



EPBC 2009/5256 Compliance Report

May 3

2017

Reporting and Auditing Condition 28; Within three months of every 12 month anniversary of the commencement of new mining activities, the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any plans as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the department at the same time as the compliance report is published. The person taking the action must also notify any non-compliance with this approval to the department in writing within two business days of becoming aware of the non-compliance. Note: Department of Environment (DoE) granted approval (30th May 2014) to submit the report on the 3rd May each year.

EPBC Compliance Report, 3nd Year.

DOCUMENT CONTROL					Λ		
Document Version	Date	Prepared by	Signature	Reviewed by	Signature	Approved by	Signature ()
01	3 May 2017	A. Blakeney	1102	. Martin	\sim	P. Forbes	JULY 0 X 3/5/17
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	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE		
Disturbance Areas				
1.	The person taking the action must not clear more than 82 ha of the EPBC listed White Box—Yellow Box—Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland critically endangered ecological community within the Boggabri extension project area identified in Attachment A of these conditions.	Complies. The extent of the listed CEEC cleared up until 30 th April 2017 does not exceed the approved 82ha.		
2.	The person taking the action must not clear more than 650 ha of known native vegetation communities and/or potential habitat for the regent honeyeater (<i>Anthochaera Phrygia</i> - formally <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>), swift parrot (<i>Lathamus discolour</i>) and greater long-eared bat (<i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i>), within the Boggabri extension project area identified in Attachment A of these conditions, to the extent that it is not inconsistent with the requirement to retain the biodiversity corridor required under condition 3. The 650 ha of native vegetation communities specified includes the 82 ha of the critically endangered ecological community at condition 1.	Complies. The extent of the habitat cleared for these threatened species does not exceed the 650ha as of 30 th April 2017. No further clearing has been undertaken since 30 th April 2017.		
3.	The person taking the action must submit a Biodiversity Corridor Plan for the approval of the Minister within three months of the date of this approval. The plan must address the following matters: a. protection of native vegetation of a total width of 500 metres (m) where the Boggabri coal mine	Complies. Plan submitted to the Minister for approval on 10 th May 2013. BCOPL is implementing the Biodiversity Corridor Plan.		
	lease boundary is adjacent to the Maules Creek coal mine lease boundary;			
	b. maintenance in perpetuity of this area as a biodiversity corridor; and			
	 evidence that the biodiversity corridor will be protected in perpetuity through a legal mechanism that would provide the equivalent protection of a conservation covenant. The approved Biodiversity Corridor Plan must be implemented. 			
4.	The person taking the action is required to submit a Conservation and Biodiversity Bond under condition 52 of the NSW state government project approval dated 18 July 2012 (application number 09_0182). It is noted that this bond may be combined with the rehabilitation security deposit as required by the NSW Trade and Investment - Division of Resources and Energy under the NSW Mining Act 1992. The person taking the action must submit details of this bond and the rehabilitation	Condition 52 of the NSW Project Approval requires the Conservation and Biodiversity Bond to be submitted for State Approval in July 2015. The NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) granted an extension for the submission of the revised Biodiversity Management Plan to 2 nd October 2015 and was subsequently submitted for approval. DP&E also		



COMPLETION	COMPLIANCE
security deposit lodged by the person taking the action is adequate to provide for the implementation of the requirements referred to under conditions 3, 12, 21-23 the Minister may require the person taking the action to establish an additional bond or equivalent financial instrument in trust, under conditions approved in writing by the Minister .	confirmed in a letter dated 22 nd June 2015 that the conservation bond is to be provided within 3 months of the DP&E approving the Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP). BCOPL is awaiting approval of the revised BMP and details will be provided to the Department of Environment (DoE) once approval is received. Consequently, until the BMP is approved, compliance with this condition is out of BCOPL's control.
 a. limits the maximum project area disturbance (in hectares) specified for each of the years 5, 10, 15 and 21 from the date of this approval of the White Box—Yellow Box—Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland ecological community and habitat or potential habitat for the regent honeyeater, swift parrot and greater long-eared bat; b. incorporates an analysis, undertaken by independent ecological experts approved by the department, that demonstrates the maximum disturbance limits which will minimise any impacts on relevant matters of national environmental significance; c. demonstrates collaboration with the person taking the action to develop and operate the Maules Creek Coal Project (EPBC 2010/5566), in order to minimise progressive project area disturbance limits across both sites. The progressive disturbance limits are to be reflected in the development of the Leard Forest Mining Precinct Biodiversity Strategy. 	Complies. The initial approach was submitted on 21 st February 2014 and approved by the DoE on 3 rd May 2014. A subsequent letter was submitted to the Minister on 5 th February 2016 outlining the revised staged clearing proposal (Land Disturbance Approach), in addition to that approach described in the letter submitted to the Minister dated 3 rd December 2014 (condition 5a.). An ecological analysis (condition 5 b.) was prepared by independent ecological experts (Parsons Brinckerhoff) in a memo provided to the Minister dated 4 th March 2016. Compliance with condition 5 c. is demonstrated through steering group meeting minutes for development of the Leard Forest Mining Precinct Regional Biodiversity Strategy. Stage 1 (Scoping) report has also been issued to the DoE for comment and was subsequently approved by DP&E 13 th May 2016.
	Information on the progressive rehabilitation of the disturbance



