Section 5
Draft Statement of Commitments

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This section has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, and presents a compilation of the actions and initiatives the Proponent commits to implement if the Project receives project approval. These commitments are designed to effectively manage, mitigate, guide and monitor the Project through site establishment, construction and operation.

The Environmental Assessment of the Project has identified a range of environmental, social and management outcomes and measures, all required to avoid or reduce the environmental and social impacts of the Project.

All parties involved in the design, establishment and operational phases of the Project will be required to undertake their work in accordance with the commitments.

For each draft commitment, the desired outcomes are provided together with the intended actions and timing for the implementation of the nominated actions.

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Table 5.1
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Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
1. Area of Activities			
All approved Project components are constructed and activities are undertaken in the area(s) nominated on the approved plans and figures (unless moved slightly to avoid individual trees).	1.1	Survey and mark the boundaries of the areas of disturbance.	Prior to site establishment and each clearing campaign.
2. Extraction and Processing Activities			
Extraction and processing rates do not exceed assessed maximum rates.	2.1	Ensure total extraction rates do not exceed 250 000t per year.	Continuous during operations.
3. Operating Hours			
Management of operating hours in accordance with project approval conditions.	3.1	Undertake all site establishment and vegetation clearing activities between 9:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.	During site establishment and vegetation clearing.
	3.2	Undertake all drilling works between 7:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.	During operations.
	3.3	Undertake all blasting, small charge popping and rock hammering between 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday.	During operations.
	3.4	Undertake all processing activities between 7:00am and 6:00pm Monday to Friday and 8:00am to 6:00pm Saturdays.	During operations.
	3.5	Undertake all product transportation between 6:00am and 6:00pm Monday to Friday and 8:00am to 6:00pm Saturdays and Sundays.	During operations.
	3.6	Undertake audible site maintenance between 7:00am to 6:00pm Monday to Friday and 8:00am to 6:00pm Saturdays.	During operations.
	3.7	Undertake inaudible / non-intrusive site maintenance at any time.	During operations.
4. Surface Water			
Minimisation of the volumes of sediment-laden water generated and prevention of sediment-laden water discharge off site.	4.1	Construct a sediment retention basin (Dam 1) with a capacity of at least 0.7ML immediately to the north of the proposed extended extraction area boundary to capture and divert clean water runoff.	During site establishment.
	4.2	Construct a sediment retention basin (Dam 2) with a capacity of at least 2.78ML at the southern base of the amenity bund to manage sediment laden water.	During site establishment.
	4.3	Construct clean water diversion banks north of the extraction area to divert clean water into the existing drainage lines west of the extraction area.	During site establishment.
	4.4	Pump or siphon excess water from the quarry sump to Dam 2.	As required.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
4. Surface Water (Cont'd)			
Minimisation of erosion and sedimentation.	4.5	Install additional stabilisation works, such as geofabric and rock ballast, within the channel at the entrance and exit of the pipe culvert for the crossing of the diversion bank by the internal access track.	During site establishment.
	4.6	Construct spoon drains along the internal haul road at lengths as necessary to reduce the concentration and velocity of water flows within the road-side drainage.	During site establishment.
	4.7	Install and maintain sediment fences on the downstream periphery of all stockpile footprint areas, including the proposed stockpile area and surge stockpile, and temporary disturbance areas where the area draining to the fence is less than 0.6ha, the slope length is less than 60m and the slope is no greater than 1:2 (V:H).	Ongoing.
	4.8	Rehabilitate exposed and disturbed areas as soon as possible and practicable.	As areas become available.
	4.9	Sow the diversion banks with a non-persistent cover crop within 10 days of construction to prevent erosion of the bank and drain until native grasses and groundcover are established.	Following construction of diversion banks.
Implementation of a comprehensive surface water monitoring program.	4.10	Monitor surface water quality within Dams 1, 2 and 3 for pH, EC and TSS.	Quarterly and following discharge (up to 4 times per year).
	4.11	Monitoring water quality within Duckmaloi River upstream and downstream including pH, TSS, TDS, specific conductance, CO_3, HCO_3, Calcium, Chloride, Iron (filterable), Potassium, Magnesium, Manganese, Sodium, Sulfur and Total Hardness.	Annually and following discharge (up to 4 times per year).
	4.12	Review the monitoring program following the first 12 months of operation and determine a diagnostic set of analytes for long-term monitoring.	Following first 12 months of operation.
5. Groundwater			
Demonstration that no significant groundwater impacts are occurring as a result of operations.	5.1	Monitor the standing water level within the closest registered bore (GW801330) (with landholder permission).	Monthly during operations.
