



Planning

**Major Projects Assessment
Mining & Industry Projects**

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Mr Steve Bracken
General Manager – Northern Operations
Centennial Newstan Pty Limited
242 Wilton Road
AWABA NSW 2283

Our Ref: 10/06672

Dear Mr Bracken,

**Awaba Coal Project (10_0038)
Director-General's Requirements**

The Department has received your application for the Awaba Coal Project.

The Director-General's requirements for the project are attached. These requirements have been prepared in consultation with relevant agencies, based on the information you have provided to date. I have also attached a copy of the agencies' comments for your information.

Please note that the Director-General may alter these requirements at any time.

If your proposal is likely to have a significant impact on matters of National Environmental Significance, it will require an approval under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). This approval is in addition to any approvals required under NSW legislation. It is your responsibility to contact the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts in Canberra (6274 1111 or <http://www.environment.gov.au>) to determine if the proposal requires an approval under the EPBC Act. If it is subsequently determined that an approval is required under the EPBC Act, please contact the Department of Planning immediately as supplementary Director-General's requirements may need to be issued.

I would appreciate it if you would contact the Department at least two weeks before you propose to submit your EA for the project. This will enable the Department to:

- confirm the applicable fee (see Division 1A, Part 15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*); and
- determine the number of copies (hard-copy and CD-ROM) of the Environmental Assessment (EA) that will be required for exhibition purposes.

Once it receives the EA, the Department will review it in consultation with the relevant agencies to determine if it adequately addresses the Director-General's requirements, and may require you to revise it prior to public exhibition.

The Department is required to make all the relevant information associated with the project publicly available on its website. Consequently, I would appreciate it if you would ensure that all the documents you subsequently submit to the Department are in a suitable format for the web, and arrange for an electronic version of the EA to be hosted on a suitable website.

If you have any enquiries about these requirements, please contact Paul Freeman.

Yours sincerely

David Kitto 22/4/10

David Kitto
Director
Mining & Industry Projects
As delegate for the Director-General

Director-General's Requirements

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

Application Number	10_0038
Project	The Awaba Coal Project, including: • extending the life of the Awaba Colliery until 2015; • extracting coal from existing approved mining areas, extending the Stage 3 mining area and developing the East B mining area to produce up to a total of 880,000 tonnes of run-of-mine coal per annum; • continued coal delivery to the Eraring Power Station and Newstan Colliery; • continued use of the mine's surface infrastructure, including processing and transport systems; • expanding the mine's existing pollution control dam; and • rehabilitating the site.
Location	1.5 kilometres south of Awaba, in the Lake Macquarie City LGA
Proponent	Centennial Awaba Pty Limited
Date of Issue	22 April 2010
General Requirements	The Environmental Assessment of the project must include: • an executive summary; • a detailed description of the project, including: – need for the project; – alternatives considered, including justification for the proposed mine plan; and – various stages of the project. • a risk assessment of the potential environmental impacts of the project, identifying the key issues for further assessment; • a detailed assessment of the key issues specified below, and any other significant issues identified in the risk assessment (see above), which includes: – a description of the existing environment, <u>using sufficient baseline data</u>; – an assessment of the potential impacts of the project, including any cumulative impacts, taking into consideration any relevant guidelines, policies, plans and statutory provisions (see below); and – a description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, minimise and if necessary, offset the potential impacts of the project, including detailed contingency plans for managing any significant risks to the environment; • a statement of commitments, outlining all the proposed environmental management and monitoring measures; • a conclusion justifying the project on economic, social and environmental grounds, taking into consideration whether the project is consistent with the objects of the <i>Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979</i>; and • a signed statement from the author of the Environmental Assessment, certifying that the information contained within the document is neither false nor misleading.
Key Issues	• Subsidence – including: – accurate predictions of potential subsidence effects (both systematic and non-systematic, paying particular attention to the long term

	stability of final pillars and the avoidance of pillar runs and to areas of limited cover depth) including potential cumulative effects and a sensitivity analysis; – identification of sensitive receptors potentially affected by subsidence (such as environmental features, and infrastructure) and an assessment of significance and sensitivity of those receptors; – assessment of the potential impacts of subsidence effects on the natural and built environment, with particular reference to sensitive receptors; – identification of how mine design has been or will be used or adapted to manage and mitigate subsidence impacts; – identification of how predicted and unpredicted subsidence impacts would be rehabilitated, including methodologies and response times; and – identification of further research required to address any uncertainties or information gaps. • Soil and Water – including: – a detailed site water balance, including a description of site water demands, water supply and disposal methods; – detailed modelling and assessment of potential impacts on: - o the quality and quantity of existing surface water and groundwater resources; - o groundwater dependent ecosystems; - o affected licensed water users and basic landholder rights; and - o the riparian, ecological, geomorphological and hydrological values of watercourses; – a detailed description of the proposed water management system (including all infrastructure and storages) and water monitoring program; – a detailed description of measures to minimise all water discharges, and – a detailed description of measures to mitigate surface water and groundwater impacts. • Biodiversity – including: – a detailed assessment of the potential impacts on any terrestrial and aquatic threatened species, populations, ecological communities or their habitats; and – a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid or mitigate impacts on biodiversity. • Noise & Vibration – including a quantitative assessment of potential operational and transport noise impacts. • Air Quality – including a quantitative assessment of potential air quality impacts. • Traffic & Transport – including a detailed assessment of potential impacts on the safety and performance of both the road and rail network, and any railway crossings. • Rehabilitation & Mine Closure - a detailed description of the proposed rehabilitation and mine closure strategies for the project, having regard to the key principles in <i>Strategic Framework for Mine Closure</i>, including: – rehabilitation objectives, methodology, monitoring programs, performance standards and proposed completion criteria; – decommissioning and management of surface infrastructure; – nominated final land uses, having regard to any relevant strategic land use planning or resource management plans or policies; and – the potential for integrating the rehabilitation strategy with any other offset strategies in the region. • Heritage – both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal; • Greenhouse Gases – including:
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	– a quantitative assessment of the potential scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions of the project; – a qualitative assessment of the potential impacts of these emissions on the environment; and – an assessment of all reasonable and feasible measures that could be implemented on site to minimise greenhouse gas emissions and ensure the project is energy efficient. • Hazards - including bushfires. • Waste - including: – accurate estimates of the quantity and nature of the potential waste streams of the project; and – a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to minimise, handle and dispose of waste on site. • Social & Economic – including a detailed assessment of the costs and benefits of the project as a whole, and whether it would result in a net benefit for the NSW community.
References	The environmental assessment of the key issues listed above must take into account relevant guidelines, policies, and plans. While not exhaustive, the following attachment contains a list of some of the guidelines, policies, and plans that may be relevant to the environmental assessment of this project.
Consultation	During the preparation of the Environmental Assessment, you should consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups and affected landowners. In particular you must consult with the: • Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, including the NSW Office of Water; • Industry and Investment NSW; • Mine Subsidence Board; • Land and Property Management Authority; • Department of Transport and Infrastructure; • Lake Macquarie City Council; and • Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority. The consultation process and the issues raised must be described in the Environmental Assessment.
Deemed Refusal Period	90 days

