INSTRUMENT OF CONSENT

SCHEDULE 1

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NO 29/95 BY THE MINISTER, PURSUANT TO SECTION 91 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

I, the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning, pursuant to Section 91 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ("the Act") and clause 8 of the State Environmental Planning Policy No.34 – Major Employment Generating Industrial Development, determine the development application ("the application") referred to in Schedule 1 by granting consent to the application subject to the conditions set out in Schedules 2 to 5.

The reason for the imposition of conditions generally is to minimise any adverse effects from the development, consistent with the objectives of the Act.

Craig Knowles

Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning

Sydney, $14 \cdot 2 \cdot 96$, 1996	File No. N91/00241/004		
Application made by:	Newcastle Wallsend Coal Company Pty Limited ("the Applicant").			
То:	The Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning ("the Minister").			
In respect of:	The mining leases and land parcels listed in Appendix 3.			
For the following:	Construction and operation of underground coal mine extensions, associated facilities and reject disposal areas ("the development").			
Development Application:	DA 29/95 lodged with Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP) on 17 August, 1995 accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") prepared by HLA-Envirosciences Pty Ltd dated August 1995.			
	 To ascertain the date upon which the consent becomes effective, refer to section 93 of the Act. To ascertain the date upon which the consent is liable to lapse, refer to section 99 of the Act. Section 97 of the Act confers on an applicant who is dissatisfied with the determination of a consent authority a right of appeal to the Land and Environment Court exercisable within 12 months after receipt of notice. 			

Green type represents June 2008 modification (MOD 2) Blue type represents May 2009 modification (MOD 3) Red type represents December 2010 modification (MOD 4) Pink type represents April 2012 modification (MOD 5) Purple type represents January 2016 modification (MOD 6) Orange type represents August 2017 modification (MOD 7)

DEFINITIONS

Active mining areas	Approved mining areas of the development where underground mining is active or proposed, including Longwalls B1 – B3 as defined in EA (MOD 6) and Longwalls B4 – B7 as defined in EA (MOD 7)
Applicant Austar Mine Complex	Austar Coal Mine Pty Ltd, or its successors The combined operations of the Austar Coal Mine, including Austar Stages 1 to 3 and the former Ellalong, Pelton, Cessnock No.1 and Bellbird South collieries
Built Features	Includes any building or work erected or constructed on land, and includes dwellings, structures and infrastructure (such as any pipeline or dam; formed road, street, path, walk, or driveway; or water, sewer, electricity, telephone, gas or other service main)
CCC	Community Consultative Committee
Completed mining areas	Approved mining areas of the development where underground mining is completed, including Southland mining area (Longwalls SL2 – SL4), Stage 1 mining area (Longwalls A1 – A2) and Stage 2 mining area (Longwalls A3 – A5a)
Conditions of this consent	Conditions contained in Schedules 2 to 5 inclusive
Council	Cessnock City Council
DA	Development Application
Day	Day is defined as the period from 7am to 6pm on Monday to Saturday, and 8am to 6pm on Sundays and Public Holidays
Department	Department of Planning and Environment
Development	The development as described in the documents listed in condition 2 of Schedule 2
DPI-Water	Department of Primary Industries – Water
DRG	Division of Resources and Geoscience within the Department
EA (MOD 5)	The Environmental Assessment for DA29/95 MOD 5, including:
	 the letter from Austar Coal Mine Pty Limited dated 13 January 2012;
	• Austar Coal Mine Stage 2 – Longwall A5a Variation to Commencing End prepared by Mine Subsidence Engineering Consultants and dated December 2011;
	• the Response to Submissions document from Austar Coal Mine Pty Limited dated 9 March 2012; and
	 Longwall A5a Extension Flood and Drainage Assessment by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd and dated March 2012.
EA (MOD 6)	The modification application DA 29/95 MOD 6 and accompanying documents entitled <i>Austar Coal Mine LWB1-B3 Modification</i> , prepared by Umwelt and dated November 2015, and the associated response to submissions titled <i>Austar Coal Mine LWB1-B3 Modification Response to</i>
EA (MOD 7)	Submissions and dated 17 December 2015 The modification application DA 29/95 MOD 7 and accompanying documents entitled Austar Coal Mine LWB4- B7 Modification Environmental Assessment, prepared by Umwelt and dated May 2017, and the associated response to submissions titled Austar Coal Mine LWB4-B7 Modification Response to Submissions and dated 27 July 2017
Environmental consequences	The environmental consequences of subsidence impacts, including: damage to built features; loss of surface flows to the subsurface; loss of standing pools; adverse water quality

	impacts; development of iron bacterial mats; cliff falls; rock
	falls; damage to Aboriginal heritage sites; impacts to aquatic
FIC	ecology; ponding
EIS EPA	Environmental Impact Statement Environment Protection Authority
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
Evening	Evening is defined as the period from 6pm to 10pm
Feasible	Feasible relates to engineering considerations and what is practical to build
First workings	Development of main headings, longwall gate roads, related cut throughs and the like
Incident	A set of circumstances that:
	 causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment; and/or
	 breaches or exceeds the limits or performance measures/criteria in this consent
Land	As defined in the EP&A Act, except where the term is used in
	the noise and air quality conditions in Schedules 3 and 4 of this consent, where it is defined as the whole of a lot, or
	contiguous lots owned by the same landowner, in a current
	plan registered at the Land Titles Office at the date of this consent
Material harm to the	
environment	beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial
Minister	Minister for Planning, or delegate
Mitigation	Activities associated with reducing the impacts of the development
MOP	Mining Operations Plan
Negligible	Small and unimportant, such as to be not worth considering
Night	Night is defined as the period from 10pm to 7am on Monday to Saturday, and 10pm to 8am on Sundays and Public Holidays
OEH	Office of Environment and Heritage
Privately-owned land	Land that is not owned by a public agency, or a mining
	company (or its subsidiary)
Reasonable	Means applying judgement in arriving at a decision, taking into account: mitigation benefits, cost of mitigation versus
	benefits provided, community views and the nature and extent of potential improvements
Rehabilitation	The restoration of land disturbed by the development to a
	good condition and for the purpose of establishing a safe, stable and non-polluting environment
Residence	For the purposes of this instrument, a residence includes
	existing or approved dwellings or buildings at the date of this
RMS	consent, including those offering overnight accommodation Roads and Maritime Services
SANSW	Subsidence Advisory NSW
Safe, Serviceable and	Safe – no danger to uses;
Repairable	Serviceable – available for its intended use Repairable – damaged components repaired economically
Second workings	Extraction of coal from longwall panels, mini-wall panels or
Secretary	pillar extraction Secretary of the Department, or nominee
SEE	Statement of Environmental Effects
Site	The land described in Appendix 3
Stage 2 mining area	The area of the site which includes longwalls A3 – A5a, as
	shown in Appendix 2

