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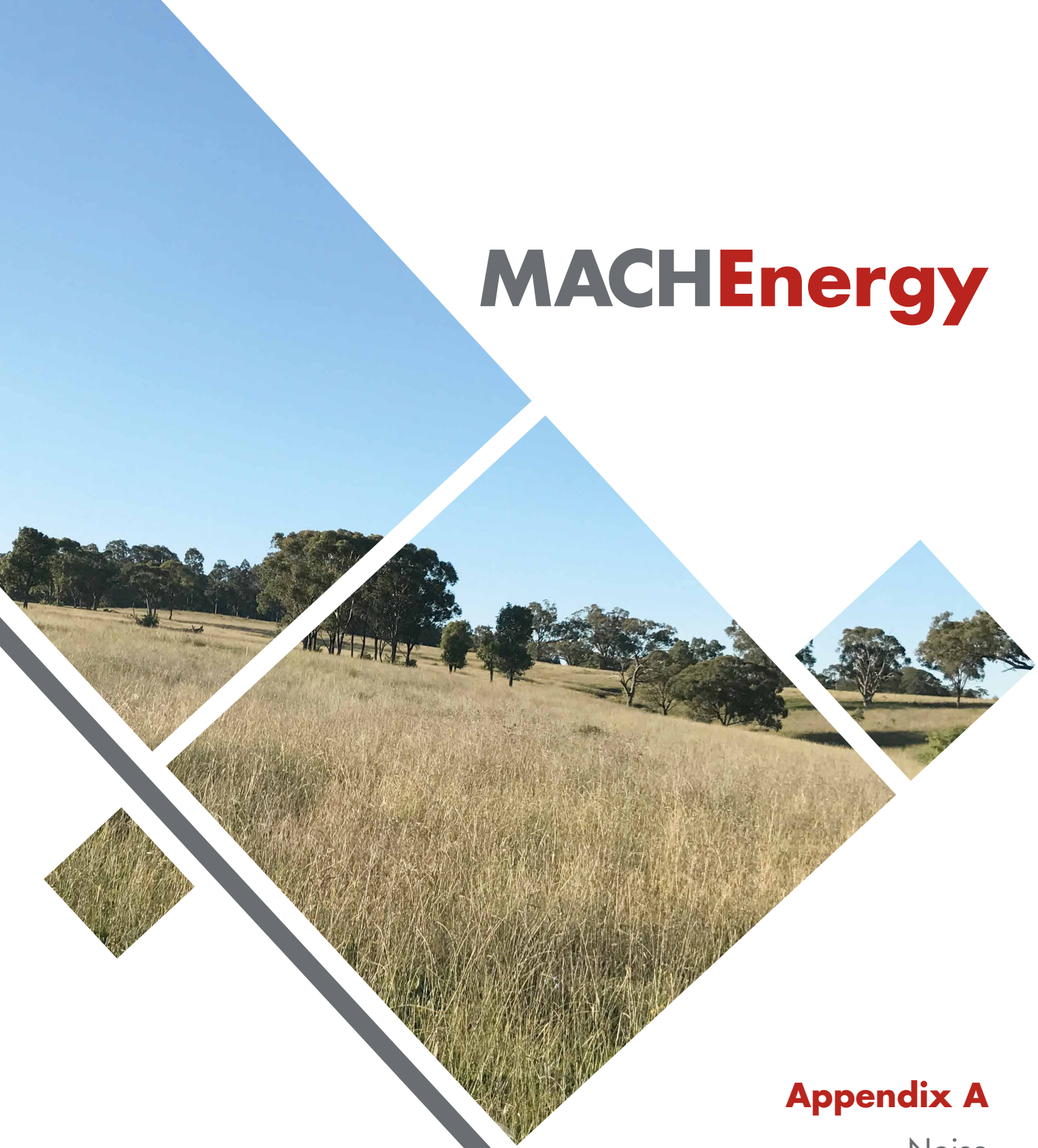

Appendix A

Noise Assessment

ACOUSTICS AND AIR

MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

RAIL MODIFICATION NOISE ASSESSMENT

REPORT NO. 15402-D
VERSION A

DECEMBER 2017

PREPARED FOR

MACH ENERGY AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

WILKINSON MURRAY

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Status	Date	Prepared By	Reviewed By
A	Final	19 December 2017	Roman Haverkamp	Rob Bullen

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

1 INTRODUCTION 1

1.1 Overview of the Mount Pleasant Operation 1

1.2 Overview of the Modification (Modification 4) 1

2 NOISE SENSITIVE RECEIVERS 4

2.1 Overview of Receivers Surrounding the Mount Pleasant Operation 4

2.2 Receivers Potentially Impacted by Modification 4

3 OPERATIONAL NOISE CRITERIA 6

3.1 Development Consent DA 92/97 Assessment Criteria 6
3.1.1 Noise Criteria 6
3.1.2 Cumulative Noise Criteria 7
3.1.3 Acquisition Criteria 8
3.1.4 Additional Mitigation Criteria 9

3.2 Proposed Changes to Development Consent DA 92/97 Assessment Criteria 10

3.3 NSW Government Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy 12

3.4 Background Noise Survey 13

3.5 Modifying Factor Adjustments 13

4 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY 14

4.1 General Methodology 14

4.2 Noise Model Procedures 15

4.3 Meteorological Conditions 15

4.4 Noise Sources Associated with Modification Operations 15

5 OPERATIONAL NOISE ASSESSMENT 16

5.1 Operational Noise 16

5.2 Cumulative Noise 16

5.3 Potential for Sleep Disturbance 18

5.4 Vacant Land Assessment 19

6 CONSTRUCTION NOISE & VIBRATION 20

6.1 Construction Noise in the Vicinity of the Mount Pleasant Operation 20

6.1.1 Description of Construction Activities 20
6.1.2 Assessment Methodology 21
6.1.3 Noise Predictions 21

6.2 Construction Noise Outside Mining Leases 22
6.2.1 Description of Construction Activities 22
6.2.2 Construction Noise Criteria 24
6.2.3 Assessment Methodology 25
6.2.4 Noise Predictions 25

6.3 Construction Vibration Associated with Rail Spur (Outside Mining Leases) 27

7 RAIL NOISE & VIBRATION 29

7.1 Introduction 29

7.2 Rail Noise Criteria 29

7.3 Rail Noise Assumptions & Methodology 29

7.4 Rail Noise Impacts 30

7.5 Rail Vibration 31

8 CONCLUSION 32

8.1 Operational Noise 32

8.2 Vacant Land Assessment 32

8.3 Cumulative Noise 32

8.4 Sleep Disturbance 33

8.5 Construction Noise 33

8.6 Construction Vibration 33

8.7 Rail Noise 34

8.8 Rail Vibration 34

9 REFERENCES 35

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A GLOSSARY OF TERMS & DEFINITIONS

APPENDIX B NOISE SENSITIVE RECEIVERS

APPENDIX C OPERATIONAL NOISE PREDICTIONS

APPENDIX D CUMULATIVE NOISE PREDICTIONS

APPENDIX E SLEEP AROUSAL NOISE PREDICTIONS

APPENDIX F CONSTRUCTION IN VICINITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – NOISE PREDICTIONS

APPENDIX G CONSTRUCTION OF RAIL SPUR (OUTSIDE MINING LEASES) – NOISE PREDICTIONS

APPENDIX H CONSTRUCTION OF HUNTER RIVER WATER SUPPLY PUMP STATION & ASSOCIATED WATER PIPELINE – NOISE PREDICTIONS

APPENDIX I PREDICTED NIGHT TIME RAIL SPUR NOISE PREDICTIONS

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview of the Mount Pleasant Operation

The Mount Pleasant Operation Development Consent DA 92/97 was granted on 22 December 1999. The Mount Pleasant Operation was also approved under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* (EPBC Act) in 2012 (EPBC 2011/5795).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd (MACH Energy) acquired the Mount Pleasant Operation from Coal and Allied Operations Pty Ltd (Coal & Allied) on 4 August 2016. MACH Energy commenced construction activities at the Mount Pleasant Operation in November 2016 and commenced mining operations in October 2017, in accordance with Development Consent DA 92/97 and EPBC 2011/5795.

The approved Mount Pleasant Operation includes the construction and operation of an open cut coal mine and associated rail spur and product coal loading infrastructure located approximately three kilometres (km) north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW) (Figures 1-1 and 1-2).

The mine is approved to produce up to 10.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of run-of-mine (ROM) coal. Up to approximately nine trains per day of thermal coal products from the Mount Pleasant Operation will be transported by rail to the port of Newcastle for export or to domestic customers for use in electricity generation.

MACH Energy lodged a Mine Optimisation Modification (Modification 3) in 2017 with the intent to extend the permitted period of mining operations to 22 December 2026 and extend the Eastern Out of Pit Emplacement.

1.2 Overview of the Modification (Modification 4)

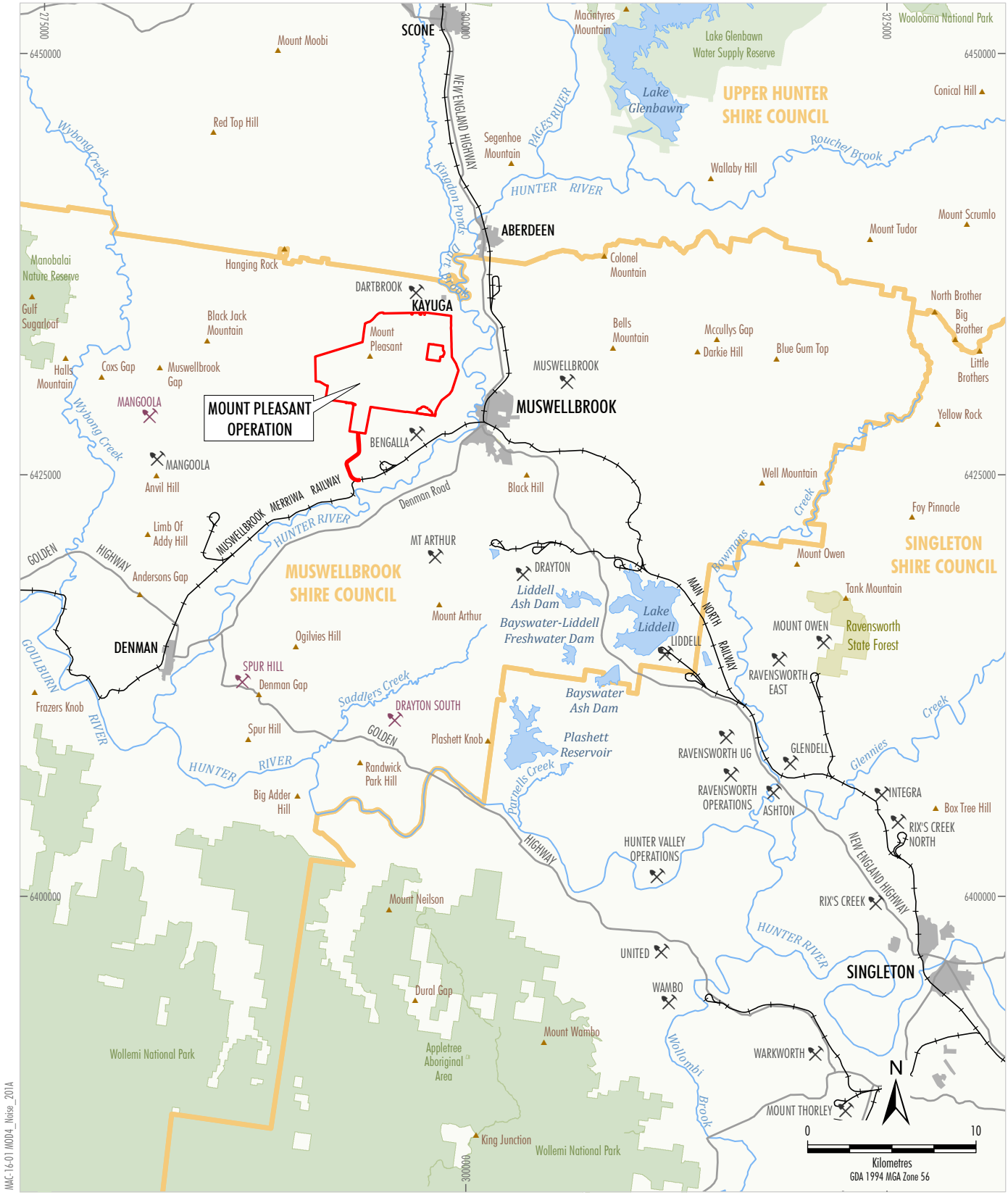
The ultimate extent of the approved Bengalla Mine open cut intersects the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur.

