

Appendix 2

Director-General's Requirements and Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies

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Director-General's Requirements

Section 75F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Project	The proposed Belmont Coal Project and associated infrastructure, which includes: • extracting up to 14.2 million tonnes of run-of-mine coal by open cut mining methods at a maximum rate of 1.5 million tonnes a year for up to 12 years; • highwall and/or auger mining; • on site crushing and screening of coal; • construction and operation of mining-related infrastructure on the site; • transportation of coal by road to the Whitehaven Coal Handling and Preparation Plant at Gunnedah; • construction of a new road linking Wean and Blue Vale Roads; and • progressive rehabilitation of the site.
Site	Wean Road, about 25 kilometres north of Gunnedah. Lot 1 DP 754950; Lots 1 and 2 DP 787417; Parish of Tulcumba; and Council roads and road reserves.
Proponent	Whitehaven Coal Mining Pty Ltd
Date of Issue	25 January 2007
Date of Expiration	25 January 2009
General Requirements	The Environmental Assessment (EA) must include: • an executive summary; • a detailed description of the project including the: – need for the project; – various components and stages of the project; and – alternatives considered; • consideration of any relevant statutory provisions; • a general overview of the environmental impacts of the project, identifying the key issues for further assessment, and taking into consideration the issues raised during consultation; • a detailed assessment of the key issues specified below, and any other significant issues identified in the general overview of environmental impacts of the project (see above), which includes: – a description of the existing environment; – an assessment of the potential impacts of the project including potential cumulative impacts (particularly on native flora and fauna, and road transport impacts) that may arise from the combined operation of the project, together with the other approved and existing mines in the region; • a description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, minimise, mitigate, offset, manage, and/or monitor the impacts of the project; • a draft Statement of Commitments, outlining environmental management, mitigation and monitoring measures; • a conclusion justifying the project, taking into consideration the environmental impacts of the project, the suitability of the site, and the benefits of the project; and • a signed statement from the author of the Environmental Assessment report certifying that the information contained in the report is neither false nor misleading.



Key Issues	• Traffic and Transport – including a detailed quantitative traffic impact assessment of the proposed coal transport route; • Surface and Groundwater – including detailed modelling of potential surface and groundwater impacts, a site water balance, and a detailed description of any proposed creek diversions; • Flora and Fauna – including any impacts on critical habitats, threatened species, populations, ecological communities, native vegetation and the Vickery State Forest. A comprehensive offset strategy must be included as part of the mitigation measures for the project to ensure that there is no net loss of flora and fauna values in the area in the medium to long term; • Rehabilitation, Final Landform and Final Void Management – including a justification of the proposed final landform and land use for the site; a detailed description of how the site would be progressively rehabilitated, and the measures which would be put in place for the long term protection and management of the site (and any off-site biodiversity offset areas) following cessation of mining; • Noise – including construction, operation, and of-site road noise impacts; • Blasting and Vibration; • Air Quality; • Greenhouse Gases – a greenhouse gas assessment (including a quantitative analysis of greenhouse gas emissions associated with the combustion of product coal, and a qualitative assessment of the impacts of these emissions on the environment); • Heritage – both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal; • Visual; and • Social and Economic.
References	The Environmental Assessment must take into account relevant State government technical and policy guidelines. While not exhaustive, guidelines which may be relevant to the project are included in the attached list.
Consultation	During the preparation of the Environmental Assessment, you must consult with the relevant local and State government authorities, service providers, community groups, affected landowners and any affected Commonwealth government authorities. In particular you must consult with: • Department of Environment and Conservation; • Department of Natural Resources; • Department of Primary Industries; • NSW Roads and Traffic Authority; and • Gunnedah Shire Council. The consultation process and the issues raised must be described in the Environmental Assessment.
Deemed refusal period	60 days



Table A2.1
Coverage of Director-General's Requirements
(Department of Planning (20 November 2006))