Stage 3 mining area	The area of the site which includes longwalls A7 – A19, as shown in Appendix 2 of Project Approval 08_0111
Subsidence	The totality of subsidence effects, subsidence impacts and environmental consequences of subsidence impacts
Subsidence effects	Deformation of the ground mass due to mining, including all mining-induced ground movements, including both vertical and horizontal displacement, tilt, strain and curvature
Subsidence impacts	Physical changes to the ground and its surface caused by subsidence effects, including tensile and shear cracking of the rock mass, localised buckling of strata caused by valley closure and upsidence and surface depressions or troughs

SCHEDULE 2 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS

Obligation to Minimise Harm to the Environment

1. In addition to meeting the specific performance measures and criteria established under this consent, the Applicant must implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any material harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, or rehabilitation of the development.

Terms of Consent

- 2. The Applicant must carry out the development generally in accordance with the:
 - (a) DA 29/95 and accompanying Environmental Impact Statement prepared by HLA Envirosciences Pty Limited, dated August 1995 (August 1995 EIS);
 - (b) modification application MOD-49-4-2006 and accompanying Statement of Environmental Effects, titled Austar Coal Mine Section 96 Modification, prepared by Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) and dated April 2006 (April 2006 SEE), and information from ERM clarifying the modification application MOD-49-4-2006, dated 13 July 2006;
 - (c) modification application DA29/95 Mod 2 and accompanying Statement of Environmental Effects, titled Austar Coal Mine Statement of Environmental Effects Section 96 Modification Stage 2 Longwall Panels A3-A5, prepared by Austar Coal Mine and dated September 2007 (September 2007 SEE); and
 - (d) modification application DA 29/95 MOD 3 and the accompanying Statement of Environmental Effects prepared by Austar Coal Mine Pty Ltd and dated April 2009;
 - (e) modification application DA 29/95 MOD 4 and the accompanying Environmental Assessment prepared by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd and dated July 2010;
 - (f) modification application DA 29/95 MOD 5 and EA (MOD 5);
 - (g) EA (MOD 6); and
 - (h) EA (MOD 7).
 - Note: The underground mining layout for the development is shown in Figure 1 of Appendix 2, which depicts the active mining areas and the completed mining areas.
- 2A. The Applicant must carry out the development in accordance with the conditions of this consent.
 - Note: With the approval of the Secretary, longwall panels may be shortened or narrowed, providing that the proposed variations do not result in increased subsidence impacts or environmental consequences.

If there is any inconsistency between the documents in condition 2, the most recent document shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency. However, the conditions of this consent shall prevail over all other documents to the extent of any inconsistency.

- 3. The Applicant must comply with any reasonable requirement/s of the Secretary arising from the Department's assessment of:
 - (a) any reports, plans, strategies, programs or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with this consent;
 - (b) any reviews, reports or audits undertaken or commissioned by the Department regarding compliance with this consent; and
 - (c) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these documents.

Operation of Plant and Equipment

- 4. The Applicant must ensure that all plant and equipment used at the site is:
 - (a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and
 - (b) operated in a proper and efficient manner.

Limits on Approval

- 5. This consent lapses on 14 February 2022.
 - Note: This condition does not affect the operation of section 95 of the EP&A Act. Under this consent, the Applicant is required to rehabilitate the site and carry out additional requirements. Consequently, this consent will continue to apply in all respects other than to permit the carrying out of mining operations, until the rehabilitation of the site and those requirements and undertakings have been carried out to the required standard.
- 6. Deleted
- 7. Deleted

Protection of Public Infrastructure

- 8. Unless the Applicant and the applicable authority agree otherwise the Applicant must:
 - (a) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and
 - (b) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development.

Note: This condition does not apply to any damage to public infrastructure subject to compensation payable under the Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961.

Compliance

9. The Applicant must ensure that all employees, contractors and sub-contractors are aware of, and comply with, the conditions of this consent relevant to their respective activities.

SCHEDULE 3 SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

ACQUISITION UPON REQUEST

 Upon receiving a written request for acquisition from the landowner of land listed in Table 1, the Applicant must acquire the land in accordance with the procedures in conditions 3 to 5 of Schedule 4:

Property A03a - Duff Limited

However, the Applicant is not required to acquire the land listed in Table 1 if:

- (a) the Applicant has a current written negotiated agreement with the landowner in regard to the management of subsidence-related impacts, and a copy of this agreement has been forwarded to the Department by the Applicant; or
- (b) the landowner has agreed to the SA NSW purchasing the land under the *Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961*; or
- (c) a request for acquisition has not been made following completion of mining in longwalls A3 to A5, and the SA NSW determines that the residence/s on the land listed in Table 1 remains safe, serviceable and repairable.

Notes:

- To avoid any uncertainty in regard to condition 1(c), the Applicant is required to act on any request for acquisition by a landowner listed in Table 1 unless the residence/s on the land has been declared to be safe, serviceable and repairable by the SA NSW after mining has been completed in longwalls A3 to A5.
- For more information on the references to land used in this condition see Figure 9 of Appendix C to the September 2007 SEE prepared for longwalls A3 to A5.

