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#### **Austar Coal Mine**

### **Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes**

Location: by videoconference
Time: 9:32am – 10:27am
Date: 22 September 2021

| Name                          | Representative                       |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH) | Independent Chairperson              |
| Ashlee Baker (AB)             | Community Representative             |
| Carly McCormack (CM)          | Austar Coal Mine                     |
| Julie McNaughton (JM)         | Austar Coal Mine                     |
| William Farnworth (WF)        | Austar Coal Mine                     |
| Peter Madden (PM)             | Austar Coal Mine                     |
| Michael Gorman (MG)           | NSW Police Service (Cessnock)        |
| John Rayner (JR)              | Community Representative             |
| Peter Sturrock (PS)           | Community Representative             |
| Apologies                     |                                      |
| Alan Smith (AS)               | Community Representative             |
| Councillor Mark Lyons (ML)    | Cessnock City Council Representative |
| Copy of minutes               |                                      |
| Councillor Bob Pynsent        | Mayor of Cessnock City Council       |
| Mr Joel Fitzgibbon MP         | Federal Member for Hunter            |
| Mr Clayton Barr               | State Member for Cessnock            |
| Ms Valerie Phillips           | Librarian, Cessnock City Council     |
|                               |                                      |

| 1 | Welcome  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   | MMH – Opened the meeting 9:32am and welcomed the CCC. Apologies are noted above.                           |  |
| 2 | Declaration of Interests   |  |
|   | MMH asked for any changes to previous declarations of interest.  |  |
|   | Declarations of interests remain current for all members   |  |
| 3 | Confirmation of Previous Minutes   |  |
|   | The minutes of the previous meeting were considered representative of that meeting. AB moved, CM seconded. |  |
| 4 | Business Arising from Previous Minutes   |  |
|   | No business arising  |  |

| 5  | Correspondence  |
|----|---|
|    | No correspondence received  |
| 6  | Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints, Community Support  |
|    | Detail in presentation.   |
|    | MMH: Are there any plans for a future use for RO plant?  JM: Although the RO plant is currently not in operation it may still be required through care and maintenance and closure.   |
|    | PS: Who will be responsible for fire control as Austar moves into closure.  JM: Austar will still be responsible and still have ongoing activities/obligations in accordance with the Austar Bushfire Management Plan and the Rural Fire Service.   |
| 7  | Closure Planning Update   |
|    | Detail in presentation.   |
|    | PS: Regarding landowners who signed the Sharing the Benefits Agreement (STBA), Austar placed a covenant on the properties which provided Austar with the first right of refusal to acquire the property if the property was offered for sale. Given Austar's move to closure, is it correct to assume that the covenant will be terminated and removed? |
|    | CM: Austar are currently looking at all agreements as part of the closure project. Many of the STBAs are in use or aren't able to be closed out yet. We are not yet in a position to say when the STBA and associated covenant will be lifted.  |
| 8  | General Business  |
|    | Detail in presentation.   |
|    | No new business.  |
| 9  | Meeting Dates   |
|    | 23 March 2022.  |
|    | MMH reminded the group if they felt an extraordinary meeting was required to contact her to arrange.  |
| 10 | Meeting Closed  |
|    | MMH – Thanked the CCC and declared the meeting closed at 10:27am.   |

Recorded: Peter Madden 22 September 2021



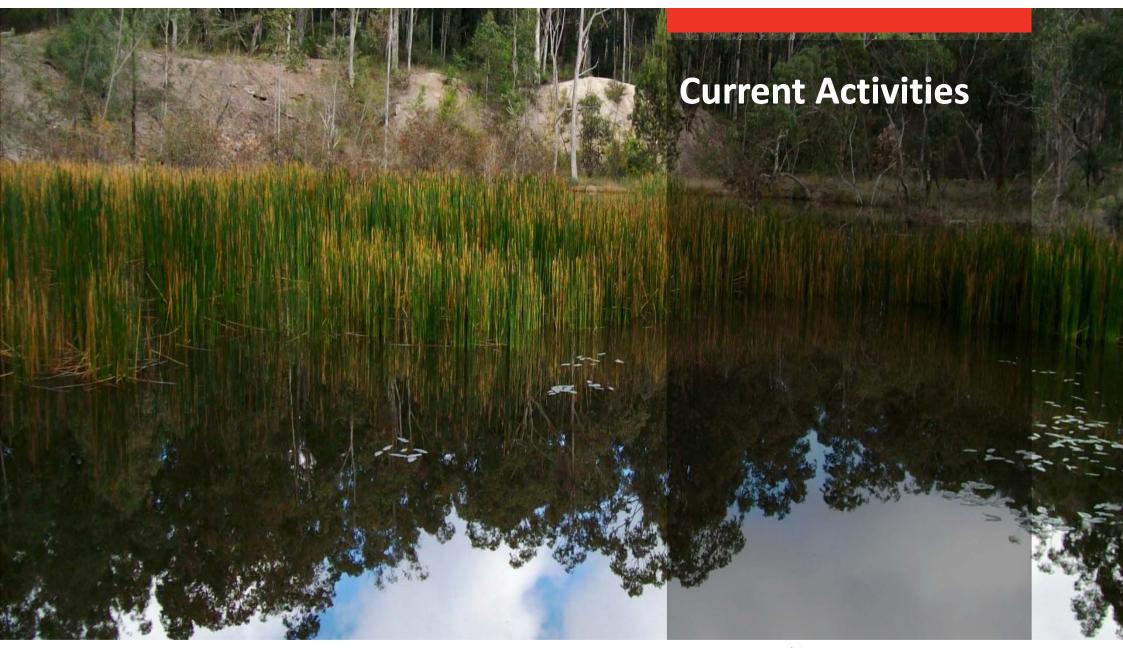




## Agenda

- 1. Welcome / Apologies
- 2. Declaration of interests
- 3. Confirmation of previous minutes
- 4. Business arising from previous minutes
- 5. Correspondence
- 6. Current activities / Environmental monitoring update / Complaints
- 7. Closure Planning update
- 8. General business / Community Sponsorship
- 9. Next meeting / Meeting close









## **Current Activities - Underground**

### **Underground Operations Closure Preparation**

- Equipment including pumps, cables, mobile electrical and mining machinery is being progressively removed from the underground operation.
- All equipment has been removed from 300, 200 and 100 Mains.
- Most equipment has been transferred to Abel Mine.
- Flooding of 100 and 300 mains has commenced.

### 2 shaft clean up

 Old machinery at No 2 shaft on Dry Creek Rd Ellalong has been removed, mostly as scrap metal.

### **Pumps and Fans**

- Pumps have been decommissioned where possible and capacities reduced.
- Ventilation fans have been wound back approximately 30%, reducing emissions from underground operations.



### **Current Activities - CHPP**

### **Reverse Osmosis Plant turned off**

- The RO Plant was turned off in May, discharge from site is no longer occurring.
- The RO Plant can be turned on at any time if conditions require mine water to be treated.

### North West Tailings Dam – pumping

A sump has been built in the NWTD and water is now pumped to the Water
 Pollution Control Dam rather than it draining to the Stormwater retention cells.

### Stormwater retention dam

 The stormwater retention dam is being actively pumped out to minimise mine water stored on site.

### East cut to Aberdare desilted material

 Desilted material from the Water Pollution Control Dams has been transported to the Aberdare Emplacement Area to create room for new material in East Pit.



### **Current Activities - CHPP**

### **Precipitation Dam desilting**

The precipitation dam is currently being desilted to reduce the risk of potential overflow or seepage into clean drainage lines.

