

Duralie Coal Mine - Independent Environmental Audit 2020

Response to Recommendations

IEA 2020 Recommendations						
Condition Reference No #	Condition Detail	Management Area	Risk Level of Non-compliance	Auditor Recommendation	Duralie Coal Response	Completion Status
Project Approval 08_0203 Non-compliance Recommendations						
Schedule 2 Condition 8(b)	The proponent shall: (b) only receive shuttle trains on site between 6am and midnight; and	Trains	Low	Prior to recommencement of Shuttle Train Operations, ensure that train operators are made aware of their obligations under this Condition.	Shuttle train records reviewed indicated that one train was received (22 March 2018) at the site after midnight. SCPL accepts the recommendation. Only 1 train was received between midnight and 1am during the entire 3 year audit period. This train was not identified in the report due to an error in the spreadsheet calculation. Hence, no explanation for the late arrival was provided. DCPL has demonstrated all intentions to comply with this condition throughout the audit period. The shuttle train spreadsheet and website have already been corrected.	Open
Schedule 2 Condition 8(c)	The proponent shall: (c) only operate shuttle trains on the North Coast railway between midnight and 1am in exceptional circumstances.	Trains	Low	Prior to recommencement of shuttle Train Operations ensure that train operators are made aware of their obligations under this Condition	SCPL accepts the recommendation. The 2018 Duralie Coal Train Performance spreadsheet indicated that one train (left Duralie at 20:30 on 22 March 2018, arrived back at Duralie at 1am (23 March). No reason for the late arrival of the train was provided on the website. Only 1 train was received between midnight and 1am during the entire 3 year audit period. This train was not identified in the report due to an error in the spreadsheet calculation. Hence, no explanation for the late arrival was provided. DCPL has demonstrated all intentions to comply with this condition throughout the audit period. The shuttle train spreadsheet and website have already been corrected.	Open
Schedule 2 Condition 8A	Within 12 hours of operating shuttle trains on the North Coast railway between midnight and 1am in exceptional circumstances, the Proponent shall provide a detailed explanation of the exceptional circumstances on its website.	Trains	Administrative	Ensure that the reasons for operating trains on the North Coast Railway between midnight and 1am are published on the Duralie Website.	SCPL accepts the recommendation. The 2018 Duralie Coal Train Performance spreadsheet indicated that one train (left Duralie at 20:30 on 22 March 2018, arrived back at Duralie at 1am (23 March). No reason for the late arrival of the train was provided on the website. Only 1 train was received between midnight and 1am during the entire 3 year audit period. This train was not identified in the report due to an error in the spreadsheet calculation. Hence, no explanation for the late arrival was provided. DCPL has demonstrated all intentions to comply with this condition throughout the audit period. The shuttle train spreadsheet and website have already been corrected.	Completed
Schedule 3 Condition 17	The Proponent shall ensure that no offensive odours are emitted from the site, as defined under the POEO Act.	Air Quality	Low	DCPL has responded to the odour incidents and no further actions have been identified during this IEA.	This recommendation relates to four odour complaints received during 2018. There have been no ongoing instances of odour from the Duralie Mine since November 2018. There have been no further complaints relating to odours since November 2018. Duralie have implemented specific response measures since the first odour complaints to ensure potential odours from the Duralie Mine are controlled. During the IEA Inspection no offensive odours were detected. DCPL have provide responses to the EPA as requested. No further action currently required.	Completed