SUBSIDENCE

Subsidence Impact Assessment Criteria

2. If the subsidence generated by the development results in damage to any residence on privately-owned land (excluding the land listed in Table 1) that in the opinion of the SA NSW exceeds safe, serviceable and repairable criteria, the Applicant must, upon receiving a written request for acquisition from the landowner, acquire the land in accordance with the procedures in conditions 3 to 5 of Schedule 4.

However, the Applicant does not have to act on any such request if:

- (a) the Applicant has a current written negotiated agreement with the landowner in regard to the management of subsidence-related impacts, and a copy of this agreement has been forwarded to the Department by the Applicant; or
- (b) the landowner has agreed to the SA NSW purchasing the land under the *Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961.*

Subsidence Management Plan

- 3. The Applicant must revise the approved Subsidence Management Plan for the Stage 2 mining area to include longwall A5a, to the satisfaction of DRG. The revised plan must:
 - (a) include a mine plan for the relevant area;
 - (b) integrate ongoing management of previously mined areas;
 - (c) include management, monitoring and contingency plans for all man-made and natural features which may experience subsidence effects, subsidence impacts or environmental consequences, including:

- built structures;
- farm dams;
- watercourses;
- groundwater;
- terrestrial flora and fauna and ecology (including any threatened species and their habitats); and
- Aboriginal cultural heritage;
- (d) be approved by the Director-General of DRG prior to the commencement of extraction of longwall A5a; and
- (e) be implemented, following approval, to the satisfaction of the Executive Director, Mineral Resources.

Extraction Plan

- 3A. The Applicant must prepare an Extraction Plan for all second workings in the active mining areas to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:
 - (a) be prepared by a team of suitably qualified and experienced experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary, and be approved by the Secretary prior to the commencement of any second workings covered by the Extraction Plan;
 - (b) include a detailed plan for the second workings, which has been prepared to the satisfaction of DRG, and provides for adaptive management;
 - (c) include detailed plans of any associated surface construction works;
 - (d) include the following to the satisfaction of DRG:
 - a coal resource recovery plan that demonstrates effective recovery of the available resource;
 - predictions of the subsidence effects and subsidence impacts of the proposed second workings, incorporating any relevant information that has been obtained since preparation of EA (MOD 6); and
 - a Subsidence Monitoring Program to:
 - o monitor subsidence effects and subsidence impacts on land;
 - validate the subsidence predictions; and
 - analyse the relationship between the subsidence effects and subsidence impacts of the proposed second workings and any ensuing environmental consequences.
 - (e) include a:
 - Water Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with OEH and DPI-Water, to monitor and manage the environmental consequences of second workings on water resources (including drainage, flooding, ponding and alluvial aquifers);
 - Biodiversity Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with OEH, to monitor and manage the potential environmental consequences of second workings on aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna, with a specific focus on threatened species and endangered ecological communities;
 - Land Management Plan, to monitor and manage the potential environmental consequences of second workings on steep slopes and land in general;
 - Built Features Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with the owner of the relevant feature, to monitor and manage the potential environmental consequences of second workings, including flooding related impacts, on any built features or access to any built features;
 - (f) include a Public Safety Management Plan, which has been prepared in consultation with DRG, to ensure public safety in the mining area; and
 - (g) the above plans must include a:
 - detailed description of baseline data;
 - impact assessment criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts;
 - program to undertake monitoring prior to, during and after undermining;

- program to validate predicted levels of impacts;
- detailed description of remediation and rehabilitation measures to be implemented, should adverse impacts occur; and
- contingency plan to manage any unpredicted adverse impacts and their environmental consequences and to provide for adaptive management.

The Applicant must implement the approved plan as approved from time to time by the Secretary.

Note: The Water Management Plan must be integrated with all relevant aspects of the Site Water Management Plan required under condition 6 of Schedule 3.

Payment of Reasonable Costs

3B. The Applicant must pay all reasonable costs incurred by the Department to engage independent experts to review the adequacy of any aspect of the Extraction Plan.

First Workings

- 3C. Subject to condition 3A above, the Applicant may carry out first workings within the underground mining area, other than in accordance with an approved Extraction Plan, provided that DRG is satisfied that the first working are designed to remain stable and non-subsiding in the long-term, except insofar as they may be impacted by approved second workings.
 - Note: The intent of this condition is not to require an additional approval for first workings, but to ensure that first workings are built to geotechnical and engineering standards sufficient to ensure long term stability, with negligible resulting direct subsidence impacts.

Provision of Biodiversity Offsets

- 3D. If subsidence impacts associated with the active mining areas cause significant adverse impacts to threatened species, populations, habitats and/or endangered ecological communities and the Secretary determines that:
 - (a) it is not reasonable or feasible to remediate the impact or environmental consequences; or
 - (b) remediation measures implemented by the Applicant have failed to satisfactorily remediate the impact or environmental consequence,

then the Applicant must provide a suitable offset to compensate for the impact or environmental consequence, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

Note: An offset required under this condition must be proportionate with the significance of the impact or environmental consequence.

Public Safety Management Plans

- 4. The Applicant must:
 - (a) before carrying out any underground mining that will potentially lead to subsidence within the Werakata State Conservation Area, the Applicant must prepare (and following approval implement) a Public Safety Management Plan for the Werakata State Conservation Area;
 - (b) before carrying out any underground mining that will potentially lead to subsidence at Nash Lane, the Applicant must prepare (and following approval implement) a Public Safety Management Plan for Nash Lane; and
 - (c) before carrying out any underground mining that will potentially lead to subsidence impacts to Sandy Creek Road, the Applicant must prepare, in consultation with

Council, (and following approval implement) a Public Safety Management Plan for Sandy Creek Road,

to the satisfaction of the DRG.

