilitation Strategy (the **Strategy**) is a requirement of condition B63, prescribed under SSD-10269 Conditions of Consent (**CoC**). The Strategy provides the overarching strategic direction and framework for rehabilitation and mine closure activities at the Narrabri Mine and has been developed in accordance with the Rehabilitation Management Plan (**RMP**). (Revision 3). Planning for rehabilitation and eventual mine closure is an iterative process, with this Strategy to be refined and updated throughout the life-of-mine (**LoM**). It is supported by a suite of management plans and procedures, with specific details of rehabilitation activities provided in the RMP.

<sup>1</sup> For full details on the joint venture ownership, refer to the introduction of the Environmental Management Strategy.

This Strategy forms part of the Narrabri Mine Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) and is integrated with the following plans and strategies:

- Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) referred to in CoC B40;
- Stage 2 Biodiversity Offset Strategy (BOS) referred to in CoC B43; and
- RMP referred to in CoC B63.

Figure 1-1 illustrates NCOPLs framework for rehabilitation management and the relationship between the Strategy and associated plans.

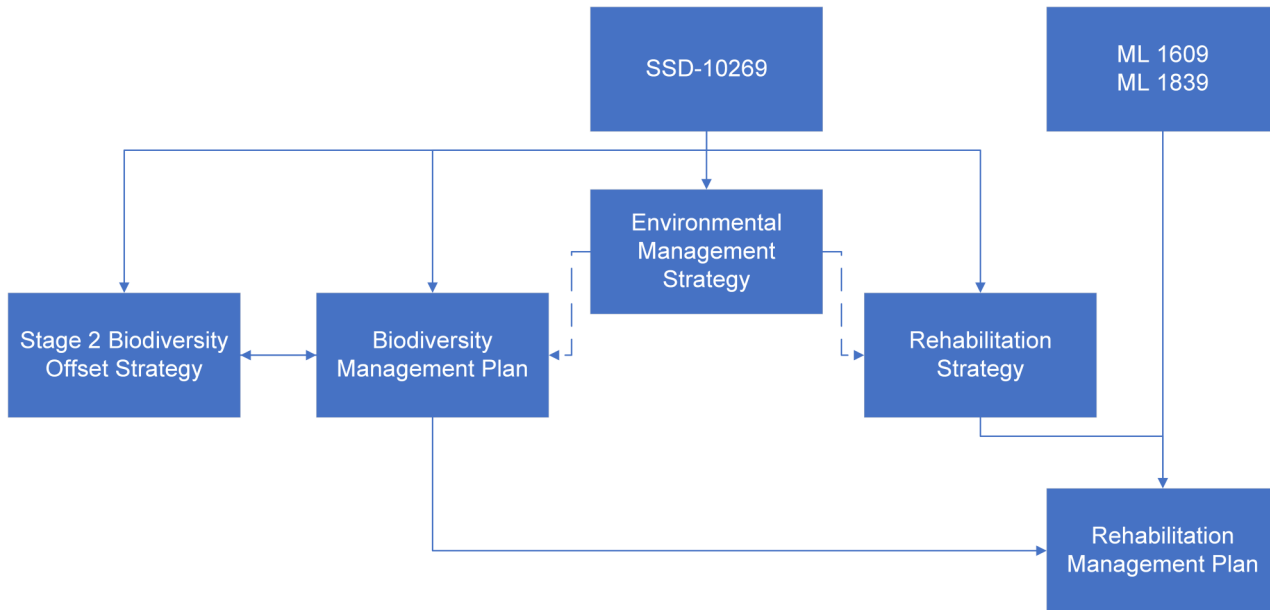


Figure 1-1 Rehabilitation management framework

### 1.3 Objectives

The objectives of this Strategy are to:

- detail relevant statutory requirements, including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions pertaining to rehabilitation of the mine site and biodiversity;
- describe how the Strategy aligns with the site’s other management plans to mitigate and/or control potential risks to rehabilitation success;
- describe key rehabilitation aspects including final landform, mine closure, post-mining land use/s and long-term water management;
- document the overarching rehabilitation strategy, including:
  - rehabilitation phases;
  - approved post mining land use/s; and
  - target vegetation communities.
- provide a strategic framework for mine closure planning that aligns with the principles of the Strategic Framework for Mine Closure (ANZMEC and MCA, 2000);
- describe how rehabilitation will be integrated with the mine planning process, including a plan to address premature or temporary mine closure;
- detail the monitoring program and regulatory reporting requirements; and
- identify the roles and responsibilities for implementation of this Strategy.

### 1.4 Preparation and consultation

On 27 November 2024, the DPHI endorsed Mr. Mark Vile and Mr. Callum Gawne of Onward Consulting Pty Ltd as suitably qualified



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and experienced persons to prepare this Strategy, as required by CoC B61(a).

In accordance with CoC B61(b), the draft Strategy (Revision A) was provided to the Resources Regulator, the Water Group within DCCEEW, the Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group within DCCEEW, and the NSC on 21 October 2025 for review and comment.

Appendix A provides the correspondence from the consultation process, including a reconciliation table with the response to comments and a cross reference to the corresponding section of the Strategy where these comments have been addressed.

As required by CoC B61(c), NCOPL is required to submit this Strategy to the Planning Secretary for approval within six months of the date of commencement of Stage 3 (i.e. by 1 February 2026).

## 1.5 Roles and responsibilities

The implementation of the Strategy relies on coordinated efforts across several key roles presented in Table 1-1. In addition, NCOPL will ensure there is clear accountability, and adequate resources at mine closure (section 5).

Table 1-1 NCOPL roles and responsibilities for Strategy implementation

Roles	Responsibilities
General Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide adequate resources for NCOPL personnel to undertake the activities required under the Strategy.</li> <li>Ensure that all employees, contractors (including sub-contractors), and service providers comply with all applicable aspects of the Strategy.</li> </ul>
Manager – Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take responsibility for the implementation of the Strategy and its review and revision in accordance with the EMS.</li> <li>Manage incident, non-compliance and other reporting requirements.</li> <li>Communicate with statutory agencies and departments, public authorities, and the community.</li> </ul>
Environmental Superintendent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate activities to implement the strategy.</li> <li>Ensure that all environmental monitoring and reporting is undertaken in accordance with the Strategy and related approval requirements, and is checked, processed, and filed appropriately.</li> <li>Advise on matters identified in all approval, permit, licence, and consent documents and ensure all operations are conducted in compliance with those conditions, and all other environmental obligations.</li> </ul>
Environmental Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist the Environmental Superintendent with implementation of the Strategy and associated environmental management plans, programs, and procedures.</li> <li>Conduct environmental monitoring.</li> <li>Ensure all operations are conducted in compliance with the conditions imposed on the approval, permit, licence and consent documents, and all other environmental obligations.</li> <li>Report incidents and any potential non-conformances relating to the Strategy to the Environmental Superintendent.</li> </ul>
Employees and contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake training to identify environmental hazards and report through the management system, as required.</li> <li>Undertake rehabilitation activities at the direction of the Manager – Environment.</li> </ul>



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## 2. Legislative requirements

### 2.1 Current development consents, leases and licenses

Table 2-1 summarises the Narrabri Mine development consents, leases and licenses relevant to this Strategy.

Table 2-1 Narrabri Mine development consents, leases and licences relevant to this Rehabilitation Strategy

Authority	Lease/License/Approval	Grant date	End date
<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>	PA 08_0144 MOD 7	July 2010	July 2031*
	SSD-10269	1 April 2022	31 December 2044
<i>Mining Act 1992</i>	ML 1609	18 January 2008	18 January 2029
	ML 1839	13 September 2022	13 September 2043
	MLA 2	TBD	N/A
<i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	EPBC 2009/5003	17 August 2009	N/A
	EPBC 2019/8427	24 September 2024	31 December 2066
<i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>	EPL 12789	20 February 2008	N/A

\* In accordance with CoC A17, upon the commencement of development under SSD-10269 and before the surrender of PA 08\_0144, the Stage 3 CoC prevail to the extent of any inconsistencies with the conditions of PA 08\_0144.

### 2.2 Development consent

The Stage 3 Extension Project (SSD-10269) was approved on 1 April 2022. It incorporates the Stage 2 development authorised under PA 08\_0144, until such time as PA 08\_0144 is surrendered (CoC A16). In accordance with CoC A17, upon the commencement of development under SSD-10269 and before the surrender of PA 08\_0144, the Stage 3 CoC prevail to the extent of any inconsistencies with the conditions of PA 08\_0144.

Appendix B, Table B-1 provides a summary of the relevant CoC relating to the Strategy and outlines the section of the document in which each of these conditions have been addressed.

In accordance with CoC E5(c), the relevant commitments or recommendations documented in the Stage 3 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) have been integrated into this Strategy (Appendix B, Table B-2), including those commitments or recommendations as amended or added to by the:

- Applicant’s Submission Report, submitted 31 May 2021;
- Applicant’s Amendment Report, submitted 31 May 2021; and
- Applicant’s final Biodiversity Development Assessment Report, dated September 2021.

### 2.3 Mining Regulation 2016

As holder of ML 1609 and ML 1839, NCOPL must comply with the standard conditions under Part 2, Schedule 8A of the Mining Regulation 2016 (**Mining Regulation**) (Appendix B; Table B-3). NCOPL maintains rehabilitation outcome documents, an RMP, and forward program for the existing Stage 2 development (ML 1609). The rehabilitation objectives set out in the RMP were approved by the Resources Regulator on 18 October 2023. These objectives are consistent with contemporary guidance and are expected to be applicable to ML 1839. The rehabilitation objectives were revised based on the requirements of Stage 3 (SSD-1026) and the inclusion of ML 1839. The revised rehabilitation objectives statement was provided to the Resources Regulator on 4 September 2025 for approval. Once approved, the RMP will be revised and the revised version published on the Narrabri Mine website.

The proposed rehabilitation completion criteria documented in the RMP are subject to approval by the Resources Regulator.

### 2.4 Local Environment Plan

Narrabri Mine is located wholly within the Narrabri Local Government Area. For the purposes of rehabilitation of the mine site, the *Narrabri Local Environmental Plan 2012* (**Narrabri LEP**) is relevant. Part 1.2 of the Narrabri LEP sets out the aims of the plan with the following being relevant to NCOPL:

- to encourage the orderly management, development and conservation of resources by protecting, enhancing and conserving:
  - land of significance for agricultural production;

- timber, minerals, soil, water and other natural resources;
- areas of high scenic or recreational value;
- native plants and animals including threatened species, populations and ecological communities, and their habitats;
- places and buildings of heritage significance.
- to facilitate development for a range of business enterprise and employment opportunities,
- to ensure that development is sensitive to both the economic and social needs of the community, including the provision of community facilities and land for public purposes.

The Narrabri Mine generally contributes to the aims of the Narrabri LEP, as follows:

- it is an underground mining operation, and any subsidence impacts to agricultural land use would be short-term, with minimal or no impacts to production;
- the majority of land disturbed is classed as low to moderate capability agricultural land;
- project design measures and other measures are adopted to allow for compatibility with agricultural land uses and incur minimal additional visual impact;
- the development of (coal) is conducted in a manner that avoids or mitigates potential impacts on the environment;
- NCOPL has consulted with the NSW Forestry Corporation and holds all necessary permits and agreements for activities that are conducted within the Pilliga East and Jacks Creek State Forests;
- the design, planning and assessment of the mine has been carried out applying the principles of environmentally sustainable design;
- the mine will facilitate continued and additional local and regional employment and economic development opportunities; and
- NCOPL is committed to ongoing financial support for community groups in the region.

NCOPL will ensure the post-mining land use strategy continues to align with regional and local land use objectives, including any future amendments to the Narrabri LEP or Narrabri Local Strategic Planning Statement.

## 2.5 Relevant guidelines, policies and standards

The following guidelines have been utilised during the preparation of this Strategy:

- NSW Resources Regulator. 2021. *Guideline: Rehabilitation Risk Assessment*
- NSW Resources Regulator. 2022. *Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation*
- NSW Resources Regulator. 2024. *Guideline – Achieving Rehabilitation Completion (Sign-Off)*
- NSW Resources Regulator. 2024. *Form and Way: Rehabilitation Management Plan (large mines)*
- National Uniform Drillers Licensing Committee. 2020. *Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia*
- Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation. 2000. *Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams*
- Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. 2019. *Guideline: Works that interfere with water in a watercourse for a resource activity*
- NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water. 2024. *Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land*
- NSW Trade and Investment. 2012. *MDG6001 Guideline for the Permanent Filling and Capping of Surface Entries to Coal Seams*
- Department of Industry – Resources and Energy. 2016. *Guideline for mineral exploration drilling; drilling integrity of petroleum exploration and production wells.*



## 3. Strategy alignment with other plans

### 3.1 Biodiversity Management Plan

The Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) has been developed in accordance with CoC B40, EPBC 2009/5003, EPBC 2019/8427, and the applicable Commonwealth and NSW State regulatory framework relating to biodiversity. It details the biodiversity values within the mining footprint, expected impacts from mining operations, performance criteria, mitigation and management measures, and a biodiversity and rehabilitation monitoring program. It also includes a Trigger Action Response Plan to manage any unexpected risks to biodiversity values and rehabilitation success.

