

Environmental authority EPVX00966813***Environmental Protection Act 1994*****Environmental authority EPVX00966813**

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

Environmental authority number: EPVX00966813

Environmental authority takes effect on 06 February 2020

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name(s)	Registered address
Springsure Creek Coal Pty Ltd	490 Upper Edward St SPRING HILL QLD 4000 Australia

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activity/activities	Location(s)
Non-Scheduled Mining Activity Exploration Permit Coal - EPC	EPC891

Additional information for applicantsEnvironmentally relevant activities

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

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

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 an owner or occupier of contaminated land give written notice to the administering authority if they become aware of the following:

- the happening of an event involving a hazardous contaminant on the contaminated land (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- a change in the condition of the contaminated land (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- a notifiable activity (as defined in Schedule 3) having been carried out, or is being carried out, on the contaminated land (notice must be given within 20 business days);

that is causing, or is reasonably likely to cause, serious or material environmental harm.

Environmental authority EPVX00966813

For further information, including the form for giving written notice, refer to the Queensland Government website www.qld.gov.au, using the search term 'duty to notify'.

Take effect

Please note that, in accordance with section 200 of the EP Act, an EA has effect:

- a) if the authority is for a prescribed ERA and it states that it takes effect on the day nominated by the holder of the authority in a written notice given to the administering authority-on the nominated day; or
- b) if the authority states a day or an event for it to take effect-on the stated day or when the stated event happens; or
- c) otherwise-on the day the authority is issued.

However, if the EA is authorising an activity that requires an additional authorisation (a relevant tenure for a resource activity, a development permit under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* or an SDA Approval under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*), this EA will not take effect until the additional authorisation has taken effect.

If this EA takes effect when the additional authorisation takes effect, you must provide the administering authority written notice within 5 business days of receiving notification of the related additional authorisation taking effect.

If you have incorrectly claimed that an additional authorisation is not required, carrying out the ERA without the additional authorisation is not legal and could result in your prosecution for providing false or misleading information or operating without a valid environmental authority.

Gillian Naylor
Department of Environment and Science
Delegate of the administering authority
Environmental Protection Act 1994

Date issued: 13 February 2020

Enquiries:
Business Centre (Coal)
Department of Environment and Science
PO Box 3028
EMERALD QLD 4720
Phone: (07) 4987 9320
Email: CRMining@des.qld.gov.au

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)
- offence to place contaminant where environmental harm or nuisance may be caused (section 443)

Environmental authority EPVX00966813

Conditions of environmental authority

With the exception of any variations, the conditions of approval for this environmental authority include standard conditions contained within the attached document(s) entitled:

- *Code of Environmental Compliance for Exploration and Mineral Development Projects* Variations to the standard conditions include:

Schedule A: General	
Condition number	Condition
A1	Financial assurance The environmental authority holder must provide a financial assurance in the amount and form required by the administering authority prior to the commencement of activities proposed under this environmental authority.
A2	The financial assurance is to remain in force until the administering authority is satisfied that no claim on the assurance is likely.
A3	Activity The conditions of this environmental authority are in force until a surrender of the authority is accepted pursuant to the Environment Protection Act 1994. The conditions apply unless an amendment is approved pursuant to the Environmental Protection Act 1994.
A4	The holder of this environmental authority must comply with each of the environmental conditions contained in the <i>Code of Environmental Compliance for Exploration and Mineral Development Projects</i> except condition 13, 18, 21, which is replaced by the conditions within this authority.
A5	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.
A6	Monitoring, reporting and emergency response procedures Any breach of a condition of this environmental authority must be reported to the administering authority within 24 hours of becoming aware of the breach and record full details of the breach and any subsequent actions.
A7	All information and records that are required by the conditions of this environmental authority must be kept for a period of at least 5 years.
A8	If the environmental authority holder becomes aware of any adverse impacts on an environmental value you must notify the administering authority in writing of the full details of the adverse impact within 24 hours of becoming aware of the impact. Note: Written notification to the administering authority must be addressed to the Manager or Project Manager of the local Administering Authority via email (Manager.MiningCWR@ehp.qld.gov.au) or facsimile (facsimile: 49879399). Verbal notification may also be made to the Pollution Hotline on 1300 130 372, available 24 hours 7 days a week.