WATER QUALITY

Discharge Limits

5. Except as may be expressly provided by a EPA Environmental Protection Licence, or in accordance with section 120 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*, the Applicant must not discharge any water from the site.

Water Supply

- 5A. The Applicant must ensure that it has sufficient water supply for the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply.
 - Note: Under the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain the necessary water licences for the development. If monitoring indicates that existing licence entitlements are likely to be exceeded, the Applicant must adjust the scale of the development to match its existing entitlements until additional licences are procured.

Site Water Management Plan

- 6. Prior to mining commencing in panel A3, or other date agreed by the Secretary, the Applicant must revise its Site Water Management Plan for the mine, in consultation with the DPI-Water and the EPA, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretary, and must include:
 - (a) a Site Water Balance;
 - (b) an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan;
 - (c) a Surface Water Monitoring Program;
 - (d) a Ground Water Monitoring Program; and
 - (e) a Surface and Ground Water Response Plan.

Site Water Balance

- 7. The Site Water Balance must:
 - (a) include details of:
 - sources of water and water licences;
 - water use on site;
 - water management on site;
 - off-site water transfers or discharges;
 - reporting procedures; and
 - (b) describe measures to minimise water use by the development.

Erosion and Sediment Control

- 8. The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan must:
 - (a) be consistent with the requirements of Landcom's *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction* manual;
 - (b) identify activities that could cause soil erosion and generate sediment;
 - (c) describe measures to minimise soil erosion and the potential for transport of sediment downstream;
 - (d) describe the location, function and capacity of erosion and sediment control structures; and
 - (e) describe what measures would be implemented to maintain the structures over time.

Surface Water Monitoring

- 9. The Surface Water Monitoring Program must include:
 - (a) surface water assessment criteria;
 - (b) a program to monitor surface water flows and quality (particularly in Black, Cony and Quorrobolong Creeks) and stream health;
 - (c) a program to monitor water levels in farm dams within the subsidence zone and impacts on other water users;
 - (d) a program to monitor channel stability in Quorrobolong and Cony Creeks;
 - (e) reporting procedures; and
 - (f) a protocol for the investigation, notification and mitigation of identified exceedances of the surface water criteria that are related to the development (particularly in respect of acid mine drainage and acid leachate).

Groundwater Monitoring

- 10. The Groundwater Monitoring Program must include:
 - (a) ground water impact assessment criteria;
 - (b) a program to monitor the volume and quality of ground water seeping into the underground mine workings;
 - (b1) a program to monitor impacts to groundwater dependent ecosystems and riparian vegetation;
 - (c) a program to monitor ground water levels and quality; and
 - (d) a protocol for the investigation, notification and mitigation of identified exceedances of the ground water impact assessment criteria.

Surface and Ground Water Response Plan

- 11. The Surface and Ground Water Response Plan must include:
 - (a) the procedures that would be followed in the event of any exceedance of the surface or groundwater impact assessment criteria, or other identified impact on surface or groundwater;
 - (b) measures to mitigate, remediate and/or compensate any identified impacts (including measures to mitigate and/or compensate potentially affected landowners for any loss of surface water flows in local creeks or farm dams); and
 - (c) disposal/neutralisation contingencies in the event that acid leachate problems emerge after the mine closes.

Groundwater Study

- 12. The Applicant must, in the event it selects the Cessnock No. 1 Shaft at Kalingo as the ventilation shaft site for the mine, submit a report to the Secretary and the DRG which includes a groundwater study and mine water disposal plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of the DRG and EPA.
- 12A. By the end of February 2018, the Applicant must review the groundwater impacts of the development. This review must:
 - (a) validate the impact predictions in EA (MOD 6) and EA (MOD 7) against measured groundwater impacts, including a comparison of:
 - groundwater levels and quality in both alluvial and non-alluvial aquifers; and
 - mine water inflow sources and volumes; and
 - (b) evaluate the effectiveness of the existing groundwater model for use in current and future mining operations; and
 - (c) evaluate the continued effectiveness of any approved Extraction Plan or Water Management Plan for the development and provide recommendations for any appropriate amendments to these plans.

The review must be undertaken in consultation with DPI-Water and reported and implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretary. If the review identifies a material departure from the predictions in EA (MOD 6) and EA (MOD 7), the Applicant must prepare a revised groundwater assessment for the development, in consultation with DPI-Water, to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The assessment must include updated predictions of potential groundwater impacts from the development, based on quantitative surface and groundwater modelling, incorporating all available groundwater data.

NOISE AND VIBRATION

Impact Assessment Criteria

13. The Applicant must ensure that the noise generated by the Infrastructure Upgrade Area identified in Figure 1.3 of the April 2006 SEE does not exceed the noise impact assessment criteria in Table 2.

Table 2: Noise	e impact	assessment ci	riteria dB(A)

Day/Evening/Night LAeg(15 minute)	Land	
35	All privately owned land	

Notes:

- a) Noise from the development is to be measured at the most affected point or within the residential boundary, or at the most affected point within 30 metres of a dwelling (rural situations) where the dwelling is more than 30 metres from the boundary, to determine compliance with the L_{Aeq(15 minute)} noise limits in the above table. Where it can be demonstrated that direct measurement of noise from the development is impractical, the Department and the EPA may accept alternative means of determining compliance (see Chapter 11 of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy). The modification factors in Section 4 of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy must also be applied to the measured noise levels where applicable.
- b) The noise emission limits identified in the above table apply under meteorological conditions of:
- wind speeds of up to 3 m/s at 10 metres above ground level; or
- temperature inversion conditions of up to 3°C/100m, and wind speeds of up to 2 m/s at 10 metres above ground level.

However, if the Applicant has a written negotiated noise agreement with any landowner of the land listed in Table 2, and a copy of this agreement has been forwarded to the Department and the EPA, then the Applicant may exceed the noise limits in Table 2 in accordance with the negotiated noise agreement.