In accordance with CoC B61(f), rehabilitation measures are integrated into the BMP, including procedures for seed collection, soil and woody debris management, progressive rehabilitation, revegetation of disturbed areas, and final land use/s.

### 3.2 Stage 2 Biodiversity Offset Strategy

The Stage 2 Biodiversity Offset Strategy was revised (i.e. the **RBOS**) (AMBS, 2024) to align with recent cadastral surveys, contemporary vegetation mapping, and the requirements under SSD-10269. To prepare and register Conservation Agreements (**CAs**) for NCOPLs various Biodiversity Offset Properties (**BOPs**), the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust (**BCT**) required Whitehaven Coal (**WHC**) to undertake detailed cadastral surveys and utilise contemporary vegetation mapping. The RBOS outlines how the cadastral survey boundary changes and the contemporary Plant Community Type (**PCT**) vegetation mapping reflected in the registered CAs still meet the requirements of Condition B45 of SSD-10269 and Condition 2 of EPBC Approval 2009/5003. In the RBOS, a number of vegetation community names have been updated as a result of the preparation of CAs and the application of the contemporary PCT classification. These changes are reflected throughout this Strategy, where relevant.

In accordance with CoC B43, NCOPL must implement the RBOS which covers the Narrabri Biodiversity Offset Areas (**BOA**) including Kenna, Greylands, Omeo, Rosevale, Greylands Road, Kurrajong Park and West Haven with a total area of approximately 1,674.48 ha. The securement of these properties as CAs provides appropriate long-term security of the BOAs. Furthermore, up to 1,121.65<sup>2</sup> ha of woodland vegetation that may be subject to subsidence impacts and mine site rehabilitation, will be progressed for offset purposes following completion of longwall mining, and is referred to as the 'Rehabilitation Area Offset' (**RAO**) as shown in Figure 3-1.

The rehabilitation measures are integrated with the measure set out under the RBOS (refer to section 3.3).

#### 3.2.1 Securement of the Rehabilitation Area Offset

Under the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme, NCOPL can use mine site ecological rehabilitation to meet an offset requirement in accordance with the offset rules. The potential ecological benefit of mine site ecological rehabilitation is that it aims to re-create a functioning native ecosystem at the site of disturbance. This can have a greater benefit to local flora and fauna than standard mine rehabilitation that is not targeted towards re-creating habitats. If the Rehabilitation Area Offset completion criteria, as detailed in the RMP, is not achieved, the credit requirement must be met by another offset option.

The securement of the Rehabilitation Area Offset will be guided by CoC B44, which states that NCOPL must make suitable arrangements to provide appropriate long-term security for the offset areas required by the Stage 2 Biodiversity Offset Strategy within 3 years of commencing development under SSD-10269. However, additional time is required based on the Rehabilitation Area Offset being split into timing stages that are dependent on mine operational factors (Figure 3-1):

- Area 1 to be secured by 1 August 2028;
- Area 2 to be secured by 31 December 2033; and
- Area 3 to be secured by 31 December 2044 (i.e. end of mine life).

NCOPL will secure Area 2 and Area 3 of the Rehabilitation Area Offset as per the updated timing agreed by the Planning Secretary, to be included in a future revision of this Strategy.

### 3.3 Rehabilitation Management Plan

The RMP details how NCOPL will implement this Strategy by describing and depicting the final land use domains and associated measures to be implemented to achieve the final rehabilitation outcomes over time. The RMP outlines the final landform and phases of

<sup>2</sup> Calculation based on the removal of surface disturbance during the Stage 3 EIS process i.e. the impact reduction area



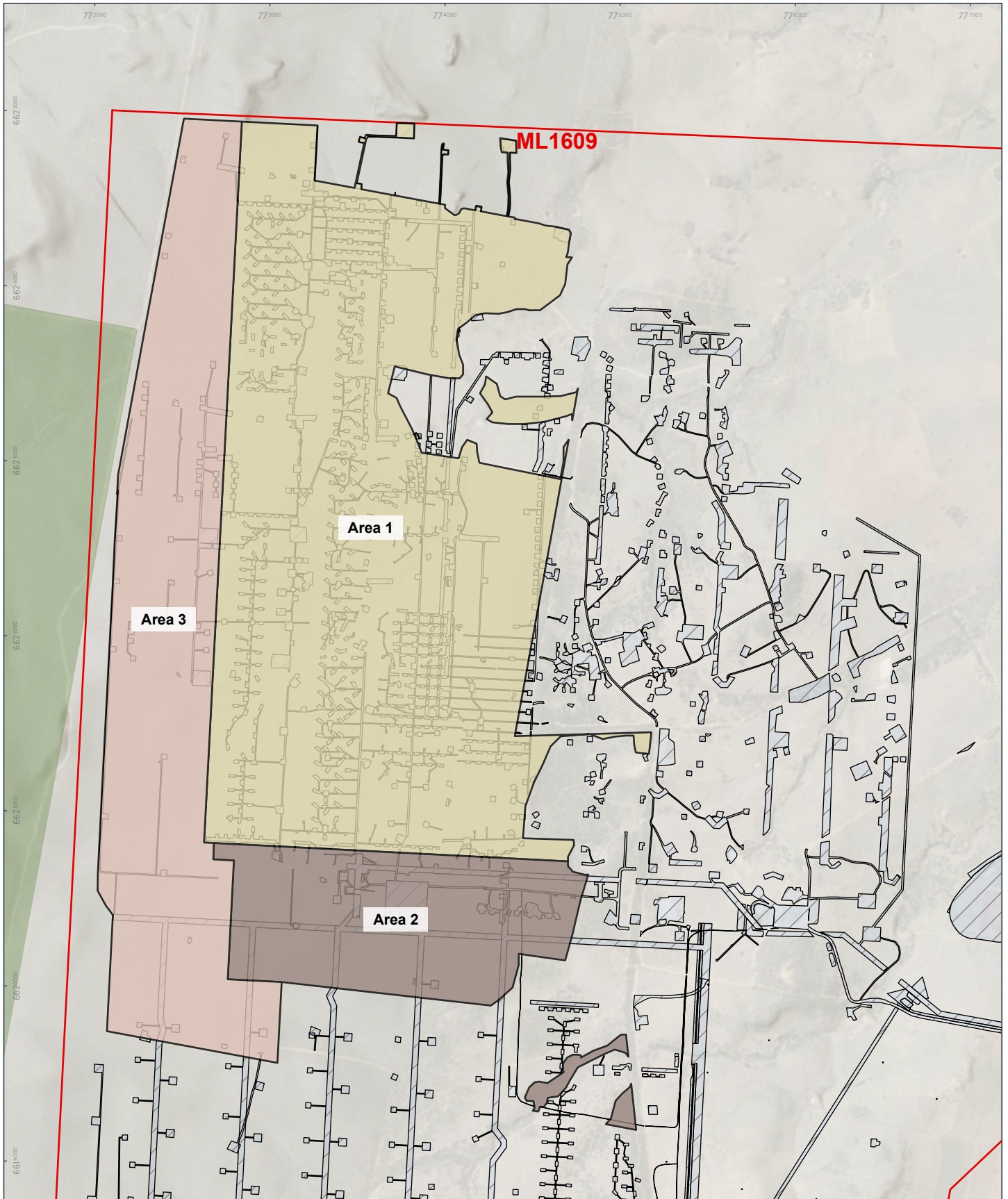
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rehabilitation including specific rehabilitation methodologies for each phase with clear objectives and completion criteria.

The RMP aligns with the RBOS contemporary vegetation mapping (based on the CAs) and provides further detail on the Rehabilitation Area Offset location, rehabilitation methods, and management and monitoring requirements.

The RMP, along with this Strategy, will be reviewed and revised concurrently if risks to achieving the final rehabilitation outcomes are identified.



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 Author: Jett McLachlan

**LEGEND**

- ML1609
- Surface development footprint

**Conservation areas**

- State Forest
- Area 1
- Area 2
- Area 3



**NARRABRI MINE**

Figure 3.1

Rehabilitation area offset

## 4. Rehabilitation strategy

### 4.1 General rehabilitation and mine closure requirements

In accordance with CoC B60, NCOPL must rehabilitate the Narrabri Mine progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable following disturbance, including construction disturbance. NCOPL will take all reasonable and feasible steps to minimise the total area exposed at any time. Interim stabilisation and temporary vegetation strategies will be employed when areas prone to dust generation, soil erosion and weed incursion cannot be permanently rehabilitated.

In addition, all reasonable and feasible management and mitigation measures will be implemented to ensure a negligible risk to rehabilitation success. A risk assessment has been completed as part of the RMP (see section 6), with the management and implementation of the measures integrated into management plans, such as the BMP and the RMP, to ensure biodiversity and rehabilitation objectives are achieved through rehabilitation of the site.

The overall rehabilitation goal for the Narrabri Mine is to rehabilitate and re-establish connectivity within disturbed areas of native vegetation to pre disturbance vegetation communities and reinstate agricultural areas to the pre mining land capability class.

To achieve the overall rehabilitation goal, the Narrabri Mine will be rehabilitated to a safe, stable and non-polluting landform of a similar character to surrounding areas. In accordance with CoC 61(d), the overall rehabilitation outcomes for the site are to:

- ensure compliance with operating conditions of all active approvals;
- comply with the applicable legislative requirements;
- remove mine infrastructure that is no longer required to support post-mining land use/s;
- rehabilitate areas in accordance with the approved post-mining land use/s;
- establish ecological rehabilitation areas to achieve offset outcomes;
- minimise potential environmental impacts and safety issues arising from mine closure; and
- continue to engage with the local community and regulatory stakeholders on key environmental and socio-economic issues during the closure and post-mining phase.

Disturbed areas would be considered suitable for relinquishment when the nominated rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria have been met (refer to the RMP) or if the relevant Minister(s) otherwise accept(s) the rehabilitation status.

#### 4.1.1 Post-mining land use/s

As described in section 4.1, the Narrabri Mine will be rehabilitated to a safe, stable and non-polluting landform of a similar character to surrounding areas. NCOPL will create a physically and chemically stable mine landform that is adequately drained and integrates with the surrounding landform with all mine-induced subsidence remediated and rehabilitated.

Post-mining beneficial land uses will be implemented as per condition B63(j), and will consider the following factors:

- alignment with regional and local strategic land use planning objectives and outcomes (refer to section 2.4);
- support a sustainable future for the local community;
- utilise existing mining infrastructure, where practicable; and
- avoid disturbing self-sustaining native ecosystems, where practicable.

The post-mining approved final land use/s will comprise a combination of native ecosystem, rehabilitation offset area, agricultural - pasture, and water storage. Water management infrastructure proposed to be retained will be in accordance with the requirements of the relevant landholder and/or regulatory authorities.

The RMP includes opportunities for research trials, such as a controlled grazing program, to be initiated once substantial areas are established under the ecosystem and land use establishment phase.



## 4.1.2 Land and soil capability class

The land and soil capability classes associated with the Narrabri Mine are:

- Class 2 (small portions of the MLs) - very high capability
- Class 3 - high capability
- Class 4 – moderate capability
- Class 5 or greater – low to moderate capability

Table 4-1 and Table 4-2 detail the LSC classes associated with the Narrabri Mine.

Table 4-1 LSC Classes within ML 1609

Landholding	Land and soil capability class within ML1609 (ha)			
	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6 & 7
Mayfield	100.23	220.32	189.83	83.17
Private Landholding	0.00	136.72	138.66	52.8
Westhaven	0.00	153.73	156.95	7.67
Kurrajong	71.85	19.56	41.77	50.78
Claremont	0.00	6.24	10.97	0.00
Merrilong	0.00	27.41	28.57	0.00
Barton Hedge	0.00	4.65	5.13	0.00
Pilliga East State Forest	0.00	154.65	195.19	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>172.08</b>	<b>723.28</b>	<b>767.07</b>	<b>194.42</b>

Table 4-2 LSC Classes within the Project Area within ML 1829 and MLA 2

Landholding	Land capability class within ML 1829 and MLA 2 (ha)					
	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class >5	Unknown
Merrilong	0.00	83.33	105.05	33.96	29.10	0.00
Longsight	17.66	54.92	153.41	8.33	120.70	0.00
Yarranabee	0.00	21.29	104.85	13.77	136.76	73.21
Karinda	19.37	264.87	62.66	159.60	0.67	0.76
The Bulga	19.66	124.29	17.81	31.15	0.54	0.00
Mayfield	0.00	52.36	44.50	30.79	52.53	0.00
Pilliga East State Forest	0.07	0.20	0.00	26.62	1,667.48	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56.76</b>	<b>601.26</b>	<b>488.28</b>	<b>304.22</b>	<b>2,007.78</b>	<b>73.97</b>

## 4.2 Existing rehabilitation and performance

Since 2008, rehabilitation at the Narrabri Mine has been undertaken progressively, as soon as reasonably practicable, as areas become available following underground mining operations. Rehabilitated areas are predominantly located over the longwall mining area, where surface infrastructure no longer required for operations has been decommissioned, removed and the land remediated prior to final landform and rehabilitation. Progressive rehabilitation is also occurring at the pit top area reject emplacement area (**REA**).

