



GM³

a mining and metals company

Appin Mine Surface Activities Management Plan

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1 Introduction

Appin Mine incorporates the underground mining operations, which extract coal from the Bulli Seam, and associated surface activities, including the West Cliff Coal Preparation Plant (WCCPP) and Coal Wash Emplacement Area (CWEA). Appin Mine is located approximately 25 kilometres (km) north-west of Wollongong in New South Wales (See Plan 1). Appin Mine is owned and operated by Endeavour Coal Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd (ICHPL), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Gear M Illawarra Met Coal Pty Ltd .

Appin Mine, Cordeaux Colliery and Dendrobium Mine (and associated facilities) are collectively operated by GM³.

ICHPL received Project Approval 08_0150 (the Project Approval) from the Planning Assessment Commission of NSW under delegation of the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure on 22 December 2011¹ for current and proposed mining of the Bulli Seam Operations (BSO) for the next 30 years, and production of up to 10.5 million tonnes per annum of run of mine (RoM) coal. This approval incorporates underground mining, transport and coal wash emplacement activities undertaken 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

This Surface Activities Management Plan (SAMP) has been prepared to detail the control measures, compliance procedures, monitoring programs, evaluation protocols, notification and communication processes for the management of surface activities associated with Appin Mine.

The projects undertaken under the SAMP are primarily constructed and operated at the surface and generally facilitate the ongoing underground operations. Once infrastructure is constructed, it can become a component of the mining operations and is incorporated into the mine site management systems for operating and monitoring performance, as well as final rehabilitation/closure. However, some projects under the SAMP are short term and are constructed, operated and rehabilitated within a relatively short period of time.

This plan has been prepared to satisfy Condition 22 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval for the SAMP. This condition was included in Modification 2 of the Project Approval, which was approved by the Department on 28 October 2016 and replaced Conditions 22 and 23 of previous versions of the Project Approval, which outlined the requirements for a Service Boreholes Management Plan and Personal Emergency Device (PED) Communications Management Plan.

The plan is structured as follows:

- the main document describes the management and performance measures that will be adopted by ICHPL for projects described in Condition 22 of Schedule 4; and
- specific projects will be appended to the SAMP where there is a requirement for further detail in assessment or management actions.

Project Surface Infrastructure Management Plans previously approved by the Department are listed in Appendix 2.

1.1 Objectives

The objectives of the SAMP are to:

- meet the requirements of Condition 22 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval (Modification 2);
- manage and minimise the impact of surface activities on the community and the environment;

¹ Project Approval modifications approved in April 2015 (MOD 1), October 2016 (MOD 2), April 2022 (MOD 3), August 2024 (MOD 5) and October 2024 (MOD 6).

- assist sites and project teams to comply with the requirements of the Project Approval; and
- assist sites and project teams to meet all internal and external regulatory requirements and other legislation, guidelines and standards relevant to surface activities.

1.2 Scope

Projects addressed in the SAMP are generally located on the surface (outside of the defined boundaries of the pit tops), however may have interaction with underground operations, such as supply boreholes. These projects addressed by the SAMP are generally required to facilitate the ongoing operation of Appin Mine.

The construction and use of infrastructure listed in Condition 22 of Schedule 4 as being addressed by the SAMP are:

- service boreholes;
- pipelines;
- electrical infrastructure;
- works to public infrastructure;
- communications equipment; and
- monitoring equipment.

Boreholes and pipelines are generally required to supply services or materials, such as electrical power, compressed air, communications, concrete, ballast, fuel, hydraulic oil, gas, water and stone dust.

Infrastructure protection, mitigation, monitoring and repair is covered by the relevant plans submitted under the Extraction Plan.

Gas drainage² and exploration activities are not within the scope of the SAMP³.

1.3 Environmental Management System

ICHPL has a comprehensive Environmental Management System (EMS) in place to minimise the impact of its operations on the local environment and community. The SAMP is a component of the EMS which is certified to ISO 14001.

2 Roles and Responsibilities

Roles and responsibilities associated with environmental management at Appin Mine are defined in the EMS. Table 1 outlines the roles and responsibilities associated with the implementation and periodic review of the SAMP.

² Gas drainage activities are addressed in the Gas Drainage Management Plan (Condition 21 of Schedule 4).

³ Construction activities associated with the Appin Mine Ventilation and Access project (approved under MOD 3) are being managed under project specific Construction Environmental Management Plans.

Table 1: Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibilities
General Manager Sustainability and Approvals Surface Activities Project Manager Superintendent Environment	Implementation and periodic review of the SAMP.
General Manager Appin Mine General Manager Development	Provide the necessary resources and systems to meet the requirements of the SAMP.
Manager External Affairs Principal Community	Meet the commitments contained within the SAMP for stakeholder engagement.
Principal Approvals	Obtain required approvals for surface activities.
Project Manager	Verify that appropriately qualified personnel and equipment are employed to undertake works under the SAMP.
All employees	Undertake practices to manage and minimise impacts to the environment.

3 Legislation and Planning

3.1 Project Approval and Statement of Commitments

The planning framework relevant to the BSO Project are described within the BSO Environmental Assessment (EA), Section 7. The EA was assessed and approved under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)* and associated Regulations.

Proposed performance standards and management strategies relevant to projects under the SAMP are provided in Section 5. Legislative and other requirements may vary from project to project based on the activities being undertaken, location of the project and pre-existing environment.⁴

Appendix 1 outlines the Project Approval conditions in relation to the SAMP and the relevant sections in the SAMP where conditions are addressed.

All activities carried out at Appin Mine will be in accordance with the conditions of the Project Approval, in accordance with any written directions of the Planning Secretary and generally in accordance with the Environmental Assessment (EA), Statement of Commitments and Preferred Project Report.

Documents as listed in Condition 2 of Schedule 2 and as required in accordance with Condition 11 of Schedule 6 will be made available on the GM³ website: [link](#).

⁴ Detailed baseline data for projects under the SAMP is not available as the locations of projects that may be constructed under the SAMP have not yet been defined. Baseline data relevant to impacts is provided in the relevant management plan or in the relevant Environmental Assessment.

3.2 Environmental Protection Licence Requirements

Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 2504 applies to Appin Mine and associated activities. A copy of the licence can be accessed at the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) website: [here](#).

3.3 Relevant Legislation

Key regulatory and surface activity obligations applicable to Appin Mine are managed via an online obligations management database. The obligations are allocated to responsible personnel. This process is detailed in the Environmental Compliance/Conformance Assessment and Reporting Procedure.

Legislation applicable to noise, water, biodiversity, cultural heritage, erosion and sediment control management may include, but is not limited to:

- *POEO Act*;
- *EP&A Act*;
- *Soil Conservation Act 1938*;
- *Water Management Act 2000*;
- *Water Act 1912*;
- *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*;
- *Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2016*;
- *Biosecurity Act, 2015*;
- *Heritage Act, 1977*;
- *Mining Act 1992*; and
- *Mining Regulation 2016*.

3.4 Guidelines and Standards

This SAMP has been developed to be consistent with the principles of the following:

- ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems; and
- GM³ Sustainability Policy.

Other relevant guidelines for surface activities may include:

- NSW Industrial Noise Policy (2000)/Noise Policy for Industry (2017);
- NSW DECCW Interim Construction Noise Guideline (2009);
- Bunding and Spill Management Guidelines (EPA);
- Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction, Volume 1 (Blue Book) (Landcom, 2004);
- Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction, Volume 2A Installation of services (DECC, 2008);
- Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction, Volume 2C Unsealed Roads (DECC, 2008);
- Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction, Volume 2D Main Road Construction (DECC, 2008);

- Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction, Volume 2E Mines and Quarries (Landcom, DECC) Controlled activities – Guidelines for laying pipes and cables in watercourses on waterfront land Fact Sheet (DPE, 2022);
- Guidelines for controlled activities on waterfront land - Riparian corridors INT19/15607 (NRAR, 2018);
- NSW Aquifer Interference Policy (2012);
- NSW Minerals Industry Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects (NSW Minerals Council 2010);
- EDG01 Borehole Sealing Requirements on Land;
- Form and Way: Rehabilitation Management Plan (2024);
- Form and Way: Annual Rehabilitation Report and Forward Program (2024);
- Form and Way: Rehabilitation objectives, rehabilitation completion criteria and final landform and rehabilitation plan (2023);
- Mine Rehabilitation – Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry (Commonwealth of Australia);
- Mine Closure – Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry (Commonwealth of Australia); and
- Strategic Framework for Mine Closure (ANZMEC).