### Lantana clearing, Bellbird Creek

Ongoing from last year





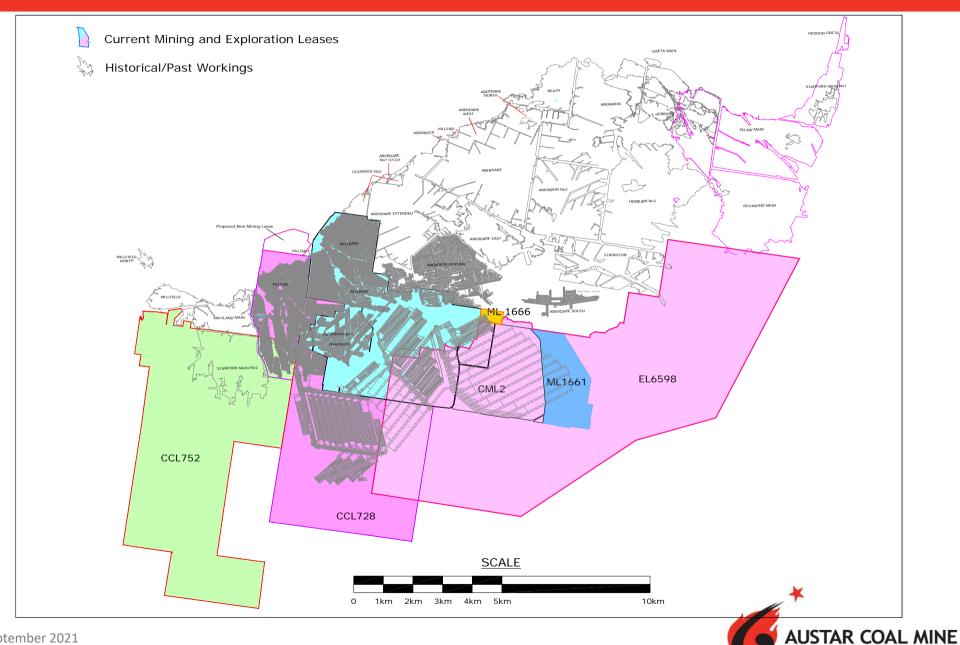
### **Current Activities**

### **Exploration Licence EL6598**

- 47 exploration drill holes drilled by Austar since 2006
  - 43 holes have been lodged with Resources Regulator for rehabilitation approval
  - 34 holes have been approved
  - 9 holes are pending approval
  - 3 holes are rehabilitated but we require photos or landholder sign off to lodge
- Exploration Licence Area
  - EL 6598 was renewed in 2021, with approximately 50% of the licence area surrendered by Austar.

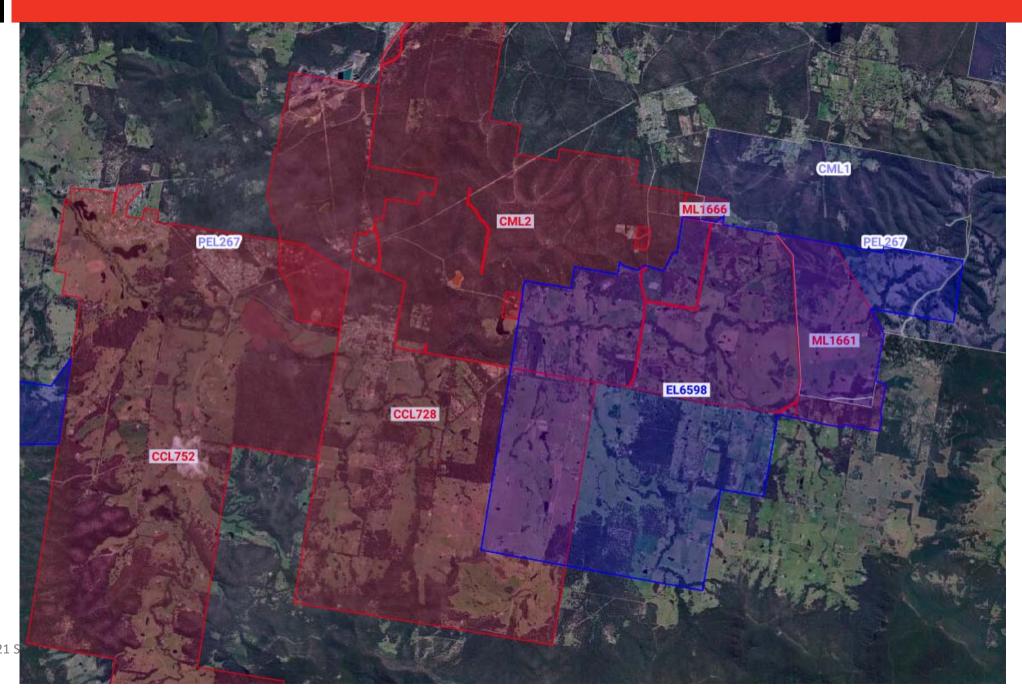


## **EL6598**



PART OF THE YANCOAL AUSTRALIA GROUP

# **Revised EL6598**



### **Environmental Incidents**

### Environmental Incidents (24 March 2021 – 21 September 2021)

### **Environmental Monitoring Non-compliance – Depositional Dust Gauge D9 (D9)**

- Non-compliances reported for August and September
- Austar was refused access to private land to monitor and maintain D9 located in Kitchener
- Austar was unable to monitor at this location through July and August
- D9 will be reinstalled in September at same or new location.
- If a new location is the best option, the Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan will need to be updated and approved by DPIE.
- Self-reported through correspondence to DPIE 13 August and 21 September.
- This event resulted in a site wide review of monitoring on privately owned land, including new monitoring agreements where relevant, and benchmarking of compensation payments within Yancoal sites.



### **Environmental Incidents**

### **Environmental Incidents**

### On-going Clean Water Drainage Line Investigation — CHPP (since 6 June 2017)

- Orange staining reported during all monitoring events since previous meeting (April-September)
- RO plant ceased operation (and discharge to Bellbird Creek) on 18 May
- Reported to NSW EPA in monthly status reports required by EPL