Environmental authority EPVX00966813

A9	The notification in condition A8 must include, but not be limited to, the following: a) The environmental authority number and name of the holder b) The name and telephone number of the designated contact person c) The location of the emergency or incident; d) The date and time of the emergency or incident; e) The time the holder of the environmental authority became aware of the emergency or incident; f) Where known: i) The estimated quantity and type of substances involved in the emergency or incident; ii) The actual or potential cause of the emergency or incident; iii) a description of the nature and effects of the emergency or incident including environmental risks, and any risks to public health or livestock; g) any sampling conducted or proposed, relevant to the emergency or incident; h) immediate actions taken to prevent or mitigate any further environmental harm caused by the emergency or incident; and i) what notification of stakeholders who may be affected by the emergency or incident has occurred or is being undertaken.
Schedule B – Air	
Condition number	Condition
B1	The release of odours or airborne contaminants (including dust) resulting from the activity must not cause a nuisance at a sensitive place.
Schedule C – Water	
Condition number	Condition
C1	Contaminants must not be released to waters.
Schedule D – Noise	
Condition number	Condition
D1	Noise nuisance Noise resulting from the activity must not cause an environmental nuisance at any sensitive place.
Schedule E – Waste	
Condition number	Condition
E1	All waste must be removed and disposed of offsite.

Environmental authority EPVX00966813

Schedule F - Land	
Condition number	Condition
F1	Land disturbance Contaminants must not be released to land.
F2	The environmental authority holder is authorised to construct seventy-five (75) drill holes within the 500m buffer of any Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area (i.1. Endangered Regional Ecosystem) in accordance with <i>Figure 1: Existing and proposed drill sites on EPC891</i> .
F3	The environmental authority holder is not authorized to drill holes or disturb vegetation within any Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area (i.1. Endangered Regional Ecosystem).
F4	The environmental authority holder is authorised to construct seventy (7) drill holes and access tracks at the locations specified in <i>Table 1: Location of proposed drill holes and access tracks on Lot 6 DSN708</i> and shown in <i>Figure 1: Existing and proposed drill holes on EPC891</i> .
F5	Drilling, excavation and sampling The operational area of individual drill sites must not exceed 1000m ² .
F6	Drill holes constructed in accordance with condition F2 and condition F4 must be located in previously cleared areas where practical.
F7	Drill holes must be limited to less than 250mm in diameter.
F8	The construction of sumps must not exceed 10m ² .
F9	Exploration within the 500m buffer of any Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area (i.e. Endangered Regional Ecosystem) must not involve seismic lines, costeaning or bulk sampling.
F10	Roads and tracks Existing access and fence line tracks must be used wherever possible. Any new tracks are to be constructed in consultation with the landholder, by linking naturally cleared or disturbed areas.
F11	When constructing tracks, the environmental authority holder must minimise disturbance and avoid clearing mature trees within the 500m buffer of any Environmentally Sensitive Area (i.e. Endangered Regional Ecosystem).
F12	Constructed tracks must be less than 5m in width.
F13	Track construction involving blade clearing of established ground cover vegetation and/or clearing mature trees is to be minimised.
F14	Tracks should not be used when soil is saturated and prone to displacement or erosion by vehicle movement.

Environmental authority EPVX00966813

F15	Topsoil and overburden management Topsoil stripping must be limited to the sump area of 10m ² . Where topsoil is removed it must be stockpiled for respreading during rehabilitation.
F16	Campsites This environmental authority does not authorise the construction of camps on EPC891.
F18	Rehabilitation Rehabilitation of areas disturbed by mining activity within the 500m buffer of any Environmentally Sensitive Area (i.e. Endangered Regional Ecosystem) must be completed as soon as practicable but no longer than three (3) months after completion of the activity.
F19	Reporting An annual report must be prepared by the environmental authority holder each year and submitted with each annual return. The report must include a map identifying all exploration activities undertaken to date on Exploration Permit for Coal 891. The map is to clearly distinguish between proposed, completed and rehabilitated exploration activities to demonstrate compliance with this environmental authority.

