

UNITED WAMBO

JOINT VENTURE

GLENCORE

12 July 2021

Mr Matthew Sprott
Director – Resource Assessments (Coal & Quarries)
NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment

Dear Matthew,

United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine (SSD 7142) Biodiversity Credit Retirement

Condition B70 of the United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine (United Wambo) Development Consent SSD 7142 has the requirement for United Wambo to make suitable arrangements for the long-term protection of 18.5 hectares of compensatory habitat to account for disturbing the previous compensatory habitat area for United Underground Coal Mine (DA 410-11-2002-i) within 12 months of commencing Phase 1B of the development, that being 20 July 2021.

To replace the existing Compensatory Habitat Area, United proposes to use 18.5 hectares in a proposed offset site to address the requirements of DA-410-11-2002-i to be secured under a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement. Biodiversity credits associated with vegetation communities within the proposed Wambo Offset Site are yet to be allocated in the Biodiversity Offset Strategy and the use of 18.5 hectares of these habitats are considered suitable for replacing the woodland vegetation removed for the United underground mine development as per Condition 45 of DA-410-11-2002-i. The 18.5 hectares are proposed to be allocated from within the following communities:

- HU618 Slaty Box - Grey Gum Shrubby Woodland on Foothills of the Upper Hunter Valley, Sydney Basin Bioregion
- HU712 River Oak Riparian Grassy Tall Woodland of the Western Hunter Valley (Brigalow Belt South).

The allocation of 18.5 hectares to replace the Compensatory Habitat Area will be determined following the finalisation of all credit allocations with the inclusion of all additional proposed Stewardship sites to adequately cover the credit requirements of the Project. On 22 October 2020, the Planning Secretary granted an extension to Condition B56 of SSD 7142 relating to the retirement of Stage 1 biodiversity credits, with the retirement of the credits extended until 6 January 2022. As the 18.5 hectares required under Condition B70 of SSD 7142 are proposed to be retired with the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements being prepared to address Condition B56, it is proposed to align the timing of Condition B70 with this revised date.

It is noted that the disturbance of the 18.5 hectares associated with the former Compensatory Habitat Area is not planned to be undertaken until Years 7-14 of the operation as part of Stage 2 Disturbance (i.e. 2026 - 2033).

United Wambo request an extension of the timeframe specified in Condition B70 from 12 months of commencing Phase 1B (i.e. 20 July 2021) until 6 January 2022 to allow sufficient time for the Stewardship Agreements to be finalised.

Please do not hesitate to call should you have any questions.
Kind regards



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