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Issue	Section
General	
The Environmental Assessment (EA) must include:	xv
• an executive summary;	
• a detailed description of the project including the:	
– need for the project;	6.3
– various components and stages of the project; and	2.4 to 2.14
– alternatives considered;	2.3
• consideration of any relevant statutory provisions;	3.2.3
• a general overview of the environmental impacts of the project, identifying the key issues for further assessment, and taking into consideration the issues raised during consultation;	3
• a detailed assessment of the key issues specified below, and any other significant issues identified in the general overview of environmental impacts of the project (see above), which includes:	3
– a description of the existing environment;	4A and various 4B
– an assessment of the potential impacts of the project including potential cumulative impacts (particularly on native flora and fauna, and road transport impacts) that may arise from the combined operation of the project, together with the other approved and existing mines in the region;	Various 4B
• a description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, minimise, mitigate, offset, manage, and/or monitor the impacts of the project;	Various 4B
• a draft Statement of Commitments, outlining environmental management, mitigation and monitoring measures;	5
• a conclusion justifying the project, taking into consideration the environmental impacts of the project, the suitability of the site, and the benefits of the project; and	6
• a signed statement from the author of the Environmental Assessment report certifying that the information contained in the report is neither false nor misleading.	Page iii
Traffic and Transport	
Include a detailed quantitative traffic impact assessment of the proposed coal transport route.	4B.4
Surface Water and Groundwater	
Include	
• detailed modelling of potential surface and groundwater impacts,	4B.1.5 and 4B.7.7
• a site water balance,	2.4.4.3 and 4B.7.4.2.3
• and a detailed description of any proposed creek diversions.	4B.7.2.4.3 and 4B.7.4.3



Table A2.1 (Cont'd)
Coverage of Director-General's Requirements
(Department of Planning (20 November 2006))

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Issue	Section
Flora and Fauna	
Include any impacts on critical habitats, threatened species, populations, ecological communities, native vegetation and the Vickery State Forest.	4B.2.2.5 and 4B.2.3.4
A comprehensive offset strategy must be included as part of the mitigation measures for the project to ensure that there is no net loss of flora and fauna values in the area in the medium to long term.	2.14.5.7, 4B.2.2.4 and 4B.2.3.4
Rehabilitation, Final Landform and Final Void Management	
Include a justification of the proposed final landform and land use for the site;	2.14.3 and 2.14.4
Include a detailed description of how the site would be progressively rehabilitated, and	2.14.5
The measures which would be put in place for the long term protection and management of the site (and any off-site biodiversity offset areas) following cessation of mining.	2.14.5.5, 2.14.5.6 and 2.14.5.7
Noise	
Include construction, operation, and of-site road noise impacts.	4B.5.5
Greenhouse Gases	
A greenhouse gas assessment (including a quantitative analysis of greenhouse gas emissions associated with the combustion of product coal, and a qualitative assessment of the impacts of these emissions on the environment).	4B.10.6.7
Heritage	
Both Aboriginal and	4B.3.5
Non-Aboriginal.	4B.12.3
References	
The Environmental Assessment must take into account relevant State government technical and policy guidelines. While not exhaustive, guidelines which may be relevant to the project are included in the attached list (see Table A2.2).	7
Consultation	
During the preparation of the Environmental Assessment, you must consult with the relevant local and State government authorities, service providers, community groups, affected landowners and any affected Commonwealth government authorities. In particular you must consult with: • Department of Environment and Conservation; • Department of Natural Resources; • Department of Primary Industries; • NSW Roads and Traffic Authority; and • Gunnedah Shire Council. The consultation process and the issues raised must be described in the Environmental Assessment.	3.2.2
• Blasting and Vibration.	4B.6
• Air Quality.	4B.10
• Visual.	4B.8
• Social and Economic.	4B.11



Table A2.2
Coverage of State Government Technical and Policy Guidelines – For References

