

Item No	Assessment Requirement	Comment	Audit Classification	Response/Action	Due Date						
<i>Minister's Conditions of Approval PA 06_0308</i>											
3.10	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that the airblast overpressure level from blasting at the project does not exceed the criteria in Table 5 at any residence on privately-owned land. <i>Table 5: Airblast overpressure impact assessment criteria</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Airblast overpressure level (dB(Lin Peak))</th> <th>Allowable exceedance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>115</td> <td>5% of the total number of blasts in a 12 month period</td> </tr> <tr> <td>120</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Airblast overpressure level (dB(Lin Peak))	Allowable exceedance	115	5% of the total number of blasts in a 12 month period	120	0%	<p>Although no coal mining activities occurred during the audit period, four blast events were initiated between January and March 2014 for the purpose of extracting topsoil for management of areas susceptible to spontaneous combustion.</p> <p>Whitehaven issued an email to the DP&amp;I and NSW EPA on 26 February 2014 to advise of an exceedance in blast criteria at Sunnyside Mine. The blast event occurred in relation to works to manage an area of spontaneous combustion which required drill and blast to access suitable capping material. During the blast on 26 February, at 12:57pm, blast monitors recorded the exceedance of criteria at Innisvale and Plainview.</p> <p>The affected landowners were notified. No complaints were received from neighbouring landowners.</p>	NC	<p>A Blast Management Plan will be prepared and implemented in accordance with Schedule 3 Condition 17B</p>	<p>Prior to recommence ment of ROM coal mining operations.</p>
Airblast overpressure level (dB(Lin Peak))	Allowable exceedance										
115	5% of the total number of blasts in a 12 month period										
120	0%										
3.20	<p>During the project, the Proponent shall ensure there is a suitable continuously operating meteorological station on site that complies with the requirements in Approved Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales (DECC, 2007), or its latest version.</p>	<p>No meteorological station on site. Site relies on data from nearby WHC site.</p> <p>It is recommended that clarification is sought from the regulator with regard to the need for a meteorological station on</p>	NC	<p>WHC to seek DP&amp;E agreement that current EPL 12957 weather monitoring location (Gunnedah BOM Station) satisfies this condition.</p>	<p>31<sup>st</sup> March 2017</p>						

site during the care and maintenance phase, or any future operational phase of the project.

3.23

The Site Water Balance must:

- (a) include details of: sources and security of water supply; water use on site; water management on site; off-site water transfers; reporting procedures;
- (b) describe measures to minimise water use by the project; and
- (c) be reviewed and recalculated each year using the most recent water monitoring data.

- (a) Water transfers are not addressed in the WMP. No water has been transferred from the site to the No. 5 underground workings during the audit period.
- (b) Section 2.4 of WMP  
Section 2.4.1 of WMP - Review prior to recommencement of mining.

O

3.26

The Groundwater Monitoring Program must include:

- (a) further development of the regional and local groundwater model;
- (b) detailed baseline data to benchmark the natural variation in groundwater levels, yield and quality (including at any privately owned bores in the vicinity of the site); (c) groundwater impact assessment criteria;
- (d) a program to monitor the impact of the project on groundwater levels, yield and quality; and
- (e) procedures for reporting the results of this monitoring.

- (a) Section 5.3 of WMP. A Post Mining Groundwater Assessment for Mine Modification, Geo Terra (25 February 2015 Ref. SUN4-R1A) was commissioned to summarise previous 2008 groundwater assessments and review all data collected since 2008. The report concludes that data collected since 2008 supports predictions of limited change in groundwater levels and no impact to private bores.
- (b) Section 5.3 of WMP
- (c) Section 5.3 of the WMP - Groundwater Chemistry provides baseline

ANC

Water Management Plan to be updated in accordance with Schedule 5 Condition 5.