Schedule 3 Condition 22	The Proponent shall: (a) implement best practice air quality management on site, including all reasonable and feasible measures to minimize the off-site odour, fume and dust emissions generated by the project, including any emissions from spontaneous combustion;	Air Quality	Low	DCPL has responded to the odour incidents and no further actions have been identified during this IEA	This observation relates to four odour complaints received during 2018. DCPL has demonstrated compliance with this condition through the implementation of reasonable and feasible mitigation measures to minimise the ongoing generation and release of odour. There have been no ongoing instances of odour from the Duralie Mine since November 2018. There have been no further complaints relating to odours since November 2018. Duralie have demonstrated the intent to comply with this condition through the implementation of all reasonable and feasible mitigation measures to control the generation and release of any odours from the Duralie Mine. This is evidenced by ongoing correspondence with the EPA and follow-up inspections. Duralie have identified and implemented the control measures necessary to minimise odours. Odours from Duralie have been appropriately controlled at the time of the audit.	Completed
Schedule 3 Condition 23b	The Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan for the project shall: (b) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with conditions 17-22 of Schedule 3 of this approval, including the proposed real-time	Air Quality	Administrative	Revise the AQGGMP to include odour risks and management	SCPL accepts the recommendation. The AQGGMP will be revised to include details regarding the management of potential odours at the Duralie Coal Mine.	Open
Schedule 3 Condition 23 (note)	Note: The effectiveness of the Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan is to be reviewed and audited in accordance with the requirements in Schedule 5. Following this review and audit the plan is to be revised to ensure it remains up to date (see Condition 4 of Schedule 5).	Air Quality	Administrative	Revise the AQGGMP to include odour risks and management	SCPL accepts the recommendation. The AQGGMP will be revised to include details regarding the management of potential odours at the Duralie Coal Mine.	Open
Schedule 3 Condition 25	The Proponent shall ensure that: (b) all surface water discharges from the site comply with section 120 of the POEO Act or, if an EPL has been issued regulating water discharges from the site, the discharge limits (both volume and quality) set for the project in the EPL.	Water	Low	The exceedances in water quality discharges from the site were a result of environmental factors and not considered to be related to operational impacts of the mine. No actions relating to this noncompliance have been identified.	This observation relates to only two pH results (Point 36 - North Drain) during the entire audit period which were marginal outside the pH criteria. This is negligible in the context of the monitoring undertaken and was not determined to be related to operational impacts. Duralie has constantly demonstrated intentions to comply with these conditions and has operated to a high standard of environmental performance.	Completed
Schedule 3 Condition 45	After each Independent Environment Audit (see Condition 8 of Schedule 5), the Proponent shall review and adjust the sum of the (conservation) bond to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	Conservation Bond	Administrative	Expediate the finalization of the review of the conservation bond.	SCPL accepts the recommendation.	Open
Schedule 3 Condition 57d	This Rehabilitation Management Plan must: (d) provide for scientific knowledge gained during the rehabilitation, to be made publicly available;	Rehabilitation	Administrative	Update the plan to provide for scientific knowledge gained during the rehabilitation, to be made publicly available. For example, include a process for publication (in appropriate journals) of lessons learned / discoveries related to the rehabilitation works.	SCPL accepts the recommendation. The MOP/RMP will be updated. Information is available on the Duralie website including: * EIS rehabilitation assessment * MOP and rehabilitation management plan * Annual Reviews including rehabilitation progress and reports on rehabilitation methodologies and rehabilitation monitoring results. Information is distributed to the CCC as required. A community information line is operated to provide information when requested.	Open
Schedule 5 Condition 4a	Within 3 months of: (a) the submission of an annual review under Condition 3 above; the Proponent shall review, and if necessary, revise, the strategies, plans, and programs required under this approval to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	Management Plans	Administrative	Establish a register that records the reviews of all management plans (as evidence for future audits).	DCPL accepts the recommendation. The intention of this condition is to ensure that the EMPs remain current and relevant. The Duralie EMPs provide the basis for a highly structure and detailed Environmental Management System. The EMPs will be revised as required.	Open