3.5 NSW Aquifer Interference Policy

The NSW Aquifer Interference Policy explains the role and requirements of the Minister administering the *Water Management Act 2000* in the water licensing and assessment process for aquifer interference activities under the Act, and other relevant legislative frameworks.

The policy defines aquifer interference including ‘the penetration of an aquifer’, which can occur during the drilling process. Under this policy ‘mining activities’ and ‘coal seam gas activities’ have been identified as high-risk activities.

Water licences that have been issued for Appin Mine are provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Appin Mine Water Licences (groundwater)

Licence	Number	Units
Groundwater Access Licence – West Cliff	36481	274
Groundwater Access Licence – Appin	36477	303
Groundwater Access Licence – Appin	37464	300
Groundwater Access Licence – West Cliff	44376	98

All boreholes will be cased and grouted to prevent interference with groundwater as a result of borehole construction/operation activities.

4 Surface Activity Projects

4.1 Typical Work Stages

Projects associated with the SAMP are generally comprised of the stages described in Table 3.

Table 3: Typical stages for surface infrastructure projects

Task	Description
Construction	
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy and light vehicle access is required for most projects. Where possible, ICHPL uses existing roads and access tracks. • Upgrades to poorly formed access tracks may be required. • New access roads or tracks are constructed where no existing access exists.
Civil works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites typically require a levelled area for construction activities and to accommodate temporary or permanent infrastructure. • Sites typically require an area clear of vegetation. Where possible, ICHPL preferentially selects sites within highly modified and disturbed environments. Clearing may be required to establish the site. • Civil works may be associated with the installation of infrastructure such as pipes and conduits. • In some instances, material may be imported to, or exported from, the site.
Works for surface infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure may be constructed to support the project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • power lines, water pipelines or communications cables; • transformers, pressure management devices, air compressors, housings; • delivery and storage facilities for materials; • offices and amenities; and • site security (fencing, lighting, CCTV).
Borehole construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boreholes may be constructed for projects approved under the SAMP. The boreholes are drilled according to the size specifications required and using appropriate drilling/boring equipment. • As well as drilling/borehole rigs, ancillary equipment such as generators, pumps, air compressors, portable offices and toilets, water tanks and noise walls may be required. • For larger service borehole construction activities, 24/7 drilling operations may be required to operate efficiently and maintain the integrity of the hole. • Service boreholes are lined and grouted to the surrounding strata to avoid interference with aquifers and groundwater flow into the mine.

Task	Description
Demobilisation and construction rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once construction activities are complete the construction equipment/plant is decommissioned and demobilised. In many instances, the construction footprint is larger than that required for operational purposes and the site can be downsized to create a more visually appealing surround to the operational site. At the completion of construction, the operational footprint will typically be protected by a security fence.
Operation	
Facility management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure constructed under the SAMP is often an augmentation, or supplementary infrastructure, to assist the mining operations on either a temporary or permanent basis. Infrastructure that provides materials (e.g. concrete, ballast, stone dust, fuel) may require an active presence at the site to operate the facility and operate mobile surface equipment, pump, pneumatic equipment, etc. Some infrastructure may be operated remotely (e.g. from a control room).
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most types of infrastructure require inspections and maintenance. Depending on the scale of the infrastructure this may require heavy equipment such as cranes, mobile plant or drill rigs.
Rehabilitation	
Demolition and rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure operated as a component of the mining operation is rehabilitated as per the closure procedures in place for the relevant mine site. Temporary infrastructure is removed, and disturbed areas rehabilitated similar to the existing state, or in accordance with landholder requirements. Boreholes are sealed and filled with grout to ensure there is no interference with any aquifers. The borehole head is removed at approximately two (2) metres below the surface, or to the appropriate standard and/or landholder requirements.

4.2 Requirement for Surface Activity Projects

The construction and operation of projects included in the SAMP are required to support the safe and efficient extraction of coal from Appin Mine. Such projects provide utilities, materials and equipment for purposes including:

- reducing the distance of underground transport required, reducing congestion and the number of people required underground and at the pit top;
- provision of adequate utilities, such as electricity, water and communications;
- enabling works to public and private infrastructure to support management of mining activities; and
- installation of monitoring equipment for the gathering of baseline data and monitoring of mining and potential impacts.

5 Proposed Performance Standards and Management Strategies

The environmental standards described in the SAMP are based on the consent conditions from the Project Approval and the criteria determined by relevant impact assessments undertaken for surface activities.

Management Plans developed in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval (such as for noise, water, air greenhouse and waste) may also be applicable, depending on the nature of the project. Applicable standards and goals may vary dependent on the location and potential impacts associated with the project.

An EA will be undertaken for each new project included in the SAMP, commensurate to the scale of the project. The EA will identify, investigate and address any impacts relevant to the project.⁵ A general overview of management measures to be considered for such projects is described in the following sections.

Due to the nature of the projects managed by the SAMP, the potential for impacts are relatively minor and localised. Most, if not all, impacts are managed by relatively standard techniques and implementation of contemporary standards.

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

5.1 Noise

The ICNG recommends the following standard hours of work:

- Monday to Friday 7.00 am to 6.00 pm;
- Saturday 8.00 am to 1.00 pm; and
- no work on Sundays or public holidays.

Under the ICNG, work conducted outside of standard construction hours requires:

- a strong justification for the work being done at this time;
- application of all feasible and reasonable work practices to meet a noise level of rating background level (RBL) + 5dBA; and
- where this level cannot be achieved, negotiation with the community/nearby residents.

Projects approved under the SAMP will consider the ICNG, the project activities being undertaken and the existing environment. Where projects are undertaken remotely or on an existing facility, hours may be extended. Drilling of some boreholes requires specialist equipment and techniques that generally require 24/7 operations.

The operational noise criteria for potentially affected receivers will be developed for each borehole location unless relevant criteria are already specified in Condition 2 of Schedule 4 (operational noise) of the Project Approval for that location, or specific project construction noise limits included in the approval.

Application of feasible and reasonable work practices will be implemented to reduce noise levels below the relevant criteria where necessary. Typical noise mitigation measures include:

⁵ Impacts relevant to the project may include, but not be limited to, noise, air quality, traffic, biodiversity, heritage, public safety.

- designing site layouts to minimise potential noise impacts;
- orientating equipment so the noisiest side faces away from sensitive receivers;
- using noise walls or other equipment (e.g. shipping containers, tanks) as close as possible to noisy equipment;
- using noise source controls, such as the use of residential class mufflers, to reduce noise from plant and equipment;
- selecting plant and equipment based on noise emission levels;
- use of low frequency reversing alarms in place of traditional reversing alarms; and
- optimising the schedule of truck deliveries.

Noise management actions will be described in the project specific noise management plans. Noise performance will be incorporated into the contractor performance requirements for surface projects in noise sensitive areas where applicable.

If ICHPL has a written noise agreement with the landholder and/or potentially affected receivers, and has advised the Department in writing (in accordance with Condition 2 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval), then the project may exceed the noise limits in accordance with this agreement.

Due to the short-term nature of the construction phase for the majority of projects addressed in the SAMP and the mitigation measures available, attended noise monitoring would be undertaken only for the investigation of complaints unless otherwise detailed in project specific management actions. Where projects are co-located with more significant mine infrastructure then noise monitoring will be undertaken in accordance with the Appin Mine Noise Management Plan.

All plant and equipment used for construction and operational purposes will be appropriately maintained and operated to minimise noise emissions.

Refer to the Appin Mine Noise Management Plan (prepared in accordance with Condition 5 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval) for further details on measures to avoid and or minimise impacts and to achieve performance with applicable standards and goals.

5.2 Air Quality

Ambient air quality performance standards are specified in Conditions 7 to 10 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval.

The highest potential for dust related air quality impacts typically occur during the construction phase due to earth moving activities. Standard dust suppression controls include:

- designing site layouts to minimise potential air quality impacts;
- the use of a water cart in disturbed areas at an appropriate frequency considering the activities being undertaken and the weather conditions;
- modification, reduction or stoppage of dust generating activities during high wind conditions;
- the use of dust suppressants (where suitable) or appropriate road surfaces;
- minimising the area of disturbance at any time, as much as practicable;
- revegetation of the extended construction footprint as soon as practicable; and
- appropriate storage of bulk materials stockpiled or otherwise stored on site.

