




VICKERY OPEN CUT

Document Owner:	VOC
Issue:	1.2
Last Revision Date:	November 2024
Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024


WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHC_PLN_VOC_BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

	VICKERY OPEN CUT	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1	Purpose and Scope	1
1.2	Consultation	7
1.3	Structure of the Bushfire Management Plan.....	7
2	RELEVANT STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES.....	8
2.1	Development Consent (SSD-7480)	8
2.2	Licenses, Permits and Leases.....	8
2.3	Other Legislation	8
3	EXISTING ENVIRONMENT	9
3.1	Mine site assets	10
4	BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL MEASURES.....	13
4.1	General Bushfire Protection measures.....	13
4.1.1	Asset Protection.....	14
4.1.2	Site based water storages	15
4.1.3	Hot Work Management.....	15
4.2	Monitoring	15
5	EMERGENCY/EVACUATION PLAN	18
5.1	Site access.....	18
5.2	Bushfire Emergency response procedure	18
5.3	Emergency Evacuation	19
5.4	Contingency Plan	19
5.5	Adaptive Management	20
5.6	Potential Contingency Measures	20
6	REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE	21
6.1	Annual Review	21
6.2	Bushfire Management Plan Revision.....	21
6.3	Independent Environmental Audit.....	22
7	REPORTING PROCEDURES	23
7.1	Incident and Non-compliance Reporting.....	23
7.2	Complaints	24
7.3	Non-Compliance with Statutory Requirements.....	24

	VICKERY OPEN CUT	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

8	REFERENCES	26
---	------------------	----

Figures


Figure 1 – VOC Locality	4
Figure 2 – VOC General Arrangement.....	6
Figure 3 – Bushfire Prone Land	9
Figure 4 – VOC Current Land Disturbance	11
Figure 5 – Key Site Locations	12
Figure 6 – Australian Fire Danger Ratings.....	16
Figure 7 – VOC Bushfire Plan	17

Tables

Table 1 - Specific Bushfire Management Plan Conditions in SSD-7480	2
Table 2 – General Bushfire management Conditions in SSD-7480.....	2
Table 3 – General Management Plan Conditions in SSD-7480.....	3
Table 4 – VOC Asset List	10
Table 5 - Emergency Bushfire Contacts.....	19

Appendices

Appendix A	Consultation Log.....	27
------------	-----------------------	----

	VICKERY OPEN CUT	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

1 INTRODUCTION

The Vickery Open Cut Coal Mine (VOC) is located in the Gunnedah Coal Basin, approximately 25 kilometres (km) north of Gunnedah in New South Wales (NSW) (Figure 1). The VOC is operated by Vickery Coal Operations Pty Limited (VCOPL) (a wholly owned subsidiary of Whitehaven Coal Limited [WHC]).

Development Consent (SSD-7480) was granted to VCOPL on 12 August 2020 by the NSW Independent Planning Commission as a delegate of the NSW Minister for Planning under Section 75J of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* (EP&A Act).

Development Consent allows for the development of an open cut mine and associated infrastructure with a 25 year mine life, extracting run-of-mine (ROM) coal at up to 10 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) and processing the coal, as well as coal from WHC's Tarrawonga Mine, at an on-site coal handling and processing plant (CHPP) for off-site transport by rail.

1.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) for the VOC has been prepared in compliance with the NSW Rural Fires Act and Regulations, specifically s63 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* (RF Act) that requires landowners to take practicable steps to prevent the occurrence of bushfires on, and to minimise the danger of the spread of bushfires from land under their management.

This Bushfire Management Plan has also been prepared as per the Bushfire Management Plan requirements of Condition B99, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480 (Table 1), bushfire related conditions (Table 2) and general management plan related conditions (Table 3).



VICKERY OPEN CUT

Document Owner:	VOC
Issue:	1.2
Last Revision Date:	November 2024
Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024


WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Table 1 - Specific Bushfire Management Plan Conditions in SSD-7480

VOC Development Consent (SSD-7480) Schedule 2	Relevant Bushfire Management Plan Section
<i>B99. Prior to commencing mining operations under this consent, the Applicant must prepare a Bushfire Management Plan for the development in consultation with RFS. This plan must include a:</i>	This Bushfire Management Plan
<i>(a) contact person and 24 hour contact phone number;</i>	Section 5.2
<i>(b) schedule and description of proposed bushfire mitigation works, including:</i>	Section 4
<i>(i) location of managed and unmanaged vegetation within the site;</i>	Section 4.1.1
<i>(ii) location of water supply; and</i>	Section 4.1.1
<i>(iii) internal access roads;</i>	Section 4.1.1
<i>(c) plan identifying the location and storage of bulk flammable liquids and materials;</i>	Section 3
<i>(d) 'hot works' management plan, including:</i>	Section 4.1.3
<i>(i) circumstances when 'hot works' are limited or prohibited; and</i>	Section 4.1.3
<i>(ii) safety measures to be implemented when 'hot works' are being conducted; and</i>	Section 4.1.3
<i>(e) emergency/evacuation plan in accordance with the Development Planning: A Guide to Developing a Bushfire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan (RFS, 2014) and Australian Standard AS3745 Planning for Emergencies in Facilities.</i>	Section 5
<i>B100. The Applicant must implement the Bushfire Management Plan in consultation with RFS.</i>	This Bushfire Management Plan

Table 2 – General Bushfire management Conditions in SSD-7480

Condition B98 Schedule 2, VOC Development Consent (SSD-7480)	Relevant Bushfire Management Plan Section
<i>B98. The Applicant must:</i>	
<i>(a) Ensure that the development:</i>	
<i>(i) Provides for asset protection in accordance with the relevant requirements in the Planning for Bushfire Protection (RFS) guideline; and</i>	Section 4.1
<i>(ii) Ensure that there is suitable equipment to respond to any fires on the site; and</i>	
<i>(b) Assist the RFS and emergency services to the extent practicable if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site.</i>	

	VICKERY OPEN CUT	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

This Bushfire Management Plan also includes the standard requirement for management plans listed in Condition E4, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480 (see Table 3).

