16. Draft Statement of Commitments

This chapter outlines the project's draft Statement of Commitments to both the community and government. The Statement has been developed in consultation with the community and provides definitive commitments covering all identified issues of concern.

16.1 Introduction

Wallarah 2 Coal Project (W2CP) will commit to the following specific planning and design features, operational controls, water supply safeguards, environmental management measures, socio-economic initiatives and community projects funding programs. Clearly the ability for W2CP to implement these commitments is subject to the project obtaining a satisfactory project approval, including related licences and leases, and these being acted upon.

16.2 Key Project Components and Life of Operation

The project will extend from the grant of Project Approval until expiry of the term of a Mining Lease for the project but would include requirements for completion of any potential regulatory compliance activities following that period such as mine closure and rehabilitation, or in the likely event that an additional approval be sought for the completion of the identified mining area, any further environmental obligations relevant at that time. General operating commitments will be:

- Product coal after the start of longwall production will be transported from the site by rail to the port of Newcastle. There will be no haulage of longwall product coal haulage on public roads.

- The W2CP underground mine, surface facilities, coal handling and rail loop facilities will operate 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

- W2CP will develop a coal mine methane capture and utilisation strategy within 3 years of longwall operations following appropriate monitoring experience.

- The mine office buildings will plan to be designed, constructed and fitted out to meet or exceed minimum standards for relevant ecobuilding codes for mine industry administration buildings or similar.

16.3 Community Enhancement Program

W2CP proposes that a four element Community Enhancement Program would be implemented as part of a Voluntary Planning Agreement, comprising contributions in cash and in-kind, as listed in Table 16.1.

W2CP will organise a Community Trust, a program dedicated to selecting and implementing economic, social and environmental projects for the local community. The Trust would be chaired by a suitably qualified person nominated or agreed to by the Department of Planning. It is envisaged that members of the Trust will include representatives from the local community, wider community, and small and large business within the Central Coast. A Community Trust Advisory Group (CTAG)

which includes representatives from the W2CP's Community Liaison Committee has been formed to develop the concepts for the future Trust. The work of the CTAG is ongoing.

W2CP will work with the local Council and relevant educational institutions to implement training and education programs for the project as well as to facilitate local employment opportunities within the Wyong Shire.

Table 16.1 Summary features of Community Enhancement Program

CEP Element	What this involves	How this be funded
Community Trust Projects	Wallarah 2 Coal Community Trust to be established to manage and implement projects funded by W2CP contributions	Start-up funding plus coal production-related contributions for first 10 years of production. The Trust program to be reviewed for extension after 10 years of coal production.
Local Environment and Biodiversity Management	On site and offsite measures and actions set out in the Biodiversity and Land Management Strategy	Annual cost in cash or kind each year following commencement of construction, for 5 years.
Work-Ready and Training Development	Work-ready and training development for committing to train new project employees in the region and to support local employment initiatives	Annual cost in cash or kind each year following commencement of construction, for 5 years
Community Infrastructure	Contribution to funds for selected key project(s) listed as a priority item in Council's Management Plan, to be negotiated with Council according to State Government guidelines.	This is an upfront payment following commencement of construction of the approved project.

16.4 Water Supplies, Surface and Groundwater Resources

A key commitment made very early in the development of the W2CP was that the proponent would only put forward a mine plan which safeguarded the water supply scheme. This commitment has been an overriding design imperative governing the development of the proposed mine plan. More specific water based commitments and initiatives are described below.

16.4.1 Safeguarding the Region's Water Supplies

The project will implement stringent management systems to provide that its operations protect the water supply catchment operations and infrastructure that supply the region's water supplies. Specifically, the project commits to:

- No mining taking place in or under the Mangrove Creek Dam catchment or Mardi Dam, nor under the Wyong River, Wyong Weir and Pump Pool, Ourimbah Creek, Porters Creek Wetland or related water facilities and infrastructure.

- The project will conduct underground mining in an area that is less than 5% of the region's water catchment area and which is currently subject to a variety of agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial and other developed land uses.

