



**WAMBO COAL PTY LTD**

**ABN: 13 000 668 057**

100 Melbourne Street  
South Brisbane Qld 4101

PMB 1  
Singleton NSW 2330  
Australia  
Tel + 61 (0) 2 6570 2200  
Fax+ 61 (0) 2 6570 2290

9 June 2020

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Attention: Executive Director - Resource Assessment and Compliance

By email: [mike.young@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mike.young@planning.nsw.gov.au)  
Cc: [melanie.hollis@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:melanie.hollis@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Young,

## **RE: VENTILATION SHAFT RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION WORKS**

### **Background**

In April 2020, Wambo Coal Pty Ltd (WCPL) commenced construction of the South Bates Extension Underground (SBEU) upcast ventilation shaft, approved under WCPL's Development Consent (DC) DA305-7-2003 Modification 17 (South Bates Extension Underground) and described in the Mining Operations Plan (Rehabilitation Management Plan) (MOP). For context see Attachment – Figure 1.

Construction of the SBEU shaft was temporarily suspended due to a partial collapse on 3 May 2020. Stabilisation and recovery works have commenced with the successful retrieval of the drill rig, in consultation with DPIE-Resources Regulator.

### **Proposed Recovery and Rehabilitation**

WCPL is planning to recover the ventilation shaft, then rehabilitate the area. Activities will include excavation to the base of alluvium to recover the shaft and make safe and stable. This will require earthworks to 12 metres below natural surface by excavation and battering, resulting in disturbance up to 50 meters outside the surface disturbance area or approximately 0.5 hectares (refer to Attachment – Figure 2).

Following completion of the excavation, battering and recovery, excavated material will be replaced and the final surface made stable and revegetated. The existing rehabilitation processes and completion criteria outlined in the approved MOP would apply.

### **Obligations**

#### **DA305-7-2003**

WCPL Rehabilitation Objectives are outlined in DC, Condition B105 which states:

*The Applicant must rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Resources Regulator. This rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation activities described in the documents listed in condition A2(c) and must comply with the objectives in Table 10.*

**Table 10: Rehabilitation objectives**

Portals and vent shafts of the development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be decommissioned and made safe and stable</li><li>• Retain habitat for threatened species (e.g. bats), where practicable</li></ul>
--	--

#### MOP 2019 – 2020 (Rehabilitation Management Plan)

Section 2.3.8 of the approved MOP states ‘*Ventilation infrastructure, including fans and vents will be removed. A detailed plan of each ventilation shaft will be prepared and the sealing/capping procedure determined in consultation with the relevant authorities and other stakeholders...*’

#### **Approvals Required to Proceed**

Wambo considers this minor extension to the surface disturbance area, as result of the partial collapse of the SBEU ventilation shaft, is generally consistent with DA305-7-2003 and existing MOP. Wambo is seeking confirmation from the Department that the proposed recovery and remediation of the SBEU Shaft can proceed as detailed in the aforementioned plan.