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Aspect	Policy / Methodology	Section
Soil and Water		
	Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom)	4B.7.4
	Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC)	4B.1.1 and 4B.7.4
	Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams (Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation)	2.14
	The various State Groundwater Policy documents (DNR)	4B.1.5
	Any Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act 2000 applicable to the site	None Applicable
	Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Water Pollutants in NSW (DEC)	4B.1.2.3
	Environmental Guidelines: Use of Effluent by Irrigation (DEC)	Not Applicable
	NSW Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Policy (DNR)	4B.1.5.7
Flora and Fauna		
	Draft Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment (DEC)	4B.2.2 and 4B.2.3
	Threatened Biodiversity Survey and Assessment: Guidelines for Development and Activities (DEC)	4B.2.2 and 4B.2.3
	Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings (DPI)	Not Applicable
Blasting and Vibration		
	Technical Basis for Guidelines to Minimise Annoyance due to Blasting and Ground Vibration (ANZECC)	4B.6.3
Noise		
	NSW Industrial Noise Policy (DEC)	4B.5.3.3
	Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise (DEC)	4B.5.5.5
	Environmental Noise Control Manual (DEC)	4B.5.3.2
Air Quality		
	Approved Methods and Guidance for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW (DEC)	4B.10.6.2
Heritage		
	Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Community Consultation (DEC)	4B.3
	Assessing Heritage Significance (NSW Heritage Office)	4B.12
	NSW Heritage Manual (NSW Heritage Office)	4B.12
Traffic		
	Guide to Traffic Generating Developments (RTA)	4B.4.4
	RTA Road Design Guide (RTA)	4B.4.4
	Relevant AUSTROADS standards	4B.4.4
Greenhouse Gas		
	AGO Factors and Methods Workbook (Australian Greenhouse Office)	4B.10.6.7
Waste		
	Environmental Guidelines: Assessment and Classification and Management of Liquid and Non-Liquid Wastes (DEC)	2.12



Table A2.3
Coverage of Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies - 2002

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Government Agency	Issue	Section
PlanningNSW (30/08/02)	Description of the Proposal – The EIS must include a detailed description and justification of the proposal, clearly identifying the resource, the proposed site, the proposed works (including any rehabilitation works), the proposed intensity of operations, and the likely inter-relationship between the proposed mine and the Whitehaven Mine, particularly in relation to the proposed use of the Whitehaven Coal Preparation Plant.	2.2 to 2.4
	Permissibility – Demonstrate that the proposal is permissible with consent	3.2.3.4
	Statutory Instruments / Policies – Assess the proposal against the relevant provisions in State Environmental Planning Policy No. 11 – Traffic Generating Developments; State Environmental Planning Policy No. 33 – Hazardous and Offensive Development, Statement Environmental Planning Policy No. 44 – Koala Habitat Protection, Gunnedah Local Environmental Plan 1998, and any relevant Development Control Plans.	3.2.3.2
	Key issues – Assess the following potential impacts of the proposal during construction and operation, and describe what measures would be implemented to manage, mitigate, or off-set these potential impacts: (a) Noise and vibration (b) Air quality (c) Traffic and transport (d) Fauna and flora, particularly on critical habitats, threatened species, populations, or ecological communities (e) Soil and groundwater quality (f) Surface water quality (g) Hazards (h) Heritage (i) Visual (j) Waste Management (k) Utilities & services (l) Social and economic	4B.5 4B.10 4B.4 4B.2 4B.9 and 4B.1.5.6 4B.7.2.5 3.2.3.2 4B.3 and 4B.12 4B.8 2.7 and 2.12 2.4.4 4B.11
	Environmental Management – Describe how the environmental performance of the proposal would be monitored and managed during construction and future operations.	4B.1 to 4B.10
	You should note that if the Development Application to which these requirements relate is not made within 2 years of the date of this letter, Clause 73(6) of the regulation requires you to consult further with the Director-General before lodging the application	Not Applicable
	Guidelines During the preparation of the EIS, you must consider the Department's EIS guidelines on <i>Coal Mines & Associated Infrastructure</i>	Entire Document