- W2CP will continue to liaise, co-ordinate assessments and share appropriate information with relevant authorities in relation to proposed infrastructure and building development in the mining area, including the Mardi-Mangrove Pipeline.

- W2CP will liaise with Wyong Council and the Joint Water Authority in relation to information sharing on areas of mutual interest and responsibility for catchment management.

16.4.2 Promoting Water Conservation and Reuse

Prior to construction, W2CP will develop a project start-up Water Conservation and Use Plan to reduce the amount of town water usage and encourage water recycling and reuse, including optimising the use of low grade water resources during construction and early years of underground mining operations.

Within 3 years of commencing underground longwall mining, W2CP will develop and implement a Water Treatment and Reuse Strategy.

16.4.3 Ensuring Landowners' Water Supplies

W2CP commits to ensure that no landholder's water supply capacity within the mining area will be significantly affected due to effects of mining. To avoid any landowner's water supply being demonstrably and detrimentally affected by mining, W2CP commits to fully investigate the root causes of water impacts should they occur and to implement appropriate measures to make good any reduction or interruption of water supplies in the unlikely event of such impacts occurring.

Based on studies undertaken as part of this EA, the water supply system within the Dooralong Valley has in recent years been under significant stress from a variety of sources. This has resulted in poor water quality and flows. W2CP commits to work with the relevant water supply authority to improve the existing data base on water quality and catchment yield during the life of the project. This data base will include surface and subsurface water flows, rainfall data and water quality.

16.4.4 Conceptual Project Water Management

Surface Water Management – General

Surface water controls will ensure that clean runoff is separated from runoff within disturbed areas including infrastructure areas. Similarly, sediment and erosion controls will ensure any runoff from disturbed areas is appropriately treated.

The drainage control features in the surface facilities development will be designed and constructed to provide a stable and robust water management system. Some drainage channels may be vegetated channels with a natural appearance that blends in with any adjoining riparian areas or landscape. Others will be engineered channels, sumps, pipes and drains. Native trees and shrubs will be planted as may be required within the surface facilities areas to enhance the long term stability of the drainage system and for other environmental management reasons.

A comprehensive water quality monitoring program will continue throughout the life of the project to monitor the surrounding surface water quality.

Surface Water Management – Tooheys Road site
The unnamed wetland north of Tooheys Road adjacent to the power line easement will be safeguarded. This feature will be designated as the W2CP wetland conservation area and, prior to construction, will have its perimeter delineated to ensure its protection from construction impacts and will be subject to restricted access only. Drainage management works to be associated with upstream civil construction works will be designed to ensure maintenance of surface input flows to the W2CP wetland conservation area.

Disturbance and impacts on Wallarah Creek and nearby waterways will be kept to a minimum during construction and operations of the Tooheys Road facilities using a range of control measures.

Groundwater
The groundwater monitoring bore locations and monitoring previously established by the company will be sought to be accessed and maintained, by negotiation, and a number of additional bores will be constructed at new locations as necessary. Locations for these piezometers will be subject to consultation with DECCW. These bores will be routinely monitored for a range of parameters including water table level, pH, and EC and further analyses every six months for total dissolved solids (TDS), major ions, and heavy metals. Daily monitoring of water levels by automatic data loggers at selected new piezometers will be undertaken. Analyses of these data will include trend assessment, comparison against model predictions, establishment of triggers for remedial action, expert review as required and reporting to regulatory agencies at appropriate intervals. A summary of monitoring results and the analyses will be reported in the Annual Environmental Management Report (AEMR).

In the unlikely case that data obtained from the groundwater monitoring program indicates that the project is having an adverse affect on a landowner's groundwater bore (that is, reduced groundwater yield from existing sources due to mining impacts), then an alternative water supply will be provided by W2CP.

Project Water Management Plan
W2CP will prepare a Project Water Management Plan for the project that will be flexible, responsive and adaptive to monitored conditions experienced throughout the project life. This plan will include:

- ❒ Erosion and Sediment Control;
- ❒ Surface Water Management and Monitoring, and
- ❒ Groundwater Monitoring.