During the operational phase, the majority of activities will have little to no air quality impacts. Activities such as supply and storage of materials (e.g. ballast) may generate small quantities of dust, and management actions will be implemented if necessary.

All plant and equipment used for construction and operational purposes will be appropriately maintained and operated to minimise emissions.

Refer to the Appin Mine Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Management Plan (prepared in accordance with Condition 12 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval) for further details on measures to avoid and or minimise impacts and to achieve performance with applicable standards and goals.

5.3 Soil and Water

Except as may be provided by EPL 2504, ICHPL shall comply with Section 120 of the *POEO Act*.

Projects undertaken on existing operational sites will be managed utilising existing systems to manage soil erosion and water quality. Where controls are not pre-existing, appropriate measures will be installed, such as:

- diversion drains to direct clean runoff around the site;
- sediment control measures at appropriate locations to address any erosion from disturbed areas;
- bulk materials stored on the surface with suitable controls to prevent contamination of surface waters;
- boreholes lined and grouted to limit interaction with regionally significant aquifers;
- appropriate management of any drilling fluid additives that may be used in the drilling process; and
- boreholes rehabilitated in accordance with prescribed standards once they are no longer required.

Erosion and sediment control works will be designed, installed and managed generally in accordance with applicable erosion and sediment control principles and guidelines (e.g. the requirements of the NSW Blue Book Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction – Volume 1 2004⁶, Guidelines for controlled activities on waterfront land 2018⁷, Controlled activities – Guidelines for laying pipes and cables in watercourses on waterfront land 2022⁸). Water controls will be employed as per the applicable project assessment or management plan documentation.

Sites will be protected by appropriate fencing to reduce the potential for livestock or unauthorised access causing damage to surface water control structures.

For projects involving drilling, tanks or sumps will be inspected to verify efficient operation. Treatment and disposal of drilling fluid additives will be managed on a site-by-site basis. ICHPL generally selects drilling fluid additives that have no/low levels of toxicity

⁶ <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/managing-urban-stormwater-soils-and-construction-volume-1-4th-edition>

⁷ https://www.nrar.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/367392/NRAR-Guidelines-for-controlled-activities-on-waterfront-land-Riparian-corridors.pdf

⁸ https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/386205/licensing_approvals_controlled_activities_laying_pipes_cables.pdf

and are environmentally benign. No BTEX-based drilling fluids are used. Materials including rock, cuttings and drilling fluids may be utilised on site or at ICHPL facilities where appropriate.

Water used for projects will be sourced in accordance with either a Water Access Licence, from a farm dam located on/adjacent to the property, from a mine water supply, or an authorised Sydney Water supply. Service supply boreholes will be cased and grouted to address any known regionally significant aquifers. Water from the Ventilation Shaft 6 site (extracted from the Nepean River under Water Access Licence 30145) may be used as a water source for surface activities. Captured water will be recycled where possible.

Works undertaken in a watercourse or within 40 metres of a riverbank may require a Controlled Activity Approval⁹.

Refer to the Appin Mine Water Management Plan (prepared in accordance with Condition 16 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval) for further details on measures to avoid and or minimise impacts and to achieve performance with applicable standards and goals.

5.4 Flora and Fauna

ICHPL will minimise impacts to flora and fauna by preferentially selecting sites within highly modified and disturbed environments. Projects will avoid clearing native vegetation and mature trees where possible. As such, projects are not expected to have a significant impact on any threatened species, populations or ecological community through either direct or indirect impacts. Biodiversity will be managed as per the relevant project assessment and/or management plan.

Any disturbance requires a Permit to Disturb to be completed in conjunction with the Specialist Environment. Controls identified under the Permit to Disturb must be implemented.

Where native vegetation is required to be disturbed, a site-specific ecological assessment will be undertaken. Further, the Approvals Team should be consulted to ensure the clearing is in accordance with the Project Approval and as detailed in the Biodiversity Management Plan (in accordance with Condition 36 of Schedule 4).

Performance standards in relation to flora and fauna may include but not be limited to:

- restricting all vehicles and machinery to the proposed access tracks and sites;
- avoiding shrubs, trees and fallen timber as far as practicable;
- minimising clearance of native vegetation and avoiding Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) or threatened species (unless approval to undertake this clearing has been granted);
- installing fencing around identified threatened species or communities prior to the commencement of works to provide protection from inadvertent damage, where practicable;
- undertaking a two-stage clearing process for the felling of any hollow bearing trees;
- implementing sediment and erosion control measures; and
- rehabilitating sites consistent to the pre-existing state, unless agreed otherwise with the relevant landholder, using native seed where practical.

⁹ <https://water.dppe.nsw.gov.au/licensing-and-trade/approvals/controlled-activity-approvals>.

5.5 Cultural Heritage

ICHPL will minimise impacts to cultural heritage features by preferentially selecting sites within highly modified and disturbed environments, wherever practicable. Sites within the project area and in the vicinity of projects under the SAMP will be identified and mapped prior to the commencement of works.

Project specific Aboriginal cultural heritage issues will be assessed in accordance with the NSW Minerals Industry Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects. Where Aboriginal sites are known to occur, specific management measures will be developed to avoid or minimise impacts on these sites.

Fencing or alternative barriers are to be installed around identified cultural heritage sites prior to the commencement of works to provide protection from inadvertent damage, where practicable.

The following emergency response procedure will be implemented if Aboriginal objects are discovered during the construction of a project:

1. In the event that suspected Aboriginal objects are encountered during construction, all work in the area, and all work that may cause further harm, must cease immediately.
2. If there is doubt about the item encountered being an Aboriginal object, a professional archaeologist should be briefed to attend site and confirm.
3. If there is no doubt about the item being an Aboriginal object then the archaeologist and appropriate registered Aboriginal stakeholders must be contacted to determine the object's significance, the extent of harm and whether or not the harm will continue if the construction proceeds.
4. Heritage NSW and the Department must be advised of the discovery of Aboriginal objects as well as plans for mitigation or avoidance of further harm.
5. Steps to avoid or mitigate further harm should be formulated in writing, in an object/site specific management plan, which must include an appropriate level of recording and documentation of the object/site.
6. Work in the area can only resume once a site-specific management plan is in place, and written advice from the archaeologist is completed.

Where skeletal remains are discovered, the following response will be implemented:

1. All work will be stopped immediately.
2. The find will be reported to the police and state coroner.
3. Aboriginal stakeholders and Heritage NSW will be notified of the find.
4. If the skeletal remains are of Aboriginal ancestral origin an appropriate management strategy will be developed in consultation with the Aboriginal stakeholders.
5. The find will be recorded in accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* and appropriate standards/guidelines.
6. The relevant cultural heritage management documentation will be amended to include the newly discovered ancestral remains.

For non-Aboriginal heritage sites, the following is implemented to avoid or minimise impact:

1. ICHPL will manage and conserve the Mountbatten Group in a manner consistent with its heritage values and in accordance with the Conservation Management Plan.
2. ICHPL will design the sympathetic placement of new buildings and structures on properties subject to heritage infrastructure (such as the Morton Park Mountbatten Group).
3. Vegetation clearing for project activities will be minimised and should exclude historic plantings.
4. Any relics discovered during project activities will be assessed and documented by an appropriately qualified cultural heritage expert. Where it is relevant to do so, relics will be retrieved and managed in accordance with any recommendations made by the cultural heritage expert.
5. Where surface projects interact with heritage items owned by other parties (e.g. the WaterNSW Upper Canal), the infrastructure owner will be consulted, and relevant approvals obtained prior to works.

Refer to the Appin Mine Heritage Management Plan (prepared in accordance with Condition 24 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval) for additional details on heritage management at Appin Mine.

5.6 Public Safety

5.6.1 Traffic

Traffic is managed to minimise impacts on local residents and road safety. During the construction phase, appropriate signage will be implemented, and relevant traffic approvals obtained. Where applicable, residents will be advised prior to the commencement of works and advised of any related disruptions to local traffic. In some instances, known areas of high-risk traffic will be avoided as practicable.

In some cases, improvements may be required to facilitate safe access to site and minimise traffic interruption.

Projects that coincide with an existing operational site are subject to the Appin Mine Traffic Management Plan (prepared in accordance with Condition 26 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval), including the Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project (AMVA) Drivers Code of Conduct.

5.6.2 Public Safety

Projects undertaken within existing operational sites are subject to the site systems in place for safety, as well as security measures to prevent unauthorised access. Contractors undertaking work are required to comply with the relevant health, safety, environment and community standards.