Table A2.3 (Cont'd)
Coverage of Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies - 2002

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Government Agency	Issue	Section
PlanningNSW (30/08/02) (Cont'd)	State Significant Development Requirements For all State Significant Development proposal, the Director-General requires the Applicant to: - Nominate a contact person (with telephone number) to answer public enquiries about the proposal; - Consult with the local Council; - Provide the Department with an electronic copy of the Executive Summary of the EIS with the DA for exhibition on the Department's website; and - Advise the Department of the relevant newspapers circulating in the area affected by the proposal	Completed
	Consultation During preparation of EIS, consult with relevant local, State and Commonwealth government agencies, service providers and community groups in the area, and address any issues they may raise in the EIS. In particular, you should consult the surrounding landowners and occupiers that are likely to be affected by the proposal. The EIS must include a report indicating who was consulted, what consultation occurred, and what issues were raised during this consultation.	3.2.2
	Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 If your proposal contains any actions that could have a significant impact on matters of National Environmental Significant, then it may require additional approvals under the <i>Commonwealth Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)</i> .	Not Applicable
Department of Mineral Resources (19/08/02)	Requirements for the EIS to cover this project include the following.	
	A mining lease will be required to cover the active mining and rehabilitation area	2.1.5
	Land capability classification to be finalised, as this will determine rehabilitation requirements	4B.9.3
	Chemical characteristics of overburden to be established	2.5.5.2
	Coal seams need to be assessed for their propensity to spontaneously combust	2.2.3.4
	Size and shape of out-of-pit dump to be finalised	2.5.5.6
	Details of rejects management strategy to be outlined	2.7.3
	Water management to be addressed, including details of water balance	2.4.4.3 and 4B.7.4.2.3
	Proximity to residents needs to be addressed	4A.3.2
	Traffic, in particular any possible interaction between mining vehicles and road registered vehicles	4B.4.4 and 4B.4.5
	Blasting and the need for traffic control where blasting is within 500m of the road	4B.6.4.5



Table A2.3 (Cont'd)
Coverage of Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies - 2002

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Government Agency	Issue	Section
Gunnedah Shire Council (22/08/02)	Section 94 Consider Gunnedah Shire Council's Contribution and Development Services Plan. Section 9 – Rural Road (non sealed) Construction and Maintenance may relate to this development.	4B.4.4.2
	Wean Road Diversion, haul roads, intersection treatments and road maintenance agreements Consider the location and nature of the Wean Road diversion, to the location and construction of haul roads and to the intersections of proposed access routes with existing roads. It is expected that a maintenance agreement for affected Council maintained roads will have to be developed in conjunction with Gunnedah Shire Council prior to commencement of works at the site. Consult with the Engineering Services Department in relation to these matters.	2.8 and 4B.4.4.2
	Impact on rail movements Undertake an analysis into the impact that the development will have on rail movements with particular attention being made to the impact on Gunnedah in terms of traffic movement interruption	Undertaken for Whitehaven CHPP and Rail Loading Facility
	Social Issues Analyse the impact this development will have on the Shire incorporating information about the number and nature of the jobs that will be created and whether or not they will be filled by people currently living in the Shire or transferred from other mining operations. In addition, clarity is sought as to whether the jobs created include any positions that will have resulted from staff becoming redundant due to proposed "down sizing" of the current Whitehaven Mine operation. Investigations into the flow on effects that this mining operation will have on the regions should also be carried out, with particular attention being made to the town of Gunnedah	4B.11
Department of Land and Water Conservation (15/08/02)	1. SOILS Information on the following is generally required and will assist in assessing the potential for erosion and applicability of various control measures and rehabilitation.	
	1.1 Topsoil	4B.9.2.3, Table 4B.37, 4B.9.2.4.1 and 4B.9.2.5
	1.2 Subsoil	4B.9.2.3, Table 4B.37, 4B.9.2.4.1 and 4B.9.2.5
	1.3 Overburden / Interburden Materials	2.5.5.2, 2.5.5.6, 2.14.5, 4B.7.3 and 4B.9.2.5
	2. STOCKPILES	
	2.1 Temporary Overburden, Ore and Waste Rock Stockpiles	2.2.3 and 2.5.5
	2.2 Topsoil/Subsoil Stockpiles	2.5.4