While the intersection of the Bengalla Mine open cut with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail infrastructure is still some years away, MACH Energy is proposing a Rail Modification to obtain approval for future rail and/or conveyor product transport facilities to manage this future interaction.

The Rail Modification (Modification 4) would primarily comprise:

- duplication of the approved rail spur, rail loop and associated conveyor and rail loading systems;
- duplication of the Hunter River water supply pump station and associated water pipeline that currently follows the rail spur alignment; and
- demolition and removal of the redundant approved infrastructure within the extent of the Bengalla Mine, once the new rail, product loading and water supply infrastructure has been commissioned and is fully operational.

The Rail Modification would not alter the number of approved train movements on the rail network or operational workforce of the Mount Pleasant Operation.



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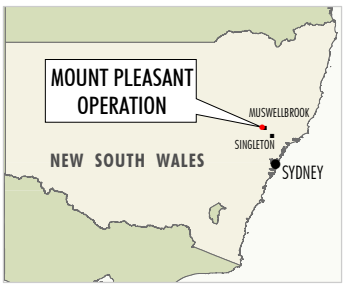

LEGEND

- Mining Operation
- Proposed Mining Operations (Application Lodged)
- Mining Lease Boundary (Mount Pleasant)
- Railway
- Local Government Boundary
- State Forest
- National Parks and Wildlife Estate

Source: Geoscience Australia (2006); NSW Division of Resources & Geoscience (2017); Land and Property Information (2017)

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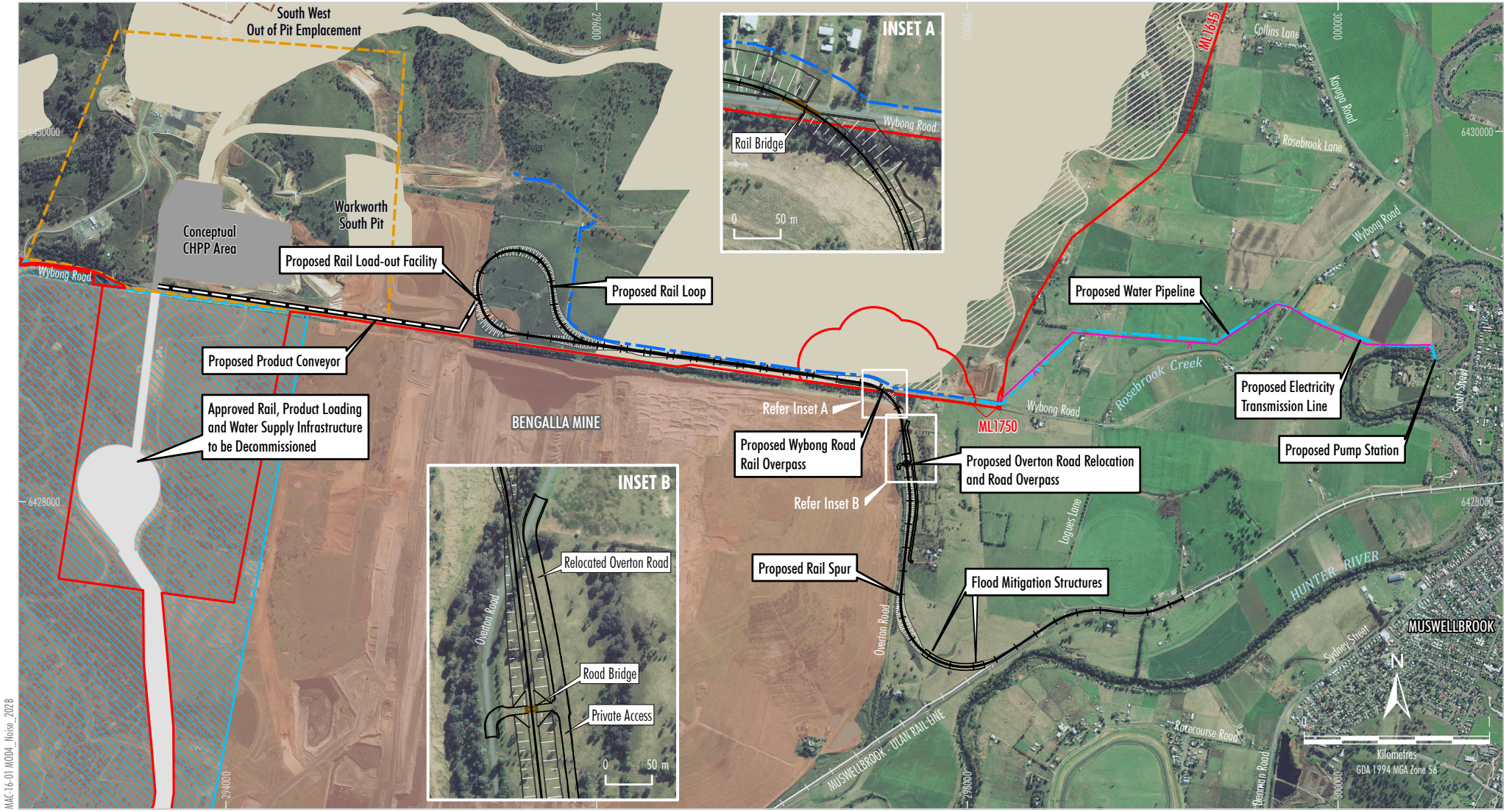
MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

Regional Location

Figure 1-1



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LEGEND

- Mining Lease Boundary
- Infrastructure Area Envelope
- Indicative Off-site Coal Transport Infrastructure
- Approximate Extent of Approved Surface Development (1997 EIS Year 20)*
- Conveyor/Services Corridor Envelope
- Bengalla Mine Approved Disturbance Boundary (SSD-5170)

Subject to Separate Modification (Modification 3)

- Emplacement Extension
- Area Relinquished for Overburden Emplacement and Major Infrastructure

Key Elements of the Modification #

- Proposed Rail
- Proposed Product Conveyor
- Proposed Water Pipeline - Above Ground
- Proposed Water Pipeline - Buried
- Proposed Pump Station Electricity Transmission Line

Notes:

* Excludes some project components such as water management infrastructure, infrastructure within the Infrastructure Area Envelope, off-site coal transport infrastructure, road diversions, access tracks, topsoil stockpiles, power supply, temporary offices, other ancillary works and construction disturbance.

\# Modification would also include additional minor components not shown, e.g. access tracks, rail signalling and electricity supply, etc.

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2017); NSW Division of Resources & Geoscience (2017); Department of Planning and Environment (2016); MACH Energy (2017)
Orthophoto: MACH Energy (July 2017)

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MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

General Arrangement of the Key Modification Elements

Figure 1-2

2 NOISE SENSITIVE RECEIVERS

2.1 Overview of Receivers Surrounding the Mount Pleasant Operation

A detailed list identifying all the above noise sensitive receivers (including Eastings and Northings in Map Grid of Australia 84 coordinates, Zone 56) is provided in Appendix B. Figure 2-1 shows all noise sensitive receivers surrounding the Mount Pleasant Operation.

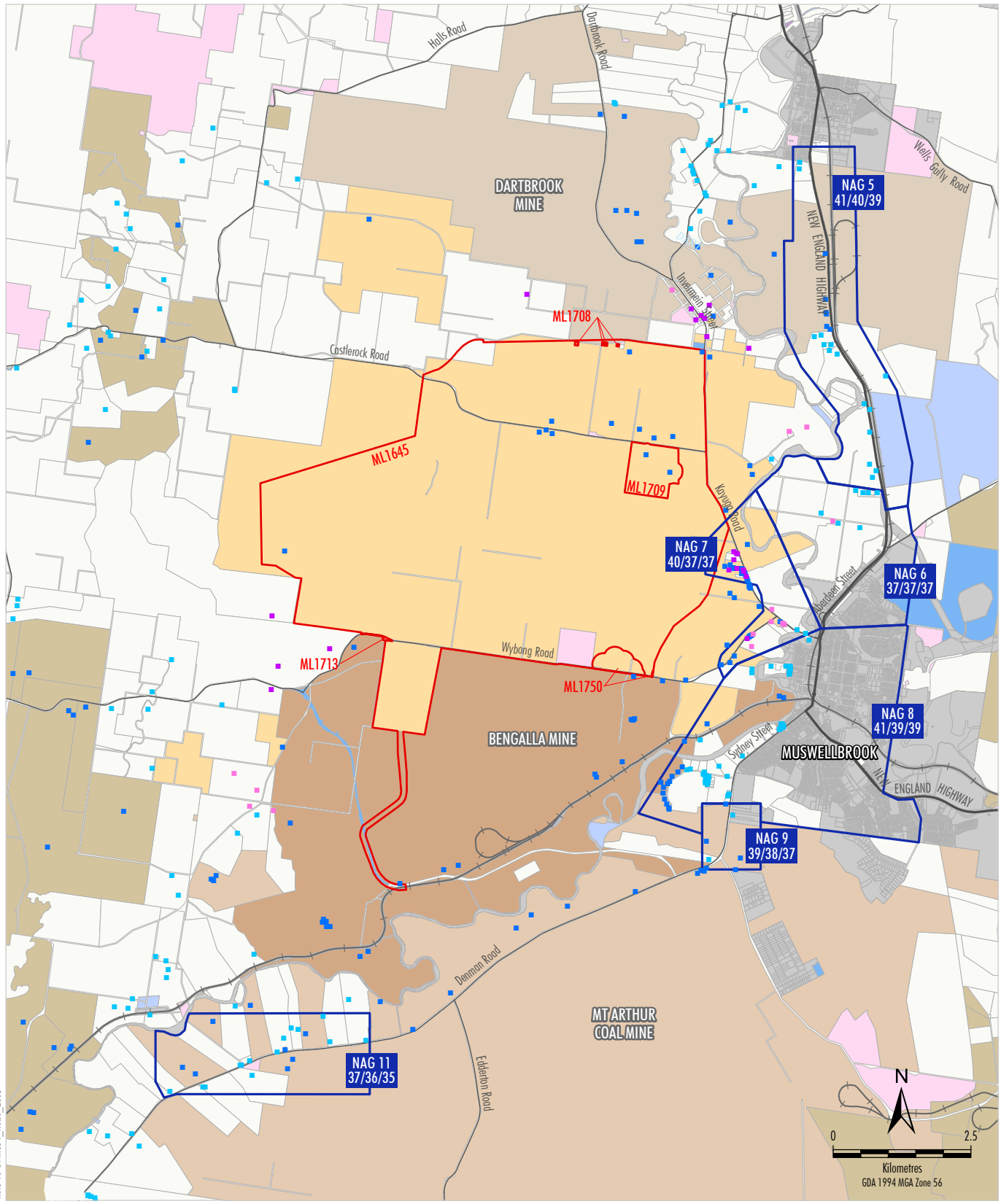
For ease of reference, privately-owned residences have been grouped into eleven (11) Noise Assessment Groups (NAGs) for previous assessments of the approved operation prior to Modification 3. The NAGs are defined in Appendix 6 of Development Consent DA 92/97.

For completeness a number of additional residences have been added for the Modification 3 noise assessment (both within and outside NAGs), based on a contemporary review of land ownership and residential receivers in the vicinity of the Mount Pleasant Operation. The dwelling verification investigation also identified that a number of locations that have previously been assessed as privately-owned dwellings do not have habitable buildings, are now commercial spaces, are now abandoned, or are now mine-owned. Figure 2-1 reflects the changes resulting from the contemporary review of surrounding land ownership and residential receivers.

The noise assessment conducted for Modification 3 also recommended that the boundary of some of the NAGs be modified to include nearby receivers and proximal land to avoid inconsistent outcomes. The revised NAGs are illustrated in Figure 2-1.

2.2 Receivers Potentially Impacted by Modification

The noise assessment considers all identified surrounding noise sensitive receivers potentially impacted by the Rail Modification. These comprise of privately-owned dwellings and mine-owned dwellings located to the east, south and south-east of the Mount Pleasant Operation. The assessment focuses on the privately-owned dwellings and mine-owned dwellings located inside NAGs 7, 8 and 9 and isolated mine-owned dwellings located to the west of NAG 8 and south of the Mount Pleasant Operation. The Rail Modification is not expected to impact on the other identified noise sensitive receivers.



LEGEND

- Mining Lease Boundary
- Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter LEPs Zones B2, B5, IN1, SP2, R2, R5, RE1, RE2 and W1
- Crown
- Crown/State of NSW
- The State of NSW
- Muswellbrook Shire Council
- Upper Hunter Shire Council
- Mount Pleasant Controlled
- Bengalla Controlled
- Dartbrook Controlled
- Mt Arthur Controlled
- Other Mining/Resource Company Controlled
- Privately Owned Land
- Mine-owned Dwelling
- Privately-owned Residence - MPO Acquisition on Request
- Privately-owned Residence - MPO Mitigation on Request
- Other Privately-owned Residence
- Revised Noise Assessment Group (NAG)
- 37/36/35 Default NAG Noise Criteria for Day/Evening/Night

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2017); NSW Division of Resources & Geoscience (2017)

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MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

Noise Sensitive Receivers and Revised Noise Assessment Groups

Figure 2-1

3 OPERATIONAL NOISE CRITERIA

3.1 Development Consent DA 92/97 Assessment Criteria

Development Consent DA 92/97 has set noise criteria for the Mount Pleasant Operation in accordance with the *NSW Industrial Noise Policy* (*INP*) (EPA, 2000).

