

Environmental authority EPPR00736413

This environmental authority is issued by the administering authority under Chapter 5 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994.

Permit¹ number: EPPR00736413

Environmental authority takes effect on 23 January 2015.

The anniversary date of this environmental authority is 17 February.

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name	Registered address
Wilton Coking Coal Pty Ltd	1/13 Manilla Street EAST BRISBANE QLD 4169

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activity(ies)	Location(s)
<i>Environmental Protection Regulation 2008, Schedule 6</i> Mining activity – schedule 6, item 1 (exploration) drilling, costeaning, pitting or carrying out geological surveys causing significant disturbance	EPC1235

Additional information for applicants

Environmentally relevant activities

The description of any environmentally relevant activity (ERA) for which an environmental authority is issued is a restatement of the ERA as defined by legislation at the time the approval is issued. Where there is any inconsistency between that description of an ERA and the conditions stated by an environmental authority as to the scale, intensity or manner of carrying out an ERA, then the conditions prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

An environmental authority authorises the carrying out of an ERA and does not authorise any environmental harm unless a condition stated by the authority specifically authorises environmental harm.

¹ Permit includes licences, approvals, permits, authorisations, certificates, sanctions or equivalent/similar as required by legislation

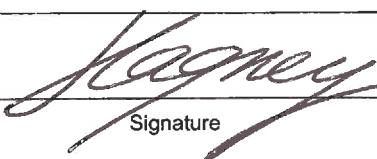
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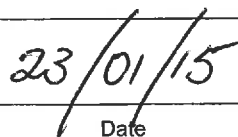
A person carrying out an ERA must also be a registered suitable operator under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act).

Contaminated land

It is a requirement of the EP Act that if an owner or occupier of land becomes aware a notifiable activity (as defined in Schedule 3 and Schedule 4) is being carried out on the land, or that the land has been, or is being, contaminated by a hazardous contaminant, the owner or occupier must, within 22 business days after becoming so aware, give written notice to the chief executive.


Signature

Justin Cagney
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Delegate of the administering authority
Environmental Protection Act 1994


Date

Enquiries:
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Obligations under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

In addition to the requirements found in the conditions of this environmental authority, the holder must also meet their obligations under the EP Act, and the regulations made under the EP Act. For example, the holder must comply with the following provisions of the Act:

- General environmental duty (section 319);
- Duty to notify environmental harm (section 320-320G);
- Offence of causing serious or material environmental harm (sections 437-439);
- Offence of causing environmental nuisance (section 440);
- Offence of depositing prescribed water contaminants in waters and related matters (section 440ZG); and
- Offence to place contaminant where environmental harm or nuisance may be caused (section 443).

Conditions of environmental authority

The environmentally relevant activity(ies) conducted at the location as described above must be conducted in accordance with the following site specific conditions of approval.

Agency interest: General	
Condition number	Condition
A1	Prevent or Minimise the Likelihood of Environmental Harm This environmental authority does not authorise environmental harm unless a condition contained within the environmental authority explicitly authorises the harm. Where there is no condition or the environmental authority is silent on a matter, the lack of condition or silence shall not be construed as authorising harm.
A2	In carrying out mining activities the environmental authority holder must prevent and/or minimise the likelihood of environmental harm being caused.
A3	Financial Assurance The environmental authority holder must provide financial assurance in the amount and form required by the administering authority prior to the commencement of activities proposed under this environmental authority.
A4	The financial assurance is to remain in force until the administering authority is satisfied that no claim on the assurance will occur. <i>NOTE: Where progressive rehabilitation is completed and acceptable to the administering authority, progressive reductions to the amount of financial assurance will be applicable where rehabilitation has been completed in accordance with the rehabilitation conditions specified in this environmental authority.</i>