Table 3 – General Management Plan Conditions in SSD-7480

Condition E4 Schedule 2, VOC Development Consent (SSD-7480)	Relevant Bushfire Management Plan Section
<i>E4. Management plans required under this consent must be prepared in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include where relevant:</i>	This Bushfire Management Plan
<i>(a) summary of relevant background or baseline data;</i>	Section 3
<i>(b) details of:</i>	-
<i>(i) the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions);</i>	Section 2
<i>(ii) any relevant limits or performance measures and criteria; and</i>	Section 4
<i>(iii) the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures;</i>	Section 4
<i>(c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the document/s listed in condition A2(c);</i>	Section 4
<i>(d) a description of the measures to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria;</i>	-
<i>(e) a program to monitor and report on the:</i>	-
<i>(i) impacts and environmental performance of the development; and</i>	Section 7
<i>(ii) effectiveness of the management measures set out pursuant to paragraph (d);</i>	Section 4.2
<i>(f) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;</i>	Section 5.4
<i>(g) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time;</i>	-
<i>(h) a protocol for managing and reporting any:</i>	-
<i>(i) incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criterion or performance measure;</i>	Section 7.1
<i>(ii) complaint; or</i>	Section 7.2
<i>(iii) failure to comply with other statutory requirements;</i>	Section 7.3
<i>(i) public sources of information and data to assist stakeholders in understanding environmental impacts of the development; and</i>	Section 6
<i>(j) a protocol for periodic review of the plan.</i>	Section 6.2

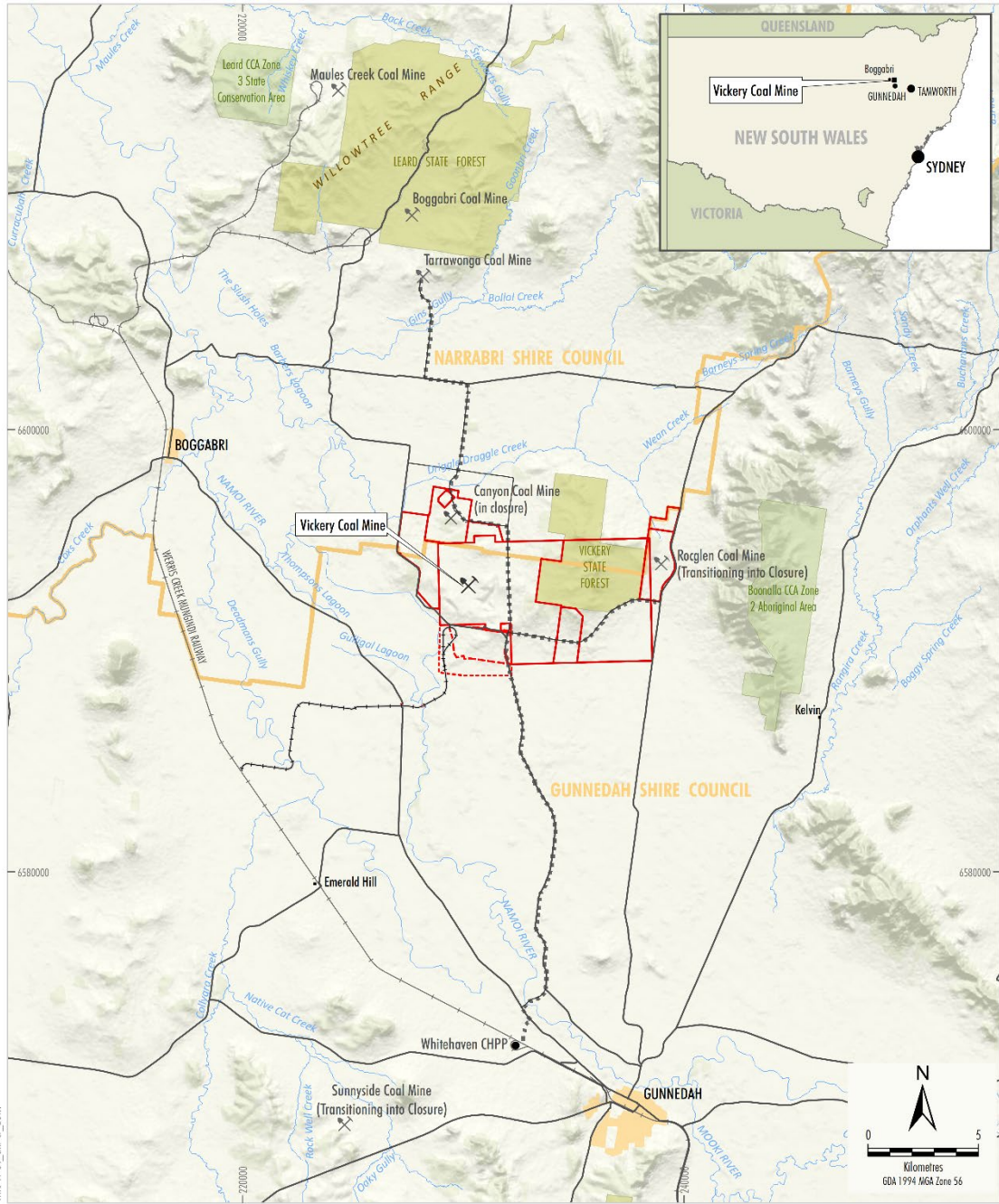
Note: The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.



VICKERY OPEN CUT

Document Owner:	VOC
Issue:	1.2
Last Revision Date:	November 2024
Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024

WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN




- LEGEND**
- Mining Tenement Boundary (ML, CL and AUTH)
 - Exploration Licence Boundary (EL)
 - Mining Lease Application (MLA)
 - Local Government Boundary
 - State Forest
 - State Conservation Area, Aboriginal Area
 - Major Roads
 - Railway
 - Approved Road Transport Route
 - Indicative Project Rail Spur

VICKERY COAL MINE

 Project Location

Figure 1 – VOC Locality

	VICKERY OPEN CUT	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

On 11 December 2020 the Secretary approved the progressive submission of environmental management plans for the VOC in accordance with Condition A25(a), Schedule 2 of SSD-7480. This Bushfire MP relates to VOC early mining activities and subsequent construction of infrastructure assets such as the CHPP and rail spur.

Current Site Infrastructure completed includes:

- Mine industrial area (MIA)
- ROM and product coal stockpile pads
- Mining box cut
- Temporary infrastructure facilities
- Workshops and offices
- Primary Sediment Dams
- Soil stockpile areas
- Storage areas,
- Laydown areas
- Explosives storage facilities

Additional construction will include:

- construction of the CHPP
- construction of the rail spur and loop and train load-out facility
- construction of water supply bores and Namoi River pump station and pipelines
- construction of dams, sediment dams, up-catchment diversions, channels and other water management infrastructure
- construction of access roads and internal roads
- closure of a portion of Braymont Road
- construction of connection to the existing 66 kilovolt powerline and construction of substations and power supply
- ongoing exploration activities
- other associated minor infrastructure construction, use of other plant and other activities.