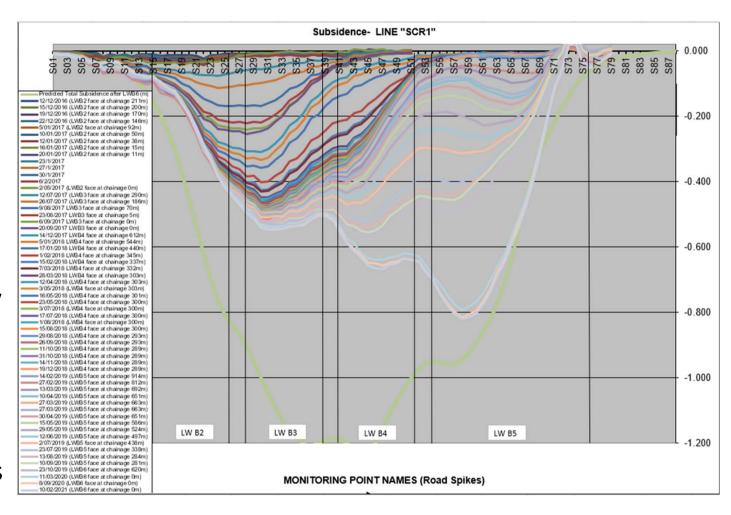




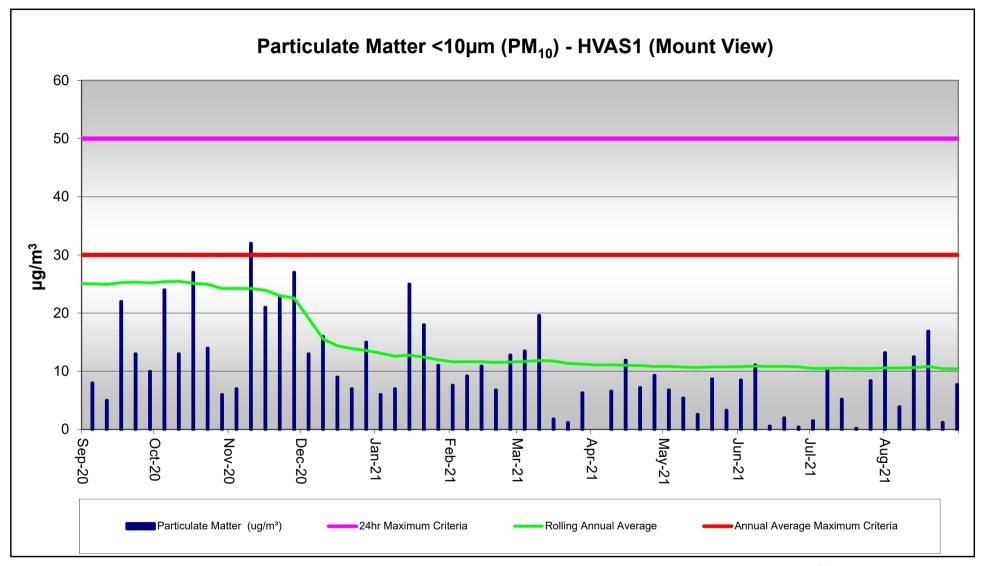


### Subsidence

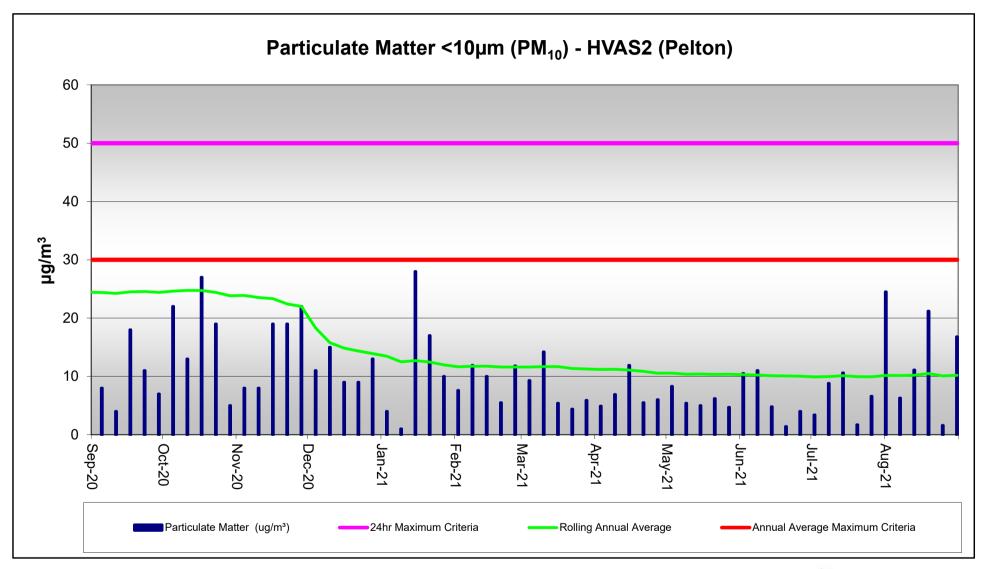
- No further
   subsidence
   monitoring
   undertaken since last
   meeting, as
   subsidence has been
   declared substantially
   complete.
- Where a pre-mining inspection has been undertaken, residents will be offered post subsidence



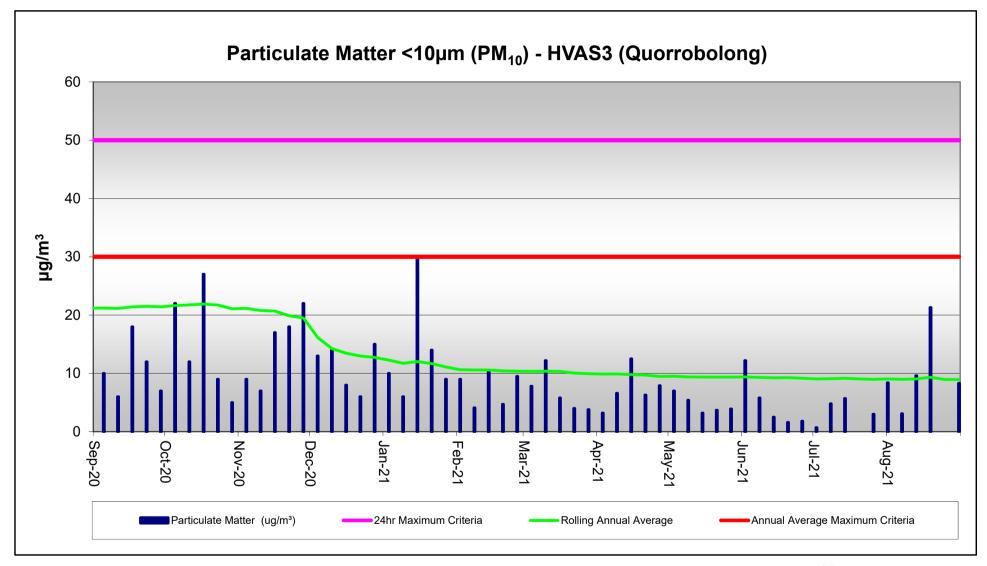






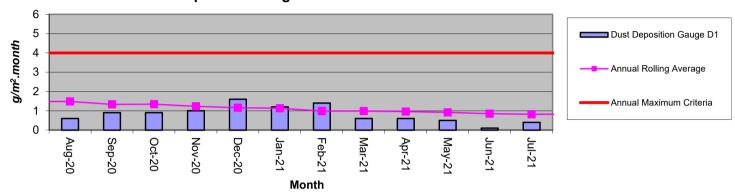




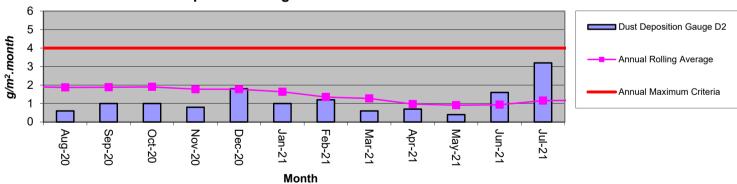




#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D1 - Insoluble Solids**

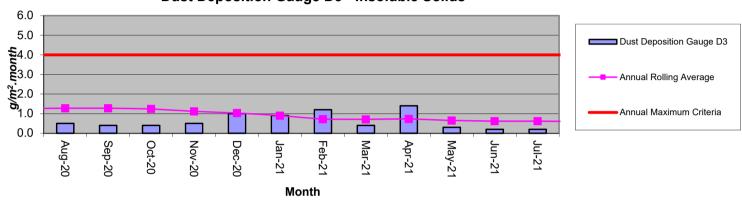


#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D2 - Insoluble Solids**

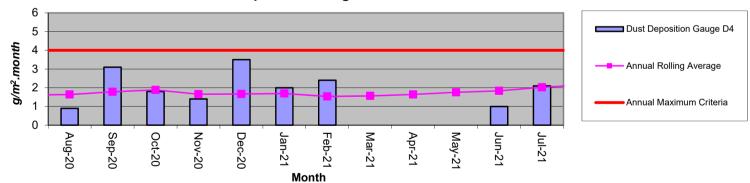




#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D3 - Insoluble Solids**

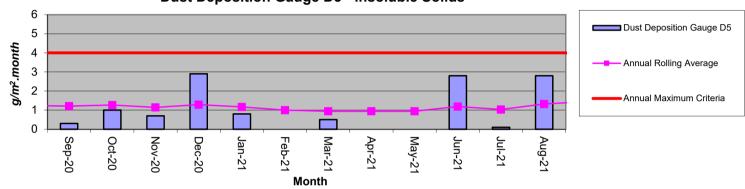


#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D4 - Insoluble Solids**

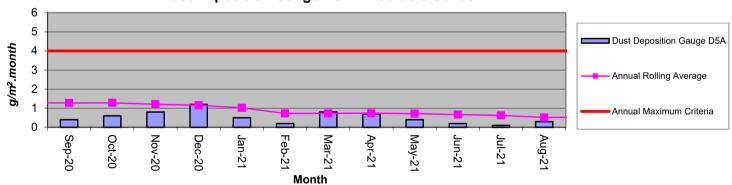




#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D5 - Insoluble Solids**

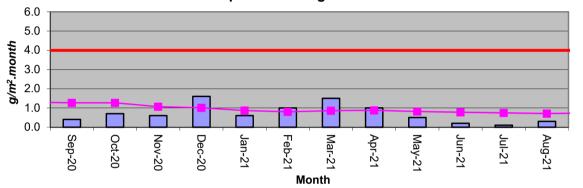


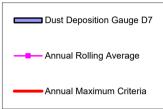
#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D5A - Insoluble Solids**



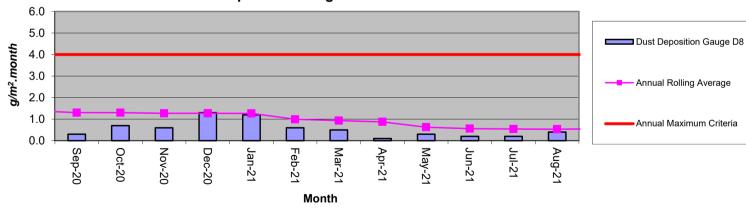


#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D7 - Insoluble Solids**



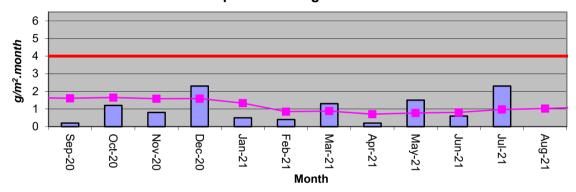


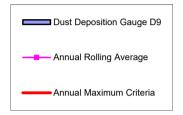
#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D8 - Insoluble Solids**