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017

	<p>groundwater data with values compared up ANZECC 2000 default trigger values for upland rivers in one instance and 95% trigger values for toxicants in another. Section 5.5.2 of the WMP refers to assessment of data being provided in AEMR. The AEMR assesses groundwater data against criteria for stock watering. Impact assessment criteria are not clearly defined in the WMP.</p> <p>(d) Section 5.5 of the WMP  (e) Section 5.5.2 of the WMP addresses reporting to CCC and AEMR.</p> <p>Clearly define groundwater impact assessment criteria and update WMP.</p>			
3.27	<p>The Groundwater Contingency Plan must:</p> <p>(a) provide measures to mitigate any impacts of the mine on the quality or quantity of groundwater supplies available on privately-owned land;</p> <p>(b) establish trigger levels, benchmarks and contingency criteria; and</p> <p>(c) provide for negotiated agreements with affected landowners,</p>	<p>(a) Section 6.2 of WMP  (b) Section 6.2 discussed exceedance of trigger values and responses, however trigger values are not clearly defined in the WMP.  (c) Section 6.3 of WMP</p>	ANC	<p>Water Management Plan to be updated in accordance with Schedule 5 Condition 5.</p> <p>22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017</p>

<p>including compensation where mining impacts result in increased extraction costs for landowners.</p> <p>3.28 The Proponent shall implement the koala habitat management and enhancement actions described in the EA (shown conceptually in Figure 6 in Appendix 4) in consultation with the OEH and to the satisfaction of the Secretary <i>Note: Conditions 29 - 31 must be read in conjunction with Section 17 of the Statement of Commitments.</i></p>	<p>Apparent typographical error in condition. Figure 5 in Koala Management Plan was treated as this figure. Site visit confirmed onsite actions are partially in compliance with figure.</p> <p>Evidence of satisfaction of the Secretary predates the scope of this audit.</p> <p>Modification EA (s4.5) (2015) states that a Koala Management Plan has been developed (consistent with this condition 28) and would continue to be implemented.</p> <p>Previous IEA identified damaged or missing sections of the southern koala fence. The fence was observed during the site visit to be in good condition.</p> <p>(d) Koala habitat corridor enhancement planting was observed experiencing good tree growth of Koala feed tree species listed in SEPP 44 White Box (<i>Eucalyptus albens</i>) and Bimble Box and the secondary feed tree species listed in the Western Slopes</p>	<p>NC</p> <p>Undertake additional tree plantings to fill identified gaps in Koala corridor. 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017</p>

and Plains Koala Management Area Yellow Box (*E. melliodora*) Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*). Connectivity is good where Coccooboonah Lane meets the western mine boundary Koala corridor although an approximate 30m gap exists between the eastern corridor and the Coccooboonah Lane Koala habitat (note this is not able to be closed further due to neighbouring land owner). Connectivity between the southern end of the eastern boundary Koala corridor and the bushland to the south is absent and should be improved.

3.37	Within 6 months of this approval the Proponent shall enter into an agreement with Council for the maintenance of the section of the Oxley Highway between Coccooboonah Lane and Blackjack Road.	The Road Maintenance Agreement was established outside of the required 6 month timeframe, however this is outside the current audit period.	O	
3.40	The Proponent shall minimise the visual impacts of the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary	The Auditor was informed that the Department has not been contacted to seek approval of for this condition. Although the site is non-operational and there have been no complaints regarding visual impact, this is	ANC	Seek DP&E satisfaction of condition. 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017

considered and administrative non-compliance.

5.2

The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Environmental Monitoring Program for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This program must be submitted to the Secretary within 6 months of this approval and consolidate the various monitoring requirements in schedule 3 of this approval into a single document.

The current version of the EMP, prepared 19 November 2013. EMP indicates the program has been approved by the Director General of the DP&I, however the most recent approval for the EMP is dated 10 October 2011...  
The program consolidates the monitoring commitments made in the various management plans / monitoring programs.

NC

Revised EMP to be submitted in accordance with Schedule 5 Condition 5. 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017

5.5A

Within 3 months of the submission of an:  
(a) AEMR under condition 5 of schedule 5 above;  
(b) incident report under condition 4 of schedule 5 above;  
(c) audit under condition 6 below; or  
(d) any modification to the conditions of this approval, the proponent shall review, and if necessary revise, the strategies, plans and programmes required under this approval to the satisfaction of the Secretary. Where this review leads to revision of any plan then within four weeks of the review the revised document must be submitted to the Secretary and any other relevant agency for approval.

Whitehaven does not maintain a system for tracking updates to AMER, IEAs or modifications to approvals and therefore has limited ability to track the need to update or revise documents. Develop document and record tracking system to track revisions and to ensure the condition is met.

