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# **Northparkes Mines**

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## **Environmental Audit of Compliance with Environmental Approvals**

CMOC Mining Pty Limited  
Sumitomo Metal Mining Oceana Pty Ltd  
SC Mineral Resources Pty Ltd

MARCH 2015

**TELFORD**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING  
SERVICES

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### Document Control

Revision	Date	Details	Signature
Draft	20 Mar 2015	Draft for review by NPM	—
Final draft	26 Mar 2015	For NPM senior management review	—
Final	30 Mar 2015	For issue	D. Telford

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

### 1.1.1 Operations

CMOC Mining Pty Limited, Sumitomo Metal Mining Oceana Pty Ltd and SC Mineral Resources Pty Ltd operate the Northparkes Mines (NPM) at Bogan Road, Parkes NSW 2870. The mine is located 27 km north-northwest of Parkes.

The mine has operated since 1993 using open cut and underground block cave mining to recover copper-bearing ore from ore bodies at its leases. Operation of the two open cut mines (E22 and E27) ceased in 2010 due to the recovery of ore from these mines becoming uneconomical. Potential exists for recovery of further ore from E22. Underground production of ore from E26 ceased in 2007, while current operations are focussed on extraction of ore from E48.

All ore produced is treated onsite by being crushed in a semi-autogenous grinding circuit, with recovery of copper concentrate slurry using a conventional froth flotation process. Filtered copper concentrate, which also contains some gold and silver, is delivered by road to the Goonumbla Rail Siding, from where it is transported by rail to Port Kembla for shipping to overseas markets. Cyanide is not used in the copper extraction process.

Tailings from the copper concentration process are deposited in above-ground tailings storage facilities (TSF1, TSF2 and Estcourt). TSF1 was closed in 2004/5 and rehabilitation trials are being conducted prior to revegetation. Estcourt, TSF2, and the void generated by the E27 open cut are currently used for tailings storage.

NPM received approval from the NSW Department of Planning on 16 July 2014 for an Extension Project, which will take the operating life of the mine to 2032. The project involves continuation of block cave mining of the E26 and E48 ore bodies, establishment of block caving under the E22 ore body, further development of open cut mines, the construction of the Rosedale TSF, and relocation of the mine access road to McClintocks Lane.

As described in the 2014 AEMR, onsite infrastructure includes:

- “Two former open cut pits E22 and E27, surrounded by ore stockpiles, waste rock dumps and a sound bund.
- Tailings Storage Facilities TSF1, TSF2 and Estcourt.
- The E26 and E48 underground block cave mines and resultant surface subsidence zone.
- Underground mining fixed plant including two crushers, maintenance workshops and materials handling conveyor system.
- Surface mining related infrastructure such as the portal, hoisting shaft, ventilation fans, transfer and overland conveyor, mining offices and contractor laydown areas.
- Marginal ore stockpiles, waste rock dumps and stockpiles of clay and oxide material located around the surface subsidence zone outside the predicted subsidence limits.
- The processing plant, including surface crusher, crushed ore stockpiles, active grinding mills, froth flotation area, concentrate filtration and storage bays and tailings storage facilities.
- Service infrastructure including administration building and change rooms, core shed, metallurgical laboratory, emergency response shed, warehouse, workshop, electrical infrastructure, surface contractor lay down areas and associated roads.
- Goonumbla rail siding infrastructure including fuel dispensing facilities and portable amenities.
- Farm infrastructure includes bulk storage sheds, workshop and grain silos”.

### 1.1.2 Approvals

The audit has assessed compliance of NPM operations against environmental conditions contained in the approvals detailed in Table 1.

**Table 1 Details of approval, licence and mining lease**

Reference	Authority	Control and activity	Date
11-0600	Department of Planning and Environment	Project approval: Northparkes Mine Step Change Project	16 Jul 2014
1784	Environment Protection Authority	Environment Protection Licence: Mining for minerals	1 Dec 2013
1641	Division of Resources & Energy	Mining lease	15 Aug 2013

## 2 Audit Details

### 2.1 Audit Objective

To assess compliance of operations conducted by Northparkes Mines against environmental protection conditions contained in the Department of Planning and Environment project approval, Environment Protection Authority environment protection licence and the Division of Resources & Energy mining lease.

### 2.2 Audit Scope

#### 2.2.1 Activity audited

The audit assessed operations conducted by Northparkes Mines at their mining operations at Bogan Road, Parkes NSW.

#### 2.2.2 Period of time covered by the audit

The audit assessed activities conducted by NPM since the last independent environmental compliance of December 2011 to the date of the present audit, March 2015.

#### 2.2.3 Exclusions from the audit scope

The scope of the audit was limited to the mining activities conducted by NPM referenced in the approvals listed in Table 1. The audit did not include exploration activities conducted by NPM or water extraction from the Lachlan River and Lachlan Bore field, as these were not controlled by the regulatory approvals being audited. Site sampling or monitoring was not conducted for the audit.

#### 2.2.4 Audit criteria

The audit considered compliance of operations at the premises with conditions specified in the approvals listed in Table 1.

#### 2.2.5 Auditor

The audit was conducted by Dr David Telford of Telford Environmental Consulting Services Pty Ltd. David is an EPA Victoria appointed environmental auditor of industrial facilities. Information presented in this audit report is subject to the limitations given in section 2.4 of this report.

### 2.3 Audit Method

#### 2.3.1 Site meetings and inspections

An opening meeting, held on 5 March 2015, to brief senior NPM personnel on the purpose, scope and approach to the audit was attended by:

- Stef Loader – Managing Director;
- Rob Cunningham – Manager – Health, Safety, Environment & Farms (HSEF);
- Michael Priest – Environment and Farming Superintendent;
- Pamela Naidoo – Exploration and Technical Services Manager;

- Hubert Lehman – Asset Manager;
- Bharath Ramakrishnappa – Senior Environment Advisor; and
- Ali Yousef – Environment and Health Advisor.

The NPM site and surrounding land, including remote noise and dust monitors was inspected on 4, 5 and 6 March 2015 in the company of a member of the Environment Group.

Preliminary audit findings were discussed with the Senior Environment Advisor on 12 November 2014.

### 2.3.2 Audit checklists

Audit checklists, based on conditions of the project approval, EPL and mining leases for NPM were prepared before the site visit. The audit checklists were completed during the audit with the recording of compliance rating and audit evidence against each condition. A copy of the completed audit checklists is provided in Appendices A, B and C.

### 2.3.3 Compliance assessment criteria

Compliance assessment criteria used for this audit were:

- Compliant
- Non-compliant
- Opportunity for Improvement
- Not Applicable.

**Compliant** findings denote that the requirements of the permit condition were met.

**Non-compliant** denotes that part or all of the permit condition requirements were not met.

An **opportunity for improvement** is a practice that could be modified to improve environmental performance or management and does not denote non-compliance.

**Not applicable (N/A)** denotes that the permit condition is not relevant due to expiry of its requirement or as NPM has not conducted activities relevant to the condition during the audit period.

### 2.3.4 NPM personnel interviewed

NPM personnel who were interviewed during, or participated in the audit were:

- Stef Loader – Managing Director;
- Rob Cunningham – HSEF Manager;
- Pamela Naidoo – Exploration and Technical Services Manager;
- Hubert Lehman – Asset Manager;
- Steve Vickers – Senior Mechanical Engineer;
- Michael Priest – Environment and Farming Superintendent;
- Bharath Ramakrishnappa – Senior Environment Advisor;
- Ali Youssef – Environment and Health Advisor;
- Róisín Feeney – Environment Advisor Ecology
- Nartayliah Vandyk – Environment Trainee.

### 2.3.5 Stakeholder involvement

Prior to the site inspection, contact was made by telephone with the following authority representatives to seek comment on elements of NPM operations that they considered were of potential environmental concern and warranted particular attention during the audit:

- Department of Planning & Environment (Kane Winwood);
- EPA (Bradley Tanswell – on behalf of Michelle Gibson);
- Division of Resources and Energy, NSW Trade & Investment (Steve Clipperton); and

- Department of Primary Industries Office of Water (Tim Baker).

### 2.3.6 Documents viewed

Documents viewed during the audit included:

- AEMR 2011
- AEMR 2012
- AEMR 2013
- AEMR 2014
- Air Quality Management Plan, version 10 (April 2014)
- Biodiversity Management Plan. Umwelt, November 2014
- Blast Management Plan, version 1 (May 2014)
- Construction Environment Management Plan, draft version 1 (March 2015)
- Cultural Heritage Management Plan, version 0 (February 2003)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Combined Exploration Report ML1247, 1367, 1641. 2012
- 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Combined Exploration Report ML1247, 1367, 1641, 2013
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Combined Exploration Report ML1247, 1367, 1641, 2014
- 2014-15 Environmental Monitoring Program spreadsheet
- Environment Management Strategy, version 5 (February 2011)
- Environment Management Strategy, version 6 (May 2014)
- Environmental Noise Monitoring Quarter 2, 2014, ESP, June 2014
- EPA Clean Up Notice No. 152541114 (October 2014)
- Response to EPA draft Notice to Clean up 1525411
- Northparkes Mines response to draft notice 1525411
- Northparkes Mines Letter and draft notice of clean up action 1525411
- 20141107 - Northparkes Mines Tails Spill Final Incident Report 1
- Northparkes Mines government notification of environmental incident - tails line failure, 8 October 2014
- EPA Official Caution Letter Tails Spill Oct 2014
- Northparkes Mines government notification of environmental incident – night time noise exceedance, 21 May 2014
- Groundwater Management Plan. GHD, October 2014
- Independent Environmental Audit. ERM, 23 December 2011
- ML 1367 20140103 D15 ES Transfer
- ML 1247 20140303 D28 ES Security Review
- ML 1247 20140103 D25 ES Transfer
- ML 1367 20140303 D18 ES Security Review
- ML 1641 20140103 D4 ES Transfer
- ML 1641 20140303 D7 ES Security Review
- ML 1641 Transfer Approval Document, Conditions & Diagram
- ML 1247 ML 1367 ML 1641 Rehabilitation Cost Calculation Tool v2
- Mining Operations Plan 2015-2020 (March 2015)
- Noise Management Plan, version 7 (May 2014)
- Non-Mineral Waste Management Plan, version 10 (February 2012)
- Rehabilitation Management Plan, version 7 (May 2014)
- Site Water Balance. GHD, August 2014
- Species Management Plan for the Pine Donkey Orchid, version 0 (February 2015)
- Surface Water Management Plan. GHD, August 2014
- Water Management Plan. GHD, October 2014.



## 2.4 Limitations

This report was prepared for CMOC Mining Pty Limited, Sumitomo Metal Mining Oceana Pty Ltd, and SC Mineral Resources Pty Ltd [the Client] for the purpose of an audit of operations at the Northparkes Mine for compliance against the regulatory control documents listed in Table 1 of this report. The contents of this report are based on information gathered during execution of the commission and on information provided by the Client. The conclusions presented in this report are conditional upon accurate and complete information being provided by the client.

The representations (relevancy) of the information contained in this report are subject to, and conditional upon, site conditions, activities and personnel changes (“Factors”) as they occur from time to time. Accordingly, the report may need to be reviewed in light of the time that has elapsed since its release, and changes including but not limited to, the Factors outlined above.

This report shall only be presented in full and may not be altered, amended, abbreviated or issued in part without prior approval by Telford Environmental Consulting Services.

This report has been prepared by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the sole use of the Client. No warranties, expressed or implied are offered to any parties other than the Client and no liabilities will be accepted for the use of this report by any third party.

## 3 Audit Findings

### 3.1 Comments Made by Stakeholder Contacts

Representatives of DPE, EPA, DRE and DPI who were contacted for the audit expressed their satisfaction with the manner in which NPM was managing the environmental aspects of the operations.

The DPE representative did not identify any issues of concern. He indicated that DPE is presently reviewing the environment management plans submitted by NPM. He noted that the plans had not been approved by the due date, but was not concerned, as they had been lodged with DPE by the required time.

The EPA representative did not identify any specific issues relating to mine operations, but identified the primary issues the EPA would like the audit to consider as:

- “Management and mitigation of Dust and compliance with relevant conditions of licenses, consent, permits etc of relevant agencies;
- Surface water management and compliance with relevant conditions of licenses, consent, permits etc of relevant agencies;
- Management and mitigation of Noise and compliance with relevant conditions of licenses, consent, permits etc of relevant agencies;
- Compliance with the Environment Protection Licence for the premises;
- Compliance with relevant environmental management/compliance conditions of consent issued by Department of Planning and Environment”.

The Division of Resources and Energy representative stated that NPM had a clean sheet, with all reporting conducted on time. He asked that the audit consider in particular all lease conditions and implementation of the Mining Operations Plan.

The Office of Water representative did not identify any issues of concern regarding water use and waterway protection at the NPM site. He did express interest in Lachlan River and Lachlan Borefield access, however, assessment of these was outside the scope of the audit.

### 3.2 Compliance with Regulatory Controls

Compliance with each condition of the regulatory controls has been assessed and detailed in checklist tables provided in Appendices A, B and C. A summary of the audit results is provided in Table 2. As noted above, opportunities for improvement do not denote non-compliance.

**Table 2 Summary of audit findings**

Audit finding	Number of audit findings
Compliant	114
Non-compliant	3
Opportunity for improvement	9
Not applicable	17

The audit determined that NPM complied with all but three of the conditions of the Department of Planning project approval, EPA environment protection licence and DPI mining lease. A summary of the non-compliance findings is provided in Table 3. Recommended actions to address the non-compliances are provided in Table 6.

**Table 3 Summary of audit non-compliance findings**

Identifier	Condition	Non-compliance	Risk to the environment †
NC-1	PA, Schedule 5, 1	NPM has not written to owners of privately-owned land within 2 kilometres of the approved open cut mining informing them of their entitlements.	Insignificant
NC-2	PA, Schedule 5, 3	NPM contacts affected landowners by telephone to discuss any exceedances of relevant monitoring criteria; for example, elevated dust or noise results. They have not followed these conversations up with written notification, as the landowners prefer to speak direct with the mine representatives without receiving letters in the post.	Insignificant
NC-3	PA, Schedule 6, 11	NPM has published a range of documents on its website, however, the information published does not meet the requirements of this condition.	Insignificant

† *Insignificant risk to the environment* denotes that, while (in these three instances) there is non-compliance with a regulatory requirement, the potential impact on the environment of that non-compliance is insignificant or not-detectable.

### 3.3 Opportunities for improvement

Nine opportunities for improvement were identified during the audit. Details of the opportunities for improvement are provided in Table 4. Recommended actions to address the opportunities for improvement are provided in Table 6.

**Table 4 Opportunities for improvement**

Identifier	Condition	Opportunity for improvement
Ofi-1	EPL M2.2	Groundwater standing water levels are recorded and reported relative to the top of casing for the respective bores. The results should be reduced to metres Australian Height Datum to enable comparison of the relative groundwater standing water levels between the monitored bores.
Ofi-2	PA Schedule 3 2	NPM should ensure the hours of construction are restricted to 0700 to 1800 in accordance with this condition. Some NPM representatives are uncertain of the daytime hours specified by this condition.
Ofi-3	PA Schedule 3 3	The Noise Management Plan (s 6.1) includes specific controls for noise control during the Extension Project construction works and identifies the planned preparation of a Construction Noise Management Plan (CNMP), however, NPM is controlling construction noise through the Construction Management Plan, Environmental Management Strategy and the existing Noise Management Plan, and does not propose to prepare a CNMP.
Ofi-4	PA Schedule 4 17	Condition 7 of Schedule 6 requires the proponent to shall immediately notify the Secretary and any other relevant agencies of any incident and to provide the Secretary and any relevant agencies with a detailed report on the incident within seven days of the date of the incident. The plan, however, specifies that; "All exceedances and investigations will be reported to the regulators within 7 working days of the incident". This is inconsistent with the requirement and could lead to a reporting non-compliance.