Continuous Improvement

- 14. The Applicant must:
 - (a) implement all reasonable and feasible noise mitigation measures;
 - (b) investigate ways to reduce the noise generated by the development; and
 - (c) report on these investigations and the implementation and effectiveness of these measures in the Annual Review (see condition 5 of Schedule 5), to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

Noise Monitoring

15. The Applicant must prepare a Noise Monitoring Program for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This program must include quarterly attended noise

monitoring and a noise monitoring protocol for evaluating compliance with the noise impact assessment criteria in this consent.

The Applicant must implement the approved program as approved from time to time by the Secretary.

Vibration Monitoring

16. The Applicant must prepare a Vibration Monitoring Program for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This program must be capable of recording ground vibrations on the surface emanating from underground mining activities.

The Applicant must implement the approved program as approved from time to time by the Secretary.

AIR QUALITY

Impact Assessment Criteria

17. The Applicant must ensure that the dust emissions generated by the Infrastructure Upgrade Area identified in Figure 1.3 of the April 2006 SEE do not cause additional exceedances of the air quality impact assessment criteria listed in Tables 3, 4 and 5 at any residence on, or on more than 25 percent of, any privately-owned land.

Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion
Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	90 µg/m³
Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM ₁₀)	Annual	30 µg/m³

 Table 4: Short term impact assessment criterion for particulate matter

Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion
Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM ₁₀)	24 hour	50 µg/m³

Table 5: Long term impact assessment criteria for deposited dust

Pollutant	Averaging period	Maximum increase in deposited dust level	Maximum total deposited dust level
Deposited dust	Annual	2 g/m ² /month	4 g/m ² /month

Note: Deposited dust is assessed as insoluble solids as defined by Standards Australia, 2003, AS 3580.10.1-2003: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air - Determination of Particulates - Deposited Matter - Gravimetric Method.

Operating Conditions

18. The Applicant must:

- (a) ensure any visible air pollution generated by the development is assessed regularly, and measures taken to minimise air quality impacts on privately-owned land; and
- (b) implement all reasonable measures to minimise the off-site odour, greenhouse gas and fume emissions generated by the mine's ventilation system or any spontaneous combustion at the development,
- to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

Monitoring

19. The Applicant must prepare an Air Quality Monitoring Program for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This program must include an air quality monitoring protocol for evaluating compliance with the air quality impact assessment criteria in this consent.

The Applicant must implement the approved program as approved from time to time by the Secretary.

METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING

20. The Applicant must ensure that there is a suitable meteorological station operating in the vicinity of the development in accordance with the requirements in Approved Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in New South Wales and to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

REJECT EMPLACEMENT

- 21. The Applicant must undertake reject emplacement in accordance with the current Mining Operations Plan as updated and approved by DRG from time to time. If reject emplacement in Areas 1, 3 and 4 as described in the August 1995 EIS is proposed, the Applicant must:
 - (a) investigate and report to the DRG on the possibility of disposing all reject into one emplacement area, at least 12 months before reject emplacement into the disturbed mining areas is complete;
 - (b) provide a report on the geotechnical investigations and engineering specifications for emplacement areas 1, 3 and 4 to the DRG, and the Secretary at least 6 months prior to commencement of reject emplacement in these areas; and
 - (c) commence use of emplacement areas 1, 3 and 4 only after consultation with the Council and approval by the DRG.

FLORA AND FAUNA

- 22. The Applicant must:
 - (a) take all reasonable measures to protect native vegetation from damage during construction except where trees, shrubs and other vegetation are removed for approved works; and
 - (b) salvage all useable soil and vegetative materials for reuse in controlling erosion and/or site rehabilitation.
- 23. The Applicant must:
 - (a) undertake fauna surveys for bat species at undisturbed sites proposed for reject emplacement as required by the OEH;
 - (b) report results of any fauna surveys to the OEH;
 - (c) undertake a monitoring program of riparian vegetation along Quorrobolong and Cony Creeks in the area of longwalls A3 to A5a with particular reference to River Flat Eucalypt Forest EEC; and
 - (d) carry out any necessary ameliorative measures requested by the OEH in relation to the findings of the fauna surveys and riparian vegetation monitoring program,

to the satisfaction of the OEH.

HERITAGE

Aboriginal Heritage

- 24. Six months prior to commencing activities in undisturbed reject emplacement areas to use Cessnock No. 1 Colliery surface facilities, the Applicant must undertake additional Aboriginal heritage surveys to the satisfaction of the OEH.
- 24A. The Applicant must prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The plan must:
 - (a) be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with OEH and Registered Aboriginal Parties, and be submitted to the Secretary for approval prior to the commencement of extraction of longwall A5a; and
 - (b) include a program/procedures for:
 - salvage and management of Aboriginal sites within the active mining areas;
 - monitoring and management of Aboriginal sites within the active mining areas;
 - managing the discovery of any new Aboriginal objects or skeletal remains discovered during the project;
 - undertaking additional archaeological surveys on any areas subject to extensive remediation activities;
 - ongoing consultation with and involvement of the Registered Aboriginal Parties in the conservation and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage on the site;
 - training personnel on Aboriginal cultural heritage awareness; and
 - undertaking recording of Aboriginal site impacts.

The Applicant must implement the approved plan as approved from time to time by the Secretary.

European Heritage

- 25. The Applicant must:
 - (a) undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment of the site and prepare a Heritage Management Plan, in consultation with the Council, for the approval of the Heritage Council of NSW prior to re-commencing any mining activities at the Cessnock No 1 Colliery surface facilities at Kalingo;
 - (b) make application under section 132 of the *Heritage Act 1977* for any works proposed to be undertaken on or under Lot 1, DP 87087 and Part Lot 1, DP 69968 County Northumberland, Parish Heddon; and
 - (c) take all reasonable measures to protect the ring-barked tree referenced in the April 2006 SEE,

to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

Note: The land referred to in condition 25(b) is currently subject to a section 130 order under the Heritage Act 1977 to prevent harm to buildings, works, relics etc of the South Maitland Railway, gazetted 16 September, 1983.