The general arrangement of VOC is shown in Figure 2



VICKERY OPEN CUT

Document Owner:	VOC
Issue:	1.2
Last Revision Date:	November 2024
Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024

WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

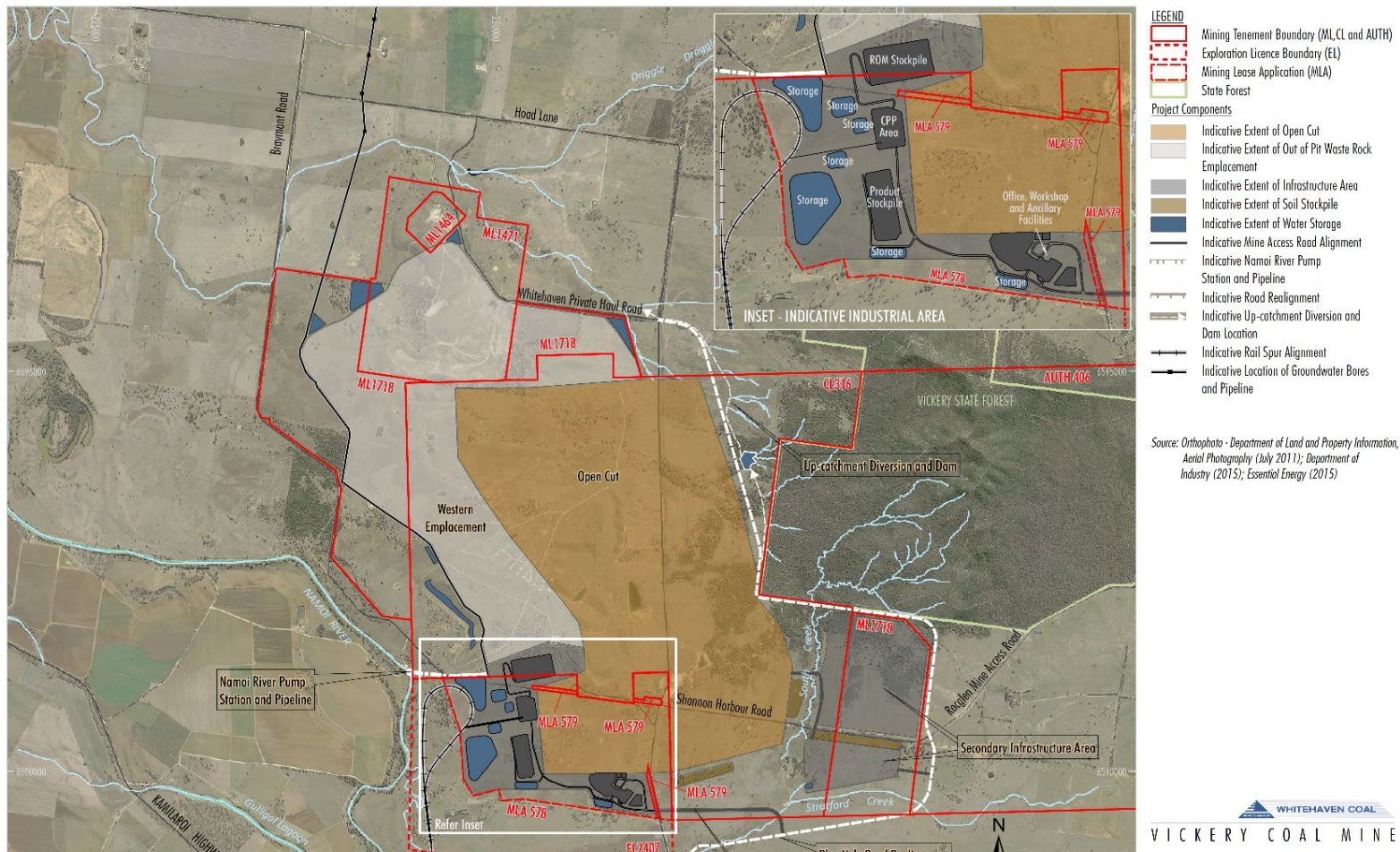



Figure 2 – VOC General Arrangement

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			


1.2 CONSULTATION

In accordance with Condition B99, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, this Bushfire Management Plan has been prepared and will be implemented in consultation with the Rural Fire Service (RFS). Comments received during the specific time period have been considered during finalisation of the Bushfire Management Plan and are described in Appendix A. The Liverpool Range District Executive Officer reviewed the BMP in October 2024.

1.3 STRUCTURE OF THE BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The remainder of this Bushfire Management Plan is structured as follows:

- Section 2 Outlines the relevant statutory requirements and policies relevant to this Bushfire Management Plan.
- Section 3 Describes the existing environment.
- Section 4 Describes the relevant management control measures applicable to the VOC.
- Section 5 Describes the Emergency/Evacuation Plan.
- Section 5.4 Describes the contingency plans to manage unpredicted impacts.
- Section 6 Describes the program to review and report on the effectiveness of management measures and improvement of environmental performance.
- Section 7 Describes the procedures for the management and reporting of incidents, complaints and non-compliances with statutory requirements.
- Section 8 Lists the references cited in this Bushfire Management Plan.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

2 RELEVANT STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

Obligations relevant to this Bushfire Management Plan are described below.

2.1 DEVELOPMENT CONSENT (SSD-7480)

The conditions of SSD-7480 relevant to the content and structure of this Bushfire Management Plan are described in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

2.2 LICENSES, PERMITS AND LEASES

In addition to SSD-7480, activities associated with the VOC will be undertaken in accordance with the following licences, permits and leases:

- Coal Lease (CL) 316, Exploration Licence EL 7407, Mining Leases (MLs) 1718, 1471, 1464 and ML1838.
- The VOC Forward Program and Rehabilitation Management Plan.
- Environment Protection Licence (EPL) No. 21283.
- Mining and workplace health and safety related approvals.


2.3 OTHER LEGISLATION

In addition to the statutory obligations described above, the following NSW Acts (and their regulations) may be applicable to the conduct of the VOC:

- EP&A Act;
- *Mining Act, 1992*;
- *Protection of the Environment Operations Act, 1997* (PoEO Act);
- *Rural Fires Act, 1997*;
- *Work Health and Safety Act, 2011*; and
- *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act, 2013*.

Other guidelines and standards that were considered during the preparation of this Bushfire Management Plan include, but are not limited to:

- *Development Planning: A Guide to Developing a Bushfire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan (RFS, 2014)*.
- *Planning for Bushfire Protection (RFS, 2019) guideline*.
- *Australian Standard AS3745 Planning for Emergencies in Facilities*.

 WHITEHAVEN	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

The Vickery State Forest (VSF) is located to the east of the VOC and is used for forestry and limited recreational purposes. The VOC is located partially on land mapped as Bush Fire Prone by the NSW RFS. The bushfire prone land corresponds with the VSF and a small parcel of land to the west of the western emplacement area Figure 3.

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

- On site storage of hydrocarbons, oils, greases, explosives, chemicals and flammable material;
- On site storage of run-of-mine coal;
- Malfunction of on-site power reticulation;
- Lighting strike;
- Unmanaged fuel loads in uncleared vegetation on site;
- Fires on plant and equipment as a consequence of maintenance activities;
- Hot works; and
- Regional or localised bushfires originating from outside the Site including hazard reduction burns.