Appropriate investigations are required to be undertaken prior to commencing work with regards to underground service locations (e.g. Dial Before You Dig).

Diesel storages and pipelines shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with the relevant standards.

Where activities are undertaken on external properties, public safety measures will be implemented, including but not limited to appropriate signage, fencing and sign-in processes to allow only authorised personnel to enter the site. Vehicular accesses will be gated and locked when not in use.

Appropriate risk management equipment (such as firefighting facilities and spill kits) will be present and maintained, with relevant personnel familiar with their use.

Only appropriately qualified personnel and equipment are employed to undertake works under the SAMP. All personnel are required to wear relevant personal protective equipment.

5.7 Visual Impact Management Strategies

Visual impact strategies are project dependent and influenced by aspects including the existing environment, the type of activities being undertaken and duration of works. Where practicable, project activities are shielded from visually sensitive receivers by natural topography and where appropriate, using equipment such as noise barriers.

For long term infrastructure, ICHPL will preferably avoid the use of highly reflective materials or materials not commensurate with the surrounds.

Screening trees will be included in revegetation works, as and where appropriate, for long term projects.

Permanent lighting will be installed as per the relevant standards but will consider visual amenity and light spill.

Temporary lighting will be arranged to minimise light spillage as much as possible without compromising safety or operations.

Progressive rehabilitation activities will also improve the visual aspects of SAMP projects.

5.8 Rehabilitation

5.8.1 Proposed Rehabilitation Approach

The rehabilitation and closure concept for projects approved under the SAMP will be based on:

- the pre-existing environment of the proposed works;
- management measures and criteria proposed in environmental management plans and rehabilitation/closure documents; and
- current legislation, guidelines and approvals.

Rehabilitation will be undertaken progressively once construction and/or operational activities at the site are complete. This will include reducing the construction footprint and removal of any redundant construction infrastructure, and at the completion of operations the rehabilitation of disturbed sites to pre-existing landform and land use, or to a standard determined by the property owner and consistent with the proposed future use.

Where projects are constructed under the SAMP and become a component of ongoing mine operations, rehabilitation will be addressed consistent with the mine rehabilitation closure documentation (e.g. consistent with the Rehabilitation Management Plan in accordance with Condition 33 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval and Conceptual Closure Plan).

5.8.2 Rehabilitation Requirements

Appin Mine operates (primarily) under Consolidated Coal Lease (CCL) 767 and 724. In accordance with both CCLs and the Standard Conditions of Mining Leases under

Schedule 8A of the *Mining Regulation 2016* it is required that, upon completion of operations, ICHPL rehabilitate the subject area and establish vegetation to the satisfaction of the relevant stakeholders as soon as reasonably practical after the disturbance occurs.

Relevant Project Approval conditions relating to rehabilitation are captured in Appendix 1.

5.8.3 Timing of Construction and Rehabilitation

At the commencement of construction, activities typically focus on the construction of site access and the working area, followed by the installation of equipment and infrastructure.

Progressive rehabilitation generally commences as soon as practicable to reduce the project footprint and subsequently the area that ultimately requires rehabilitation. The types of activities that can generally be rehabilitated progressively include:

- disturbed areas alongside access roads;
- pad batters; and
- construction disturbance areas once they are no longer required.

Topsoil, with any pre-existing seed entrained, will be separated during stripping and stockpiled for rehabilitation purposes.

Progressive rehabilitation of the above items generally includes the stabilisation, re-shaping and revegetation of exposed areas. Where assistance is required with topsoil stabilisation and vegetation establishment, spray grass may be used. Temporary sediment control structures will be implemented where required.

Equipment and temporary infrastructure will be removed when it is no longer required. This may include items such as site sheds, tanks, drilling and construction equipment.

Progress of rehabilitation will be reported in the Annual Review and Annual Rehabilitation Report (refer to Section 9.1).

5.8.4 Construction Outcomes

At the completion of the construction phase, the rehabilitation outcomes as outlined in this section will be achieved.

5.8.4.1 Stabilisation and Revegetation

Disturbed areas not required for operations will be shaped, topsoiled and grass established. This generally includes consolidated pad areas and newly constructed access road verges. Once areas are stabilised, temporary sediment controls will be removed.

5.8.4.2 Removal of Infrastructure

Construction infrastructure and equipment will be removed. Throughout the construction phase, equipment and infrastructure may need to be stored on site. Temporary infrastructure includes demountable buildings and sheds for personnel, equipment and materials. As parts of the construction are completed, some of these facilities will no longer be required and therefore will be removed from site as appropriate.

5.8.4.3 Sumps

ICHPL typically uses above ground drilling sumps/tanks. In the case where an excavated sump is required for a project, it will be:

- drained and all contaminated or unsuitable fill removed or treated as appropriate;
- backfilled with suitable fill material and/or material as appropriate;
- re-profiled and compacted to create a final landform with non-erodible sustainable grades and no pooled areas, as close as possible to the original topography and/or consistent with the surrounding area; and
- topsoiled and revegetated or finished to landholder requirements.

5.8.4.4 Boreholes

Boreholes are plugged with cement-based grout to avoid any cross contamination or interference with aquifers. Plugging is in accordance with the relevant legislation, standards and guidelines.

5.8.5 Final Land Use Outcomes

Construction areas are generally contoured to match the pre-project landform, unless otherwise requested by the landholder or infrastructure owner.

For short term projects, it is anticipated that post-rehabilitation land use for most remote sites would be rural agricultural as that is generally the pre-existing use. In general, the success of rehabilitation of such sites will be determined by achieving ground cover sufficient to provide a stable, non-erodible land surface that does not require routine maintenance.

Pre-disturbed areas, including existing operational sites, are finished to a condition determined in consultation with the appropriate landholder.

Where infrastructure constructed under the SAMP is incorporated into an operational site it will be rehabilitated consistent with documentation including the Rehabilitation Management Plan and Conceptual Closure Plan.

5.9 Waste Management

Waste will be appropriately captured, segregated and transferred to suitable locations for reuse, recycling or disposal as appropriate.

Where possible and suitable, and where excavated materials are unable to be reused on site, material will be transferred to the CWEA for use as capping material.

Refer to the Appin Mine Waste Management Plan (prepared in accordance with Condition 29 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval) for additional details on waste management at Appin Mine.

6 Monitoring

6.1 Construction Phase Monitoring

During the construction phase an environmental representative or site/project manager will undertake weekly inspections to determine the success of management measures in place for aspects including sedimentation, erosion, dust and noise management and

progressive rehabilitation. These inspections will incorporate criteria from this document, any project specific Environmental Assessment and relevant Appin Mine environmental management plan(s).

Monitoring will be undertaken as required commensurate with the potential impacts of the project and as defined in the Environmental Assessment.

6.2 Operations Phase Monitoring

Where a project becomes an operational asset, it will generally be managed by the appropriate ICHPL operation. Projects are managed/monitored as appropriate for the nature of the activity, risks to be managed and the controls in place. Where infrastructure has become a component of the mining operation it will no longer be managed under the SAMP and will be incorporated into operations-based procedures and documentation.

Operations phase monitoring will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant management plan.

Where a project does not become an operational asset, it will be managed as outlined in the project specific EA.

6.3 Monitoring Results

As required and relevant for projects under the SAMP, monitoring results will be reported in the 14-day Report, available on the GM³ website at: [link](#).

7 Consultation

7.1 Communication and Consultation Strategy

ICHPL's community consultation and communication is guided by the Stakeholder Engagement Management Plan (SEMP). The SEMP details the strategies used by ICHPL with regard to social management and stakeholder engagement in the areas in which ICHPL operate. ICHPL acknowledges that commitment to a systematic approach is required to achieve sound social performance and best practice community relations. Such a system provides order and consistency so that stakeholder engagement is addressed through the allocation of appropriate resources, assignment of responsibilities and ongoing evaluation of practices, procedures and processes.

To verify that these mechanisms are working effectively and that stakeholder engagement strategies are meeting both ICHPL and stakeholder requirements, evaluation methods are also employed. Such evaluation is informed primarily by community and stakeholder surveys, but also community enquiries/feedback/complaints, community committees, information forums or other similar communications and engagement mechanisms.

The SEMP is managed by and is under the responsibility of the Corporate Affairs Team. A project specific SEMP may be developed dependent on the complexity of the project and identified impacts to the local community, landholders or other stakeholders. The SEMP provides the foundation for the strategies on communication and consultation required under the SAMP.