	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
6.	The person taking the action must not clear more than the maximum Boggabri extension project	areas where mining activities no longer occur is provided in section 8 of the 2016 Annual Environmental Management Report (https://www.idemitsu.com.au/operations/boggabricoal/approvals-plans-reports/). Complies. BCM has not cleared more area than specified in the
	area disturbance limits specified for each of the years 5, 10, 15 and 21, as described in condition 5a, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Minister .	revised disturbance limits sent to the DoE on 5 th February 2016. The DoE approved this revision on 15 th April 2016.
Off	set areas	
Med	chanism to secure offsets	
	The person taking the action must register a legally binding conservation covenant over the offset areas of 5866.1 ha of 'equivalent or better' quality of threatened species habitat defined as native vegetation communities . This must include no less than 1537.4 ha 'equivalent or better' quality of White Box—Yellow Box—Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland ecological community.	The offset areas subject to Approval Decision EPBC 2009/5256 are required to be protected by legally binding covenant in perpetuity by 11 th February 2018.
	The offset areas are those defined at Attachment B of these conditions, or alternative areas agreed in writing by the Minister .	
8.	The conservation covenant/s, listed in condition 7, must provide protection in perpetuity for the offset area and be registered within 5 years of the date of this approval.	The offset areas subject to Approval Decision EPBC 2009/5256 are required to be protected by legally binding covenant in perpetuity by 11 th February 2018.
9.	The person taking the action must verify through an independent review by 30 December 2013, the quantity and quality of habitat or potential habitat for the regent honeyeater, swift parrot and greater long-eared bat of all proposed offset areas. The review will:	Complies. The independent review was completed in December 2013 and submitted to the DoE in January 2014.
	 validate the quantity, quality and ecological characteristics of the offset areas in line with the requirements of the department's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Environmental Offsets Policy October 2012 	



CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
b. be undertaken by ecological experts who have been agreed in writing by the department	
10. If the independent review finds that the minimum quantities of threatened species habitat and ecological community required under condition 7 do not meet the 'equivalent or better' quality, or the criteria required under condition 9a, then additional areas must be protected until all the relevant criteria under condition 9 are met.	Not applicable. The Independent review confirmed that no additional areas were required and was accepted by the DoE in January 2014.
Note: the 1537.4 ha of White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland ecological community may be inclusive of the 5866.1 ha of habitat for the woodland species, as long as it meets the listing criteria for the EPBC-listed critically endangered ecological community as defined in the EPBC listing advice for that community and the quantity and quality is validated through the independent review.	
11. If the person undertaking the action proposes to undertake any action within the offset areas secured under condition 7, other than those management activities related to managing the offset areas or as set out in the conditions approval, then approval to undertake that action must be obtained in writing from the Minister. In seeking the Minister's approval, the person undertaking the action must provide a detailed assessment of the area where the action is proposed to take place and an assessment of all associated adverse impacts on matters of national environmental significance. If the Minister agrees to the action within the offset areas, the area identified for the action must be excised from the proposed offset area and alternative offsets secured by the person taking the action (subject to this approval) at a ratio of at least 20:1 in relation to the impact on matters of national environmental significance	Security not required until February 2018. Notwithstanding this, no actions have been undertaken in the offset areas proposed to be secured under condition 7.
Offset management plan	
12. To offset the impacts to the White Box—Yellow Box—Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland and the habitat of the regent honeyeater, swift parrot and greater long-eared bat, the person taking the action must submit to the Minister for approval an Offset management plan for all of the offset areas, specified in condition 7, within 6 months of the date of this approval. The approved Offset management plan must be implemented prior to the commencement of new mining operations	Complies. Offset Management Plan submitted to the DoE for approval on 19 th August 2013. A revised Offset Management Plan was submitted on 22 nd October 2014, on 29 th January 2015 and 2 nd October 2015. No response has been received from the DoE. The current offset management plan is being implemented.