ANC

Develop document and record tracking system. 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017

7.5	Direct all water from wash-down areas and workshops, except some mobile equipment to oil / water separators and containment systems	<p>One of the two on-site workshops (the contractor workshop) is not connected to the water collection and oil separation system. These workshops have not been in use during the audit period.</p> <p>Ensure that the potentially contaminated wash down water can be collected and treated from all workshop areas if operational in future.</p>	O	Ensure that the potentially contaminated wash down water can be collected and treated from all workshop areas if operational in future.	Prior to recommencement of mining operations.
7.7	Construct two turkey's nest dams for the storage of any surplus open cut pit inflows (rather than direct placement into underground workings).	<p>Only one dam has been constructed to date. The auditor was advised that up until the time of moving to care and maintenance, and during this recent non-operational period there has not been a need for the second dam. This situation may however change should the mine be brought back into operation, thus requiring dewatering of the mine void.</p> <p>Review the need for a second dam for operational purposes and construct as may be required.</p>	ANC	Review the need for a second dam for operational purposes and construct as may be required.	Prior to recommencement of mining operations.

9.3	Erect a Koala-proof fence around the active mine area	<p>Koala proof fencing observed separating the mine pit and the woodland to the south. Fence of cyclone wire to 1.5m tall with metal sheeting on the outside top 40cm of the fence. Fence appeared in good condition.</p> <p>No fencing separates the Koala habitat corridors which run along the western and eastern boundaries of the site from the mine pit.</p> <p>When active mining recommences a koala proof fence should separate active mine and koala habitats (including corridors for connectivity to reflect requirements of the EA.</p>	○	When active mining recommences a review of the existing Koala proof fence to confirm alignment with requirements of the EA.
9.4	Restrict speeds of all vehicles on the Project	<p>Minesite in care and maintenance with very few vehicles. Operational vehicular traffic ceased prior to the scope of this audit. Although noted that the condition applies to the entire mine life.</p> <p>No evidence of speed restrictions in place, Whitehaven general site rules restrict speed to 60km/h.</p>	○	Opportunity to rectify in future with minimal impacts due to being in care and maintenance. Incorporate speed requirement into site specific induction prior to recommencement of mining operations.

---

Opportunity to rectify in future with minimal impacts due to being in care and maintenance.

---

9.11

Control noxious weeds at all times.

Declared noxious weeds observed onsite included Prickly Pear (*Opuntia stricta* var. *stricta*) and Patterson's Curse (*Echium plantagineum*). It was noted that the only Prickly Pear observed onsite was two individuals in the south eastern corner of the site which were both senescent.

Generally weed control is ad-hoc with no monitoring data collection providing triggers for management actions. Programs exist for weed monitoring and they are not being implemented.

Weeds are controlled, as reported by the AEMR / AR, in a manner triggered by monthly inspections. Sampled monthly inspection forms that would have triggered reported weed treatment in August and October 2015 contain no weed management actions being required.

Weed control is not being recorded to the level of detail

NC

Generally weed control is ad-hoc with no monitoring data collection providing triggers for management actions. Programs exist for weed monitoring and they are not being implemented.

Weeds are controlled, as reported by the AEMR, in a manner triggered by monthly inspections. Sampled monthly inspection forms that would have triggered reported weed treatment in August and October 2015 contain no weed management actions being required.

Weed control is not being recorded to the level of detail described in the Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan.

No evidence of weed monitoring activities being

Incorporate on site weed monitoring and control into WHC group programs.

31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

---

	<p>described in the Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan.</p> <p>No evidence of weed monitoring activities being undertaken as listed in Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- vegetation cover transects in rehabilitation areas;</li> <li>- weed control species and control actions by treatment personnel; and</li> <li>- bi-annual ML-wide weed surveys.</li> </ul> <p>Field observations identified an abundance of locally common weed species across the site. Two individuals of the noxious weed Prickly Pear were observed in the field in senescence.</p>		<p>undertaken as listed in Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- vegetation cover transects in rehabilitation areas;</li> <li>- weed control species and control actions by treatment personnel; and</li> <li>- bi-annual ML-wide weed surveys.</li> </ul> <p>Field observations identified an abundance of locally common weed species across the site. Two individuals of the noxious weed Prickly Pear were observed in the field in senescence.</p>
<p>9.12</p> <p>Adopt a strategy to rehabilitate specific areas of the Project Site to native vegetation, create and / or improve habitat corridors on and adjacent to the Project Site, and protect areas of native vegetation from agricultural activities on NMPL land external to the Project Site.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan (EcoLogical 2011) satisfies this requirement for a plan to be adopted. Table 5 identifies the rehabilitation actions as being to revegetate in accordance with the Koala Management Plan and contains</p>	<p>NC</p>	<p>Corridors will require enhancement plantings to improve connectivity linkages especially the eastern boundary corridor.</p> <p>Future work towards mine closure and relinquishment will require significant</p> <p>30<sup>th</sup> June 2017</p> <p>As per Mining Operations Plan</p>

---

the completion criteria for native woodland areas which is to achieve 18.8ha of koala habitat corridor.