Noise related conditions of Development Consent DA 92/97 which discuss noise criteria, acquisition criteria and additional mitigation criteria are reproduced in this section.

Where relevant reference is made in the following discussion to the 2010 Environmental Assessment (the EA) noise results (EMGA Mitchell McLennan, 2010).

3.1.1 Noise Criteria

Condition 3, Schedule 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 requires MACH Energy to ensure that the noise generated by the development does not exceed the criteria in Table 3-1 at any residence on privately-owned land or on more than 25 percent (%) of any privately-owned land. The criteria are specified in units of A-weighted decibels (dBA).

The criteria specified in Table 3-1 do not apply to the noise-affected land subject to acquisition upon request conditions (Section 3.1.3) or if the Applicant has a written agreement with the relevant landowner to exceed the criteria, and the Applicant has advised the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) in writing of the terms of this agreement.

Table 3-1 Noise Criteria (dBA)

Location		Day	Evening	Night	
		$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{A1,1min}$
NAG 1[1]	260, 261	37	37	37	45
	258[2]	40	40	40	45
	259	39	39	39	45
	All other privately-owned land	35	35	35	45
NAG 2	272	36	36	36	45
	All other privately-owned land	35	35	35	45
NAG 3[1]	139, 154, 240[2]	40	40	40	45
	241[2]	39	39	39	45
	All other privately-owned land	35	35	35	45
NAG 4	169	36	36	36	45
	All other privately-owned land	35	35	35	45
NAG 5	All privately-owned land	41	40	39	45
NAG 6[1]	205[2]	41	41	41	45
	203, 242[2]	40	40	40	45
	202	39	39	39	45
	204	38	38	38	45
	All other privately-owned land	37	37	37	45
NAG 7[1]	68, 74, 279[2]	43	42	42	45
	86, 290[2]	42	42	42	45
	77	42	41	41	45

	Location	Day	Evening	Night	
		$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{A1,1min}$
	79, 80, 231[3]	41	41	41	45
	78[2]	41	40	40	45
	All other privately-owned land	40	37	37	45
NAG 8	35	42	41	41	45
	289	41	40	40	45
	23, 84	40	40	40	45
	All other privately-owned land	41	39	39	45
NAG 9	All privately-owned land	39	38	37	45
NAG 10	All privately-owned land	35	35	35	45
NAG 11	All privately-owned land	37	36	35	45
	All other privately- owned land	35	35	35	45

Source: Development Consent DA 92/97
Notes:
1. The EA (EMGA Mitchell McLennan, 2010) predicted maximum noise levels of 40 dBA at receiver 257 (located in NAG 1), 39 dBA at receiver 140 (located in NAG 3), 38 dBA at receiver 198 (located in NAG 6) and 42 dBA at receiver 83 (located in NAG 7). While these EA predictions are not reflected in Table 3-1, receivers 257 and 140 are entitled to noise mitigation upon request under Development Consent DA 92/97.
2. Following a detailed investigation of land ownership as described in Section 2, it was established that these receivers are no longer present/inhabited.
3. Following a detailed investigation of land ownership as described in Section 2, receiver 231 is now characterised as receiver 526.

- To identify the locations referred to in Table 3-1, see Figure 2-1.
- Noise generated by the development is to be measured in accordance with the relevant procedures and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions), of the *NSW INP*.

3.1.2 Cumulative Noise Criteria

Condition 5, Schedule 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 requires MACH Energy to implement all reasonable and feasible measures to ensure that the noise generated by the development combined with the noise generated by other mines in the area does not exceed the criteria in Table 3-2 at any residence on privately-owned land or on more than 25 % of any privately-owned land. These criteria do not apply to the noise-affected land subject to acquisition upon request conditions (Section 3.1.3).

Table 3-2 Cumulative Noise Criteria (dBA)

Location	Day	Evening	Night
	$L_{Aeq\ (period)}$	$L_{Aeq\ (period)}$	$L_{Aeq\ (period)}$
NAG 8, 9	55	45	40
All other privately-owned land	50	45	40

Source: Development Consent DA 92/97
Notes:

- To identify the locations referred to in Table 3-2, see Figure 2-1; and
- Cumulative noise is to be measured in accordance with the relevant procedures and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions) of the *NSW INP*.

3.1.3 Acquisition Criteria

Condition 1, Schedule 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 requires MACH Energy, upon receiving a written request for acquisition from the owner of the land listed in Table 3-3, to acquire the land in accordance with the procedures in Condition 6 and Condition 7 of Schedule 4.

Table 3-3 Land Subject to Acquisition upon Request

Receiver	Receiver
43, 44 - J.B. Moore	143, 161, ~~237~~[2] - J.S. & N.M. Lonergan
45 - B.A. & T.E. Strachan	147 - M.J. & R.G. Adnum
47 - B.L. & M.L. Bates	156 - J.E. & J.L. Lonergan
67 - J.M. Simpson	158 - J.M. Hoath
96 - R.P. Grey	159, ~~236~~[2] - J.E. & M.S. Ducey
~~101 - C. Austin~~[1] (MACH Energy)	~~129 – R.M. & S.D. Fanell~~[1] (MACH Energy)
102 - A. Mather	~~130 – M.J. Farrell~~[1] (MACH Energy)
~~107 – B.L. Wilton~~[1] (MACH Energy)	~~135, 309 – K.J. & G.M. Yore~~[1] (MACH Energy)
108 - J.S. Gibson	~~146 – C.R & N.J. Hoath~~[2]
112 - B.D. Barry	153 - G.M. Casey
118 - J. & C. Hayes	157 - R.B. Parkinson & S.A. Peberdy
120, 308 - D.L. & P.A. Moore	~~229 – C. Horne~~[2]
121 - C & J.M. Moore	~~263 – R.R. & J.M. Hamilton~~[1] (MACH Energy)
~~137, 138 A – D.H. MacIntyre~~[2]	~~C – P.M. Yore~~[1] (MACH Energy)
~~D – S. Yore~~[1] (MACH Energy)	-

After: Development Consent DA 92/97
Notes:

- To identify the locations referred to in Table 3-3, see Figure 2-1; and
- All land is noise affected, except receiver 67 which is air quality affected.

1. It is noted that these receivers are now owned by MACH Energy.
2. It is noted that following investigation, no dwellings appear to be present at the locations of these previously identified receivers (e.g. habitable building not present, building abandoned, or building used for commercial purposes).

Condition 4, Schedule 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 requires MACH Energy to acquire the relevant land in Table 3-4 in accordance with the procedures in Condition 6 and Condition 7 of Schedule 4, if:

- the noise generated by the Mount Pleasant Operation exceeds the criteria in Table 3-4 at any residence on privately-owned land or on more than 25 % of any privately-owned land; and
- MACH Energy receives a written request for acquisition from the landowner.

Table 3-4 Noise Acquisition Criteria (dBA)

Location	Day	Evening	Night
	$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{Aeq,15min}$
All privately-owned land in NAG 1, NAG 2, NAG 3, NAG 4, and NAG 10	40	40	40
All privately-owned land in NAG 5	46	45	44
All privately-owned land in NAG 6	42	42	42
All privately-owned land in NAG 7	45	42	42
All privately-owned land in NAG 8	46	44	44
All privately-owned land in NAG 9	44	43	42
All privately-owned land in NAG 11	42	41	40
All other privately-owned land	40	40	40

Source: Development Consent DA 92/97
Notes:
- To identify the locations referred to in Table 3-4, see Figure 2-1;
- Noise generated by the development is to be measured in accordance with the relevant procedures and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions), of the *NSW INP*; and
- For this condition to apply, the exceedances of the criteria must be systematic.

Condition 6, Schedule 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 requires MACH Energy to acquire the land in Table 3-5 on as equitable a basis as possible with the relevant mines in accordance with the procedures in Condition 6 and Condition 7 of Schedule 4, if:

- the noise generated by the Mount Pleasant Operation combined with the noise generated by other mines in the area exceeds the criteria in Table 3-5 at any residence on privately-owned land or on more than 25 % of privately-owned land; and
- MACH Energy receives a written request for acquisition from the landowner.

Table 3-5 Cumulative Noise Acquisition Criteria (dBA)

Location	Day	Evening	Night
	$L_{Aeq\ (period)}$	$L_{Aeq\ (period)}$	$L_{Aeq\ (period)}$
NAG 8, 9	60	50	45
All other privately-owned land	55	50	45

Source: Development Consent DA 92/97
Notes:
- To identify the locations referred to in Table 3-5, see Figure 2-1;
- Cumulative noise is to be measured in accordance with the relevant procedures and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions), of the *NSW INP*; and
- For this condition to apply, the exceedances of the criteria must be systematic.

3.1.4 Additional Mitigation Criteria

Condition 2, Schedule 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 requires MACH Energy, upon receiving a written request from the owner of any residence on the land listed in Table 3-6 or Table 3-3, to implement additional noise and/or dust mitigation measures (such as double-glazing, insulation, air filters, first flush roof water drainage system and/or air conditioning) at the residence in consultation with the landowner. These measures must be reasonable and feasible and related to the noise and/or dust impacts on the residence.

Table 3-6 Land where Additional Noise Mitigation Measures are Available on Request

Receiver	Receiver
68 - Googe	203 - Millard
74 - Sormaz	~~205 – Dapkos Pty Ltd~~[1]
77 - Purser	~~231~~ 526 – Wicks[2]
~~78~~[1], 80 - W.J. Adnum	~~240 – MacIntyre~~[1]
79 - W.J. & D.W. Adnum	~~242 – Raphael~~[1]
86, ~~290~~[1] - Cowtime Investments Pty Ltd	257 - Lane
139 - Upton	258 - Ellis
140 - Dapkos Pty Limited	259 - Peel
154 – Standing	~~279 – Parkinson~~[1]

After: Development Consent DA 92/97
Notes:
- To identify the locations referred to in Table 3-6, see Figure 2-1.

1. It is noted that following investigation, no dwellings appear to be present at the locations of these previously identified receivers (e.g. habitable building not present, building abandoned, or building used for commercial purposes).
2. It is noted that this receiver number was revised following the dwelling investigation completed for Modification 3.

The Consent Condition also states that if within three (3) months of receiving this request from the owner, MACH Energy 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.

3.2 Proposed Changes to Development Consent DA 92/97 Assessment Criteria

As described in the noise assessment for Modification 3, some of the noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 are considered to have resulted from processing or transcription errors and some new receivers have also been identified. Therefore, some changes are proposed to provide noise criteria consistent with the Development Consent DA 92/97 noise criteria for all receivers identified in the recent verification process conducted by MACH Energy.

The proposed changes include:

- updating Table 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 as per the Note 1 of Table 3-1, that is ensuring that specific criteria are included for receivers 83, 140, 198 and 257 based on the predicted noise levels described in the EA;
- including receiver 136 in Table 1 of Development Consent DA 92/97 (land subject to acquisition upon request) based on previous predictions for neighbouring properties;
- updating Table 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 with specific criteria for newly identified (additional) receivers 35b, 86b, 140c, 195d, 258a and 526; and
- updating Tables 1, 2 and 3 of Development Consent DA 92/97 with regard to the current land ownership and dwelling presence/habitability status, as annotated on Tables 3-1, 3-3 and 3-6.

Tables 3-7 to 3-9 summarise the proposed noise criteria and land subject to additional mitigation or acquisition upon request to be included in Development Consent DA 92/97. In addition, it is suggested that NAGs should be deleted where the default NAG criteria are consistent with the lowest available project-specific noise criteria under the *NSW INP* (Table 3-9).

Table 3-7 Proposed Land Subject to Acquisition upon Request

Receiver	Receiver
43, 44 - J.B. Moore	121 - C & J.M. Moore
45 - B.A. & T.E. Strachan	136 - D.G. Yore
47 - B.L. & M.L. Bates	143, 161 - J.S. & N.M. Lonergan
67 - J.M. Simpson	147 - M.J. & R.G. Adnum
96 - R.P. Grey	156 - J.E. & J.L. Lonergan
102 - A. Mather	158 - J.M. Hoath
108 - J.S. Gibson	159 - J.E. & M.S. Ducey
112 - B.D. Barry	153 - G.M. Casey
118 - J. & C. Hayes	157 - R.B. Parkinson & S.A. Peberdy
120, 308 - D.L. & P.A. Moore	

Note:
- Updated receivers are highlighted in green. Receivers that have been identified as no longer present or inhabitable based on the dwelling verification investigation, or are now mine-owned, have been removed.