Table A2.3 (Cont'd)
Coverage of Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies - 2002

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Government Agency	Issue	Section
Department of Land and Water Conservation (15/08/02) (Cont'd)	3. EROSION CONTROL AND DRAINAGE EARTHWORKS	
	3.1 General Design Criteria	4B.7.4
	3.2 Diversion Bank and Channels	4B.7.4.3.2
	3.3 Dams (Sediment Traps, Retardation Structures)	4B.7.4.3.2
	3.4 Specialised Erosion Control and Drainage Works	4B.7.4.3
	3.5 Cuttings, Embankments	4B.7.4
	4. REHABILITATION PROGRAM	
	4.1 End Land Use	2.14.4
	4.2 Reshaping	2.14.3
	4.3 Permanent Out-of-Pit Emplacement	2.5.5 and 2.14.5
	4.4 Disposal of Rejects from Coal Preparation Plans, Concentrators and Mills	2.7.3
	5 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT	4B.2.3.3
	6 MINE INFRASTRUCTURE	
	6.1 Land Reshaping	2.4
	6.2 Cut and Fill Embankments, Steep Slopes	2.4
	6.3 Sediment Traps	2.4.6
	6.4 Roadside Erosion Control Measures	2.4.6
	7 WATER	
	7.1 Surface Water Management	4B.7
	7.2 Groundwater Management	4B.1
	8 VEGETATION	
	8.1 Vegetation with White Box and Yellow Box The EIS, through a suitably qualified Consultant will need to address: (a) Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 which lists Grassy White Box Community (b) New South Wales <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> which under the NSW Scientific Committee has listed the White Box and Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Woodland as an Endangered Ecological Community (c) A study is required to access the area to be disturbed under the development proposal including access, to determine any Threatened Species is within the area or is the area a habitat for any Threatened Flora and Fauna	Not Present
	9 CROWN LANDS	
	9.1 Identification The EIS should identify the location and status of any Crown land and any potential impact on its use, management and amenity:	Figure 4A.4, 4A.3.2.3



Table A2.3 (Cont'd)
Coverage of Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies - 2002

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Government Agency	Issue	Section
Department of Land and Water Conservation (15/08/02) (Cont'd)	9.2 Crown Public Roads If the proposal involves the development of Crown Public Road(s) or part thereof, the Proponent needs to transfer the Crown Public Road or that part to be developed to the Local road construction authority (Council) Section 151 Roads Act 1993. Transfer of Crown Road to Council. The Proponent may need to discuss with Crown lands section of DLWC the need to preserve and maintain continuity of access to the Crown Public Road Network or alternatively, the Proponent should give consideration to making application to close and purchase non-essential Crown Public Roads	Managed Separately
NSW EPA (19/08/02)	In summary, the EPA's key information requirements for the proposal are: 1. air quality including dust; 2. noise including blasting; 3. surface water and groundwater protection.	4B.10 4B.5 and 4B.6 4B.1 and 4B.7
	A EXECUTIVE SUMMARY The Executive Summary should identify all of the processes and activities intended for the site and during the life of the project.	Page xv
	B THE LOCATION Provide an overview of the affected environment to place the proposal in its local and regional environmental context including: (i) meteorological data (eg. rainfall, temperature and evaporation, wind speed and direction)	4A.2
	(ii) topography (landform element, slope type, gradient and length)	4A.1
	(iii) surrounding land uses (potential synergies and conflicts)	4A.3.3
	(iv) soil types and properties (including erodibility, engineering and structural properties, dispersibility, permeability and any soil issues such as salinity)	4B.9.2
	(v) ecological information (water system habitat, vegetation, fauna)	4B.2
	(vi) availability of services and the accessibility of the site for passenger and freight transport	4B.4
	(vii) surrounding planning zonings	3.2.3.4
	The EIS will need to fully describe and provide detailed plans of the site and how the proposal is to be constructed and operated. Physical environmental features such as drainage lines, waterways and wetlands should be clearly outlined and defined on the plans. Location of any surrounding and affected residences should be clearly noted.	Section 2, 4A.3.2 and 4B.7
	The EIS should provide full and comprehensive details of the plant, equipment and management processes proposed for the development	2.5.7