Rehabilitation progress and 3-yearly forecasts are publicly reported via the Annual Rehabilitation Report and Forward Program in accordance with Schedule 8A of the Mining Regulation. The current rehabilitation performance at the Narrabri Mine indicates good progress towards achieving the relevant rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria with the continued application of adaptive rehabilitation management.

## 4.3 Rehabilitation objectives

In accordance with CoC B59, NCOPL must rehabilitate the Narrabri Mine in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining



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lease(s) associated with the development under the *Mining Act 1992 (Mining Act)* (Table B-3 in Appendix B). This rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation strategy described in the EIS (Table B-2 in Appendix B) and must comply with the objectives in Table 8 of the CoC, as reproduced in Table 4-3. The RMP builds upon the rehabilitation objectives outlined in Table 4-3, as submitted to the Resources Regulator for approval.

Table 4-3 Rehabilitation objectives

Feature	Objective
All areas of the site affected by the development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe, stable and non-polluting</li> <li>• Fit for the intended post-mining land use/s</li> <li>• Establish the final landform and post mining land use/s as soon as practicable after cessation of mining operations</li> <li>• Minimise post-mining environmental impacts</li> </ul>
Areas proposed for native ecosystem re-establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish/restore self-sustaining native woodland ecosystems</li> <li>• Establish local plant community types</li> <li>• Establish:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ riparian habitat within any diverted and/or re-established creek lines and retained water features;</li> <li>○ habitat, feed and foraging resources for threatened fauna species; and</li> <li>○ vegetation connectivity and wildlife corridors, as far as is reasonable and feasible.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Watercourses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remediation of subsidence impacts and environmental consequences that are not 'negligible'</li> </ul>
Final Landform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stable and sustainable for the intended post-mining land use/s</li> <li>• Consistent with surrounding topography to minimise visual impacts</li> <li>• Incorporate relief patterns and design principles consistent with natural drainage that mimic natural topography and mitigate erosion to the greatest extent practicable.</li> </ul>
Rehabilitation materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil and vegetative materials from areas disturbed under this consent (including topsoils, substrates and seeds) are recovered, managed and used as rehabilitation resources</li> </ul>
Surface facilities sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be decommissioned, unless the Resources Regulator agrees otherwise</li> <li>• All surface facilities sites are to be revegetated with suitable local native plant species to a landform consistent with the surrounding environment or the intended post mining land use(s)</li> </ul>
Portals and vent shafts of the development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be decommissioned and made safe and stable</li> </ul>
Mine water discharges following mine closure (from any location)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negligible environmental consequence</li> </ul>
Water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water retained on the site is fit for the intended post-mining land use/s</li> <li>• Water management is consistent with the regional catchment management strategy</li> </ul>
Built features damaged by mining operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repair to pre-mining condition or equivalent unless the:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Owner agrees otherwise; or</li> <li>○ Damage is fully restored, repaired or compensated for under the <i>Coal Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 2017</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Cliffs, minor cliffs, rock face features and steep slopes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No additional risk to public safety compared to prior to mining</li> </ul>
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure public safety</li> <li>• Minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure</li> </ul>
Effective sealing of the mine at closure to minimise future Green House Gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective sealing of the mine at closure to minimise future Green House Gas emissions</li> </ul>

## 4.4 Rehabilitation completion criteria

Rehabilitation completion criteria set the benchmark values for key attributes (indicators) proposed to demonstrate that the rehabilitation objectives have been met. Rehabilitation completion criteria can be refined as mining operations (including rehabilitation) progress through the LoM.

The RMP provides the proposed rehabilitation completion criteria based on NCOPL's management plans, monitoring programs, requirements of the CoC, and contemporary guidance. In accordance with the Mining Regulation, NCOPL will submit proposed rehabilitation completion criteria to the Secretary for approval following approval of the rehabilitation objectives as described in section 4.3.

## 4.5 Phases of rehabilitation and approach to methodology

The RMP details each phase of rehabilitation as per the Resources Regulator guideline Form and Way - Rehabilitation management plan for large mines, as summarised below:

- Phase 1: Active mining phase
- Phase 2: Decommissioning
- Phase 3: Landform establishment
- Phase 4: Growth medium development
- Phase 5: Ecosystem and land use establishment
- Phase 6: Ecosystem and land use development
- Phase 7: Rehabilitation completion (sign-off)

Rehabilitation planning and management of the mine site will consider each phase of rehabilitation and implement the appropriate measures for meeting the rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria to achieve the approved final land use/s for the site. The Final Landform and Rehabilitation Plan (**FLRP**) is detailed in section 5 of the RMP.

The rehabilitation methodology approach is supported by the management measures and monitoring programs detailed in the RMP and the BMP. The aim is to integrate progressive rehabilitation planning into mine operations as areas become available. NCOPL plan for and budget rehabilitation activities as part of the 3-yearly forward program.

### **Active mining**

During active mining, NCOPL will continue to:

- salvage and maintain biological resources such as topsoil seedbanks, habitat features, and vegetative material for propagation;
- manage weeds and pest animals across the site;
- manage contaminated land and/or water in accordance with the RMP, Water Management Plan (**WMP**), and associated procedures;
- implement and maintain appropriate erosion and sediment controls, including diversion bunds and sediment dams;
- visually inspect and remediate subsidence cracking and/or ponding in accordance with the relevant Extraction Plan/s; and
- monitor progressively rehabilitated areas in accordance with the RMP and the BMP.

### **Decommissioning and landform establishment**

Following mining of a longwall panel, NCOPL will progressively decommission infrastructure no longer required for mine operations (e.g. gas drainage infrastructure and mine safety preconditioning drill pad areas). Post mining, infrastructure will be decommissioned and demolished to achieve the approved final land use/s. Post mining landform establishment will consist of final landform construction designed to be stable, adequately drained and consistent with the surrounding landform, with drainage designed and constructed to achieve long term stability and minimise erosion.

### **Growth media**

Rehabilitation areas will then be prepared with growth media (e.g. vegetation substrate) suitable for establishing vegetation in accordance with the approved final land use. Activities will include soil characterisation, soil respreading, amelioration (if required) and weed control.

### **Ecosystem and land use establishment**

Target vegetation communities and species associated with the final land use/s will be established, primarily via natural regeneration, during the ecosystem and land use establishment phase and subsequently managed to progress to the ecosystem and land use development phase. In some instances, if natural regeneration is not self-sustaining, infill planting and/or seeding may be required using endemic species commensurate with the final land use/s, as detailed in the RMP. The target vegetation communities associated with the native ecosystem and rehabilitation offset areas are:

- Plant Community Type (PCT) 404, 406, 409 - Brown Bloodwood Shrubby Woodland
- PCT 81 - Inland Grey Box Woodland
- PCT 101 - Riparian Forest
- PCT 55 - Belah Woodland
- PCT 88 - Pilliga Box - White Cypress Pine - Buloke shrubby woodland
- PCT 206 - Dirty Gum - White Cypress Woodland
- PCT 244 - Poplar Box Grassy Woodland
- PCT 399 - Red Gum - Rough-barked Apple - Tea Tree
- PCT 401 - Rough-barked Apple - Red Gum - Black Cypress
- PCT 404 - Red Ironbark - White Bloodwood Shrubby Woodland
- PCT 405 - White Bloodwood - Red Ironbark - Black Cypress
- PCT 406 - White Bloodwood - Motherumbah - Red Ironbark
- PCT 408 - Dirty Gum - Black Cypress Shrubby Woodland
- PCT 435 - White-box - White Cypress Woodland

*Coolabah bertya* or other identified threatened flora will be managed in accordance with the salvage and translocation procedure as documented in the BMP.

Additionally, cleared native vegetation will be respread over rehabilitated areas to provide habitat for threatened fauna species in accordance with the procedures documented in the RMP and the BMP.

In agricultural rehabilitation areas, seed stock will be sourced from local providers where required. The RMP details the indicative winter and summer pasture species to be used. Appropriate management and amelioration measures will be implemented so that rehabilitated pasture areas are comparable in productivity to pre-mining conditions i.e. land capability class. This may include the application of gypsum and fertiliser to topsoil in order to address potential acidity, organic carbon and/or nutrient deficiency constraints, and enhance rapid establishment of sustainable vegetation growth.

### ***Ecosystem and land use development and relinquishment***

Once rehabilitated areas are established and display signs of being self-sustaining, NCOPL will routinely monitor these areas to ensure they are on a trajectory towards the rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria. If monitoring detects any threats to rehabilitation success, NCOPL will implement adaptive management techniques as documented in the RMP. Monitoring under the RMP and the BMP will be ongoing in order to demonstrate that rehabilitation is likely to be sustainable for the long-term. Relinquishment of rehabilitated areas will occur when it can be demonstrated that these areas have achieved the final land use criteria.

An annual rehabilitation report will be prepared in accordance with the Resources Regulator requirements. All rehabilitation and biodiversity monitoring results will be summarised in the Annual Review (section 8).



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## 5. Strategic framework for mine closure

### 5.1 Planning

Detailed mine closure planning will identify key actions, assessments, studies, detailed design, and regulatory approvals required to decommission and/or demolish built infrastructure. It will also identify infrastructure that could be retained to support the approved final land use/s.

Upon cessation of mining operations, it would be expected that tenure of the MLs will be maintained by NCOPL until such time as the MLs and other statutory approval relinquishment criteria are satisfied.

Detailed mine closure planning will commence a minimum of five years from the cessation of mining. During this time, a detailed Mine Closure Plan will be developed in consultation with relevant government authorities and landholders. In accordance with CoC B61(e), the Mine Closure Plan will address the principles of the *Strategic Framework for Mine Closure* (ANZMEC and MCA, 2000) which provides a nationally consistent approach to mine closure, including objectives. The objectives of the framework and how this Strategy aligns are presented Table 5-1.

Table 5-1 Alignment with the Strategic Framework for Mine Closure

Strategic framework objective	Strategy alignment	Section of Strategy where addressed
Stakeholder Involvement – To enable all stakeholders to have their interests considered during the mine closure process.	Planning for mine closure will be conducted over the life of mine in consultation with the relevant regulatory authorities and the local community. Mine closure would include consideration of potential adverse socio-economic effects and will investigate ways to minimise adverse socio-economic impacts associated with mine closure.	Section 7
Planning - To ensure the process of closure occurs in an orderly, cost-effective and timely manner.	Detailed mine closure planning will commence a minimum of five years from the cessation of mining and a detailed Mine Closure Plan will be developed in consultation with relevant regulatory authorities and landholders.	Section 5.1
Financial Provision - To ensure the cost of closure is adequately represented in company accounts and that the community is not left with a liability	<b>Rehabilitation Cost Estimate (RCE)</b> Relevant environmental controls would remain active during mine closure and the RCE maintained. The RCE would be revised to ensure the appropriate security deposit is held to cover the costs in undertaking rehabilitation in the event of default, and to minimise potential liabilities to the state.	Section 5.4
Implementation - To ensure there is clear accountability, and adequate resources, for the implementation of the closure plan.	The roles and responsibilities of key members of the NCOPL team are documented in section 1.6. NCOPL will ensure there is clear accountability, and adequate resources during mine closure planning and at mine closure.	Section 1.5
Standards - To establish a set of indicators which will demonstrate the successful completion of the closure process.	The RMP provides a set of indicators to guide progress towards achieving the rehabilitation completion criteria and to ensure the rehabilitation objectives are met. NCOPL may develop additional objectives, indicators and performance criteria as part of the Mine Closure Plan.	Section 3.3
Relinquishment - To reach a point where the company has met agreed completion criteria to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.	Disturbed areas would be considered suitable for relinquishment when the nominated rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria have been met, or if the relevant Minister(s) otherwise accept(s) the rehabilitation status.	Section 4.1

## 5.2 Final landform

The NCOPL final landform will generally approximate the pre-mining landscape with the exception of the REA and surface impacts from subsidence in the underground mining area.

The key components relevant to the final landform include:

- pit top area and associated surface infrastructure;
- box cut;
- reject emplacement area;
- brine storage area; and
- underground mining area.

