

Part E

Draft Statement of Commitments

Preamble

This section tabulates and summarises all the environmental design and operational safeguards, management, mitigation and monitoring commitments made by the Proponent with respect to the proposed Glennies Creek Open Cut Coal Mine.

Table E1 lists the commitments that the Proponent intends to adopt to manage the environmental issues related to the Glennies Creek Open Cut Coal Mine.

*The commitments are presented in **Table E1** in terms of their desired outcome(s), action(s) and timing. The commitments relate to:*

- Operational Matters;*
- Environmental Issues; and*
- Environmental Monitoring.*

***Table E1** concludes the Proponent's commitments with a summary of the proposed environmental monitoring and various documents the Proponent would prepare prior to and during the life of the Project.*

*In order to assist readers when reviewing the commitments throughout this section, **Figure E1** presents an aerial photograph of the Project Site and surrounds, together with the boundaries of the main Project components. **Figure E2** presents all monitoring locations.*



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Table E1
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Proposed Glennies Creek Open Cut Coal Mine

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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
1 Environmental Management		
Compliance with all conditional requirements in all approvals, licences and leases.	1.1 Comply with all commitments recorded in Table E1 .	Continuous and as required.
	1.2 Comply with all conditional requirements included in the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Approval; • Environment Protection Licence; • Mining Lease(s); and • any other approvals. 	
All operations conducted in accordance with all relevant documentation.	1.3 Undertake all activities in accordance with the accepted Mining Operations Plan, environmental procedures, safety management plan and/or site-specific documentation.	Continuous and as required.
2 Area of Activities		
All approved activities are undertaken generally in the location(s) nominated on the figures shown in Parts B & D.	2.1 Mark, and where appropriate, survey the boundaries of the areas of proposed disturbance.	Prior to the commencement of the relevant activity.
3 Operating Hours		
All operations are undertaken within the approved operating hours.	3.1 Vegetation clearing, soil stripping and rehabilitation activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.00am to 10.00pm / 5 days a week 	On campaign basis
	3.2 Open cut mining (including waste rock and coal mining), ROM coal transportation (Haul Routes A to D) and rehabilitation activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.00am to 10.00pm / 7 days a week 	Continuous.
	3.3 ROM coal transportation (Haul Route E): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 hours / 7 days a week 	Continuous.
	3.4 Coal processing and despatch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 hours / 7 days a week 	Continuous.
	3.5 Blasting: 9.00am to 5.00pm / Monday to Friday	Up to 5 blasts per week (typically 2 to 3 per week)
	3.6 Highwall / auger mining: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 hours / 7 days a week 	Continuous.
4 Air Quality Management		
Site activities are undertaken without exceeding DECC air quality criteria or goals.	4.1 Disturb only the minimum area required for the operation of the open cut.	Continuous during operations.
	4.2 Re-vegetate soil stockpiles not required for more than 3 months.	
	4.3 Use water sprays and water truck to keep coal stockpiles and coal handling areas in a moist condition.	



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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
4 Air Quality Management (Cont'd)		
Site activities are undertaken without exceeding DECC air quality criteria or goals.	4.4 Use water truck within the open cut, along haul routes and in other areas to minimise the generation of dust.	Continuous during operations.
	4.5 Minimise the creation of minor roads and access tracks during soil stripping, mining operations and rehabilitation.	
	4.6 Use dust aprons, dust extraction systems, water injection or sprays during drilling operations.	
	4.7 Use adequate stemming during blasting.	
	4.8 Commence rehabilitation as soon as practicable once an area is no longer required for mining operations.	
Appropriate arrangement with impacted residents negotiated.	4.9 Continue negotiations to reach an appropriate arrangement with the owners of Residences 32 and 36 (see Figure E2).	Ongoing.
5 Noise and Vibration		
Project-related noise impacts on surrounding residences minimised.	5.1 Restrict hours of open cut mining and ancillary activities (except highwall / auger mining) to 7.00am to 10.00pm.	Continuous during operations.
	5.2 Use noise mitigated mobile equipment which complies with the sound power levels presented in Table 2 of Heggies (2007) in Part 2 of the <i>Specialist Consultant Studies Compendium</i> .	
	5.3 Restrict evening mining operations, where practicable, to the deeper sections of the open cut.	
	5.4 Sequence construction of the out-of-pit waste rock emplacement, and those portions of the in-pit waste rock emplacement that are above the existing ground surface such that during day time operations material would be preferentially placed at the margins of the emplacement to create an acoustic bund, while during evening operations preferentially place material immediately behind the acoustic bund.	
	5.5 Preferentially place waste rock within those portions of the in-pit waste rock emplacement that are deepest within the open cut during evening operations.	
	5.6 Construct acoustic bunds adjacent to haul roads where appropriate and practicable.	
	5.7 Undertake development activities such as tree clearing and soil stripping during day time operations only, where practicable.	
	5.8 Refine on-site noise mitigation measures and operating procedures, ie. based upon monitoring results.	