Table A2.3 (Cont'd)
Coverage of Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies - 2002

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Government Agency	Issue	Section
NSW EPA (19/08/02) (Cont'd)	C THE PROPOSAL	
	1 Objectives of the proposal	2.1.1
	2 Description of the proposal	Section 2
	D IDENTIFICATION AND PRIORITISATION OF ISSUES	Section 3
	E ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	
	1 Cumulative impacts	Section 4B (where relevant)
	2 Air	4B.10
	3 Noise	4B.5
	4 Water	4B.1 and 4B.7
	5 Waste	2.12
NSW NPWS (13/08/02)	6 Dangerous Goods and Chemical Transport, Handling and Storage	2.4.4.7 and 2.4.4.8
	7 Soil and Soil Contamination Issues	4B.9
	8 Environmental Management Plan and Monitoring	1.5.2, Section 4B
	General	Entire Document
	1. The entire development area should be assessed including the mine site, all service corridors (eg. roads, pipelines, powerlines) and ancillary development	
	2. All potential off-site impacts that may results from the proposed development should be analysed. Particular attention should be given to the issue of dust and its potential impact on native vegetation surrounding the mine area	4B.10.6
	Native Vegetation	4B.2.2
	Threatened Species	
	1. To adequately assess the likely impacts of the development, a full description of the vegetation communities proposed to be disturbed is required. Particular attention should be paid to the assessment of native vegetation for the Endangered Ecological Community, White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum (Box Gum) Woodland	4B.2.2 and 4B.2.3
	2. The '8-part test' should be completed for those flora and fauna species and communities which are <i>predicted</i> to occur, as well as those which are <i>known</i> to occur in the area	No Longer Applicable
	3. <i>State Environmental Planning Policy 44 – Koala Habitat Protection</i> (SEPP 44) applies to the Gunnedah Local Government Area (LGA). The EIS must consider the presence of 'potential' and 'core' koala habitat (defined under SEPP 44 by the abundance of scheduled food trees and/or the presence of koalas). Where 'core' habitat is found, SEPP 44 requires the preparation of a CKPoM for the site (if one is not already in place for the entire LGA)	3.2.3.2



Table A2.3 (Cont'd)
Coverage of Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies - 2002

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Government Agency	Issue	Section
NSW NPWS (13/08/02) (Cont'd)	Cultural Heritage	
	1. Particular attention to cultural heritage issues is required. Full documentation of the archaeological survey will be required in the EIS	4B.3
	2. All cultural sites identified within the project site will require clear management guidelines. Any sites to be disturbed during the development will require a Consent to Destroy under Section 90 of the NPW Act.	4B.3.4
	3. Care must be taken by the Proponent to ensure that thorough consultation with the Aboriginal community is undertaken. This consultation should be documented in the EIS and should allow for well-informed discussion on a range of cultural heritage issues	4B.3



Table A2.4
Coverage of Additional Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies – 2006