Table 3-8 Proposed Land Subject to Additional Noise and/or Air Quality Mitigation Measures upon Request

Receiver	Receiver
68 - Googe	140, 140c - Dapkos Pty Limited
74 - Sormaz	154 - Standing
77 - Purser	203 - Millard
80 - W.J. Adnum	257 - Lane
79 - W.J. & D.W. Adnum	258 - Ellis
86 - Cowtime Investments Pty Ltd	259 - Peel
139 - Upton	526 - Wicks

Note:
- Updated receivers are highlighted in green. Receivers that have been identified as no longer present or inhabitable based on the dwelling verification investigation, or are now mine-owned, have been removed.

Table 3-9 Proposed Noise Criteria (dBA)

Location		Day	Evening	Night	
		$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{Aeq,15min}$	$L_{A1,1min}$
N/A[1]	139, 154, 257, 258a	40	40	40	45
	140, 259	39	39	39	45
	260, 261	37	37	37	45
	169, 272	36	36	36	45
NAG 5	All privately-owned land[2]	41	40	39	45
NAG 6	140c	41	41	41	45
	203	40	40	40	45
	86b, 202	39	39	39	45
	198, 204	38	38	38	45
	All other privately-owned land	37	37	37	45
NAG 7	68, 74	43	42	42	45
	86	42	42	42	45
	77	42	41	41	45
	79, 80, 526	41	41	41	45
	83	40	39	39	45
	All other privately-owned land	40	37	37	45
NAG 8	35, 35b	42	41	41	45
	289	41	40	40	45
	23, 84	40	40	40	45
	All other privately-owned land	41	39	39	45
NAG 9	All privately-owned land	39	38	37	45
NAG 11	All privately-owned land	37	36	35	45
	All other privately-owned land	35	35	35	45

Notes:

- Updated receivers are highlighted in green. Receivers that have been identified as no longer present or inhabitable based on the dwelling verification investigation, or are now mine-owned, have been removed. NAGs are as per the recommendations described in Section 2 of the noise assessment for the Mine Optimisation Modification.

1. As described in Section 2 of the noise assessment for the Mine Optimisation Modification, it is recommended that NAGs with default criteria of 35 dBA (all periods) should be removed (i.e. NAGs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 10) as they do not represent areas with elevated default noise criteria.
2. Inclusive of additional receiver 195d.

3.3 NSW Government Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy

In 2014, the NSW Government released the *Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy* (DP&E, 2014). This guideline provides some useful context in regard to characterising the practical implications of exceedances of the *NSW INP* criteria (Table 3-10) and the application of the *NSW INP* to the assessment of noise on vacant land.

Table 3-10 Characterisation of Noise Impacts & Potential Treatments

Residual Noise Exceeds INP Criteria By	Characterisation of Impacts	Potential Treatment
0-2dB(A) above the project-specific noise level (PSNL)	Impacts are considered to be **negligible**	The exceedances would not be discernible by the average listener and therefore would not warrant receiver based treatments or controls.
3-5dB(A) above the PSNL in the INP but the development would contribute less than 1dB to the total industrial noise level	Impacts are considered to be **marginal**	Provide mechanical ventilation/comfort condition systems to enable windows to be closed without compromising internal air quality/amenity.
3-5dB(A) above the PSNL in the INP and the development would contribute more than1dB to the total industrial noise level	Impacts are considered to be **moderate**	As for marginal impacts but also upgraded façade elements like windows, doors, roof insulation etc. to further increase the ability of the building façade to noise levels.
>5dB(A) above the PSNL in the INP	Impacts are considered to be **significant**	Provide mitigation as for moderate impacts and see voluntary land acquisition provisions below.

Source: DP&E (2014)
Note:
- dB = decibels.

3.4 Background Noise Survey

It should be noted that in accordance with the *NSW INP*, PSNLs or noise criteria are established as an emergence over background noise levels (i.e. background noise level + 5 dB) which would normally require a background noise survey in the vicinity of the site and surrounding noise sensitive receivers.

However, it is considered that no background noise monitoring was warranted for the Rail Modification since Mount Pleasant Operation noise criteria are already set in Development Consent DA 92/97 for both individual receivers and all other receivers in the NAGs (Section 3.1).

3.5 Modifying Factor Adjustments

Where a noise source contains certain annoying characteristics, such as low frequency noise, the *NSW INP* states that a penalty should be applied to measured or predicted noise levels before comparing to the relevant criteria.

Once the Mount Pleasant Operation is operational, monitoring results would be assessed with respect to modifying factors (including for low frequency noise) in accordance with the approved Noise Management Plan. If noise generated by the Mount Pleasant Operation is found to contain annoying characteristics (such as dominant low frequency content), the appropriate modifying factor would be applied to measured noise levels and assessed against noise criteria.

4 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

4.1 General Methodology

In order to understand potential noise impacts associated with the Rail Modification, the noise model prepared for Modification 3 was revised to include the proposed changes.

Based on the planned mine sequence of the Mount Pleasant Operation, the geographic spread of operations in consideration of the proximity to nearby noise sensitive receivers, and maximum operational material movements in the schedule, three (3) scenarios had been selected to represent Modification 3, namely Years 2018, 2021 and 2025.

The proposed Modification, if approved, would commence construction by first quarter (Q1) 2020 and would take 12 to 18 months, and therefore assessment year 2021 was used as the basis for modelling the operational noise implications of the Rail Modification.

Because the section of rail spur located within the mining leases of the site is of a material length, three (3) rail scenarios were evaluated:

1. Train loading (train load-out bin operating and locomotives slowly moving around the rail loop);
2. Train loading + train waiting (train load-out bin operating, locomotives of first train slowly moving around the rail loop, and locomotives of second train waiting on rail spur section within the mining leases of the site); and
3. Train approaching and loading (train approaching the rail loop on rail spur section within the mining leases of the site followed by the loading process involving the train load-out bin and locomotives slowly moving around the rail loop).

Modelling has shown that the scenario with a train approaching and loading would generate the highest operational noise levels and compliance with this scenario would indicate compliance with the other two (2) scenarios. Therefore, the first two (2) scenarios require no further assessment.

The assessment models the total noise at each relevant receiver from the operation of the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification. Total predicted operational noise levels are then compared against the relevant noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 (Section 3.1) to determine whether the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification would trigger any noise exceedances.

The infrastructure and rail movements associated with the Rail Modification would be operating on a 24-hour and seven-day basis. Therefore, noise levels associated with the Rail Modification were predicted for the day (7.00 am-6.00 pm), evening (6.00 pm-10.00 pm) and night (10.00 pm-7.00 am) assessment periods.

Noise associated with the duplication of the Hunter River water supply pump station and associated water pipeline was addressed as part of this assessment. Given the distance separating the proposed water supply pump station and the closest receivers and the fact that the pumps will either be submerged inside wells or enclosed inside the pump station building, no noise impact is expected to result from the operation of the water supply pump station. Operational noise associated with the proposed the water supply pump station is therefore not further discussed as part of this assessment.

4.2 Noise Model Procedures

Operational noise levels at nearby receivers have been calculated using the Environmental Noise Model (ENM) (a proprietary computer program from RTA Technology Pty Ltd). This modelling software is recommended by the *NSW INP* and has been previously accepted by the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for use in environmental noise assessments.

The ENM takes account of the location of nearby noise sensitive receivers and surrounding terrain. In addition, the model takes into account noise attenuation due to geometric spreading of sound over distance, atmospheric absorption, shielding and the effect of acoustically soft ground. It can also be used to predict noise levels under various meteorological conditions, defined by a combination of temperature gradient, wind speed and wind direction.

4.3 Meteorological Conditions

The *NSW INP* generally directs the use of a single set of adverse meteorological data to use in the assessment of noise impacts. However, the assessment adopts a more rigorous approach where noise levels at sensitive receivers are calculated under a varied set of existing meteorological conditions (wind speed and direction and temperature inversion strength), using data obtained from the CALMET meteorological model for the Mount Pleasant Operation. Measured statistical occurrences of these conditions over a discrete period are then applied to the results, and a 10th percentile exceedance level calculated (i.e. the level that is exceeded 10% of the time), which is then compared with relevant criteria.

For consistency reasons, the meteorological data used for the Modification 3 noise assessment was also used for the Rail Modification.

4.4 Noise Sources Associated with Modification Operations

Operational noise associated with the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification was calculated based on the same sound power levels (SWLs) as used for Modification 3. Indicative SWLs for the relocated rail infrastructure items and rail movements relevant to the Rail Modification are reproduced in Table 4-1 for ease of reference.

Table 4-1 Indicative Sound Power Levels and Number of Plant Items

Fleet/ Infrastructure Item	Location/Function	Number of Equipment	Sound Power Level L_{Aeq} (dBA)
Train Load-out Bin	Infrastructure area	1	103
Overland Conveyor system	Infrastructure area	-	83/m (enclosed but conveyor idlers unmitigated)
Locomotive (train loading)	Rail loop	3	101
Locomotive (train approaching rail loop at 40 km per hour [km/hr])	Rail spur	3	117
96 Wagons (train approaching rail loop at 40 km/hr)	Rail spur	-	125

5 OPERATIONAL NOISE ASSESSMENT

5.1 Operational Noise

The 10th percentile $L_{Aeq,15min}$ intrusive noise levels and levels under calm isothermal conditions for the day, evening and night time assessment periods were calculated using the ENM for each of the noise sensitive residential receivers described in Section 2.2. The relevant mine-owned receivers are included for the purpose of information for MACH Energy only.

Predicted noise levels associated with the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification are included in Appendix C. Noise levels presented are rounded to the nearest dBA, and where appropriate, incorporate the identified pro-active and reactive mitigation measures described in the Modification 3 noise assessment (e.g. ceasing operation of a small number of noisy mobile mining equipment, such as drills). Note that only the receivers with predicted exceedances (in the absence of pro-active and reactive mitigation measures) are presented as mitigated. The implementation of pro-active and reactive mitigation measures would also benefit other receivers surrounding the Mount Pleasant Operation.

In order to understand if, and by how much, noise levels have increased with the proposed Modification, the 2021 noise predictions reported as part of the Modification 3 noise assessment have also been included in the Appendix C table of predictions. Appendix C shows that 10th percentile exceedance levels increase by up to 1 dB at some of the identified privately-owned receivers. Such an increase in noise levels is considered negligible and would be undetectable to the human ear.

It should be noted that for some of the privately-owned receivers, the noise levels presented in Appendix C show lower levels for Modification 4 than for Modification 3. This is due to the fact that for those receivers, noise predictions associated with Modification 4 relate to noise levels with integrated pro-active and reactive management measures in place whilst Modification 3 predictions relate to noise levels in the absence of pro-active and reactive mitigation measures.

Appendix C indicates that predicted noise levels associated with the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification would comply with the noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 when considering the identified pro-active and reactive mitigation measures described in the Modification 3 noise assessment and the proposed changes to the Consent criteria (Section 3.2).

5.2 Cumulative Noise

If approved, the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification would operate concurrently with the Mt Arthur Coal Mine, the Bengalla Mine, the Muswellbrook Coal Mine and the Dartbrook Mine (should it re-commence). In this event, receivers may potentially be exposed to noise from all five (5) industrial sources simultaneously.

The assessment of cumulative impacts considers the total and relative noise contributions from the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification, and the following neighbouring mines (all shown on Figure 1-1):

- Mt Arthur Coal Mine – Project Approval 09_0062 MOD 1, approved in 2014.
- Bengalla Mine – Project Approval SSD-5170, approved in 2015.
- Dartbrook Mine – Project Approval MOD 129-8-2005, approved in 2005.
- Muswellbrook Coal Mine – Development Application 205/2002, approved in 2016.

The contribution of noise from the Mt Arthur Coal Mine, the Bengalla Mine, the Muswellbrook Coal Mine and the Dartbrook Mine has been taken from predictions of noise emissions included in the following documents:

- *Mt Arthur Coal Open Cut Modification – Noise and Blasting Assessment* prepared by Wilkinson Murray (2013).
- *Bengalla Continuation of Mining Project – Acoustic Impact Assessment* prepared by Bridges Acoustics (2013).
- *Proposed Modification to the Dartbrook Coal Mine Development Consent – Assessment Report* prepared by NSW Department of Planning (2005).
- *Muswellbrook Coal Continuation Project Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment* prepared by EMM Consulting (2016).

It should be noted that subsequent modifications for the above projects were also considered as part of the cumulative noise assessment and it was found they resulted in no material changes to the above assessments relevant to the assessment of the Rail Modification.