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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
5 Noise and Vibration (Cont'd)		
Project-related noise impacts on surrounding residences minimised.	<p>5.9 Inform residents that the existing complaints line for Glennies Creek Colliery (1800 505 361) would apply to the open cut mine.</p> <p>5.10 Encourage all residents to contact site management with issues of concern.</p> <p>5.11 Initiate regular discussions with potentially affected residents to proactively identify noise-related issues of concern.</p> <p>5.12 Promptly respond to any issues of concern.</p> <p>5.13 Consider acoustic mitigation at residences where exceedances of the Project specific criteria are substantiated by monitoring.</p> <p>5.14 Consider negotiated agreements with landowners where exceedances of the Project specific criteria are substantiated by monitoring.</p>	Continuous during operations.
Project-related blasting impacts within ANZECC Guidelines.	<p>5.15 Develop a Blast Management Protocol to ensure the safety of employees and the public and adherence with the ANZECC guidelines.</p> <p>5.16 Restrict blasting between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm on weekdays, unless blasts outside this time are required for misfire re-blast, emergency or safety reasons.</p> <p>5.17 Undertake blast design and implementation by a suitably qualified blasting engineer and experienced shot-firer to ensure ANZECC Guidelines met at all non-project related residences surrounding the Project Site. Monitor each blast at representative surrounding residences.</p> <p>5.18 Refine blast mitigation measures and operating procedures ie. based upon monitoring results.</p> <p>5.19 Review site specific blasting procedures to manage airblast and ground vibration impacts through modification of the blast design, as required.</p> <p>5.20 Use appropriate signage, advertisements, phone calls, automated SMS-text messages and letter drops, to notify residents surrounding the Project Site of days and times of blasts and closure of Stony Creek Road.</p>	Continuous during operations.
Minimise impacts on the users of Stony Creek Road	<p>5.21 Minimise the duration of the road closure</p> <p>5.22 Schedule initiation of blasts to avoid peak traffic periods and interference to school bus timetables.</p> <p>5.23 Provide advance notification of planned closure times in local media outlets and via signs on Stony Creek Road and Middle Falbrook Road.</p>	Continuous during operations.