In accordance with CoC B61(i), NCOPL will investigate opportunities to refine and improve the final landform over time, including the configuration of the REA.

The following sections provide an overview of NCOPLs proposed mine closure activities for each final landform key component, to address CoC B61(g).

### 5.2.1 Reject emplacement area

The final REA closure design was informed by a series of studies including geotechnical and geochemical characterisation of coarse reject and capping materials, as detailed in the *Narrabri Mine Rejects Emplacement Area Capping Assessment and Closure Design* (ATC Williams, 2022) (**REA Closure Design Report**). The final landform of the REA is based on geomorphic design principles and will be progressively capped in accordance with the overall capping philosophy stated in the REA Closure Design Report.

Further detail on the REA final landform is provided in the RMP.

### 5.2.2 Pit top area

The Pit Top Area surface infrastructure includes:

- the Coal Handling and Preparation Plant;
- ROM coal stockpile and product coal stockpile and associated coal handling infrastructure;
- rail loop and product coal load-out infrastructure;
- site water management infrastructure;
- administration, workshop, store and bathhouse buildings;
- range of service facilities;
- longwall unit assembly area;
- access roads;
- car parking; and
- amenity bunds.

Following the completion of mining, surface infrastructure will be decommissioned, unless otherwise agreed with the relevant regulatory authorities and landholders. Waste generated during decommissioning will be removed from site by an appropriately licensed waste contractor. The decommissioned surface infrastructure areas will then be re-profiled to be consistent with the surrounding landscape.

As part of mine closure planning, NCOPL will assess whether surface infrastructure (e.g. conveyor belt, building materials, cement pads/footings, poly pipe) could be disposed of on-site (e.g. in backfilled in box cut and/or underground).

### 5.2.3 Box cut

Following the completion of mining, mine entrances within the box cut will be sealed in accordance with the requirements of *MDG6001 Guideline for the Permanent Filling and Capping of Surface Entries to Coal Seams* and be consistent with the approved final landform. The box cut would then be backfilled with material recovered from the amenity bund and other areas on-site before being re-profiled.

## 5.2.4 Brine storage ponds

Brine stored in the brine ponds will be re-injected into the mine goaf after the cessation of mining activities via re-injection bores targeting goaf areas in the southern sections of the 100 series panels and northern sections of the 200 series panels.

Following the dewatering of the brine ponds, accumulated salts would be removed from the pond floor and walls and placed in the box cut. Brine pond liners would be removed from site by an appropriately licensed waste contractor. The brine pond walls would then be pushed in and re-profiled to be consistent with the surrounding landscape.

## 5.2.5 Underground mining area

The final landform for the underground mining area will generally approximate the pre-mining landscape with the exception of surface impacts from subsidence, including ponding. All remaining surface infrastructure (e.g. gas management and mine safety pre-conditioning infrastructure areas, exploration areas and associated access tracks) will be decommissioned and rehabilitated at mine closure. Ongoing remediation of mine subsidence effects is conducted where natural processes (e.g. soil movement, wind erosion, water erosion) have not filled surface cracking in accordance with the relevant Extraction Plan/s. Post mine closure subsidence management and monitoring will be considered in the detailed mine closure planning process.

The rehabilitation of surface infrastructure areas at mine closure will include:

- decommissioning (e.g. drilling sumps; gas management infrastructure and pipelines);
- decommissioning and capping of boreholes in accordance with the *Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation, Guideline for mineral exploration drilling; drilling and integrity of petroleum exploration and production wells*, and the *Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia*;
- re-profiling landforms to be consistent with the surrounding landscape to allow for free drainage of surface water runoff;
- application of topsoil/subsoil on the re-profiled landform;
- addition of habitat features (e.g. logs) in native ecosystem and rehabilitation offset areas; and
- application of pasture seed mix and with fertiliser or tubestock planting where natural revegetation is not successful.

Surface infrastructure areas associated with Longwalls 101 to 107 have been rehabilitated to either agriculture – pasture, native ecosystem or rehabilitation offset area final land uses. Ongoing rehabilitation monitoring is occurring within these areas.

## 5.2.6 Water management

Current and future water quality will be maintained at levels that are acceptable for users downstream of the site. Wherever possible, water management structures are, and will be, established in locations where they can remain for the LoM until discharge water quality meets the relevant assessment criteria and dams can be decommissioned. Post mining sediment dams will either be retained as a water source for future land use/s or decommissioned and rehabilitated in consultation with the relevant government authorities and landholders (e.g. the sediment dams may be retained for agricultural purposes or as passive water control storages). Sediment accumulated in sediment dams will be appropriately removed or remediated. Water quality within retained water storage areas and/or sediment days is required to meet the specifications in the Environment Protection License (EPL) and the WMP.

Elements of the final landform such as constructed channels will be shaped, as much as practical, to undulating profiles in keeping with natural landforms of the surrounding environment. The design of any surface water drainage on the final landform will be part of detailed mine closure planning.

Further detail on rehabilitation of water management infrastructure is detailed in the RMP.

## 5.2.7 Contaminated land

Investigations will be undertaken at mine closure to identify and remediate any contaminated land that may exist (e.g. in infrastructure areas), in accordance with the requirements of the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997* (NSW). Contaminated land will be remediated in accordance with the outcomes of a Phase 1 and Phase 2 assessment (if deemed necessary).

## 5.3 Monitoring

Ongoing monitoring of rehabilitation areas will be conducted to assess the:

- progress of rehabilitation; and
- the effectiveness of the rehabilitation methods being used to determine the need for any maintenance and/or adaptation



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measures.

NCOPL will conduct initial post-closure rehabilitation monitoring for a period of one to two years. Following this, monitoring will occur less frequently until lease relinquishment. If required, post-lease relinquishment monitoring will be negotiated with future landholders. NCOPL will also implement adaptive management techniques and facilitation of research trials where appropriate.

NCOPL will maintain rehabilitation monitoring documentation for all rehabilitation activities undertaken until lease relinquishment. Post-closure monitoring reports will be made available on the Narrabri Mine website.

## 5.4 Plan to address temporary or premature mine closure

Temporary closure is a suspension of mining activities for a limited period. Premature closure would involve the mine entering into final closure ahead of the previously planned timeline (i.e. December 2044).

During temporary closure, maintenance works would be carried out in anticipation of the site returning to active mining and production. Equipment and staff would remain on-site, with appropriate care taken of all site infrastructure, including ongoing environmental monitoring and progressive rehabilitation. All environmental controls would remain active and the RCE maintained. Updates to this Strategy would be required in the event of temporary closure.

Premature closure would require establishment of a closure management team to plan and coordinate the acceleration of detailed mine closure and final rehabilitation planning in consultation with the relevant Government agencies. The RCE would be revised to ensure the appropriate security deposit is held to cover the costs in undertaking rehabilitation in the event of default, and to minimise potential liabilities to the state.



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## 6. Risk management

NCOPL implements a comprehensive risk management system as documented in the *Whitehaven HSE Risk Management Standard (WHC-STD-HSE Risk Management)* and the *Whitehaven HSE Risk Management Procedure (WHC-PRO-HSE Risk Management)*. Rehabilitation risks and their associated control measures are documented in the NCOPL Rehabilitation Risk Assessment and summarised in the RMP.

The risk assessment was updated on 7 May 2025 in accordance with the Whitehaven's standards and procedures, Mining Regulation, and in consideration of the *Guideline: Rehabilitation Risk Assessment* (NSW Resource Regulator, 2021).

The RMP also includes a rehabilitation quality assurance process to actively manage risk in achieving the desired rehabilitation outcomes.



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## 7. Stakeholder engagement plan

NCOPL has established a community consultative committee (**CCC**) to inform, consult and involve the community, the relevant councils and other stakeholders on issues directly relating to mine operations, environmental performance and community relations. The Narrabri Mine CCC meets quarterly, and the meeting minutes are publicly available on the Narrabri Mine website.

In addition, and throughout the LoM, stakeholders and regulatory authorities will be actively consulted to ensure their insights and requirements are integrated into rehabilitation and closure planning. Engagement milestones are provided in Table 7-1. Based on feedback from stakeholders, NCOPL will investigate ways to minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with rehabilitation and mine closure.

NCOPL will endeavour to provide ongoing collaboration with regional stakeholders and the NSW Government to identify land reuse opportunities that contribute to the economic resilience of the Narrabri LGA following mine closure.

NCOPL will consult with NSC regarding final landform drainage and land use design as part of detailed mine closure planning activities.

In addition, future revisions to this Strategy will include a summary of NSC and community feedback.

Table 7-1 Engagement milestones

Engagement activity	Timeframe	Stakeholders
CCC meetings	Quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCC members</li> </ul>
Updates to this Strategy	As required or every five years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCC members</li> <li>• RAPs</li> <li>• NSW agencies</li> <li>• Commonwealth agencies</li> </ul>
Detailed Mine Closure Plan	Five years from mine closure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mine staff</li> <li>• CCC members</li> <li>• Landholders</li> <li>• RAPs</li> <li>• Local government</li> <li>• NSW agencies</li> <li>• Commonwealth agencies</li> </ul>
Post-closure activities	Post-mining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landholders</li> <li>• RAPs</li> <li>• Local government</li> <li>• NSW agencies</li> <li>• Commonwealth agencies</li> </ul>

## 8. Reporting, evaluation and review

### 8.1 Forward program and annual rehabilitation report

In accordance with Schedule 8A Clause 13 of the Mining Regulation, NCOPL will prepare a forward program of the proposed schedule of mining activities for the next three (3) year period. This will include a summary of the spatial progression of rehabilitation through its various phases over the 3-year period with rehabilitation occurring as soon as reasonably practicable following disturbance.

NCOPL will also prepare an annual rehabilitation report which will include a description of the rehabilitation undertaken over the annual reporting period, a report of the progress made through the different phases of rehabilitation applying to the reporting period, and an assessment demonstrating progress made towards achieving the rehabilitation objectives, completion criteria and FLRP.

The forward program and annual rehabilitation report will be provided to the Resources Regulator by March 31 of each reporting year.

### 8.2 Strategy review and evaluation

In accordance with CoC E7, NCOPL will review the suitability of the Strategy within three months of the:

- submission of an incident report under CoC E9 or E10;
- submission of an Annual Review under CoC E11;
- submission of an IEA under CoC E13;
- approval of any modification of the CoC (unless the conditions require otherwise); or
- notification of a change in development phase under CoC A14.

As required by CoC E8, if the review under CoC E7 determines that the Strategy requires revision to either improve the environmental performance of the development, cater for a modification or comply with a direction, the revised document will be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within six weeks of the review. In addition, the Strategy will be reviewed and revised in accordance with the requirements detailed in section 8.2.

A dedicated review register will be maintained which will provide the details of the review of all relevant strategies, plans and programs that need to be reviewed as required by CoC E7.

The NCOPL Environmental Superintendent will be responsible for the monitoring, reviewing and implementation of the strategy.

### 8.3 Non-compliance reporting

NCOPL must provide a written report to the Minister detailing any non-compliance with a condition of an ML or a requirement of the Mining Act or Mining Regulation relating to activities under an ML within seven (7) days after becoming aware of the non-compliance. The report must:

- identify the condition of the ML or the requirement of the Mining Act or Mining Regulation to which the non-compliance relates;
- describes the non-compliance and specific date/s on which, or the period during which, the non-compliance occurred;
- describes the causes or likely causes of the non-compliance; and
- describes the action that has been taken, or will be taken, to mitigate the effects, and to prevent any recurrence, of the non-compliance.

### 8.4 Improvement measures

Consent condition E5(g) requires this Strategy to include a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time. Improvement measures may be investigated through review of the following:

- monitoring data, and any assessment of trends;
- audit outcomes;
- incident reports, including any community complaints; and
- industry leading practice in rehabilitation strategies.

NCOPL will review the performance of this Strategy for the previous five years and report results within a quinquennial review report as described in CoC B61(m). The five yearly review requires an assessment of the outcomes of the investigations required by CoC B63 to



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be reported on and the Strategy revised in accordance with any findings from the investigations. This will allow NCOPL to refine the rehabilitation methods and approach to mine closure.

In accordance with CoC B61(m) NCOPL will assess and report on the outcomes of the following investigations:

- opportunities to refine and improve the final landform over time, including the configuration of the REA;
- post-mining beneficial land uses for the site; and
- ways to minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with rehabilitation and mine closure.

The protocol for review is set out by CoC E7, E8 and E11, which have been addressed in section 8.2.

## 8.5 Complaints management

The EMS details the complaints management process, as relevant to rehabilitation activities.

## 8.6 Record keeping

NCOPL must create and maintain records of all actions taken that demonstrate compliance with each condition set out under Schedule 8A Part 2 (Standard Conditions) of the Mining Regulation.