The basic elements of this plan will be drawn from the information contained in this EA.

16.5 Existing Land Uses and Landscapes

16.5.1 Compatibility with Existing Land Uses and Developments

W2CP will develop strategies to commit to working toward ensuring that the underground mining operations enable the continued operation of existing land uses above the mining area.

W2CP commits to manage potential risks and impacts on the numerous land uses that comprise the project development area, including industrial sites, agricultural activities, minerals extraction and quarrying, waste disposal facilities, residential and rural residential settlements, commercial premises, conservation areas, forestry, road and rail transport and infrastructure, and other miscellaneous land uses and operations.

16.5.2 Land and Landscape Management

W2CP will undertake measures to provide landscape mounding and screen plantings to improve the visual character of the surface development sites of the project.

16.6 Land Acquisition upon Request

There are a limited number of properties predicted to experience dust and/or noise levels above the relevant criteria for significant affectation (refer to Chapters 11 and 12), at some stage during the mine life. Also, a number of floodplain residences will experience greater flood risk following mining as a result of subsidence. W2CP commits to either providing compensation or outright purchase of the properties if satisfactory mitigation measures cannot be negotiated. Acquisition of private land will be in accordance with the procedures set out by DOP in the project approval.

16.7 Noise

16.7.1 Noise Impact Assessment Criteria

Noise emissions from the project, when measured within 30 metres of a private residence, will not exceed the predicted worst case noise levels set out in Chapter 11 unless a specific agreement is reached with the landholder in regard to noise impacts at a residence.

If W2CP has negotiated a written noise agreement with any landowner, and a copy of this agreement has been forwarded to DOP and DECC, then noise levels from the project may on occasions exceed the noise limits specified in Chapter 11 in accordance with the agreement.

16.7.2 Land Acquisition Criteria - Noise

If the noise generated by the project under normal operating conditions exceeds the nominated assessment criteria at any property by more than 5 dB(A) on a regular basis, W2CP will, upon receiving a written request for acquisition from the landowner, acquire the land in accordance with the procedures set out in the project approval. The noise criteria apply to normal project operating periods but are not applicable for the construction period of the project.

16.7.3 Noise Mitigation Measures

The following noise control measures will be employed throughout the life of the project unless otherwise agreed by DOP.

- The project will construct an inclined access tunnel (drift) that will obviate the requirement for conveyor transport of coal across the F3 Freeway or alongside or within private (non-company owned) property.

- ❒ W2CP will construct a rail spur and rail loop and commit to ensuring all longwall product coal is transported off site by rail to prevent excessive noise emissions that would otherwise occur over transport routes if coal was transported by road.

- ❒ The coal handling plant (CHP), coal stockpiles and associated infrastructure will be located to take advantage of available natural topographic shielding where practicable so as to reduce noise impacts on surrounding areas.

- ❒ The CHP and crushers will have noise enclosures and shielding will be installed for conveyors.

- ❒ Dozers will be equipped with residential grade silencers.

16.7.4 Noise Monitoring

W2CP will implement a Noise Monitoring Program for the project. The program will be subject to periodic review (such as at each renewal of the Environment Protection Licence) to ensure satisfactory environmental performance. The Noise Monitoring Program may include a combination of real-time and attended monitoring measures, a noise monitoring protocol for evaluating compliance with the noise impact assessment, and land acquisition criteria in the project approval.

16.8 Air Quality

16.8.1 Land Acquisition Criteria

If dust emissions generated by the project exceed the criteria stated in Chapter 12 at any non company-owned residence, or on more than 25% of any privately owned vacant land, W2CP will, upon receiving a written request for acquisition from the landowner, acquire the land in accordance with the procedures set out in the project approval. Both short term and long term cases relate to normal project operating periods and excludes the construction periods of the project.

