

Instrument of Renewal

I, **Georgina Beattie, Chief Executive Officer, Mining, Exploration and Geoscience**, as delegate for the Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992* for the State of New South Wales, and pursuant to section 114 of the *Mining Act 1992*, determine to renew **Exploration Licence 6598 (Act 1992)** held by **Austar Coal Mine Pty Limited, ACN 111 910 822**:

In respect of **Group 9 (Coal) and Group 9A (Oil Shale) minerals**;

- (a) For the further term ending on **13 July 2024**;
- (b) Over the exploration area described in Schedule 1;
- (c) Subject to the conditions prescribed in the *Mining Act 1992* and the Mining Regulation 2016;
- (d) Subject to the conditions set out in Schedule 2 and 3;
- (e) In compliance with any Activity Approvals in Schedule 4; and
- (f) In accordance with the approved work program referenced in Schedule 5.

Signed this 2nd day of February 2023



Georgina Beattie
Chief Executive Officer
Mining, Exploration and Geoscience
Department of Regional NSW
As delegate for the Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992*
Delegation dated: 19 October 2022

EXPLORATION LICENCE

Issued under the *Mining Act 1992*

EXPLORATION LICENCE NUMBER:	6598 (Act 1992)
RENEWAL DATE:	2 February 2023
DUE EXPIRY DATE:	13 July 2024
LICENCE HOLDER:	Austar Coal Mine Pty Limited ACN 111 910 822
EXPLORATION AREA:	See Schedule 1
RESOURCE:	Group 9 (Coal) and Group 9A (Oil Shale) minerals

Information about this licence

This exploration licence is issued under the *Mining Act 1992*. The licence holder may:

- Apply for the renewal of this exploration licence; or
- Apply for the transfer of this exploration licence to another person.

Renewal applications are to be submitted within the period of two months prior up to midnight on the expiry date of the licence consistent with the *Mining Act 1992*.

The following fees are payable in connection with this licence:

- An annual rental fee; and
- An annual administrative levy.

Additional rights and responsibilities of licence holders are set out in the *Mining Act 1992* and the Mining Regulation 2016.

Please note that licence holders may also be required to obtain approvals and comply with requirements of other legislation when carrying out exploration activities, including (but not limited to):

- The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*;
- The *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*; and
- The *Water Act 1912* and the *Water Management Act 2000*.

Rights of the licence holder under this licence

This licence gives the licence holder an exclusive right to prospect for the mineral(s) or group(s) of minerals on the land to which this licence relates.

However, in accordance with section 45 of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*, this licence does not give the licence holder the right to prospect for any minerals except coal, on land vested in an Aboriginal Land Council or Local Land Council at the original date of grant of this licence.

Restrictions on the exercise of rights under this licence

It is the responsibility of the licence holder to apprise themselves of the restrictions on the exercise of rights under this licence that exist under NSW and Commonwealth legislation.

Exploration Area (Schedule 1)

The land to which this licence applies is set out at Schedule 1 of this licence.

Licence Conditions (Schedules 2 and 3)

This licence is subject to the conditions in Schedule 2 and Schedule 3. The licence holder must conduct prospecting operations in accordance with these conditions, as well as any conditions imposed by the *Mining Act 1992* and Mining Regulation 2016. In particular:

- The conditions set out in Schedule 2 are general conditions; and
- The conditions (if any) set out in Schedule 3 are additional conditions.

Contravention of licence conditions is an offence under the *Mining Act 1992*.

Further Approvals under this licence (Schedule 4)

The licence holder may need to obtain further approvals or Ministerial consent before carrying out prospecting operations on the land subject to this licence (see in particular the activity approval requirements for assessable prospecting operations section 23A of the *Mining Act 1992*, which requires an activity approval to be obtained prior to commencing any assessable prospecting operation).

Work Program (Schedule 5)

Condition 1 of Schedule 2 of this licence requires the licence holder to comply with the Work Program. The Work Program unique identifier is set out at Schedule 5 of this licence. The Work Program may be amended on application of the licence holder, with the approval of the Minister.