## 8.7 Publicly available information

In accordance with Schedule 8A, Division 3, Clause 16, the *Mining Regulation 2016*, NCOPL will make the following documents publicly available:

- Rehabilitation Management Plan;
- Forward Program; and
- Annual Rehabilitation Report.

NCOPL will publish the rehabilitation documents on the Narrabri Mine website. For the RMP, NCOPL will publish within 14 days after it is prepared or amended. In relation to a Forward Program or an Annual Rehabilitation Report, NCOPL will publish 14 days after it is given to the Secretary or amended.



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## 9. References

AMBS Ecology and Heritage (2024) *Narrabri Coal Mine Stage 1 and 2 – Revised Biodiversity Offset Strategy*. Prepared for Narrabri Copal Operations Pty Ltd

ATC Williams (2022) *Narrabri Mine Rejects Emplacement Area Capping Assessment and Closure Design*. Prepared for Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd

Australian and New Zealand Minerals and Energy Council & Minerals Council of Australia (2000) *Strategic Framework for Mine Closure*.

Department of Industry – Resources and Energy (2016) *Guideline for mineral exploration drilling; drilling integrity of petroleum exploration and production wells*.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (2024) *Guideline: Achieving rehabilitation completion (sign-off)*.

New South Wales Trade and Investment (2012) *MDG6001 Guideline for the Permanent Filling and Capping of Surface Entries to Coal Seams*.

NSW Resources Regulator (2021) *Guideline: Rehabilitation risk assessment*.

NSW Resources Regulator (2022) *Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation*.

NSW Resources Regulator (2024) *Form and Way: Rehabilitation management plan for large mines*.

Mr Shane Rily  
Environmental Superintendent  
Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd

Via: NSW Planning Portal

17/03/2026

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Subject: Narrabri Coal Stage 3 – Rehabilitation Strategy

Dear Mr. Rily

I refer to the Rehabilitation Strategy submitted to satisfy Schedule 2, Condition B63 of the development consent for the Narrabri Mine Underground Mine Stage 3 Extension Project (SSD-10269).

The Department has carefully reviewed the document and is satisfied that it meets the requirements of the relevant conditions of the development consent.

Accordingly, as a nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the Rehabilitation Strategy (Revision 0, dated 20 January 2026).

You are reminded that if there are any inconsistencies between the Rehabilitation Strategy and the conditions of approval, the conditions prevail.

Please ensure you make the document publicly available on the project website at your earliest convenience.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Wayne Jones on (02) 6575 3406.

Yours sincerely



Rose-Anne Hawkeswood  
A/ Director  
Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary



Document Owner: Superintendent - Environment  
Document Approver: Manager – Environment  
Revision Period: 5 years

Issue: 0  
Last Revision Date: 20 January 2026

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## Appendix A: DPHI endorsement letter and consultation records

Brent Baker  
Environmental Manager  
Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd  
10 Kurrajong Road  
Baan Baa, NSW, 2390  
27/11/2024

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Subject: Narrabri Coal Stage 3 – Rehabilitation Strategy Expert Endorsement

Dear Mr. Baker

I refer to your request dated 29 November 2024 for the Planning Secretary's endorsement of Mark Vile and Callum Gawne as suitably qualified and experienced experts to undertake the preparation of the Rehabilitation Strategy in accordance with Schedule 2, Condition B63(a) of the Development Consent for Narrabri Coal Stage 3 (SSD-10269).

The Department has reviewed the nominations and information you have provided and is satisfied that Mark Vile and Callum Gawne are suitably qualified and experienced. Accordingly, I can advise that the Planning Secretary endorses the appointment of Mark Vile and Callum Gawne as suitably qualified and experienced experts to undertake the preparation of the Rehabilitation Strategy.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Wayne Jones on (02) 6575 3406.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SOD", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Stephen O'Donoghue  
Director  
Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary



Brent Baker  
Environmental Advisor  
Whitehaven Coal Pty Ltd  
[brentbaker@whitehavencoal.com.au](mailto:brentbaker@whitehavencoal.com.au)

Dear Brent,

**Narrabri Coal – Rehabilitation Management Strategy**

Thank you for your referral through the Major Projects Portal dated 22 October 2025 to the Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR) of the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) requesting comment on the Rehabilitation Management Strategy (RMS) for Narrabri Coal.

CPHR has reviewed the RMS and is satisfied that it fulfills the requirements of Project Approval SSD-10269, Condition B63.

The RMS makes numerous references to the Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP). It is stated that once the RMS is approved the RMP will be revised. As the RMS only provides the overarching strategic direction and framework for rehabilitation, CPHR requests that the RMP is provided for review once it is completed.

If you have any questions about this advice, please do not hesitate to contact David Geering, Senior Conservation Planning Officer, via [david.geering@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:david.geering@environment.nsw.gov.au) or (02) 6885 0335.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Liz Mazzer'.

**Liz Mazzer**  
**A/Senior Team Leader Planning, North West**  
**Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group**

29 October 2025

Tuesday, 18 November 2025

**Brent Baker**  
[NCO-approval@whitehavencoal.com.au](mailto:NCO-approval@whitehavencoal.com.au)

Via: Major Projects Portal

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Dear Brent,

I refer to the Narrabri Coal Stage 3 submitted to the Resources Regulator on 22 October 2025 (SSD-10269-PA-43). Based on the review of the Rehabilitation strategy the Resources Regulator advises that it has no specific comments.

### **LIMITATIONS**

It should be noted that the Resources Regulator does not provide any endorsement of the proposed rehabilitation methodologies presented in the plans provided. Under the conditions of a mining authorisation granted under the *Mining Act 1992*, the Resources Regulator requires the holder to adopt a risk-based approach to achieving the required rehabilitation outcomes.

The applicability of the controls to achieve effective and sustainable rehabilitation is to be determined based on site-specific risk assessments conducted by the authorisation holder. An authorisation holder may also be directed by the Resources Regulator to implement further risk control measures required to achieve effective rehabilitation outcomes during the life of the mine.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Mining Act Inspectorate within the Resources Regulator undertake risk-based compliance and enforcement activities in relation to obligations under the *Mining Act 1992*. This includes undertaking assessment and compliance activities in relation to mine rehabilitation activities and determination of security deposits. To ensure consistency, the Regulator requests the opportunity to review a copy of the draft development consent prior to any approval of the project.

**CONTACT**

Should you require any further information or clarification, please contact the Regulator on 1300 814 609 (Press Option 2 Press Option 5) or email [nswresourcesregulator@service-now.com](mailto:nswresourcesregulator@service-now.com).

Yours sincerely,



**Matthew Newton**

Principal Inspector Environment and Rehabilitation

Resources Regulator

Our Reference: KA:MC: 2324626  
Your Reference: SSD-10269-PA-43  
PAE-97092220  
Contact Name: Michelle Castles

Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd

Via Major Projects Portal

Monday, 17 November 2025

**RE: Narrabri Coal Stage 3 (SSD-10269-PA-43)  
Post Approval Consultation (PAE-97092220)  
Rehabilitation Strategy (Revision A, October 2025)**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the abovementioned document. Council's feedback in this regard is provided herewith:

**1. Context**

Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd (NCO) has submitted a Rehabilitation Strategy (Revision A, October 2025, prepared by Onward Consulting Pty Ltd for Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd) in accordance with the requirements of Condition B63 of SSD-10269. It is understood that the Rehabilitation Strategy (in final draft) has been prepared based on the information contained within the Rehabilitation Management Plan, the approved Biodiversity Management Plan, the approved Stage 2 Revised Biodiversity Offset Strategy, and the Stage 3 Environmental Impact Statement.

**2. General Comments**

Council notes that the Strategy has been prepared in consultation with relevant stakeholders and endorsed experts, consistent with the requirements of Condition B63(a)-(c). Council supports the Strategy's commitment to achieving a safe, stable, and non-polluting final landform and to rehabilitating land consistent with pre-mining land capability, native ecosystem re-establishment, and agricultural productivity.

**3. Legislative and Strategic Alignment**

Council is satisfied that the Strategy appropriately references the relevant legislation and aligns with the appropriate NSW Resources Regulator's guidelines.

Council notes that the Strategy addresses relevant conditions of SSD-10269 and integrates with the Biodiversity Management Plan and Stage 2 Biodiversity Offset Strategy as required.

The Strategy demonstrates consistency and alignment with the Narrabri Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP) and Narrabri Local Strategic Planning Statement via:



Narrabri Shire Council  
46 - 48 Maitland Street  
PO Box 261, Narrabri NSW 2390



P. (02) 6799 6866  
F. (02) 6799 6888



E. [council@narrabri.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@narrabri.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.narrabri.nsw.gov.au](http://www.narrabri.nsw.gov.au)

- Protecting and reinstating agricultural capability
- Supporting the conservation of native vegetation and biodiversity.
- Maintaining economic and employment benefits within the LGA during mine operation and closure phases.

Council recommends that the post-mining land use strategy continue to align with regional and local land use objectives, including any future amendments to the Narrabri LEP or Narrabri Local Strategic Planning Statement.

#### **4. Rehabilitation and Final Landform**

The Strategy sets out a clear process for achieving rehabilitation outcomes consistent with Condition B63(d):

- Progressive rehabilitation and integration with mine planning;
- Post-mining land uses comprising native ecosystem, rehabilitation offset areas, agricultural pasture, and water storage;
- A geomorphic design approach for the Reject Emplacement Area (REA), consistent with contemporary best practice.

Council is generally supportive of the proposed final landform design and the investigation of opportunities to refine and improve it over time. Further considerations include:

- Detailed final landform contours be shared with Council once the Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP) is approved.
- Long-term landform stability and surface water management be reviewed periodically to ensure integration with the local catchment system and rural drainage patterns.

#### **5. Post-Mining Land Use and Economic Transition**

Council supports the Strategy's emphasis on beneficial post-mining land uses that:

- Maintain agricultural productivity and water storage capacity.
- Rehabilitate native ecosystems to a self-sustaining condition.

- Provide for potential reuse of infrastructure (e.g., rail siding, water storages) where feasible.

Council encourages ongoing collaboration with regional stakeholders and the NSW Government to identify long-term employment and land reuse opportunities that contribute to the economic resilience of the Narrabri LGA following mine closure.

## **6. Consultation and Governance**

Council supports the ongoing use of the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) and recommends that:

- Future updates to the Strategy (required every five years) include a summary of Council's and community feedback.
- Post-closure monitoring reports be made publicly accessible on the Narrabri Mine website.

## **7. Recommendations**

Council is generally satisfied that the Rehabilitation Strategy (Revision A, October 2025) meets the intent of Condition B63 of SSD-10269 and the NSW planning framework. Subject to the following minor recommendations, Council supports its submission for approval:

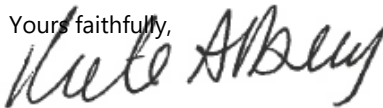
- Ensure ongoing alignment of the Strategy with future updates to the Narrabri LEP and regional land use strategies.
- Provide Council with copies of approved Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP) updates and Annual Rehabilitation Reports for local monitoring consistency.
- Incorporate a clearer commitment to post-mining land capability mapping and agricultural reinstatement criteria in future revisions.
- Include Council in the review of final landform drainage and land use design, prior to closure approval.

## 8. Conclusion

Narrabri Shire Council generally supports the Rehabilitation Strategy's compliance with NSW legislative requirements and the conditions of SSD-10269. The Strategy offers a comprehensive framework to ensure that the mine's closure results in a safe, stable, and productive post-mining landscape that facilitates environmental restoration and sustainable land use within the Narrabri Local Government Area. Subject to the above recommendations, Council supports its acceptance by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) as fulfilling the intent of Condition B63.

Should you require any additional information or clarification in relation to this matter, you are invited to contact Council on (02) 6799 6866, or by emailing [council@narrabri.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@narrabri.nsw.gov.au).

Yours faithfully,



**Kate Alberry**

Director of Development and Compliance

Our ref: OUT25/13843

Brent Baker

Narrabri Coal

Email: [NCO-approval@whitehavencoal.com.au](mailto:NCO-approval@whitehavencoal.com.au)

17 November 2025

Subject: Narrabri Underground Mine - Rehabilitation Strategy

Dear Brent Baker,

I refer to your request seeking advice from the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Water Group on preparation of a Rehabilitation Management Plan for the above matter. It is understood this consultation is in accordance with conditions of approval for the project.

NSW DCCEEW Water Group requests the plan be considered further to ensure relevant water legislation, policy and management requirements are addressed. NSW DCCEEW Water Group has defined a range of outcomes relevant to assist in the preparation of Rehabilitation Management documents and these are detailed in Attachment A.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this submission please do not hesitate to contact the Water Assessments team at [water.assessments@dcceew.nsw.gov.au](mailto:water.assessments@dcceew.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely,



Tim Baker

Senior Project Officer

Water Assessments

NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

## Attachment A

# Detailed advice regarding the Narrabri Underground Mine – Rehabilitation Strategy

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## 1.0 Rehabilitation Management Strategy/Plan Outcomes

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The Rehabilitation Management Strategy/Plan is recommended to be reviewed to achieve the following outcomes. These are intended to meet the NSW DCCEEW Water Group’s legislative, policy and water management requirements.