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

- 26. The Applicant must:
 - (a) prior to the commencement of operations in reject emplacement areas 3 and 4 (as described in the August 1995 EIS), provide to the satisfaction of the Council and the RMS and at its own cost, a crossing over Wollombi Road (Main Road 218) in the vicinity of these coal waste emplacement areas with respect to type and sight distance in accordance with AS2890-1. Such crossing must consist of pavement and bitumen seal extending at least 30 metres either side of Main Road 218; and

- (b) provide a Type BA intersection at the nominated entry to the Cessnock No 1 Colliery site. The intersection type and location must be determined in conjunction with Council and constructed prior to commencement of operations at the Cessnock No 1 Colliery site.
- 27. The Applicant must:
 - (a) prior to 31 December 2008, or as otherwise agreed with the Secretary, undertake upgrade works to the road level crossing at Vincent Street, Kitchener, as recommended in *Austar Coal Mine Pty Limited Report on Four Rail Level Crossings in Cessnock LGA Stage 5 Road Safety Audit* (GHD March 2007); and
 - (b) prior to 30 June 2009, use its best endeavours to undertake upgrade works at the following road level crossings as recommended in Austar Coal Mine Pty Limited Report on Four Rail Level Crossings in Cessnock LGA Stage 5 Road Safety Audit (GHD March 2007):
 - Cessnock Road, Kearsley;
 - Neath Road, Neath; and
 - Mitchell Avenue, Weston,

in consultation with the South Maitland Railway, and to the satisfaction of the Council and the RMS.

REHABILITATION

Rehabilitation Objectives

28. The Applicant must rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of DRG. This rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation strategy described in the documents listed in condition 2 of Schedule 2, and comply with the objectives in Table 6.

Feature	Objective			
All areas affected by the development	 Safe Hydraulically and geotechnically stable Non-polluting Fit for the intended post-mining land use(s) 			
Areas proposed for native ecosystem re-establishment	• Establish self-sustaining ecosystems comprising flora species selected to re-establish and complement local and regional biodiversity			
Areas proposed for agricultural or pastoral use	 Nominated land capability classification is achieved and is self-sustaining 			
Other areas affected by the development	 Restore ecosystem function, including maintaining or establishing self-sustaining ecosystems comprised of local native plant species appropriate for the intended post mining land use(s) (unless DRG agrees otherwise) 			
Surface infrastructure of the development	• To be decommissioned and removed, unless DRG agree otherwise or development consent is obtained from the relevant consent authority for their retention and post-mining use			
Portals and vent shafts of the development	• To be decommissioned and made safe and stable			
Built features damaged by mining operations	 Repair/restore/replace to pre-mining condition or equivalent unless the: owner agrees otherwise; or damage is fully restored, repaired or compensated for under the <i>Mine Subsidence Compensation Act</i> 1961 			

Table 6: Rehabilitation Objectives

Final landforms	 Consistent with surrounding topography to minimise visual impacts Incorporate relief patterns and design principles consistent with natural drainage
All watercourses subject to mine-water discharges and/or subsidence impacts from the development	 Hydraulically and geomorphologically stable Aquatic ecology and riparian vegetation that is the same or better than prior to mining
Water quality	 Surface water retained on site is fit for the intended post mining land use(s)
Cliffs, minor cliffs and steep slopes	 No additional risk to public safety compared to prior to mining
Community	 Ensure public safety Minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure

Note: These rehabilitation objectives apply to all subsidence impacts and environmental consequences caused by the development and to all surface infrastructure components of the development. Where remediation of watercourses is likely to cause environmental consequences greater than those that require rehabilitation, alternative equivalent works may be undertaken within the affected watercourse.

Progressive Rehabilitation

- 29. The Applicant must rehabilitate the site progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable following disturbance, to the satisfaction of DRG. All reasonable steps must be taken to minimise the total area exposed at any time. Interim stabilisation and temporary vegetation strategies must be employed when areas prone to dust generation, soil erosion and weed incursion cannot be permanently rehabilitated.
 - Note: It is accepted that some parts of the site that are progressively rehabilitated may be subject to further disturbance at some later stage of the development.

SCHEDULE 4 ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES FOR SUBSIDENCE MANAGEMENT

NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS

- 1. Prior to 31 June 2008, the Applicant must notify the landowners of land listed in Table 1 in writing that they have the right to require the Applicant to acquire their land in accordance with condition 1 of Schedule 3 and conditions 3 to 5 below.
- 2. The Applicant must notify all landowners whose land may be subject to subsidence as a result of the development about the procedures for rectification and compensation for subsidence effects on residences, farm buildings, agricultural land and other infrastructure under the *Mining Act 1992* and the *Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961*.

LAND ACQUISITION

- 3. Within 3 months of receiving a written request from a landowner with acquisition rights as specified in Condition 1 or Condition 2 of Schedule 3, the Applicant must make a binding written offer to the landowner based on:
 - (a) the current market value of the landowner's interest in the property at the date of this written request, as if the property was unaffected by the development the subject of the development application, having regard to the:
 - existing and permissible use of the land, in accordance with the applicable planning instruments at the date of the written request; and
 - presence of improvements on the property and/or any approved building or structure which has been physically commenced at the date of the landowner's written request, and is due to be completed subsequent to that date, but excluding any improvements that have resulted from the implementation of measures implemented by the SA NSW;
 - (b) the reasonable costs associated with:
 - relocating within the Cessnock local government area, or to any other local government area determined by the Secretary;
 - obtaining legal advice and expert advice for determining the acquisition price of the land, and the terms upon which it is required; and
 - (c) reasonable compensation for any disturbance caused by the land acquisition process.

However, if at the end of this period, the Applicant and landowner cannot agree on the acquisition price of the land, and/or the terms upon which the land is to be acquired, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.