	5.2	Record the approximate volume of any groundwater inflows into the extraction area.	Ongoing during operations.
	5.3	Review the frequency of monitoring / need for ongoing monitoring.	Annually.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
6. Flora			
Minimisation of short and long-term impacts on flora within the Project Site.	6.1	Clearly define and mark vegetation to be retained to ensure that native vegetation clearing is confined only to those areas required for Project operations.	Prior to the commencement of site establishment / vegetation clearing.
	6.2	Control noxious weeds on the Project Site.	Ongoing.
	6.3	Clean down machinery which has been working within foreign soil material to minimise the risk of introducing weeds and plant pathogens.	Before being brought to site.
	6.4	Exclude domestic grazing animals from the Project Site (except where required for managed fire and fuel control).	Ongoing.
	6.5	Establish the biodiversity offset of 17.2ha in consultation with the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water.	Prior to vegetation clearing.
	6.6	Establish and maintain two compensatory planting areas totalling approximately 2.5ha.	During site establishment and ongoing during operations.
7. Fauna			
Minimisation of impacts on fauna within the Project Site.	7.1	Undertake a pre-clearance inspection prior to each vegetation clearing campaign to determine the presence of breeding/nesting native fauna within the disturbance area. This survey would be undertaken by inspection of trees from the ground and by searches for other evidence of nesting, particularly by threatened bird species.	Prior to vegetation clearing.
	7.2	Restrict clearing to between February and August when possible to avoid the breeding season of threatened species that may potentially occur within the Project Site and surroundings.	During vegetation clearing.
	7.3	Set aside small tree limbs and trunks for use in habitat improvement and rehabilitation.	During vegetation clearing.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
8. Transportation			
Achieve safe and efficient transport operations.	8.1	Prepare and supply a "code of conduct" or similar to all drivers outlining the required conduct during the delivery of materials and details of the local school bus route and times. The code would require: – all loads to be covered prior to exiting the quarry; – all loaded trucks to exit the site over the weighbridge; – minimisation of the use of exhaust breaks when travelling on Ferndale Road; – truck drivers to be conscious of the school bus and school children, particularly during specified pick up / drop off times (details of which would be outlined within the code); and – driving in a courteous and safe manner.	Within 6 months of project approval.
	8.2	Continue use of the 40km/hr speed limit for trucks whilst travelling along the site access road (including the right of carriageway).	Ongoing.
	8.3	Restrict transportation of materials to between 6.00am and 6.00pm daily (Monday to Saturday) and 8.00am and 6.00pm (Sunday).	Ongoing.
	8.4	Direct any overloaded trucks to unload a portion of their load to ensure that the vehicle mass remains within legal weight loadings.	Ongoing.
	8.5	Install reflector posts or similar on Hampton Road, in consultation with the RTA, to allow the assessment of visibility during poor weather conditions such as fog.	Within 6 months of project approval.
9. Noise and Vibration			
All activities are undertaken in such a manner as to reduce the noise level generated and minimise impacts on surrounding landholders and/or residents.	9.1	Install an on-site weather station to enable assessment of adverse weather conditions and management of potentially noise intrusive activities.	Within 6 months of project approval.
	9.2	Notify all immediately adjacent neighbouring residents or those potentially affected prior to the planned site establishment and subsequent vegetation clearing campaigns including the expected commencement and completion dates.	Prior to site establishment and vegetation clearing campaigns.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
9. Noise and Vibration			
All activities are undertaken in such a manner as to reduce the noise level generated and minimise impacts on surrounding landholders and/or residents.	9.3	Restrict vegetation clearing campaigns to between 9:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.	During vegetation clearing.
	9.4	Locate, as far as practicable, the crusher behind product or raw material stockpiles to create additional acoustic shielding. This would be achieved by preferential stockpiling of products in the appropriate locations behind product or raw material stockpiles to create additional acoustic shielding.	During crushing.
	9.5	Undertake rock hammering for up to 16 hours per month between 9:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.	Ongoing.
	9.6	Ensure no rock hammering is undertaken during the operation of the drill rig or during vegetation clearing campaigns.	During drill rig or dozer operation.
	9.7	Undertake all rock hammering on the quarry floor within 20m of the eastern or western quarry faces (for acoustic shielding purposes).	During rock hammering.
	9.8	Restrict the operation of the excavator to the quarry floor during operation of the drill rig.	During drill rig operation.
	9.9	Maintain the 6m acoustic bund along the southern boundary of the extraction area.	Ongoing.
	9.10	Ensure all mobile plant on site use frequency modulated reversing alarms (as opposed to beeping reversing alarms).	Ongoing.
	9.11	Regularly service all plant and equipment on site to ensure no unnecessary noise emissions due to poor maintenance.	Ongoing.
	9.12	Ensure the on-site road network is regularly maintained to limit noise from the bodies of empty trucks travelling on the internal roads.	Ongoing.