Table 16.2 Long Term Land Acquisition Criteria For Particulate Matter

Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion
Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	90 ug/m^3
Particulate matter < 10 um (PM_{10})	Annual	30 ug/m^3

Table 16.3 Short Term Land Acquisition Criteria For Particulate Matter

Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion	Percentile[a]	Basis
Particulate matter < 10 um (PM_{10})	24 hour	150 ug/m^3	99[b]	Total[c]
Particulate matter < 10 um (PM_{10})	24 hour	50 ug/m^3	98.6	Increment[d]

a Based on the number of block 24 hour averages in an annual period

b Excludes extraordinary events such as bushfires, prescribed burning, dust storms, sea fog, fire incidents, illegal activities or any other activity agreed by DOP in consultation with DECCW.

c Background PM_{10} concentrations due to all other sources existent at the time of project approval plus the incremental increase in PM_{10} concentrations due to the mine alone.

d Incremental increase in PM_{10} concentrations due to the mine alone.

Table 16.4 Long Term Land Acquisition 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, 1991, AS 3580.10.1-1991: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air – Determination of Particulates – Deposited Matter – Gravimetric Method.

16.8.2 Air Quality Controls

The following commitments are made to control air pollution:

- ❒ Water sprays will be used at coal handling transfer points and on stockpile areas that present significant risk for generating dust.
- ❒ The crusher and screens on the Tooheys Road site will be fully enclosed.
- ❒ Coal conveyors will be three quarter enclosed, against prevailing winds.
- ❒ Train loading facility design and operation will incorporate dust suppression measures.
- ❒ The product stockpile will be equipped with wind activated water cannons.
- ❒ All active major roads on the project sites will be clearly defined and suitably paved and the development of minor and unpaved tracks will be limited. Minor roads or tracks used regularly for access will be constructed so as to minimise dust generation (for example, by using well-compacted select material).
- ❒ Speed limits will apply and be enforced on all roads on the mine site.
- ❒ Only the minimum practicable area necessary for construction of surface facilities and infrastructure will be disturbed.
- ❒ Cover crops will be established on any topsoil and subsoil stockpiles that are not planned to be used within six months.
- ❒ Meteorological conditions will be monitored and weather data will be considered in the conduct of day to day operations such as stockpile management.
- ❒ Dust control measures to be employed during construction will include use of water carts, defining of trafficked areas, imposition of vehicle speed limits, use of vegetative matting or other erosion control measures on key dust sources, and constraints on work under extreme unfavourable weather conditions.
- ❒ A spontaneous combustion management strategy will be developed for the project and will include coal stockpile management measures and monitoring of the potential causes and occurrence of spontaneous combustion conditions.
- ❒ W2CP will install first flush systems on rural residential rain water tanks, at the request of landowners located within 500 metres of the project disturbance boundary at time of construction.

16.8.3 Monitoring

W2CP will develop an Air Quality Monitoring Program. The program will be subject to periodic review (such as at each renewal of the Environment Protection Licence) to ensure satisfactory environmental performance. Specific commitments are:

- The Air Quality Monitoring Program will include a combination of high volume samplers and dust deposition gauges to monitor the dust emissions of the project.

- The Air Quality Monitoring Program will also include an air quality monitoring protocol for evaluating compliance with the air quality impact assessment and land acquisition criteria in the project approval.

- W2CP will utilise real-time dust monitoring to assist with pro-active dust control from project operations.

16.8.4 Meteorological Monitoring

W2CP will support the continued monitoring at a suitable meteorological station operating in the vicinity of the Project in accordance with the requirements in Approval Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales.

16.9 Ecological Management and Site Rehabilitation

WACJV owns approximately 115 ha of forested land that will not require disturbance as part of the development proposal. These lands lie generally between the Buttonderry and Tooheys Road sites. There are also approximately 318 ha of forested land within the development areas that would also not be disturbed.

Developing an ecological offset strategy for the estimated loss of a maximum of 33 ha of existing native vegetation is straightforward. Although it is proposed to offset an area of 50 ha of existing native vegetation on lands currently owned by the WACJV it is also proposed to develop a more comprehensive biodiversity land management strategy that takes into account other aspects of the project in order to provide real benefits to the wider environment. The main elements of the strategy are discussed below.