The methodology used for assessment of cumulative impacts was to logarithmically sum the predicted day, evening and night time noise levels for each mine for key receivers. The overall cumulative noise levels are then reported against the cumulative noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 (Table 3-2).

With regards to the Muswellbrook Coal Mine, the western-most receiver modelled (EMM Consulting, 2016) is further to the east than the eastern-most receiver modelled for the Rail Modification. The two (2) assessments therefore do not have any modelled sensitive receivers in common. However, review of the predicted noise levels at the closest receivers suggests cumulative noise levels including the Muswellbrook Coal Mine would easily comply with the relevant criteria.

The assessment of cumulative noise impacts is undertaken in consideration of the average L_{Aeq} noise level over the entire daytime period (7.00 am to 6.00 pm, a period of eleven [11] hours), evening period (6.00 pm to 10.00 pm, a period of four [4] hours) and night period (10.00 pm to 7.00 am, a period of nine [9] hours), rather than the 10th percentile $L_{Aeq,15min}$ noise level within that period as is required for the assessment of operational noise impacts (Section 5.1). Noise predictions associated with the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification represent $L_{Aeq,period}$ levels as calculated using the ENM. Because no $L_{Aeq,period}$ levels were readily available for the other identified mines, the reported $L_{Aeq,15min}$ noise levels were conservatively converted to $L_{Aeq,period}$ levels by subtracting 3 dB.

For the purposes of cumulative assessment, the closest available corresponding noise prediction years for the three (3) other mining projects were selected. Only one set of predictions were available for the Dartbrook Mine, therefore these predictions were assumed for the 2021 cumulative assessment year. The summation of the various noise predictions used for the cumulative assessment is summarised below:

- Cumulative Year 2021 = Modification (Year 2021) + Mt Arthur Coal Mine (Year 2022) + Bengalla Mine (Year 8) + Dartbrook Mine.

Assessment of cumulative impacts was undertaken for all identified privately-owned receivers at which there is predicted noise level data for the Rail Modification and where relevant the Mt Arthur Coal Mine, the Bengalla Mine or the Dartbrook Mine. Noise predictions for those receivers were based on point source calculations. The predicted cumulative noise levels are presented in Appendix D.

The predicted noise levels from the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification relate to the $L_{Aeq,period}$ noise levels averaged over all recorded meteorological conditions over all day, evening or night periods within the worst case season.

Appendix D indicates that all cumulative noise predictions with the Rail Modification comply with the cumulative noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 (Table 3-2). Predicted levels would also comply with the cumulative noise acquisition criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 (Table 3-5).

It should also be noted that cumulative noise levels with the proposed Modification are found to increase by up to 1 dB at some of the identified privately-owned receivers. Such an increase in noise levels is considered negligible and would be undetectable to the human ear.

5.3 Potential for Sleep Disturbance

The noise model was also used to analyse potential L_{Amax} noise levels likely to arise from the Rail Modification. The instantaneous noise sources and their typical L_{Amax} SWL that may have the potential to disturb sleep can be summarised as follows:

- Train Load-out bin 114 dBA L_{Amax}
- Bunching and stretching of trains on rail spur 119 dBA L_{Amax}

Bunching and stretching noise associated with trains travelling along the spur has conservatively been addressed as part of this sleep disturbance assessment. It is function of how well maintained the rolling stock used by the Mount Pleasant Operation is and does not necessarily occur.

The predicted night time L_{Amax} noise levels at the identified receivers are presented in Appendix E and rounded to the nearest dBA. The predictions are based on 10th percentile exceedance levels. Sleep arousal noise predictions would generally be lower than those presented in Appendix E.

L_{Amax} noise levels are compared with the Development Consent DA 92/97 $L_{A1,1min}$ criterion of 45 dBA. Mine-owned receivers are included for the purpose of information only for MACH Energy.

Review of the noise predictions presented in Appendix E indicates that L_{Amax} noise levels due to night operations from the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification are predicted to be below the $L_{A1,1min}$ criterion set in Development Consent DA 92/97 at all privately-owned receivers.

5.4 Vacant Land Assessment

A contemporary assessment of potential impacts on vacant land has been conducted in accordance with the NSW Government's *Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy* (DP&E, 2014). Under the policy, landowners are eligible for voluntary land acquisition rights when noise generated by the development contributes to exceedances of the recommended maximum noise levels in Table 2.1 of the NSW *INP* on more than 25% of privately owned land, and a dwelling could be built on that land under existing planning controls.

The vacant land assessment noise criteria, based on the recommended maximum noise levels in Table 2.1 of the NSW *INP*, are summarised in Table 5-1. The criteria apply to $L_{Aeq,Period}$ noise levels as opposed to $L_{Aeq,15min}$ noise levels.

Table 5-1 Vacant Land Assessment Noise Criteria

Indicative Noise Amenity Area	Time of Day	Vacant Land Assessment Criteria (dBA)
Rural	Day	55 $L_{eq,11hr}$
	Evening	50 $L_{eq,4hr}$
	Night	45 $L_{eq,9hr}$
Suburban	Day	60 $L_{eq,11hr}$
	Evening	50 $L_{eq,4hr}$
	Night	45 $L_{eq,9hr}$
Urban	Day	65 $L_{eq,11hr}$
	Evening	55 $L_{eq,4hr}$
	Night	50 $L_{eq,9hr}$

The vacant land assessment for the Rail Modification was based on noise contours generated for Modification 3 and the difference in noise predictions between Modification 3 and the Rail Modification at the south-east receivers. To be conservative, the vacant land assessment was conducted against the more stringent night time vacant land assessment criteria and no correction was applied to account for the fact that the assessment is based on $L_{Aeq,Period}$ noise levels as opposed to $L_{Aeq,15min}$ noise levels (i.e. in the mining sector, $L_{Aeq,15min}$ noise levels are conservatively converted to $L_{Aeq,period}$ levels by subtracting 3 dB).

Based on the conservative methodology described above, no exceedances were found on any privately-owned vacant land.

6 CONSTRUCTION NOISE & VIBRATION

Construction of the rail infrastructure, rail spur, and the Hunter River water supply pump station and associated water pipeline may potentially impact on the surrounding community and needs to be addressed as part of this assessment.

6.1 Construction Noise in the Vicinity of the Mount Pleasant Operation

6.1.1 Description of Construction Activities

Construction/development activities in the vicinity of the Mount Pleasant Operation consist of two (2) major construction components requiring two (2) separate mobile fleets:

- construction of the rail infrastructure including conveyor system, load-out bin and rail loop (up to approximately 12 months); and
- construction of the rail spur adjoining rail loop and inside the mining leases of the site (up to approximately 12 months).

An indicative construction fleet for both construction components, and corresponding SWLs, is summarised in Table 6-1.

Table 6-1 Indicative Noise Sources & Sound Power Levels - Construction in Vicinity of Mount Pleasant Operation

Construction Component	Number of Item(s)	Item Description	Indicative Sound Power Level per Item (dBA)
Construction of rail infrastructure (conveyor system, load out bin, and rail loop)	1	Piling Rig	115
	1	Mobile Crane	112
	1	Dozer	116
	2	Truck	108
	1	Excavator	112
	1	Grader	112
	1	Compactor	108
	1	Water Cart	112
Construction of rail spur adjoining to rail loop (inside mining leases of the site)	2	Scraper	108
	1	Dozer	116
	1	60-70 t Excavator	111
	2	Articulated Truck	110
	1	Grader	112
	1	Water Cart	112
	1	Compactor	108

Construction/development activities within the Mount Pleasant Operation mining leases would be undertaken up to 24 hrs per day, seven days per week. However, construction/development activities with the potential to generate material noise at privately-owned receivers in the vicinity of the Project would generally take place during daytime hours (7.00 am to 6.00 pm).

A correction of -5 dB was applied to the total sound power level for each construction component to account for time correction, as the entire construction fleet would not always operate concurrently (i.e. all plant items are not expected to be operating all the time).

The estimated total SWL from the concurrent operation of all construction plant is 117 dBA and 116 dBA for the construction of the rail infrastructure (conveyor system, load-out bin and rail loop) and the rail spur (adjoining the rail loop and within the mining leases of the site), respectively.

6.1.2 Assessment Methodology

Noise from construction/development activities in the vicinity of the mine site was predicted using the ENM.

As perceived by receivers in the vicinity of the Rail Modification, noise from activities associated with the construction of the rail infrastructure, rail loop and rail spur section within the mining leases of the site would largely be indistinguishable from operational mining activities given that similar plant would be deployed and that construction activities would occur in areas adjacent to operational mining activities. Therefore, the noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 (Table 3-1) are used to assess compliance of construction noise in the vicinity of the mine site.

The construction of the rail infrastructure and rail spur section within the mining leases is expected to take up to approximately 12 months and as such, it was conservatively assumed both construction components would occur simultaneously.

Predicted construction noise levels have been combined with the predicted operational noise levels of the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating Modification 3, with the combined noise level compared against the noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 (Table 3-1).

6.1.3 Noise Predictions

Appendix F provides the predicted construction noise levels for all identified receivers in the vicinity of the Rail Modification. The noise predictions are given as daytime levels resulting under 10th percentile meteorological conditions and rounded to the nearest dBA. Mine-owned receivers are included for the purpose of information only.

Review of noise predictions indicates that noise levels due to construction/development activities in the vicinity of the Mount Pleasant Operation are predicted to be below the daytime $L_{Aeq,15min}$ criterion set in Development Consent DA 92/97 at all privately-owned receivers.

6.2 Construction Noise Outside Mining Leases

6.2.1 Description of Construction Activities

Rail Spur

Construction/development activities would include the construction of the non-network rail spur from the boundary of the mining leases, to the main line (Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line) (Figure 1-2).

Construction/development activities associated with the rail spur would last for up to approximately 12 months and would generally occur during the day (7.00 am to 6.00 pm). Where practical, works outside of standard construction hours would prioritise lesser noise generating activities (e.g. welding and electrical works).

The construction of the rail spur outside the mining leases would involve two (2) construction areas requiring two (2) separate mobile fleets:

- construction of the rail spur and bridge at the Wybong Road rail overpass (up to approximately 12 months); and
- construction of the remainder of the rail spur (up to approximately 12 months).

An indicative construction fleet for both construction components, and corresponding SWLs, is summarised in Table 6-2.

Table 6-2 Indicative Noise Sources & Sound Power Levels - Construction of Rail Spur (Outside Mining Leases)

Construction Component	Number of Item(s)	Item Description	Indicative Sound Power Level per Item (dBA)
Construction of rail spur and bridge at Wybong Road underpass	2	Scraper	108
	1	Dozer	116
	1	60-70 t Excavator	111
	2	Articulated Truck	110
	1	Grader	112
	1	Water Cart	112
	1	Compactor	108
Construction of rail spur outside Wybong Road underpass	2	Scraper	108
	1	Dozer	116
	1	60-70 t Excavator	111
	2	Articulated Truck	110
	1	Grader	112
	1	Water Cart	112
	1	Compactor	108

A correction of -5 dB was applied to the total sound power level for each construction component to account for time correction, as the entire construction fleet would not always operate concurrently.

The estimated total SWL from the concurrent operation of all construction plant associated with each of the two (2) construction components is 116 dBA.

The Rail Modification includes demolition of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur once the relocated rail spur is commissioned. Noise generated by this activity does not require to be modelled as the activity would be short-term and would be minor in comparison to nearby mining operations at the Bengalla Mine.

Hunter River Water Supply Pump Station & Associated Water Pipeline

Construction/development activities would include the construction of the water pipeline from the boundary of the mining leases to the Hunter River, and the Hunter River water supply pump station (Figure 1-2).

Construction/development activities associated with the water supply pump station and water pipeline would last for up to approximately 12 months and would occur during standard *ICNG* construction hours only.

An indicative construction fleet for both construction components, and corresponding SWLs, is summarised in Table 6-3. The fleet associated with the construction of the pump station relates to the loudest construction phase, namely earthmoving works.

Table 6-3 Indicative Noise Sources & Sound Power Levels - Construction of Hunter River Water Supply Pump Station & Associated Water Pipeline

Construction Component	Number of Item(s)	Item Description	Indicative Sound Power Level per Item (dBA)
Construction of water pipeline	2	5 t Excavator	97
	1	Franna Crane	105
	1	Whacker packer	110
	1	Truck	100
Construction of pump station (earthmoving works)	1	15 t Excavator	105
	2	Truck	100

A correction of -5 dB was applied to the total sound power level for each construction component to account for time correction, as the entire construction fleet would not always operate concurrently.

The estimated total SWL from the concurrent operation of all construction plant is 107 dBA and 102 dBA for the construction of the water pipeline and pump station, respectively.