Koala Management Plan (KMA 2007) satisfies this requirement for a plan to be adopted

MOP (Care and Maintenance) Plans 2 (2016) and 4 (final) demonstrate rehabilitation plans.

Site visit identified MOP (Care and Maintenance) Plan 2 (2016) identified site conditions reflected the plan, with the exception of 2009-2010 woodland rehabilitation which has largely failed. Koala habitat corridors along the western and eastern boundaries are in place and exhibiting good tree growth. In general all native woodland rehabilitation and koala enhancement woodland has poor non-tree native species and very high weed species presence. Weed species in the non-tree layer should not impact the utility of the areas to the koala, however species composition is currently inconsistent with MOP (Care and Maintenance)

renewed rehabilitation efforts to improve the currently poor native non-tree species presence (e.g. ground and shrub layers).

---

---

rehabilitation objectives described in Table 6 (although acknowledged that these are final landuse goals and the mine is not yet at closure planning or relinquishment. It is noted now as these areas would require renewed rehabilitation effort to achieve the relinquishment condition.

Habitat linkages observed along western and eastern minesite boundaries for Koala habitat enhancement experiencing good tree growth although linkage missing between eastern corridor and Coccooboonah Lane (approximately 30m gap). The eastern Koala enhancement corridor does not currently connect to the woodland south of mine area as shown in MOP (Care and Maintenance) Plan 2.

Corridors will require enhancement plantings to improve connectivity linkages especially the eastern boundary corridor.

Future work towards mine closure and relinquishment will require significant renewed

---

rehabilitation efforts to improve the currently poor native non-tree species presence (e.g. ground and shrub layers).

9.13

Maintain, expand and / or create several Koala habitat corridors to promote the linkage of remnant vegetation in the local area.

Koala habitat corridors along the western and eastern boundaries are in place and exhibiting good tree growth.

Good tree growth observed along western and eastern minesite boundaries providing habitat linkages for koalas. However the linkage is missing between the eastern corridor and Coccooboonah Lane (approximately 30m gap). The eastern Koala enhancement corridor does not currently connect to the woodland south of mine area as shown in MOP (Care and Maintenance) Plan 2.

Corridors will require enhancement plantings to improve connectivity linkages especially the eastern boundary corridor.

NC

Corridors will require enhancement plantings to improve connectivity linkages especially the eastern boundary corridor. 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017

---

9.15	Carry out, where possible, tree removal, especially the mature trees in late spring and early autumn to avoid spring nesting birds and over-wintering bats.	<p>No clearing has occurred during the period covered by this audit scope.</p> <p>No Flora and Fauna Management Procedures (FFMP) was provided during the audit, although this requirement would only be triggered by clearing, of which there was none during the audit period. A suggested improvement is to incorporate this condition into any future FFMP should mining minesite be recommenced.</p>	NT / O	<p>No Flora and Fauna Management Procedures (FFMP) was provided during the audit, although this requirement would only be triggered by clearing, of which there was none during the audit period. A suggested improvement is to incorporate this condition into any future FFMP should mining minesite be recommenced.</p>	N/A
------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

---

9.16	Undertake inspections of mature trees for nesting birds and roosting bats prior to each clearing campaign where mature tree with hollows are to be removed.	<p>No clearing has occurred during the period covered by this audit scope.</p> <p>No Flora and Fauna Management Procedures (FFMP) was provided during the audit, although this requirement would only be triggered by clearing, of which there was none during the</p>	NT / O	<p>No Flora and Fauna Management Procedures (FFMP) was provided during the audit, although this requirement would only be triggered by clearing, of which there was none during the audit period. A suggested improvement is to</p>	N/A
------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