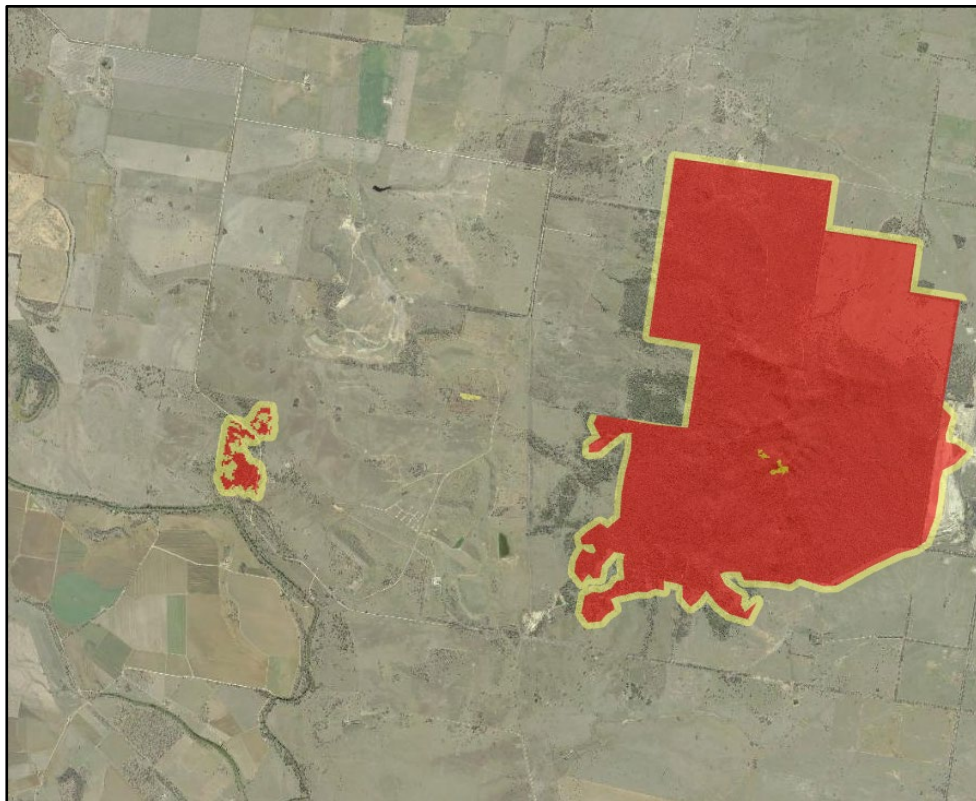



Figure 3 – Bushfire Prone Land

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			


3.1 MINE SITE ASSETS

Assets relating to bushfire management include items valued by the community such as residences, crops, forests, livestock, heritage buildings and places, infrastructure, the environment, commercial and industrial buildings and equipment, which may be at risk from bushfire.

Key Flammable assets are Shown in Figure 5.

Table 4 – VOC Asset List

Asset list
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile plant and equipment • Mine industrial area (MIA) • Run of Mine ROM - coal stockpiles • Future rail infrastructure • Offices • Workshop / maintenance • Water Infrastructure (pipelines, pumps, tanks) • Vickery State Forest • Ecological Protection Areas (Lepidium monoplocoides & Digitalia Porrecta) • Local Biodiversity Enhancement Measures Area and proposed offset areas • Surrounding cropping/grazing land • Offsite buildings and residences • Kurrumbede Complex • Broadwater Grinding Grooves • Heritage artefacts and scatter sites

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

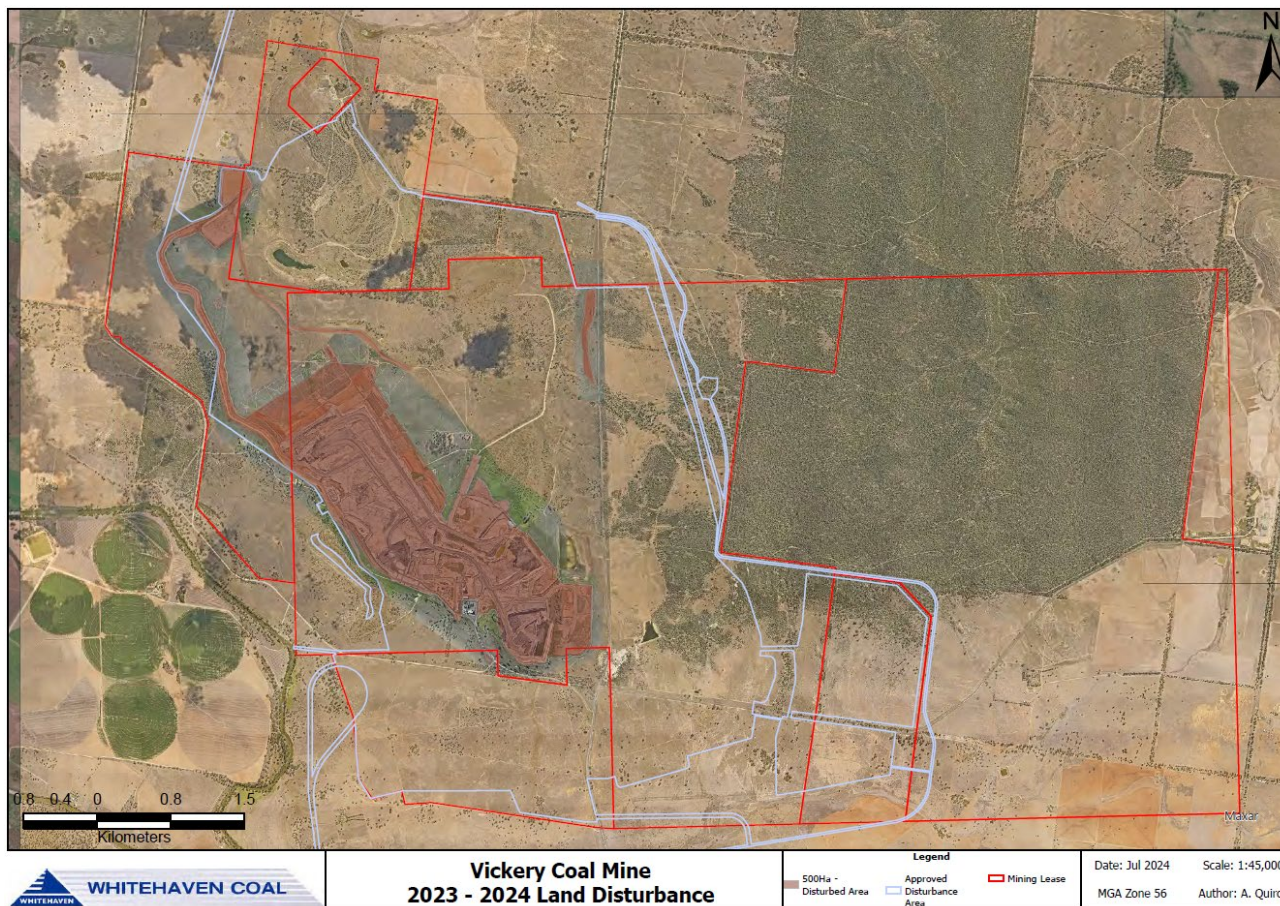


Figure 4 – VOC Current Land Disturbance



VICKERY COAL MINE

Document Owner:	VOC
Issue:	1.2
Last Revision Date:	November 2024
Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024

WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

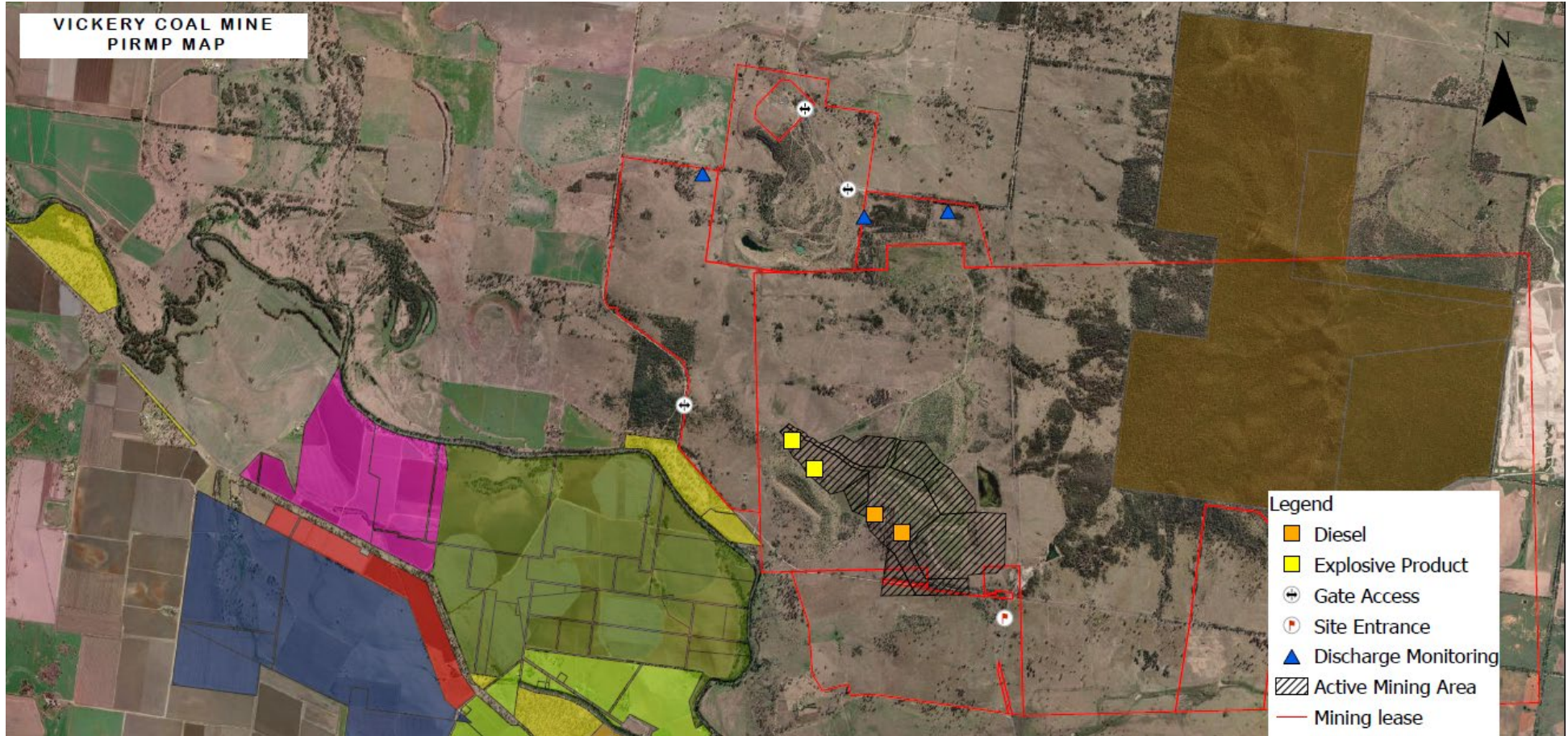



Figure 5 – Key Site Locations

 WHITEHAVEN	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			


4 BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL MEASURES

WHC will implement best practice management including all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise VOC's bushfire risk in accordance with Condition B98, B99 and B100, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480. VOC is responsible to assist RFS, as required to control bushfires in the local area. VOC will endeavour to prevent a bushfire from entering neighbouring properties.

4.1 GENERAL BUSHFIRE PROTECTION MEASURES

General bushfire protection and mitigation measures that may be implemented to manage risk include:

Protection & Mitigation Measures	Responsible Team	Timeframe
All personnel conducting works on site complete the appropriate generic and site-specific inductions which provide a level of fire awareness;	All Staff	All Times
Equipment and plant introduction to site process includes requirements for fire suppression equipment and regular inspection requirements;	VOC Maintenance and Group Mechanical	All Equipment
Regular scheduled plant maintenance to identify and repair faults;	VOC Maintenance	All Times
Regular inspection schedule for firefighting resources on the site;	VOC Health and Safety / VOC ERT	6 Months
Firefighting equipment located in appropriate locations;	VOC Health and Safety / VOC ERT	6 Months
The storage of flammable materials is in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards AS1940 (and where relevant, National Code of Practice for the Storage and Handling of Workplace Dangerous Goods [NOHSC:2017(2001)]);	VOC Health and Safety / VOC ERT	6 Months (WHC360 CCM)
Clearing restrictions;	VOC Environmental	During Clearing Campaigns
Controlled grazing where practicable on WHC controlled land surrounding the site;	VOC Environmental / Group Community	All Times

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

Restricted vehicle movements;	VOC Production	All Times
Implementation and management of fire breaks and management of fuel loads during suitable seasonal conditions prior to summer;	VOC Environmental / Group Biodiversity	Annual
The use of diesel vehicles;	All site	All Times
Prohibition of smoking on Site;	All Site	All Times
Rapid response to any outbreak of fire;	VOC ERT	All Times
Maintain a contact point with RFS to enable assistance with control of offsite bushfires, as directed by RFS;	VOC Health and Safety	3 Months (LEMC Meeting)
Coal stockpile management; and	VOC Production	All Times
Maintenance of entrance road, internal roads and tracks (including to water sources) and alternative access gates for emergency response purposes,	VOC Production	All Times


In the event of a bushfire, the site emergency response procedure will be activated (Section 5.2). Suitable equipment will be available on the site to respond to fires.