6.2.2 Construction Noise Criteria

As noise associated with the construction/development activities outside mining leases would be distinct to mining operational noise levels (i.e. given the distance separating mining operations from sections of the rail spur, water pipeline and the pump station), this construction noise has been assessed against the recommended noise management levels described in the *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* or *ICNG* (NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change [DECC], 2009), provided in Table 6-4. This is considered justified given relevant receivers would be potentially exposed to temporary and short-term construction-related impacts (i.e. associated with the construction of the rail spur in a linear fashion), rather than longer-term operational impacts.

Table 6-4 Construction Noise Guideline Noise Management Levels

Time of Day	Management Level $L_{Aeq,15min}$	How to Apply
Recommended standard hours: Monday to Friday 7.00 am to 6.00 pm Saturday 8.00 am to 1.00 pm No work on Sundays or public holidays	Noise affected RBL + 10 dBA	The noise affected level represents the point above which there may be some community reaction to noise: • Where the predicted or measured $L_{Aeq,15\ min}$ is greater than the noise affected level, the proponent should apply all feasible and reasonable work practices to meet the noise affected level. • The proponent should also inform all potentially impacted residents of the nature of works to be carried out, the expected noise levels and duration, as well as contact details.
	Highly noise affected 75 dBA	The highly noise affected level represents the point above which there may be strong community reaction to noise: • Where noise is above this level, the relevant authority (consent, determining or regulatory) may require respite periods by restricting the hours that the very noisy activities can occur, taking into account: 1. Times identified by the community when they are less sensitive to noise (such as before and after school for works near schools, or mid-morning or mid-afternoon for works near residences). 2. If the community is prepared to accept a longer period of construction in exchange for restrictions on construction times.
Outside recommended standard hours:	Noise affected RBL + 5 dBA	• A strong justification would typically be required for works outside the recommended standard hours. • The proponent should apply all feasible and reasonable work practices to meet the noise affected level. • Where all feasible and reasonable practices have been applied and noise is more than 5 dBA above the noise affected level, the proponent should negotiate with the community. • For guidance on negotiating agreements see section 7.2.2.

Source: DECC (2009).

It should be noted that MACH Energy would carry out construction of the non-network rail spur outside recommended standard hours (e.g. in the afternoon on a Saturday or on a Sunday during the day). This is considered to be justified as it could allow continuity of work for the construction crew which would assist in reducing the length of the construction period and therefore the period of impact at receivers. Where practical, works outside of the standard construction hours would prioritise lesser noise generating activities (e.g. welding and electrical works).

As such, the 'noise affected' $L_{Aeq,15min}$ level selected for the construction assessment is Rating Background Level (RBL) + 10 dBA during recommended standard hours and RBL + 5 dBA outside recommended standard hours for all privately-owned receivers.

Based on RBLs used to establish the noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 (Table 3-1), the daytime 'noise affected' $L_{Aeq,15min}$ levels selected for the construction assessment are summarised as follows:

- NAG 7 – 40 dBA and 45 dBA outside and inside recommended standard hours, respectively;
- NAG 8 – 41 dBA and 46 dBA outside and inside recommended standard hours, respectively; and
- NAG 9 – 39 dBA and 44 dBA outside and inside recommended standard hours, respectively.

6.2.3 Assessment Methodology

Noise from the construction works associated with the rail spur outside mining leases, water pipeline and pump station was predicted using the ENM.

Activities associated with the construction of the rail spur/water pipeline would by nature progressively move along the proposed rail spur corridor/pipeline route. Construction noise levels were determined by modelling the working area on the closest point of the Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur/water pipeline route to each receiver.

6.2.4 Noise Predictions

Rail Spur

Appendix G summarises the predicted rail spur construction noise levels at the identified receivers and rounded to the nearest dBA. The noise predictions are given as daytime levels resulting under 10th percentile meteorological conditions. Mine-owned receivers are included for the purpose of information only.

17 and 21 privately-owned receivers would exceed the noise affected levels inside and outside recommended standard hours, respectively. A summary of those receivers predicted to exceed criteria for works inside and outside recommended standard hours is provided in Table 6-5.

Table 6-5 Summary of Potential Exceedances at Privately-Owned Receivers

Exceedance Level	Inside daytime recommended standard hours	Outside daytime recommended standard hours
1 to 2 dB	Receivers 206, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221 and 225	Receiver 538
3 to 5 dB	Receivers 19, 20*, 21*, 207, 222, 223 and 224	Receivers 207b, 213 and 214
6 to 10 dB	-	Receivers 19, 20*, 21*, 206, 207, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224 and 225
>10 dB	Receiver 23	Receiver 23

* Note: Formerly subject to acquisition rights from the Mt Arthur Mine (extinguished 31 December 2016).

It is important to note that those exceedances would only occur for a limited period of time during which the construction fleet is working at, or near, the closest point of the rail spur to the receivers in question. Most of the time, construction noise levels would comply with *ICNG*'s recommended noise affected levels when the construction fleet is working further away along the proposed rail spur corridor.

Noise levels due to construction/development activities along the proposed rail spur are predicted to be below the highly noise affected level of 75 dBA $L_{Aeq,15min}$ criterion set in the *ICNG* at all privately-owned receivers.

Hunter River Water Pipeline

Appendix H summarises the predicted water pipeline construction noise levels at the identified receivers and rounded to the nearest dBA. The noise predictions are given as daytime levels resulting under 10th percentile meteorological conditions. Mine-owned receivers are included for the purpose of information only.

Ten (10) privately-owned receivers are predicted to exceed the noise affected levels during recommended standard hours. A summary of those receivers predicted to exceed the relevant criteria is provided in Table 6-6.

Table 6-6 Summary of Potential Exceedances at Privately-Owned Receivers

Exceedance Level	Inside daytime recommended standard hours
1 to 2 dB	Receivers 67[1] and 532
3 to 5 dB	Receivers 289, 530, 531 and 533
6 to 10 dB	Receivers 527, 528 and 529
>10 dB	Receiver 68[2]

Notes:
1. Receiver subject to acquisition upon request in Development Consent DA 92/97 for operational noise.
2 Receiver subject to mitigation upon request in Development Consent DA 92/97 for operational noise.

It is important to note that those exceedances would only occur for a limited period of time during which the construction fleet is working at, or near, the closest point of the pipeline to the receivers in question. Most of the time, construction noise levels would comply with the *ICNG*'s recommended noise affected levels when the construction fleet is working further away along the proposed water pipeline route.

Noise levels due to construction/development activities along the proposed water pipeline route are predicted to be below the highly noise affected level of 75 dBA $L_{Aeq,15min}$ set in the *ICNG* at all privately-owned receivers.

Hunter River Water Supply Pump Station

Appendix H summarises the predicted pump station construction noise levels at the identified receivers and rounded to the nearest dBA. The noise predictions are given as daytime levels resulting under 10th percentile meteorological conditions. Mine-owned receivers are included for the purpose of information only.

Three (3) privately-owned receivers are predicted to exceed the noise affected levels during recommended standard hours. A summary of those receivers predicted to exceed the relevant criteria is provided in Table 6-7.

Table 6-7 Summary of Potential Exceedances at Privately-Owned Receivers

Exceedance Level	Inside daytime recommended standard hours
1 to 2 dB	-
3 to 5 dB	Receivers 527, 528 and 529
6 to 10 dB	-

Noise levels due to construction/development activities associated with the pump station are predicted to be below the highly noise affected level of 75 dBA $L_{Aeq,15min}$ criterion set in the *ICNG* at all privately-owned receivers.

6.3 Construction Vibration Associated with Rail Spur (Outside Mining Leases)

Construction vibration is assessed in accordance with *Assessing Vibration: a technical guideline* (New South Wales Department of Environment & Conservation, 2006) and *Evaluation and measurement for vibration in buildings* BS 7385-2:1993.

Vibration during construction works are determined to be from intermittent sources (such as plant and equipment) and are associated with two main types of impact: disturbance at human receivers and potential architectural/structural damage to buildings. The *Construction Noise Strategy* (Transport for NSW [TfNSW], 2016) sets out safe working distances to achieve the human response criteria.

Table 6-2 summarises the equipment that would be used for the rail spur construction component outside mining leases. Of the equipment proposed to be used for this component of the Mount Pleasant Operation, the compactor has the greatest potential to cause vibration impacts. The *Construction Noise Strategy* (TfNSW, 2016) describes that a vibratory roller weighing 7-13 tonnes, which is believed to generate comparable vibration levels as a compactor, requires the following safe working distances:

- Cosmetic Damage (BS 7385): **15 metres** (m); and
- Human Response (OH&E Vibration Guideline): **100 m**.

All sensitive receivers are located greater than 15 m from the rail spur. Therefore, no cosmetic damage to nearby receivers is expected.

Receiver 23 is located within 100 m of the proposed rail spur. Therefore, vibration exceeding the Human Response criteria (OH&E Vibration Guideline) may occur at this receiver.

It is important to note that potential exceedances would only occur for a limited period of time during which the construction fleet is working at, or near, the closest point of the rail spur to receiver 23. Most of the time, construction vibration levels would comply with Human Response criteria when the construction fleet is working further away along the proposed rail spur corridor. Therefore, no further construction vibration mitigation measures are considered to be required.

A historic heritage structure has been identified approximately 135 m from the proposed rail spur. German Standard *Vibrations in Building – Part 3: Effects on structures* DIN 4150-3 sets a cosmetic damage limit of 3 millimetres per second (mm/s) for heritage buildings. Based on the construction fleet listed in Table 6-2, vibration levels are expected to comply with the relevant cosmetic damage limit at the identified historic heritage structure.

7 RAIL NOISE & VIBRATION

7.1 Introduction

As described in Section 1 the Rail Modification proposes to relocate the approved rail infrastructure from the west to the east of the Bengalla Mine. As a result of those changes, a private rail spur would be constructed between the Mount Pleasant Operation and the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line.

The section of the proposed rail spur located within the Mount Pleasant Operation's mining leases was addressed in Section 5 as part of overall industrial noise generated by the site. This section addresses potential noise impact associated with the spur section located outside mining leases.

7.2 Rail Noise Criteria

Appendix 3 of the *Rail Infrastructure Noise Guideline (RING)* (EPA, 2013) deals with non-network rail lines on or exclusively servicing industrial sites.

Where a non-network rail line exclusively servicing one or more industrial sites extends beyond the boundary of the industrial premises, noise from this section of track should be assessed against the recommended acceptable L_{Aeq} noise level from industrial noise sources for the relevant receiver type and indicative noise amenity area, as shown in Table 2.1 of the *INP* reproduced below.

INP Table 2.1 Recommended L_{Aeq} noise levels from industrial noise sources

Type of Receiver	*Indicative Noise Amenity*	*Time of Day*	*Acceptable L_{Aeq} Noise Level – dB(A)*
Residence	*Rural*	*Day*	*50*
		Evening	*45*
		Night	*40*

7.3 Rail Noise Assumptions & Methodology

The *RING* does not make any provisions on how to assess the zone where a private rail spur connects to the main line. However, rail noise impacts at receivers are typically determined based on the proximity to either the private rail spur or the main line (i.e. if a receiver is closer to the main line than the private spur, it would be assessed as per the main line noise criteria).

In this situation, no proximal privately-owned receivers are found to be closer to the private rail spur than to the main line. Notwithstanding, a quantitative assessment against Appendix 3 of the *RING* has been undertaken.

Consistent with the *RING*, the assessment for non-network rail lines must consider the rail alignment from the boundary of the mining leases, to the main line (Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line).

Rail spur noise levels at nearby receivers have been predicted using the ENM to allow for consideration of local meteorological data consistent with the operational noise assessment (Section 5).

Noise levels and spectra were established using the TfNSW standard rail noise database for locomotives and freight wagons. The database levels where necessary can be adjusted for speed, locomotive type and length of trains.

Because of adverse weather conditions present at night and the more stringent night time noise criterion set in the *RING* for non-network rail lines (40 dBA $L_{Aeq,period}$), the proposed rail spur noise assessment focuses on the night time period (10.00pm – 7.00am).

Noise modelling was based on the following assumptions:

- Average train movements of one (1) train or two (2) train movements per night (10.00pm - 7.00am);
- Configuration of three (3) locomotives and 96 wagons; and
- Average speed of 70 kilometres per hour (km/hr) on the proposed rail spur section adjacent to the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line and 60 km/hr for the remaining section of rail spur outside mining leases.

Wheel defects of rolling stock can make a material difference to potential rail noise impacts. As such, predicted noise levels are presented for rolling stock with both low wheel defects and medium wheel defects.

7.4 Rail Noise Impacts

Appendix I presents the predicted noise levels considering local meteorology at the 58 closest and potentially most impacted receivers. The receivers include 23 privately-owned receivers and 35 mine-owned receivers where noise criteria do not apply.