Yours faithfully,

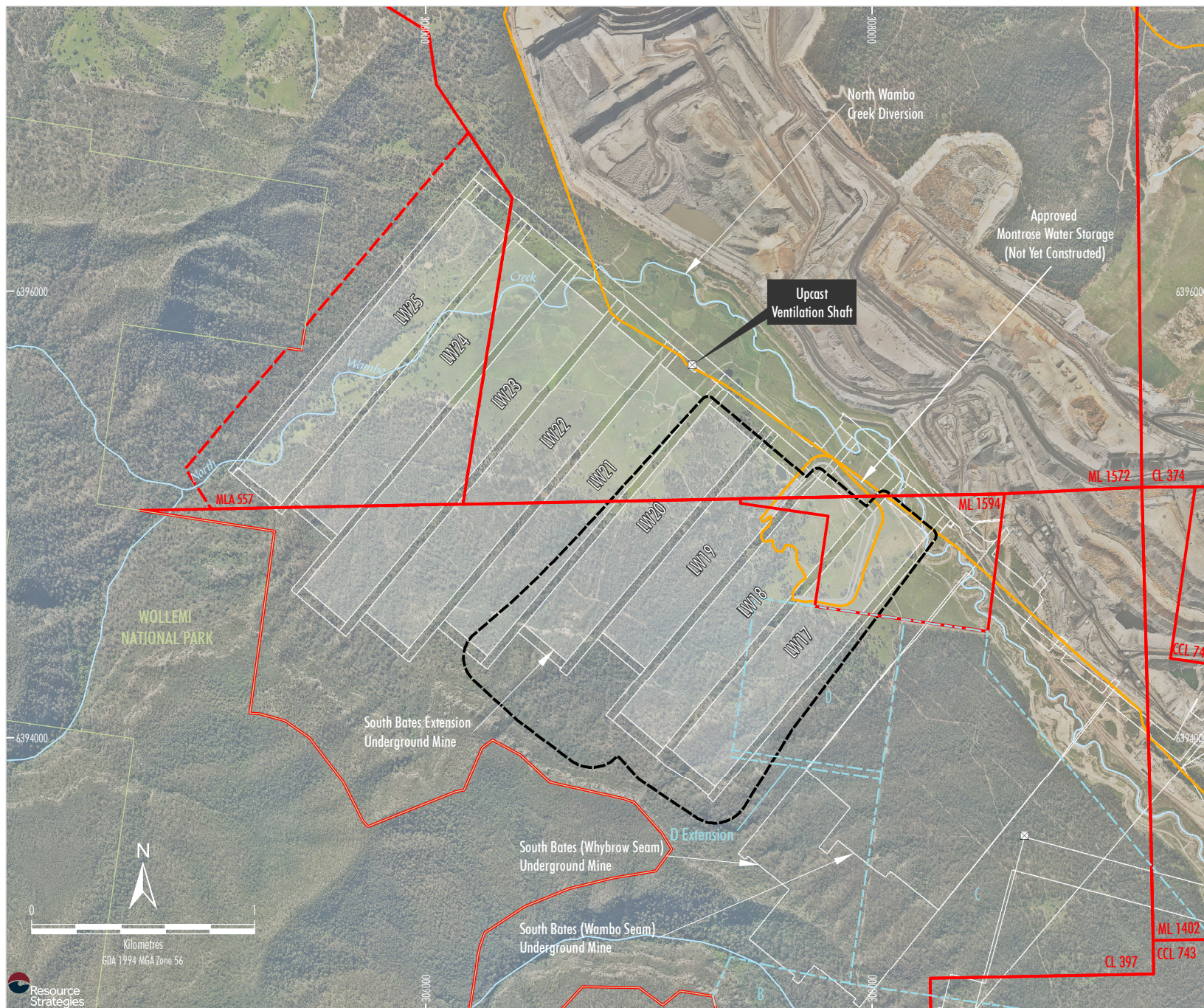


**Peter Jaeger**  
**Manager: Environment & Community**  
**WAMBO COAL PTY LTD**

**Attachments -      Figure 1 – Ventilation Shaft Recovery Context**  
**Figure 2 – SBEU Shaft Recovery and Rehabilitation**

**Figure 1 - Ventilation Shaft Recovery Context**





- LEGEND**
- Mining and Coal Lease Boundary
  - Mining Lease Application Boundary
  - National Park Boundary
  - Existing/Approved Surface Development Area
  - Approved Underground Development
  - X Ventilation Shaft
  - Remnant Woodland Enhancement Program (RWEF) Area
  - Extraction Plan Application Area

Source: NSW Department of Industry (2017); WCPL (2020)  
 Orthophoto: WCPL (May 2017)

**Peabody**  
 WAMBO COAL MINE  
 Aerial Photograph of Longwalls 17 to 20

**Figure 3**



**Figure 2 - SBEU Shaft Recovery and Rehabilitation**



## Legend

- Additional Recovery Area
- Approved Surface Disturbance Area

## SBEU Recovery and Rehabilitation

Date: 05/06/2020

Author: PJ

Approved By: PJ

Version: 1

Projection: MGA 94 Zone 56 - Aerial 20/05/2020

**Peabody**