Licence History – from 20 October 2017

Identifier	Effective date	Reasons for update
15	20 October 2017	Renewal of EL6598 (Act 1992)
23	2 February 2023	Renewal of EL6598 (Act 1992)

DEFINITIONS

In this licence:

- (a) A reference to a Code or Guideline is a reference to that document as amended or replaced from time to time, and
- (b) Words have the meaning given to those terms in the *Mining Act 1992* unless otherwise defined below:

Change in effective control of the licence holder means any occurrence which results in any person, not being a related body corporate of the licence holder, newly being in one or more of the following positions:

- (a) having the capacity to appoint or control more than 50% of the number of directors of the licence-holder's board;
- (b) being entitled to exercise (directly or indirectly) more than 50% of the votes entitled to be cast at any general meeting of the licence-holder; or
- (c) holding more than 50% of the issued share capital (other than shares issued with no rights other than to receive a specified amount in distribution) of the licence-holder.

Environmental incident notifications and reports means any notifications and reports to be provided to relevant authorities under Part 5.7 or Part 5.7A of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*.

Foreign acquisition of substantial control in the licence holder means any occurrence which results in a foreign party, not being a related body corporate of the licence holder, newly being in one or more of the following positions:

- (a) having the capacity to appoint or control 20% or more of the number of directors of the licence-holder's board;
- (b) being entitled to exercise (directly or indirectly) 20% or more of the votes entitled to be cast at any general meeting of the licence-holder; or
- (c) holding interests in 20% or more of the issued share capital (other than shares issued with no rights other than to receive a specified amount in distribution) of the licence-holder.

National park, regional park, historic site, nature reserve, karst conservation reserve and Aboriginal area have the meaning given to those terms in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

Related Body Corporate has the same meaning given to that term in the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*.

Relevant authorities have the meaning given to that term in section 148 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*.

Work Program means the approved work program identified in Schedule 5 of this licence, as amended from time to time with the approval of the Minister.

EXPLORATION AREA

The exploration area comprises of an area of **3582.72 hectares** as shown on Plan No. **E2721-06**, and exclusive of any land:

- (a) vested in the Commonwealth of Australia; or
- (b) that was not subject to the licence immediately before this renewal.

Note: *This exclusion (b) may include land that, at the date this licence was initially granted, was:*

- *subject to an authority, or an application for an authority;*
- *subject to a residence area or business area referred to in clause 1, Part 1 of Schedule 11 of the Mining Regulation 2003;*
- *subject to any mining reserve constituted under section 367 of the Mining Act 1992 which prohibited the grant of new exploration licences;*
- *vested in the Commonwealth of Australia;*
- *located within a national park, regional park, historic site, nature reserve, karst conservation area or Aboriginal area established under the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 or other legislation.*

The boundaries of the exploration area are indicated on the following diagram.

DISCLAIMER

The boundaries of the exploration area in the diagram are indicative only, based on knowledge and understanding at the time this licence was granted. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date. No warranty about the accuracy, currency or completeness of any information in this diagram is inferred (including, without limitation, any information provided by third parties). While all reasonable care has been taken in the compilation of this diagram, to the extent permitted by law, Regional NSW excludes all liability for the accuracy or completeness of the information, or for any injury, loss, or damage whatsoever (including without limitation liability for negligence and consequential losses) suffered by any person acting, or purporting to act, in reliance upon anything contained herein. Users should rely upon their own advice, skills, interpretation and experience in applying the information in the diagram.