Review of Appendix I indicates noise levels generated by the rail spur would exceed the *RING* criteria for non-network rail lines on or exclusively servicing industrial sites at three (3) privately-owned receivers with low wheel defects and ten (10) privately-owned receivers with medium wheel defects.

A summary of those receivers predicted to exceed criteria with both low wheel defects and medium wheel defects is provided in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1 Summary of Potential Exceedances at Privately-Owned Receivers

Exceedance Level	Low Wheel Defects	Medium Wheel Defects
1 to 2 dB	Receivers 20* and 21*	Receivers 221, 222, 223, 224 and 225
3 to 5 dB	-	Receivers 19, 20*, 21* and 207
6 to 10 dB	-	-
>10 dB	Receiver 23	Receiver 23

* Note: Formerly subject to acquisition rights from the Mt Arthur Mine (extinguished 31 December 2016).

With medium wheel defects, privately-owned receivers 19, 20, 21 and 207 would be afforded voluntary mitigation upon request rights in accordance with the *Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy* (DP&E, 2014). With low wheel defects, no privately-owned receivers would be afforded voluntary mitigation upon request rights.

For both low and medium wheel defects, receiver 23 would be afforded voluntary acquisition upon request rights in accordance with the *Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy* (DP&E, 2014).

The Mount Pleasant Operation is approved to export product coal via rail using the approved rail loop located in the south-west corner of the mine site and the approved rail spur joining the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line approximately 6 km to the west of the proposed rail spur location. As such, the Mount Pleasant Operation is approved to generate an average of six (6) train movements per 24 hours (e.g. four [4] during the day and two [2] at night) and up to 18 train movements per 24 hours on the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line section running passed the proposed rail spur.

Due to the location of the proposed rail spur relative to the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line (Figure 1-2), the identified receivers located on the southern side of Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line would not experience increased noise levels due to the operation of the proposed rail spur as the spur would shift the approved Mount Pleasant Operation train movements from the main line to the private spur (located further away from the receivers as it is on the northern side of the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line). All ten (10) privately-owned receivers identified as exceeding the *RING* criteria are located to the south of the main line.

Preliminary noise calculations have demonstrated that noise levels generated by rail movements would remain unchanged to one (1) decimal place at the southern receivers with or without the proposed rail spur. In other words, whether the approved Mount Pleasant Operation train movements use the rail spur or the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line would not make any difference to the noise experienced by the southern receivers. Therefore, the proposed rail spur is not expected to impact on the southern receivers, including the ten (10) privately-owned receivers identified as exceeding the *RING* criteria.

7.5 Rail Vibration

It should be noted that an assessment of rail vibration was conducted in accordance with *Assessing Vibration: a technical guideline* (EPA, 2006) which indicated that the risk of excessive vibration and exceedance of the relevant criterion would be low for any receiver more than 30 to 50 m from the railway. Given there are no receivers less than 50 m from the Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur, no rail vibration impacts are therefore expected to be associated with the Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur.

A historic heritage structure has been identified approximately 135 m from the proposed rail spur. German Standard *Vibrations in Building – Part 3: Effects on structures* DIN 4150-3 sets a cosmetic damage limit of 3 mm/s for heritage buildings. Operational rail vibration levels are expected to comply with the relevant cosmetic damage limit at the identified historic heritage structure.

8 CONCLUSION

This assessment has considered the potential noise impacts associated with the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification.

In summary, with the implementation of the proposed management measures the Rail Modification would not materially change the noise impacts of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation.

8.1 Operational Noise

- Predicted 10th percentile exceedance levels are shown to increase by up to 1 dB at some of the identified privately-owned receivers with the Rail Modification in place. Such an increase in noise levels is considered negligible and would be undetectable to the human ear.
- Predicted noise levels associated with the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification would comply with the noise criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 when considering the identified pro-active and reactive mitigation measures described in the Modification 3 noise assessment and the proposed changes to the Consent criteria.
- Operational noise associated with the duplication of the Hunter River water supply pump station and associated water pipeline is expected to comply with the relevant noise criteria.

8.2 Vacant Land Assessment

- A vacant land assessment was conducted in accordance with the contemporary *Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy*.
- The vacant land assessment was based on noise contours generated for Modification 3 and the difference in noise predictions between Modification 3 and the Rail Modification at the south-east receivers. To be conservative, the vacant land assessment was conducted against the more stringent night time vacant land assessment criteria and no correction was applied to account for the fact that the assessment is based on $L_{Aeq,Period}$ noise levels as opposed to $L_{Aeq,15min}$ noise levels.
- Based on the conservative methodology described above, no exceedances were found on any privately-owned land.

8.3 Cumulative Noise

- Assessment of cumulative impacts was undertaken for all privately-owned receivers potentially impacted by noise from the Rail Modification and where relevant the Mt Arthur Coal Mine, the Bengalla Mine or the Dartbrook Mine.
- Cumulative noise predictions with the proposed Modification are found to increase by up to 1 dB at some of the identified privately-owned receivers. Such an increase in noise levels is considered negligible and would be undetectable to the human ear.

- All cumulative noise predictions comply with the cumulative noise criteria and cumulative noise acquisition criteria set in Development Consent DA 92/97 at modelled privately-owned receivers.

8.4 Sleep Disturbance

- L_{Amax} noise levels due to night operations of the Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Rail Modification are predicted to be below the $L_{A1,1min}$ criterion in Development Consent DA 92/97 at all modelled privately-owned receivers.

8.5 Construction Noise

- Noise levels due to construction/development activities in the vicinity of the Mount Pleasant Operation are predicted to be below the daytime $L_{Aeq,15min}$ criterion set in Development Consent DA 92/97 at all privately-owned receivers.
- Noise levels due to construction/development activities associated with the proposed rail spur and the Hunter River water supply pump station and pipeline are predicted to be below the highly noise affected level of 75 dBA $L_{Aeq,15min}$ criterion set in the *ICNG* at all privately-owned receivers.
- Within recommended standard hours, 17 privately-owned receivers are predicted to exceed *ICNG*'s noise affected levels due the construction of the proposed rail spur. Outside recommended standard hours, 21 receivers are predicted to experience exceedances of the noise affected levels due to the construction of the proposed rail spur. Those exceedances would only occur for a limited period of time during which the construction fleet is working at, or near, the closest point of the rail spur to the receivers in question. Most of the time, construction noise levels would comply with *ICNG*'s recommended noise affected levels when the construction fleet is working further away along the proposed rail spur.
- Ten (10) privately-owned receivers are predicted to exceed the *ICNG*'s noise affected levels due to the construction of the proposed water pipeline. Those exceedances would only occur for a limited period of time during which the construction fleet is working at, or near, the closest point of the pipeline route to the receivers in question. Most of the time, construction noise levels would comply with *ICNG*'s recommended noise affected levels when the construction fleet is working further away along the proposed water pipeline route.
- Three (3) privately-owned receivers are predicted to exceed the *ICNG*'s noise affected levels due the construction of the proposed pump station.

8.6 Construction Vibration

- A construction vibration assessment established that no cosmetic damage to nearby receivers and historic heritage structures is expected.

- Vibration exceeding the Human Response criteria may occur at receiver 23. However, potential exceedances would only occur for a limited period of time during which the construction fleet is working at, or near, the closest point of the rail spur to receiver 23. Most of the time, construction vibration levels would comply with Human Response criteria when the construction fleet is working further away along the proposed rail spur corridor. Therefore, no further construction vibration mitigation measures are considered to be required.

8.7 Rail Noise

- The *RING* does not make any provisions on how to assess the zone where a private rail spur connects to the main line. However, rail noise impacts at receivers are typically determined based on the proximity to either the private rail spur or the main line (i.e. if a receiver is closer to the main line than the private spur, it would be assessed as per the main line noise criteria).
- No privately-owned receivers are found to be closer to the private rail spur than to the main line. Notwithstanding, a quantitative assessment against the relevant criteria has been undertaken.
- Noise predictions generated by the rail spur would exceed the *RING* criteria for non-network rail lines on or exclusively servicing industrial sites at three (3) privately-owned receivers with low wheel defects and ten (10) privately-owned receivers with medium wheel defects.
- With medium wheel defects, privately-owned receivers 19, 20, 21 and 207 would be afforded voluntary mitigation upon request rights in accordance with the *Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy* (DP&E, 2014). With low wheel defects, no privately-owned receivers would be afforded voluntary mitigation upon request rights.
- For both low and medium wheel defects, receiver 23 would be afforded voluntary acquisition upon request rights in accordance with the *Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy* (DP&E, 2014).
- Notwithstanding, preliminary noise calculations have demonstrated that noise levels generated by rail movements would remain unchanged at the receivers located on the southern side of the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line with or without the proposed rail spur. Those receivers include all ten (10) privately-owned receivers identified as exceeding the *RING* criteria. Therefore, the proposed rail spur is not expected to impact on the southern receivers.

8.8 Rail Vibration

- Assessment of rail vibration indicated that the risk of excessive vibration and exceedance of the relevant criterion would not be expected at any of the identified receivers.
- Operational rail vibration levels are expected to comply with the relevant cosmetic damage limit at the nearby receivers and historic heritage structures.

9 REFERENCES

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EMGA Mitchell McLennan (2010) *Mount Pleasant Project Modification Noise and Vibration Assessment*.

Evaluation and measurement for vibration in buildings, BS 7385-2:1993.New South Wales Department of Environment & Climate Change (2009) *Interim Construction Noise Guideline*.

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Wilkinson Murray (2013) *Mt Arthur Coal Open Cut Modification – Noise and Blasting Assessment*.

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY OF TERMS & DEFINITIONS

GLOSSARY OF TERMS & DEFINITIONS

Most environments are affected by environmental noise which continuously varies, largely as a result of road traffic. To describe the overall noise environment, a number of noise descriptors have been developed and these involve statistical and other analysis of the varying noise over sampling periods, typically taken as 15 minutes. These descriptors, which are demonstrated in the graph below, are here defined.

Maximum Noise Level (L_{Amax}) – The maximum noise level over a sample period is the maximum level, measured on fast response, during the sample period.

L_{A1} – The L_{A1} level is the noise level which is exceeded for 1 percent (%) of the sample period. During the sample period, the noise level is below the L_{A1} level for 99% of the time.

L_{A10} – The L_{A10} level is the noise level which is exceeded for 10% of the sample period. During the sample period, the noise level is below the L_{A10} level for 90% of the time. The L_{A10} is a common noise descriptor for environmental noise and road traffic noise.

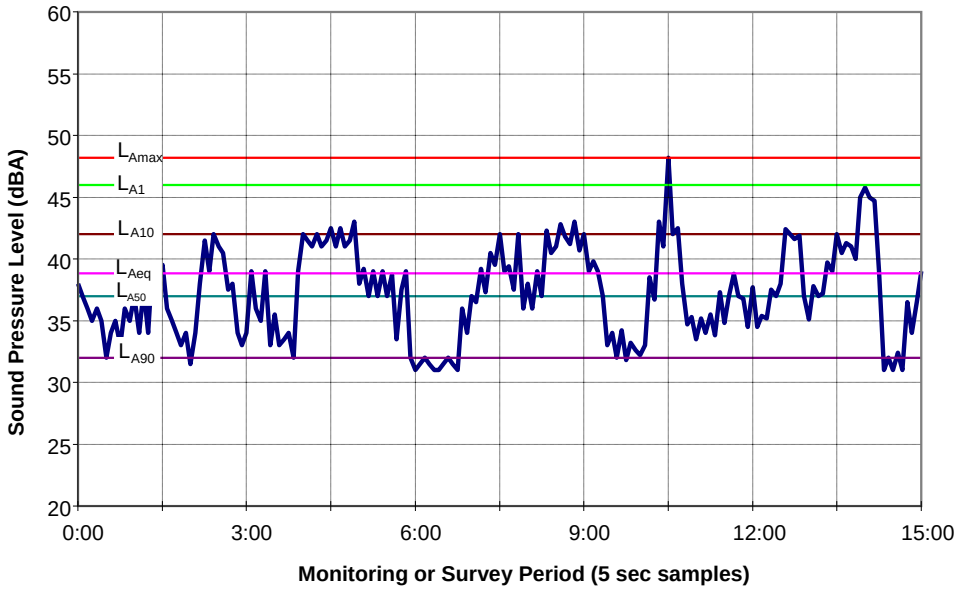
L_{A90} – The L_{A90} level is the noise level which is exceeded for 90% of the sample period. During the sample period, the noise level is below the L_{A90} level for 10% of the time. This measure is commonly referred to as the background noise level.

L_{Aeq} – The equivalent continuous sound level (L_{Aeq}) is the energy average of the varying noise over the sample period and is equivalent to the level of a constant noise which contains the same energy as the varying noise environment. This measure is also a common measure of environmental noise and road traffic noise.