Fifty hectares (50 ha) of existing native vegetation on WACJV land holdings between the Buttonderry and Tooheys Road surface facilities areas will be quarantined as shown on Figure 16.1. Subject to negotiation, this area is proposed to be protected by a permanent land covenant registered on the Land Title. This provides greater protection than alternative means such as land zoning, voluntary conservation agreements or even dedication as part of the National Parks Estate.

Remaining vegetated areas within the project facilities sites will be actively managed for ongoing conservation purposes. The area will also serve as a buffer around the facilities to minimise visual impacts. The nominated conservation lands include 12 ha along Wallarah Creek within the Tooheys Road site which will be subject to active management to increase its habitat value and a further 6 ha area nominated for specific revegetation works for *Angophora inopina.*

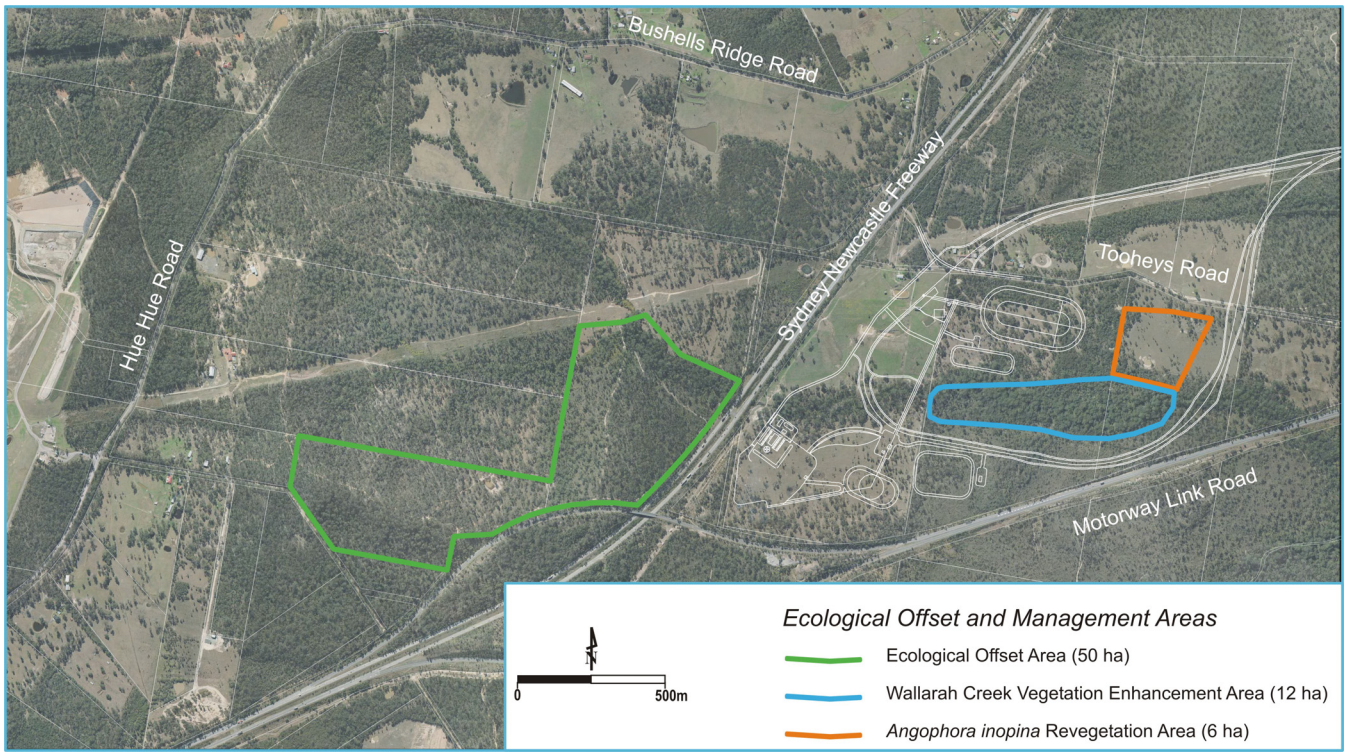

Figure 16.1 Ecological Offset and Management Areas

The main purpose of the 50 ha land dedication is to link in with other vegetated land to the south and south west of the Tooheys Road site as well as to the north of the Buttonderry site. This vegetated corridor will be enhanced by active management of dedicated land and will provide a long term fauna corridor in the region.