Identifier	Condition	Opportunity for improvement
Ofi-5	PA Schedule 4 18	Condition 18 requires NPM to establish a meteorological station that is capable of continuous real-time measurement of stability class in accordance with the NSW Industrial Noise Policy. The policy, however, describes how direct measurement of the temperature lapse rate can be accomplished, but does not require continuous real-time measurement of stability class. The NPM meteorological station software is not able to provide continuous real-time stability class data.
Ofi-6	PA Schedule 4 38	The Non-Mineral Waste Management Plan states that it is to be reviewed and updated annually. The current version (10) was last reviewed in 15 February 2012.
Ofi-7	PA Schedule 4 39	The Rehabilitation Management Plan (s 3.1) lists public safety as a rehabilitation objective, however, it does not provide details on how public safety will be achieved after mine closure.
Ofi-8	PA Schedule 6 1	The Environmental Management Strategy provides a strategic framework for the environmental management of the mine and includes the monitoring and measurement schedule. The current version of the plan (version 6, May 2014) has an out of date revision of the monitoring and measurement schedule.
Ofi-9	PA Schedule 6 8	Sustainable development reports and some quarterly environmental monitoring summaries are published on the NPM website. The information published on the NPM website is not complete and maintenance of this part of the website could be substantially improved.

### 3.4 Implementation of 2011 Audit Recommendations

An audit of compliance with project approvals was conducted by ERM in 2011. The audit identified ten environmental issues for which recommendations were made. Actions taken by NPM to address each recommendation are identified in Table 5.

**Table 5 Summary of 2011 audit non-compliance findings**

Issue	Condition	Recommendation	Action taken by NPM
Revision and approval of management plans	Schedule 2 condition 1  Schedule 4 condition 9	Confirm approval status of all management plans, programs and strategies. Once approved supply documents to appropriate agencies and update NPM website to include current management plans.  Update HSEQ MS Documentation and Document Control Procedure to include requirement to distribute Environmental Management Plans to relevant regulatory authorities on revision.	Environmental management plans have been updated and provided to the relevant regulatory agencies.  A copy of the management plans was published on the NPM website, however these have since become redundant.  See Ofi-9.
Water discharge incidents	Schedule 3 condition 6	As such ERM recommends water management contingency planning be reviewed, and that inspection programmes for water controls be enhanced as detailed in later findings.	The most recent version of the Water Management Plan was completed in October 2014 and includes monitoring requirements.

Issue	Condition	Recommendation	Action taken by NPM
Incident and exceedance reporting	Schedule 4 Condition 3	NPM should review incident response protocols to ensure the EPA and other relevant agencies are notified immediately of potential environmental impacts, not after the impacts have been assessed.	These and other measures are specified in the Pollution Incident Response Management Plan, which is published on the NPM website.
Dust	EPL Condition 03.1	Close out TSF 1 dust complaint incident investigation and implement appropriate mitigation measures to reduce potential dust emissions from TSF1 and TSF2.  Ensure adequate dust management measures are available for inactive components of projects. Where no immediate plans are in place to utilise any disturbed area, long term dust control options should be implemented.	NPM has placed straw bales on the surface of TSF1 to control airborne dust emissions. Revegetation trial plots have been established on TSF1 to identify the most suitable method of rehabilitation.
Sediment discharge	EPL Condition 01.1	... it is recommended that the inspection process be reviewed to assess whether it is comprehensive and whether the inspections are rigorous	The surface water management infrastructure has been reviewed and modified to provide 1:100 year ARI onsite runoff containment capacity.
Sediment discharge	EPL Condition R2	Given recent announcements of impending legislation to require immediate notification of material environmental harm NPM should review incident response protocols to ensure the EPA and other relevant agencies are notified immediately of potential environmental impacts, not after the impacts have been assessed.	NPM incident reporting protocols require immediate reporting of significant incidents, followed up by written reports within seven days of the event.
Reporting of Incidents	EPL Condition R3.2	NPM to make resources available to respond appropriately to EPA requests in identified timeframes.	The PIRMP sets time frames for responses to EPA, which is supported by NPM personnel supplemented by on-site services contractor personnel if necessary.
Topsoil stockpile height	Statement of Commitment 3.5	NPM Engineering to respond to NPM Environment team's recommendations. It is understood that a formal letter of correction has already been sent to the contractor.  NPM Environment Team to consider whether stockpile requirements can be enforced more effectively with contractors prior to construction. It is recommended that a more rigorous programme of follow-up Compliance Inspections be put in place.	No longer applicable. The environment team contributes to the project planning team to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

Issue	Condition	Recommendation	Action taken by NPM
E48 Mine Water quality monitoring	Statement of Commitment 13.7	NPM should confirm that required monitoring is in place and notify OEH accordingly.	The Water Management Plan identifies water quality monitoring and reporting requirements.
Review of Water Management Plan	Statement of Commitment 6	Confirm approval status of Water Management Plan and consult with OWE (currently referred to as the NSW Office of Water) and OECC (OEH) as to adequacy of the measures relating to Escort construction and operation surface water management infrastructure	The most recent version of the Water Management Plan was completed in October 2014 and includes monitoring requirements.

## 4 Recommendations

The following recommendations are drawn from the non-compliances and opportunities for improvement. Recommendations with a high priority status, which include all non-compliances, should be addressed as soon as possible, those with medium priority within the next six months, and with low priority within the next year.

Details of the non-compliances are provided in Table 3, and for the opportunities for improvement in Table 4.

**Table 6 Recommendations**

Identifier	Condition	Recommendation	Priority
NC-1	PA Schedule 5 1	Write to the owners of privately-owned land within 2 kilometres of the approved open cut mining to inform them of their entitlements in accordance with the Project Approval.	High
NC-2	PA Schedule 5 3	Apply to the Department for approval to notify the landowners by telephone rather than in writing. The conversations could be logged in a telephone diary to retain a record of their outcome.	High
NC-3	PA Schedule 6 11	Update and maintain the environmental publications page on the NPM website to meet Project Approval requirements.	High
Ofi-1	EPL M2.2	Reduce groundwater standing water level monitoring results to metres AHD.	Low
Ofi-2	PA Schedule 3 2	Confirm understanding of statutory day time hours during which McClintocks Lane construction works may occur.	High
Ofi-3	PA Schedule 3 3	Amend the Noise Management Plan to remove reference to preparation of a proposed Construction Noise Management Plan.	Low
Ofi-4	PA Schedule 3 17	Amend the Air Quality Management Plan to provide a correct timeframe for incident reporting requirements.	Low
Ofi-5	PA Schedule 3 18	Consult with Department of Planning to confirm the specific requirements of the met station condition and meet the requirements of the condition.	Medium
Ofi-6	PA Schedule 3 38	Review and update the Non-Mineral Waste Management Plan.	Medium
Ofi-7	PA Schedule 3 39	Amend the Rehabilitation Management Plan to provide details on how to achieve public safety after mine closure.	Low
Ofi-8	PA Schedule 6 1	Amend the Environmental Management Strategy to include the current version of the monitoring and measurement schedule.	Medium
Ofi-9	PA Schedule 6 8	Provide more regular reporting of NPM environmental performance results on the website. Ensure the current version of environmental management plans are published on the website.	Medium

## 5 Conclusion

Operations at the Northparkes Mine have complied with all but three of the conditions of the project approval, environment protection licence and mining lease. The three non-compliances were due to administrative omissions that have not caused harm to the environment.

The environment management group at NPM has undergone a considerable turnover of personnel during the past two years, which has possibly caused the loss of focus on some of the finer details of procedure management and content. This is reflected in the nine opportunities for improvement, which mostly address this second level administrative side of environmental management. The higher level of environmental management administration is being managed to a degree at which the regulatory representatives have no expressed concerns regarding the mine's environmental performance.

These achievements reflect the proactive and skilled management of environmental aspects of the mining operations by the environmental personnel who are actively supported by mine senior management. A clear indicator of the success of the environmental management team is the close liaison and good relationship that is maintained with neighbouring farmers.

Overall, operations at the Northparkes Mine have been managed to minimise their impact on the environment and to comply with environmental regulatory controls. The mining lease is well maintained; for example, it is free of unauthorised lay down areas, fuel depots and litter, all traffic is confined to formed roads or defined works areas, and access to rehabilitation areas is controlled.



Appendix A

Completed Audit Checklist – Environment  
Protection Licence 4784

**Appendix A Northparkes Mine Audit Checklist**

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance						
<b>Environment Protection Licence 4784 – Licence version date 1 December 2013</b>									
<b>1</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS</b>	—	—						
<b>A1</b>	<b>What the licence authorises and regulates</b>	—	—						
A1.1	<p>This licence authorises the carrying out of the scheduled activities listed below at the premises specified in A2. The activities are listed according to their scheduled activity classification, fee-based activity classification and the scale of the operation.</p> <p>Unless otherwise further restricted by a condition of this licence, the scale at which the activity is carried out must not exceed the maximum scale specified in this condition.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Scheduled activity</th> <th>Fee Based Activity</th> <th>Scale</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mining for minerals</td> <td>Mining for minerals</td> <td>&gt;500,000 T produced</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Scheduled activity	Fee Based Activity	Scale	Mining for minerals	Mining for minerals	>500,000 T produced	<p>Operations at the premises comprise mining for minerals.</p> <p>Annual ore production rates in 2012, 2013 and 2014 have been greater than 500,000 tonnes.</p>	Compliant
Scheduled activity	Fee Based Activity	Scale							
Mining for minerals	Mining for minerals	>500,000 T produced							
<b>A2</b>	<b>Premises or plant to which this licence applies</b>	—	—						
A2.1	<p>This licence applies to the following premises:</p> <p>Northparkes Mine                      Bogan Road                      Parkes                      NSW 2870                      ML 1247</p>	Consistent with the location and street address of the mining operations.	Compliant						

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>A3</b>	<b>Information supplied to the EPA</b>	—	—
A3.1	<p>Works and activities must be carried out in accordance with the proposal contained in the licence application, except as expressly provided by a condition of this licence.</p> <p>In this condition the reference to "the licence application" includes a reference to:</p> <p>a) the applications for any licences (including former pollution control approvals) which this licence replaces under the Protection of the Environment Operations (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 1998; and</p> <p>b) the licence information form provided by the licensee to the EPA to assist the EPA in connection with the issuing of this licence.</p>	Works and activities are consistent with those described in the applications, and with licence conditions specified by the approval authority in response to the application and to subsequent licence variations.	Compliant
<b>2</b>	<b>DISCHARGES TO AIR AND WATER AND APPLICATIONS TO LAND</b>	—	—
<b>P1</b>	<b>Location of monitoring/discharge points and areas</b>	—	—
P1.1	The following points referred to in the table are identified in this licence for the purposes of the monitoring and/or the setting of limits for discharges of pollutants to water from the point.	See P1.2.	Compliant
P1.2	The following utilisation areas referred to in the table below are identified in this licence for the purposes of the monitoring and/or the setting of limits for any application of solids or liquids to the utilisation area.	<p>Monitoring is conducted at the specified points.</p> <p>NB: Process water is not discharged from the site, however, water quality in surface water bodies around the site, including those listed in the licence, is monitored routinely.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance																																				
Water and land																																							
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<b>3</b>	<b>LIMIT CONTROLS</b>	—	—																																				
<b>L1</b>	<b>Pollution of waters</b>	—	—																																				
L1.1	Except as may be expressly provided in any other condition of this licence, the licensee must comply with section 120 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.	Process water is not discharged from the site. NPM has completed the first two stages of a capital works project to upgrade all water retention ponds and sediment ponds to provide sufficient onsite capacity to accommodate runoff from 1:100 year ARI rainfall events.	Compliant																																				

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>L2</b>	<b>Waste</b>	—	—
L2.1	The licensee must not cause, permit or allow any waste generated outside the premises to be received at the premises for storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal or any waste generated at the premises to be disposed of at the premises, except as expressly permitted by the licence.	Waste generated outside the premises is not accepted, processed or disposed of at the site.	Compliant
<b>4</b>	<b>OPERATING CONDITIONS</b>	—	—
<b>O1</b>	<b>Activities must be carried out in a competent manner</b>	—	—
O1.1	Licensed activities must be carried out in a competent manner. This includes: a) the processing, handling, movement and storage of materials and substances used to carry out the activity; and b) the treatment, storage, processing, reprocessing, transport and disposal of waste generated by the activity.	Resource recovery processes are described in sections 1 and 2 of the Mining Operations Plan (MOP) 2015 – 2020. This includes the mining method, completed mining and proposed mining. MOP section 2 (proposed mining activities) includes details treatment, storage, processing, reprocessing of ore, and processing of residues and tailings and mining waste management.  Feasibility studies identify the quantity of ore to be extracted and the extraction method of choice for that ore. The results of the feasibility study are incorporated into a mine plan, which is submitted to the Department of Primary Industries for approval.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>O2</b>	<b>Maintenance of plant and equipment</b>	—	—
O2.1	All plant and equipment installed at the premises or used in connection with the licensed activity: a) must be maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and b) must be operated in a proper and efficient manner	a) A rigorous program for preventative maintenance is in place at the site. Maintenance work streams include: 1) Works Management – preventative maintenance using routine scheduled tasks raised by the Works Management System; 2) Non-standard tasks also managed by the Works Management System; and 3) Major outages and shut-downs that follow standard procedures that drive scoping sessions, resource planning, scheduling and execution. These are supported by Asset Tactics for maintenance of new equipment that are updated using failure information from similar equipment. The maintenance programs include a criticality analysis. The maintenance programs are complemented by defect elimination and condition monitoring programs that include vibration analysis, oil analysis, visual condition, thermographic assessment and non-destructive testing using techniques such as ultrasonography and eddy current analysis.  b) Training is an integral part of the business. A training matrix is in place, that incorporates statutory training requirements, a site-wide zero harm program, trade-specific training and other individual training.	Compliant
<b>O3</b>	<b>Dust</b>	—	—
O3.1	The premises must be maintained in a condition which minimises or prevents the emission of dust from the premises.	Most internal roads are sealed, fixed water sprays are fitted in areas with a dust generating potential, and road water carts are available to control dust where necessary. Straw bales have been placed on the surface of Tailings Storage Facility 1 (TSF1) to control dust generation from this source. Further, more permanent treatment of the surface is proposed for interim control until TSF1 is rehabilitated.	Compliant
<b>5</b>	<b>MONITORING AND RECORD CONDITIONS</b>	—	—
<b>M1</b>	<b>Monitoring conditions</b>	—	—
M1.1	The results of any monitoring required to be conducted by this licence or a load calculation protocol must be recorded and retained as set out in this condition	Monitoring results on written forms are retained in labelled folders in the environmental department offices, while electronic results are stored indefinitely in the company computer data storage system. Data generated since 2003 are available on site.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
M1.2	<p>a) in a legible form, or in a form that can readily be reduced to a legible form;</p> <p>b) kept for at least 4 years after the monitoring or event to which they relate took place; and</p> <p>c) produced in a legible form to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.</p>	As above.	Compliant
M1.3	<p>M1.3 The following records must be kept in respect of any samples required to be collected for the purposes of this licence:</p> <p>a) the date(s) on which the sample was taken;</p> <p>b) the time(s) at which the sample was collected;</p> <p>c) the point at which the sample was taken; and</p> <p>d) the name of the person who collected the sample.</p>	The required information is recorded in the electronic field logs.	Compliant
<b>M2</b>	<b>Requirement to monitor concentration of pollutants discharged</b>	—	—
M2.1	For each monitoring/discharge point or utilisation area specified below (by a point number), the licensee must monitor (by sampling and obtaining results by analysis) the concentration of each pollutant specified in Column 1. The licensee must use the sampling method, units of measure, and sample at the frequency, specified opposite in the other columns:	See M2 2 below.	Compliant
M2.2	Water and/ or Land Monitoring Requirements	<p>The required sampling and analysis is being conducted. Personnel conducting the sampling are trained during their graduate courses and have completed a detailed short course on practical monitoring. Water samples from 130 locations are tested annually for the full suite of analyses, including those specified in the licence, and quarterly for the specified groundwater monitoring points (licence sample points 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6).</p> <p>Groundwater standing water levels are recorded and reported relative to the top of casing for the respective bores. The results should be reduced to metres Australian Height Datum to enable comparison of the relative groundwater standing water levels between the monitored bores.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for Improvement:</i> Reduce groundwater standing water level monitoring results to metres AHD.</p>	Compliant OfI-1