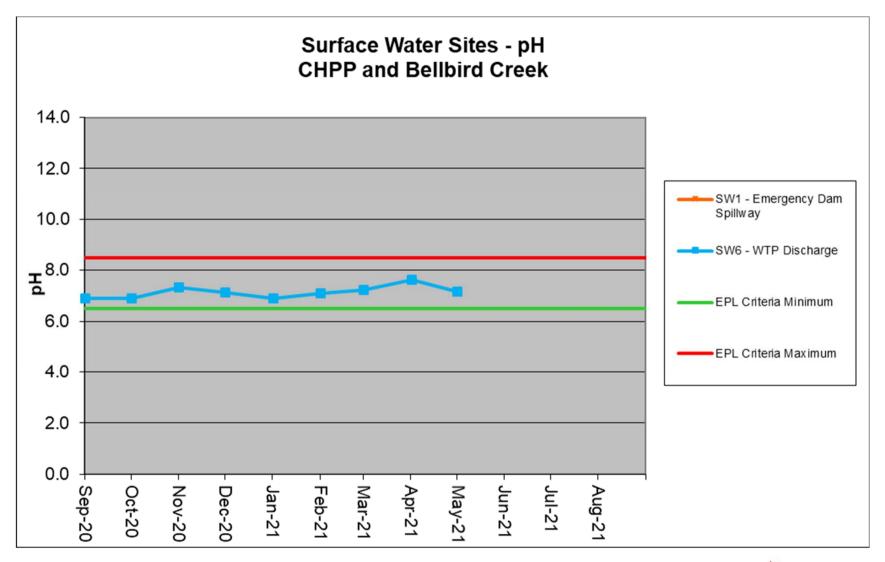


#### **Dust Deposition Gauge D9 - Insoluble Solids**

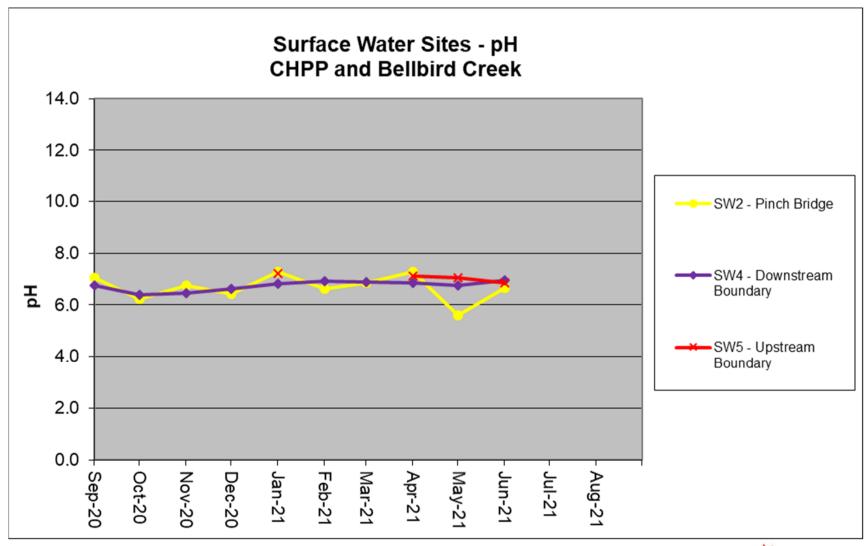




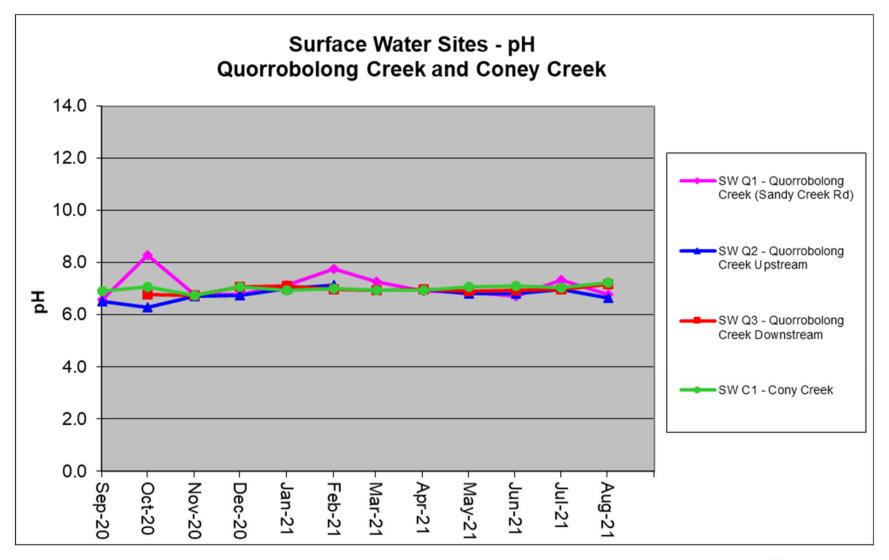




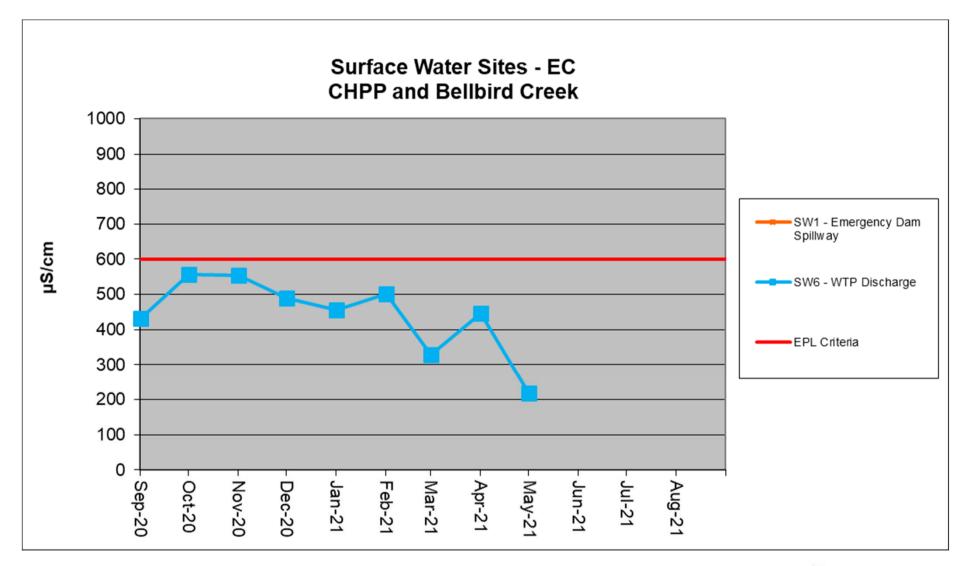




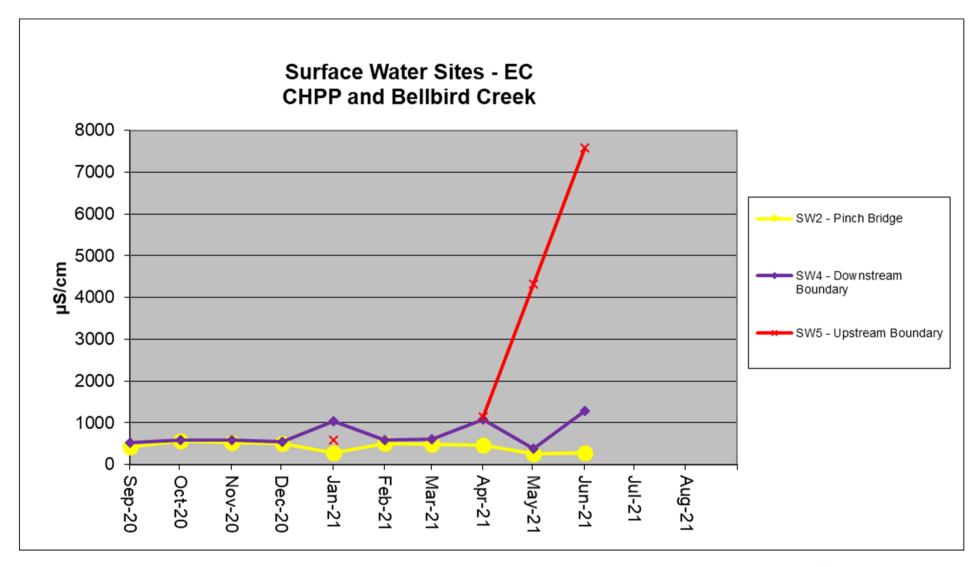




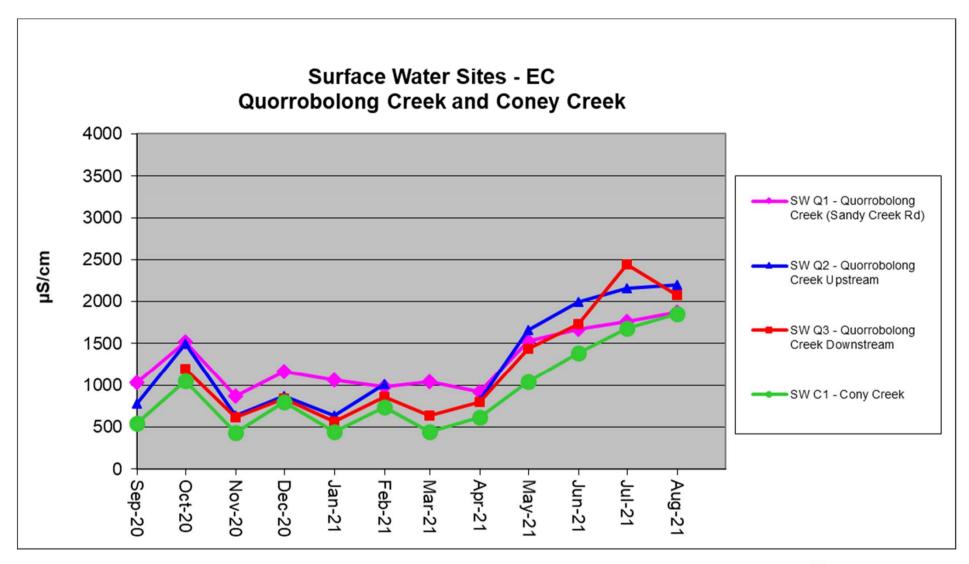








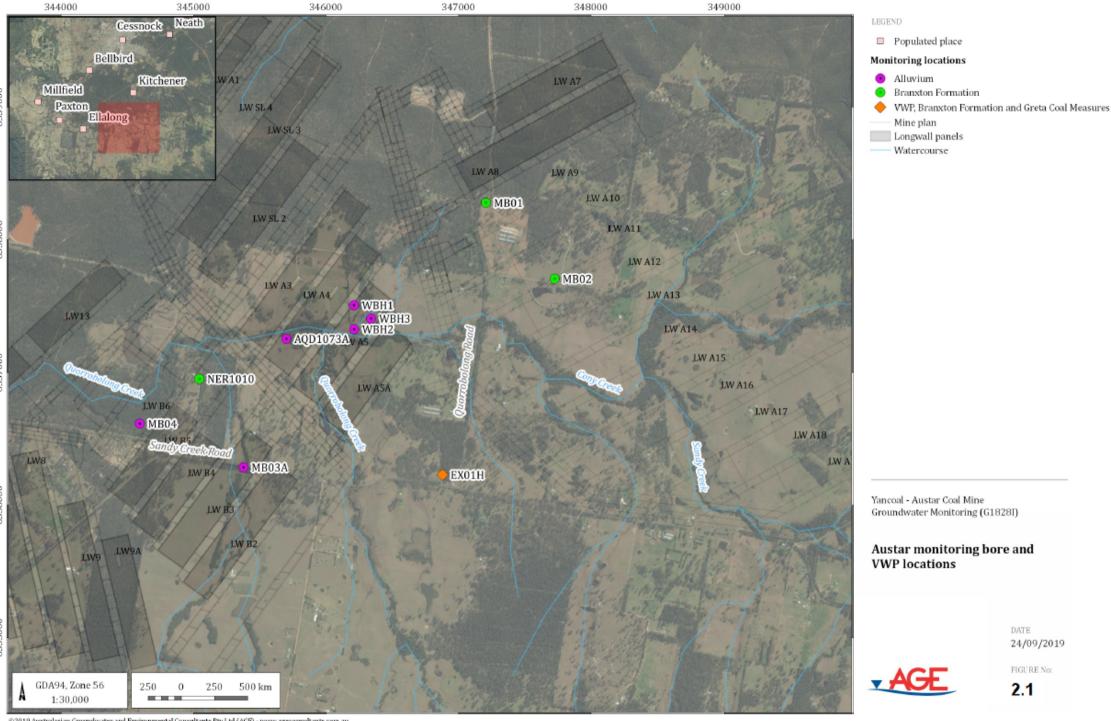




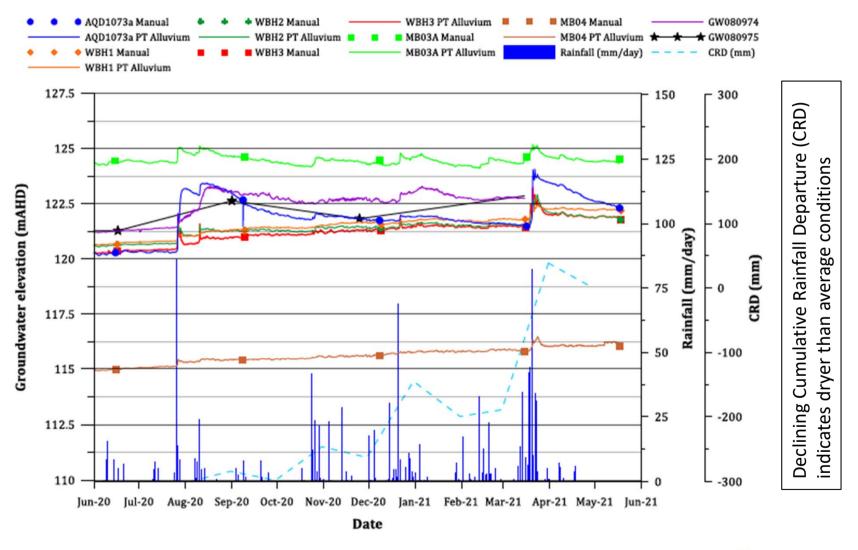


- There are no new trends in groundwater quality or water levels.
- Excepting monitoring bore MB03A in which groundwater elevation was stable,
   groundwater elevation in alluvial monitoring bores increased during Q2 2021.
- Groundwater levels in NER1010, MB01 and MB02 increased between Q1 and Q2
   2021.
- VWP sensors no.1 no.4 remained stable between Q1 and Q2, 2021.