There are large areas within the infrastructure sites which represent good quality grazing land. The remaining grazing land around the Buttonderry Site is currently zoned for agricultural purposes and will remain as such. However, riparian vegetation of Wallarah Creek which flows through the Tooheys Road site will be actively managed for conservation purposes. Specifically, this zone will be enhanced by the removal of existing weed infestation and replanting with native vegetation.

WACJV will also develop, in consultation with landowners, a riparian zone enhancement program along Jilliby Jilliby Creek. This program will be designed to improve water quality and riverbank stability by a combination of weed removal and new plantings. The program will fall under the Wallarah 2 Coal Community Trust program which will be funded by the project owners.

16.10 Mine Closure Plan

At least three years prior to anticipated mine closure, W2CP will prepare a Mine Closure Plan in consultation with relevant agencies.

The Mine Closure Plan will:

- ❒ Define the objectives and criteria for mine closure;

- ❒ Investigate options for the future use of the project's surface development sites, including any remaining and useful infrastructure;

- ❒ Describe the measures that would be implemented to minimise or manage the ongoing environmental effects of the project; and

- ❒ Describe how the performance of these measures would be monitored over time.

16.10.1 Closure Criteria and Performance Measures

W2CP will further develop closure criteria and performance measures as part of the development of the Biodiversity and Land Management Strategy (post-mining landscape) in consultation with DECCW, DII and DOP.

16.11 Subsidence Management

The following commitments are necessarily broad, however these will be refined in the overall Subsidence Management Plan as well as individual Property Subsidence Management Plans.

16.11.1 Specific Commitments for Safeguarding Principal Residences

- ❒ W2CP will develop and implement a Property Subsidence Management Plan for each property and principal residence within the subsidence-affected area of the project. These plans will be developed in consultation with landowners. The detailed property subsidence management plans will be scheduled to be undertaken in association with each Subsidence Management Plan application area throughout the project life. A principal residence is defined as an existing building capable of being occupied as a separate domicile and used for such purpose.

- ❒ Each principal residence will be individually assessed by the Mines Subsidence Board structural engineer who will determine tolerable levels for individual subsidence parameters.

- ❒ Each principal residence will have a premining survey to identify and record pre-existing imperfections that will not be covered by the Mines Subsidence Board.

- ❒ The assessment of the principal residences will be progressively undertaken as mining progresses.

- ❒ Tolerable levels will be set according to such factors as dwelling construction (e.g. brick veneer, clad), type (single, double storey), size (length and width), footings (slab, strip footings, piers), surface conditions (sand, rock, clay, steep slope, etc) with reference to the MSB Graduated Guidelines and the guidelines and criteria relevant to that Mine Subsidence District.

- ❒ The mine plan will be reviewed by the MSB and the Department of Industry and Investment prior to any Subsidence Management Plan being approved under the relevant lease.

- ❒ Each principal residence will have a specific subsidence monitoring plan to monitor subsidence impacts before and after mining at the principal residence and to ensure that tolerable limits are achieved in practice.

- ❒ The Mines Subsidence Board has the responsibility to rectify any impacts to structures that may occur as a result of mining at no cost to the land owner.

16.12 Specific Commitments for Safeguarding other Surface Structures

W2CP will prepare and implement plans of management for the mitigation and remediation of any damage to other surface structures prior to any mining that would impact on them.

The plan of management will include:

- ❒ The pre-mining audit of the structure;

- ❒ The provision of a plan of management as part of the SMP approval process which requires W2CP to mitigate/remediate any damage to improvements associated with the structure in conjunction with the Mines Subsidence Board; and

- ❒ Post-mining monitoring of the improvements associated with the structure.