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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
5 Noise and Vibration (Cont'd)		
Minimise impacts on the users of Stony Creek Road	<p>5.24 Provide notification 30 to 60 minutes prior to a blast of updated closure times via automated SMS text messages to residents and others who request to be included on the notification list.</p> <p>5.25 Co-ordinate blasting times as far as practicable with Ashton Coal Operations Pty Ltd to ensure that both Glennies Creek and Stony Creek Roads are not closed during at the same period.</p> <p>5.26 Enable traffic controllers stationed on Stony Creek Road to request the short-term suspension of a blast to allow emergency vehicles to pass.</p>	Continuous during operations.
6 Fauna		
Minimise Project-related impacts on fauna within and surrounding the Project Site.	<p>6.1 Develop Species Management Plans for the Brush-tailed Phascogale and the Grey-crowned Babbler.</p> <p>6.2 Erect nesting boxes suitable for the Brush-tailed Phascogale in trees adjacent to Glennies Creek.</p> <p>6.3 Erect roosting tubes suitable for microbats in trees within the biodiversity offset areas.</p> <p>6.4 Restrict the removal of native vegetation to those areas required for operational purposes in the during the next twelve month period.</p> <p>6.5 Preferentially clear vegetation during late Spring and early Autumn to avoid impacts on nesting fauna and over wintering bats.</p> <p>6.6 Inspect hollow-bearing trees for arboreal mammals, nesting birds and roosting bats prior to their removal. When located, individuals would be relocated to an appropriate location within the most appropriate biodiversity offset areas. Measures would be implemented to ensure that the hollows are not occupied by roosting or nesting fauna between the visual inspection and the commencement of tree clearing operations.</p> <p>6.7 Relocate suitable vegetation, where practicable, to undisturbed areas or areas undergoing rehabilitation.</p> <p>6.8 Exclude stock from the biodiversity offset areas and areas undergoing rehabilitation.</p> <p>6.9 Provide a means whereby Phascogale nesting in trees within the footprint of the Dirty Water Containment Dams have free access to the area surrounding the dam should the trees become surrounded by water (see Figure E1).</p> <p>6.10 Undertake enhancement of the biodiversity offset areas, including establishment of vegetation in an approximately 10ha area adjacent to Glennies Creek within the Northern and Supplementary Biodiversity Offset Areas (see Figure E1).</p> <p>6.11 Undertake revegetation of a 20m wide corridor on the southern side of and adjacent to Stony Creek Road (see Figure E1).</p>	<p>Prior to the commencement of operations</p> <p>Continuous during operations.</p>



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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
6 Fauna (Cont'd)		
	6.12 Continue pest and weed control programs across the Project Site and biodiversity offset areas targeting in particular European Red Fox, European Rabbit, feral cat and feral dog.	Continuous during operations.
	6.13 Revegetate with species consistent with the existing communities.	
7 Flora		
Project-related impacts on flora within and surrounding the Project Site are minimised.	7.1 Limit native vegetation removal to the minimum area required for operational purposes during the next 12 month period.	Continuous during operations.
	7.2 Clearly define and mark areas to be cleared.	
	7.3 Undertake vegetation clearing and topsoil stripping in campaigns only as required.	
	7.4 Progressively rehabilitate all disturbed areas	
	7.5 Harvest any vegetation suitable for commercial timber, if present.	Prior to each clearing campaign.
	7.6 Clear the remaining larger vegetation by bulldozer with the blade positioned just above the ground.	During clearing campaigns.
	7.7 Remove remaining vegetation with the topsoil.	During each topsoil campaign.
	7.8 Relocate vegetation material directly to an active rehabilitation area where practicable.	
	7.9 Exclude stock from all biodiversity offset areas.	As soon as practicable following the grant of project approval.
	7.10 Erect appropriate fences to exclude domestic stock from the biodiversity offset areas and prevent access by fauna to active mining areas and areas undergoing rehabilitation.	
7.11 Establish 10ha of native vegetation adjacent to Glennies Creek within the Northern and Supplementary Biodiversity Offset Areas as described in Part B15.10.2.		
Project-related impacts on flora within and surrounding the Project Site minimised.	7.12 Rehabilitate disturbed areas with seedlings or seed of the species listed in Part D5.4.3.	During rehabilitation and revegetation programs.
	7.13 Preferentially propagate locally collected seed for use during rehabilitation where practicable.	
Introduction of weeds avoided and existing weed species controlled.	7.14 Spray all areas where topsoil is to be stripped to reduce weeds prior to being stripped, when feasible.	Continuous during operations.
	7.15 Retain all topsoil within the Project Site ie. in accordance with Division 2 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 (NSW).	
	7.16 Control noxious weeds and other weeds within the Project Site and the biodiversity offset areas.	