Schedule 5 Condition 4b	b) the submission of an incident report under Condition 67 below; the Proponent shall review, and if necessary, revise, the strategies, plans, and programs required under this approval to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	Management Plans	Administrative	Ensure that following any reportable incident that the relevant plan is reviewed and if required revised.	DCPL accepts the recommendation. The intention of this condition is to ensure that the EMPs remain current and relevant. The Duralie EMPs provide the basis for a highly structure and detailed Environmental Management System. The EMPs will be revised as required.	Open
Environment Protection Licence EPL 11701 Recommendations						
L2.2	For each monitoring/discharge point or utilisation area specified in the table(s) below (by a point number), the concentration of a pollutant discharged at that point, or applied to that area, must not exceed the concentration limits specified for that pollutant in the table.	Water	Low	The exceedances in water quality discharges from the site were a result of environmental factors and not considered to be related to operational impacts of the mine. No actions relating to this noncompliance have been identified.	This observation relates to only two pH results (Point 36 - North Drain) during the entire audit period which were marginal outside the pH criteria. This is negligible in the context of the monitoring undertaken and was not determined to be related to operational impacts. Duralie has constantly demonstrated intentions to comply with these conditions and has operate to a high standard of environmental performance. Point 27 (VC1) – This dam doesn't currently discharge offsite. The EPL limits are only applicable to water discharged. Refer to notes in the EPL 11701 monitoring spreadsheet. Monthly monitoring is still undertaken in accordance with EPL11701. Point 36 (North Drain) - Two pH results during the entire 3 year audit period where only marginally below the pH Criteria. I.e. 6.1 and 6.3. This is insignificant in the context of the total monitoring undertaken and not related to operational impacts. Point 37 (South Drain) – On the occasions when the sampled EC has been above 1326uS/cm the flow has been directed to the Main Water Dam and not discharged offsite. Refer to notes in the EPL 11701 monitoring spreadsheet. The EPL limits are only applicable to water discharged. TSS is not applicable to Points 36 and 37.	Completed
L6.1	The licensee must not cause or permit the emission of offensive odour beyond the boundary of the premises. Note: Section 129 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, provides that the licensee must not cause or permit the emission of any offensive odour from the premises but provides a defence if the emission is identified in the relevant environment protection licence as a potentially offensive odour and the odour was emitted in accordance with the conditions of a licence directed at minimising odour.	Air Quality	Low	DCPL has responded to the odour incidents and no further actions have been identified during this IEA.	This recommendation relates to four odour complaints received during 2018. There have been no ongoing instances of odour from the Duralie Mine since November 2018. There have been no further complaints relating to odours since November 2018. Duralie have implemented specific response measures since the first odour complaints to ensure potential odours from the Duralie Mine are controlled. During the IEA Inspection no offensive odours were detected. DCPL have provide responses to the EPA as requested. Duralie have identified and implemented the control measures necessary to minimise odours. Odours from Duralie have been appropriately controlled. No further action currently required.	Completed
O7.3b	The licensee shall only: b) receive shuttle trains on site between 6am and midnight; and	Trains	Low	Prior to recommencement of shuttle Train Operations ensure that train operators are made aware of their obligations under this Condition.	Shuttle train records reviewed indicated that one train was received (22 March 2018) at the site after midnight. SCPL accepts the recommendation. Only 1 train was received between midnight and 1am during the entire 3 year audit period. This train was not identified in the report due to an error in the spreadsheet calculation. Hence, no explanation for the late arrival was provided. DCPL has demonstrated all intentions to comply with this condition throughout the audit period. The shuttle train spreadsheet and website have already been corrected.	Open