- VWP sensors no.5 and no.6 declined between Q1 and Q2, 2021 before stabilising in May.
- Groundwater pH in alluvial bores displayed no prevailing trends between Q1 and Q2, 2021 with the exception of NER1010 which increased slightly and Branxton formation bores which recorded slight decreases.
- Groundwater EC recorded in Stage 2 and Bellbird south alluvium decreased or remained stable. EC in Stage 3 monitoring bores decreased during the quarter.



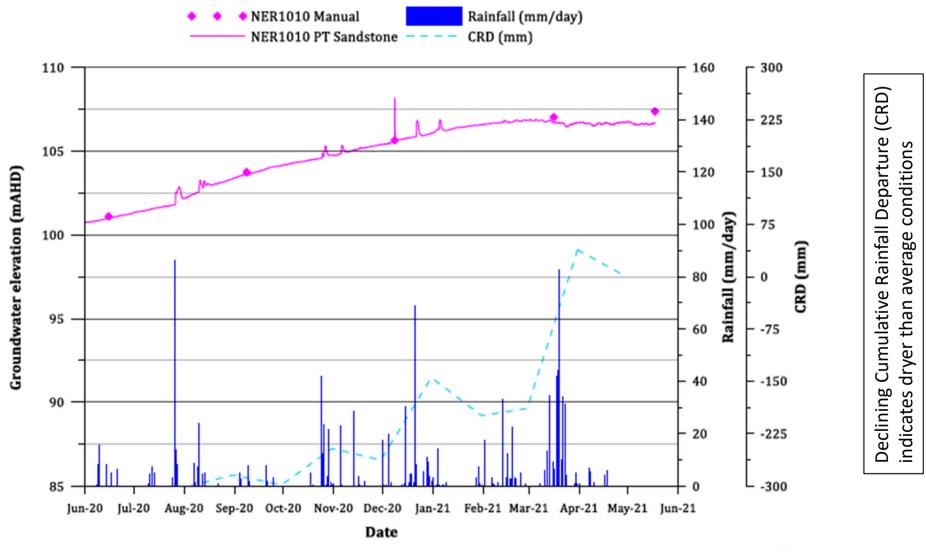


#2019 Australasian Groundwater and Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd (AGE) - www.ageconsultants.com.au
N\Groundwater | be\G1828\Jancos\ Austra GW monitoring and compliance 2019\3\_GIS\Workspaces\20190924\_G1828\Jantar monitoring bore and VWP locations\_updatedSept2019.qgs
Note: longwall panel background geore/referenced accuracy - 10 m.