- Sharing of water must protect the water source, its dependent ecosystems and basic landholder rights.
  - Water sources, floodplains and dependent ecosystems are protected and restored.
  - Activities within a water source should avoid or minimise land degradation, including soil erosion, compaction, geomorphic instability, contamination, and where possible land should be rehabilitated.
  - The final Rehabilitation Management Plan is made electronically available on a public accessible website.
  - A conceptual model/diagram clearly presents how the groundwater and surface water systems interact with the final landform. This is to be informed by recent environmental assessments/modelling reviews.
  - The final design and location of surface drainage features achieves a stable landform and maintains or improves riparian corridor functioning. This is to be completed with reference to industry guidelines such as: “*Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams* (LWRRDC 2000)”, “*Guideline: Works that interfere with water in a watercourse for a resource activity* (DNRME 2019)” and “*Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land* (DCCEEW 2024)” or their latest versions.
  - Dirty runoff catchment areas are rehabilitated, and the conveyance of clean surface runoff downstream is maximised.
  - Decommissioning of groundwater boreholes is in accordance with the “*Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia* (2020)”.
  - Ongoing water take by the final landform via interception, storage or diversion is quantified and complies with relevant approvals and licences under the *Water Management Act 2000* or a relevant exemption. Please note exemptions from the requirement to hold approvals under s.90 and 91 of the *Water Management Act 2000* for approved SSD/SSI projects will not apply once the project approval ceases. Therefore, any relevant water management works that are to be retained will need to obtain an approval prior to the development consent lapsing.
  - Aquifer interference activities are designed to minimise ongoing water take and water quality impacts and meet the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy.
  - Final voids do not present a risk to important groundwater ecosystems and assets (groundwater dependent ecosystems, alluvial aquifers, and landholder bores).
  - Final voids are designed to be sinks or to flow through the local groundwater system and need to be confirmed by a post-mining groundwater model.
-

- Residual risk to water sources is clearly understood and minimised. This is to include relevant assessment documentation and updated risk assessments to meet the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy. Further detail can be found in Fact Sheet 5 in Appendix C of the “*Guidelines for Groundwater Documentation for SSD/SSI Projects. Technical guideline* (DPE 2022)”.
- A monitoring and review program is included to ensure the rehabilitation outcomes are met.

End of Attachment

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**WHC-PLN-REHABILITATION STRATEGY**



Document Owner: Superintendent - Environment  
 Document Approver: Manager – Environment  
 Revision Period: 5 years

Issue: 0  
 Last Revision Date: 20 January 2026

Table A-1 Response to agency recommendations

Consultation feedback	Outcome	Document reference
<b>DCCEE Water Group (17 November 2025 Ref: OUT 25 /13843)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sharing water must protect the water source, its dependent ecosystems and basic landholder rights.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.2.5 of the Rehabilitation Strategy includes a commitment to “re-profile landforms to be consistent with the surrounding landscape to allow for free drainage of surface water runoff as part of detailed mine closure planning”</li> <li>Section 1.2 of the RMP documents the Water Access Licenses (WAL) held by NCOPL under the relevant water sharing plans. These WALs will continue to be held by NCOPL until mine relinquishment.</li> <li>Section 3.2, section 6.1 and section 8.1.6 of the RMP includes a commitment to continue implementation of the groundwater monitoring program post mine closure. The Water Management Plan will be revised as part of the detailed mine closure planning, including revision of the groundwater model.</li> <li>Section 6.2.2 of the RMP includes a commitment to develop a detailed mine closure plan which will include measures for future management of groundwater accumulation in the underground workings, which may include measures to be implemented to minimise any environmental or community impacts associated with potential future discharges from underground workings</li> <li>Appendix B of the RMP includes the objective which states “Runoff water quality from mine site is similar to, or better than the pre-disturbance runoff water quality with negligible environmental consequence and is consistent with the regional catchment management strategy”. This objectives indicator is “Water quality parameters selected from the Environment Protection License or the site-specific trigger values documented in the Surface Water Management Plan”. This objective and indicator will be verified via ongoing surface water monitoring post closure and relinquishment of the Environmental Protection License.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.2.5 of this Strategy</li> <li>Section 1.2 of the RMP</li> <li>Section 3.2, section 6.1 and section 8.1.6 of the RMP</li> <li>Section 6.2.2 of the RMP</li> <li>Appendix B of the RMP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water sources, floodplains and dependent ecosystems are protected and restored.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.2.6 of this Strategy provides a high level overview of how NCOPL propose to manage water infrastructure and protect water sources during all phases of mine rehabilitation to ensure watercourses are restored and water quality is not impacted.</li> <li>Section 6 of the RMP includes detailed measures for the protection and restoration of water sources and groundwater dependent ecosystems.</li> <li>Section 8.1.6 of the RMP includes a commitment to monitor surface and groundwater impacts, including monitoring of groundwater dependent ecosystems, during the life of mine and post closure in accordance with the Water Management Plan. The Water Management Plan will be revised as part of the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.2.6 of this Strategy</li> <li>Section 6 of the RMP</li> <li>Section 8.1.6 of the RMP</li> </ul>

**WHC-PLN-REHABILITATION STRATEGY**



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Consultation feedback	Outcome	Document reference
	<p>detailed mine closure planning, including revision of the groundwater model. In addition, seepage monitoring will verify that seepage/leachate is not contributing to land or groundwater contamination.</p> <p>As the Strategy, RMP and WMP are substantially integrated, the protection and restoration of water sources and groundwater dependent ecosystems is adequately covered by these plans which will be revised as part of detailed mine closure planning.</p> <p>Note: floodplains not applicable to the Narrabri Mine.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activities within a water source should avoid or minimise land degradation, including soil erosion, compaction, geomorphic instability, contamination, and where possible land should be rehabilitated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Extraction Plans developed in accordance with Condition C8 of SSD-10269 specifically include measures for activities within a water source to avoid or minimise land degradation, including soil erosion, compaction, geomorphic instability, and contamination. The Extraction Plans include a TARP to manage impacts from subsidence.</li> <li>Section 6.2.1 of the RMP details the multi-scale, multi-data monitoring approach to monitor the environmental consequences of subsidence effects. Whole-of-site monitoring includes remote sensing data (multi-spectral imaging and LiDAR), while field surveys focus on native vegetation, agricultural areas, watercourses, surface cracking and erosion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/narrabri-mine/">https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/narrabri-mine/</a></li> <li>Section 6.2.1 of the RMP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The final Rehabilitation Management Plan is made electronically available on a public accessible website.</li> </ul>	<p>The final RMP is available on NCOPLs website.</p>	<p><a href="https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/narrabri-mine/">https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/narrabri-mine/</a></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A conceptual model/diagram clearly presents how the groundwater and surface water systems interact with the final landform. This is to be informed by recent environmental assessments/modelling reviews.</li> </ul>	<p>NCOPL will engage a suitably qualified person to produce a conceptual diagram demonstrating how the groundwater and surface water systems will likely interact with the final landform to influence water quantity, quality, flow paths, and potential long-term risks. The conceptual diagram will be provided to DCEEW Water Group and the Resources Regulator for review and comment to be included in the next revision of the RMP.</p>	<p>Next revision of the RMP following approval by DCEEW Water Group and the Resources Regulator.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The final design and location of surface drainage features achieves a stable landform and maintains or improves riparian corridor functioning. This is to be completed with reference to industry guidelines such as: “<i>Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams</i> (LWRRDC 2000)”, “<i>Guideline: Works that interfere with water in a watercourse for a resource activity</i> (DNRME 2019)” and “<i>Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</i> (DCEEW 2024)” or their latest versions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 6.2.3 of the RMP includes a commitment to construct water management structures associated with the water management area final land use (e.g. such as contour banks, diversion drains, or re-established drainage lines) with longitudinal gradients which permit the transfer of water at non-erosive velocities (e.g., 1:200 (V:H)) (where practicable) and designed to achieve long term stability.</li> <li>Section 6.2.5 of the RMP states that target vegetation associated with the final land use, including Riparian Forest (PCT 101), will be established and subsequently managed to progress to the ecosystem and land use development phase following and construction of drainage features.</li> </ul> <p>The following guidelines are referenced in section 2.5 of this Strategy:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 6.2.3 of the RMP</li> <li>Section 6.2.5 of the RMP</li> <li>Section 2.5 of this Strategy</li> </ul>

## WHC-PLN-REHABILITATION STRATEGY



Document Owner: Superintendent - Environment  
 Document Approver: Manager – Environment  
 Revision Period: 5 years

Issue: 0  
 Last Revision Date: 20 January 2026

Consultation feedback	Outcome	Document reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation. 2000. Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams</li> <li>Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. 2019. Guideline: Works that interfere with water in a watercourse for a resource activity</li> <li>NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water. 2024. Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dirty runoff catchment areas are rehabilitated, and the conveyance of clean surface runoff downstream is maximised.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of the key closure design criteria for the REA (section 6.2.3 of the RMP), NCOPL commits to diverting clean water around REA the Reject Emplacement Area for release via an external perimeter drain. Furthermore, the Narrabri Mine will be rehabilitated to a safe, stable and non-polluting landform of a similar character to surrounding areas as described in section 6 of the RMP.</li> <li>Section 6.2.3 of the RMP commits to constructing and retaining sediment dams during rehabilitation to collect runoff from rehabilitated areas until discharge water quality meets the relevant assessment criteria and dams can be decommissioned.</li> <li>Appendix B of the RMP details the approved rehabilitation objective for surface water which states 'Runoff water quality from mine site is similar to, or better than the pre-disturbance runoff water quality with negligible environmental consequence and is consistent with the regional catchment management strategy'.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 6 and 6.2.3 of the RMP</li> <li>Appendix B of the RMP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decommissioning of groundwater boreholes is in accordance with the "Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia (2020)".</li> </ul>	Section 2.5 and section 5.2.5 of this Strategy have been updated to include reference to these guidelines for decommissioning of boreholes.	Section 2.5 and section 5.2.5 of this Strategy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing water take by the final landform via interception, storage or diversion is quantified and complies with relevant approvals and licences under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> or a relevant exemption. Please note exemptions from the requirement to hold approvals under s.90 and 91 of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> for approved SSD/SSI projects will not apply once the project approval ceases. Therefore, any relevant water management works that are to be retained will need to obtain an approval prior to the development consent lapsing.</li> </ul>	Retained water management structures will be appropriately licensed in accordance with the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> (if required). Appendix B of the RMP details the approved rehabilitation objectives which states 'Structures that take or divert water such as dams or levees are appropriately licensed (e.g. under the Water Management Act 2000) and where required, ensure sufficient licence shares are held in the water source(s) to account for water take.	Appendix B of the RMP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aquifer interference activities are designed to minimise ongoing water take and water quality impacts and meet the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 4.4 of the Stage 3 Groundwater Management Plan indicates that NCOPL will use the groundwater model (AGE, 2024) as an ongoing management tool for the periodic review and validation of predicted groundwater impacts through the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 4.4 of the Stage 3 Groundwater Management Plan</li> </ul>

**WHC-PLN-REHABILITATION STRATEGY**



Document Owner: Superintendent - Environment  
 Document Approver: Manager – Environment  
 Revision Period: 5 years