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<b>M3</b>	<b>Testing methods – concentration limits</b>	—	—																				
M3.1	Subject to any express provision to the contrary in this licence, monitoring for the concentration of a pollutant discharged to waters or applied to a utilisation area must be done in accordance with the Approved Methods Publication unless another method has been approved by the EPA in writing before any tests are conducted.	Analyses required by environmental regulatory licences are conducted by external laboratories that report results under a NATA signatory.	Compliant																				
<b>M4</b>	<b>Recording of pollution complaints</b>	—	—																				
M4.1	The licensee must keep a legible record of all complaints made to the licensee or any employee or agent of the licensee in relation to pollution arising from any activity to which this licence applies.	Complaints made through the published contact hotline are received by the Community & External Relations Advisor, who records the details as an electronic record in the NED data management system. Complaints made using a direct number to Access Control (the front security gate) are recorded with reference to a checklist provided to the access control attendant.	Compliant																				

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
M4.2	The record must include details of the following: a) the date and time of the complaint; b) the method by which the complaint was made; c) any personal details of the complainant which were provided by the complainant or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect; d) the nature of the complaint; e) the action taken by the licensee in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant; and f) if no action was taken by the licensee, the reasons why no action was taken.	The required information is recorded by the NPM representatives receiving the complaint.	Compliant
M4.3	The record of a complaint must be kept for at least 4 years after the complaint was made.	Records are kept indefinitely.	Compliant
M4.4	The record must be produced to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.	Records are available on demand.	Compliant
<b>M5</b>	<b>Telephone complaints line</b>	—	—
M5.1	The licensee must operate during its operating hours a telephone complaints line for the purpose of receiving any complaints from members of the public in relation to activities conducted at the premises or by the vehicle or mobile plant, unless otherwise specified in the licence.	NPM maintains a hotline 1300PARKES that is available to members of the public.	Compliant
M5.2	The licensee must notify the public of the complaints line telephone number and the fact that it is a complaints line so that the impacted community knows how to make a complaint.	Details of the hotline are published in a published in quarterly community newsletters that are posted to every household in Parkes, Forbes, Trundle, Peak Hill, Tullamore and Bedgerabong.	Compliant
M5.3	The preceding two conditions do not apply until 3 months after: a) the date of the issue of this licence or b) if this licence is a replacement licence within the meaning of the Protection of the Environment Operations (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 1998, the date on which a copy of the licence was served on the licensee under clause 10 of that regulation.	Noted.	N/A

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>6</b>	<b>REPORTING CONDITIONS</b>	—	—
<b>R1</b>	<b>Annual return documents</b>	—	—
R1.1	<p>The licensee must complete and supply to the EPA an Annual Return in the approved form comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a Statement of Compliance; and</li> <li>b) a Monitoring and Complaints Summary.</li> </ul> <p>At the end of each reporting period, the EPA will provide to the licensee a copy of the form that must be completed and returned to the EPA.</p>	Annual returns are prepared and supplied to EPA using the approved form. They include a statement of compliance and a summary of monitoring results and complaints received.	Compliant
R1.2	An Annual Return must be prepared in respect of each reporting period, except as provided below.	See R1.5 (below).	Compliant
R1.3	<p>Where this licence is transferred from the licensee to a new licensee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the transferring licensee must prepare an Annual Return for the period commencing on the first day of the reporting period and ending on the date the application for the transfer of the licence to the new licensee is granted; and</li> <li>b) the new licensee must prepare an Annual Return for the period commencing on the date the application for the transfer of the licence is granted and ending on the last day of the reporting period.</li> </ul>	<p>An application for licence transfer was received by EPA on 31 October 2013. EPA approved the licence transfer on 20 November 2013.</p> <p>An annual return was prepared for the reporting period 30/5/11 to 30/11/13 and received by EPA on 23/12/13.</p> <p>The subsequent annual return, prepared by the new licensee was prepared for the reporting period 1/12/13 to 29/5/14 and received by EPA on 28/7/14.</p>	Compliant
R1.4	<p>Where this licence is surrendered by the licensee or revoked by the EPA or Minister, the licensee must prepare an Annual Return in respect of the period commencing on the first day of the reporting period and ending on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) in relation to the surrender of a licence - the date when notice in writing of approval of the surrender is given; or</li> <li>b) in relation to the revocation of the licence - the date from which notice revoking the licence operates.</li> </ul>	Licence neither surrendered nor revoked.	N/A

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R1.5	The Annual Return for the reporting period must be supplied to the EPA by registered post not later than 60 days after the end of each reporting period or in the case of a transferring licence not later than 60 days after the date the transfer was granted (the 'due date').	<p>Annual returns have been provided as listed below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Start date</th> <th>End date</th> <th>Due date</th> <th>Date received by EPA *</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2011</td> <td>30/05/10</td> <td>29/05/11</td> <td>29/07/11</td> <td>25/07/11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012</td> <td>30/05/11</td> <td>29/05/12</td> <td>29/07/12</td> <td>30/07/12 ++</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>30/05/12</td> <td>29/05/13</td> <td>29/07/13</td> <td>29/07/13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>30/05/13</td> <td>30/11/13 †</td> <td>30/01/14</td> <td>23/12/13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>01/12/13</td> <td>29/05/14</td> <td>29/07/14</td> <td>28/07/14</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* From EPA website                      † Due to change of ownership (see R1.3, above).                      ++ Signed and sent on 19/7/12</p>	Year	Start date	End date	Due date	Date received by EPA *	2011	30/05/10	29/05/11	29/07/11	25/07/11	2012	30/05/11	29/05/12	29/07/12	30/07/12 ++	2013	30/05/12	29/05/13	29/07/13	29/07/13	2013	30/05/13	30/11/13 †	30/01/14	23/12/13	2014	01/12/13	29/05/14	29/07/14	28/07/14	Compliant
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R1.6	The licensee must retain a copy of the Annual Return supplied to the EPA for a period of at least 4 years after the Annual Return was due to be supplied to the EPA.	A copy of the annual return is retained in perpetuity in the company electronic records.	Compliant																														
R1.7	Within the Annual Return, the Statement of Compliance must be certified and the Monitoring and Complaints Summary must be signed by: a) the licence holder; or b) by a person approved in writing by the EPA to sign on behalf of the licence holder.	Annual returns have been signed by two company directors in accordance with EPA requirements.	Compliant																														
R1.8	A person who has been given written approval to certify a certificate of compliance under a licence issued under the Pollution Control Act 1970 is taken to be approved for the purpose of this condition until the date of first review of this licence.	Noted	N/A																														
<b>R2</b>	<b>Notification of environmental harm</b>	—	—																														
R2.1	Notifications must be made by telephoning the Environment Line service on 131 555.	Notifications of environmental incidents have been made to EPA by email. Notifications of environmental harm, for example spills for which the clean up cost is over \$10,000, are made to EPA by the 131 555 Environment Line service.	Compliant																														
R2.2	The licensee must provide written details of the notification to the EPA within 7 days of the date on which the incident occurred.	See R2.1 above.	Compliant																														

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>R3</b>	<b>Written report</b>	—	—
R3.1	<p>Where an authorised officer of the EPA suspects on reasonable grounds that:</p> <p>a) where this licence applies to premises, an event has occurred at the premises; or</p> <p>b) where this licence applies to vehicles or mobile plant, an event has occurred in connection with the carrying out of the activities authorised by this licence, and the event has caused, is causing or is likely to cause material harm to the environment (whether the harm occurs on or off premises to which the licence applies), the authorised officer may request a written report of the event.</p>	<p>On 2 October 2014, NPM detected spillage of tailings from the feed pipe to Tailings Storage Facility 2. The tailings were escaping from the bunded area, but remained within the mining lease. NPM immediately notified EPA of the incident. EPA officers inspected the area affected by the spilt tailings on 3 October. On 14 October 2014, EPA issued a Clean Up Notice that required NPM to clean up the spilt material and provide EPA with details verifying successful completion of the clean up by COB 7 November 2014.</p> <p>In response to a dust complaint made to NPM, an investigation was conducted and NPM completed an incident report on 7 November 2014. EPA subsequently issued NPM with an official caution dated 2 February 2015.</p>	Compliant
R3.2	The licensee must make all reasonable inquiries in relation to the event and supply the report to the EPA within such time as may be specified in the request.	NPM completed the required actions by the required date.	Compliant
R3.3	<p>The request may require a report which includes any or all of the following information:</p> <p>a) the cause, time and duration of the event;</p> <p>b) the type, volume and concentration of every pollutant discharged as a result of the event;</p> <p>c) the name, address and business hours telephone number of employees or agents of the licensee, or a specified class of them, who witnessed the event;</p> <p>d) the name, address and business hours telephone number of every other person (of whom the licensee is aware) who witnessed the event, unless the licensee has been unable to obtain that information after making reasonable effort;</p> <p>e) action taken by the licensee in relation to the event, including any follow-up contact with any complainants;</p> <p>f) details of any measure taken or proposed to be taken to prevent or mitigate against a recurrence of such an event; and</p> <p>g) any other relevant matters.</p>	NPM addressed all EPA requirements.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
R3.4	The EPA may make a written request for further details in relation to any of the above matters if it is not satisfied with the report provided by the licensee. The licensee must provide such further details to the EPA within the time specified in the request.	NPM addressed all EPA requirements.	Compliant
<b>7</b>	<b>GENERAL CONDITIONS</b>	—	—
<b>G1</b>	<b>Copy of licence kept at the premises or plant</b>	—	—
G1.1	A copy of this licence must be kept at the premises to which the licence applies.	A copy of the licence is available at the NPM environmental offices.	Compliant
G1.2	The licence must be produced to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see it.	A copy of the licence is available to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see it.	Compliant
G1.3	The licence must be available for inspection by any employee or agent of the licensee working at the premises.	A copy of the licence is available for inspection by any employee or agent of the licensee working at the premises.	Compliant

Appendix B

Completed Audit Checklist – Project  
Approval 11-0600

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>PROJECT APPROVAL 11-0600 –VERSION DATE 16 JULY 2014</b>			
	<b>SCHEDULE 2 – ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS</b>	—	—
	<b>OBLIGATION TO MINIMISE HARM TO THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	—	—
1.	In addition to meeting the specific performance criteria established under this approval, the Proponent shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any material harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, or rehabilitation of the project.	Objective achieved through ongoing implementation of environmental protection controls.	Compliant
	<b>TERMS OF APPROVAL</b>	—	—
2.	The Proponent shall carry out the project generally in accordance with the: (a) EA; (b) statement of commitments; and (c) conditions of this approval.  <i>Notes:</i> · The general layout of the project is shown in Appendix 2; and · The statement of commitments is shown in Appendix 3.	Objective achieved through ongoing implementation environmental protection measures specified in the nominated controls.	Compliant
3.	If there is any inconsistency between the above documents, the most recent document shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency. However, the conditions of this approval shall prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.	Noted.	N/A
4.	The Proponent shall comply with any reasonable requirement/s of the Secretary arising from Department’s assessment of: (a) any strategies, plans, programs, reviews, audits, reports or correspondence that are submitted by the Proponent in accordance with this approval; and (b) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these documents.	Noted. New environmental management plans were submitted to the Department of Planning on 27 November 2014. Comment on the procedures had not been received from the Secretary by the date of the audit site inspection (6 March 2015).	N/A



Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>LIMITS ON APPROVAL</b>			
<b>Mining Operations</b>			
5.	<p>The Proponent may carry out mining operations on site until the 31 December 2032.</p> <p><i>Note: Under this approval, the Applicant is required to rehabilitate the site and perform additional undertakings to the satisfaction of both the Secretary and NSW Trade &amp; Investment. Consequently, this approval will continue to apply in all other respects other than the right to conduct mining operations until the rehabilitation of the site and these additional undertakings have been carried out satisfactorily.</i></p>	Noted.	Compliant
<b>Ore Processing</b>			
6.	The Proponent shall not process more than 8.5 million tonnes of ore on site in any calendar year.	6.4 million tonnes of ore were processed during 2014, 6.1 million during 2013 and 5.9 million tonnes during 2012.	Compliant
<b>Ore Concentrate Transport</b>			
7.	The Proponent shall ensure that all ore concentrate produced on site is transported to the Goonumbla Rail Siding via truck haulage on Bogan Road.	All ore concentrate produced on site is transported to the Goonumbla Rail Siding via truck haulage on Bogan Road.	Compliant
<b>SURRENDER OF CONSENTS</b>			
8.	<p>Within 12 months of the date of this approval, or as otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Proponent shall surrender the existing project approval PA06_0026 and development consent DA11092 in accordance with Section 104A of the EP&amp;A Act. This requirement does not extend to the surrender of the Forbes Water Pipeline Development Consent DA2009/0057.</p> <p><i>Note: This requirement does not extend to the surrender of construction and occupation certificates for existing and proposed building works under Part 4A of the EP&amp;A Act. Surrender of a consent or approval should not be understood as implying that works legally constructed under a valid consent or approval can no longer be legally maintained or used.</i></p>	NPM proposes to surrender the existing project approval by July 2015, by completing a form and brief report on compliance with that approval.	Compliant
9.	Prior to the surrender of these consents, the conditions of this approval (including any notes) shall prevail to the extent of any inconsistency with the conditions of these consents.	Noted. NPM is progressively update the monitoring program to meet the requirements of the new approval while continuing to meet those of the existing approval. For example, real time particulate samplers have been installed that monitor PM <sub>10</sub> on and total suspended particulates on a 10 minute logging cycle.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>STRUCTURAL ADEQUACY</b>			
10.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the BCA.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Under Part 4A of the EP&amp;A Act, the Proponent is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates (where applicable) for the proposed building works.</li> <li>· Part 8 of the EP&amp;A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the project.</li> </ul>	<p>These requirements are referred to in section 5 of the Construction Management Plan, which states that, under the heading <b>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</b>, the project will be carried out generally in accordance with the Project Approval (DC11_0600). The most recently constructed building was the Block Cave Knowledge Centre, constructed during 2011 and opened in 2012.</p>	Compliant
<b>DEMOLITION</b>			
11.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that all demolition work on site is carried out in accordance with AS 2601- 2001: The Demolition of Structures, or its latest version.</p>	<p>Demolition works have not been conducted during the past four years.</p>	Compliant
<b>PROTECTION OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE</b>			
12.	<p>Unless the Proponent and the applicable authority agree otherwise, the Proponent shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the project; and</li> <li>(b) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the project.</li> </ul> <p>Note: This condition does not apply to any damage to public infrastructure subject to compensation payable under the Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961, or to damage to roads caused as a result of general road usage.</p>	<p>There has not been any damage to public infrastructure requiring repair due to NPM operations.</p>	Compliant
<b>OPERATION OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>			
13.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that all plant and equipment used on site is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and</li> <li>(b) operated in a proper and efficient manner.</li> </ul>	<p>All mining vehicles are subject to quarterly Fit For Purpose inspections. General mine assets are inspected annually.</p> <p>A detailed description of preventative maintenance and training is provided above under EPL condition O2.1.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance												
<b>STAGED SUBMISSION OF STRATEGIES, PLANS OR PROGRAMS</b>															
14.	<p>With the approval of the Secretary, the Proponent may submit any strategy, plan or program required by this approval on a progressive basis.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· While any strategy, plan or program may be submitted on a progressive basis, the Proponent will need to ensure that the existing operations on site are covered by suitable strategies, plans or programs at all times; and</li> <li>· If the submission of any strategy, plan or program is to be staged, then the relevant strategy, plan or program must clearly describe the specific stage to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of this stage to any future stages, and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program.</li> </ul>	There have not been any submissions made to the Secretary.	Compliant												
<b>SCHEDULE 3 – ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS</b>		—	—												
<b>NOISE</b>		—	—												
<b>Noise Criteria</b>		—	—												
1.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that the noise generated by the project does not exceed the criteria in Table 1 at any residence on privately-owned land.</p> <p><i>Table 1: Noise impact assessment criteria dB(A)</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Property</th> <th rowspan="2">Day LAeq(15min)</th> <th rowspan="2">Evening LAeq(15min)</th> <th colspan="2">Night</th> </tr> <tr> <th>LAeq(15min)</th> <th>LA1(1min)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>All privately-owned land</td> <td>35</td> <td>35</td> <td>35</td> <td>45</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Note: To interpret the land referred to in Table 1, see the applicable figures in Appendix 4.</i></p> <p>Operational noise generated by the project is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy. Appendix 5 sets out the meteorological conditions under which these criteria apply, and the requirements for evaluating compliance with these criteria.</p> <p>However, these criteria do not apply if the Proponent has an agreement with the owner/s of the relevant residence or land to generate higher noise levels, and the Proponent has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.</p>	Property	Day LAeq(15min)	Evening LAeq(15min)	Night		LAeq(15min)	LA1(1min)	All privately-owned land	35	35	35	45	<p>Quarterly attended noise monitoring surveys at four nearby residences are conducted by noise consultants. Noise monitoring consultants also conduct quarterly unattended noise surveys.</p> <p>Real time noise monitors have been installed at four residences (Milpose, Lone Pine, Hubberstone and Hillview).</p> <p>One noise exceedance identified by the Hubberstone residence monitor during the second quarter of 2014 was caused by a reversing beeper on earthmoving equipment and a hum from a nearby pump. The exceedance was reported to EPA as a non-compliance.</p>	Compliant
Property	Day LAeq(15min)				Evening LAeq(15min)	Night									
		LAeq(15min)	LA1(1min)												
All privately-owned land	35	35	35	45											