4.1.1 Asset Protection

Inadequate maintenance of cleared areas (Asset Protection Zones (APZ)) around buildings or important assets to keep them free of flammable vegetation and other hazards (e.g., gas bottles), is a risk factor for all built assets, regardless of the buildings' age.

An APZ is an area surrounding a development that is managed to reduce the Bushfire hazard to an acceptable level to mitigate the risk to life and property. The required width of the APZ varies with slope and the type of hazard. An APZ should be maintained in perpetuity to ensure ongoing protection from the impact of bush fires. Maintenance/slashing of the below areas will be undertaken on an annual basis in September, in advance of the fire season, .

- Footpaths;
- Lawns;
- Windrows.
- Vegetation on drains/boundary access road;
- Fire breaks;
- Access road verges;
- Car parking areas.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

4.1.2 Site based water storages

There are multiple water storages available on site for the management of bushfire. Sediment basins, clean water dams and mining voids on site can be safely accessed by water carts.

There are a range of access tracks around the site, as well as multiple access points. Vegetation on the site is managed through slashing, with unmanaged vegetation largely off-site Figure 7.

4.1.3 Hot Work Management

Hot work includes, but is not limited to:

- Cutting
- Welding
- Heating
- Grinding
- Gouging
- Lancing
- Gas fuel operations

Hot works are permitted on the site following the completion of a hot work permit which is guided by the Whitehaven Hot Work Standard (WHC-STD-OC-Hot Work). The hot work standard identifies circumstances where hot works are/are not permitted along with what safety measures are to be implemented. As per the NSW Resources Regulator Technical Reference Guide – Hot Work at Mines and Petroleum Sites, a standard exemption to a total fire ban will not apply unless specifically referred to in the total fire ban order as made by the Minister or the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service.

4.2 MONITORING

Site monitoring of key APZs and infrastructure areas occurs monthly during the site Environmental Inspection. This ensures Infrastructure areas are free from overgrown vegetation and APZs around explosive infrastructure is being managed adequately.

Performance of biodiversity offset areas bushfire management is reported in the Annual Review.

Inspections are undertaken as per below:

Inspections	Responsible Team	Timeframe
Annual APZ inspection	VOC Environmental	Annual (before 30/09/2024)
Annual fuel load monitoring – Biodiversity Offsets	WHC Biodiversity	Annual (Spring)



VICKERY COAL MINE

Document Owner:	VOC
Issue:	1.2
Last Revision Date:	November 2024
Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024

WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Emergency Response and Equipment	VOC Health and Safety	Bi-Annual (WHC360 CCM)
Fixed Plant, Design, Maintenance and Inspection	WHC Mechanical Engineering	Bi-Annual (WHC360 CCM)
Bushfire Management	VOC Environmental	4 Months (WHC360 CCM)
Hot Work Management	WHC Mechanical Engineering	4 Months (WHC360 CCM)
Fire Detection and Suppression	WHC Mechanical Engineering	4 Months (WHC360 CCM)
Mobile Equipment Design, Maintenance and Implementation	WHC Mechanical Engineering	4 Months (WHC360 CCM)
Explosives APZ Inspection	VOC Environmental	Monthly
Infrastructure inspection	VOC Environmental	Monthly
Bushfire Hazard Sign Update	VOC Environmental	Daily

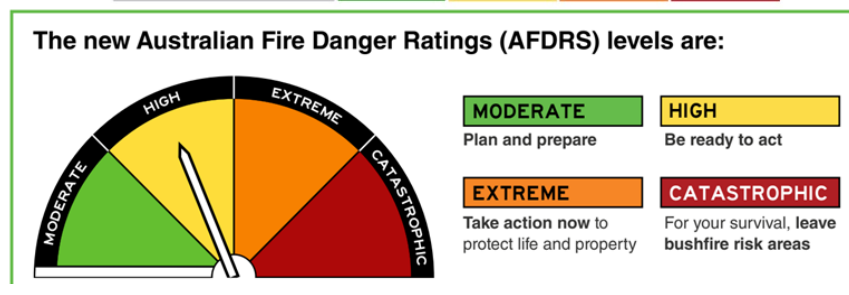
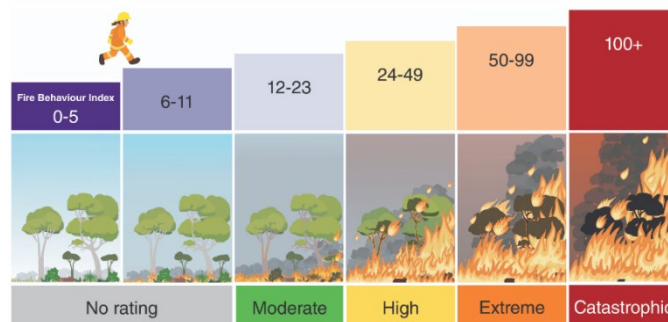