Detail on the complaint management process is provided in Section 8.1.

7.2 Stakeholders

Typical stakeholders that may have an interest in projects under the SAMP include:

- affected landowners/occupiers;
- Appin Mine Community Consultative Committee (CCC);
- relevant local and state government agencies and elected representatives;
- registered Aboriginal stakeholders;
- the wider ICHPL community (primarily Wollondilly Local Government Area);
- media; and
- other stakeholders identified in a project specific SEMP.

Depending on the nature of the project and the environment and heritage sensitivities, some, or all of these stakeholders may be involved with the project. Communication is maintained to secure relationships with all key stakeholders and achieve input at an appropriate stage of the project.

7.3 Landholder Agreements

Where projects are isolated from existing operations, or close to residential receivers, ICHPL may be required to obtain agreements with landholders for access, or in relation to potential impacts from project noise, air quality or visual impacts.

The Principal Community/Specialist Communities approaches relevant landholders, and in some cases tenants (such as for potential noise impacts), to advise these stakeholders of the scope of the project. This includes the nature of the project, duration and operating hours, potential impacts, traffic and site rehabilitation.

Landholder access agreements may be required to access properties not owned by ICHPL. These agreements are developed in consultation with the landholder and signed off by both parties.

Where residents are predicted to be affected by project noise in excess of the relevant noise criteria, ICHPL will seek to establish a noise agreement with affected residents. Consultation regarding noise agreements includes identification of any particularly sensitive times at the nearest receivers and determining the most suitable noise mitigation measures.

Air quality is managed via the Appin Mine Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan. If it is predicted that residents will be impacted by air quality (that exceeds air quality criteria outlined in Condition 9 or 10 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval), ICHPL will seek an agreement with the resident.

The management of visual impacts is discussed in Section 5.7. As per the Statement of Commitments outlined in the Project Approval, the necessary mitigation strategies will be implemented to minimise visual impacts. These potential impacts and strategies will be included in the discussions with the relevant residents.

This process for implementing mitigation measures will be undertaken in line with the relevant conditions of the Project Approval and the Landholder Compensation and Land Access Payments Guideline. ICHPL will notify the Department in writing regarding such agreements.

8 Complaints and Non-compliance Management

8.1 Complaints and Dispute Resolution

GM³ has a 24-hour, free community call line (1800 102 210) and email address (community@gm-3.com.au) which is displayed at ICHPL Projects and Mine Sites, and included in newsletters, letters and other correspondence. The call line and email address are for all complaints and general enquiries regarding environmental or community issues associated with ICHPL's operations.

Community complaints and enquiries may also be received in person by any employee of GM³, with details to be immediately shared with the the relevant operations personnel for investigation. All complaints received in relation to Appin Mine will be managed in accordance with the Handling Community Complaints, Enquiries and Disputes Procedure.

Upon receipt of a community complaint, preliminary investigations will commence as soon as practicable to determine the likely cause of the complaint. The complainant will receive an acknowledgement of their complaint within 24-hours of its submission. A follow up response will be provided as soon as practicable after a detailed investigation has been completed.

Supplementary monitoring will also be undertaken as required and until satisfactory resolution of the issue.

A summary of all complaints received during the reporting year is provided as part of the Annual Review. A log of complaints is also maintained on the GM³ website at: [link](#).

8.2 Events, Non-Compliance, Corrective Action and Preventative Action

Events, non-compliances, corrective actions and preventative actions are managed in accordance with the Reporting and Investigation Standard and Environmental Compliance/Conformance Assessment and Reporting Procedure. These procedures, which relate to all ICHPL operations, detail the processes to be utilised with respect to the event reporting and identification of non-compliances and non-conformances, the application of appropriate corrective action(s) and the establishment of preventative actions. The key elements of the process include:

- identification of events, non-conformances and/or non-compliances;
- recording of the event, non-conformance and/or non-compliance in G360;
- evaluation of the event, non-conformance and/or non-compliance to determine specific corrective and preventative actions;
- assigning corrective and preventative actions to responsible persons and entry into G360; and
- management review of corrective actions to assess the status and effectiveness of the actions.

Incidents, exceedances non-compliances with the SAMP will be reported to all relevant agencies as detailed in Section 9.1.3.

8.3 Adaptive Management/Contingency Planning

In accordance with Condition 3 of Schedule 6 of the Project Approval, where any exceedance of the performance measures in Schedule 4 has occurred, ICHPL is required to:

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

9 Reporting and Review

9.1 Reporting

9.1.1 Annual Review

ICHPL will report on the activities undertaken under the SAMP in the Annual Review.

The Annual Review is prepared in accordance with Condition 4 of Schedule 6 of the Project Approval and is submitted to relevant agencies in September each year. Annual Reviews are made available to the general public via the GM³ website.

The Annual Review will include:

- monitoring results and comparison to relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria, requirements of the relevant management plan, monitoring results of previous years and relevant predictions in the EA;
- identification of trends in monitoring data over the life of the project;
- identification of any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the development, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies;
- details of any non-compliance over the past financial year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to achieve compliance;
- a summary of monitoring data and any improvement opportunities implemented;
- complaints and management/mitigation measures undertaken;
- management/mitigation measures undertaken in the event of any confirmed exceedance of criteria;
- a review of the performance of management/mitigation measures and the monitoring program; and
- a description of what measures will be implemented over the next financial year to improve the environmental performance of the project.

9.1.2 Annual Rehabilitation Report

An Annual Rehabilitation Report¹⁰ is required to be submitted by 30 September each year via the Resources Regulator portal¹¹. The Annual Rehabilitation Report will include details of disturbance and rehabilitation undertaken during the reporting period associated with projects under the SAMP.

A copy of the Annual Rehabilitation Report will be appended to the Annual Review.

9.1.3 Notification of Incidents to Government Authorities and the Public

9.1.3.1 Notification of Incidents – Government Agencies

In accordance with Condition 7 of Schedule 6 of the Project Approval, the Planning Secretary is to be notified in writing via the Major Projects portal within 24 hours after becoming aware of an incident¹². Reports are to be provided in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 7 of the Project Approval within seven (7) days of the initial notification in accordance with Condition 7AA of Schedule 6 of the Project Approval. Notification to the EPA will also be undertaken in accordance with the reporting requirements of the Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (if applicable) or via email/phone.

9.1.3.2 Notification of Non-compliances – Government Agencies

In accordance with Condition 7A of Schedule 6 of the Project Approval, the Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects portal within seven (7) days after becoming aware of a non-compliance¹³.

The EPA is also to be notified of the non-compliance (via email).

Non-compliances with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan or an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit require reporting to the EPA Environment Line (131 555).

9.1.3.3 Notification of Criteria Exceedances – Landowners

In accordance with Condition 1 of Schedule 5 of the Project Approval, where an exceedance of criteria due to operational activities has been confirmed, the affected landowners will be notified in writing of the exceedance as soon as practicable and no longer than seven (7) days following confirmation of the exceedance. Notifications of exceedances is to be undertaken prior to inclusion in the 14-day Report.

Regular monitoring results will be provided to each affected landowner until compliance with criteria is achieved. In addition, a copy of the NSW Health fact sheet entitled [Mine Dust and You](#) is to be provided to the affected landowners and/or existing tenants of the land.

The CCC will also be advised of exceedances of criteria at the next available meeting.

¹⁰ [Link](#) to guideline.

¹¹ <https://nswresourcesregulator.service-now.com/regulator>

¹² The definition of an incident in the Project Approval is “An occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment, and as a consequence of that environmental harm, may cause harm to the health and safety of human beings, and which may or may not be or cause a non-compliance”.

¹³ A non-compliance that has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.

9.2 Review of SAMP

In accordance with Condition 5 of Schedule 6 of the Project Approval, the SAMP will be reviewed, and if necessary revised, within three months, of:

- the submission of an Annual Review;
- the submission of an incident report;
- the submission of an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) report; and
- any modification to the conditions of the Project Approval (unless the conditions require otherwise); or
- a direction of the Planning Secretary under Condition 4 of Schedule 2.

Outcomes from each review will be documented in the Management Plan Review Log (unless the SAMP is being updated as part of the review). The SAMP will only be revised where a material change to site operations or environmental management has occurred, or in accordance with the review period on the SAMP. Administrative or descriptive changes do not constitute a material change.

Where a review triggers a revision of the SAMP, the SAMP will be revised and submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval. Once approved, the SAMP will be uploaded to the GM³ website.