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Construction Noise</b>			
2.	The Proponent shall only carry out the construction works associated with the upgrade of McClintocks Lane, the construction of the McClintocks Lane access road and the upgrade of the intersection of McClintocks Lane and Bogan Road during the day.	<p>Construction works commenced on 10 March 2015.</p> <p>NPM should ensure the McClintocks Lane construction hours are restricted to 0700 to 1800 in accordance with this condition. Some NPM representatives are uncertain of the daytime hours specified by this condition.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for improvement:</i> Confirm understanding of times for day (0700 to 1800, evening 1800 to 2200, and night 2200 to 0700).</p>	<p>Compliant</p> <p>OfI-2</p>
3.	<p>During construction of the works referred to in condition 2 of schedule 3, the noise criteria in Table 1 do not apply to the residences located in the vicinity of the works. The Proponent shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise construction noise impacts on the residences in the vicinity of these works.</p> <p><i>Note: The measures to be implemented to minimise construction noise impacts shall be detailed in the Noise Management Plan required in condition 5 of schedule 4.</i></p>	<p>The Noise Management Plan was amended in May 2014 to incorporate the requirements of this condition by addition of section 5.2.1 “Construction noise impacts”. Section 5.4.1 includes the information that the licensed noise criteria do not apply to the residences during the construction works. It further states that NPM will implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise construction noise impacts on the residences in the vicinity of these works. Operational control measures for noise minimisation during construction, operation and decommissioning are described in section 6.1 of the Plan.</p> <p>The Plan (s 6.1) includes specific controls for noise control during the Extension Project construction works and identifies the planned preparation of a Construction Noise Management Plan (CNMP), however, NPM is controlling construction noise through the Construction Management Plan, Environmental Management Strategy and the existing Noise Management Plan, and does not propose to prepare a CNMP.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for improvement:</i> Amend the Noise Management Plan to remove reference to preparation of a proposed Construction Noise Management Plan.</p>	<p>Compliant</p> <p>OfI-3</p>

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Operating Conditions</b>			
4.	<p>The Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) implement best management practice to minimise the construction, operational and road noise of the project;</p> <p>(b) operate a comprehensive noise management system that uses a combination of predictive meteorological forecasting and real-time noise monitoring data to guide the day to day planning, and the implementation of both proactive and reactive noise mitigation measures to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this approval;</p> <p>(c) minimise the noise impacts of the project during meteorological conditions when the noise limits in this approval do not apply (see Appendix 5); and</p> <p>(d) carry out regular monitoring to determine whether the project is complying with the relevant conditions of this approval, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	<p>Operational control measures for noise minimisation are described in section 6.1 of the Noise Management Plan. The plan addresses each of the condition requirements.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Noise Management Plan</b>			
5.	<p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Noise Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) be prepared in consultation with the EPA, and submitted to the Secretary for approval prior to the commencement of construction;</li> <li>(b) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the noise criteria and operating conditions in this approval;</li> <li>(c) describe the proposed noise management system in detail; and</li> <li>(d) include a monitoring program that:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· evaluates and reports on:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the effectiveness of the noise management system;</li> <li>- compliance against the noise criteria in this approval; and</li> <li>- compliance against the noise operating conditions;</li> </ul> </li> <li>· includes a program to calibrate and validate the real-time noise monitoring results with the attended monitoring results over time (so the real-time noise monitoring program can be used as a better indicator of compliance with the noise criteria in this approval and trigger for further attended monitoring); and</li> <li>· defines what constitutes a noise incident, and includes a protocol for identifying and notifying the Department and relevant stakeholders of any noise incidents.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>A Noise Management Plan has been prepared and addresses each of the condition requirements. A copy of the Plan was submitted to the Secretary on 27 November 2014 for approval.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance																
<b>BLASTING</b>																			
<b>Blasting Criteria</b>																			
6.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that blasting on site does not cause exceedances of the criteria in Table 2.</p> <p><i>Table 2: Blasting criteria</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))</th> <th>Ground vibration (mm/s)</th> <th>Allowable exceedance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Residence on privately owned land</td> <td>120</td> <td>10</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>115</td> <td>5</td> <td>5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All public infrastructure</td> <td>—</td> <td>50 <i>(or a limit determined by the structural design methodology in AS 2187.2-2006, or its latest version, or other alternative limit for public infrastructure, to the satisfaction of the Secretary)</i></td> <td>0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>However, these criteria do not apply if the Proponent has a written agreement with the relevant owner to exceed these criteria, and has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.</p>	Location	Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))	Ground vibration (mm/s)	Allowable exceedance	Residence on privately owned land	120	10	0%		115	5	5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months	All public infrastructure	—	50 <i>(or a limit determined by the structural design methodology in AS 2187.2-2006, or its latest version, or other alternative limit for public infrastructure, to the satisfaction of the Secretary)</i>	0%	<p><i>NB: Due to the wording of condition 9, conditions 6 to 13 are taken for the purposes of this audit to refer to surface blasting within an open cut mine. This is consistent with the interpretation of these conditions by NPM.</i></p> <p>Surface blasting has not been conducted since cessation of open cut mining. The Blast Management Plan has been amended to include open cut blasting and the requirements of this condition for implementation during any future surface blasting operations.</p>	Compliant
Location	Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))	Ground vibration (mm/s)	Allowable exceedance																
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Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Blasting Hours</b>			
7.	The Proponent shall only carry out blasting on site between 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Saturday inclusive. No blasting is allowed on Sundays, public holidays, or at any other time without the written approval of the Secretary.	Specified in section 5.3.1 of the Blast Management Plan.	Compliant
<b>Blasting Frequency</b>			
8.	The Proponent shall only carry out 1 blast per day on site. This condition does not apply to blasts that generate ground vibration of 0.5 mm/s or less at any residence on privately-owned land, or blasts required to ensure the safety of the mine or its workers. <i>Note: For the purposes of this condition, a blast refers to a single blast event, which may involve a number of individual blasts fired in quick succession in a discrete area of the mine.</i>	Specified in section 5.3.1 of the Blast Management Plan.	Compliant
<b>Property Inspections</b>			
9.	If the Proponent receives a written request from the owner of any privately-owned land within 2 kilometres of any approved open cut mining pit on site for a property inspection to establish the baseline condition of any buildings and/or structures on his/her land, or to have a previous property inspection updated, then within 2 months of receiving this request the Proponent shall: (a) commission a suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, whose appointment is acceptable to both parties to: · establish the baseline condition of any buildings and other structures on the land, or update the previous property inspection report; and · identify measures that should be implemented to minimise the potential blasting impacts of the project on these buildings and/or structures; and (b) give the landowner a copy of the new or updated property inspection report. If there is a dispute over the selection of the suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, or the Proponent or the landowner disagrees with the findings of the property inspection report, either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.	Included in section 3.1 of the Blast Management Plan. NPM has not received a request from the owner of any privately-owned land for a property inspection.	Compliant



Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Property Investigations</b>			
10.	<p>If the owner of any privately-owned land claims that buildings and/or structures on his/her land have been damaged as a result of blasting on the site, then within 2 months of receiving this claim the</p> <p>Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) commission a suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, whose appointment is acceptable to both parties to investigate the claim; and</p> <p>(b) give the landowner a copy of the property investigation report.</p> <p>If this independent property investigation confirms the landowner’s claim, and both parties agree with these findings, then the Proponent shall repair the damage to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p> <p>If there is a dispute over the selection of the suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, or the Proponent or the landowner disagrees with the findings of the independent property investigation, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p>	<p>NPM has not received advice of any property damage that has resulted from to onsite blasting activities.</p>	N/A
<b>Operating Conditions</b>			
11.	<p>The Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) implement best management practice to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· protect the safety of people and livestock in the surrounding area;</li> <li>· protect public or private infrastructure/property in the surrounding area from any damage; and</li> <li>· minimise the dust and fume emissions of any blasting; and</li> </ul> <p>(b) operate a suitable system to enable the public to get up-to-date information on the proposed blasting schedule on site, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	<p>Control measures are specified in section 6 of the Blast Management Plan.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
12.	<p>The Proponent shall not undertake blasting on site within 500 metres of:</p> <p>(a) any public road;</p> <p>(b) any land outside the site not owned by the Proponent,</p> <p>unless the Proponent has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the blasting can be carried out closer to the infrastructure or land without compromising the safety of people or livestock or damaging the infrastructure and/or other buildings and structures; and</li> <li>· updated the Blast Management Plan to include the specific measures that would be implemented while blasting is being carried out within 500 metres of the infrastructure or land; or</li> <li>· a written agreement with the relevant infrastructure owner or landowner to allow blasting to be carried out closer to the infrastructure or land, and the Proponent has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.</li> </ul>	Specified in section 6.1 of the Blast Management Plan.	Compliant
<b>Blast Management Plan</b>			
13.	<p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Blast Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(a) be prepared in consultation with the EPA, and submitted to the Secretary for approval prior to conducting any blasting on site;</p> <p>(b) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the blast criteria and operating conditions of this approval;</p> <p>(c) propose and justify any alternative ground vibration limits for public infrastructure in the vicinity of the site (if relevant); and</p> <p>(d) include a monitoring program for evaluating and reporting on compliance with the blasting criteria and operating conditions of this approval.</p>	A Blast Management Plan has been prepared and was submitted to the Secretary on 27 November 2014 for approval. The plan includes the specified requirements. A response to this submission had not been received by the date of this audit.	Compliant
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>			
<b>Air Quality Criteria</b>			
14.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that all reasonable and feasible avoidance and mitigation measures are employed so that particulate matter emissions generated by the project do not cause exceedances of the criteria listed in Tables 3, 4 and 5 at any residence on privately-owned land.</p>	Particulate emission controls are specified in section 6 of the Air Quality Management Plan. The plan includes reference to the assessment criteria and monitoring to determine compliance with those criteria.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance																							
	<p><i>Table 3: Long term impact assessment criteria for particulate matter</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Averaging Period</th> <th><sup>d</sup> Criterion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter</td> <td>Annual</td> <td><sup>a</sup> 90 µg/m<sup>3</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Particulate matter &lt; 10 µm (PM<sub>10</sub>)</td> <td>Annual</td> <td><sup>a</sup> 30 µg/m<sup>3</sup></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Table 4: Short term impact assessment criterion for particulate matter</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Averaging Period</th> <th><sup>d</sup> Criterion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Particulate matter &lt; 10 µm (PM<sub>10</sub>)</td> <td>24 hour</td> <td><sup>a</sup> 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Table 5: Long term impact assessment criteria for deposited dust</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Averaging Period</th> <th>Maximum increase <sup>2</sup> in deposited dust level</th> <th>Maximum total <sup>1</sup> deposited dust level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><sup>c</sup> Deposited dust</td> <td>Annual</td> <td><sup>b</sup> 2 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month</td> <td><sup>a</sup> 4 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Notes to Tables 3-5:</i></p> <p><i>a Total impact (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the development plus background concentrations due to all other sources);</i></p> <p><i>b Incremental impact (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the development on its own);</i></p> <p><i>c Deposited dust is to be assessed as insoluble solids as defined by Standards Australia, AS/NZS 3580.10.1:2003: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air - Determination of Particulate Matter - Deposited Matter - Gravimetric Method; and</i></p> <p><i>d Excludes extraordinary events such as bushfires, prescribed burning, dust storms, fire incidents or any other activity agreed by the Secretary.</i></p>	Pollutant	Averaging Period	<sup>d</sup> Criterion	Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	<sup>a</sup> 90 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Annual	<sup>a</sup> 30 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Pollutant	Averaging Period	<sup>d</sup> Criterion	Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM <sub>10</sub> )	24 hour	<sup>a</sup> 50 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Pollutant	Averaging Period	Maximum increase <sup>2</sup> in deposited dust level	Maximum total <sup>1</sup> deposited dust level	<sup>c</sup> Deposited dust	Annual	<sup>b</sup> 2 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month	<sup>a</sup> 4 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month	<p>Air quality monitoring is conducted using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• three high volume PM<sub>10</sub> monitors that operate on a six day cycle;</li> <li>• three total suspended particulate monitors (Beta Attenuated Monitor; continuous); and</li> <li>• 11 dust deposition gauges.</li> </ul>	(see above)
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Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Mine-owned Land</b>			
15.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that all reasonable and feasible avoidance and mitigation measures are employed so that particulate matter emissions generated by the project do not cause exceedances of the criteria listed in Tables 3, 4 and 5 at any occupied residence on mine-owned land unless:</p> <p>(a) the tenant has been notified of any health risks associated with such exceedances in accordance with the notification requirements under schedule 5 of this approval;</p> <p>(b) the tenant of any land owned by the Proponent can terminate their tenancy agreement without penalty at any time, subject to giving reasonable notice;</p> <p>(c) air mitigation measures such as air filters, a first flush roof water drainage system and/or air conditioning) are installed at the residence, if requested by the tenant;</p> <p>(d) air quality monitoring is regularly undertaken to inform the tenant of the actual particulate emissions at the residence; and</p> <p>(e) data from this monitoring is presented to the tenant in an appropriate format for a medical practitioner to assist the tenant in making informed decisions on the health risks associated with occupying the property, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	There are not any occupied residences on mine-owned land.	N/A