PLAN No. E2721-06







MINING, EXPLORATION & GEOSCIENCE

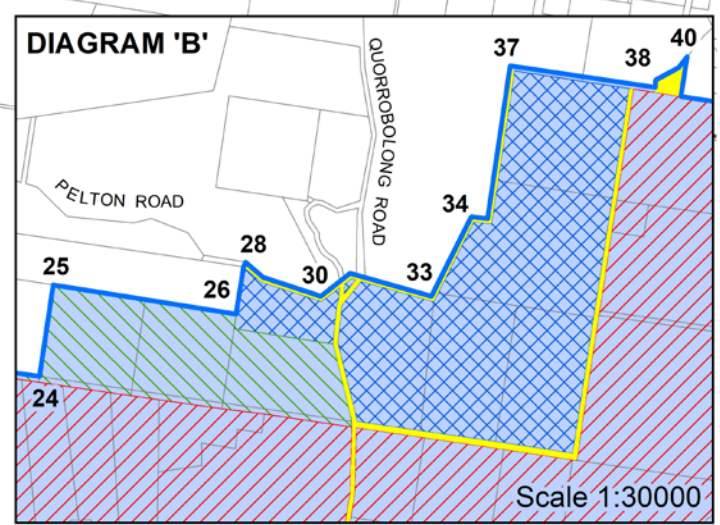
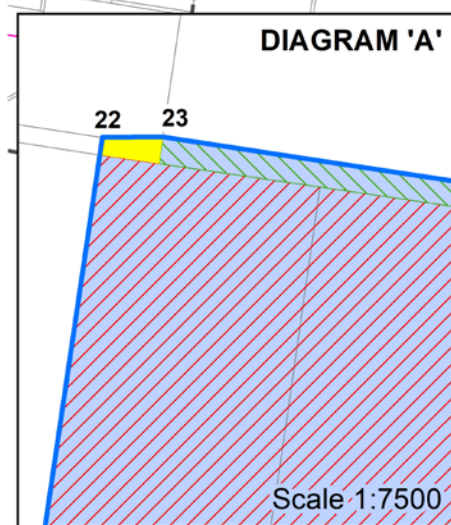
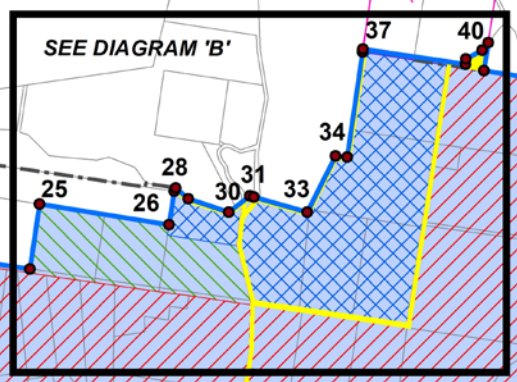
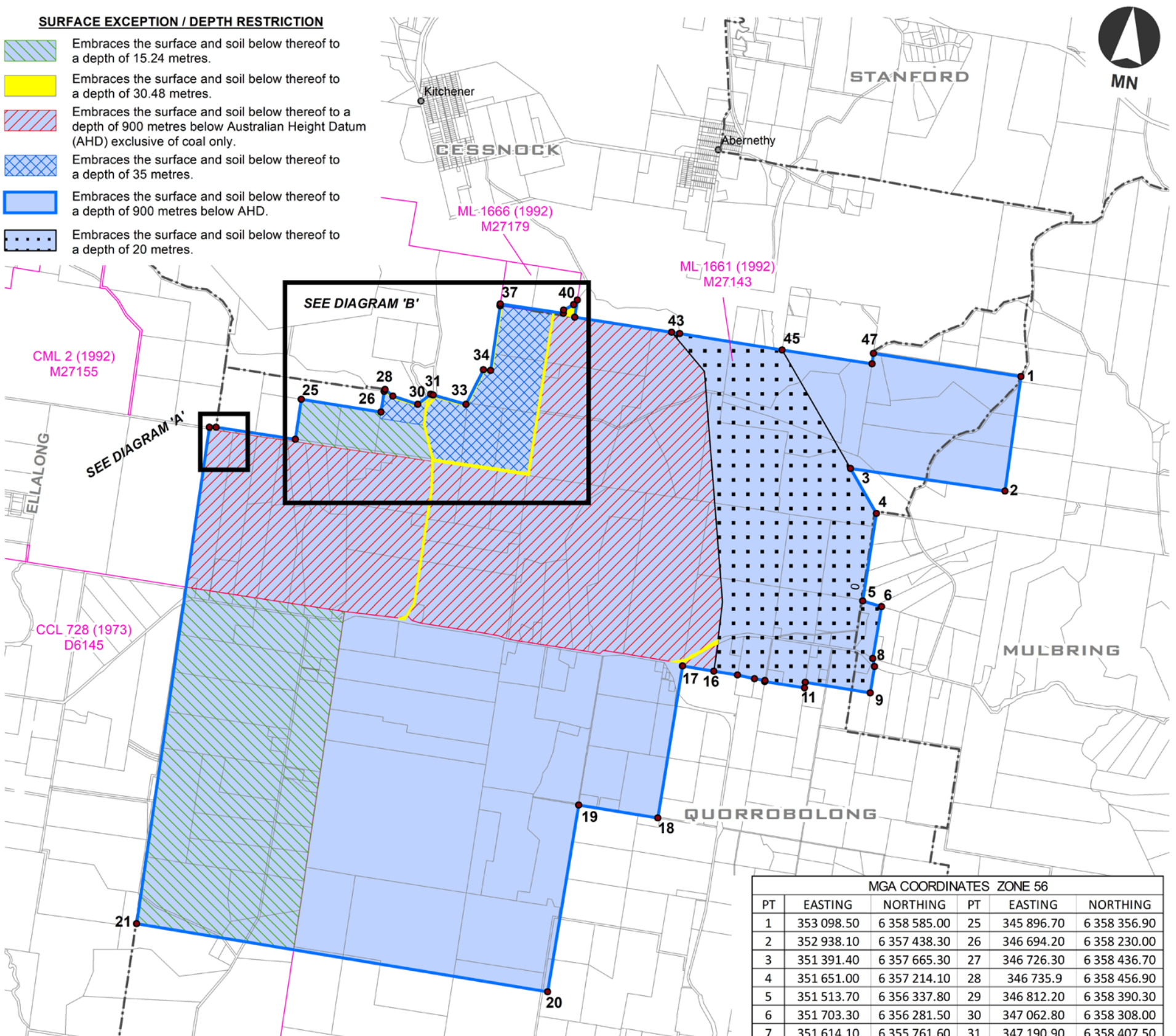
TMS - REN-2021-126