The approved SAMP will be implemented.

9.3 Audits

9.3.1 Independent Environmental Audit

In accordance with Condition 9 of Schedule 6 of the Project Approval, an IEA shall be commissioned every three (3) years, that will include a review of the adequacy of the SAMP. The IEA report, together with the response to any recommendations contained in the audit report, and a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations, is required to be submitted to the Secretary within six (6) weeks of completion of the audit, in accordance with Condition 10 of Schedule 6. The IEA is also undertaken to comply with Condition 18 of EPBC Approval 2010/5350. A copy of the report is also submitted to the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water to satisfy Condition 18 (g).

IEAs have been conducted every three (3) years since 2013, with the last IEA being conducted in 2022, and the next IEA to be conducted in 2025. Recommendations from the IEA will be incorporated into the SAMP where appropriate.

9.3.2 ISO 14001

As part of the ISO 14001 certification, ICHPL maintains an environmental auditing and governance program across all of its operational sites. The program, which includes the use of competent internal and accredited external auditors, is an integral part of maintaining certification under the ISO 14001 standard.

External surveillance audits are undertaken on an annual basis, with recertification audits undertaken every three (3) years.

Internal Governance Reviews of the SAMP are nominally undertaken on a three-yearly basis.

10 Summary of Commitments

Commitment	Section in SAMP
ICHPL will provide personnel and resources to implement the SAMP.	Section 2
ICHPL will comply with the conditions of the Project Approval and relevant legislation.	Section 3
ICHPL will implement noise mitigation measures for surface activities where required.	Section 5.1
ICHPL will implement measures to reduce dust and other air emissions for access road development and construction activities where required.	Section 5.2
ICHPL will implement erosion and sediment controls to prevent water pollution where required.	Section 5.3
ICHPL will construct sumps for drilling operations where required and use low toxicity drilling fluids.	Section 5.3
ICHPL will implement fencing at surface activity projects to protect environmentally sensitive areas and cultural heritage items, prevent livestock access and for public safety as required.	Section 5.3, 5.4, 5.5 and 5.6.2
ICHPL will implement landholder agreements where potential noise impacts are identified or where access to private properties is required.	Section 5.1 and 7.3
ICHPL will undertake regular inspections of tanks and sumps during drilling operations.	Section 5.3
ICHPL will source water for surface activities from approved sources.	Section 5.3
ICHPL will utilise the Permit to Disturb process for any ground disturbance activities associated with projects covered by the SAMP, and implement controls as required.	Section 5.4
ICHPL will implement the process as detailed if cultural heritage items or skeletal remains are identified during construction.	Section 5.5
ICHPL will implement controls to minimise traffic impacts on local residents if required.	Section 5.6.1
ICHPL will implement measures to reduce the visual impact of the project if required.	Section 5.7
ICHPL will progressively rehabilitate surface activity construction sites where practicable, and rehabilitate the non-operational areas when construction is completed.	Section 5.8
ICHPL will plug boreholes with cement-based grout to minimise the risk of cross contamination or interference with aquifers.	Section 5.8.4.4
ICHPL will undertake monitoring of the surface activity construction site as required.	Section 6
ICHPL will undertake consultation with identified stakeholders as required.	Section 7
ICHPL will report and investigate complaints, incidents and exceedances of limits as required, and identify and implement corrective actions.	Section 8
ICHPL will undertake reporting as required.	Section 9.1
ICHPL will review the SAMP as required.	Section 9.2

ICHPL will undertake audits as required.	Section 9.3
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11 Acronyms

Term	Definition
BSO	Bulli Seam Operations
BTEX	Group of VOCs, collectively known as BTEX, comprising benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene
CCC	Community Consultative Committee
CCL	Consolidated Coal Lease
CWEA	Coal Wash Emplacement Area
Department	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI), previously <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Planning and Environment • Department of Planning and Infrastructure
EA	Environmental Assessment
EMS	Environmental Management System
<i>EP&A Act</i>	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act</i>
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
EPL	Environment Protection Licence
G360	Event reporting system
ICHPL	Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd
ICNG	Interim Construction Noise Guidelines
IEA	Independent Environmental Audit
km	kilometre
NSW	New South Wales
PED	Personal Emergency Device
<i>POEO Act</i>	<i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act</i>
RBL	Rating background limit
RoM	Run of Mine
SAMP	Surface Activities Management Plan

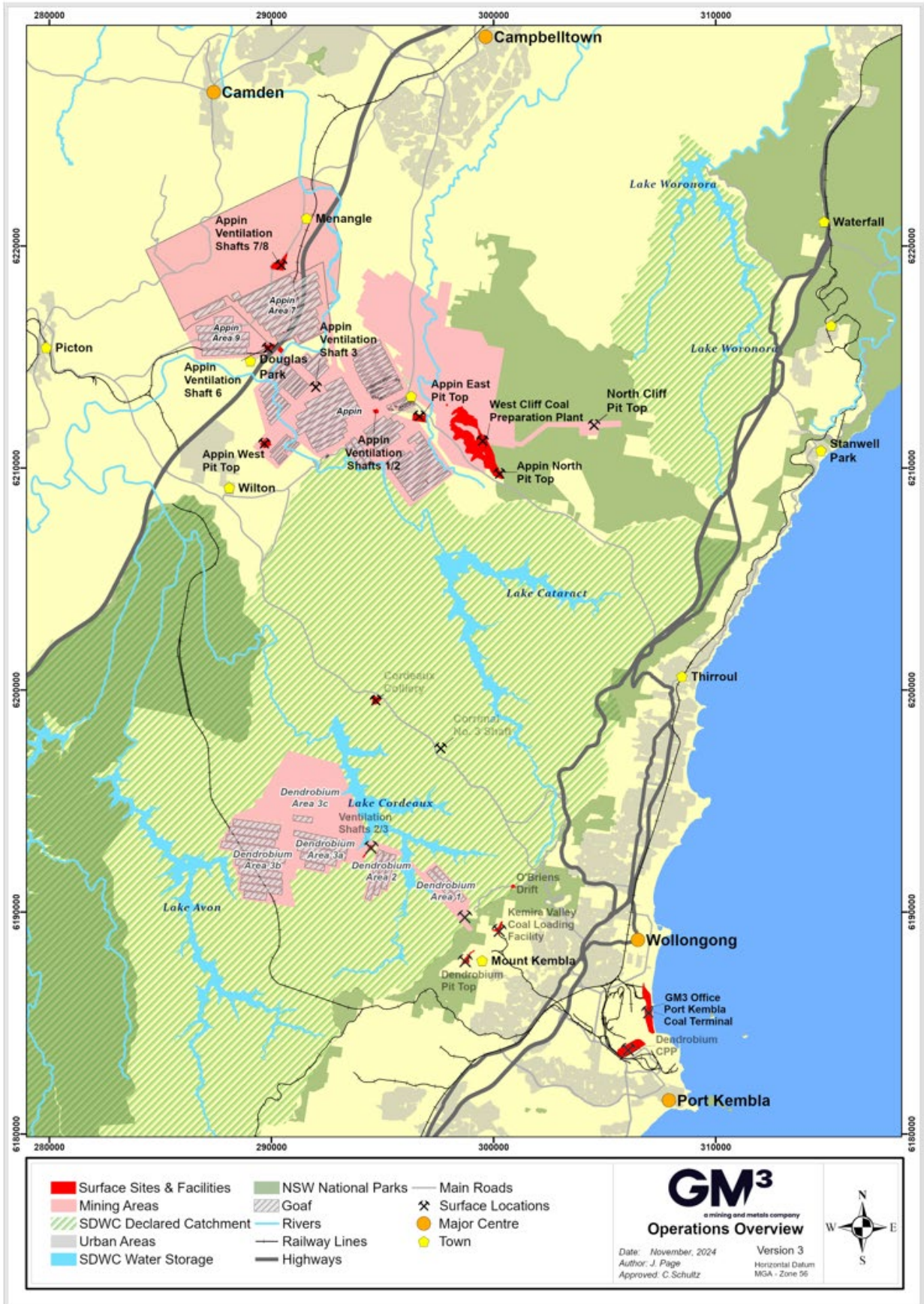
SEMP	Stakeholder Engagement Management Plan
WCCPP	West Cliff Coal Preparation Plant