Issue: 0  
 Last Revision Date: 20 January 2026

Consultation feedback	Outcome	Document reference
	<p>life of mine and post closure. NCOPL will update the model two years after the commencement of the Stage 3 development and every five years thereafter in consultation with the DCCEE Water Group. Re-calibration of the model will include forward impact predictions of brine re-injection to the mine's goaf at the conclusion of mining operations. The groundwater model will be used to ensure NCOPL meet the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy relation to ongoing water take.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 8.1.6 of the RMP includes a commitment to monitor groundwater impacts, including monitoring of groundwater dependent ecosystems, during the life of mine and post closure in accordance with the Water Management Plan. The Water Management Plan will be revised as part of the detailed mine closure planning, including revision of the groundwater model. In addition, seepage monitoring will verify that seepage/leachate is not contributing to land or groundwater contamination. The groundwater model and ongoing monitoring program post closure will be used to ensure NCOPL meet the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy in relation to potential water quality impacts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 8.1.6 of the RMP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final voids do not present a risk to important groundwater ecosystems and assets (groundwater dependent ecosystems, alluvial aquifers, and landholder bores).</li> </ul>	<p>N/A – there are no final voids proposed as part of the final landform.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final voids are designed to be sinks or to flow through the local groundwater system and need to be confirmed by a post -mining groundwater model.</li> </ul>	<p>N/A – there are no final voids proposed as part of the final landform.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residual risk to water sources is clearly understood and minimised. This is to include relevant assessment documentation and updated risk assessments to meet the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy. Further detail can be found in Fact Sheet 5 in Appendix C of the “Guidelines for Groundwater Documentation for SSD/SSI Projects. Technical guideline (DPE 2022)”. </li> </ul>	<p>In response to the recent Resources Regulator TAP, NCOPL submitted an action plan to the Resources Regulator on 2 December 2025. Action 1 (due March 2026) is to review and refine the existing rehabilitation risk assessment to address matters identified in the revegetation TAP. As part of the refinement, NCOPL will also review and refine the residual risk to water sources as part of to include the relevant assessment documentation to meet the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy. The RMP will be updated with any relevant changes to the revised risk assessment within 14 days of the completion of the revised risk assessment.</p>	<p>Section 3.2 of the RMP to be updated following revised risk assessment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A monitoring and review program is included to ensure the rehabilitation outcomes are met.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.3 of this Strategy commits to conducting initial post-closure rehabilitation monitoring for a period of one to two years. Following this, monitoring will occur less frequently until lease relinquishment. If required, post-lease relinquishment monitoring will be negotiated with future landholders. NCOPL will also implement adaptive management techniques and facilitation of research trials where appropriate. NCOPL will maintain rehabilitation monitoring documentation for all rehabilitation activities undertaken until lease relinquishment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.3 of this Strategy</li> <li>Section 8 of the RMP</li> </ul>

**WHC-PLN-REHABILITATION STRATEGY**



Document Owner: Superintendent - Environment  
 Document Approver: Manager – Environment  
 Revision Period: 5 years

Issue: 0  
 Last Revision Date: 20 January 2026

Consultation feedback	Outcome	Document reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 8 of the RMP provides the comprehensive rehabilitation monitoring program which will be revised as part of detailed mine closure planning.</li> </ul>	
<b>Narrabri Shire Council (17 November 2025 Ref: KA:MC: 2324626)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure ongoing alignment of the Strategy with future updates to the Narrabri LEP and regional land use strategies.</li> </ul>	<p>Section 2.4 of this Strategy has been updated to include the following statement:</p> <p>NCOPL will ensure the post-mining land use strategy continues to align with regional and local land use objectives, including any future amendments to the Narrabri LEP or Narrabri Local Strategic Planning Statement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 2.4 of this Strategy</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide Council with copies of approved Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP) updates and Annual Rehabilitation Reports for local monitoring consistency.</li> </ul>	<p>The RMP and Annual Rehabilitation Reports are available on the Narrabri Mine website.</p>	<p><a href="https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/narrabri-mine/">https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/narrabri-mine/</a></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate a clearer commitment to post-mining land capability mapping and agricultural reinstatement criteria in future revisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 4.1.1 of this Strategy states:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In agricultural rehabilitation areas, seed stock will be sourced from local providers where required. The RMP details the indicative winter and summer pasture species to be used. Appropriate management and amelioration measures will be implemented so that rehabilitated pasture areas are comparable in productivity to pre-mining conditions i.e. land capability class. This may include the application of gypsum and fertiliser to topsoil in order to address potential acidity, organic carbon and/or nutrient deficiency constraints, and enhance rapid establishment of sustainable vegetation growth.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Section 4.1.2 of this Strategy includes information on the relevant land and soil capability classes associated with the Narrabri Mine, with Figure 1-3f of the RMP depicting the spatial references for each class across the mining leases.</li> <li>Section 1.3.3 of the RMP states:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The approved final land use/s will include agricultural land comparable to that of the pre-mining environment (Land and Soil Capability (LSC)). Consistent with the current and historical land use practices, the land is capable of supporting grazing, with small areas capable of opportunistic cropping.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Appendix B of the RMP includes the following proposed agricultural land completion criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land and Soil Capability classification criteria to meet:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ML 1609 – class 4 and class 5 (moderate land capability) with a small region (to the east) of class 3 (high land capability)</li> <li>ML 1839 and MLA 2 – class 5 or greater (low to moderate land capability) dominates the western side of both leases with class 4 (moderate</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 of this Strategy</li> <li>Figure 1-3f of the RMP</li> <li>Section 1.3.3 of the RMP</li> </ul>

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	<p>capability) in the north east portion (i.e. largest area). Smaller areas of class 2, 4 and 5 are present across the leases (refer to Figure 1-3f).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The re-established topsoil / subsoil substrate is capable of supporting the targeted pasture / cropping regime on a sustained basis.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include Council in the review of final landform drainage and land use design, prior to closure approval.</li> </ul>	<p>The stakeholder engagement plan in section 7 of this Strategy includes NSC as a stakeholder relevant to the detailed mine closure plan. Section 7 has been updated to state:                      NCOPL will consult with NSC regarding final landform drainage and land use design as part of detailed mine closure planning activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 7 of this Strategy</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council is generally supportive of the proposed final landform design and the investigation of opportunities to refine and improve it over time. Further considerations include:</li> </ul>	-	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Detailed final landform contours be shared with Council once the Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP) is approved.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no requirement for the RMP to be approved. The latest version of the RMP is published on the Narrabri Coal website. NCOPL will provide NSC detailed final landform shape files following finalisation of the next revision of the RMP (due in March 2026).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Long-term landform stability and surface water management be reviewed periodically to ensure integration with the local catchment system and rural drainage patterns.</li> </ul>	<p>The approved Stage 3 Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ERSED Plan) has a 3-year revision period unless triggered by SSD-10269 Condition E7. The ERSED Plan includes detail on how NCOPL propose to manage surface cracking, and slope instability as a potential consequence from subsidence (section 3.5.4). The approved Stage 3 Surface Water Management Plan also has a revision period of 3-years unless triggered by Condition E7.</p> <p>The RMP and Extraction Plans also provide for periodic review of long-term landform stability and surface water management with data collected via remote sensing annually as well as updates to water triggers based on the collation of historical water monitoring data. These plans all have revision periods of between 1 year and 5 years with the trigger under Condition E7 relevant.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stage 3 Erosion and Sediment Control Plan</li> <li>• Stage 3 Surface Water Management Plan</li> <li>• RMP</li> <li>• Relevant Extraction Plans</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council encourages ongoing collaboration with regional stakeholders and the NSW Government to identify long-term employment and land reuse opportunities that contribute to the economic resilience of the Narrabri LGA following mine closure.</li> </ul>	<p>Section 7 of this Strategy has been updated to include the following statement:                      NCOPL will endeavour to provide ongoing collaboration with regional stakeholders and the NSW Government to identify land reuse opportunities that contribute to the economic resilience of the Narrabri LGA following mine closure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 7 of this Strategy</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council supports the ongoing use of the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) and recommends that:</li> </ul>		

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Consultation feedback	Outcome	Document reference
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Future updates to the Strategy (required every five years) include a summary of Council's and community feedback.</li> </ul>	Section 7 of this Strategy has been updated to include the following statement: Future revisions to this Strategy will include a summary of NSC and community feedback.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 7 of this Strategy</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Post-closure monitoring reports be made publicly accessible on the Narrabri Mine website.</li> </ul>	Post-closure monitoring reports will be made available on the Narrabri Mine website.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 5.3 of this Strategy</li> </ul>
<b>Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR) (29 October 2025 Ref: DOC25/921348)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPHR requests that the RMP is provided for review once it is completed.</li> </ul>	The RMP is available on the Narrabri Mine website.	<a href="https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/narrabri-mine/">https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/narrabri-mine/</a>



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## Appendix B: Compliance conditions relevant to this Strategy

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Table B-1 SSD 10269 conditions relevant to this Strategy

Condition	Requirement	Document reference
<b>Rehabilitation Objectives</b>		
B59	The Applicant must rehabilitate the Narrabri Mine in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining lease(s) associated with the development under the Mining Act 1992. This rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation strategy described in the EIS, and must comply with the objectives in Table 8 of the CoC.	Section 4.3
<b>Progressive Rehabilitation</b>		
B60	The Applicant must rehabilitate the Narrabri Mine progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable following disturbance, including construction disturbance. All reasonable and feasible steps must be taken to minimise the total area exposed at any time. Interim stabilisation and temporary vegetation strategies must be employed when areas prone to dust generation, soil erosion and weed incursion cannot be permanently rehabilitated.  Note: It is accepted that some parts of the site that are progressively rehabilitated may be subject to further disturbance at some later stage of the development.	Section 4.1
<b>Rehabilitation Strategy</b>		
B61	The Applicant must prepare a Rehabilitation Strategy for the Narrabri Mine to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This strategy must:	
	a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person/s whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary;	Section 1.4 Appendix A
	b) be prepared in consultation with the Resources Regulator, DCCEE Water, CPHR and NSC;	Section 1.4 Appendix A
	c) be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within six months of the date of commencement of development under this consent;	Section 1.4
	d) build upon the Rehabilitation Objectives in Table 8 of the CoC, describe the overall rehabilitation outcomes for the site, and address all aspects of rehabilitation including mine closure, final landform, post-mining land use/s and water management;	Section 4 Section 5 Section 7 Section 8
	e) align with strategic rehabilitation and mine closure objectives and address the principles of the <i>Strategic Framework for Mine Closure</i> (ANZMEC and MCA, 2000);	Section 5.1
	f) describe how the rehabilitation measures would be integrated with the measures in the Biodiversity Management Plan required under condition B42 and the Stage 2 Biodiversity Offset Strategy referred to in condition B45;	Section 3.1 Section 3.2
	g) describe how rehabilitation will be integrated with the mine planning process, including a plan to address premature or temporary mine closure;	Section 4 Section 5
	h) include details of:	
	i. target vegetation communities and species to be established within the proposed revegetation areas, including habitat for threatened fauna;	Section 4.5
	ii. the design of the surface water drainage network on the final landform; and	Section 5.2.6
	iii. the capping design of the reject emplacement area as well as the quantity and source of capping material;	Section 5.2.1
	i) investigate opportunities to refine and improve the final landform over time, including the configuration of the reject emplacement area;	Section 5.2
	j) include a post-mining land use strategy to investigate and facilitate post-mining beneficial land uses for the site, that:	
	i. align with regional and local strategic land use planning objectives and outcomes;	Section 2.4
	ii. support a sustainable future for the local community;	Section 4.1.1
	iii. utilise existing mining infrastructure, where practicable; and	Section 5.1
	iv. avoid disturbing self-sustaining native ecosystems, where practicable;	
	k) include a stakeholder engagement plan to guide rehabilitation and mine closure planning processes and outcomes;	Section 7

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Condition	Requirement	Document reference
	l) investigate ways to minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with rehabilitation and mine closure; and	Section 5.1 Section 7
	m) include a program to report on the outcomes of the investigations required under this condition and review and update this strategy at least every five years.	Section 8
B62	The Applicant must implement the Rehabilitation Strategy approved by the Planning Secretary.	Section 1.4

*Table B-2 Key EIS commitments relevant to this Strategy*

Source	Aspect	Details	Reference
EIS Table 2-2	Rehabilitation Strategy	Conducted in accordance with the MOP.	Section 2.2
EIS Section 2.1.12	Rehabilitation	The Narrabri Mine final landform will generally approximate the pre mining landscape with the exception of the reject emplacement area and surface impacts from subsidence in the underground mining area.	Section 5.2
EIS Section 2.1.12	Rehabilitation	The following final land uses are approved at the Narrabri Mine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• water management;</li> <li>• pasture;</li> <li>• woodland;</li> <li>• State Forest; and</li> <li>• biodiversity offset areas.</li> </ul> In addition, surface infrastructure may be retained post-mining where agreed with the relevant regulatory authorities and landholders.	Section 4.1.1
EIS Section 2.14	Rehabilitation	The Project would require the progressive rehabilitation of surface development areas and the remediation of subsidence impacts in the underground mine area.	Section 4.1
EIS Section 2.14	Rehabilitation	The Project would be rehabilitated to a safe, stable and non-polluting landform of a similar character to surrounding areas.	Section 4.1
EIS Section 2.14	Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation would be undertaken progressively as soon as reasonably practicable as areas become available following mining operations.	Section 4.1
EIS Section 2.14.1	Conceptual Final Landform Design	Following the completion of mining, mine entrances in the box cut would be sealed in accordance with the requirements of <i>MDG6001 Guideline for the Permanent Filling and Capping of Surface Entries to Coal Seams</i> (NSW Trade and Investment, 2012). Consistent with the approved final landform, the box cut would then be backfilled with material recovered from the amenity bund and other areas on-site before being re-profiled to be consistent with the surrounding landscape.	Section 5.2.3
EIS Section 2.14.1	Conceptual Final Landform Design	Following the dewatering of the Brine Storage Ponds (Section 2.10.1 of the EIS), accumulated salts would be removed from the brine storage pond floor and walls and placed in the box cut. Brine Storage Pond liners would be removed from site by an appropriately licensed waste contractor. The Brine Storage Pond walls would then be pushed in and re-profiled to be consistent with the surrounding landscape (Attachment 5 of the EIS).	Section 5.2.3 Section 5.2.4
EIS Section 2.14.1	Conceptual Final Landform Design	The rehabilitated reject emplacement area would be approximately 15 m high with batter slopes of generally 1:5 (V:H) with a maximum grade of 1:4 (V:H) on the north-east batter. An approximate 400-millimetre (mm) clay capping layer would be placed over the final landform prior to revegetation (ATC Williams, 2019).	Section 5.2.1
EIS Section 2.14.1	Conceptual Final Landform Design	For the purposes of rehabilitation and mine closure planning for the Project, NCOPL proposes the post-mining land use of the Project would continue to comprise a combination of native vegetation, agricultural (pasture) and forestry (State Forest) land uses.	Section 4.1.1
EIS Section 2.14.1	Conceptual Final Landform Design	Project infrastructure (e.g. rail loop, site access roads, water storages) may be retained for alternate post-mining uses (where agreed with relevant regulatory authorities and landholders).	Section 5.2.2
EIS Section 6.6.4	Surface Development	Surface Development Footprint rehabilitated to pre-mining land use	Section 4.1.1 Section 5.2
		The Mine Site Ecological Rehabilitation areas would be rehabilitated consistent	Section 3.2