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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
8 Biodiversity Offset Strategy		
Compensate for disturbing approximately 75.1ha of native vegetation	<p>8.1 Agree with the relevant government agencies on a procedure to establish three biodiversity offset areas on Project-related land, namely the Northern, Southern and Western Biodiversity Offset Areas.</p> <p>8.2 Agree with the relevant government agencies on a procedure to establish an additional biodiversity offset area on non-Project-related land, namely the Supplementary Biodiversity Offset Area, should a suitable arrangement be negotiated with the owners of this land.</p>	As soon as practicable following the grant of project approval.
Perpetual restriction on the use of the land covered by the biodiversity offset areas for native vegetation conservation.	8.3 Secure the land covered by the biodiversity offset areas through an enduring covenant or restriction on the use of the land under Section 88B of the <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> , Part 4, Division 12 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> or a similar arrangement, to the satisfaction of the relevant government agency.	
Prepare detailed management procedures for management of the biodiversity offset areas.	<p>8.4 Prepare Flora, Fauna and Biodiversity Management Procedures as a supporting document(s) to the Mining Operations Plan including the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed description of the vegetation found within the Open Cut Area and biodiversity offset areas prior to mining commencing. • Identification of all areas of vegetation disturbed as a consequence of mining-related activities. • Detailed management strategies and procedures, for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – areas within the Open Cut Area and biodiversity offset areas to be rehabilitated to improve biodiversity; and – areas within the Open Cut Area and biodiversity offset areas to be protected to allow natural regeneration to occur. • Identification of species to be planted, scheduling of planting programs, locations of nesting boxes and roosting tubes to be constructed, etc. • Monitoring and reporting procedures, including adaptive measures. 	



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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
8 Biodiversity Offset Strategy (Cont'd)		
Resources available for the ongoing management of the land covered by the biodiversity offset areas.	8.5 The Proponent would manage the land in accordance with the requirements of the Biodiversity Offset Strategy, the conditions of the project approval and any other relevant requirements.	While ever the Proponent retains ownership of the land covered by the biodiversity offset areas.
	8.6 Negotiate an appropriate arrangement for the ongoing management of the land with the appropriate government agency should the Proponent donate the land to a public authority	Prior to transfer of the land.
Improvement in the habitat value of Glennies Creek riparian zone within Project-related land	8.7 Implementation of weed control programs within the riparian zone of the Glennies Creek, including removal of willow and other non-native trees.	Complete remediation of the riparian zone at a rate of 1 000m per year.
	8.8 Replant the riparian zone with appropriate species as described in Section B15.10.2.	
	8.9 Fence riparian zone or provide individual tree guards to protect the planted vegetation from grazing by stock.	
	8.10 Undertake maintenance of remediated areas.	
Improvement in the habitat value of Glennies Creek riparian zone within non-Project-related land	8.11 Proactively seek to enter into arrangements with surrounding landowners to remediate and manage those sections of the Glennies Creek riparian zone, including land within the creek alignment, that forms critical 'linkages' between the biodiversity offset areas and other areas of high biodiversity value.	Ongoing while ever the Proponent retains ownership of the land covered by the biodiversity offset areas.
	8.12 View favourably any request by land owners the Project Site for assistance in remediation of sections of the Glennies Creek riparian zone.	Upon request.
9 Aboriginal Heritage		
Identified Aboriginal sites are appropriately managed.	9.1 Develop a Management Protocol for Aboriginal Sites GC1 to GC19 in consultation with the Aboriginal groups listed in Section D7.1.2 (see Figure E1).	Prior to commencement of operations.
Unidentified Aboriginal sites are not disturbed by the Proponent's activities.	9.2 Confine ground disturbing work to areas where an Aboriginal heritage assessment has been completed.	Continuous during operations.
	9.3 Advise all staff and contractors regarding their responsibilities with regards to Aboriginal archaeological items under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .	As required.
	9.4 Cease work immediately and contact the NSW DECC for advice, in the event that any further Aboriginal objects, including skeletal remains, are discovered.	