---

		audit period. A suggested improvement is to incorporate this condition into any future FFMP should mining minesite be recommended.		incorporate this condition into any future FFMP should mining minesite be recommended.
9.17	Relocate any nesting and roosting hollows, as well as nests, used by listed threatened species to appropriate locations nearby.	<p>No clearing has occurred during the period covered by this audit scope.</p> <p>No Flora and Fauna Management Procedures (FFMP) was provided during the audit, although this requirement would only be triggered by clearing, of which there was none during the audit period. A suggested improvement is to incorporate this condition into any future FFMP should mining minesite be recommended.</p>	NT / O	<p>No Flora and Fauna Management Procedures (FFMP) was provided during the audit, although this requirement would only be triggered by clearing, of which there was none during the audit period. A suggested improvement is to incorporate this condition into any future FFMP should mining minesite be recommended.</p> <p>N/A</p>
9.18	Bury all stumps, branches and tree trunks from felled timber within the overburden emplacements.	<p>No clearing has occurred during the period covered by this audit scope.</p> <p>No Flora and Fauna Management Procedures (FFMP) was provided during the audit, although this requirement would only be triggered by clearing, of which there was none during the audit period. A suggested improvement is to incorporate</p>	NT / O	<p>No Flora and Fauna Management Procedures (FFMP) was provided during the audit, although this requirement would only be triggered by clearing, of which there was none during the audit period. A suggested improvement is to incorporate this condition</p> <p>N/A</p>

		<p>this condition into any future FFMP should mining minesite be recommenced.</p>		<p>into any future FFMP should mining minesite be recommenced.</p>
9.19	<p>Commence post-mining rehabilitation of the Box Cut area as soon as possible. Re-establish the connectivity of habitat corridor along Coochooboonah Lane. Commence post-mining establishment of the Koala habitat corridors between Coochooboonah Lane and the remnant woodlands south of the Project Site as soon as practicable to re-establish and enhance the connectivity of local Koala habitat corridors.</p>	<p>Koala habitat corridors along the western and eastern boundaries are in place and exhibiting good tree growth.</p> <p>Good tree growth observed along western and eastern minesite boundaries providing habitat linkages for koalas. However the linkage is missing between the eastern corridor and Coochooboonah Lane (approximately 30m gap). The eastern Koala enhancement corridor does not currently connect to the woodland south of mine area as shown in MOP (Care and Maintenance) Plan 2.</p> <p>Corridors will require enhancement plantings to improve connectivity linkages especially the eastern boundary corridor.</p>	NC	<p>Corridors will require enhancement plantings to improve connectivity linkages especially the eastern boundary corridor.</p> <p>30<sup>th</sup> June 2017</p>
9.20	<p>Include a vertebrate pest control program as part of the mining operation and management plan.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan describes pest management in these sections:</p>	NC	<p>Activities described in the Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan were not undertaken in the 2013/2014 or</p> <p>31<sup>st</sup> March 2017</p>

---

6.7.2 describes feral species control measures as being baiting for the two identified declared pests (Wild Dog and Rabbit) and warren destruction for the rabbit.

Note that the Feral Pig was not considered in the strategy as may not have been identified onsite prior.

7.7 describes feral pest completion criteria as being control undertaken in accordance with the LHPA officer.

8.4.2 describes recording requirements for feral pest control efforts including bait emplacement and take rates, and rabbit warren destruction activities. The latter should be followed by monitoring rabbit and warren activity.

Selection of monthly inspection forms (June through to November 2015, February and July 2016) sighted and contains rudimentary section for feral species observations.

AEMR 2013/2014 s3.18 states that due to the low frequency of

2014/2015 AEMR periods because of low feral species prevalence. Pig trapping is ongoing.

---

feral animals that no targeted baiting programs are undertaken beyond monthly monitoring. The section reports that Feral Pig trapping has occurred since mid-2013 with nine pigs captured (although does state the fate of the animals).

AEMR 2014/2015 s6.2.4 states that due to the low frequency of feral animals that no targeted management programs are undertaken beyond monthly monitoring.

No evidence was provided to justify the alteration in vertebrate pest management as outlined in the Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan to the current practice.

Site visit observed Feral Pigs on minesite and one trap which could be set for pigs.

Activities described in the Rehabilitation and Landscape Management Plan were not undertaken in the 2013/2014 or 2014/2015 AEMR periods because of low feral species

---

---

prevalence. Pig trapping is ongoing.

10.3

Direct all water from wash-down areas and workshops to oil/water separators and containment systems.

The "igloo" contractor workshop washdown area does not report to the oil/water separators and containment systems. This workshop is not currently in use.

Ensure that the potentially contaminated wash down water can be collected and treated from all workshop areas if operational in future.

○

Ensure that the potentially contaminated wash down water can be collected and treated from all workshop areas if operational in future.

Prior to recommence ment of mining operations.

10.7

Add flocculants to dirty water within the sediment basins, if required, to expedite the settlement process.

The auditor was advised that flocculent has been used to settle out sediments prior to transfer of water to the down hydraulic gradient sediment Dams 3 and 4. It is noted that the latter were empty at the time of the audit inspection.

○

10.10A

Minimisation of erosion and sedimentation.

The auditor observed on section of the overburden emplacement whereby rehabilitation was not fully established and some shallow gully erosion was occurring. Overall the remainder

○

It is recommended that the area with gully erosion be rectified and stabilised to prevent further erosion.

Rectification and stabilisation works were completed 30/11/2016.

---

		<p>of the site was well established with stabilising vegetation.</p> <p>It is recommended that the area with gully erosion be rectified and stabilised to prevent further erosion.</p>		
11.1	<p>Fence off all land which is not to be disturbed to encourage natural regeneration.</p>	<p>No fencing was observed separating the mine site operational areas from the regeneration areas (those relevant being the wildlife corridors along the eastern, northern and western boundaries of the site.</p> <p>Identify areas suitable for fencing to encourage natural regeneration in those boundary corridors as stated.</p>	O	<p>Identify areas suitable for fencing to encourage natural regeneration in those boundary corridors as stated.</p> <p>30<sup>th</sup> June 2017</p>
11.29	<p>Undertake an air quality monitoring program to demonstrate compliance with the nominated goals specified in the Environment Protection Licence.</p> <p>Deposited dust at selected residences and strategic locations surrounding the Project Site.</p> <p>Continuous wind speed and direction at the Project Site weather station.</p> <p>PM10 dust at a residence six day cycle.</p>	<p>The monitoring program in place reflects the intent of the condition, with the exception of the requirement to monitor wind speed and direction at the site. Whitehaven to seek confirmation that this condition can be satisfied with weather monitoring from the Gunnedah CHPP.</p>	ANC	<p>WHC to seek DP&amp;E agreement that current EPL 12957 weather monitoring location (Gunnedah BOM Station) satisfies this condition.</p> <p>31<sup>st</sup> March 2017</p>

11.34	Install and maintain an automatic weather station within the Project Site.	There is no functioning weather station on site. Whitehaven to seek confirmation that this condition can be satisfied with weather monitoring from the Gunnedah CHPP.	NC	WHC to seek DP&E agreement that current EPL 12957 weather monitoring location (Gunnedah BOM Station) satisfies this condition.	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017
14.3	Strip further subsoil to bedrock and segregate each SMU	Soil segregation not observable in the field due to pasture vegetation growth on stockpiles.  End of month survey plan from the period when site mining activities last occurred has topsoil areas labelled.  No evidence of SMU segregation aside from topsoil emplacement.	NC	No evidence of SMU segregation aside from topsoil emplacement.	Review currently stockpiled material prior to recommencement of mining activity.
14.4	Place higher alkalinity soils over the surface of the overburden emplacement to provide neutralising capacity in the event pockets of acid forming rock are encountered	Higher alkalinity soils emplacement not observable.  No evidence available to confirm if triggered.  Anecdotal evidence that acid forming rock is known or that there is some capacity or ability to detect when this becomes a problem.  Recommended that soil pH is recorded during soil management and emplacement.	O	Recommended that soil pH is recorded during soil management and emplacement.	As required.

14.5	<p>Install erosion protection around stockpiles of this material with direct transfer from source to sink commenced as soon as practicable</p>	<p>No transfer from source to sink observable. South eastern corner stockpile protected by contour bank and dense pasture and weedy vegetation growth.</p> <p>No observation of recent stockpile emplacement to inspect sediment fencing or drainage controls.</p> <p>If mining is recommenced in future, recommendation for sediment fencing around bare stockpiles.</p>	O	<p>If mining is recommenced in future, recommendation for sediment fencing around bare stockpiles.</p>	<p>As required upon recommencement of mining operations.</p>
14.6	<p>Topsoil stockpiles not exceed 2m in height and where practicable, be maintained as windrows in preference to larger structures</p>	<p>Labelled topsoil stockpiles on the end of month survey plan from 2012 (last time soils were moved) show soil stockpiles at 4m or greater above surrounding ground level. Confirmed by field observation.</p> <p>Topsoil stockpiles exceed committed height.</p>	NC	<p>Topsoil stockpiles exceed committed height.</p>	<p>Review currently stockpiled material prior to recommencement of mining activity.</p>
14.8	<p>Subsoil stockpiles to generally not exceed 3m in height and typically be placed in larger stockpiles than the topsoil</p>	<p>No subsoil stockpiles observable on the only available plan. Soil segregation in stockpiling unclear.</p>	O	<p>Soil stockpile segregation should be improved.</p>	<p>Soil resource audit to be undertaken prior to commencement of final</p>

				rehabilitation activities.
14.12	<p>Monitor erosion from soil stockpiles or rehabilitated surfaces throughout the life of the Project with remedial works undertaken should erosion be observed.</p>	<p>Selection of monthly inspection forms (June through to November 2015, February and July 2016) sighted and contains rudimentary section for erosion observations. Periodic noting of erosion presence however not accompanied by recommended actions, nor does it report on erosion control actions performance.</p> <p>AEMR 2013/2014 s5.2.10 reported minor erosion presence on the western area of soil cover on the overburden emplacement. The report stated control actions being seeding of a cover crop and installation of contour banks. Cover crop was observed during the site visit however no contour banks were observed.</p> <p>AEMR 2014/2015 made no mention of erosion or follow up of the above proposed actions beyond that erosion monitoring would be ongoing.</p> <p>Site visit identified areas of erosion rilling down slope</p>	<p>○ Monitoring is occurring on a monthly basis (with some months in which no inspections apparent). Unidentifiable consequence of erosion risks identified (e.g. recommended control measures or later inspection of erosion control measures undertaken).</p> <p>AEMR 2013/2014 contains recommendations to control some erosion areas on the western side of the overburden emplacement however no follow up reporting is detailed in the AEMR 2014/2015.</p>	<p>Review monthly inspection procedure to include follow up actions.</p> <p>March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017</p>

		observed in area of soil shaping and emplacement on western side of overburden emplacement.			
17.5	Rehabilitate out-of-pit emplacement with agricultural pasture species and incorporate random tree plantings	<p>Site visit observed out-of-pit emplacement rehabilitated with pasture species common to the pastures of the region (listed above). No random tree planting in pasture areas.</p> <p>Tree planting not random in 2010-2011 rehabilitation, rather species listed in rehabilitated areas above planted at regular spacing along cross-slope channels (approximately 5m apart) in regularly spaced parallel cross-slope rows (approximately 5m apart).</p> <p>General failure of 2009-2010 rehabilitation has resulted in a more random tree distribution but has created a sparse tree layer.</p>	NC	Future tree planting should be done with a more random planting.	Incorporate into final revegetation works.
<i>EPL 12957</i>					
L4.4	To determine compliance: a) with the Leq(15 minute) noise limits in the Noise Limits table, the noise measurement equipment must be located:	The Noise Monitoring Program stipulates these criteria however no noise monitoring was completed during the audit	ANC	WHC to inform EPA of correspondence with DP&I.	Variation to EPL 12957 to remove noise monitoring requirements

	<p>i) approximately on the property boundary, where any dwelling is situated 30 metres or less from the property boundary closest to the premises; or</p> <p>ii) within 30 metres of a dwelling façade, but not closer than 3m, where any dwelling on the property is situated more than 30 metres from the property boundary closest to the premises; or, where applicable</p> <p>iii) within approximately 50 metres of the boundary of a National Park or a Nature Reserve.</p> <p>b) with the LA1(1 minute) noise limits in the Noise Limits table, the noise measurement equipment must be located within 1 metre of a dwelling façade.</p> <p>c) with the noise limits in the Noise Limits table, the noise measurement equipment must be located:</p> <p>i) at the most affected point at a location where there is no dwelling at the location; or</p> <p>ii) at the most affected point within an area at a location prescribed by part (a) or part (b) of this condition.</p>	<p>period. Although DP&amp;I approved the cessation of quarterly noise monitoring while the site is in care and maintenance (16 January 2013) this agreement was not reflected in the EPL updated in July 2015. WHC submitted a licence variation application in February 2016 requesting removal of noise monitoring requirements. The variation was approved and EPL reissued 1 November 2016 however this is not updated on the WHC website.</p>			<p>was submitted to EPA during the audit period.</p>
L5.1	<p>The airblast overpressure level from blasting operations at the premises must not exceed 115dB (Lin Peak) at any noise sensitive locations for more than five per</p>	<p>Although no coal mining activities occurred during the audit period, four blast events were initiated between January</p>	NC	<p>A Blast Management Plan will be prepared and implemented in accordance with Schedule 3 Condition 17B</p>	<p>Prior to recommencement of ROM coal mining operations.</p>

	<p>cent of the total number of blasts over each reporting period. Error margins associated with any monitoring equipment used to measure this are not to be taken into account in determining whether or not the limit has been exceeded</p>	<p>and March 2014 for the purpose of extracting topsoil for management of areas susceptible to spontaneous combustion.</p> <p>Whitehaven issued an email to the DP&amp;I and NSW EPA on 26 February 2014 to advise of an exceedance in blast criteria at Sunnyside Mine. The blast event occurred in relation to works to manage an area of spontaneous combustion which required drill and blast to access suitable capping material. During the blast on 26 February, at 12:57pm, blast monitors recorded the exceedance of criteria at Innisvale and Plainview.</p> <p>The affected landowners were notified. No complaints were received from neighbouring landowners.</p>		
L5.2	<p>The airblast overpressure level from blasting operations at the premises must not exceed 120dB (Lin Peak) at any time at any noise sensitive locations. Error margins associated with any monitoring equipment used to measure this are not to be taken into account in determining whether or not the limit has been exceeded.</p>	Refer L5.1	NC	<p>A Blast Management Plan will be prepared and implemented in accordance with Schedule 3 Condition 17B</p> <p>Prior to recommence ment of ROM coal mining operations.</p>

R2.1	<p>Notifications must be made by telephoning the Environment Line service on 131 555.</p>	<p>One incident of environmental harm occurred during the audit period and this relates to the blast overpressure exceedance. Whitehaven emailed NSW EPA and DP&amp;I on the day of the incident but no record of receipt or telephone communication was able to be provided.</p> <p>Ensure records of decision process for determination of environmental harm are kept when determining the requirement to notify. If the notification is required maintain records of receipt or telephone communications are recorded and maintained in relation to incident notifications.</p>	ANC	<p>Ensure decision making process, records of receipt or telephone communications are recorded and maintained in relation to incident notifications.</p>	<p>Maintain records. Ongoing.</p>
R4.4	<p>A noise compliance assessment report must be submitted to the EPA within thirty (30) days of the completion of the quarterly noise monitoring. The assessment must be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced acoustical consultant and include:</p> <p>a) an assessment of compliance with noise limits detailed in the limit conditions of this licence; and</p> <p>b) an outline of any management actions taken within the monitoring period to</p>	<p>A letter from DP&amp;E, dated 16 January 2013 approves the cessation of quarterly noise monitoring while the site is in care and maintenance. As such a noise compliance assessment report has not been issued during the reporting period.</p> <p>Confirm with EPA that requirement for reporting noise monitoring is superseded to align with cessation of quarterly</p>	NC	<p>Confirm with EPA that requirement for reporting noise monitoring is superseded to align with cessation of quarterly monitoring.</p>	<p>Variation to EPL 12957 to remove noise monitoring requirements was submitted to EPA during the audit period.</p>

---

address any exceedence of the limits monitoring. WHC requested detailed in the limit conditions of this removal of condition in October licence. 2016.

---

---

Mining Lease 1624

---

15. b

Blast Overpressure

The lease holder must ensure that the blast overpressure noise level generated by any blasting within the lease area does not exceed 120 dB (linear) and does not exceed 115 dB (linear) in more than 5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months, at any dwelling or occupied premises, as the case may be, unless determined otherwise by the Department of Environment and Climate Change.

Refer PA 06\_0308 Schedule 3 Condition 10

NC

A Blast Management Plan will be prepared and implemented in accordance with Schedule 3 Condition 17B

Prior to recommence ment of ROM coal mining operations.

---