12 References

- BSO Project Approval (MP 08_0150), as modified
- BSO Project Environmental Assessment 2009
- EPL 2504
- Handling Community Complaints, Enquiries and Disputes Procedure (IMCP0112)
- Environmental Compliance/Conformance Assessment and Reporting Procedure (IMCP0186)
- ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems Standard
- Reporting and Investigation Standard (IMCSTD0069)
- Noise Management Plan (APNMP0113)
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan (APNMP0112)
- Water Management Plan (APNMP0121)
- Traffic Management Plan (APNMP0128)
- Waste Management Plan (APNMP0110)
- AMVA Drivers' Code of Conduct (APNSTD0313)
- Heritage Management Plan (APNMP0119)
- Rehabilitation Management Plan (APNMP0127)
- Biodiversity Management Plan (APNMP0115)
- Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (APNMP0124)
- Stakeholder Engagement Management Plan (IMCMP0016)
- Permit to Disturb Form (IMCF0209)
- Permit to Disturb Procedure (IMCP0207)
- Landholder Compensation and Land Access Agreements Guideline (IMCGD0097)

13 Plans

Plan 1: Appin Mine Locality Plan



14 Appendices

Appendix 1: Project Approval Conditions - SAMP¹⁴

Condition	Requirement	Section
Condition 1 of Schedule 2	<p>Obligation to minimise harm to the environment</p> <p>In addition to meeting the specific performance criteria established under this approval, the Proponent shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, or rehabilitation of the project.</p>	Section 5
Condition 2 of Schedule 2	<p>Terms of Approval</p> <p>The Proponent must carry out the project:</p> <p>(a) generally in accordance with the EA, Statement of Commitments and PPR;</p> <p>(b) in accordance with the conditions of this approval; and</p> <p>(c) in accordance with any written directions of the Planning Secretary.</p>	Section 3.1
Condition 12 of Schedule 2	<p>Operation of Plant and Equipment</p> <p>The Proponent shall ensure that all plant and equipment used at the site is:</p> <p>(a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and</p> <p>(b) operated in a proper and efficient manner.</p>	Section 5.1 and 5.2
Condition 22 of Schedule 4	<p>The Proponent shall prepare a Surface Activities Management Plan in respect of construction and use of service boreholes, pipelines, electrical infrastructure, works to public infrastructure, communications equipment and monitoring equipment, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(a) be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval by 30 April 2017, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise; and</p>	<p>This plan</p> <p>Date is in the past</p>
	<p>(b) include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a community consultation strategy; • a protocol for landholder agreements; • commensurate assessment of noise, air quality, traffic, biodiversity, heritage, public safety and other impacts in accordance with approved methods; • measures to avoid and/or minimise impacts; • measures to achieve performance with applicable standards and goals; • mitigation measures and/or compensation for significant noise, air quality and visual impacts at privately-owned residences; and • measures for the rehabilitation of disturbance. 	<p>Section 7.1</p> <p>Section 7.3</p> <p>Section 5</p> <p>Sections 5.1, 5.2 and 5.7</p> <p>Section 5.8</p>

¹⁴ Conditions have not been included in Appendix 1 where they have been specifically addressed in other management plans required under the Project Approval.

Condition	Requirement	Section
Condition 22A of Schedule 4	The Proponent must implement the Surface Activities Management Plan approved by the Planning Secretary.	Section 9.2
Condition 31 of Schedule 4	<p>The Proponent shall rehabilitate the site in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining lease(s) associated with the project under the Mining Act 1992. This rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation strategy described in the EA and the PPR, and comply with the objectives in Table 10.</p> <p>Table 10: Rehabilitation Objectives states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Surface Infrastructure: To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Resources Regulator agrees otherwise. 	Section 5.8
Condition 32 of Schedule 4	The Proponent shall carry out the rehabilitation of the site progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable following disturbance.	Section 5.8
Condition 1 of Schedule 5	<p>Notification of Landowners</p> <p>As soon as practicable and no longer than 7 days after obtaining monitoring results showing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an exceedance of any relevant criteria in schedule 4, the Proponent shall notify affected landowners in writing of the exceedance, and provide regular monitoring results to each affected landowner until the project is again complying with relevant criteria; and • an exceedance of any air quality criteria in Schedule 4, the Proponent shall send a copy of the NSW Health fact sheet entitled “Mine Dust and You” (as may be updated from time to time) to the affected landowners and/or existing tenants of the land (including the tenants of any mine-owned land). 	Section 9.1.3.3
Condition 2 of Schedule 6	<p>Management Plan Requirements</p> <p>The Proponent shall ensure that the management plans required under this approval are prepared in accordance with any relevant guidelines, and include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) detailed baseline data; b) a description of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions); • any relevant limits or performance measures/criteria; • the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the project or any management measures; c) a description of the measures that would be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures/criteria; d) a program to monitor and report on the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • impacts and environmental performance of the project; 	<p>Section 3.1</p> <p>Section 3</p> <p>Section 5</p> <p>Section 5</p>

Condition	Requirement	Section
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effectiveness of any management measures (see c above); e) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible; f) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the project over time; g) a protocol for managing and reporting any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incident; • complaints; • non-compliances with statutory requirements; and • exceedances of the impact assessment criteria and/or performance criteria; and h) a protocol for periodic review of the plan. <p><i>Note: The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.</i></p>	<p>Section 6</p> <p>Section 9</p> <p>Section 8.3</p> <p>Section 9.1.1</p> <p>Section 8.2</p> <p>Section 8.1</p> <p>Section 8.2</p> <p>Section 9.2</p>
Condition 3 of Schedule 6	<p>Adaptive Management</p> <p>The Proponent must assess and manage project-related risks to ensure that there are no exceedances of the criteria and/or performance measures in Schedules 3 and 4. Any exceedance of these criteria and/or performance measures constitutes a breach of this approval and may be subject to penalty or offence provisions under the <i>EP&A Act</i> or <i>EP&A Regulation</i>.</p> <p>Where any exceedance of the criteria and/or performance measures has occurred, the Proponent must, at the earliest opportunity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take all reasonable and feasible steps to ensure the exceedance ceases and does not recur; • consider all reasonable and feasible options for remediation (where relevant) and submit a report to the Department describing these options and any preferred remediation measures or other course of action; and • implement remediation measures as directed by the Planning Secretary <p>to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>	Section 8.3
Condition 4 of Schedule 6	<p>Annual Review</p> <p>By 30 September 2012, and annually thereafter, the Proponent shall review the environmental performance of the project to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This review must:</p> <p>(a) describe the development (including any rehabilitation) that was carried out in the past financial year, and the development that is proposed to be carried out over the next year;</p> <p>(b) include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the project over the past financial year, which includes a comparison of these results against the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria; 	Section 9.1.1

Condition	Requirement	Section
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requirements of any plan or program required under this approval; • monitoring results of previous years; and • relevant predictions in the EA; <p>(c) identify any non-compliance over the past financial year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to ensure compliance;</p> <p>(d) identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the project;</p> <p>(e) identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the project, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and</p> <p>(f) describe what measures will be implemented over the current financial year to improve the environmental performance of the project.</p>	
Condition 5 of Schedule 6	<p>Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs</p> <p>Within 3 months of:</p> <p>(a) the submission of an annual review under Condition 4 above;</p> <p>(b) the submission of an incident report under Condition 7 below;</p> <p>(c) the submission of an audit report under Condition 9 below; and</p> <p>(d) any modification to the conditions of this approval, (unless the conditions require otherwise); or</p> <p>(e) a direction of the Planning Secretary under Condition 4 of Schedule 2; the Proponent shall review, and if necessary revise, the strategies, plans, and programs required under this approval to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>	Section 9.2
Condition 7 of Schedule 6	<p>Incident Notification, Reporting and Response</p> <p>The Applicant must notify the Department within 24 hours of becoming aware of an incident. The notification must be made via the NSW planning portal (Major Projects) and address details of the incident including:</p> <p>(a) date, time and location;</p> <p>(b) a brief description of what occurred and why it has been classified as an incident;</p> <p>(c) a description of what immediate steps were taken in relation to the incident; and</p> <p>(d) identifying a contact person for further communication regarding the incident.</p>	Section 9.1.3
Condition 7AA of Schedule 6	The Applicant must provide the Department with a subsequent incident report in accordance with Appendix 7.	Section 9.1.3
Condition 7A of Schedule 6	<p>Non-compliance Notification</p> <p>Within seven days of becoming aware of a non-compliance, the Applicant must notify the Department of the non-compliance. The notification must be in writing and must be submitted via the NSW planning portal (Major Projects). The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and name), set out the condition of this consent that the development is non-compliant with, why it does not comply, the reasons for the non-</p>	Section 9.1.3