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Source	Aspect	Details	Reference
		with the rehabilitation strategy for the Woodland secondary domain if the rehabilitation objectives, performance indicators and completion criteria for the Mine Site Ecological Rehabilitation areas are not able to be satisfied.	
		The biodiversity offset areas established at the Narrabri Mine (Section A5.1.4 of the EIS) would be included in the Project rehabilitation strategy as shown on Figure A5-4 of the EIS.	Section 3.2.1
EIS Section A5.5.1	Rehabilitation monitoring	<p>It is expected that the rehabilitation monitoring would include (subject to final land use agreement):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of all rehabilitation activities undertaken.</li> <li>• Baseline monitoring to determine conditions pre-mining and during mining:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ recording pasture establishment success and progression towards control sites;</li> <li>○ monitoring drains and rehabilitated mine landforms for localised failures or drilling and loss of topsoil after rainfall events;</li> <li>○ identifying potential threats to rehabilitated woodland and pasture areas (e.g. weed invasion, pest species, erosion);</li> <li>○ monitoring the stability of rehabilitated mine landforms; and</li> <li>○ recording key rehabilitation information (e.g. taking photographic records).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Initial monitoring for a period of one to two years post-closure and comparison with control sites.</li> <li>• Ongoing monitoring (less frequently) from two years post-mining until lease relinquishment.</li> <li>• Post-lease relinquishment monitoring (to be negotiated with future landholders).</li> </ul> <p>Use of adaptive management techniques and facilitation of research trials where appropriate.</p>	Section 5.3 Refer to the RMP
Submissions Report Section 4.2.7	Rehabilitation and Final Landform	Further detail of final landform design in regard to final land use and erosion control would be provided in a Rehabilitation Strategy or Rehabilitation Management Plan (or similar) as is typically required by the development consent.	Section 4.5 and refer to the RMP

Table B-3 Standard conditions for ML 1609 and ML 1839 under Schedule 8A Part 2 of the Mining Regulation

Condition	Requirement	Document reference
<b>Division 1 Protection of the environment and rehabilitation</b>		
4	<p><b>Must prevent or minimise harm to environment</b></p> <p>The holder of a mining lease must take all reasonable measures to prevent, or if that is not reasonably practicable, to minimise, harm to the environment caused by activities under the mining lease.</p>	Section 4.1
5	<p><b>Rehabilitation to occur as soon as reasonably practicable after disturbance</b></p> <p>The holder of a mining lease must rehabilitate land and water in the mining area that is disturbed by activities under the mining lease as soon as reasonably practicable after the disturbance occurs.</p>	Section 4.1
6	<p><b>Rehabilitation must achieve final land use:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The holder of a mining lease must ensure that rehabilitation of the mining area achieves the final land use for the mining area.</li> <li>2) The holder of the mining lease must ensure any planning approval has been obtained that is necessary to enable the holder to comply with subclause (1).</li> <li>3) The holder of the mining lease must identify and record any reasonably foreseeable hazard that presents a risk to the holder's ability to comply with subclause (1).</li> </ol> <p><b>Note</b> - Clause 7 requires a rehabilitation risk assessment to be conducted whenever a hazard is identified under this subclause.</p>	Section 4 Section 5 Section 5.1 Section 5.2.6 Section 6

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Condition	Requirement	Document reference
<b>Division 2 Risk Assessment</b>		
7	<p><b>Rehabilitation risk assessment</b></p> <p>1) The holder of a mining lease must conduct a risk assessment (a rehabilitation risk assessment) that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) identifies, assesses and evaluates the risks that need to be addressed to achieve the following in relation to the mining lease—                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the rehabilitation objectives,</li> <li>ii. the rehabilitation completion criteria,</li> <li>iii. for large mines—the final land use as spatially depicted in the final landform and rehabilitation plan, and</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) identifies the measures that need to be implemented to eliminate, minimise or mitigate the risks.</li> </ul> <p>2) The holder of the mining lease must implement the measures identified</p> <p>3) The holder of a mining lease must conduct a rehabilitation risk assessment –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) For a large mine – before preparing a rehabilitation management plan, and whenever a hazard is identified under clause 6(3) – as soon as reasonability practicable after is identified; and</li> <li>b) Whenever given a written direction to do so by the Secretary.</li> </ul>	<p>Section 6 Appendix B of the RMP</p> <p>Section 4 Section 5</p> <p>Section 6 Appendix B of the RMP</p>
<b>Division 3 Rehabilitation Documents</b>		
9	<p><b>General requirements for Documents</b></p> <p>A document required to be prepared under this Deivion must –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) be in a form approved by the Secretary; and</li> <li>b) include any matter required to be included by the form, and</li> <li>c) if required to be given to the Secretary – be given in a way approved by the Secretary.</li> </ul>	<p>Section 4.5 Refer to the RMP</p>
10	<p><b>Rehabilitation management plans for large mines</b></p> <p>1) The holder of a mining lease relating to a large mine must prepare a plan (a rehabilitation management plan) for the mining lease that includes the following—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a description of how the holder proposes to manage all aspects of the rehabilitation of the mining area,</li> <li>b) a description of the steps and actions the holder proposes to take to comply with the conditions of the mining lease that relate to rehabilitation,</li> <li>c) a summary of rehabilitation risk assessments conducted by the holder,</li> <li>d) the risk control measures identified in the rehabilitation risk assessments,</li> <li>e) the rehabilitation outcome documents for the mining lease,</li> <li>f) a statement of the performance outcomes for the matters addressed by the rehabilitation outcome documents and the ways in which those outcomes are to be measured and monitored.</li> </ul> <p>2) If a rehabilitation outcome document has not been approved by the Secretary, the holder of the mining lease must include a proposed version of the document.</p> <p>3) A rehabilitation management plan is not required to be given to the Secretary for approval.</p> <p>4) The holder of the mining lease—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) must implement the matters set out in the rehabilitation management plan, and</li> <li>b) if the forward program specifies timeframes for the implementation of the matters— must implement the matters within those timeframes.</li> </ul>	<p>Section 3.3 Refer to RMP</p>
11	<p><b>Amendment of rehabilitation management plans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The holder of a mining lease must amend the rehabilitation management plan for the mining lease as follows –</li> <li>b) to substitute the proposed version of a rehabilitation outcome document with the version approved by the Secretary—within 30 days after the document is approved,</li> <li>c) to substitute the proposed version of a rehabilitation outcome document with the version</li> </ul>	<p>Refer to RMP</p>

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Condition	Requirement	Document reference
	<p>approved by the Secretary—within 30 days after the document is approved,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d) as a consequence of an amendment made under clause 14 to a rehabilitation outcome document—within 30 days after the amendment is made,</li> <li>e) to reflect any changes to the risk control measures in the prepared plan that are identified in a rehabilitation risk assessment—as soon as practicable after the rehabilitation risk assessment is conducted,</li> <li>f) whenever given a written direction to do so by the Secretary—in accordance with the direction.</li> </ul>	
12	<p><b>Rehabilitation outcome documents</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The holder of a mining lease must prepare the following documents (the rehabilitation outcome documents) for the mining lease and give them to the Secretary for approval—                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the <b>rehabilitation objectives statement</b>, which sets out the rehabilitation objectives required to achieve the final land use for the mining area,</li> <li>b) the <b>rehabilitation completion criteria statement</b>, which sets out criteria, the completion of which will demonstrate the achievement of the rehabilitation objectives, for a large mine, the <b>final landform and rehabilitation plan</b>, showing a spatial depiction of the final land use.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) If the final land use for the mining area is required by a condition of development consent for activities under the mining lease, the holder of the mining lease must ensure the rehabilitation outcome documents are consistent with that condition.</li> </ul>	<p>Section 4.4                      Section 4.5                      Refer to the RMP</p> <p>Section 4</p>
13	<p><b>Forward program and annual rehabilitation report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The holder of a mining lease must prepare a program (a forward program) for the mining lease that includes the following—                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a schedule of mining activities for the mining area for the next 3 years,</li> <li>b) a summary of the spatial progression of rehabilitation through its various phases for the next 3 years,</li> <li>c) a requirement that the rehabilitation of land and water disturbed by mining activities under the mining lease must occur as soon as reasonably practicable after the disturbance occurs.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) The holder of a mining lease must prepare a report (an annual rehabilitation report) for the mining lease that includes—                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) description of the rehabilitation undertaken over the annual reporting period,</li> <li>b) a report demonstrating the progress made through the phases of rehabilitation provided for in the forward program applying to the reporting period,</li> <li>c) a report demonstrating progress made towards the achievement of the following—                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the objectives set out in the rehabilitation objectives statement,</li> <li>ii. the criteria set out in the rehabilitation completion criteria statement,</li> <li>iii. for large mines—the final land use as spatially depicted in the final landform and rehabilitation plan.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>3) If a rehabilitation outcome document has not been approved by the Secretary, the holder of the mining lease must rely on a proposed version of the document.</li> <li>4) The holder of the mining lease must give the forward program and annual rehabilitation report to the Secretary.</li> <li>5) In this clause annual reporting period means each period of 12 months commencing on—                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the date on which the mining lease is granted, or</li> <li>b) if the Secretary approves another date in relation to the mining lease—the other date.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Section 8.1                      Refer to RMP</p>
16	<p><b>Certain documents to be publicly available</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) This clause applies to the following documents—                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a rehabilitation management plan,</li> <li>b) a forward program,</li> <li>c) an annual rehabilitation report</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) The holder of a mining lease must make a document to which this clause applies publicly available by—                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) publishing it on its website in a prominent position, or</li> <li>b) if the holder does not have a website— providing a copy of it to a person—</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Section 8.7</p>



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Condition	Requirement	Document reference
	i. on the written request of a person, and ii. without charge, and iii. within 14 days after the request is received. 3) If a document is published on the website of the holder of the mining lease, the holder must ensure that it is published— a) for a rehabilitation management plan—within 14 days after it is prepared or amended, or b) for a forward program or an annual rehabilitation report—within 14 days after it is given to the Secretary or amended. 4) Personal information within the meaning of the <i>Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998</i> is not required to be included in a document made available to a person under this clause.	

**Division 4 Records, reporting and notification**

17	<p><b>Records demonstrating compliance</b></p> <p>The holder of a mining lease must create and maintain records of all actions taken that demonstrate compliance with each of the conditions set out in this Part.</p>	Section 8.6
18	<p><b>Report on non-compliance</b></p> <p>1) The holder of a mining lease must provide the Minister with a written report detailing any non-compliance with –                      a) a condition of the mining lease, or</p> <p><b>Note –</b>                      The Act, section 364A contains provisions relating to the use and disclosure of information provided under this condition.</p> <p>b) A requirement of the Act or this Regulation relating to activities under the mining lease.</p> <p>2) The holder of the mining lease must provide the report within 7 days after becoming aware of the non-compliance.</p> <p>3) The holder of the mining lease must ensure the report—                      a) identifies the condition of the mining lease, or the requirement of the Act or this Regulation, to which the non-compliance relates, and                      b) describes the non-compliance and specifies the date or dates on which, or the period during which, the non-compliance occurred, and                      c) describes the causes or likely causes of the non-compliance, and                      d) describes the action that has been taken, or will be taken, to mitigate the effects, and to prevent any recurrence, of the non-compliance.</p>	Section 8.3