DIAGRAM OF EXPLORATION LICENCE No. 6598 (Act 1992) D23 RENEWAL (ELA No. 2721)
HOLDER: AUSTAR COAL MINE PTY LIMITED
PARISHES: QUORROBOLONG, CESSNOCK & MULBRING
COUNTIES: NORTHUMBERLAND
SCALE 1:40000

REF MAP: 9132-2-S

SUBJECT TO SURVEY

- SURFACE EXCEPTION / DEPTH RESTRICTION**
-  Embraces the surface and soil below thereof to a depth of 15.24 metres.
 -  Embraces the surface and soil below thereof to a depth of 30.48 metres.
 -  Embraces the surface and soil below thereof to a depth of 900 metres below Australian Height Datum (AHD) exclusive of coal only.
 -  Embraces the surface and soil below thereof to a depth of 35 metres.
 -  Embraces the surface and soil below thereof to a depth of 900 metres below AHD.
 -  Embraces the surface and soil below thereof to a depth of 20 metres.



MGA COORDINATES ZONE 56					
PT	EASTING	NORTHING	PT	EASTING	NORTHING
1	353 098.50	6 358 585.00	25	345 896.70	6 358 356.90
2	352 938.10	6 357 438.30	26	346 694.20	6 358 230.00
3	351 391.40	6 357 665.30	27	346 726.30	6 358 436.70
4	351 651.00	6 357 214.10	28	346 735.9	6 358 456.90
5	351 513.70	6 356 337.80	29	346 812.20	6 358 390.30
6	351 703.30	6 356 281.50	30	347 062.80	6 358 308.00
7	351 614.10	6 355 761.60	31	347 190.90	6 358 407.50
8	351 632.60	6 355 681.50	32	347 217.00	6 358 401.00
9	351 590.30	6 355 416.90	33	347 544.80	6 358 308.20
10	350 940.40	6 355 522.40	34	347 719.30	6 358 654.50
11	350 932.00	6 355 467.70	35	347 790.40	6 358 646.90
12	350 534.40	6 355 530.10	36	347 885.80	6 359 294.10
13	350 536.10	6 355 541.20	37	347 888.80	6 359 312.80
14	350 432.60	6 355 558.80	38	348 520.70	6 359 218.80
15	350 261.60	6 355 595.90	39	348 522.10	6 359 250.80
16	350 024.20	6 355 635.20	40	348 622.10	6 359 304.70
17	349 712.40	6 355 686.80	41	348 659.40	6 359 351.70
18	349 464.80	6 354 163.30	42	348 632.90	6 359 179.40
19	348 672.90	6 354 293.70	43	349 602.40	6 359 029.00
20	348 361.60	6 352 423.60	44	349 683.70	6 359 016.10
21	344 249.20	6 353 105.00	45	350 708.70	6 358 852.20
22	344 978.90	6 358 077.50	46	351 607.60	6 358 712.30
23	345 044.90	6 358 077.80	47	351 622.60	6 358 816.50
24	345 837.30	6 357 957.80			

UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR PROJECTION
 HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA84



AREA: abt. 3582.72ha

Prepared by: G.Barrett
 Date: 27-08-2021

DISCLAIMER: The compilation of information shown on this diagram is derived from plans and data, some of which has been produced and provided by third parties. Title boundaries have been adjusted to maintain their relationship with the digital cadastral database in some circumstances, thereby creating certain inaccuracies in the data. The Department and the State of New South Wales make no statement, representation or warranty that the titles information shown on this diagram is complete, accurate or free from error. Users rely on the titles information supplied on this diagram at their own risk. The Department and the State of New South Wales accepts no responsibility for any person, acting on, or relying on, or upon any of the titles information shown on this diagram, and disclaim all liability for any loss, damage, cost, expense or injury (including death) incurred or arising by reason of any person using or relying on the titles information contained on this diagram by reason or by any error, omission, defect or misstatement (whether such error, omission or misstatement is caused by or arises from negligence, lack of care or otherwise). Users should always verify historical material by making and relying upon their own separate inquiries prior to making any important decisions or taking any action on the basis of titles information.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Work Program

1. The licence holder must carry out the operations, and any other activities, described in the Work Program and comply with any commitments in relation to the conduct of operations specified in the Work Program, as for the time being in force, in respect of this licence.

Native Title

2. The licence holder must not prospect on any land or waters within the exploration area on which Native Title has not been extinguished under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* without the prior written consent of the Minister.

Community Consultation

3. The licence holder must carry out community consultation in relation to the planning and conduct of activities under this licence in accordance with the *Exploration Code of Practice: Community Consultation (March 2016)*.

Protection of the Environment

4. The licence holder must prevent, or if that is not reasonably practicable, minimise so far as is reasonably practicable, any harm to the environment arising from activities carried out under this licence.

Security

5. The licence holder must provide a security deposit to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations under this licence (including obligations that may arise in the future) as follows:

- (a) Amount: **\$50,000**
- (b) Licence holder's entitlement to interest: none.

Rehabilitation

6. The licence holder must carry out rehabilitation of all disturbance caused by activities carried out under this licence in accordance with the requirements in Part B of the *Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation (July 2015)* to the satisfaction of the Minister.

Environmental Incident Reporting

7. The licence holder must provide environmental incident notifications and reports to the Secretary no later than seven days after those notifications and reports are provided to relevant authorities under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*.

Annual Activity Reporting

8. Unless otherwise approved by the Secretary, the licence holder must submit annual activity reports prepared in accordance with the *Exploration Guideline: Annual Activity Reporting for Prospecting Titles (July 2015)* at the following times:

- (a) Annually, within one calendar month following the grant anniversary date of this licence;
- (b) On any other date or dates directed by the Secretary in writing; and
- (c) Within one calendar month following the cancellation or expiry of this licence.

Change in Control

9. If the licence holder is a corporation, the Secretary must be notified within 30 days of any:

- (a) Change in effective control of the licence holder; or
- (b) Foreign acquisition of substantial control in the licence holder.

Notification is not required where a change in effective control of the licence holder, or a foreign acquisition of substantial control of the licence holder, occurs as a result of the acquisition of shares or other securities on a registered stock exchange.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

Activity Approvals Issued Prior To 1 March 2016

10. Any prospecting operations the subject of an activity approval granted pursuant to this exploration licence before 1 March 2016 must, in addition to any requirements of that approval, be carried out in accordance with the following Codes of Practice:

- (a) Part B of the *Exploration Code of Practice: Environmental Management (July 2015)*
- (b) Part B of the *Exploration Code of Practice: Produced Water Management, Storage and Transfer (July 2015)*

and these codes prevail to the extent of any inconsistency with a requirement of such an activity approval.

FURTHER APPROVALS

Further approvals and consents may be granted after the commencement of this licence.

The licence holder is required to comply with all approvals and consents which have been granted after commencement of this licence.

WORK PROGRAM

In accordance with Condition 1 of this licence the approved Work Program is the document identified by the identification number:

WP-EL6598-2021-2024