The mitigation/remediation measures to be undertaken will be related to the extent of the damage experienced, if any.

16.13 Specific Commitments for Safeguarding Dams

A Dam Monitoring and Management Strategy will be developed for all significant dams prior to any mining occurring which will impact on the dams.

The Strategy will provide for:

- ❒ The individual inspection of each dam by a qualified engineer for:

    - current water storage level;
    - current water quality (such as EC and pH);
    - wall orientation relative to the potential cracking;
    - wall size (length, width and thickness);
    - construction method and soil / fill materials;
    - wall status (presence of rilling/piping/erosion/vegetation cover);
    - potential for safety risk to people or animals;
    - downstream receptors, such as minor or major streams, roads, tracks, or other farm infrastructure; and
    - potential outwash effects.

- ❒ Photographs being taken of each dam before and after mining (after majority of subsidence has occurred).

- ❒ Monitoring of dam water levels and water quality indicators (such as EC and pH) before and after mining to determine typical water quality variation and whether rehabilitation is required. Monitoring is to be in accordance with the

DECC's Guidelines - *Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Water Pollutants in NSW.*

- In the event that there is subsidence damage to any dams, W2CP will remediate the damage and reinstate the dam in conjunction with the Mines Subsidence Board. If required, an alternative water supply will be provided to the dam owner until the dam can be reinstated and water supply is restored.

16.14 Safeguarding Public Roads

W2CP will prepare and implement a plan of management, as part of the SMP process implemented under the mining lease, to ensure the safety and serviceability of public roads and 4WD tracks and existing fire fighting access tracks.

16.15 Safeguarding Power Lines

W2CP will prepare and implement a plan of management as part of the SMP process which will ensure the safety and serviceability of powerlines.

16.16 Safeguarding Gas Pipelines and other Utilities and Services

W2CP will prepare and implement a plan of management as part of the SMP process which will ensure the safety and serviceability of gas pipelines and other utilities and services.

16.17 Aboriginal Cultural Management

An Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be prepared prior to construction commencing. The plan will include the employment of Indigenous Community representatives during the construction phase. Although no specific heritage sites were located during the surveys undertaken for this EA, several areas were identified as being potential areas for sites to be located.

In addition to the test excavation work scheduled to occur in the Wallarah Creek area prior to determination, surface collection and grader scrapes will be undertaken for areas of high potential for sites to be located as identified in the EA, prior to works commencing in these areas. Manual excavation will be undertaken in areas where the grader scrapes reveal features such as hearths, heat treatment pits, knapping floors or significant artifact concentrations.

If human remains are located during the project, all works will halt in the immediate area to prevent any further impacts to the find. The local NSW Police Coroner will be notified immediately. In the event that a criminal investigation ensues, works will not resume in the designated area until approval in writing is given from the NSW Police. If the skeletal remains are found to be of Aboriginal origin and the Police consider the site not an investigation site for criminal activities, DECCW and the local Aboriginal community will be contacted and notified of the situation. Works will not resume in the designated area until approval in writing is provided by DECCW.

All Aboriginal sites at risk of subsidence impact will be monitored on an annual basis with members of the Aboriginal community to assess if impact to the sites is

occurring and to devise appropriate management strategies to mitigate the impacts as necessary.

If further Aboriginal cultural objects are uncovered due to the development activities, all works will halt in the immediate area to prevent any further impacts to the find. A suitably qualified archaeologist and Aboriginal community representatives will be contacted to determine the significance of the find. The site will be registered in the AHIMS database and the management outcome devised in conjunction with the Aboriginal community included in the information provided to AHIMS.

An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Education Program will be developed for the induction of personnel and contractors involved in the construction activities on site. The program will be developed in collaboration with the registered local Aboriginal stakeholders.

16.18 Traffic and Transport

The alignment of Tooheys Road will be relocated and rail bridges constructed to ensure continued and safe public vehicular access.

The intersection of Hue Hue Road and the Buttonderry pit top mine access road will be a Type B rural layout with a left turn auxiliary lane as well as a right hand turn lane from Hue Hue Road into the proposed access road.