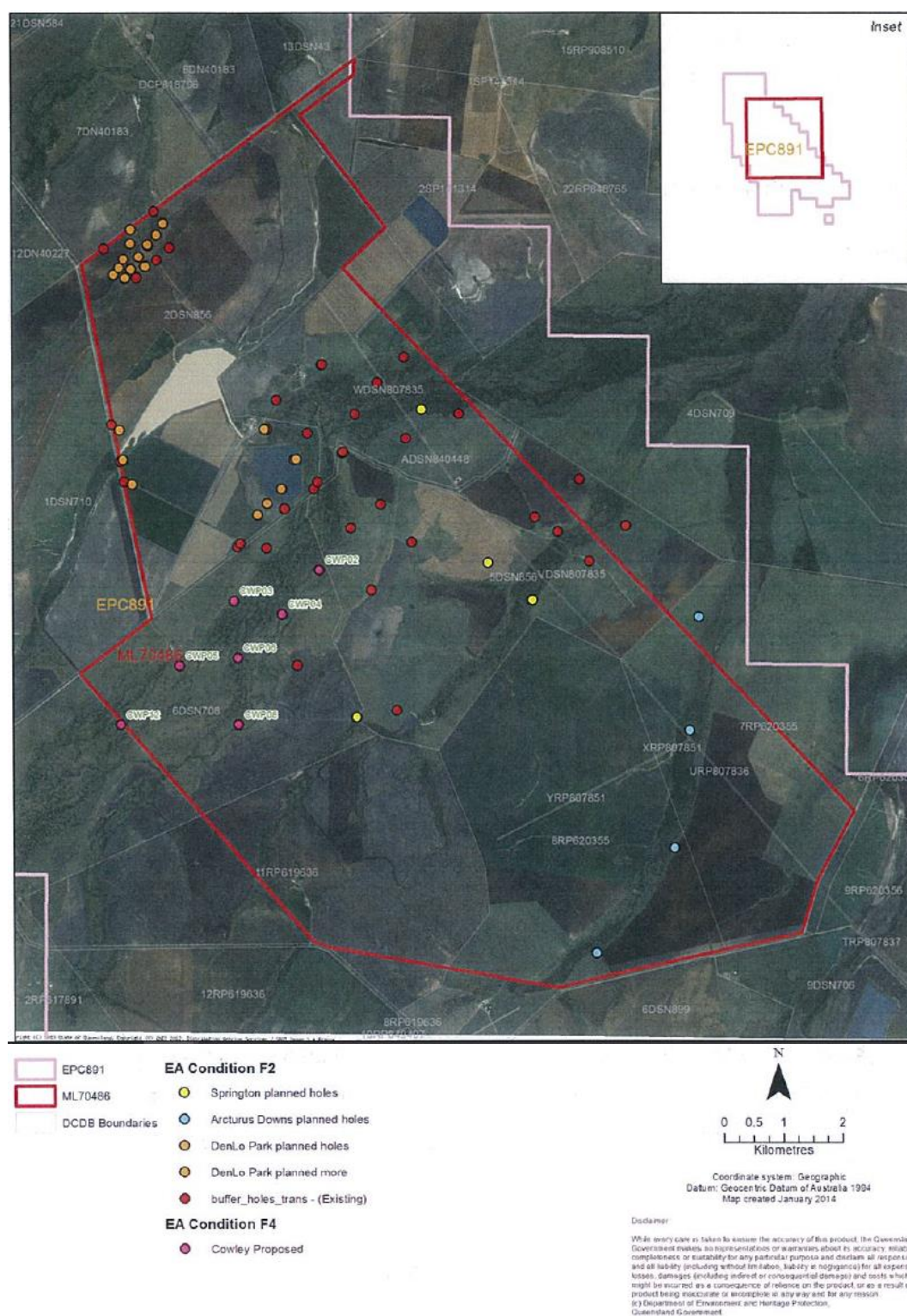
Table 1: Location of proposed drill holes and access tracks on Lot 6 DSN708.

Drill Site ID	Easting	Northing	Track Start		Track End	
			Easting	Northing	Easting	Nothing
CWP02	640375	7348625	640535	7348514	640375	7348625
CWP03	638930	7348100	638871	7348139	638930	7348100
CWP04	639750	7347875	640034	7347940	639750	7347875
CWP05	638000	7347000	638100	7347080	638000	7347000
CWP06	638987	7347134	638260	7346660	638987	7347134
CWP08	639000	7346000	639898	7346002	639000	7346000
CWP12	637000	7346000	638100	7347080	637000	7346000

Coordinates: MGA Zone 55.

END OF PERMIT CONDITIONS

Figure 1: Existing proposed drill sites on EPC 891



Definitions

Environmental authority EPVX00966813

Key terms and/or phrases used in this document are defined in this section. Applicants should note that where a term is not defined, the definition in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, its regulations or environmental protection policies must be used. If a word remains undefined it has its ordinary meaning.

Activity means the environmentally relevant activities, whether resource activities or prescribed activities, to which the environmental authority relates.

Administering authority means the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection or its successor or predecessors.

Appropriately qualified person(s) means a person or persons who has professional qualifications, training, skills or experience relevant to the nominated subject matter and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis to performance relative to the subject matter using the relevant protocols, standards, methods, or literature.