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Operating Conditions</b>			
16.	<p>16. The Proponent shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) implement best management practice to minimise the off-site odour, fume and dust emissions of the project;</li> <li>(b) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the release of greenhouse gas emissions from the site;</li> <li>(c) minimise any visible off-site air pollution generated by the project;</li> <li>(d) minimise the surface disturbance of the site;</li> <li>(e) operate a air quality management system that uses a combination of predictive meteorological forecasting and real-time air quality monitoring data to guide the day to day planning of mining operations and the implementation of both proactive and reactive air quality mitigation measures to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this approval; and</li> <li>(f) minimise the air quality impacts of the project during adverse meteorological conditions and extraordinary events (see Note d above under Table 5);</li> </ul> <p>to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	<p>These requirements are addressed in Air Quality Management Plan sections 6, 7 and 8.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Air Quality Management Plan</b>			
17.	<p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Air Quality Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(a) be prepared in consultation with the EPA, and submitted to the Secretary for approval by 30 June 2014;</p> <p>(b) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant air quality criteria and operating conditions of this approval:</p> <p>(c) describe the air quality management system;</p> <p>(d) include an air quality monitoring program that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· adequately supports the air quality management system;</li> <li>· evaluates and reports on the:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the effectiveness of the air quality management system;</li> <li>- compliance with the air quality criteria;</li> <li>- compliance with the air quality operating conditions; and</li> <li>· defines what constitutes an air quality incident, and includes a protocol for identifying and notifying the Department and relevant stakeholders of any air quality incidents.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>(a) Approval by the specified date could not be achieved as the project itself was not approved until July 2014. The Air Quality Management Plan was submitted to the Secretary on 27 November 2014 for approval. The plan includes the specified requirements. A response to this submission had not been received by the date of this audit.</p> <p>The plan includes the elements required by this condition.</p> <p>Condition 7 of Schedule 6 requires the proponent to shall immediately notify the Secretary and any other relevant agencies of any incident and to provide the Secretary and any relevant agencies with a detailed report on the incident within seven days of the date of the incident. The plan, however, specifies that; “All exceedences and investigations will be reported to the regulators within 7 working days of the incident”. This is inconsistent with the requirement and could lead to a reporting non-compliance.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for Improvement:</i> Amend the Air Quality Management Plan to provide a correct timeframe for incident reporting requirements.</p>	Compliant OfI-4
<b>METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING</b>			
18.	<p>For the life of the project, the Proponent shall ensure that there is a meteorological station in the vicinity of the site that:</p> <p>(a) complies with the requirements in the Approved Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales guideline; and</p> <p>(b) is capable of continuous real-time measurement of stability class in accordance with the NSW Industrial Noise Policy, unless a suitable alternative is approved by the Secretary following consultation with the EPA.</p>	<p>A 10 metre-high meteorological station is installed to the west of E31. The station meets the requirements of the condition apart from providing continuous real-time measurement of stability class in accordance with the NSW Industrial Noise Policy. Appendix E (s E2) of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy states that direct measurement of the temperature lapse rate involves measuring the temperature at two elevated levels over a 50 metre height interval to determine the temperature difference. NPM calculates the lapse rate by the difference in the two existing temperature monitors. The policy also directs the measurement of temperature gradient and wind speed at hourly intervals over the three winter months. NPM should clarify the specific requirements of this condition with the Department of Planning and their consistency with policy requirements.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for Improvement:</i> Consult with Department of Planning to confirm the specific requirements of the met station condition and meet the requirements of the condition.</p>	Compliant OfI-5

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>WATER</b>			
<b>Water Supply</b>			
19.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the project, and if necessary, adjust the scale of operations on site to match its available water supply.</p> <p>Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain the necessary water licences for the project.</p>	<p>NPM has entered into a water supply agreement with Parkes Shire Council. NPM draws an average supply flow of 50 L/s, with historical annual use of 2 to 2.5 ML. NPM has annual rights to 1,300 ML of high security river water, 2-3,000 ML of general security river water, and 4 to 5,000 ML of bore water. These volumes substantially exceed NPM water requirements.</p>	Compliant
<b>Compensatory Water Supply</b>			
20.	<p>The Proponent shall provide a compensatory water supply to any landowner of privately owned land whose water supply is adversely and directly impacted (other than an impact that is negligible) as a result of the project, in consultation with NOW, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p> <p>The extent of adverse impact on water supply must be investigated in accordance with the procedures outlined in Condition 4 of Schedule 5. The compensatory water supply measures must provide an alternative long-term supply of water that is equivalent to the loss attributable to the project. Equivalent water supply should be provided (at least on an interim basis) within 24 hours of the loss being identified, unless otherwise agreed with the landowner.</p> <p>If the Proponent and the landowner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p> <p>If the Proponent is unable to provide an alternative long-term supply of water, then the Proponent shall provide alternative compensation to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	<p>There is no requirement for a compensatory water supply to an owner of privately owned land.</p>	N/A
<b>Water Pollution</b>			
21.	<p>Unless an EPL authorises otherwise, the Proponent shall comply with Section 120 of the POEO Act.</p>	<p>There is no water discharge from the site. NPM has implemented a capital work project to upgrade all water retention ponds (which receive mine wastewater) and sediment ponds to provide sufficient capacity to accommodate runoff from 1:100 year ARI rainfall events.</p>	Compliant
<b>Water Management Performance Measures</b>			

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22.	The Proponent shall comply with the performance measures in Table 6 to the satisfaction of the Secretary.										
	<p><i>Table 6: Water Management Performance Measures</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Feature</th> <th>Performance Measure</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Water Management - General</td> <td>· Minimise the use of clean water on site</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Construction and operation of linear infrastructure (including Goonumbla Creek road crossing)</td> <td>· Design, install and maintain erosion and sediment controls generally in accordance with the series Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction including Volume 1, Volume 2A – Installation of Services and Volume 2C – Unsealed Roads · Design, install and maintain the infrastructure within 40 m of watercourses generally in accordance with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (DPI 2007), or its latest version · Design, installation and maintenance of creek crossings generally in accordance with the Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings (NSW Fisheries, 2003) and Why Do Fish Need To Cross The Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings (NSW Fisheries 2003), or their latest version.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clean water management system</td> <td>· Design, install and maintain the clean water system to capture and convey the 100 year ARI flood · Maximise as far as reasonable and feasible the diversion of clean water around disturbed areas on site</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Performance Measure	Water Management - General	· Minimise the use of clean water on site	Construction and operation of linear infrastructure (including Goonumbla Creek road crossing)	· Design, install and maintain erosion and sediment controls generally in accordance with the series Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction including Volume 1, Volume 2A – Installation of Services and Volume 2C – Unsealed Roads · Design, install and maintain the infrastructure within 40 m of watercourses generally in accordance with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (DPI 2007), or its latest version · Design, installation and maintenance of creek crossings generally in accordance with the Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings (NSW Fisheries, 2003) and Why Do Fish Need To Cross The Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings (NSW Fisheries 2003), or their latest version.	Clean water management system	· Design, install and maintain the clean water system to capture and convey the 100 year ARI flood · Maximise as far as reasonable and feasible the diversion of clean water around disturbed areas on site	<p>Clean water is only used on site for domestic purposes and for use in underground operations in order to meet hygiene requirements.</p> <p>NPM maintains an on site process water buffer in excess of 500 ML, and recovers around 60% of water from the tailings stream for reuse as process water.</p> <p>A variable speed pump has been installed at the Parkes Shire Council pumping station to enable direct control of the fresh water delivery rate. As NPM is not contracted to take particular water volumes, demand can be reduced when appropriate.</p> <p>The design and construction of linear infrastructure associated with the next stage of mine development have been conducted in accordance with the respective design standards. NPM has obtained consent for the project and has developed a range of procedures to manage the potential environmental impacts of the construction works and use of the infrastructure.</p> <p>NPM has implemented the first two stages of a capital works project to provide onsite capacity to accommodate runoff from a 1:100 year ARI rainfall event. The capacity requirements were determined by an engineering consultant. The upgrade has involved all water retention ponds (which receive dirty water including mine wastewater) and sediment ponds (which receive surface runoff).</p>	Compliant
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Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Water Management Plan</b>			
23.	<p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Water Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) be prepared in consultation with NOW and the EPA, by suitably qualified and experienced persons whose appointment has been approved by the Secretary;</li> <li>(b) be submitted to the Secretary for approval prior by 30 June 2014;</li> <li>(c) in addition to the standard requirements for management plans (see Condition 3 of schedule 6), this plan must include a:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Site Water Balance that:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· includes details of:   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sources and security of water supply, including contingency planning for future reporting periods;</li> <li>- water use and management on site;</li> <li>- reporting procedures, including the preparation of a site water balance for each calendar year;</li> </ul> </li> <li>· describes the measures that would be implemented to minimise clean water use on site;</li> </ul> </li> <li>(ii) Surface Water Management Plan, that includes:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>A Water Management Plan (WMP) has been prepared and was submitted to the Secretary on 27 November 2014 for approval. The WMP was prepared by consulting engineers. Approval by the specified date could not be achieved, as the project itself was not approved until July 2014.</p> <p>The plan includes the specified requirements. A response to this submission had not been received by the date of this audit.</p> <p>A site water balance is included in Appendix C of the WMP. It describes water sources (s 2) and onsite water use and management. The water management system and water balance were modelled using GoldSim.</p> <p>Reporting procedures are specified in section 7 of the WMP.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
23 cont'd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· detailed baseline data on water flows and quality in the waterbodies that could be affected by the project;</li> <li>· a detailed description of the water management system on site;</li> <li>· detailed plans, including design objectives and performance criteria, for the:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- tailings storage facilities;</li> <li>- final voids (see the Rehabilitation Objectives in Table 8);</li> </ul> </li> <li>· detailed performance criteria for the following, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts associated with the project:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the water management systems (clean, dirty and contaminated);</li> <li>- downstream surface water quality;</li> <li>- downstream flooding impacts; and</li> <li>- stream and riparian vegetation health for Bogan River, Tenandra Creek, Goonumbla Creek and Cookopie Creek;</li> </ul> </li> <li>· a program to monitor and report on:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the effectiveness of the water management systems (clean, dirty and contaminated);</li> <li>- surface water flows and quality, stream and riparian vegetation health in the watercourses that could be affected by the project; and</li> <li>- downstream flooding impacts;</li> </ul> </li> <li>· reporting procedures for the results of the monitoring program; and</li> <li>· a plan to respond to any exceedances of the performance criteria, and mitigate any adverse surface water impacts of the project;</li> </ul>	<p>A Surface Water Management Plan has been prepared by a consulting engineering firm and completed in August 2014. It contains each of the required elements in the body and appendices to the plan.</p>	

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
23 cont'd	<p>(iii) Groundwater Management Plan, that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· detailed baseline data on groundwater levels, yield and quality in the region and privately-owned groundwater bores that could be affected by the project;</li> <li>· groundwater assessment criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse groundwater impacts;</li> <li>· a program to monitor and report on:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- groundwater inflows to the block cave and open cut mining operations;</li> <li>- the seepage/leachate from water storages, emplacement and final voids;</li> <li>- background changes in groundwater yield/quality against mine-induced changes;</li> <li>- impacts of the project on:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- regional and local (including alluvial) aquifers;</li> <li>- groundwater supply of potentially affected landowners; and</li> <li>- riparian vegetation;</li> </ul> </li> <li>- a program to validate the groundwater model for the project, and comparison of monitoring results with modelled predictions; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>· a plan to respond to any exceedances of the groundwater assessment criteria.</li> </ul>	<p>A Groundwater Management Plan has been prepared by a consulting engineering firm and was completed in October 2014. It contains each of the required elements in the body and appendices to the plan.</p>	
<b>BIODIVERSITY</b>			
<b>Pine Donkey Orchid</b>			
24.	<p>The Proponent shall actively manage and maintain the populations of Pine Donkey Orchid located to the north of the project area (near Adavale Lane) and near the E48 subsidence zone.</p> <p><i>Note: The locations of the Pine Donkey Orchid populations are shown on the figure in Appendix 6.</i></p>	<p>NPM has employed a full time ecologist who has prepared a Species Management Plan for the Pine Donkey Orchid (15 February 2015). This plan is being implemented to protect the identified populations, which have been fenced off. NPM is also looking to identify any other populations that may be in the area. Active work is conducted during September and October, when the orchid flowers.</p>	Compliant

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<b>Biodiversity Offsets</b>																																																	
25.	<p>The Proponent shall implement summarised in Table 7 below, shown conceptually in Figures 1, 2 and 3 of Appendix 7 and detailed in the table at Appendix 7, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p> <p><i>Table 7: Summary of the Biodiversity Offsets</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Limestone National Forest Offset</th> <th>Minimum Size hectares (ha)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Revegetate land</td> <td>45.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Sub-Total</b></td> <td><b>45.1</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Estcourt Tailings Storage Facility Offset</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><i>Vegetation Community:</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yellow Box Tall Grassy Woodland</td> <td>3.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inland Grey Box – White Cypress Pine Tall Woodland</td> <td>38.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Derived Tussock Grasslands</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Sub-Total</b></td> <td><b>65.1</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Kokoda Biodiversity Offset</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><i>Vegetation Community:</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grey Box Grassy Woodland EEC</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grey Box Grassy Woodland DNG EEC</td> <td>96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>White Box Grassy Woodland EEC</td> <td>2.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dwyer’s Red Gum – Grey Box – Mugga Ironbark – Black Cypress Pine Forest</td> <td>150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rocky Rise Shrubby Woodland</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grey Box – Ironbark Woodland</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dwyer’s Red Gum – Grey Box – Mugga Ironbark – Black Cypress Pine DNG</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dwyer’s Red Gum Creekline Woodland</td> <td>9.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dwyer’s Red Gum – Grey Box – Mugga Ironbark – Black Cypress Pine Woodland Low Quality</td> <td>8.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mugga Ironbark Woodland</td> <td>1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Farm tracks and dams (disturbed lands)</td> <td>2.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Sub-total</b></td> <td><b>350.0</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Limestone National Forest Offset	Minimum Size hectares (ha)	Revegetate land	45.1	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>Estcourt Tailings Storage Facility Offset</b>		<i>Vegetation Community:</i>		Yellow Box Tall Grassy Woodland	3.3	Inland Grey Box – White Cypress Pine Tall Woodland	38.8	Derived Tussock Grasslands	23	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>Kokoda Biodiversity Offset</b>		<i>Vegetation Community:</i>		Grey Box Grassy Woodland EEC	13	Grey Box Grassy Woodland DNG EEC	96	White Box Grassy Woodland EEC	2.2	Dwyer’s Red Gum – Grey Box – Mugga Ironbark – Black Cypress Pine Forest	150	Rocky Rise Shrubby Woodland	26	Grey Box – Ironbark Woodland	25	Dwyer’s Red Gum – Grey Box – Mugga Ironbark – Black Cypress Pine DNG	15	Dwyer’s Red Gum Creekline Woodland	9.4	Dwyer’s Red Gum – Grey Box – Mugga Ironbark – Black Cypress Pine Woodland Low Quality	8.6	Mugga Ironbark Woodland	1.9	Farm tracks and dams (disturbed lands)	2.5	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>350.0</b>	<p>NPM is implementing the identified biodiversity offset strategies which are included in the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BMP). The BMP, prepared by a consulting ecologist firm, details the listed biodiversity offsets.</p>	Compliant
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26.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that the Kokoda Biodiversity Offset provides suitable habitat for all the threatened fauna species confirmed and identified as being present in the disturbance areas.</p> <p><i>Note: The threatened fauna species confirmed and identified as being present in the disturbance areas are listed in Appendix 8.</i></p>	This is affirmed as an overall objective of the BMP (s 1.2).	Compliant
<b>Security of Offsets</b>			
27.	By the 30 June 2015, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Proponent shall make suitable arrangements to protect the Kokoda Biodiversity Offset in perpetuity in consultation with OEH and to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	NPM proposes to complete this by the due date.	N/A