Condition	Requirement	Section
	<p>compliance (if known), and what actions have been undertaken, or will be undertaken, and when, to address the non-compliance.</p> <p><i>Note: A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a noncompliance.</i></p>	
Condition 8 of Schedule 6	<p>Regular Reporting</p> <p>The Proponent shall provide regular reporting on the environmental performance of the project on its website, in accordance with the reporting arrangements in any plans or programs approved under the conditions of this approval.</p>	Section 6.3
Condition 9 of Schedule 6	<p>Independent Environmental Audit</p> <p>By the end of December 2013, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Planning Secretary directs otherwise, the Proponent shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the project. This audit must:</p> <p>(a) be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary;</p> <p>(b) include consultation with the relevant agencies;</p> <p>(c) assess the environmental performance of the project and assess whether it is complying with the requirements in this approval and any relevant EPL or Mining Lease (including any assessment, plan or program required under these approvals);</p> <p>(d) review the adequacy of strategies, plans or programs required under the abovementioned approvals; and</p> <p>(e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the project, and/or any assessment, plan or program required under the abovementioned approvals.</p> <p><i>Note: This audit team must be led by a suitably qualified auditor and include experts in any field specified by the Planning Secretary</i></p>	Section 9.3.1
Condition 10 of Schedule 6	<p>Within 6 weeks of the completion of this audit, or as otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary, the Proponent shall submit a copy of the audit report to the Planning Secretary, together with its response to any recommendations contained in the audit report.</p>	Section 9.3.1
Condition 11 of Schedule 6	<p>Access to Information</p> <p>From 30 June 2012, the Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) make copies of the following publicly available on its website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the documents referred to in Condition 2 of Schedule 2; • all current statutory approvals for the project; • all approved strategies, plans and programs required under the conditions of this approval; • a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the project, reported in accordance with the specifications in any conditions of this approval, or any approved plans and programs; • a complaints register, updated on a monthly basis; • minutes of CCC meetings; 	Section 3.1

Condition	Requirement	Section
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the annual reviews of the project; • any independent environmental audit of the project, and the Proponent’s response to the recommendations in any audit; • any other matter required by the Planning Secretary; and (b) keep this information up-to-date, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary	
Table SOC-3	<p>Working Hours and Noise</p> <p>Construction hours will minimise the impact on the community where practical.</p> <p>Activities will be undertaken as per the hours in the relevant project assessment (except emergencies), with a preference to undertake audible activities during daylight hours where possible.</p> <p>Works will be designed with consideration to minimising impacts on the community.</p>	Section 5.1
Table SOC-3	<p>Public Consultation</p> <p>Illawarra Coal will continue to liaise with and provide information regarding surface activities via the Illawarra Coal Community Consultative Committee, or any other such community group that is deemed appropriate.</p> <p>Illawarra Coal will continue to operate the 24-hour telephone line to provide an alternative method for public information.</p>	Section 7 Section 8.1
Table SOC-3	<p>Noise</p> <p>Noise will be mitigated as per the relevant project assessment and/or management plans.</p> <p>Project layout will give consideration to the mitigation of noise impacts as practicable.</p> <p>Noise performance will be incorporated into contractor performance requirements for surface projects in noise sensitive areas.</p> <p>Illawarra Coal will undertake noise monitoring as per the relevant project assessment document or management plan.</p> <p>Consultation will be undertaken with receivers subject to significant noise impacts from projects. Consultation will address any additional noise mitigation measures proposed.</p>	Section 5.1 Section 6 Section 7
Table SOC-3	<p>Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas</p> <p>Construction activities will be managed to minimise the generation of dust.</p> <p>Suitable measures, such as site layout design, dust suppression, stockpile management, appropriate road surfaces and rehabilitation of disturbed areas will applied to projects to minimise dust generation.</p> <p>Plant and operating equipment will be maintained appropriately to minimise fuel consumption and associated emissions.</p>	Section 5.2
Table SOC-3	<p>Water Resources</p> <p>Stormwater runoff, soil and erosion control measures will be managed in accordance with guidelines detailed in the publication Soils and Construction, Volume 1, 4th Edition and Controlled Activities on</p>	Section 5.3

Condition	Requirement	Section
	<p>Waterfront Land. Guidelines for Laying Pipes and Cables in Watercourses on Waterfront Land, 2012, where relevant. Water controls will be employed as per the applicable project assessment or management plan documentation.</p> <p>Service supply boreholes will be cased and grouted to address any known regionally significant aquifers.</p> <p>Drilling process waste water will be managed as per the relevant project assessment.</p> <p>Water required for projects will be sourced from appropriate sources, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling captured water where possible, • Water Licence in accordance with the requirements of the Water Sharing Plan 2010 (DECCW 2009) and the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>; • An authorised Sydney Water supply; or • Appin Mine Filtration Plant. 	
Table SOC-3	<p>Biodiversity</p> <p>Biodiversity will be managed as per the relevant project assessment and/or management plans.</p> <p>Projects will be designed and constructed to minimise the amount of clearing of native vegetation and mature trees where practicable.</p> <p>A two-stage clearing process will be undertaken for the felling of any hollow bearing trees.</p> <p>Where native vegetation has been cleared, rehabilitation activities will include representative native seed where at all practicable.</p>	Section 5.4
Table SOC-3	<p>Heritage (Aboriginal)</p> <p>Heritage will be managed as per the relevant project assessment and/or management plans.</p> <p>Where identified sites are located adjacent to proposed activities a barrier will be installed to prevent interaction.</p> <p>Where unexpected sites are identified during construction activities, works in vicinity of the site shall stop and a qualified archaeologist engaged.</p>	Section 5.5
Table SOC-3	<p>Heritage (Non-Aboriginal)</p> <p>Illawarra Coal will ensure the sympathetic placement of new buildings and structures on properties subject to heritage infrastructure (such as the Morton Park: Mountbatten Group).</p> <p>Vegetation clearing for project activities will be minimised and should not include historic plantings.</p> <p>Any relics discovered during project activities will be assessed and documented by an appropriately qualified cultural heritage expert.</p> <p>Where it is relevant to do so, relics will be retrieved and managed in accordance with any recommendations made by the cultural heritage expert.</p>	Section 5.5

Condition	Requirement	Section
Table SOC-3	<p>Rehabilitation</p> <p>Illawarra Coal will undertake rehabilitation of any areas disturbed by the project to ensure the environment is returned as close as possible to pre-project condition and/or to meet landowner specific requirements.</p> <p>De-commissioning of boreholes and shafts will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the relevant government department/s.</p>	Section 5.8

Appendix 2: Project Surface Infrastructure Management Plans approved by the Department

Management Plan	Specific Project	Status 2017	Status 2020	Status 2024
Service Borehole Management Plan		Incorporated into the SAMP main document.		
	Appin Area 7 Dyke Backfill Project (705 – 708)	Further approval required for LW708, if implemented.	Not required for LW 708.	Longwall 708 has been completed.
	Appin East – West Cliff Services Connection	Installed and now a component of the mine site operations.	As per 2017 and rehabilitation covered under Mining Operations Plan.	Rehabilitation covered under Rehabilitation Management Plan.
	Appin Coal Clearance Project – Temporary Concrete Borehole	Due to a change in operational requirements this Management Plan has not been implemented at this time.	There are no plans for this project to be implemented at this time.	There are no plans for this project to be implemented at this time.
PED Communications Management Plan		This document was to be submitted prior to construction. No communications infrastructure was installed, therefore this requirement has not been triggered.	Requirement has not been triggered	Requirement has not been triggered.

Appendix 3: Management Plan Approval

Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure



Our ref: MP08_0150-PA-114

Mr. Chris Schultz
Superintendent Environment
Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty. Ltd.
PO Box 514
Unanderra, NSW, 2526

07/02/2025

Subject: Appin Mine Surface Activities Management Plan

Dear Chris,

I refer to the Appin Mine Surface Activities Management Plan submitted in accordance with the conditions of consent for the Bulli Seam Operations Project (MP08_0150).

The Department has carefully reviewed the document and is satisfied that it meets the requirements of the relevant conditions of consent (MP08_0150). Accordingly, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the Surface Activities Management Plan (rev 2.0, November 2024).

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

Please ensure you make the document publicly available on the project website at the earliest convenience. If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessie Evans'.

Jessie Evans
Director, Resource Assessments
Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary