

ROCGLLEN Community Newsletter

Issue 4, January 2012



Rocglen Coal Mine Extension Project Environmental Assessment Update

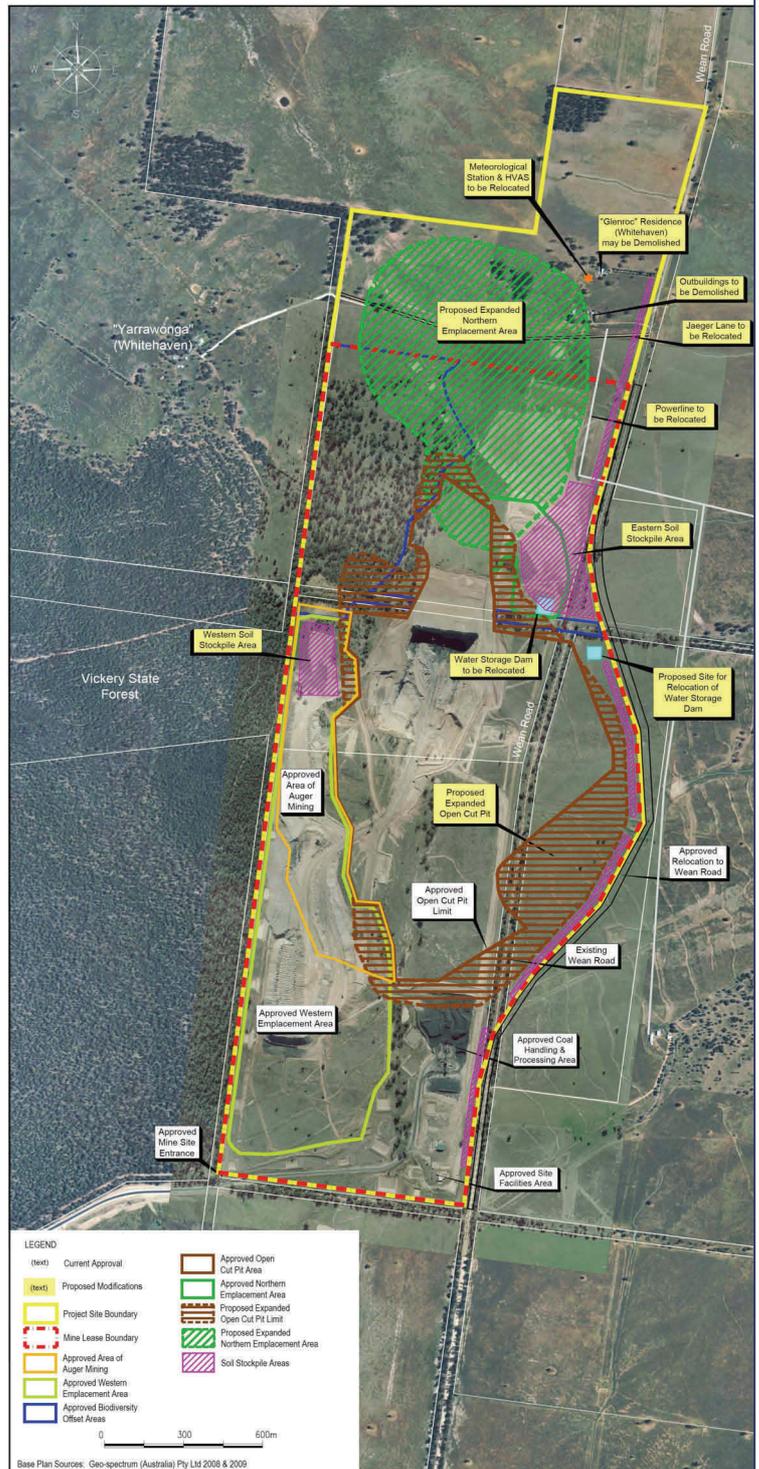
This is the fourth newsletter issued for the Rocglen Coal Mine Extension Project since Environmental Assessment (EA) works commenced approximately two years ago. Previous newsletters provided updates on key aspects of the Environmental Assessment including details of the proposed project, the approval process, consultation, specialist consultant studies and exhibition of the EA.

On 27 September 2011, Project Approval PA 10_0015 was issued by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure for the Extension Project. The plan to the right shows the approved project layout which generally comprises expanded open cut and waste emplacement areas, relocation of some services and changes to water management.

Subsequent approvals that have been issued for the Extension Project include a Mining Purposes Lease (for the extension to the Northern Emplacement Area) and approval under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Biodiversity offset requirements will be addressed by Whitehaven's Regional Biobank Area, which is located to the east of the mine. Upgrades to water management onsite have commenced and the expansion of the Northern Emplacement Area has allowed rehabilitation of the Western Emplacement Area to progress.

The new consent requires currently approved environmental management plans to be updated to incorporate the changes associated with the extension. Most of the plans were submitted to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure for approval in late 2011 with the remaining plans to be submitted in the first quarter of 2012. Once approved, these plans will be available on the Whitehaven Coal website, where you can also find a copy of the Project Approval, Annual Environmental Management Reports and Community Consultative Community (CCC) reports and minutes.

Contact details are provided below if you would like any further information about the Rocglen Coal Mine.



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