Policies, Guidelines & Plans

Risk Assessment	
	AS/NZS 4360:2004 Risk Management (Standards Australia)
	HB 203: 203:2006 Environmental Risk Management – Principles & Process (Standards Australia)
Soil & Water	
Soil	Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for the Assessment and Management of Contaminated Sites (ANZECC)
	Rural Land Capability Mapping (DLWC)
	Agricultural Land Classification (DPI)
Surface Water	National Water Quality Management Strategy: Australian Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC/ARMCANZ)
	National Water Quality Management Strategy: Australian Guidelines for Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting (ANZECC/ARMCANZ)
	National Water Quality Management Strategy: Guidelines for Sewerage Systems – Effluent Management (ARMCANZ/ANZECC)
	National Water Quality Management Strategy: Guidelines for Sewerage Systems – Use of Reclaimed Water (ARMCANZ/ANZECC)
	Using the ANZECC Guideline and Water Quality Objectives in NSW (DEC)
	State Water Management Outcomes Plan
	NSW Government Water Quality and River Flow Objectives (DECC)
	Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Water Pollutants in NSW (DEC)
	Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Action Plan (Hunter-Central Rivers CMA)
	Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils & Construction (Landcom)
	Managing Urban Stormwater: Treatment Techniques (DECC)
	Managing Urban Stormwater: Source Control (DECC)
	A Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams (LWRRDC and CRCCH)
	Technical Guidelines: Bunding & Spill Management (DECC)
	Environmental Guidelines: Use of Effluent by Irrigation (DECC)
Groundwater	National Water Quality Management Strategy Guidelines for Groundwater Protection in Australia (ARMCANZ/ANZECC)
	NSW State Groundwater Policy Framework Document (DLWC, 1997)
	NSW State Groundwater Quality Protection Policy (DLWC, 1998)
	NSW State Groundwater Quantity Management Policy (DLWC, 1998)
	Guidelines for the Assessment & Management of Groundwater Contamination (DECC, 2007)
	Water Sharing Plan for the Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2009
Biodiversity	
	Draft Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment under Part 3A of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (EP&A Act) (DEC)
	NSW State Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Policy (DLWC)
	Policy & Guidelines - Aquatic Habitat Management and Fish Conservation (NSW Fisheries)
	Policy & Guidelines - Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings (NSW Fisheries)
	State Environmental Planning Policy No. 44 – Koala Habitat Protection
Noise & Vibration	
	NSW Industrial Noise Policy (DECC)
	Environmental Noise Management – Assessing Vibration: a technical guide (DEC)

	Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise (NSW EPA)
	Interim Construction Noise Guideline (DECC)
	DIN 4150 Part 3 - Structural Vibration: effects of vibration on structures (ISO, 1999)
Air Quality	
	Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2002
	Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW (DEC)
	Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in NSW (DEC)
Rehabilitation & Mine Closure	
	Mine Rehabilitation – Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry (Commonwealth of Australia)
	Mine Closure and Completion – Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry (Commonwealth of Australia)
	Strategic Framework for Mine Closure (ANZMEC-MCA)
Traffic & Transport	
	Guide to Traffic Generating Development (RTA)
Heritage	
<i>Aboriginal</i>	Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Community Consultation (DoP and DEC)
<i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	NSW Heritage Manual (NSW Heritage Office)
	The Burra Charter (The Australia ICOMOS charter for places of cultural significance)
Greenhouse Gases	
	National Greenhouse Accounts Factors (Australian Department of Climate Change (DCC))
	Guidelines for Energy Savings Action Plans (DEUS)
Hazards	
	State Environmental Planning Policy No. 33 – Hazardous and Offensive Development
	Applying SEPP 33 – Hazardous and Offensive Development Application Guidelines (DUAP)
	Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6 – Guidelines for Hazard Analysis
Waste	
	Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC)
Social & Economic	
	Draft Economic Evaluation in Environmental Impact Assessment (DoP)
	Techniques for Effective Social Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide (Office of Social Policy, NSW Government Social Policy Directorate)