Upon receiving such a request, the Secretary must request the President of the NSW Division of the Australian Property Institute to appoint a qualified independent valuer or Fellow of the Institute, to consider submissions from both parties, and determine a fair and reasonable acquisition price for the land, and/or terms upon which the land is to be acquired.

Within 14 days of receiving the independent valuer's determination, the Applicant must make a written offer to purchase the land at a price not less than the independent valuer's determination.

If the landowner refuses to accept this offer within 6 months of the date of the Applicant's offer, the Applicant's obligations to acquire the land must cease, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary.

4. The Applicant must bear the costs of any valuation or survey assessment requested by the independent valuer, or the Secretary and the costs of determination referred above.

5. If the Applicant and landowner agree that only part of the land must be acquired, then the Applicant must pay all reasonable costs associated with obtaining Council approval for any plan of subdivision (where permissible), and registration of the plan at the Office of the Registrar-General.

SCHEDULE 5 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, MONITORING, AUDITING AND REPORTING

Environmental Management Strategy

- 1. The Applicant must prepare an Environmental Management Strategy for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This Strategy must:
 - (a) provide the strategic context for environmental management of the development;
 - (b) identify the statutory requirements that apply to the development;
 - (c) describe in general how the environmental performance of the development would be monitored and managed during the development;
 - (d) describe the procedures that would be implemented to:
 - keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development;
 - receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints;
 - resolve any disputes that may arise during the course of the development;
 - respond to any non-compliance;
 - manage any cumulative impacts;
 - respond to emergencies;
 - (e) describe the role, responsibility, authority, and accountability of all the key personnel involved in environmental management of the development; and
 - (f) include:
 - references to any strategies, plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent; and
 - a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out under the conditions of this consent.

The Applicant must implement the approved strategy as approved from time to time by the Secretary.

Environmental Monitoring Program

- 2. The Applicant may consolidate the various monitoring requirements of this consent into a single Environmental Monitoring Program for the development.
- 3. Deleted

Incident Reporting

- 4. Within 7 days of detecting an exceedance of the limits/performance criteria in this consent, the Applicant must report the exceedance/incident to the Department (and any relevant agency). The report must:
 - (a) describe the date, time, and nature of the exceedance/incident;
 - (b) identify the cause (or likely cause) of the exceedance/incident;
 - (c) describe what action has been taken to date; and
 - (d) describe the proposed measures to address the exceedance/incident.

Regular Reporting

4A. The Applicant must provide regular reporting on the environmental performance of the development on its website, in accordance with the reporting arrangements in any plans or programs approved under the conditions of this consent.

Annual Review

- 5. By the end of September each year, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must submit a review to the Department reviewing the environmental performance of the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This review must:
 - (a) describe the development (including any rehabilitation) that was carried out in the previous year to 30 June, and the development that is proposed to be carried out over the current year to 30 June;
 - (b) include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the development over the previous year to 30 June, which includes a comparison of these results against the:
 - relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria;
 - requirements of any plan or program required under this consent;
 - monitoring results of previous years; and
 - relevant predictions in the documents listed in condition 2 of Schedule 2;
 - (c) identify any non-compliance over the past year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to ensure compliance;
 - (d) identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the development;
 - (e) identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the development, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and
 - (f) describe what measures will be implemented over the next year to improve the environmental performance of the development.

Independent Environmental Audit

- 6. Prior to 31 December 2008, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant must commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. This audit must:
 - (a) be conducted by suitably qualified, experienced, and independent expert/s whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;
 - (b) include consultation with the relevant agencies and the CCC;
 - (c) assess, in respect of the requirements of this consent and any relevant mining lease or environment protection licence, the environmental performance of the development and its effects on the surrounding environment;
 - (d) assess whether the development is complying with relevant standards and performance measures specified in these approvals (including under any strategy, plan or program required under this consent) and with other statutory requirements;
 - (e) review the adequacy of strategies, plans or programs required under this consent; and, if necessary,
 - (f) recommend measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development, and/or any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and
 - (g) be conducted and reported to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

Note: This audit team must be led by a suitably qualified auditor and include experts in the fields of subsidence, surface water, groundwater, noise and air quality.

7. Within 6 weeks of completing this audit, or as otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Applicant must submit a copy of the audit report to the Secretary with a response to any recommendations contained in the audit report.

Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs

- 8. Within 3 months of:
 - (a) the submission of an incident report under condition 4 above;
 - (b) the submission of an Annual Review under condition 5 above;
 - (c) the submission of an audit report under condition 6 above; and

(d) the approval of a modification to the conditions of this consent,

the Applicant must review the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent, to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The applicant must notify the Department in writing of any such review being undertaken. Where this review leads to revisions in any such document, then within 6 weeks of the review the revised document must be submitted for the approval of the Secretary.

Note: The purpose of this condition is to ensure that strategies, plans and programs are regularly updated to incorporate any measures recommended to improve environmental performance of the development.

Updating and Staging of Strategies, Plans or Programs

8A. To ensure that strategies, plans or programs required under this consent are updated on a regular basis, and that they incorporate any appropriate additional measures to improve the environmental performance of the development, the Applicant may at any time submit revised strategies, plans or programs for the approval of the Secretary. With the agreement of the Secretary, the Applicant may also submit any strategy, plan or program required by this consent on a staged basis.

With the agreement of the Secretary, the Applicant may prepare a revision of or a stage of a strategy, plan or program without undertaking consultation with all parties nominated under the applicable condition in this consent.

While any strategy, plan or program may be submitted on a staged basis, the Applicant will need to ensure that the operations associated with the development are covered by suitable strategies, plans or programs at all times.

If the submission of any strategy, plan or program is to be staged; then the relevant strategy, plan or program must clearly describe the specific stage/s of the development to which the strategy, plan or program applies; the relationship of this stage/s to any future stages; and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program.