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Conservation Bonds</b>			
28.	<p>By 30 June 2015, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Proponent shall lodge a Conservation Bond with the Department to ensure that the biodiversity offset strategies are implemented in accordance with the performance and completion criteria of the Biodiversity Management Plan (refer to Condition 29 below). The sum of the bond shall be determined by:</p> <p>(a) calculating the full cost of implementing the biodiversity offset strategy (other than land acquisition costs); and</p> <p>(b) employing a suitably qualified quantity surveyor to verify the calculated costs, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p> <p>If the biodiversity offset strategies are completed generally in accordance with the completion criteria in the Biodiversity Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Secretary, the Secretary will release the bond.</p> <p>If the biodiversity offset strategies are not completed generally in accordance with the completion criteria in the Biodiversity Management Plan, the Secretary will call in all, or part of, the conservation bond, and arrange for the satisfactory completion of the relevant works.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <i>This condition does not apply to the Limestone National Forest Offset;</i></li> <li>· <i>Existing bonds which have been paid for the Estcourt Tailings Storage Facility Biodiversity Offset remain current and are satisfactory to fulfil the requirements of this condition;</i></li> <li>· <i>Alternative funding arrangements for long-term management of the Biodiversity Offsets, such as provision of capital and management funding as agreed by OEH as part of a Biobanking Agreement or transfer to conservation reserve estate can be used to reduce the liability of the conservation and biodiversity bond, and</i></li> <li>· <i>The sum of the bond may be reviewed in conjunction with any revision to the Biodiversity Offsets.</i></li> </ul>	NPM proposes to complete this by the due date.	N/A

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Biodiversity Management Plan</b>			
29.	<p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(a) be prepared in consultation with OEH, and submitted to the Secretary for approval prior to the commencement of any development on site;</p> <p>(b) describe the short, medium, and long term measures that would be implemented to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· manage the remnant vegetation and fauna habitat on the biodiversity offset sites;</li> <li>· restore the derived native grassland component of the Grey Box Grassy Woodland EEC community within the Kokoda Biodiversity Offset to woodland community;</li> <li>· implement the biodiversity offset strategies; and</li> <li>· integrate the implementation of the biodiversity offset strategies to the greatest extent practicable with the rehabilitation of the site (where relevant);</li> </ul> <p>(c) include detailed performance and completion criteria for evaluating the performance of the biodiversity offset strategies, and triggering remedial action (if necessary);</p> <p>(d) include a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· enhancing the quality of existing vegetation and fauna habitat in the biodiversity offset areas, including the derived native grassland component of the Grey Box Grassy Woodland EEC community within the Kokoda Biodiversity Offset;</li> <li>· creating native vegetation and fauna habitat in the biodiversity offset areas and rehabilitation area through focusing on assisted natural regeneration, targeted vegetation establishment and the introduction of naturally scarce fauna habitat features (where necessary);</li> <li>· managing and maintaining the populations of Pine Donkey Orchid located to the north of the project area (near Adavale Lane) and near the E48 subsidence zone (refer to Appendix 6);</li> <li>· collecting and propagating seed;</li> <li>· managing any potential conflicts between the proposed enhancement works in the biodiversity offset areas and any Aboriginal heritage values (both cultural and archaeological) in these areas;</li> </ul>	<p>These requirements are addressed in the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan.</p> <p>A copy of the plan was submitted to the Secretary on 27 November 2014 for approval. A response to this submission had not been received by the date of this audit.</p> <p>Potential conflicts with the biodiversity offset areas and any Aboriginal heritage are also addressed in the Cultural Heritage Management Plan.</p>	Compliant



Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· managing salinity;</li> <li>· controlling weeds and feral pests;</li> <li>· controlling erosion;· managing grazing and agriculture on site;</li> <li>· controlling access; and</li> <li>· bushfire management;</li> </ul> <p>(e) include a seasonally-based program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures, and progress against the detailed performance and completion criteria;</p> <p>(f) identify the potential risks to the successful implementation of the biodiversity offsets, and include a description of the contingency measures that would be implemented to mitigate against these risks; and</p> <p>(g) include details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing, and implementing the plan.</p>	See above.	
	<b>HERITAGE</b>		
	<b>Protection of Aboriginal Sites</b>		
30.	The Proponent shall ensure that the project does not cause any direct or indirect impact on the Aboriginal sites located outside the approved disturbance area of the project unless otherwise authorised under this approval or the NP&W Act.	These requirements are addressed in the Cultural Heritage Management Plan.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Heritage Management Plan</b>			
31.	<p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Heritage Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(a) be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;</p> <p>(b) be prepared in consultation with OEH and the Aboriginal stakeholders (in relation to the management of Aboriginal heritage values);</p> <p>(c) be submitted to the Secretary for approval prior to construction, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise;</p> <p>(d) include the a description of the measures that would be implemented for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· managing the discovery of human remains or previously unidentified heritage items on site; and</li> <li>· ensuring any workers on site receive suitable heritage inductions prior to carrying out any development on site, and that suitable records are kept of these inductions</li> </ul> <p>(e) include the following for the management of Aboriginal Heritage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· a description of the measures that would be implemented for:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- protecting, monitoring and/or managing (including any proposed archaeological investigations and/or salvage measures) the heritage items identified on site;</li> <li>- conserving the sites outside the surface disturbance area;</li> <li>- maintaining and managing reasonable access for Aboriginal stakeholders to heritage items on site;</li> <li>- ongoing consultation with the Aboriginal stakeholders in the conservation and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage on site; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>· a strategy for the storage of any heritage items salvaged on site, both during the project and in the long term;</li> </ul> <p>(f) include a detailed plan for the implementation of the mitigation and management measures outlined for the heritage items identified on site including archival recording, historical research and archaeological assessment prior to any disturbance.</p>	<p>Cultural Heritage Management Plan was prepared by NPM.</p> <p>The plan was prepared in consultation with representatives of the Wiradjuri people. A copy of the original plan was submitted to the DECC in November 2007 and acceptance of the plan was by DECC was received in December 2007.</p> <p>The plan contains the required elements identified in the condition.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>TRANSPORT</b>			
<b>Best Endeavours to Minimise Mine Traffic on Minor Routes</b>			
32.	The Proponent shall use its best endeavours to ensure that as much mine-related traffic as possible, particularly heavy vehicles, uses the Newell Highway and Bogan Road to get to and from the mine.	Only the Newell Highway and Bogan Road are used for access to the mine by light and heavy vehicles.	Compliant
<b>McClintocks Lane Site Access</b>			
33.	The Proponent shall design, construct, and maintain the site access intersection at Bogan Road and McClintocks Lane to Austroad standards and to the satisfaction of Council.	The site access intersection was conducted by a consulting engineering company, with further detailed design and a peer review conducted by two other consultants. A road safety audit was conducted by Parkes Shire Council and Bathurst Shire Council.	Compliant
34.	The Proponent shall design the site access road crossing over Goonumbla Creek in consultation with NOW and to the satisfaction of Council.	Three options for the site access intersection were identified and assessed. The design selected included allowance for 1:100 year ARI flooding. Parkes Shire Council has given preliminary approval for the option with the lowest risk rating.  NPM is working towards gaining final approval of the Traffic Management Plan and Quality and Construction Management Plan from Parkes Shire Council. The construction contract was awarded on 18 May 2015.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>VISUAL</b>			
<b>Additional Visual Impact Mitigation</b>			
35.	<p>Upon receiving a written request from the owner of any residence on privately-owned land which has, or would have, significant direct views of the mining operations and infrastructure on site during the project, the Proponent shall implement additional visual impact mitigation measures (such as landscaping treatments or vegetation screens) to reduce the visibility of these mining operations and infrastructure from the residences on their properties.</p> <p>These mitigation measures must be reasonable and feasible, and must be implemented within a reasonable timeframe.</p> <p>If the Proponent and the owner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <i>The additional visual impact mitigation measures must be aimed at reducing the visibility of the mining operations on site from significantly affected residences, and do not require measures to reduce the visibility of the mining operations from other locations on the affected properties.</i></li> <li>· <i>The additional visual impact mitigation measures do not necessarily have to include the implementation of measures on the affected property itself (i.e. the additional measures could involve the implementation of measures outside the affected property boundary that provide an effective reduction in visual impacts).</i></li> </ul>	<p>NPM received a verbal request from a neighbour in late 2014 to provide visual screening of the Extension Project works. NPM proposes to plant 10,000 trees along McClintocks Lane before the end of 2015. The neighbour has expressed their satisfaction with the proposal.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Operating Conditions</b>			
36.	<p>The Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) implement best management practice to minimise the visual and off-site lighting impacts of the project;</p> <p>(b) ensure no fixed outdoor lights shine above the horizontal;</p> <p>(c) ensure no in-pit mobile lighting rigs shine above the pit wall and other mobile lighting rigs do not shine above the horizontal;</p> <p>(d) ensure that all external lighting associated with the project complies with Australian Standard AS4282 (INT) 1997 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting or its latest version;</p> <p>(e) provide for the establishment of trees and shrubs and/or the construction of mounding to minimise visual and lighting impacts on the Proponent’s land adjoining public roads with views of the site;</p> <p>(f) ensure that the visual appearance of all buildings, structures, facilities or works (including paint colours and specifications) is aimed at blending as far as possible with the surrounding landscape, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	<p>These requirements are addressed in the Construction Management Plan. As the works are restricted to daytime, there will not be a need for floodlighting of the area.</p>	Compliant
<b>BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT</b>			
37.	<p>The Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) ensure that the project is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on site; and</p> <p>(b) assist the RFS and emergency services as much as practicable if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site.</p>	<p>NPM is developing a Bushfire Management Plan for the site. NPM is self-sufficient for fire fighting, and cooperates with local farmers to assist with any necessary fire control.</p>	Compliant
<b>WASTE</b>			
38.	<p>The Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the waste (including waste rock) generated by the project;</p> <p>(b) ensure that the waste generated by the project is appropriately stored, handled and disposed of; and</p> <p>(c) monitor and report on effectiveness of the waste minimisation and management measures in the Annual Review.</p>	<p>These requirements (apart from waste rock management) are addressed in the Non-Mineral Waste Management Plan. Waste rock management is addressed in the Mine Operations Plan. The N-MWMP states that it is to be reviewed and updated annually. The current version (10) was last reviewed in 15 February 2012.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for Improvement:</i> Review and update the Non-Mineral Waste Management Plan.</p>	Compliant OfI-6

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Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>REHABILITATION</b>		
	<b>Rehabilitation Objectives</b>		

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance								
39.	<p>The Proponent shall rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of NSW Trade &amp; Investment. This rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation strategy described in the EA (and depicted conceptually in the figures in Appendix 9), and comply with the objectives in Table 8.</p> <p>Table 8: Rehabilitation Objectives</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="297 427 1115 1289"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="297 427 566 475">Feature</th> <th data-bbox="566 427 1115 475">Objective</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="297 475 566 683">Mine site (as a whole)</td> <td data-bbox="566 475 1115 683"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Safe, stable and non-polluting.</li> <li>· Constructed landforms drain to the natural environment (excluding final voids and subsidence areas).</li> <li>· Minimise visual impact of final landforms as far as is reasonable and feasible.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="297 683 566 850">Agricultural Areas</td> <td data-bbox="566 683 1115 850"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Land is returned to a condition that sustains agricultural land use to at least the original rural land capability and agricultural productivity and requires a level of management that is comparable to adjacent agricultural areas.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="297 850 566 1289"></td> <td data-bbox="566 850 1115 1289"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Minimise the size and depth of the final voids and subsidence zones so far as is reasonable and feasible.</li> <li>· Minimise the drainage catchment of the final voids and subsidence zones so far as is reasonable and feasible.</li> <li>· Negligible high wall instability risk.</li> <li>· Restrict access.</li> <li>· Revegetate areas surrounding final voids and subsidence zones to minimise erosion.</li> <li>· Minimise risk of flood interaction for all flood events up to and including the Probable Maximum Flood level.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Objective	Mine site (as a whole)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Safe, stable and non-polluting.</li> <li>· Constructed landforms drain to the natural environment (excluding final voids and subsidence areas).</li> <li>· Minimise visual impact of final landforms as far as is reasonable and feasible.</li> </ul>	Agricultural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Land is returned to a condition that sustains agricultural land use to at least the original rural land capability and agricultural productivity and requires a level of management that is comparable to adjacent agricultural areas.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Minimise the size and depth of the final voids and subsidence zones so far as is reasonable and feasible.</li> <li>· Minimise the drainage catchment of the final voids and subsidence zones so far as is reasonable and feasible.</li> <li>· Negligible high wall instability risk.</li> <li>· Restrict access.</li> <li>· Revegetate areas surrounding final voids and subsidence zones to minimise erosion.</li> <li>· Minimise risk of flood interaction for all flood events up to and including the Probable Maximum Flood level.</li> </ul>	<p>These requirements are addressed in the MOP and the Rehabilitation Management Plan.</p> <p>The proposed final land uses will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unmodified areas will be returned to agricultural use;</li> <li>• pits will become restricted use;</li> <li>• tails dams will become grassy woodland; and</li> <li>• final voids (E22, E26 and E48) will become no access areas.</li> </ul>	<p>Compliant</p> <p>OfI-7 (see next page)</p>
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39 cont'd	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Feature</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Objective</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Tailings Storage Facilities</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Any seepage from tailings storage facilities to be contained and treated on the site.</li> <li>· Filled and shaped to final landform levels as provided in Appendix 9.</li> <li>· Final landforms to be capped and revegetated to be stable, self sustaining, free draining and consistent with surrounding rehabilitated areas.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waste Rock Dumps</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Any seepage from waste rock dumps to be contained and treated on the site.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Surface infrastructure</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· To be decommissioned and removed, unless NSW Trade &amp; Investment agrees otherwise.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Native Vegetation</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Revegetation is to be sustainable for the long term, contains native vegetation communities, second generation trees and habitat for native fauna species.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Ensure public safety.</li> <li>· Minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Objective	Tailings Storage Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Any seepage from tailings storage facilities to be contained and treated on the site.</li> <li>· Filled and shaped to final landform levels as provided in Appendix 9.</li> <li>· Final landforms to be capped and revegetated to be stable, self sustaining, free draining and consistent with surrounding rehabilitated areas.</li> </ul>	Waste Rock Dumps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Any seepage from waste rock dumps to be contained and treated on the site.</li> </ul>	Surface infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· To be decommissioned and removed, unless NSW Trade &amp; Investment agrees otherwise.</li> </ul>	Native Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Revegetation is to be sustainable for the long term, contains native vegetation communities, second generation trees and habitat for native fauna species.</li> </ul>	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Ensure public safety.</li> <li>· Minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure.</li> </ul>	<p>Seepage from the TSFs will be collected in adjacent sumps.</p> <p>Trial revegetation plots have been established on the surface of TSF1.</p> <p>Waste rock dumps will drain to sedimentation ponds.</p> <p>Some sheds will be left for future agricultural use.</p> <p>The Rehabilitation Management Plan (s 3.1) lists public safety as a rehabilitation objective, however, it does not provide details on how public safety will be achieved after mine closure.</p> <p>The NPM community team is identifying ways to minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for improvement:</i> Amend the Rehabilitation Management Plan to provide details on how to achieve public safety after mine closure.</p>	
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<b>Progressive Rehabilitation</b>															
40.	<p>The Proponent shall rehabilitate the site progressively as soon as reasonably practicable following disturbance. All reasonable and feasible measures must be taken to minimise the total area exposed for dust generation at any time. Interim rehabilitation strategies shall be employed when areas prone to dust generation cannot be permanently rehabilitated.</p> <p>Note: It is accepted that some parts of the site that are progressively rehabilitated may be subject to further disturbance at some later stage of the project.</p>	<p>Progressive rehabilitation is being completed where operationally achievable. Rehabilitation conducted so far includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the outside batters of block cave mining area E22;</li> <li>• the E26 clay dump;</li> <li>• the E26 mullock dump;</li> <li>• outside batters of TSF1 and 2; and the</li> <li>• sound bund has been completed.</li> </ul>	Compliant												



Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>Rehabilitation Management Plan</b>			
41.	<p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Rehabilitation Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of NSW Trade &amp; Investment. This plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) be prepared in consultation with the Department, NOW, OEH, Council and the CCC;</li> <li>(b) be submitted to NSW Trade &amp; Investment for approval by 30 June 2014, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise;</li> <li>(c) be prepared in accordance with any relevant NSW Trade &amp; Investment guideline;</li> <li>(d) describe how the rehabilitation of the site would be integrated with the implementation of the biodiversity offset strategies;</li> <li>(e) include detailed performance and completion criteria for evaluating the performance of the rehabilitation of the site against the rehabilitation objectives in Table 8, and triggering remedial action (if necessary);</li> <li>(f) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this approval, and address all aspects of rehabilitation including mine closure, final landform, and final land use;</li> <li>(g) include interim rehabilitation where necessary to minimise the area exposed for dust generation;</li> <li>(h) include a program to monitor, independently audit and report on the effectiveness of the measures, and progress against the detailed performance and completion criteria; and</li> <li>(i) build to the maximum extent practicable on the other management plans required under this approval.</li> </ul>	<p>A copy of the Rehabilitation Management Plan that covers the life of the mine has been sent to NSW Trade &amp; Investment. A five-year rehabilitation program is detailed in the MOP. NPM is also preparing a Closure Management Plan.</p> <p>The required details are addressed in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>SCHEDULE 5 – ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES</b>		—	—
<b>NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS/TENANTS</b>			
1.	<p>Within 1 month of this approval, the Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) notify in writing the owners of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· any privately-owned land within 2 kilometres of the approved open cut mining pit/s that they are entitled to ask for an inspection to establish the baseline condition of any buildings or structures on their land, or to have a previous property inspection report updated;</li> <li>· any residence on privately-owned land which has, or would have, significant direct views of the mining operations and infrastructure on site during the project, that they are entitled to visual impact mitigation measures to reduce the visibility of the mining operations and infrastructure from their residence;</li> </ul> <p>(b) notify the tenants of any mine-owned land of their rights under this approval; and</p> <p>(c) send a copy of the NSW Health fact sheet entitled “Mine Dust and You” (as may be updated from time to time) to the existing tenants of mine-owned land where the predictions in the EA identify that dust emissions generated by the project are likely to be greater than the relevant air quality criteria in schedule 3 at any time during the life of the project.</p>	<p>(a) NPM has not written to owners of privately-owned land within 2 kilometres of the approved open cut mining informing them of their entitlements.</p> <p>NPM has met with the owners of privately-owned land which has, or would have, significant direct views of the mining operations and infrastructure.</p> <p>(b), (c) There are not any tenants of mine-owned land.</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> Write to the owners of privately-owned land within 2 kilometres of the approved open cut mining to inform them of their entitlements in accordance with the Project Approval.</p>	Non compliant NC-1
2.	<p>Prior to entering into any tenancy agreement for any land owned by the Proponent that is predicted to experience exceedances of the recommended dust and/or noise criteria, the Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) advise the prospective tenants of the potential health and amenity impacts associated with living on the land, and give them a copy of the NSW Health fact sheet entitled “Mine Dust and You” (as may be updated from time to time); and</p> <p>(b) advise the prospective tenants of the rights they would have under this approval, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	There are not any tenants of mine-owned land.	N/A

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
3.	<p>As soon as practicable after obtaining monitoring results showing:</p> <p>(a) an exceedance of any relevant criteria in schedule 3, the Proponent shall notify affected landowners in writing of the exceedance, and provide regular monitoring results to each affected landowner until the project is again complying with the relevant criteria; and</p> <p>(b) an exceedance of the relevant air quality criteria in schedule 3, the Proponent shall send a copy of the NSW Health fact sheet entitled "Mine Dust and You" (as may be updated from time to time) to the affected tenants of the land (including the tenants of any mine-owned land).</p>	<p>NPM contacts affected landowners by telephone to discuss any exceedances of relevant monitoring criteria; for example, elevated dust or noise results. They have not followed these conversations up with written notification, as the landowners prefer to speak direct with the mine representatives without receiving letters in the post.</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> Apply to the Department for approval to notify the landowners by telephone rather than in writing. The conversations could be logged in a telephone diary to retain a record of their outcome.</p>	<p>Non compliant NC-2</p>
<b>INDEPENDENT REVIEW</b>			
4.	<p>If an owner of privately-owned land considers the project to be exceeding the criteria in schedule 3, then he/she may ask the Secretary in writing for an independent review of the impacts of the project on his/her land.</p> <p>If the Secretary is satisfied that an independent review is warranted, then within 2 months of the Secretary's decision, the Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) commission a suitably qualified, experienced and independent expert, whose appointment has been approved by the Secretary, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· consult with the landowner to determine his/her concerns;</li> <li>· conduct monitoring to determine whether the project is complying with the relevant impact assessment criteria in schedule 3; and</li> <li>· if the project is not complying with these criteria then identify the measures that could be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant criteria; and</li> </ul> <p>(b) give the Secretary and landowner a copy of the independent review.</p>	<p>NPM is not aware of such a request being made to the Secretary.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>SCHEDULE 6 – ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, REPORTING AND AUDITING</b>	—	—
	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT</b>	—	—
	<b>Environmental Management Strategy</b>	—	—
1.	<p>The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Environmental Management Strategy for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:</p> <p>(a) be submitted to the Secretary for approval by 30 June 2014;</p> <p>(b) provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the mine;</p> <p>(c) identify the statutory approvals that apply to the mine;</p> <p>(d) describe the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the mine;</p> <p>(e) describe the procedures that would be implemented to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the mine;</li> <li>· receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints;</li> <li>· resolve any disputes that may arise;</li> <li>· respond to any non-compliance;</li> <li>· respond to emergencies; and</li> </ul> <p>(f) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· copies of any strategies, plans and programs approved under the conditions of this approval; and</li> <li>· a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the project.</li> </ul>	<p>An Environmental Management Strategy (version 6, May 2014) will be submitted to the Secretary by the end of April 2015 with the finalised Construction EMP.</p> <p>The plan addresses the required mine environmental management elements. Appendix F of the plan (Monitoring and measurement schedule) has been updated to specify monitoring for 2014/15.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for Improvement:</i> Amend the Environmental Management Strategy to include the current version of the monitoring and measurement schedule.</p>	Compliant OfI-8

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>Adaptive Management</b>	—	—
2.	<p>The Proponent shall assess and manage project-related risks to ensure that there are no exceedances of the criteria and/or performance measures in Schedules 3 &amp; 4. Any exceedance of these criteria and/or performance measures constitutes a breach of this approval and may be subject to penalty or offence provisions under the EP&amp;A Act or EP&amp;A Regulation.</p> <p>Where any exceedance of these criteria and/or performance measures has occurred, the Proponent must, at the earliest opportunity:</p> <p>(a) take all reasonable and feasible steps to ensure that the exceedance ceases and does not recur;</p> <p>(b) consider all reasonable and feasible options for remediation (where relevant) and submit a report to the Department describing those options and any preferred remediation measures or other course of action; and</p> <p>(c) implement remediation measures as directed by the Secretary, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	<p>NPM manages projects and monitors the impacts of the operations to check that their impact on the environment is within acceptable limits. Any exceedances are promptly reported to the relevant regulatory and landowner stakeholders and remedial actions taken.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>Management Plan Requirements</b>	—	—
3.	<p>The Proponent shall ensure that the management plans required under this approval are prepared in accordance with any relevant guidelines, and include:</p> <p>(a) detailed baseline data;</p> <p>(b) a description of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions);</li> <li>· any relevant limits or performance measures/criteria;</li> <li>· the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the project or any management measures;</li> </ul> <p>(c) a description of the measures that would be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures/criteria;</p> <p>(d) a program to monitor and report on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· impacts and environmental performance of the project;</li> <li>· effectiveness of any management measures (see c above);</li> </ul> <p>(e) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences;</p> <p>(f) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the project over time;</p> <p>(g) a protocol for managing and reporting any:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· incidents;</li> <li>· complaints;</li> <li>· non-compliances with statutory requirements; and</li> <li>· exceedances of the impact assessment criteria and/or performance criteria; and</li> </ul> <p>(h) a protocol for periodic review of the plan.</p>	The management plans are structured to address these requirements.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>Annual Review</b>	—	—
4.	<p>By the end of March each year, or as otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Proponent shall review the environmental performance of the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This review must:</p> <p>(a) describe the development that was carried out in the previous calendar year, and the development that is proposed to be carried out over the next year;</p> <p>(b) include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the project over the previous calendar year, which includes a comparison of these results against the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· the relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria;</li> <li>· the monitoring results of previous years; and</li> <li>· the relevant predictions in the EA;</li> </ul> <p>(c) identify any non-compliance over the last year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to ensure compliance;</p> <p>(d) identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the project;</p> <p>(e) identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the project, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and</p> <p>(f) describe what measures will be implemented over the next year to improve the environmental performance of the project.</p>	<p>Annual environmental management reports are prepared and a copy forwarded to the Secretary before the end of March each year. The completion dates of past AEMRs have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2011 Feb 2012;</li> <li>• 2012 19 Feb 2013;</li> <li>• 2013 30 Jan 2014;</li> <li>• 2014 14 Mar 2015.</li> </ul> <p>The reports contain the required information.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs</b>	—	—
5.	<p>Within 3 months of:</p> <p>(a) the submission of an annual review under condition 4 above;</p> <p>(b) the submission of an incident report under condition 7 below;</p> <p>(c) the submission of an audit under condition 9 below; or</p> <p>(d) any modification to the conditions of this approval (unless the conditions require otherwise), the Proponent shall review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans, and programs required under this approval to the satisfaction of the Secretary. Where this review leads to revisions in any such document, then within 4 weeks of the review the revised document must be submitted to the Secretary for approval.</p> <p><i>Note: This is to ensure the strategies, plans and programs are updated on a regular basis, and incorporate any recommended measures to improve the environmental performance of the project.</i></p>	Plans and programs are reviewed annually. NPM has not received any requests from regulatory authorities to revise the submitted documents.	Compliant
	<b>Community Consultative Committee</b>	—	—
6.	<p>The Proponent shall operate a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This CCC must be operated in general accordance with the Guidelines for Establishing and Operating Community consultative Committees for Mining Projects (Department of Planning, 2007, or its latest version).</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The CCC is an advisory committee. The Department and other relevant agencies are responsible for ensuring that the Proponent complies with this approval; and</li> <li>· The CCC should be comprised of an independent chair and appropriate representation from the Proponent, Council, recognised environmental groups and the local community.</li> </ul>	<p>The NPM Community and External Relations group maintains a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) that meets twice a year. The CCC was established in 2006. Committee members comprise seven community group representatives (including Parkes and Forbes Shire Councils, recognised environmental groups and the local community) and three NPM personnel. Letter invitations are posted to committee members prior to each meeting.</p> <p>A Northparkes neighbour representative independently chairs the CCC. Neighbour meetings with the mine’s closest neighbours are also held twice a year. One of these meetings was coincidentally held during the audit site visit. The meeting provided an excellent forum for presentation of information to the neighbours by NPM, with ample opportunity given for the neighbours to discuss any issues they had with NPM management and environmental representatives.</p>	Compliant



Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>REPORTING</b>	—	—
	<b>Incident Reporting</b>	—	—
7.	The Proponent shall notify, immediately, the Secretary and any other relevant agencies of any incident. Within 7 days of the date of the incident, the Proponent shall provide the Secretary and any relevant agencies with a detailed report on the incident, and such further reports as may be requested.	Incident reporting requirements have been met (as described above).	Compliant
	<b>Regular Reporting</b>	—	—
8.	The Proponent shall provide regular reporting on the environmental performance of the project on its website, in accordance with the reporting arrangements in any plans or programs approved under the conditions of this approval.	<p>Sustainable development reports and some quarterly environmental monitoring summaries are published on the NPM website. The information published on the NPM website is not complete and maintenance of this part of the website could be substantially improved.</p> <p><i>Opportunity for improvement:</i> Provide more regular reporting of NPM environmental performance results on the website. Ensure the current version of environmental management plans are published on the website.</p>	Compliant OfI-9

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>AUDITING</b>	—	—
	<b>Independent Environmental Auditing</b>	—	—
9.	<p>By the 31 March 2015, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Proponent shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the project.</p> <p>This audit must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;</li> <li>(b) include consultation with the relevant agencies;</li> <li>(c) assess the environmental performance of the project and assess whether it is complying with the requirements in this approval, and any other relevant approvals, relevant EPL/s and/or Mining Lease (including any assessment, plan or program required under these approvals);</li> <li>(d) review the adequacy of any approved strategy, plan or program required under the abovementioned approvals; and</li> <li>(e) recommend measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the project, and/or any strategy, plan or program required under these approvals.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: This audit team must be led by a suitably qualified auditor, and include experts any fields specified by the Secretary.</i></p>	<p>This report provides the results of the current audit, conducted in March 2015. The previous audit was conducted over the period of September to November 2011. The 2011 audit report states that the first independent audit was understood to have been conducted on 14 to 15 February 2008.</p> <p>The amended Planning Approval required the next independent audit to be conducted by the end of March 2015.</p>	Compliant
10.	<p>Within 3 months of commissioning this audit, or as otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Proponent shall submit a copy of the audit report to the Secretary, together with its response to any recommendations contained in the audit report.</p>	<p>NPM proposes to provide a copy of the audit report with its response to any recommendations contained in the audit report by the due date.</p> <p>(A copy of the NPM response to the 2011 audit is published on the NPM website.)</p>	N/A