O7.3c	The licensee shall only: c) operate shuttle trains on the North Coast railway between midnight and 1am in exceptional circumstances.	Trains	Low	Prior to recommencement of shuttle Train Operations ensure that train operators are made aware of their obligations under this Condition.	SCPL accepts the recommendation. The 2018 Duralie Coal Train Performance spreadsheet indicated that one train (left Duralie at 20:30 on 22 March 2018, arrived back at Duralie at 1am (23 March). No reason for the late arrival of the train was provided on the website. Only 1 train was received between midnight and 1am during the entire 3 year audit period. This train was not identified in the report due to an error in the spreadsheet calculation. Hence, no explanation for the late arrival was provided. DCPL has demonstrated all intentions to comply with this condition throughout the audit period. The shuttle train spreadsheet and website have already been corrected.	Open
M2.2	For each monitoring/discharge point or utilisation area specified below (by a point number), the licensee must monitor (by sampling and obtaining results by analysis) the concentration of each pollutant specified in Column 1	Air Quality	Low	No recommendation required as this was an isolated incident that was immediately rectified.	This incident related to one dust gauge sample damaged out of several hundred sampling events over the three-year audit period. DCPL have endeavoured to meet all monitoring requirements throughout the audit period. This administrative monitoring non-compliance would not result in any potential environmental impact.	Completed
M2.3	For each monitoring/discharge point or utilisation area specified below (by a point number), the licensee must monitor (by sampling and obtaining results by analysis) the concentration of each pollutant specified in Column 1	Water	Low	No recommendation required as this was an isolated incident that was immediately rectified.	This non-compliance relates to missing a single monitoring point during the entire 3-year period at Point 27 (VC1) which does not discharge offsite. This administrative monitoring non-compliance would not result in any potential environmental impact. DCPL have endeavoured to meet all monitoring requirements throughout the audit period.	Completed
M7.2	The licensee must notify the public of the complaints line telephone number and the fact that it is a complaints line so that the impacted community knows how to make a complaint.	Complaints Line	Administrative	Update the website specify that the Community Hotline is the also the complaints telephone number.	This matter has never been regarded as non-compliant previously and has never been raised as an issue by a community member. The Community (complaints) Information hotline is shown on the Duralie website on the Community page, Environment page and Contacts page. The Community hotline is also advertised in the local phone directory and periodically in the local newspaper. The Duralie website has been updated to state the Community Information line is also for lodging complaints.	Completed
Mining Lease 1646						
5	(a) The lease holder must report any environmental incidents. The report must: (i) be prepared according to any relevant Departmental guidelines. (ii) be submitted within 24 hours of the environmental incident occurring;	Environmental Incident Reporting	Administrative	Ensure that all reportable environmental incidents are included in the reporting of incidents to the Resources Regulator.	SCPL accepts the recommendation. Incident notifications and reports will be provided to the regulators as required.	Open
General Recommendations						
Schedule 3 Condition 15	The Proponent shall not carry out blasting within 500 metres of any privately-owned land or land not owned by the Proponent unless: (a) the Proponent has a written agreement with the relevant landowner to allow blasting to be carried out closer to the land, and the Proponent has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement; or (b) the Proponent has: • demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the blasting can be carried out without compromising the safety of the people or livestock on the land, or damaging the buildings and/or structures on the land; and • updated the Blast Management Plan to include the specific measures that would be implemented while blasting is being carried out within 500 metres of the land.	Blasting	Recommendation only	Recommendation for Improvement – If blasting is required in 2021, then it is recommended that attempts be made to contact the relevant landowner again to seek agreement for blasting within 500 metres of that private property.	SCPL accepts the recommendation. It is noted that one unoccupied private property is located within the 500 m blast zone. DCPL has previously attempted to contact the landowner in relation to blasting although no response was received from the landowner. DCPL implemented specific measures in the Blast Management Plan to allow blasting to be undertaken safely within 500m of the noted property.	Open

Schedule 3 Condition 16	The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Blast Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	Blasting	Recommendation only	Recommendation for Improvement – If blasting is required in 2021, then it is recommended that the Blast Management Plan be reviewed and revised to ensure that any future blasting is undertaken in accordance with best practice.	SCPL accepts the recommendation.	Open
Schedule 3 Condition 29	The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Water Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must be prepared in consultation with EPA and NOW.	Water	Recommendation only	Ensure that as part of any future revision of the Water Management Plan that all relevant stakeholders are consulted.	SCPL accepts the recommendation.	Open
Schedule 3 Condition 29b	(b) a Surface Water Management Plan that includes: • an irrigation management plan for the irrigation system under the water management system, which includes: - salinity trigger levels for controlling discharges from the irrigation areas.	Water	Recommendation only	The Surface Water Management Plan is attached to Appendix 2 of the Water Management Plan. Table 1 (Section 2) of the Irrigation Management Plan states that details of the salinity trigger values are provided in Section 4.4. Section 4.4 does not detail the salinity trigger values. That information is contained in Section 4.6. Update Table 1 (section 2) of the Irrigation Management Plan to provide the correct reference to the location of the Salinity Trigger Values.	SCPL accepts the recommendation.	Open