Figure 6 – Australian Fire Danger Ratings

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

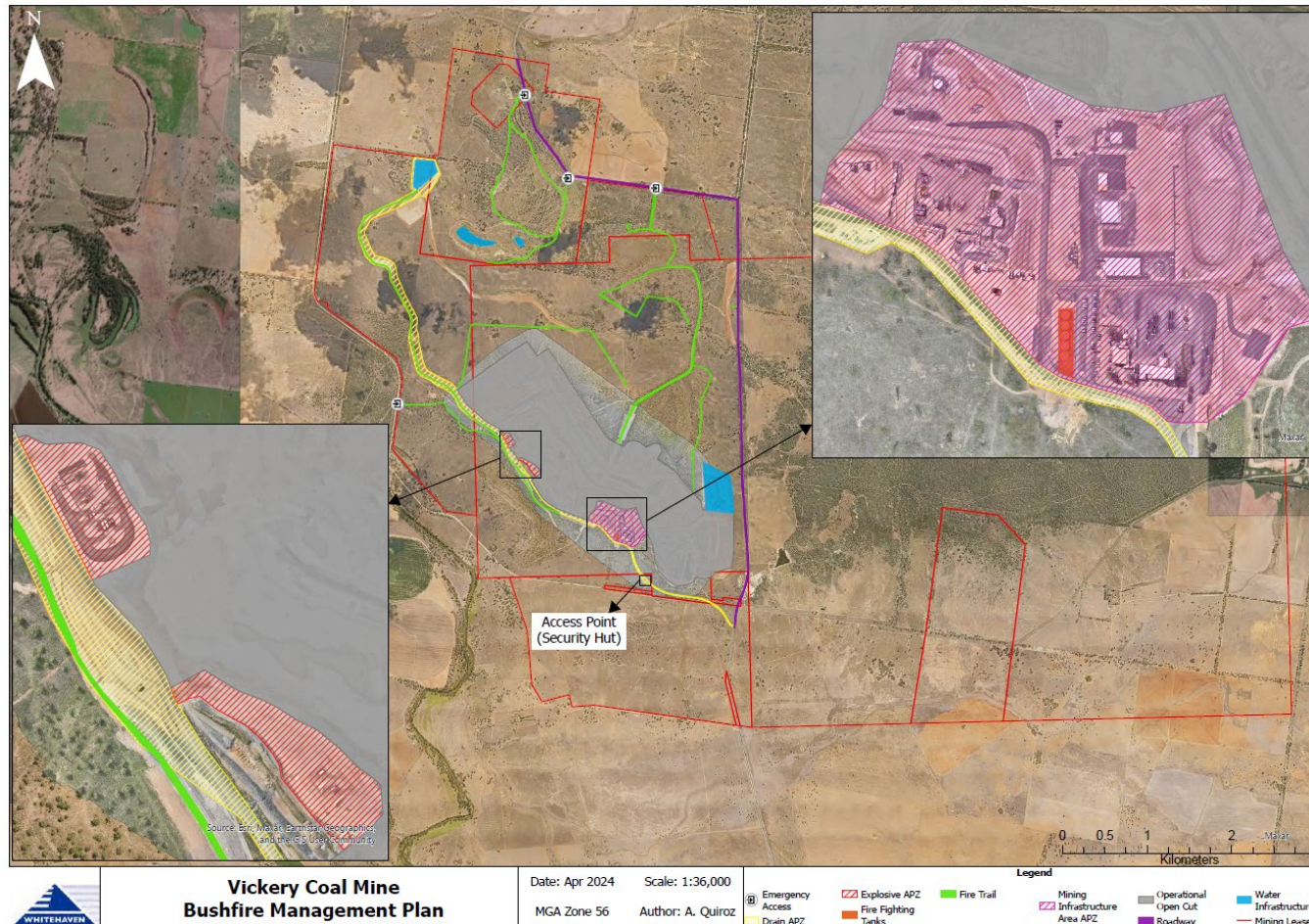



Figure 7 – VOC Bushfire Plan

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

5 EMERGENCY/EVACUATION PLAN

5.1 SITE ACCESS

Public roads surrounding VOC include Braymont Road, Hoad Lane and Blue Vale Road. There are a number of internal roads that provide wide access for fire fighting vehicles. In the event of a bushfire emergency, the Site Supervisor will liaise with the Rural Fire Service (RFS) to determine the most suitable access point. The access roads and tracks also provide appropriate access to the site water sources. Site access roads and tracks, gates and entry points are identified in Figure 7. An A3 plan, or electronic file, will be provided to the RFS with detailed contact information, specific infrastructure and APZs, and relevant road ways and coordinates.

5.2 BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROCEDURE


In the event that a Bushfire is identified in the vicinity of, or encroaching on VOC, the following procedure is to be observed:

- Ensure personal safety and the safety of any other people in the area.
- Where a person assesses that the fire is capable of being extinguished by their own action and with the equipment available within the immediate vicinity, they should attempt to extinguish the fire from the upwind side.
- In the event where initial assessment indicates the fire can't be extinguished alone, the person will immediately retreat and declare an emergency over the site radio:
 - Emergency! Emergency! Emergency!
 - Your name
 - Your location
 - Nature of emergency
 - Type of assistance required
 - Any potential hazards that exist.

In the event of a bushfire emergency at VOC the RFS will be engaged by the Scene Controller by calling 000 for emergency services.

Once engaged, the RFS have the lead role in emergency response for a bushfire at VOC.

The Site Emergency Management Plan will include details in relation to location of bulk flammable liquids and materials in accordance with NSW SafeWork requirements of storing manifest quantities.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

In case of bushfire, the relevant 24 hour contact persons and details is shown in Table 5.

Table 5 - Emergency Bushfire Contacts

Contact - Role	Contact details
Site Supervisor (OCE)	Redacted
Operations Manager	Redacted
Health Safety and Training Manager	Redacted
Environmental Superintendent	Redacted
Local RFS/RFS Liverpool Range District	02 6746 5800 / Duty Officer 24hr contact – 0429 401 100
Emergency	000

5.3 EMERGENCY EVACUATION


In the event that there is a need to evacuate the Site as a result of a Bushfire emergency, the emergency evacuation plan must be followed. The emergency evacuation plan is outlined in WHC-PLN-OC-VEP- Emergency Management Plan.

All personnel (including contractors and visitors) not required as part of the emergency response activities must assemble at the designated Exclusion Zone Assembly Area. Relevant Site Supervisors are to take responsibility (as far as possible without endangering themselves or others) of contractors and visitors.

5.4 CONTINGENCY PLAN

In the event that a bushfire event occurs at the VOC, WHC will implement the following Contingency Plan:

- The Environmental Superintendent or authorised delegate will report the event as an incident if the fire originates from the site, in accordance with Section 7.1.
- WHC will identify the appropriate course of action in consultation with technical specialists, Secretary and any other relevant agencies, as necessary.
- WHC will, in the event there is a dispute over the proposed remedial course of action or if the actions conflict with current approvals, submit the appropriate course of action to the Secretary for approval.
- WHC will implement the appropriate course of action to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

5.5 **ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT**

In accordance with Condition E3, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, WHC will assess and manage risks to comply with the criteria and/or performance measures outlined in Schedule 2 of SSD-7480.


Where any bushfire event occurs on site, at the earliest opportunity WHC will:

- take all reasonable and feasible steps to ensure that the fire ceases and does not reoccur;
- consider all reasonable and feasible options for preventing a further event (where relevant) and submit a report to the Secretary describing those options and any preferred remediation measures or other courses of action; and
- implement remediation measures as directed by the Secretary, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

5.6 **POTENTIAL CONTINGENCY MEASURES**

Potential contingency measures will be reviewed during revisions of this Bushfire Management Plan. Key potential contingency measures to be implemented may include the following:

- WHC will consult with the RFS to review site controls,,
- WHC will investigate further bushfire controls, if bushfire occurs on the site, and
- WHC will also implement any reasonable and feasible contingency measures identified to address an incident.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

6 REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

6.1 ANNUAL REVIEW

In accordance with Condition E9, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, WHC will review the environmental performance of the VOC for the previous calendar year and report results within the Annual Review to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

In relation to biodiversity, the Annual Review will (where relevant):

- describe the development that was carried out in the relevant calendar year, and the development that is proposed to be carried out during the following calendar year;
- include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the development over the past year, which includes a comparison of these results against the:
 - relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria;
 - monitoring results of previous years; and
 - relevant predictions in the Environmental Impact Statement;
- identify any non-compliance over the last year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to ensure compliance;
- identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the development;
- identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the development, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and
- describe what measures will be implemented over the next reporting year to improve the environmental performance of the development.


The Annual Review will be made publicly available on the WHC website in accordance with Condition E14(a), Schedule 2 of SSD-7480.