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>ACCESS TO INFORMATION</b>	—	—
11.	<p>The Proponent shall:</p> <p>(a) make the following information publicly available on its website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· the EA;</li> <li>· current statutory approvals for the project;</li> <li>· approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this approval;</li> <li>· a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the project, which have been reported in accordance with the various plans and programs approved under the conditions of this approval;</li> <li>· a complaints register, which is to be updated on a monthly basis;</li> <li>· minutes of CCC meetings;</li> <li>· the last five annual reviews;</li> <li>· any independent environmental audit, and the Proponent’s response to the recommendations in any audit; and</li> <li>· any other matter required by the Secretary; and</li> </ul> <p>(b) keep this information up to date, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	<p>NPM has published a range of documents on its website, however, the information published does not meet the requirements of this condition.</p> <p>The “Reports and Publications” page of the website needs to be updated, as the information available is incomplete, out of date (various environmental management plans), or cannot be loaded from the link provided.</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> Update and maintain the environmental publications page on the NPM website to meet Project Approval requirements.</p>	Non-compliant NC-3
	<b>APPENDIX 3 – STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS</b>	—	—
<b>6.6</b>	<b>Noise</b>	—	—
6.6.2	<p>NPM will undertake additional targeted noise monitoring during construction periods for TSFs, whilst campaign open cut mining operations occur during winter night time operations. This targeted monitoring program will include the use of real time monitoring and be undertaken to identify situations when metrological conditions have the potential to exacerbate noise impacts on neighbouring receivers. Appropriate noise mitigation measures will be implemented as required.</p>	<p>Open cut mining operations are not conducted at present.</p> <p>Unattended real time noise monitors have been installed at the residences of the four nearest neighbours.</p> <p>Noise mitigation measures identified in the Construction Environment Management Plan are designed to mitigate noise emissions from the project.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>6.11</b>	<b>Traffic and Transport</b>	—	—
6.11.1	The proposed road upgrades, including the development of a new internal access road, upgrades to McClintocks Lane and its intersection with Bogan Road and the development of a new visitors car park, will each be designed in accordance with appropriate guidelines and standards and finalised in consultation with Parkes Shire Council and local landholders/neighbours as appropriate.	The site access intersection was conducted by a consulting engineering company, with further detailed design and a peer review conducted by two other consultants. A road safety audit was conducted by Parkes Shire Council and Bathurst Shire Council. Three options for the site access intersection were identified and assessed. The design selected included allowance for 1:100 year ARI flooding. Parkes Shire Council has given preliminary approval for the option with the lowest risk rating.	Compliant
6.11.3	NPM will maintain current arrangements for financial contribution for the purpose of road maintenance as agreed with Parkes Shire Council and DP&I in accordance with the executed Planning Agreement.	NPM contributed to the upgrade of the Bogan Road crossing of the railway line at Goonumbla that was completed during 2014. Parkes Shire Council conducts condition surveys of Bogan Road between the Newell Highway and the mine. NPM contributes to any required repairs.	Compliant
6.11.4	NPM will prepare a detailed Construction Traffic Management Plan for the construction period of the Project, which will include details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· any staging works;</li> <li>· construction routes;</li> <li>· heavy vehicles including oversize vehicles; and</li> <li>· traffic management during the construction of the upgraded intersection in Bogan Road and McClintocks Lane.</li> </ul>	NPM is working towards gaining final approval of the Traffic Management Plan and Quality and Construction Management Plan from Parkes Shire Council. The plan includes allowance for B-triples, although only B-doubles are currently used for concentrate transport.	Compliant
<b>6.12</b>	<b>Aboriginal Archaeology</b>	—	—
6.12.2	NPM commits to a comprehensive survey of all portions of the proposed disturbance area that have not been subject to 100 per cent survey coverage prior to disturbance. Thus, any and all areas of the development footprint that would be affected will be examined prior to construction commencing, in consultation with the Aboriginal Heritage Working Group, and agreed management measures will be implemented.	A survey of the entire disturbance footprint has been conducted. The inspection comprised a walk-through of the alignment followed by an inspection of the graded disturbance footprint. The results of the inspection have been recorded and marked on a site plan. Some objects were recovered according to set procedures prior to commencement of site preparation works.	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>6.13</b>	<b>Historic Heritage</b>	—	—
6.13.1	In the unlikely event that unexpected archaeological remains or potential heritage items not identified as part of this report are discovered during the Project, all works in the immediate area will cease. The remains and potential impacts will be assessed by a qualified archaeologist or heritage consultant and, if necessary, the Heritage Branch, OEH notified in accordance with Section 146 of the Heritage Act (NSW).	Artefacts discovered during the inspection were recovered and their location recorded using a GPS. The artefacts are stored in the mine display area.	Compliant
6.13.2	If potential human remains are located following any surface disturbance, all works will halt in the immediate area to prevent any further impacts to the remains. The NSW Police will be contacted immediately. No action will be undertaken until police provide written notification to the Proponent.	Potential human remains have not been detected.	N/A
<b>6.15</b>	<b>Socio-Economic</b>	—	—
6.15.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· NPM will continue investigating the sizing of contracts in order to facilitate the inclusion of local businesses within ongoing operations;</li> <li>· NPM will consult with PSC in regard to other influences on accommodation demands when scheduling operations requiring short-term increases in employees and contractors;</li> <li>· Should unanticipated impacts become evident during the life of the Project, NPM will liaise with PSC and/or the relevant government body in relation to how infrastructure challenges in the future may be met as a community;</li> <li>· NPM will commence SIA, with regard to mine closure (including consultation with PSC, FSC, and the community), 10 years prior to the anticipated end of mine life, unless further extensions of mine life are being sought at that time; and</li> <li>· NPM will continue its existing community engagement and consultation program and will extend the program to facilitate feedback from the community with regard to community perceptions of NPM in order to proactively manage matters as they arise.</li> </ul>	<p>Competitive tendering for the Extension Project was split into two contracts for the road and dam and soil stripping. NPM has encouraged the use of local operators for the proposed works. Lead contractors who used local sub-contractors were favourably regarded during tender evaluation. NPM has discussed the tendering process with Parkes Shire Council.</p> <p>Mechanical works programs are broken into smaller packages, which enable local contractors to tender.</p> <p>Community consultation would not be required until 2023, as mine closure is not proposed until at least 2033.</p> <p>NPM maintains a proactive Community Consultation Committee and neighbour consultation program.</p>	Compliant

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>APPENDIX 5 – NOISE COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT</b>	—	—
	<b>Applicable Meteorological Conditions</b>	—	—
1.	The noise criteria in Table 1 of the conditions are to apply under all meteorological conditions except the following: (a) during periods of rain or hail; (b) average wind speed at microphone height exceeds 5 m/s; (c) wind speeds greater than 3 m/s measured at 10 m above ground level; or (d) temperature inversion conditions greater than 3°C/100 m or alternatively a stability class of G.	Noise monitoring results are reviewed to exclude data obtained during the listed meteorological conditions.  Although real time noise monitoring is being conducted at the four nearest residences, quarterly attended noise monitoring will be continued.	Compliant
	<b>Determination of Meteorological Conditions</b>	—	—
2.	Except for wind speed at microphone height, the data to be used for determining meteorological conditions shall be that recorded by the meteorological station located on the site.	The noise monitor farthest from the meteorological station is fitted with a weather station to provide a more comprehensive record of weather across the monitored area.	Compliant
	<b>Compliance Monitoring</b>	—	—
3.	Attended monitoring is to be used to evaluate compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent.	Quarterly attended noise monitoring will be conducted in addition to the real time noise monitoring at the four nearest residences.	Compliant
4.	This monitoring must be carried out at least 4 times a year, unless the Secretary directs otherwise.	Attended noise monitoring is being conducted quarterly.	Compliant
5.	Unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, this monitoring is to be carried out in accordance with the relevant requirements for reviewing performance set out in the NSW Industrial Noise Policy (as amended from time to time), in particular the requirements relating to: (a) monitoring locations for the collection of representative noise data; (b) meteorological conditions during which collection of noise data is not appropriate; (c) equipment used to collect noise data, and conformity with Australian Standards relevant to such equipment; and (d) modifications to noise data collected, including for the exclusion of extraneous noise and/or penalties for modifying factors apart from adjustments for duration.	NPM engaged a noise consultant to identify the monitoring locations for the collection of representative noise data.	Compliant

Appendix C

Completed Audit Checklist – Mining Lease No.  
1247

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>MINING LEASES 1247, 1367 and 1641; COMMON CONDITIONS APPROVED 15 AUGUST 2013</b>			
	<b>MINING LEASE CONDITIONS</b>	—	—
<b>1.</b>	<b>Notice to Landholders</b>	—	—
	<p>(a) Within a period of three months from the date of grant/renewal of this lease or within such further time as the Minister may allow, the lease holder must serve on each landholder of the land a notice in writing indicating that this lease has been granted/renewed and whether the lease includes the surface. An adequate plan and description of the lease area must accompany the notice.</p> <p>(b) If there are ten or more landholders affected, the lease holder may serve the notice by publication in a newspaper circulating in the region where the lease area is situated. The notice must indicate that this lease has been granted/renewed; state whether the lease includes the surface and must contain an adequate plan and description of the lease area.</p>	All land under the lease is owned by CMOC/Sumitomo (NPM).	N/A
<b>2.</b>	<b>Rehabilitation</b>	—	—
	Any disturbance resulting from the activities carried out under this mining lease must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the Minister	A plan for progressive and final rehabilitation is in place. Annual rehabilitation monitoring is conducted and reported in the AEMR.	Compliant



Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>3.</b>	<b>Mining Operations Plan and Annual Rehabilitation Report</b>	—	—
(a)	The lease holder must comply with an approved Mining Operations Plan (MOP) in carrying out any significant surface disturbing activities, including mining operations, mining purposes and prospecting. The lease holder must apply to the Minister for approval of a MOP. An approved MOP must be in place prior to commencing any significant surface disturbing activities, including mining operations, mining purposes and prospecting.	The current MOP expires in June 2015. The next MOP covers the period of January 2015 to December 2020. The 2015-2020 MOP has been submitted to the DPI Minister for approval. The MOP addresses the rehabilitation and general requirements of this condition.	Compliant
(b)	The MOP must identify the post mining land use and set out a detailed rehabilitation strategy which:	The MOP contains a Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) that identifies contingency strategies in the event of unexpected variations or impacts to rehabilitation outcomes. A consulting engineering firm conducted a third party review of the MOP and facilitated a risk assessment review and preparation of the TARP.	
(i)	identifies areas that will be disturbed;	A rehabilitation report is included in section 4 of the AEMR.	
(ii)	details the staging of specific mining operations, mining purposes and prospecting;		
(iii)	identifies how the mine will be managed and rehabilitated to achieve the post mining land use;		
(iv)	identifies how mining operations, mining purposes and prospecting will be carried out in order to prevent and or minimise harm to the environment; and		
(v)	reflects the conditions of approval under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;</li> <li>the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997; and</li> <li>any other approvals relevant to the development including the conditions of this mining lease.</li> </ul>		
(c)	The MOP must be prepared in accordance with the ESG3: Mining Operations Plan (MOP) Guidelines September 2013 published on the Department's website at <a href="http://www.resources.nsw.gov.au/environment">www.resources.nsw.gov.au/environment</a>		
(d)	The lease holder may apply to the Minister to amend an approved MOP at any time.		

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<p>(e) It is not a breach of this condition if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the operations which, but for this condition 3(e) would be a breach of condition 3(a), were necessary to comply with a lawful order or direction given under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, the Mine Health and Safety Act 2004   Coal Mine Health and Safety Act 2002 and Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2007   Coal Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2006 or the Work Health and Safety Act 2011; and</li> <li>(ii) the Minister had been notified in writing of the terms of the order or direction prior to the operations constituting the breach being carried out.</li> </ul> <p>(f) The lease holder must prepare a Rehabilitation Report to the satisfaction of the Minister.</p> <p>The report must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) provide a detailed review of the progress of rehabilitation against the performance measures and criteria established in the approved MOP;</li> <li>(ii) be submitted annually on the grant anniversary date (or at such other times as agreed by the Minister); and</li> <li>(iii) be prepared in accordance with any relevant annual reporting guidelines published on the Department's website at <a href="http://www.resources.nsw.gov.au/environment">www.resources.nsw.gov.au/environment</a>.</li> </ul> <p>Note: The Rehabilitation Report replaces the Annual Environmental Management Report.</p>	<p>See above.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Compliance Report</b>	—	—
	<p>(a) The lease holder must submit a Compliance Report to the satisfaction of the Minister. The report must be prepared in accordance with any relevant guidelines or requirements published by the Minister for compliance reporting.</p>	<p>Compliance reports are presented in the form of the Annual Environmental Management Reports (AEMRs). A summary of compliance is provided in the “Year in Review” table on page 2. Details of compliance in the various environmental management elements are provided throughout each AEMR.</p>	<p>Compliant</p>

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
(b)	<p>The Compliance Report must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the extent to which the conditions of this mining lease or any provisions of the Act or the regulations applicable to activities under this mining lease, have or have not been complied with;</li> <li>(ii) particulars of any non-compliance with any such conditions or provisions,</li> <li>(iii) the reasons for any such non-compliance;</li> <li>(iv) any action taken, or to be taken, to prevent any recurrence, or to mitigate the effects, of that non-compliance.</li> </ul>	Reporting requirements are met through the AEMR submission.	Compliant
(c)	The Compliance Report must be lodged with the Department annually on the grant anniversary date for the life of this mining lease.		
(d)	<p>In addition to annual lodgement under condition 4(c) above, a Compliance Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) must accompany any application to renew this mining lease under the Act;</li> <li>(ii) must accompany any application to transfer this mining lease under the Act; and</li> <li>(iii) must accompany any application to cancel, or to partially cancel, this mining lease under the Act.</li> </ul>		
(e)	Despite the submission of any Compliance Report under (c) or (d) above, the titleholder must lodge a Compliance Report with the Department at any date or dates otherwise required by the Minister.		
(f)	A Compliance Report must be submitted one month prior to the expiry of this mining lease, where the licence holder is not seeking to renew or cancel this mining lease.		

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
5.	<b>Environmental Incident Report</b>	—	—
	<p>(a) The lease holder must notify the Department of all:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) breaches of the conditions of this mining lease or breaches of the Act causing or threatening material harm to the environment; and</li> <li>(ii) breaches of environmental protection legislation causing or threatening material harm to the environment (as defined in the Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991),</li> </ul> <p>arising in connection with significant surface disturbing activities, including mining operations, mining purposes and prospecting operations, under this mining lease. The notification must be given immediately after the lease holder becomes aware of the breach.</p> <p>(b) The lease holder must submit an Environmental Incident Report to the Department within seven (7) days of all breaches referred to in condition S(a)(i) and (ii). The Environmental Incident Report must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the details of the mining lease;</li> <li>(ii) contact details for the lease holder;</li> <li>(iii) a map identifying the location of the incident and where material harm to the environment has or is likely to occur;</li> <li>(iv) a description of the nature of the incident or breach, likely causes and consequences;</li> <li>(v) a timetable showing actions taken or planned to address the incident and to prevent future incidents or breaches referred to in 5(a).</li> <li>(vi) a summary of all previous incidents or breaches which have occurred in the previous 12 months relating to significant surface disturbing activities, including mining operations, mining purposes and prospecting operations under this mining lease.</li> </ul> <p>(c) In addition to the requirements set out in conditions 5(a) and (b), the lease holder must immediately advise the Department of any notification made under section 148 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 arising in connection with significant surface disturbing activities including mining operations, mining purposes and prospecting operations, under this mining lease.</p>	<p>NPM notifies DPI of breaches by direct reporting of events, such as the tails spill and by submission of the AEMR, which contains details of POEO notifiable incidents that occurred during the reporting year. All environmental incident notifications made by NPM to EPA are copied to DRE.</p>	<p>Compliant</p>

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
<b>6.</b>	<b>Resource Recovery</b>		
	The lease holder must optimise recovery of the minerals that are the subject of this mining lease to the extent economically feasible.	Recovery of minerals is optimised to the extent economically feasible and is described in the MOP.	Compliant
<b>7.</b>	<b>Security</b>	—	—
	<p>The lease holder is required to provide and maintain a security deposit to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations of all or any kind under the mining lease, including obligations of all or any kind under the mining lease that may arise in the future.</p> <p>The amount of the security deposit to be provided as a single security has been assessed by the Minister at \$17,840,000.</p> <p>The leases covered by the single security include:</p> <p>Mining Lease No. 124 7 (Act 1973)</p> <p>Mining Lease No. 1367 (Act 1992)</p> <p>Mining Lease No. 1641 (Act 1992).</p>	NPM completes the NSW Resources & Energy Summary Rehabilitation Cost Calculation spreadsheet for open cut and underground metals mines, the most recent review being 16 December 2014. The spreadsheet is completed and registered with the department to calculate the security bond required.	Compliant
<b>8.</b>	<b>Cooperation Agreement</b>	—	—
	<p>The lease holder must make every reasonable attempt, and be able to demonstrate its attempts, to enter into a cooperation agreement with the holder(s) of any overlapping title(s). The cooperation agreement should address but not be limited to issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• access arrangements</li> <li>• operational interaction procedures</li> <li>• dispute resolution</li> <li>• information exchange</li> <li>• well location</li> <li>• timing of drilling</li> <li>• potential resource extraction conflicts; and</li> <li>• rehabilitation issues.</li> </ul>	There are not any neighbours with overlapping titles.	N/A

Ref	Condition	Observations	Compliance
	<b>Exploration Reporting</b>	—	—
	<p>Note: Exploration Reports (Geological and Geophysical)</p> <p>The lease holder must lodge reports to the satisfaction of the Minister in accordance with section 163C of the Mining Act 1992 and in accordance with clause 57 of the Mining Regulation 2010.</p> <p>Reports must be prepared in accordance with Exploration Reporting: A guide for reporting on exploration and prospecting in New South Wales (Department of Trade and Investment; Regional Infrastructure and Services 2010).</p>	Exploration is continuing within and without the lease. Reporting of the exploration activities is managed by Hetherington Exploration & Mining Title Services.	Compliant
	<b>Special Conditions</b>	—	—
	<p>Note: The standard conditions apply to all mining leases. The Division of Resources &amp; Energy (DRE) reserves the right to impose special conditions, based on individual circumstances, where appropriate.</p>	Noted.	N/A
<b>9.</b>	<b>Parkes Radio Telescope</b>		
	The lease holder must ensure that mining operations which will utilize methods which are likely to cause interference with Parkes Radio Telescope during its operational hours are conducted in co-operation and consent with the CSIRO.	NPM uses different frequencies and band widths to those used by CSIRO at the Parkes Radio Telescope.	Compliant