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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing	
10 Soil Management			
The Proponent's activities do not result in soil degradation or loss.	10.1	Strip soils in accordance with Table D38 .	Continuous during operations.
	10.2	Minimise handling of soils through direct replacement where practicable and selection of soil stockpile locations to avoid subsequent relocation.	
	10.3	Limit handling of soils during periods of high soil moisture.	
	10.4	Exclude mobile equipment from soil stockpiles once created.	
	10.5	Create topsoil stockpiles between 0.6m and 2m in height, and subsoil stockpiles less than 3m in height.	
	10.6	Position stockpiles away from direct surface water runoff or install upslope water diversion banks or similar controls.	
	10.7	Install downslope sedimentation controls until the soil stockpiles are appropriately stabilised.	
	10.8	Construct stockpiles such that the surfaces are rough.	
	10.9	Sow appropriate non-regenerating pasture species to stabilise stockpiles.	
	10.10	Exclude stock from the final rehabilitated landform and stockpiles.	
	10.11	Establish and use a soil inventory to identify all areas where soil has been stripped, re-spread or stockpiled, and the volumes of material involved.	
11 Visibility			
Day-time visibility of site activities limited.	11.1	Construct a visual amenity bund along Stony Creek Road to screen the open cut from motorists and others (see Figure E1).	During the initial operational phase
	11.2	Progressively reshape and rehabilitate the waste rock emplacements.	Continuous during operations.
	11.3	Consider any request by a potentially affected resident for assistance to create a visual screen on private land.	As required
Night-time visibility of site activities limited.	11.4	Construct haul routes as far as practicable such that headlights from haul trucks are not directed towards residences (see Figure E1).	Continuous during operations.

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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
12 Surface Water		
All surface water managed such that dirty water is retained on-site and clean water is directed into natural drainage lines.	12.1 Construct the Northern Dirty Water Containment Dam and equip with a pump with a pumping capacity of 21L/s, as well as associated dirty water catch drains (see Figure E1).	Prior to commencement of operations
	12.2 Construct clean water diversions to divert clean water away from areas of disturbance to a standard suitable to contain an ARI 50 rainfall event (see Figure E1).	
	12.3 Construct the Southern Dirty Water Containment Dam and equip with a pump with a pumping capacity of 50L/s, as well as associated dirty water catch drains (see Figure E1).	Prior to the catchment for the Northern Dirty Water Containment Dam reaching 11ha.
	12.4 Maintain the Dirty Water Containment Dams in an empty state and pump water out of these dams promptly following a rainfall event.	Continuous during operations.
	12.5 Maintain the maximum operation level of Possum Skin Dam at 87.5m AHD.	
	12.6 Progressively rehabilitate waste rock emplacements to maximise the volume of clean water runoff to natural drainage and losses by evapotranspiration.	
	12.7 Continue current Water Management System.	
	12.8 Pump water from the Camberwell North Pit sump to Possum Skin Dam, the open cut and/or Camberwell South Pit in the event that water levels in the sump approach the level of the Glennies Creek Underground Coal Mine portal.	As required.
13 Groundwater		
All saline groundwater retained on site.	13.1 Pump groundwater from in-pit drainage sumps in accordance with the Glennies Creek / Camberwell site water management system.	Continuous during and following operations.
No build up of highly saline water within final void.	13.2 Backfill the final void with breaker stone or reject material from the Camberwell CHPP.	Following completion of mining related activities.
14 Transportation		
Project-related impacts on transportation and the road network surrounding the Project Site are limited.	14.1 Adopt an appropriate design for the intersection of the site access road and Middle Falbrook Road.	Prior to commencement of operations.
	14.2 Development of a Traffic Management Plan to minimise safety risks and impacts associated with construction of the intersection between the site access road and Middle Falbrook Road.	
	14.3 Adhere to RTA and Council restrictions on transport hours and safety/warning requirements for transportation of "oversize" loads.	