A5	Activity For exploration activities, the environmental authority holder must comply with each of the standard environmental conditions contained in the <i>Code of Environmental Compliance for Exploration and Mineral Development Projects</i> except Conditions 2, 13 and 21 which are replaced by the conditions within this authority.
A6	Contaminants must not be released into the receiving environment unless they are in accordance with the contaminant limits authorised by this environmental authority.
A7	The environmental authority holder must develop and implement during the continuation of this environmental authority, a program to ensure that all employees and contractors on site are aware of and comply with the relevant requirements of this authority.
A8	Monitoring, Reporting and Emergency Response Procedures Develop monitoring programs to determine compliance with the environmental authority.
A9	All reasonable actions are to be taken to minimise environmental harm, potential environmental harm, resulting from any emergency, incident or circumstances not in accordance with the conditions of this environmental authority.
A10	The holder must notify, in writing, the occupiers or registered owners of affected land and any other potentially impacted stakeholder as soon as reasonably practicable after becoming aware of any emergency or incident that has the potential to impact on environmental values or breaches any condition of this environmental authority concerning releases of contaminants to the environment.
A11	The notification in Condition A10 must include the following: a) The location of the emergency or incident; b) The date and time of the emergency or incident; c) The estimated quantity and type of any substances involved in the emergency or incident; d) The potential impacts to environmental values caused by the emergency or incident; and e) Where there is potential impact on livestock or human health, precautionary measures that should be taken.
A12	Where monitoring is a requirement of this environmental authority, ensure that a competent person(s) conducts all monitoring.

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A13	Complaints The environmental authority holder must record all environmental complaints received about the mining activities including but not limited to the following: a) Name, address and contact number for of the complainant; b) Time and date of complaint; c) Reasons for the complaint; d) Investigations undertaken; e) Conclusions formed; f) Actions taken to resolve the complaint; g) Any abatement measures implemented; and h) Person responsible for resolving the complaint.
A14	The environmental authority holder must, when requested by the administering authority, undertake relevant specified monitoring within a timeframe nominated by the administering authority to investigate any complaint of environmental harm.
A15	The results of the investigation (including an analysis and interpretation of the monitoring results) and abatement measures implemented as required by Condition A13 must be provided to the administering authority within ten (10) business days of completion of the investigation, or no later than ten (10) business days after the end of the timeframe nominated by the administering authority to undertake the investigation.

Agency interest: Air	
Condition number	Condition
B1	Dust nuisance The release of dust or particulate matter or both resulting from the mining activity must not cause an environmental nuisance, at any sensitive or commercial place.

Agency interest: Water	
Condition number	Condition
C1	Contaminants must not be released from the site to any waters or the bed and banks of any waters.

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Agency interest: Noise	
Condition number	Condition
D1	Noise Emissions Noise from the mining activity must not exceed limits as per Table 1: Noise Limits at the tenure boundary.

Table 1: Noise Limits

Noise Level dB(A)	Monday to Sunday (including public holidays)	
	6am- 6pm	6pm-6am
L _{A10} , adj, 10 mins	Background + 5	Background + 3
L _{A1} , adj, 10 mins	Background + 10	Background + 5

NOTE: Where "Background" means background sound pressure level measured in accordance with the latest edition of the administering authority's Noise Measurement Manual. Table 1 does not purport to set operating hours for mining activities.

Agency interest: Waste	
Condition number	Condition
E1	Waste Management Waste, general or regulated, must not be disposed of within Exploration Permit Coal 1235.
E2	Regulated waste may be stored for no longer than three months on Exploration Permit Coal 1235 before being directed to a facility that can lawfully accept such waste.

Agency interest: Land	
Condition number	Condition
F1	Land Disturbance The environmental authority holder is authorised to undertake no more than thirty-one (31) drill sites, which must not exceed 1000m ² , within Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas, in accordance with Attachment 1: EPC1235 Location of drill holes .
F2	The environmental authority holder is authorised to undertake no more than thirty-eight (38) drill sites, which must not exceed 1000m ² , within the 500m buffer of any Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area, in accordance with Attachment 1: EPC1235 Location of drill holes .