Boundary means within 1m of the cadastral boundary of the approved place.

Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area as per the definitions within the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008*.

Contaminate means to render impure by contact or mixture.

Contaminant can be –

- a) a gas, liquid or solid; or
- b) an odour; or
- c) an organism (whether alive or dead), including a virus; or
- d) energy, including noise, heat, radioactivity and electromagnetic radiation; or
- e) a combination of contaminants.

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

Environmental authority means an environmental authority under Chapter 5 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

Environmental authority holder means the holder of this environmental authority.

Environmental nuisance is unreasonable interference or likely interference with an environmental value caused by –

- a) aerosols, fumes, light, noise, odour, particles or smoke; or
- b) an unhealthy, offensive or unsightly condition because of contamination; or
- c) another way prescribed by regulation.

Environmental value is –

- a) a quality or physical characteristic of the environment that is conducive to ecological health or public amenity or safety; or
- b) another quality of the environment identified and declared to be an environmental value under an environmental protection policy or regulation.

Financial assurance means a security required under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* by the administering authority to cover the cost of rehabilitation or remediation of disturbed land or to secure compliance with the environmental authority.

Prescribed contaminants means contaminants listed within Schedule 9 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008*.

$L_{Aeq\ adj, T}$ means the adjusted A weighted equivalent continuous sound pressure level measured on fast response, adjusted for tonality and impulsiveness, during the time period T, where T is measured for a period no less than 15 minutes when the activity is causing a steady state noise, and no shorter than 1 hour when the approved activity is causing an intermittent noise.

Environmental authority EPVX00966813

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.

Measures has the broadest interpretation and includes plant, equipment, physical objects, monitoring, procedures, actions, directions, competency.

Native vegetation means vegetation that occurs naturally in a certain area.

Noxious means harmful or injurious to health or physical well-being.

Offensive means causing offence or displeasure; is unreasonably disagreeable to the sense; disgusting; nauseous or repulsive.

Sensitive place includes the following and includes a place within the curtilage of such a place reasonably used by persons at that place;

- a) a dwelling, residential allotment, mobile home or caravan park, residential marina or other residential premises; or
- b) a motel, hotel or hostel; or
- c) a kindergarten, school, university or other educational institution or
- d) a medical centre or hospital; or
- e) a protected area under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, the *Marine Parks Act 1992* or a World Heritage Area; or
- f) a public thoroughfare, park or gardens; or
- g) for noise, a place defined as a sensitive receptor for the purposes of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008.
- h) A workplace, an office or for business or commercial purposes and includes a place within the curtilage of such a place reasonably used by persons at that place.

Tack/s means roads, tracks or paths, greater than ten (10 meters in length, that have been fully stripped of all vegetation to enable the progress of vehicles, equipment or pedestrians.

Waste as defined in section 13 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

Wasters includes river, stream, lake, lagoon, pong, swamp, wetland, unconfined surface water, unconfined water, natural or artificial watercourse, bed and bank of any waters, dams, non-tidal waters (including the sea), stormwater channel, stormwater drain, roadside gutter, stormwater run-off, and groundwater and any part thereof.

Watercourse means a watercourse as defined under the *Water Act 2000*.

Note: the definition of 'sensitive place' and commercial place' is based on Schedule 1 of EPP Noise. That is, a sensitive place is inside or outside on a dwelling, library & educational institution, childcare or kindergarten, school or playground, hospital, surgery or other medical institution, commercial & retail activity, protected area or an area identified under a conservation plan under *Nature Conservation Act 1992* as a critical habitat or an area of major interest, marine park under *Marine Parks Act 2004*, park or garden that is outside of the mining lease and open to the public for the use other than for sport or organised entertainment. A commercial place is inside or outside a commercial or retail activity.

A mining camp (i.e. accommodation and ancillary facilities for mine employees or contractors or both, associated with the mine the subject of the environmental authority) is not a sensitive place for that mine or mining project, whether or not the mining camp is located within a mining tenement that is part of the mining project the subject of the environmental authority. For example, the mining camp might be located on neighbouring land owned or leased by the same company as one of the holders of the environmental authority for the mining project, or a related company. Accommodation for mine employees or contractors is a sensitive place if the land is held by a mining company or related company, and if occupation is restricted to the employees, contractors and their families for the particular mine or mines which are held by the same company or a related company.

For example, a township (occupied by the mine employees, contractors and their families for multiple mines that are held by different companies) would be a sensitive place, even if part of the entire township is constructed on

Environmental authority EPVX00966813

land owned by one or more of the companies.

END OF PERMIT