Page 1 of 2

Government Agency	Issue	Section
Department of Environment and Conservation (27/07/06)	The key issues which the EA must focus on are:	
	cumulative impacts within the local area;	Section 4B
	the potential impacts on Threatened Species, Flora, Fauna and Endangered Ecological Communities and their habitats	4B.2.2 and 4B.2.3
	the potential impacts on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage; and	4B.3.5
	the potential impacts on adjacent DEC estate	None Present
	Cumulative Impacts	
	The EA must consider the cumulative impact	Section 4B (Relevant Sections)
	Native Vegetation	
	Impacts of the project on native vegetation (as per the 2002 requirements)	4B.2.2
	Impacts of the project on threatened species, populations, communities and their habitats	
	The EA must follow the 'Draft Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment'. A field survey should be conducted and documented in accordance with the guidelines. Likely impacts on threatened species and their habitat need to be assessed, evaluated and reported on. The EA should specifically report on the considerations listed in Step 3 of the draft guidelines. It should be noted that the assessment criteria listed in Appendix C of that document have now been changed. The new criteria are listed under Part 5A of the EP&A Act	4B.2.2 and 4B.2.3
	The EA must describe the actions that will be taken to avoid impacts, or to mitigate unavoidable impacts of the project on threatened species and their habitat. This should include an assessment of the effectiveness and reliability of the measures and any residual impacts after these measures are implemented	4B.2.2.4 and 4B.2.3.3
	Where measures to avoid or mitigate are not possible, offset strategies need to be considered. In the event that offset strategies are investigated as part of the Belmont Coal Project, the large scale of the proposal and the little potential for offsets within the project site will necessitate consideration of the regional context	4B.2.3.3
	The EA must clearly state whether it meets each of the key thresholds set out in Step 5 of the draft guidelines	4B.2.2.5.3 and 4B.2.3.4.1
	A full description of the vegetation communities proposed to be disturbed is required. Particular attention should be paid to the assessment of native vegetation for the Endangered Ecological Community, White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum (Box – Gum) Woodland	Community Not Present in Project Site
	The EIS must consider the presence of 'potential' and 'core' koala habitat (defined under SEPP 44 by the abundance of scheduled food trees and/or the presence of koalas). Where 'core' habitat is found, SEPP 44 requires the preparation of a CKPoM for the site (if one is not already in place for the entire LGA)	3.2.3.2 and 4B.2.2.3.5



Table A2.4
Coverage of Additional Assessment Requirements of Consulted Government Agencies – 2006

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Government Agency	Issue	Section
Department of Environment and Conservation (27/07/06) (Cont'd)	Impacts of the project on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values The EA should address and document the information requirements set out in the draft 'Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation' involving surveys and consultation with the Aboriginal community. Identify the nature and extent of impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage values across the project area. Describe what actions that will be taken to avoid or mitigate impacts or compensate to prevent unavoidable impacts of the project on Aboriginal cultural heritage values. This should include an assessment of the effectiveness and reliability of the measures and any residual impacts after these measures are implemented	4B.3
	The EA needs to clearly demonstrate that effective community consultation with Aboriginal communities has been undertaken in determining and assessing impacts, developing options and making final recommendations.	4B.3
	Corridor Values Vegetated areas adjoining DEC estate play a complimentary role in providing essential linkages for the maintenance of biodiversity and minimise potential edge effects in DEC estate.	4B.2.3.3
	Development in areas of native vegetation adjoining DEC estate can result in fragmentation of habitat corridors or isolation with other areas of native vegetation in the locality	None Present adjacent to the Project Site
	The EA must consider the corridor values or connective importance of any vegetation on the subject land. The DEC prefers that vegetation on adjoining land that exhibits these corridor values should be retained and, where necessary, rehabilitated	4B.2.3.3
Gunnedah Shire Council (27/07/06)	The examination of social, economic and infrastructure issues needs to be expanded to provide a general overview of the cumulative impacts of coal mining development generally from across the region. The Proponent should analyse the socio-economic implications of this proposal on the Gunnedah Shire having particular regard to availability of labour resources, attraction of skilled labour from existing business, imported labour and the differentials in remuneration as well as the extent to which the proposal will increase demand for services and infrastructure particularly within the town of Gunnedah	4B.11