F3	Two costeans are authorised on EPC1235 with the following disturbance footprint and in accordance with Attachment 1: EPC1235 Location of drill holes : 1. Fairhills costean will not exceed 1,000m ² ; and 2. Burngrove costean will not exceed 2000m ² .
F4	Drilling, Excavation and Sampling The operational area of individual drill sites must not exceed 1000m ² .
F5	Drill holes constructed in accordance with Conditions F1 and F2 are to be located as far as practicable in previously cleared areas.
F6	Drill holes are limited to less than 250mm in diameter.
F7	The construction of sumps must not exceed 10m ² .
F8	Other land disturbance No dead trees are to be removed unless they are a safety risk.
F9	Habitat trees must be protected.
F10	No clearing of mature trees is authorised except with approval of the administering authority.
F11	Debris from clearing or felling of trees must not accumulate within two (2) metres of any retained tree/s.
F12	Burning of vegetation is not permitted.
F13	Topsoil and Overburden Management Topsoil stripping is limited to the sump area of 10m ² . Where topsoil is removed it must be stockpiled for respreading during rehabilitation.
F14	Roads and Tracks Existing access and fence line tracks must be used wherever possible. Any new tracks are to be constructed (with prior consultation of the landowner) by linking naturally cleared or disturbed areas.
F15	When constructing tracks, the environmental authority holder must minimise disturbance and avoid clearing of trees within the 500m buffer and in Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas when constructing tracks.
F16	Constructed tracks must be less than 5 metres in width, including shoulder width.
F17	Track construction involving blade clearing of established ground cover vegetation and/or clearing of mature trees is to be minimised.



F18	Tracks should not be used when soil is saturated and prone to displacement or erosion by vehicle movement.
F19	No clearing or disturbance for access to boreholes is authorised within the 500m buffer or in Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas.
F20	Campsites This environmental authority does not authorise a camp on EPC1235.
F21	Rehabilitation Rehabilitation must be carried out in accordance with the <i>Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines</i> .
F22	Rehabilitation of disturbance within the 500m buffer and in Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area areas must be completed as soon as practicable, but no longer than three (3) months after completion of the disturbance activity.
F23	All land subject to mining activities must be rehabilitated within six (6) months of concluding exploration activities at each drill site to a non-polluting, safe, stable and self-sustaining landform and in accordance with Appendix 2 - Post Mine Landform Table and Appendix 3 - Rehabilitation Criteria and Completion Criteria .
F24	Reporting An annual report must be prepared each year and submitted with each annual return. The report must include a map identifying all exploration activities undertaken to date on Exploration Permit Coal 1235. The map is to clearly distinguish between proposed, completed and rehabilitated mining activities to demonstrate compliance with this environmental authority.



Definitions

“administering authority” means the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection or its successor.

“authority” means environmental authority (exploration) under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

“category B environmentally sensitive area” means any of the areas mentioned in section 26 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008*.

“costeaning” means the digging of a trench or pit across the seam or ore body for exposing, sampling and mapping of the ore body.

“density of cover” in reference to trees and/or shrubs, means the number of trees or shrubs in a specified area (e.g. 50 trees per square kilometre). With reference to understorey plant species (e.g. grasses and forbs), it means the percentage of surface area covered by a particular species.

“disturbed” means any area that has had its natural state altered by the action or interference of carrying out an activity associated with the exploration project.

“environmental authority” means an environmental authority (exploration) issued by the administering authority under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

“environmental authority holder” means the holder of this environmental authority.

“landowner” is as per the definition in the *Code of Environmental Compliance for Exploration and Mineral Development Projects*.

“mature tree” means any tree that is 70% or greater of the predominant canopy height.

“native vegetation” means vegetation that occurs naturally in a certain area.