	9.13	Ensure product trucks being loaded within the stockpile area are preferentially loaded on the western side of the product stockpiles, whenever possible, particularly during early morning loading operations.	During loading of products from the product stockpile area.
	9.14	Prepare a noise monitoring plan.	Within 6 months from project approval.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
9. Noise and Vibration (Cont'd)			
All activities are undertaken in such a manner as to reduce the noise level generated and minimise impacts on surrounding landholders and/or residents.	9.15	Undertake noise monitoring at representative residences in consultation with the DECCW and local residences.	During site establishment, vegetation clearing campaigns and annual during normal operations.
Achieve compliance with all ANZECC Blasting Guidelines.	9.16	Ensure the use of burden distance and stemming so that explosion gases are almost completely without energy by the time they emerge into the atmosphere.	During blasting.
	9.17	Ensure setting of charges in carefully designed sequences and with inter-row delays so as to consistently detonate and provide good progressive release of burden.	During blasting.
	9.18	Ensure use of appropriate stemming materials, eg. 20mm aggregates.	During blasting.
	9.19	Limit the maximum weight of explosive detonated in a given delay period (the maximum instantaneous charge (MIC)) to conservative and proven levels.	During blasting.
	9.20	Ensure monitoring of all blasts is monitored and the blast design optimised as required to minimise adverse impacts.	During blasting.
10. Air Quality			
Site activities are undertaken without exceeding DECCW air quality criteria or adversely impacting upon surrounding receivers.	10.1	Locate the mobile crushing plant within the extraction area which provides topographical shielding from the effects of winds.	During crushing.
	10.2	Fit dust suppression sprays to the crushing plant.	During crushing.
	10.3	Use a water truck to wet the active internal unsealed roads when trucks are planned to travel on those roads and weather conditions require application of water.	As required during dry conditions.
	10.4	Ensure progressive rehabilitation of disturbed areas, wherever practicable, to reduce the disturbed area exposed to wind erosion.	As areas become available.
	10.5	Minimise the drop heights between front-end loader buckets and trucks carrying raw materials, products or soil through operator training and education on the management of dust.	Ongoing.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
10. Air Quality (Cont'd)			
Site activities are undertaken without exceeding DECCW air quality criteria or adversely impacting upon surrounding receivers.	10.6	Ensure the drill rig used for drilling and blasting utilises water injection or alternatively, be fitted with dust collectors.	During drilling operations.
	10.7	Avoid, where possible, blasting in strong winds from the eastern quadrant that may increase short term dust exposure for nearby sensitive receptors.	During blasting.
	10.8	Undertake monitoring of deposited dust levels at two or three locations surrounding the Project Site for a period of 5 years following commencement of operations. Following the initial 5 years of operation, the need for ongoing dust monitoring would be reviewed in consultation with DECCW.	Continuous.
	10.9	Determine the location of the monitoring sites in consultation with the DECCW and surrounding landholders.	Prior to commencement of monitoring.
11. Aboriginal Heritage			
Site activities are undertaken without impacting upon any Aboriginal heritage items.	11.1	Stop works at and in the vicinity of any Aboriginal heritage sites or relics, if found.	During site establishment, construction and operational phases.
	11.2	Contact DECCW if any Aboriginal heritage sites or relics are found.	
	11.3	Receive authorisation from DECCW prior to proceeding with any works in the vicinity of any identified Aboriginal heritage sites or relics that are found.	
12. Visibility			
Limit the visibility of operational areas from nearby residences and landholdings.	12.1	Plant a visual screen (the Compensatory Planting areas) along the right of carriageway to supplement existing vegetation and reduce potential views of stockpiling and transport activities.	At commencement of operations.
	12.2	Ensure the Project Site is progressively rehabilitated so that non-vegetated areas would be minimised.	As areas become available.
	12.3	Ensure the Project Site is maintained in a clean and tidy condition at all times.	Ongoing.
	12.4	Ensure air quality controls are implemented to reduce visible dust.	Ongoing.
	12.5	Position and direct any lighting required so as to minimise light emissions. Where lighting is not required at any given time, it would not be used.	During operation of lighting.
	12.6	Investigate, in consultation with potentially affected landholders, practical techniques to reduce the visual impact of upper extraction faces prior to establishment of vegetation.	Ongoing.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
13. Consultation, Monitoring and Reporting			
Continued dialogue with the local community and rectification of issues of community concern, where possible.	13.1	Maintain a community complaints response system.	Ongoing.
	13.2	Participate, if requested, in a community consultative committee.	Ongoing.
Collection of meaningful monitoring data and regular review of performance.	13.3	Review all monitoring data on an annual basis and reassess the required monitoring frequency and parameters.	Annually.
	13.4	Report all monitoring results within the Annual Environmental Management Report.	Annually.