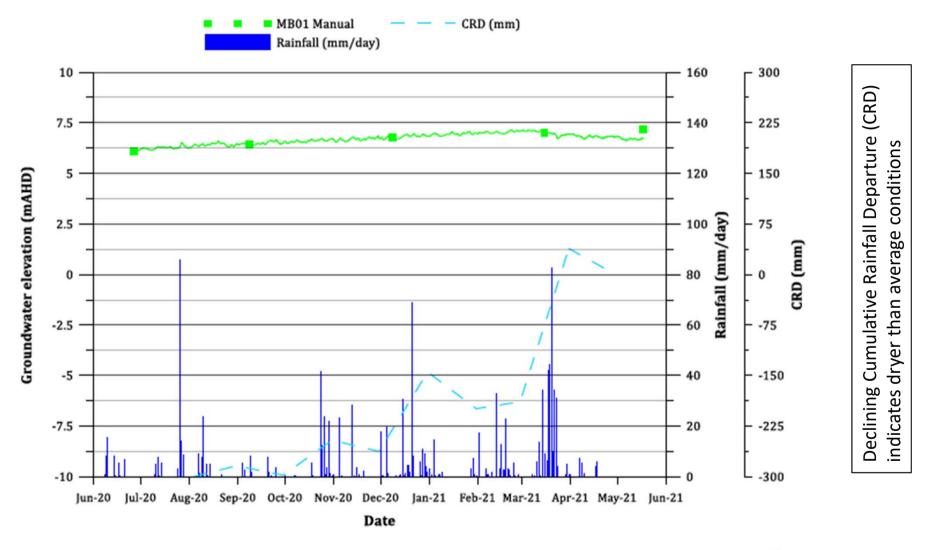
Stage 2 & Bellbird South alluvium and Water NSW groundwater level hydrographs





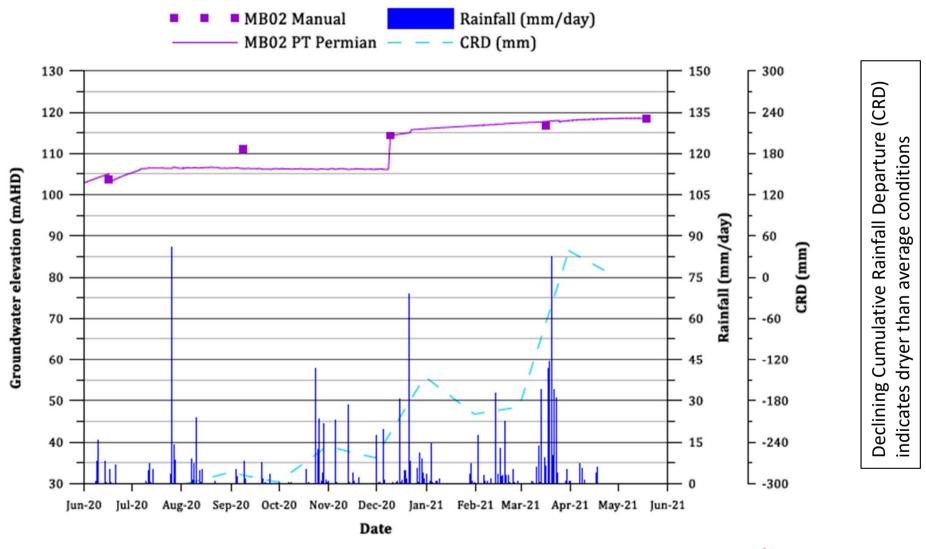
**NER1010** groundwater level hydrograph





Stage 3 MB01 sandstone aquifer groundwater level hydrograph





Stage 3 MB02 sandstone aquifer groundwater level hydrograph



## **Noise Monitoring**

### Since last CCC meeting (24 March 2021 – 21 September 2021)

- No noise exceedances since last meeting
- CHPP and associated infrastructure not operational
- Ventilation fans, surface water pumps, drift and shaft haulage remain operational
- RO water treatment plant ceased operation



## **Vibration**

### Since last CCC meeting (24 March 2021 – 21 September 2021)

### Monitor V7 – 345 Quorrobolong Road

- Monitoring commenced 11 June 2013
- No new vibration events recorded greater than 1mm/s on any axis
- Monitor removed from operation on 18 July 2021

#### Monitor V11 – above LWB6

- Monitoring commenced 19 July 2017
- No new vibration events recorded greater than 1mm/s on any axis
- Monitor removed from operation on 18 July 2021

#### Monitor V10 – above LWB5

- Monitoring commenced 28 August 2017
- No new vibration events recorded greater than 1mm/s on any axis
- Monitor removed from operation on 18 July 2021



## **Rehabilitation Monitoring**

 Rehabilitation Monitoring at Aberdare Rejects Emplacement Area, Areas 12 and 13 and Kalingo was undertaken in June 2021.

#### Findings include:

- Successful weed works on rehabilitated areas have been successful
- Extensive natural regeneration of native tree and shrub colonisation was identified in each Areas 12 and 13 and Kalingo. These are a positive sign of recovery.
- considerable works would be needed before these areas would meet the current completion criteria of Forest vegetation.

#### Recommendations include:

- Ongoing weed management
- Supplementary planting as required after weed spraying
- Remediation of dirt bike paths, and minimise unauthorised access
- Monitoring of feral goat population and control if necessary.



# **Community Complaints**

### Since last CCC meeting (24 March 2021 – 23 September 2021)

No community complaints since last meeting









## **Mine Closure Planning**

### **Preparing for Mine Closure**

- Austar Coal Mine transitioned to care and maintenance in March 2020
- In July 2020 Austar lodged Mining Operations Plan (MOP) Amendment A with Resources Regulator which included a detailed strategy for development of the Mine Closure Plan
- Also commenced preparation of Mine Closure Base Case, which included:
  - Closure Planning Workshops
  - Legal and other obligations register
  - Closure Risk Assessments
  - Review of Constraints and Opportunities
  - Development of Closure Management Areas
- On 26 February 2021 Yancoal announced Austar Coal Mine will transition to closure



# Mine Closure Planning Process

#### **Mine Closure Base Case**

- · Obligations register
- · Stakeholder identification and mapping
- Risks to relinquishment risk assessment



#### **Knowledge Base**

- · Data collection; scanning, collation and review
- Mapping and GIS (spatial)
- · Identified knowledge gaps for demonstrating relinquishment
- Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and commence consultation



#### **Closing the Knowledge Gaps**

- Scope technical work
- Engage subject matter experts (SMEs) and execute work
- Risk Assessment and Treatment Plans
- Mid Point Risk Assessment [close out risks]



#### **MOP Review and Update / Transition to RMP**

- Revise MOP <u>OR</u> transition to Rehabilitation Management Plan (July 2022) to include program of detailed investigations [treatment plans]
- Consultation with the Resources Regulator



## **Mine Closure Planning Process**

#### **Closure Execution**

- Scope the remedial works
- Execute and complete works
- Stakeholder Consultation
- Consultation with the Resources Regulator
- Monitoring and maintenance

#### **Final Risk Assessment**

- Undertake a Final Project Risk Assessment
- •Review Residual Risk Profile
- Stakeholder Consultation
- Consultation with the Resources Regulator

#### Progressive ESF2 Applications per CMA → Relinquishment

- Preparation of the Application
- Consultation with Resources Regulator / Feedback
- Certify Rehabilitation
- Commence process for lease relinquishment
- •Explore use of positive covenant or notation on title

#### Post relinquishment long term management provisions

- •Consultation with the Resources Regulator re: acceptable mechanisms for any anticipated long term land management
- •Develop post relinquishment management plan [if required]



Mine closure planning has progressed significantly since the closure announcement with the completion of the following aspects:

- Stakeholder identification and mapping and commencement of consultation
- Mid point risks to relinquishment risk assessment to mitigate initial risks
- **Obligations Register**
- Data collection, collation and review
- Specialist study desktop assessments and development of treatment plans (Phase 1)

Detailed specialist studies are currently being scoped, with these studies to address the knowledge gaps identified in Phase 1 and to inform development of an executable mine closure plan.

Closure planning aligns to commitments made in Table 2-4 of MOP Amendment A. Below table provides details on the status of these commitments.