“rehabilitation processes” means the measures and actions taken to achieve rehabilitation outcomes, including any or all of the following:

- removing all unwanted infrastructure;
- backfilling mine excavations (e.g. pits) and capping drill holes;
- reshaping the land surface to a stable landform similar to that of surrounding undisturbed areas;
- spreading of topsoil;
- spreading seed or planting seedlings to promote revegetation;
- benching ridge cuts and removing any overhanging material.

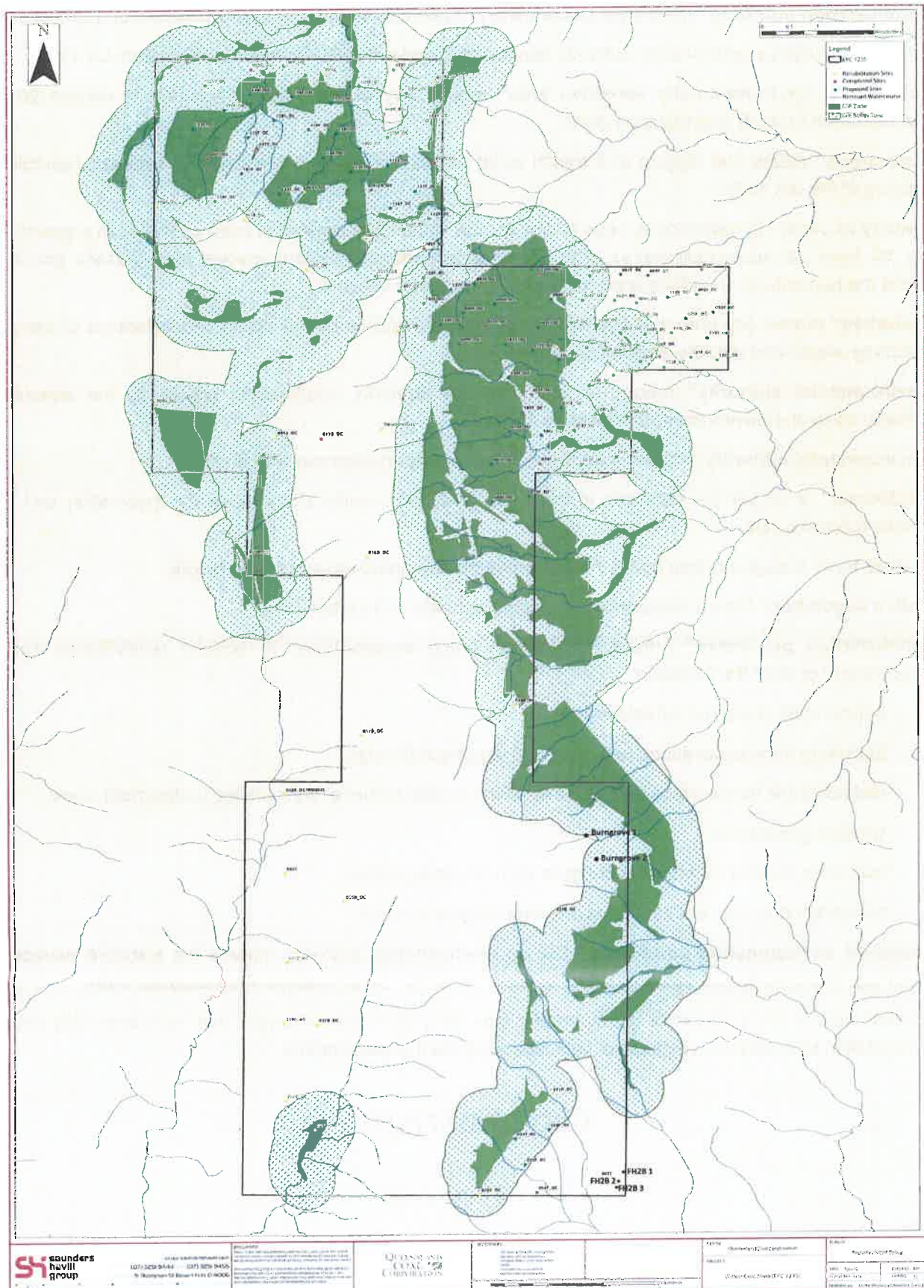
“Standard environmental conditions” For an environmental authority, means the standard environmental conditions approved for the authority under section 549 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