16.19 Greenhouse Gas

W2CP will develop an Energy and Greenhouse Strategy within 2 years after the commencement of longwall coal extraction. The Strategy will address interim and long term energy and greenhouse management plan and initiatives, including monitoring, reporting and continuous improvement.

The Strategy will incorporate commitments for W2CP to implement the following approaches to improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse emissions from the project:

- Use of minimum 5% bio-diesel or similar in the mining fleet subject to manufacturer's guidelines;
- Use of low-sulphur diesel fuel for underground mobile equipment;
- Conduct an options study for coal mine methane capture and utilization within 3 years of the commencement of longwall coal mining production;
- Monitor greenhouse gas emissions and mitigation actions from the commencement of mining operations;
- Prior to the development and implementation of a long term methane utilization strategy, W2CP will commit to enclosed flaring of the initial production of captured methane, if required by the terms of project approval, to ensure a significant reduction in greenhouse emissions;
- Conduct an energy efficiency audit each three years after the commencement of mining, and

- ❒ Installation of energy efficient appliances, lighting and hot water system (such as gas boosted solar hot water system).

W2CP will continue to assess and implement energy and greenhouse management initiatives during the project design, operation and decommissioning.

16.20 Visual Controls

16.20.1 Vegetative Screenings

Vegetative screens will be planted along the western boundary of the Tooheys Rd site adjacent to the easement beside the F3 Freeway.

Vegetative screens will be planted as part of the landscaping plan for the Buttonderry site pit top development.

Final revegetation of disturbed areas will consider the reduction of visual impacts.

16.20.2 Infrastructure

The following commitments are made in relation to the proposed infrastructure:

- ❒ The rail spur will be proposed to be located adjacent to the existing power line easement to minimise impacts of new clearing.

- ❒ The alignment of the rail spur and loop will minimize incursions and impacts on a wetland area between Tooheys Rd and the existing power line easement.

- ❒ The colour of building roofs and walls will be selected to differentiate elements and reduce visual mass.

- ❒ The sides of the workshop and CHP will be clad as required to meet the noise modelling in the EA.

- ❒ Where practicable, workshop doors will be orientated so as to reduce light spill to any light-sensitive adjacent properties and land uses.

16.20.3 Operational Measures

At night, work will be restricted to reduce noise impacts which will also reduce potential direct lighting effects from vehicular sources such as dozer or truck headlights and flashing beacons.

16.21 General Environmental Management, Monitoring, Auditing and Reporting

16.21.1 Environmental Monitoring Program

Within six months of Project Approval, W2CP will prepare an Environmental Monitoring Program for the project in consultation with relevant agencies. This program will consolidate the various monitoring requirements of the Project Approval into a single document.

16.21.2 Appointment of Environmental Officer

W2CP will appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person on a full-time on-site basis to oversee the environmental performance of the project. It will be an essential requirement of the position that the environmental officer remains up to date with the current industry standards and achieves or exceeds best practice in all facets of the environmental management of the site.

16.21.3 Annual Reporting

W2CP will prepare an Annual Environmental Management Report (AEMR). The annual report will contain a summary of all monitoring data collected during the reporting period as well as details of specific environmental initiatives planned to be implemented in the following 12 month period. An overview of the environmental performance of the operation will be detailed.

The AEMR will be submitted to the Department of Industry and Investment (Mineral Resources) for approval. The approved document will then be made available to the community via the project web page and the Community Consultative Committee.

16.21.4 Independent Environmental Audit

Two years after commencement of development, and every three years thereafter, W2CP will commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the project.

16.21.5 Community Consultative Committee

Within three months of this approval, W2CP will facilitate a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) in consultation with DOP, DII-MR and Council, and in accordance with relevant DOP guidelines. This CCC would be expected to be an evolution from, and replacement of, the previously existing W2CP Community Liaison Committee that has been operating for the exploration phase of the WACJV project for over 12 years.

The Chairperson of the CCC will be nominated by the Minister for Planning and all members approved by the Minister. Community members will be required to be renominated every two years.