(BOLD = Priority Phase 1 Studies)



| # | Aspect  | Description  | Nominated Timing<br>in MOP<br>Amendment A | Status as at September 2021   |
|---|---|--|---|---|
|   |   | Base Case: Final Land Use, Completion Criteria and Rehabili  | tation Objectives                         |   |
| 1 | Final land use assessment                         | Undertake a final land use assessment, as described in <b>Section 4.2</b> (of MOP Amendment A). Final land uses are those approved in Austar's various consents, however may be refined prior to mine closure.   | Q3, 2021                                  | Consultant engaged to undertake final land use assessment.  |
| 2 | Mine closure risk<br>assessment                   | Undertake an Environmental Risk Assessment focused on mine closure preparedness and specifically risks to achieving the final land use, as described in <b>Section 3.2 (of MOP Amendment A)</b> .  NB the risk register will be reviewed following completion of the mine closure risk assessment. | Completed                                 | Initial risk assessment completed. Mid-term risk assessment completed.                              |
| 3 | Completion criteria and rehabilitation objectives | Refine the completion criteria and objectives in <b>Table 6-1 (of MOP Amendment A)</b> after final land uses confirmed, as described in <b>Section 6 (of MOP Amendment A)</b> .  | Q3, 2021                                  | Completion criteria and rehabilitation objectives being refined as part of aspect specific studies. |
| 4 | Final landform design                             | Review the final landform designs to ensure it can sustain the nominated final land uses and meet the rehabilitation objectives in Section 4.3 (of MOP Amendment A).   | Q4, 2022                                  | Final landform design being considered in relevant aspect specific studies.                         |
|   |   | Prepare detailed slope and drainage designs for the final landform to ensure long-term stability.  | Q4, 2022                                  |   |



|   | Knowledge Base: Gap analysis and initial mine closure planning studies |  |                          |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|
|   |  | Establish an inventory of materials available for capping and rehabilitation (in an appropriate spatial format), as described in <b>Section 3.3.7 (of MOP Amendment A)</b> .   | End of February<br>2021  | Completed.  |  |  |  |
|   |  | Characterise available materials to confirm suitability for rehabilitation.  | Q4, 2022                 | Phase 1:  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Rehabilitation resources balance                                       | In the case of a material deficit, develop a strategy to investigate and procure alternative sources of materials such as topsoils (and/or substitutes) and other rehabilitation materials such as clays, suitable weathered rock, hard rock, etc. | Q4, 2022                 | <ul> <li>Desktop assessment and site inspections completed.</li> <li>Phase 2:</li> <li>Site investigation plan</li> </ul> |  |  |  |
|   |  | The material balance will be reviewed following confirmation of rejects and tailings capping designs prior to decommissioning.   | Prior to decommissioning | being developed (volumes, characterisation).  O Scope being prepared for remaining detailed assessment.                   |  |  |  |
| 6 | Historic heritage<br>assessments                                       | Undertake/review heritage assessments for known or potential historic heritage items at Austar Coal Mine to guide retention/demolition decisions, as described in Sections 2.3.9 and 7.2.1 (of MOP Amendment A).                                   | Q4, 2021                 | Completed   |  |  |  |
| 6 |  | Consult with Cessnock City Council heritage advisors and or the NSW Heritage Office (if required) to confirm approach and to seek appropriate heritage approvals prior to demolishing heritage items.  | Q4, 2021                 | Planned for Q3/Q4 2021  |  |  |  |

| 7 | Derelict / redundant<br>infrastructure<br>decommissioning<br>strategy | Prepare an infrastructure decommissioning strategy for progressive decommissioning of redundant, derelict or hazardous buildings, structures, machinery, plant and equipment.                                | Q4, 2021 | Hazmat/demolition specialist engaged. Site visit and development of strategy scheduled for Q4 2021  |
|---|---|--|----------|---|
|   |   | Consult with Cessnock City Council heritage advisors and or the NSW Heritage Office (if required) to confirm approach and to seek appropriate heritage approvals prior to demolishing heritage items.        | Q4, 2021 | Planned for Q3/Q4 2021.   |
| 8 | Infrastructure retention strategy                                     | Identify infrastructure that could be retained post closure (i.e. internal roads, access tracks, dams, buildings, services), subject to approval, to support the final land use or to retain heritage value. | Q4, 2021 | Hazmat/demolition specialists engaged. Site visit and development of strategy scheduled for Q4 2021 |
|   | Mine water dam decommissioning strategy                               | Prepare a preliminary strategy for decommissioning of redundant mine water dams.   | Q4, 2022 | <ul><li>Phase 1:</li><li>O Desktop assessment, site</li></ul>                                       |
| 9 |   | Prepare a strategy, in consultation with Dams Safety NSW, for decommissioning prescribed dams (i.e. Kalingo Dam).  | Q4, 2022 | inspection and workshop completed.  • Phase 2:  • Scope being prepared.                             |



|    |  | Prepare strategy for progressive decommissioning of the tailings storage facilities and reject emplacement areas.             | Q4, 2022 | <ul><li>Phase 1:</li><li>O Desktop assessment completed.</li></ul>  |
|----|--|---|----------|---|
| 10 | Tailings storage facilities and reject emplacement area decommissioning and capping strategy | Review capping techniques, as described in <b>Section 7.2.2 (of MOP Amendment A)</b> .  | Q4, 2022 | <ul> <li>Currently engaging additional specialist input (geochemistry, combustibility).</li> <li>Independent auditor engaged.</li> <li>Phase 2:</li> <li>Detailed site investigation plan being prepared.</li> </ul>  |
| 11 | Water management   | Review the existing groundwater information to consider aspects related to closure of the mine.                               | Q4, 2022 | <ul> <li>Phase 1:         <ul> <li>Peer reviewer engaged.</li> <li>Groundwater desktop assessment completed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Phase 2:         <ul> <li>Groundwater model plan being developed.</li> <li>GW Model development Q4 2021.</li> <li>Independent model peer reviewer engaged.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|    |  | Review the site water balance and any post closure water management requirements, including management of acid mine drainage. | Q4, 2022 | <ul> <li>Phase 1:         <ul> <li>Surface water desktop assessment and site inspection completed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |
|    |  | Review post closure water licensing requirements.   | Q4, 2022 | Phase 2:  |



|    |                                 | Undertake desktop and field surveys of borehole sealing status.  | Q1, 2021                            | Completed.  |
|----|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| 12 | Exploration borehole sealing    | Prepare and commence implementation of the exploration borehole sealing strategy.  | Q1, 2022                            | Audit and sealing complete. ESF2 applications submitted for all but three holes, which are waiting on landholder signoff or access for final rehabilitation photos.   |
| 13 | Underground mine sealing        | Prepare mine sealing designs for all shafts, portals and operational boreholes.  | Prior to<br>decommissioning         | <ul> <li>Review of historic and current entries completed.</li> <li>Specialist engaged; concept sealing designs completed.</li> <li>Site geotechnical investigations being scoped for Q4 2021 / Q1 2022.</li> </ul> |
| 14 | Subsidence<br>remediation works | Prepare a plan for post closure remediation of subsidence-related impacts to natural and built features, as described in Section 3.3.4 (of MOP Amendment A). | As per approved<br>Extraction Plan. | <ul> <li>Consultant engaged for a subsidence assessment:         <ul> <li>ID and mapping.</li> <li>Analysis and model development.</li> <li>Monitoring and management.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                       |



|    | Contaminated land assessments      | Undertake a Phase 1 contaminated lands assessment focusing on surface infrastructure areas to identify any remediation requirements. | Q4, 2021  | Desktop Assessment (Preliminary Site Investigation - PS) completed.  |
|----|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 15 |                                    | Undertake full Land Quality investigations and prepare a remediation action plan.  | Prior to mine closure – to<br>be included in final mine<br>closure plan | <ul> <li>Contamination auditor engaged.</li> <li>Contamination sampling plan commenced development (SAQP).</li> <li>Scope being prepared for remaining Phase 2 requirements (Detailed Site Investigation - DSI, Remediation Action Plan - RAP).</li> </ul> |
| 16 | Hazardous materials assessment     | Undertake assessments of hazardous materials and chemicals and develop registers and management strategies.                          | Q4, 2021  | Hazmat/demolition specialists engaged. Site visit and development of strategy scheduled for Q4 2021.   |
| 17 | Demolition waste disposal strategy | Identify volumes of waste streams and options to dispose on site or at licenced facilities.  | Prior to decommissioning  – to be included in final  mine closure plan  | Hazmat/demolition specialists engaged. Site  |
|    |                                    | Develop strategy to segregate and manage waste streams on site during demolition.  | Prior to decommissioning  – to be included in final mine closure plan   | visit and development of strategy scheduled for Q4 2021.   |