6.2 BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVISION

In accordance with Condition E5, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, this Bushfire Management Plan will be reviewed, and if necessary revised (to the satisfaction of the Secretary), within three months of the submission of:

- an Annual Review (Condition E9, Schedule 2);
- an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) (Condition E10, Schedule 2);
- an incident report (Condition E7, Schedule 2); or
- any modification to the conditions of SSD-7480 (unless the conditions require otherwise).

The reviews would be undertaken to ensure the Bushfire Management Plan is updated on a regular basis and to incorporate potential measures to improve the environmental performance

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

of the VOC. Where revisions are required, the revised document will be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within six weeks of the review.

The revision status of this BMP is indicated on the final page of each copy. The approved Bushfire Management Plan will be made publicly available on the WHC website, in accordance with Condition E14(a), Schedule 2 of SSD-7480.


6.3 INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

In accordance with Condition E10, Schedule 2 of the SSD-7480, an IEA of the VOC will be lead and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary. The auditor will carry out the audit in consultation with the relevant agencies and the CCC.

The IEA will assess the environmental performance of the VOC and review the adequacy of this Bushfire Management Plan. If necessary, appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the VOC will be recommended.

Within 1 year from the commencement of construction and every 3 years thereafter, WHC shall commission an IEA of the VOC. The IEA and WHC's response to recommendations in the Audit, will be made publicly available on WHC's website as per Condition E14(a), Schedule 2 of SSD-7480 and be conducted to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.

A copy of the audit report will be submitted to the Planning Secretary, and any other NSW agency that requests it, together with the response to any recommendations contained in the audit report, and a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations as per Condition E11.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

7 REPORTING PROCEDURES

In accordance with Condition E4(j), Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, WHC has developed a protocol for managing and reporting the following:

- incidents;
- complaints;
- non-compliances with statutory requirements; and
- exceedances of the impact assessment criteria and/or performance criteria.

These protocols are described in the VOC's Environmental Management Strategy (EMS).

In accordance with Condition E14(a), Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, WHC will provide regular reporting on the environmental performance of the VOC on the WHC website.

7.1 INCIDENT AND NON-COMPLIANCE REPORTING


An incident is defined as an occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm and which may or may not be or cause a non-compliance. A non-compliance is define as an occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of a condition of SSD-7480.

In the event that a bushfire event on site has occurred, the incident will be reported in accordance with Condition E7, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480 and relevant conditions of EPL 21283 and appropriate mining leases. WHC will immediately notify the Department and any other relevant agencies. In accordance with Condition E8, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, within seven days of becoming aware of a non-compliance, notification is required to the Department of the non-compliance. The notification will be in writing to compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au and identify the relevant details in Condition E8. A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance as per the consent.

The notification will be provided the Secretary in writing via compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au and will identify the VOC (including the development application number and name) and set out the location and nature of the incident.

Within seven days of the date of the incident, WHC will provide the Secretary and any other relevant agencies with a report on the incident. The report will include details required within the approval, including:

- describe the date, time and nature of the exceedance/incident;
- identify the cause (or likely cause) of the exceedance/incident;
- describe what action has been taken to date; and
- describe reasonable and feasible options to address the incident and identify the preferred option to address the incident (Section 5.5).

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

7.2 **COMPLAINTS**

WHC will maintain a Community Complaints Line and online contact via the WHC Website (www.whitehavencoal.com.au) for the sole purpose of receiving community complaints, or enquiries. The Community Complaints Line number will be available on the website. The Community Complaints Line will be staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week during construction and operations. WHC will respond to callers on the next business day.

Detailed records of each complaint are kept in WHC's record management systems.

In accordance with Condition E14(a)(ix), Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, a public complaints register will be made available on the WHC website.

The internal complaints register will include:

- the date and time of the complaint;
- the method by which engagement was made;
- any personal details provided or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect;
- the nature of the complaint; and
- any actions (if any required) taken by WHC in relation to the complaint.

Investigations into complaints will generally commence within 24 hours of receipt, or as soon as practical. The cause of the complaint will be analysed and actions to attempt to address the complaint taken as soon as reasonably possible. In complex cases where resolution will take more than 48 hours, WHC will commit to updating the community member.

7.3 **NON-COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**


A protocol for managing and reporting non-compliances with statutory requirements has been developed as a component of the VOC's EMS and is described below.

Compliance with all approvals, plans and procedures is the responsibility of all personnel (staff and contractors) employed on or in association with WHC and the VOC.

A VOC representative will undertake required inspections during the construction and initial mining phase and initiate directions to address any actions identified, if required, and areas of actual or potential non-compliance.


As described in Section 7.1, WHC will report incidents in accordance with Condition E7, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480 and dependent on the incident and potential environmental harm, in accordance with the protocol for industry notification of pollution incidents under Part 5.7 of the *NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act, 1997*.

WHC will notify the Secretary and any other relevant agencies immediately after the authorised person becomes aware of the incident which causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment. Within seven days (or other specified or approved time period) of the date of confirmation of the incident, WHC will provide the Secretary and any other relevant agencies with a report on the incident and subsequent information that may be requested.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

A review of compliance with all conditions in SSD-7480 and all other applicable approvals and licences will be included within each Annual Review (Section 6.1).

Additionally, in accordance with Condition E10, Schedule 2 of SSD-7480, an IEA (Section 6.3) would be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent auditor whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary to assess whether WHC is complying with the requirements SSD-7480, and any other relevant approval and tenement conditions.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

8 REFERENCES

Australian Standard AS3745 Planning for Emergencies in Facilities.


Development Planning: A Guide to Developing a Bushfire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan (RFS, 2014).

National Code of Practice for the Storage and Handling of Workplace Dangerous Goods [NOHSC:2017(2001)].

Planning for Bushfire Protection (RFS, 2006) guideline.


WHC-STD-OC-Hot Work.

Whitehaven Coal Limited (2018) *Vickery Extension Project Environmental Impact Statement*.

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

Appendix A Consultation Log

Date	Consultee	Comment
28/10/20	RFS	No comment.
May 2021	RFS	Comment received May 2021 listing recommendations.
August 2021	DPIE	DPIE feedback received on draft document
2024	RFS	RFS Liverpool Range District
2024	LPRD BFMC	Executive Officer – no major comments received (updated contact details)

	VICKERY COAL MINE	Document Owner:	VOC
		Issue:	1.2
		Last Revision Date:	November 2024
		Date Printed:	5 Nov 2024
WHC PLN VOC BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN			

Document History

Edition	Rev.	Comments	Date
1	0	Initial draft following consultation as first submitted	January 2021
1	1	Feedback incorporated from RFS and DPIE	May & August 2021
1	2	Update based in line with operational phase and site construction updates – RFS Consultation	September 2024