“tracks” means roads, tracks or paths, greater than ten (10) metres in length, that have been fully stripped of all vegetation to enable the progress of vehicles, equipment or pedestrians.

END OF DEFINITIONS



Appendix 1 - EPC1235 location of exploration activities



Appendix 2 - Post Mine Landform Table

Details	Disturbance type			
	Costean(s)	Road(s) and track(s)	Areas within Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas	Areas within 500 metres of any Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area
<i>Post mine land use</i>	Light intensity grazing	Light intensity grazing / farm access	Light intensity grazing within Native Vegetation	Light intensity grazing within Native Vegetation
<i>Post mine land description</i>	Flat revegetated land	Grazing or to remain as farm access upon agreement with landholder	Flat revegetated land	Flat revegetated land
<i>Post mine land capability classification</i>	VI ¹	VI	VI	VI
<i>Projective cover range (%)</i>	30-50 Weediness is no greater than 5% higher than adjacent background landholders groundcover ²	30-50 Weediness is no greater than 5% higher than adjacent background landholders groundcover ¹	30-50 Weediness is no greater than 5% higher than adjacent background landholders groundcover ¹	30-50 Weediness is no greater than 5% higher than adjacent background landholders groundcover ¹
<i>Species mix</i>	native vegetation of RE eg.11.5.16 11.9.1 within 25m vicinity of disturbance	Buffel and other pasture mixtures upon agreement with landowner	native vegetation of RE eg.11.5.16 11.9.1 within 25m vicinity of disturbance	native vegetation of RE eg.11.5.16 11.9.1 within 25m vicinity of disturbance

Note¹ "A land capability classification for agricultural purposes" J Rosser, G Swartz, N Dawson, H Briggs May 1974

Note². Weediness includes weeds that are declared plants as defined under the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002.

Note: The holder of this environmental authority is required to comply with all obligations under the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 or subsequent legislation.

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Appendix 3 - Rehabilitation Completion Criteria

Domain	Rehabilitation goal	Rehabilitation Objectives	Indicators	Nature of Completion Criteria
Road(s) and Track(s)	Long term safety	Site is safe for humans and animals now and in the foreseeable future.	Monitoring and safety assessment	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, and detailed in the rehabilitation report.
	Non-polluting	Containment of erosion and sediments	Monitoring and safety assessment	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, and evidenced in the rehabilitation report that all roads and tracks have been rehabilitated to a non-polluting landform in accordance with "Environmental Management Plan for EPC1235 revision November 2012 prepared for Wilton Coking Coal" and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
	Stable landform	Containment of erosion and sediments	Monitoring and safety assessment	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report that all roads and tracks have been rehabilitated to a stable landform at closure and are likely to remain that way in the foreseeable future, in accordance with "Environmental Management Plan for EPC1235 revision November 2012 prepared for Wilton Coking Coal" and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
	Sustainable land use	Establish specified self-sustaining or natural vegetation or habitat	Presence of key plant species similar to surrounding area prior to disturbance	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the area is rehabilitated in accordance with the specifications in the Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
			Composition of key plant species similar to surrounding area prior to disturbance	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the area is rehabilitated in accordance with the specifications in the Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
Drill holes			Density of key plant species similar to surrounding area prior to disturbance	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the area is rehabilitated in accordance with the specifications in the Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
	Long term safety	Site is safe for humans and animals now and in the foreseeable future	Safety assessment of landform stability	Risk assessment has been completed and risk mitigation measures have been implemented. Where risk mitigation measures include bunds, safety fences and warning signs, these have been erected in accordance with Australian Standards and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
				Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report.