	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
requirements	nsistency, the person taking the action may develop a Biodiversity Management plan that includes the set for managing offsets as set out in these conditions, to align with the requirements of the NSW state Project Approval dated 18 July 2012 (application number 09_0182) and this approval.	
13. The Offs	set management plan must include, but not be limited to, the following information:	Refer to condition 12.
	jectives to clearly identify baseline conditions of the offset sites, establish performance licators and discuss methods for adaptive management.	
b ate	ext description and map to clearly define the location and boundaries of the offset areas. This	
mu	ist be accompanied by the offset attributes and shapefiles.	
cur	letailed survey and description (prior to any management activities, hence a baseline) of the crent condition of the extant vegetation of each offset area. This must be consistent with the ate and Transition Model, including but not limited to:	
i.	location of survey points (GPS reference)	
ii.	vegetation condition mapping	
iii.	photo reference points	
iv.	tree age class representation	
٧.	percentage tree canopy cover	
vi.	number of native plant species in ground layer	
vii.	percentage of nativeness of total plant groundcover (herbaceous plants and small shrubs, 1 m tall), measured using basal area	
viii.	description of fauna habitat including condition, type and connectivity	
ix.	surveys of the regent honeyeater, swift parrot and greater long-eared bat	
d. Pla	ans to improve upon the baseline condition (identified in the surveys required by condition 13c)	



CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
consistent with the State and Transition Model, EPBC listing advice, and threatened species habitat defined as native vegetation communities, including but not limited to:	
i. a map showing areas to be managed	
ii. management actions for each area and details of management methods to be used	
iii. iii. timing of management activity for each area iv. performance criteria for each area	
v. a set of measurable ecological indicators for detecting changes to the White Box— Yellow Box—Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland Ecological Community, including those that may be ascribed to ongoing water stress	
vi. a monitoring plan to assess the success of the management activities measured against the baseline condition. The monitoring must be statistically robust and able to quantify change in the condition of White Box—Yellow Box—Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland Ecological Community. This should include, but not be limited to, control sites and periodic ecological surveys to be undertaken by a qualified ecologist	
vii. a description of the potential risks to successful management against the performance criteria, and a description of the contingency measures that would be implemented to mitigate these risks	
viii. a process to report, to the department , the progress of management activities undertaken in the offset areas and the outcome of those activities, including identifying any need for improved management and activities to undertake such improvement	
ix. details of the various parties responsible for management, monitoring and implementing the management activities, including their position or status as a separate contractor	



	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
surveys required by condition 13c) muguidelines for Australia's threatened b	by the department, the baseline surveys (identified in the st be conducted in accordance with the department's Survey rds and the survey guidelines for Australia's threatened bats. It doubt annually at the same time of year as the baseline surveys in writing by the department.	Complies. Surveys have been undertaken in accordance with the specified guidelines.
Surface and groundwater management	plans	
management plans as identified in cor 18 July 2012 (application number 09_	vide to the Minister for approval, the <i>surface and groundwater</i> addition 38 of the NSW state government Project Approval dated 0182). The <i>surface and groundwater management plans</i> elemented prior to the commencement of new mining	Complies. Surface and Groundwater management plans were submitted to the Minister in early 2013, approved on 10 June 2014 and implemented prior to the commencement of new mining operations.
16. The <i>surface and groundwater manage</i> Management Strategy.	ment plans must be consistent with the National Water Quality	Complies. The Surface and Groundwater management plan is consistent with the National Water Quality Management Strategy. Refer to Condition 15.
taking the action to develop and operation other approved mines within 20 km of demonstrating how the approved surfation, addresses the cumulative impact may impact on the consequent health	nin 6 months of this approval, in collaboration with the person te the Maules Creek Coal Project (EPBC 2010/5566) and any the mine site provide written advice to the Minister ace and groundwater management plans (specified in condition of groundwater drawdown as a result of mining and how this of the remnant native vegetation in the Leard State Forest, the grounding areas. In particular the advice must address the	Complies. Refer to Condition 15. In accordance with condition 38 of the NSW Project Approval, a Leard Forest Mining Precinct Water Management Strategy was submitted as part of the Surface and Groundwater management plans.
a. maximum amount of allowable	drawdown in the alluvial aquifer	
b. drawdown in hard rock aquifer		
c. trigger levels pertaining to draw	down in the alluvial aquifer when corrective actions will be	



