ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1994

Queensland Government
Environmental Protection Agency
Queensland **Parks and Wildlife Service**

EMD2002/3397

Central West District
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Environmental Authority No. M5992 (mining activities)

Section 244 *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

This environmental authority is granted under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 *and includes conditions to minimise environmental harm caused, or likely to be caused, by the authorised mining activities. An environmental authority (mining activities) may be for mining activities authorised (under the* Mineral Resources Act 1989*) to occur under one of the following mining tenements: a prospecting permit; mining claim; exploration permit; mineral development licence; or mining lease. In general, a mining activity means: prospecting, exploring, mining; or processing minerals; remediation; rehabilitation; and includes facilitation and supporting activities and any action taken to prevent environmental harm.*

Under the provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* this environmental authority is issued to:

CAPRICORN COAL MANAGEMENT PTY LTD
PMB
MIDDLEMOUNT QLD 4746

in respect of carrying out activities as part of the following mining project:

Type of environmental authority (mining activities)	Authorised mining tenements	Location
Mineral Development	**MDL 331**	**Oak Park - approx. 15km South of Middlemount**

This environmental authority is subject to the conditions set out in the attached schedule.

This environmental authority takes effect from 21 June 2002.

Signed

20 June 2002
Date

Paula Douglas
District Manager Central West (Emerald)
Delegate of Administering Authority
Environmental Protection Act 1994

Note: This environmental authority document is not proof of the current status of the environmental authority. The current status of the environmental authority may be ascertained by contacting the Environmental Protection Agency.

Schedule of conditions

This environmental authority consists of the following schedules of conditions relevant to various issues:

- Schedule A - General conditions
- Schedule B - Additional Conditions

Schedule A - General conditions

(A1) The conditions of this environmental authority are in force until a surrender of the authority is accepted pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. The conditions apply unless an amendment is approved pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

(A2) The environmental authority holder is to give the administering authority a financial assurance in the amount and form and at a time required by the administering authority.

(A3) The environmental authority holder must comply with each of the Standard Environmental Conditions contained in the *Code of Environmental Compliance for Exploration and Mineral Development Projects* dated January 2001

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE A

Schedule B - Additional conditions

(B1) The environmental authority holder is authorised to carry out drilling, gridlines and track construction within the mineral development licence. The mineral development activities must be carried out in accordance with Attachment A – Supporting Information for Amendment to Standard Environmental Authority.

(B2) Intrusive exploration (including but not limited to drilling, track construction, gridlines, geophysical lines) will not take place in areas labelled Brigalow in Schedule C, Plan A.

(B3) Where adequate native vegetative cover is not achieved in areas that have been disturbed by mineral development activities, within the Endangered Regional Ecosystem areas, the holder of the environmental authority will plant native species endemic to the particular ecosystem that has been disturbed.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE B

Schedule C - Plans

Plan A

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE C

END OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

PLAN A

ANGLO COAL

Lease Boundary

Area of
Intense Activity

Mine

ATTACHMENT A

Supporting Information for Amendment to Standard Environmental Authority

At the time of application for MDL 331 and associated environmental authority, a large portion of the area had been mapped as containing several differing ecosystems with a minority ratio of endangered regional ecosystems. The location of the pockets of endangered regional ecosystems (EREs) has now been identified from information provided by the landholder and site inspections.

Activities have been limited until this point in time to existing tracks and areas cleared by the landholder as per the environmental authority. It is proposed to conduct drilling within areas that contain remnant vegetation, requiring the installation of access tracks, grid lines and drill sites. The location of the more intensive activities is defined on the attached map (AMG co-ordinates 672200,7459000; 671000,7457300; 673800,7455600; 674900,7457000).

Site Access

1. Drilling or Seismic Grid
   1.1. spacing of gridlines is not less than 150m apart for specified area, elsewhere the buffer distance from EREs as defined in the Code of Environmental Compliance for Exploration and Mineral Development will be complied with.

2. Drill sites
   2.1. operational area is no greater than 1000m^2
   2.2. sump size is no greater than 10m^2
   2.3. topsoil stripping is limited to sump area
   2.4. clearing of mature trees is prevented or minimised

3. Tracks
   3.1. spacing between tracks is not less than 150m
   3.2. existing access and fence line tracks are used where possible and any new tracks are constructed by linking natural clearings where possible
   3.3. track construction involving blade clearing of established ground cover vegetation and/or clearing of mature trees is prevented or minimised
   3.4. line of sight clearing is prevented or minimised
   3.5. construction of new crossings of major natural drainage lines is prevented or minimised

4. Other Land Disturbance
   4.1. activities do not involve costeaning or bulk sampling in areas of EREs

Equipment use

5. Rubber tyred low ground pressure vehicles such as backhoes will be used for rehabilitation

6. Transport of weeds on vehicles and machinery is prevented