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Domain	Rehabilitation goal	Rehabilitation Objectives	Indicators	Nature of Completion Criteria
	Non-polluting	Containment of erosion and sediments	Monitoring and safety assessment	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, and evidenced in the rehabilitation report that all drill sites have been rehabilitated to a non-polluting landform in accordance with "Environmental Management Plan for EPC1235 revision November 2012 prepared for Wilton Coking Coal" and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
		Rehabilitation or conversion of exploration drill holes and groundwater monitoring bores	All non-artesian exploration drill holes undertaken under this environmental authority have been rehabilitated or converted to a water bore.	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that all non-artesian exploration drill holes not converted to either a water bore or a groundwater monitoring bore, have been rehabilitated.
				Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that all sub-artesian exploration drill holes have been isolated where non-artesian exploration drill holes have intersected more than one sub-artesian water bearing strata, in accordance with the 'Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia' (Australian Government, February 2012) or latest edition.
				Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that all non-artesian exploration drill holes converted to a water bore are compliant with the requirements of the Water Act 2000.
			Groundwater monitoring undertaken at locations impacted or potentially impacted by the mining activities	Certification by an appropriately qualified person that groundwater monitoring identifies that the groundwater quality is not negatively impacted by the rehabilitated landform.
			Monitoring and safety assessment	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report that the drill sites have been rehabilitated to a stable landform in accordance with "Environmental Management Plan for EPC1235 revision November 2012 prepared for Wilton Coking Coal" and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
	Stable landform	Containment of erosion and sediments		Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the area is rehabilitated in accordance with the specifications in the Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
	Sustainable land use	Establish specified self sustaining or natural vegetation or habitat	Presence of key plant species similar to surrounding area prior to disturbance	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the area is rehabilitated in accordance with the specifications in the Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.
			Composition of key plant species similar to surrounding area prior to disturbance	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the area is rehabilitated in accordance with the specifications in the Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table and Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines.

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Domain	Rehabilitation goal	Rehabilitation Objectives	Indicators	Nature of Completion Criteria
Costeans			Density of key plant species similar to surrounding area prior to disturbance	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the area is rehabilitated in accordance with the specifications in the <i>Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table</i> and <i>Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines</i> .
	Long term safety	Site is safe for humans and animals now and in the foreseeable future	Safety assessment of landform stability	Risk assessment has been completed and risk mitigation measures have been implemented. Where risk mitigation measures include bunds, safety fences and warning signs, these have been erected in accordance with Australian Standards and <i>Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines</i> .
	Non-polluting	Containment of erosion and sediments	Monitoring and safety assessment	Certification by an appropriately qualified person in the rehabilitation report.
				Certification by an appropriately qualified person, and evidenced in the rehabilitation report that all costeans have been rehabilitated to a non-polluting landform in accordance with "Environmental Management Plan for EPC1235 revision November 2012 prepared for Wilton Coking Coal" and <i>Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines</i> .
	Stable landform	Landform design	Consistent with surrounding landform within 50m vicinity of disturbance	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the costeans have been rehabilitated to a stable landform, in accordance with the 'Environmental Management Plan for EPC1235 Revision November 2012' and <i>Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines</i> .
		Vegetation cover to minimise erosion	Vegetation type and density	Evidence that the vegetation type and density are of species suited to the site as outlined in <i>Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table</i> .
	Sustainable land use	Establish specified self sustaining or natural vegetation or habitat	Presence, composition and density of key plant species similar to surrounding area prior to disturbance	Certification by an appropriately qualified person, in the rehabilitation report, that the area is rehabilitated in accordance with <i>Appendix 2 Post Mine Land Form Table</i> and <i>Queensland Coal Corporation Site Preparation and Rehabilitation Guidelines</i> .

END OF PERMIT