Relationship with other consents

8B. With the agreement of the Secretary, the Applicant may combine any strategy, plan, program, review, audit or committee required by this consent with any similar requirement under another development consent or approval relating to the Austar Mine Complex, including Project Approval 08_0111 for the Stage 3 mining area.

Evidence of Consultation

- 8C. Where consultation with any public authority is required by the conditions of this consent, the Applicant must:
 - (a) consult with the relevant public authority prior to submitting the required document to the Secretary for approval;
 - (b) submit evidence of this consultation as part of the relevant document;
 - (c) describe how matters raised by the authority have been addressed and any matters not resolved; and
 - (d) include details of any outstanding issues raised by the authority and an explanation of disagreement between any public authority and the Applicant.

Community Consultative Committee

9. The Applicant must operate a CCC for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This CCC must be operated in accordance with the Department's *Community Consultative Committee Guidelines, November 2016* (or later version).

Notes:

- The CCC is an advisory committee. The Department and other relevant agencies are responsible for ensuring that the Applicant complies with this consent; and
- In accordance with the guideline, the Committee should be comprised of an independent chair and appropriate representation from the Applicant, Council and the local community.
- 10. Deleted
- 11. Deleted

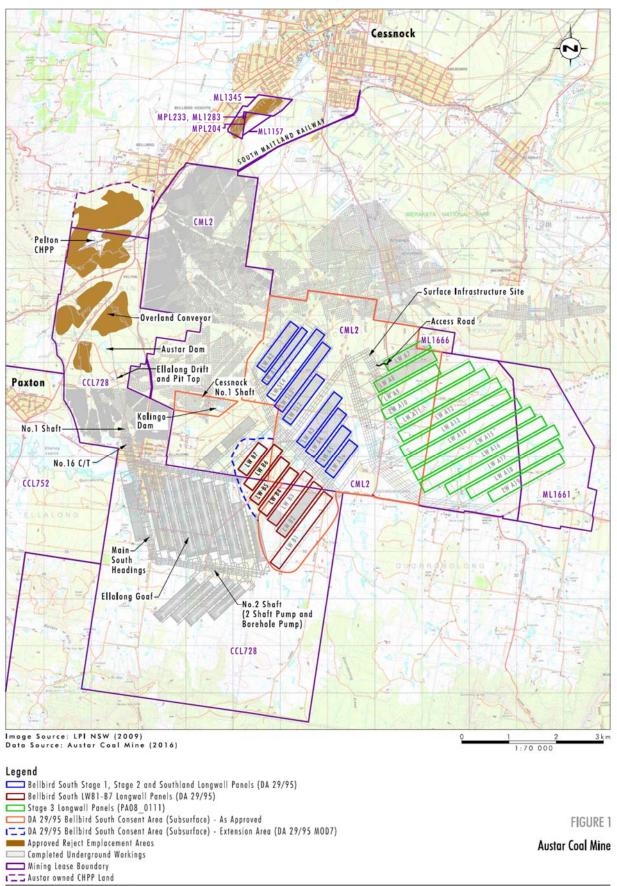
Access to Information

- 12. The Applicant must:
 - (a) make copies of the following publicly available on its website:
 - the documents listed in condition 2 of Schedule 2;
 - all current statutory approvals for the development;
 - approved strategies, plans and programs required under the conditions of this consent;
 - a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the development, which have been reported in accordance with the various plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent;
 - a summary of the progress of the development;
 - contact details to enquire about the development or to make a complaint;
 - a complaints register, which is to be updated on a monthly basis;
 - minutes of CCC meetings;
 - the last five annual reviews;
 - any independent environmental audit of the development, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit;
 - any other matter required by the Secretary; and
 - (b) keep this information up-to-date,

to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

APPENDIX 1 Deleted

APPENDIX 2 AUSTAR MINE COMPLEX



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Figure 1: Underground mining layout

APPENDIX 3 SCHEDULE OF LAND						
Lot	DP	Lot	DP			
Surface						
1	69968	35	755215			
2	69968	36	755215			
5	69968	2	755225			
8	69968	4	755225			
9	69968	12	755225			
10	69968	13	755225			
11	69968	19	755225			
13	69968	249	755225			
1	87087	1	775718			
1	124547	2	775718			
2	124547	2	834889			
3	124547	7323	1157245			
553	725104	1	1164334			
20	755215	2	1164334			
21	755215					
	and, road and rail rese	rves				
Subsurface						
1	131087	41	850188			
А	161957	42	850188			
1	240664	1	852328			
2	240664	110	859794			
3	240664	111	859794			
4	240664	11	866231			
7	240664	12	866231			
8	240664	13	866231			
9	240664	1	873717			
10	240664	2	873717			
100	255530	2	873717			
104	255530	1	986143			
51	599170	1	996145			
52	599170	114	1013882			
10	708972	581	1017350			
1	726039	211	1044421			
32	755215	212	1044421			
140	755215	213	1044421			
4	755225	213	1044421			
12	755225	215	1044421			
13	755225	91	1064579			
14	755225	10	1075943			
15	755225	11	1075943			
19	755225	12	1075943			
35	755225	10	1093269			
75	755225	11	1093269			
120	755225	1291	1113215			
249	755225	1291	1113215			
54						
	755254	621	1124419			
96	755254	622	1124419			
98	755254	201	1136015			
99	755254	202	1136015			
100	755254	1	1145356			
1	775718	2	1145356			

APPENDIX 3

Lot	DP	Lot	DP
2	775718	1	1173947
18	779060	2	1173947
973	804896	1	1182760
1	819222	4	1185571
2	819222	215	1185596
1	828916	4	709474
2	828916	5	709474
30	849031	6	709474
31	849031	121	1126842
Various Crown land, road and rail reserves			

Mining Leases
CCL728
CML2
DSL89
ML1157
ML1283
ML1345
ML1388
ML1550
MPL23
MPL204
MPL217
MPL233
MPL269
MPL1364