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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing	
14 Transportation (Cont'd)			
Project-related impacts on transportation and the road network surrounding the Project Site are limited.	14.4	Include a requirement for all employees, contractors, suppliers and service providers to drive responsibly on local roads, as well as a mechanism to report alleged incidents of irresponsible driving to the Proponent.	Prior to commencement of operations.
	14.5	Minimise the duration of the road closures on Stony Creek Road as a result of blasting.	During all blasts.
	14.6	Schedule blasts to avoid peak traffic periods and school bus timetables.	Prior to all blasts.
	14.7	Notify the community of approximate road closure times via local media outlets and signs on Stony Creek Road.	Prior to all blasts.
	14.8	Notify the community of updated closure times 30 to 60 minutes prior to a blast via automated SMS text messages to those who request to be included on the notification list.	Continuous during operations.
	14.9	Co-ordinate blasting times with Ashton Coal Operations to avoid the potential for coincident closure of both Glennies Creek and Stony Creek Roads.	
	14.10	Control blasts such that the traffic controllers stationed on Stony Creek Road may suspend the blast to allow Emergency vehicles to pass.	
	14.11	Develop a Blast Management Plan consistent with the above to ensure the safety of employees and the public.	Prior to commencement of operations.
15 Socio-Economic Environment			
Any negative impacts on the social fabric or facilities available to the Glennies Creek community are minimised.	15.1	Give preference to prospective tenants of Project-related residences based on those with primary aged children who would attend the Mt Pleasant Public School.	As required.
	15.2	Consider funding support to maintain the current levels of staff and facilities at the Mt Pleasant Public School should enrolments fall below the relevant funding thresholds as a result of the Project.	
16 Environmental Monitoring			
Ongoing monitoring of air quality.	16.1	Continue operation of and recording of data from the following monitoring locations. a. Camberwell Coal meteorological station. b. PM ₁₀ monitors HV1 and HV3. c. High volume dust monitors, HV1, HV2 and HV3. d. The current network of dust deposition gauges (see Figure E2).	Ongoing.
Ongoing monitoring of noise and blast impacts.	16.2	Establish a network of monitoring locations and report the results of regular noise and blast monitoring in each Annual Environmental Management Report (AEMR) (see Figure E2).	Continuous during operations.
	16.3	Monitor each blast at a selection of local residences, subject to landholder agreement.	



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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
16 Environmental Monitoring (Cont'd)		
Ongoing monitoring of fauna-related impacts.	16.4 Monitor the fauna within the Project Site and biodiversity offset areas in accordance with the objectives recorded in the Mining Operations and Species Management Plans.	Continuous during operations.
Ongoing monitoring of flora-related impacts	16.5 Undertake annual surveys of selected monitoring sites 16.6 Report the results of the monitoring program in each Annual Environmental Management Report	Annually during and following operations until rehabilitation has been completed successfully.
Ongoing monitoring of surface water impacts.	16.7 Continue monitoring of the water level within the Camberwell North Pit sump. 16.8 Monitor and regularly report the volumes of water pumped between storages on site. 16.9 Monitor and regularly report volumes of water used in the Camberwell CHPP and exported to other mining operations.	Continuous during and following operations.
	16.10 Measure the salinity of water in the proposed open cut and final void.	Monthly during and following operations.
Groundwater impacts monitored.	16.11 Monitor bores GC01 to GC16, GCTB, GW067291, GW049285 and GW011543 for the water level, pH, EH and salinity (see Figure E2), until such time as any bore is removed by mining activities or mining has ceased within the open cut and groundwater impacts have stabilised.	Monthly during and following operations.
	16.12 Monitor the above bores biannually for Na, Mg, Ca, Cl, HCO ₃ , SO ₄ and total Fe, until such time as any bore is removed by mining activities or mining has ceased within the open cut and groundwater impacts have stabilised.	Biannually during and following operations.
17 Documentation		
Ensure appropriate documentation of the proposed mining-related activities	17.1 The Proponent would prepare the following documentation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining Operations Plan. • Safety Management Plan. • Species Management Plans. • Traffic Management Plan. • Aboriginal Heritage Management Protocol. • Rehabilitation Procedures. • Blast Management Plan. • Water Management. • Waste Management Plan. 	Prior to commencement of operations with annual review and revision.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mine Closure Plan. 	Two years prior to cessation of mining operations.



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