	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE	
	required to be undertaken		
C	d. identify the depth of root zone of the native vegetation		
6	monitoring to assess the ongoing quality and quantity of both surface and groundwater to identify impacts on the native vegetation.		
	The person taking the action must within 6 months of the date of this approval, or such other timeframe specified by the Minister, provide to the Minister a report on:	Complies. Refer to Condition 15.	
á	a. any updated modelling of surface and groundwater impacts that has been undertaken in preparing the surface and groundwater management plans		
k	how the <i>surface and groundwater management plans</i> addressed groundwater and surface water impacts on native vegetation		
	A risk-based assessment of the disposal of mine water by irrigation on soils must be undertaken. The assessment must include the risk of metal and salinity accumulation in soils.	Not applicable. BCOPL has advised the DoE that no irrigation of mine water will be taking place.	
Leard	Forest Mining Precinct Regional Biodiversity Strategy	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
c	The person taking the action must implement the regional biodiversity strategy as required under conditions 40-46 of the NSW state government Project Approval dated 18 July 2012 (application number 09_0182). The required scoping report for the development of the strategy must be submitted to the Minister for approval on or before 31 July 2013. The approved strategy must be implemented.	Complies with the revised timeframes agreed with the DP&E. The Stage 1 scoping report was submitted in February 2016. Approval of the scoping report was approved on 13 th May 2016 by DP&E. The timeframe for completion of the regional biodiversity strategy is out of BCOPL's control.	
Mine	site rehabilitation		
E a re	To mitigate the impacts to the White Box-Yellow Box -Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland and the habitat of the regent honeyeater, swift parrot and greater long-eared bat, the person taking the action must, within 12 months of commencement of new mining activities , submit to the Minister for approval a <i>Mine site rehabilitation plan</i> for the progressive ehabilitation and revegetation of no less than 650 ha (less the portion included in the biodiversity corridor identified in condition 2) in the Boggabri extension mine site using species consistent with a	Complies. The RMP was re-submitted on the 29 th January 2015 due to changes in staff at the DoE. The DP&E requested that BCOPL revise the RMP and a copy of the revised RMP was provided to DoE on 31 st October 2015. Approval by DoE is pending. The current RMP is being implemented at BCM.	



CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
White Box—Yellow Box—Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland	
Ecological Community. This approved Mine site rehabilitation plan must be implemented.	
 22. The person taking the action must: a. rehabilitate the site to be consistent with the proposed rehabilitation strategy as provided in the Environment Assessment and, as required under the NSW state government Project Approval dated 18 July 2012 (application number 09_0182); and 	Complies. Rehabilitation is progressing as specified in the Rehabilitation Management Plan and Soil Management Protocol. Refer to Condition 21.
 not replace top soil and sub soil layers at a depth less than the minimum depths determined through pre-stripping soil surveys as described in condition 23c. 	
Note: the NSW state government Project Approval dated 18 July 2012 (application number 09_0182) conditions require pre- stripping soil surveys and inventories to inform the availability, rehandling, stockpiling and management of soils, and maximising the salvaging of soil to be used, in the rehabilitation of the site.	
23. The Mine site rehabilitation plan must include, at a minimum, the following information:	Complies. Refer to Condition 21.
a targets and performance indicators to achieve effective restoration of the native forest and woodlands	
 details of the vegetation communities to be rehabilitated and the timing of progressive rehabilitation (commencing as soon as practicable following disturbance) 	
c detailed soil depth surveys and analysis to inform the effective placement and restoration of soils underlying the proposed rehabilitation sites; including mapping of soils across the disturbance sites and soil sampling at no less than one sample point per 20 ha of each soil type identified. Sampling must identify; type, depth, water holding capacity, structure and physio- chemical properties of each of the soil and subsoil layers.	
 d processes and methodologies for the removal, storage and re-layering of the top soil and sub soil layers underlying the disturbed sites being prepared for rehabilitation. These processes and methodologies must ensure the replacement of top soil and sub soil layers: a meet the minimum depth requirements determined from sampling outcomes as 	



		CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
	b	identified in condition 23c; and, replicates the other existing soil parameters including, but not limited to, soil type, water holding capacity, structure and physio-chemical properties.	
including timi requirements	a pro under need a des site, these detail sistency ing of re	ria to determine success of rehabilitation of native vegetation occess to progressively report to the department the rehabilitation management actions entaken and the outcome of those actions, and the mechanisms to be used to identify the differ improved management scription of the potential risks to successful management and rehabilitation on the project and a description of the contingency measures that would be implemented to mitigate erisks ills of long-term management and protection of the mine site. If the person taking the action may develop a single mine rehabilitation plan to align with the requirements ports of the NSW state government Project Approval dated 18 July 2012 (application number 09_0182) is approval. The Offset management plan and the Mine site rehabilitation plan need to be substantially ing biodiversity objectives for the rehabilitated mine-site.	
Final Land	form).
Strate Appro optimu critical	gy as r val dat um opp lly end	taking the action must rehabilitate the site consistent with the proposed Rehabilitation required under conditions 69, 70, 71 and 72 of the NSW state government Project ted 18 July 2012 (application number 09_0182) such that the final landform provides the portunity for the successful restoration of native forest and woodland including the angered White Box—Yellow Box— Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived sland Ecological Community.	Complies. Refer to Condition 21. The final Void and Mine Closure Plan under State Condition 72 is not required to be submitted until December 2025.
extent	of any	raking the action must undertake rehabilitation to ensure the final landform minimises the resulting pit lake, avoids salt scalding and ensures that drained waters do not adversely wnstream environment and avoids any impacts on matters of national environmental	Complies. Refer to Condition 21 and Condition 24.



CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
Note: the NSW state government Project Approval dated 18 July 2012 (application number 09_0182) approval conditions require the preparation and implementation of an updated Final Void and Mine Closure Plan that considers interactions with the adjoining mines, including interaction between final voids, opportunities for integrated mine planning with adjoining mines to minimise environmental impacts, all reasonable and feasible landform options for the final void (including filling) and predicted hydrochemistry and hydrogeology (including long-term groundwater recovery and void groundwater quality).	
Survey data	
26. All survey data collected for the project must be recorded so as to conform to data standards notified from time to time by the department . When requested by the department , the person taking the action must provide to the department all species and ecological survey data and related survey information from ecological surveys undertaken for matters of national environmental significance . This survey data must be provided within 30 business days of request, or in a timeframe agreed to by the department in writing. The department may use the survey data for other purposes.	Complies. Survey data is collected to DoE standards. DoE has not requested species and ecological survey data to date.
Reporting and auditing	
27. Within 14 days after the commencement of new mining activities, the person taking the action must advise the department in writing of the actual date of commencement of new mining activities.	Complies.
28. Within three months of every 12 month anniversary of the commencement of new mining activities , the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any plans as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the department at the same time as the compliance report is published. The person taking the action must also notify any non-compliance with this approval to the department in writing within two business days of becoming aware of the non-compliance.	Complies.
29. Upon the direction of the Minister, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report	Not applicable. No audit has been requested by the Minister.



CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
submitted to the Minister. The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to	
the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit	
report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister .	
30. If the person taking the action wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance	Not applicable.
with the plans, as specified in the conditions, the person taking the action must submit to the	
department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that plan. The varied	
activity shall not commence until the Minister has approved the revised plan in writing. The	
Minister will not approve a revised plan, unless the revised plan would result in an equivalent	
or improved environmental outcome. If the Minister approves the revised plan that plan must	
be implemented in place of the plan originally approved.	
31. If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed	Not applicable. No request has been made by the Minister.
threatened species and communities or listed migratory species to do so, the Minister may	
request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to the management plan	
specified in the conditions and submit the revised plan for the Minister's written approval. The	
person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised approved plan must	
be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised plan then the person taking the	
action must continue to implement the originally approved plan, as specified in the conditions.	
32. If, at any time after 5 years from the date of this approval, the person taking the action has not	Complies. Project extension started on 3 rd February 2014.
commenced new mining actions, then the person taking the action must not commence the	
action without the written agreement of the Minister.	
Publication of plans	
33. The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities and	Complies. DoE has not requested any records or undertaken an
outcomes associated with or relevant to the above conditions of approval, including measures	audit in accordance with section 458. All approved management
taken to implement the management plans required by this approval, and make them available	plans are made publicly available on the company website.



CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
upon request to the department . Such records may be subject to audit by the department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the department's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.	
34. Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister , the person taking the action must publish all management plans referred to in these conditions of approval on their website. Each management plan must be published on the website within 1 month of being approved.	Complies. Approved management plans are published on https://www.idemitsu.com.au/operations/boggabri-coal/approvals-plans-reports/