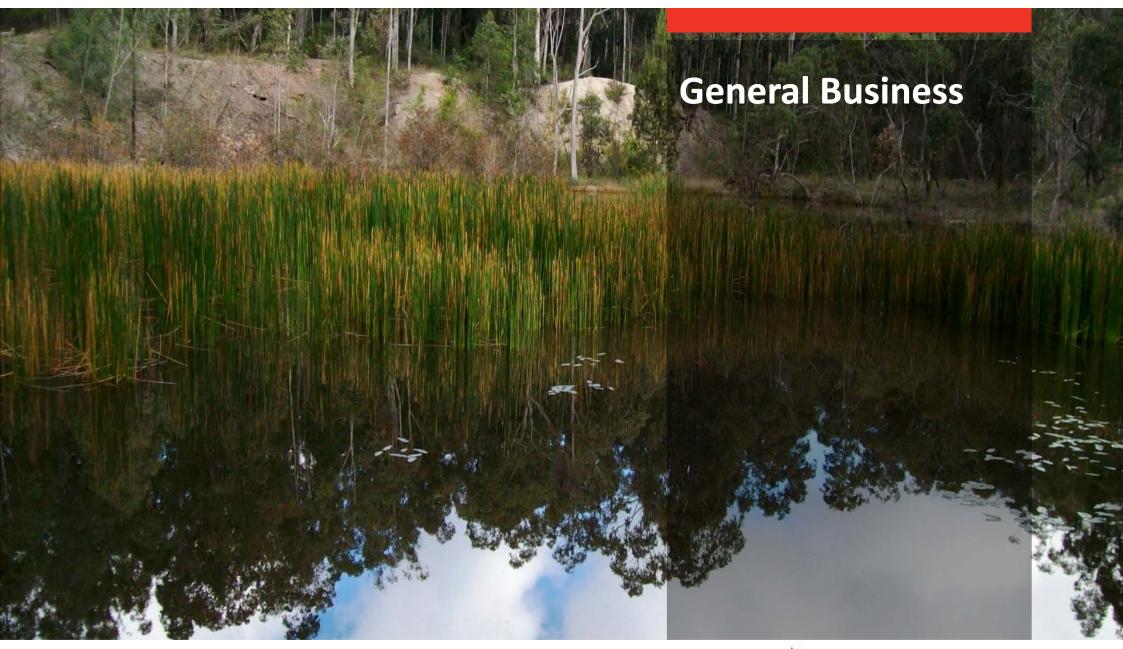


| 18 | Environmental<br>Management Plans                  | Review/ update the environmental management plans listed in Section 3.3 (of MOP Amendment A) to reflect mine closure activities.   | Prior to mine closure –<br>to be included in final<br>mine closure plan | Commenced – initial revisions submitted to DPIE. To be updated as required during closure planning and execution.      |
|----|--|--|---|--|
|    | Doct elegure                                       | Identify post-closure environmental monitoring requirements, including monitoring of rehabilitation, subsidence and water quality.   | Prior to mine closure –<br>to be included in final<br>mine closure plan | Commenced – development of execution QA/QC and post closure monitoring is included in scope of all specialist studies. |
| 19 | Post-closure  19 Monitoring and  Maintenance       | Identify post-closure maintenance requirements such as weed and feral animal control, bushfire management and maintenance of safety signage/fencing to control public access.                | Prior to mine closure –<br>to be included in final<br>mine closure plan | Commenced – development of execution QA/QC and post closure monitoring is included in scope of all specialist studies. |
| 20 | Approvals and mining lease relinquishment strategy | Prepare an approvals and mining lease relinquishment strategy that considers the timing and process for relinquishing approvals following mine closure (e.g. EPL, Project Approval and MLs). | Prior to mine closure –<br>to be included in final<br>mine closure plan | Commenced.   |



| 21 | Human resources strategy           | Prepare a human resources strategy to identify opportunities to stage the release of employees and contractors and to support redeployment where appropriate. | Prior to mine closure –<br>to be included in final<br>mine closure plan | Completed.                                       |
|----|------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 22 | Community<br>management strategy   | Prepare a community management strategy to minimise any adverse socio-economic effects of mine closure.   | Q2, 2021  | Integrated with Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. |
| 23 | Stakeholder<br>engagement strategy | Prepare a stakeholder engagement strategy to guide communication and engagement during mine closure.  | Q2, 2021  | Completed.                                       |









### **Community Sponsorship and Donations**

### **Community Support Program**

 The Yancoal corporate CSP is ongoing and supports organisations in the Hunter Valley.

#### **Community Donations**

Community donations will still continue as appropriate through the transition to closure, as Austar is still a member of the local community.

Cessnock Rugby League Football Club sponsorship will continue into next season



### **Independent Environmental Audit – DPIE**

- The Independent Environmental Audit was conducted in October and November 2020.
- DPIE accepted the report on 1 July 2021, asking for some minor updates prior to putting it on the website
- Minor non compliances identified in the audit have been recorded by DPIE with no further enforcement action.



## **Management Plan Review**

| Plan   | DA Requirement   | Approval<br>Authority | Approval Date                                |
|--|--|-----------------------|--|
| Environmental Management Strategy, April 2021              | DA29/95 – Schedule 5 Condition 1<br>PA08_0111 - Schedule 7 Condition 1       | DPIE                  | 18 August 2021                               |
| Landscape Management Plan – Kitchener SIS,<br>April 2021   | PA08_0111 – Schedule 6 Condition 4   | DPIE                  | 19 August 2021                               |
| Site Water Management Plan, April 2021                     | DA29/95 – Schedule 3 Condition 6-11 PA08_0111 – Schedule 4 Condition 9       | DPIE                  | Pending Consultation with other regulators   |
| Noise and Vibration Management Plan, April 2021            | DA29/95 – Schedule 3 Condition 13-16 PA08_0111 – Schedule 4 Condition 2-3    | DPIE                  | Approval not received, minor update required |
| Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan, April 2021 | DA29/95 – Schedule 3 Condition 17-20<br>PA08_0111 – Schedule 4 Condition 6-7 | DPIE                  | 13 September 2021                            |
| Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management<br>Plan, June 2021 | PA08_0111 – Schedule 3 Condition 4 and Schedule 4<br>Condition 10            | DPIE                  | 30 June 2021                                 |
| Historic Heritage Management Plan, April<br>2021           | PA08_0111 – Schedule 4 Condition 11  | DPIE                  | 30 June 2021                                 |



### 2020-21 Annual Review – due for lodgement on 30 September

- Required by the major project approvals (DA 29/95 and PA 08\_0111) to review the environmental performance of the complex
- The Annual Review includes a description of the work that was carried out in the past year including but not limited to operations, monitoring, rehabilitation and complaints
- Also requires a description of the works that are proposed to be carried out over the next year
- Currently going through the internal review process prior to lodgement



#### 2020-21 Annual Review - Continued

- Items to note
  - Operations
    - No mining was undertaken during the 2020 2021 reporting period
    - There were no physical exploration activities undertaken during the reporting period
  - Biodiversity
    - Stage 3 mining area floristic diversity in experienced an overall increase correlating to an easing of drought conditions prior to monitoring
    - Most Bellbird South monitoring sites are currently in either a moderate or high condition with persistent vegetation having good canopy health
  - Weed management
    - Over 51 hectares of weeds treated. Lantana sp accounted for 41 ha



#### 2020-21 Annual Review - Continued

- Water take
  - 533.1 ML extracted from Sydney Basin North Coast Groundwater Source. Licensed for 770 ML.
- Rehabilitation
  - Carrying out mine closure planning activities in accordance with the MOP schedule.
- Activities proposed for next reporting period
  - Progress the mine closure planning strategy as documented in the MOP
  - Close outstanding actions from Extraction Plans
  - Implement the recommendations from the IEA



### **Bushfire Management**

- Bushfire Hazard Reduction Certificate issued by NSW Rural Fire Service for Austar land at Pelton. Burn to be undertaken November to May due to ecological constraints.
- Future hazard reduction burn areas identified on Austar owned land adjacent to Bellbird and Ellalong and due diligence studies will be progressed in the coming months.
- Continued management of fire trails.
- Fire break slashing commenced on 20
   September and will continue through October to be ready for fire season.





## Other Business -