ABL – The Assessment Background Level is the single figure background level representing each assessment period (daytime, evening and night time) for each day. It is determined by calculating the 10th percentile (lowest 10th percent) background level (L_{A90}) for each period.

RBL – The Rating Background Level for each period is the median value of the ABL values for the period over all of the days measured. There is therefore an RBL value for each period – daytime, evening and night time.

Typical Graph of Sound Pressure Level vs Time



APPENDIX B

NOISE SENSITIVE RECEIVERS

Table B-1 Privately Owned Dwellings

Receiver ID	NAG	Landholders	Easting	Northing
4	9	JR SCRIVEN	299202	6425195
19	8	DP ENGLEBRECHT	299120	6426779
20	8	KB & JA BARNETT	298866	6426826
21	8	MJ MCGOLDRICK	298804	6426823
23	8	JABETIN PTY LTD	299047	6427361
35	8	C HORNE	299980	6428580
35b	8	C HORNE	299986	6428649
43	1	JB MOORE	292318	6429012
44	1	JB MOORE	291384	6428700
45	1	BA & TE STRACHAN	291263	6428277
47	1	BL & ML BATES	291276	6429615
67	7	JM SIMPSON	299896	6429202
68	7	RK & NV GOOGE	299976	6429057
74	7	N & M SORMAZ	300003	6429277
77	7	DM PURSER	300332	6429501
79	7	DW ADNUM	300572	6429448
80	7	WJ ADNUM	300556	6429470
82	8	CK BIRCH	301020	6429170
83	7	LG & CM KELMAN	300956	6429298
84	8	GE PITMAN	300800	6429358
84b	n/a	GE PITMAN	291180	6437472
86	7	COWTIME INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	300342	6429734
86b	6	COWTIME INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	301865	6431879
96	7	RP GRAY	299879	6430321
102	7	AJPS MATHER	299829	6430440
108	7	JS GIBSON	299715	6430470
112	7	BD BARRY	299566	6430447
118	7	JM & CA HAYES	299655	6430627
120	7	DL & PA MOORE	299721	6430731
120c	7	DL & PA MOORE	299698	6430741
121	7	C & JM MOORE	299656	6430778
136	3	DG YORE	300336	6432453
139	3	RW & LP UPTON	300659	6432952
140	3	DAPKOS PTY LTD	300978	6433030
140c	6	DAPKOS PTY LTD	301236	6431474
143	3	JS & NM LONERGAN	299928	6434457
147	3	MJ & RG ADNUM	299165	6434674
153	3	GM CASEY	295898	6435444
154	3	PD & F STANDING	298537	6435520
156	3	JE & JL LONERGAN	298882	6435173
157	3	RB PARKINSON	298965	6434977
161	3	JS & NM LONERGAN	299209	6435244
158	3	JM HOATH	299063	6435063
159	3	JE & MS DUCEY	299127	6435011
169	4	L GREENSILL and J WATTUS	298868	6436638

Receiver ID	NAG	Landholders	Easting	Northing
171	4	L GREENSILL and J WATTUS	299038	6436955
172	4	RL & CE THOMPSON	299157	6437224
173	4	TL KING and JA WARD	298878	6437773
174	4	TJ & ML POWER	298908	6437676
175	4	TJ & ML POWER	298928	6437622
176	4	JAF & LA ALLAN	298988	6437509
177	4	FW & HM & SA WHEATLEY	298731	6438046
178	4	PA NEELY	299347	6438053
179	4	FW WHEATLEY	299191	6438159
180	4	F.A. WHEATLEY & SON PTY LTD	299230	6438233
180b	4	F.A. WHEATLEY & SON PTY LTD	299562	6438055
180c	n/a	F.A. WHEATLEY & SON PTY LTD	299444	6438872
181	4	K.L. & H.R. DAY PTY LTD	300474	6437756
181c	4	K.L. & H.R. DAY PTY LTD	300023	6437409
182	5	JG & AJ SADLER	300849	6437839
182b	5	JG & AJ SADLER	300843	6437724
189	5	OB O'BRIEN	301236	6434698
190	5	OB O'BRIEN	301113	6434682
191	5	JA & JE FIBBINS	301421	6434533
192	5	IG & CW INGLE	301290	6434531
193	5	GM & KL SMITH	301529	6434365
193c	5	GM & KL SMITH	302406	6433964
194	5	TC & JBA HARRIS	302021	6433456
195	5	T & RK YOUNG	302121	6432949
196	n/a	T & RK YOUNG	302234	6432240
197	5	T & RK YOUNG	302117	6432365
195d	5	T & RK YOUNG	302170	6432128
198	6	TJ & NP GOLDRICK	301994	6431847
199	6	NA BURLING	302094	6431842
200	5	R EASTON	302258	6431847
202	6	DN RAPHAEL	301546	6431292
204	6	DN RAPHAEL	301940	6431205
203	6	RF & MA MILLARD	301451	6431324
206	8	WJ HARDES	299806	6427069
207	8	SW & KL BARKLEY	299389	6426888
207b	8	SW & KL BARKLEY	299537	6426696
212	8	DR & CJ TUBB	299568	6426381
212b	8	DR & CJ TUBB	299544	6426341
213	8	ENGLEBRECHT RACING STABLES PTY LTD	299175	6426554
214	8	AL THOMSON-WEIR and RC WEIR	299183	6426574
215	8	WJ & CB MCINTOSH	299184	6426607
216	8	NJ KEEVERS	299187	6426634
217	8	RRA FARNSWORTH	299192	6426663
218	8	SY JOHNSON	299137	6426583
219	8	GL & KL ANDREWS	299139	6426600
220	8	RA BYRNES and MA MOLLER	299144	6426635

Receiver ID	NAG	Landholders	Easting	Northing
221	8	TD BARRON	299150	6426680
222	8	ML & EA SWEENEY	299154	6426716
223	8	MC & LJ DOBIE	299125	6426722
224	8	DL ROBINSON	299097	6426732
225	8	MR CRANFIELD and JR GLEESON	299204	6426692
249	10	TW ROOTS	290948	6423468
252	1	RM & KF MERRICK	289457	6424899
252b	1	RM & KF MERRICK	289575	6424546
257	1	PG & CM LANE	291302	6426071
258a	1	NJ & RY ELLIS	291000	6426441
258b	1	NJ & RY ELLIS	290584	6426756
259	1	MR PEEL	290868	6426152
260	1	PSJ MURRAY	291002	6426002
261	1	PR ELLIS	290650	6425665
266	1	RB PARKINSON	289024	6427910
267	1	JE & JL LONERGAN	289455	6428815
271	2	DE KILGANNON and DS MACDOUGALL	289009	6434418
272	2	GC SPARRE	290603	6433696
272b	2	GC SPARRE	290597	6433720
273	2	IJ & CM RICHARDS	289237	6435180
283	9	SRP & RF RAY	299633	6425990
288	8	LA & JM WEBSTER	300479	6427545
288b	8	LA & JM WEBSTER	300493	6427559
289	8	RA & EA LAWMAN	300328	6428692
292	10	GR & MK WALSH	290611	6422527
296a	11	JM WILD	291746	6422103
296b	11	JM WILD	291623	6422133
298	11	MG & LJ LATHAM	291487	6421945
300	11	MG & LJ LATHAM	291365	6421702
302a	11	MJ & MJ DUNCAN	290914	6421267
302b	11	MJ & MJ DUNCAN	290695	6421456
302c	11	MJ & MJ DUNCAN	290718	6421463
310	4	RL & CE THOMPSON	299130	6437280
311	5	GM & KL SMITH	301388	6434419
401	n/a	JL & DG DAY	289649	6437858
402	n/a	PC BRITTAN	290201	6438459
407	n/a	AD LONERGAN	291736	6437533
413a	n/a	MJH LUMBY	288634	6436895
413b	n/a	MJH LUMBY	288465	6437096
415	n/a	SJ FRANKLAND	288448	6436265
416	n/a	RV MITCHELL	287602	6434882
417	n/a	M & JA CASTELLANA	288300	6435593
418	n/a	PB WATTS	287814	6435336
419	n/a	KM BATES and TG WOODS	288703	6436630
421	2	GW RICHARDS	289314	6435713
422a	n/a	ME DANIELS	297505	6438903

Receiver ID	NAG	Landholders	Easting	Northing
422b	n/a	ME DANIELS	297482	6438920
434	n/a	GJ & RL JONES	299588	6438940
436	4	MEDEGATE PTY LTD	299863	6438778
437	4	BG & S CANVIN	299729	6438830
453a	n/a	SC & ME DEVER	288345	6434693
453b	n/a	SC & ME DEVER	288307	6434751
454	n/a	AP & PE MCMANUS	287912	6434470
456	n/a	GT KEAST	286641	6434111
458	n/a	HJ WRIGHT	288254	6433349
462a	n/a	SH JENNAR	286648	6429789
462b	n/a	SH JENNAR	286662	6429918
463	n/a	IV & CA INGOLD	286574	6429559
464	1	KL BALMER and JL SMITH	289097	6428232
465	n/a	FN & WL GOOGE	288366	6427931
466	1	GT MCNEILL	289103	6426847
467	1	MWJ & LC WALTON	290367	6427991
468a	n/a	S.R. & J.W. LAWSON (LINDISFARNE) PTY LTD	288665	6422488
468b	n/a	S.R. & J.W. LAWSON (LINDISFARNE) PTY LTD	288416	6422514
468c	n/a	S.R. & J.W. LAWSON (LINDISFARNE) PTY LTD	288743	6422667
470	n/a	JI & PJ BROWN	289351	6423345
471	n/a	PJ BROWN	289165	6423423
472a	n/a	JDM MARKHAM	289360	6423043
472b	n/a	JDM MARKHAM	289390	6423191
474	n/a	AA & BT MEYER	289062	6422372
475	11	EJ & CA DENTON	290869	6421541
476	n/a	LA & CA MACPHERSON	289424	6420978
477a	11	MW TURNER	290064	6421064
477b	11	MW TURNER	290021	6421067
481	n/a	RL WILKS	288731	6420218
482	n/a	DJ PHILLIPS	288291	6420169
483	n/a	RW JONES	287961	6420256
484	n/a	TR & KM PAULSEN	288865	6419989
485a	n/a	PR & M BURGMANN	288070	6419004
485b	n/a	PR & M BURGMANN	288065	6419050
485c	n/a	PR & M BURGMANN	287991	6419081
485d	n/a	PR & M BURGMANN	287936	6419095
485e	n/a	PR & M BURGMANN	287940	6419101
487a	11	E RANKIN	292323	6421876
487b	11	E RANKIN	292203	6422343
488a	n/a	E & WJ RANKIN	292981	6421910
488b	10	E & WJ RANKIN	292667	6422644
526	7	DL WICKS	300537	6429477
527	8	DJ & GH CORK	300600	6428695
528	8	AS CHICK	300622	6428693
529	8	TH HAMILTON and AM SMITH	300641	6428693
530	8	SC & NJ BULLARD and JM HARRISON	300678	6428689

Receiver ID	NAG	Landholders	Easting	Northing
531	8	GJ & EA MUNZENBERGER	300678	6428670
532	8	VL ROSE	300677	6428649
533	8	MJ BROWN	300673	6428627
534	8	EE MARKS	300673	6428611
535	8	GL & DN HORTON	300665	6428593
536	8	LJ CUMMINS	300665	6428573
537	8	TJ D'HERVILLE	300664	6428556
538	8	KD POWER and T VERO	300511	6427651
539	8	PH CURTAIN and CA SINGLETON	300540	6427645
541	8	JG HINDER and VG MATHEWS	300560	6427606
542	8	PE & GJ CHAPMAN	300550	6427597
543	8	KD CLOSE	300534	6427590
544	8	DS & RM NEWTON	300523	6427578
545	8	JA GREEN	300509	6427568
547	5	LA & FK & G BRYANT	302122	6433354

Table B-2 Generic Privately Owned Dwellings

Receiver ID	NAG	Landholder	Easting	Northing
286c	8	MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE COUNCIL	299871	6426726

Table B-3 Generic Privately Owned Dwellings

Receiver ID	NAG	Township	Easting	Northing
A	n/a	Muswellbrook	302102	6430586
B	6	Muswellbrook	301213	6429518
C	8	Muswellbrook	300746	6428837
D	8	Muswellbrook	300102	6427193
E	8	Muswellbrook	299763	6426870
F	8	Muswellbrook	300871	6428333
G	8	Muswellbrook	300716	6427800
H	6	Muswellbrook	301710	6430134
I	4	Aberdeen	300579	6437917
J	6	Muswellbrook	301420	6429816
K	8	Muswellbrook	301411	6428853
L	8	Muswellbrook	301463	6429196
M	8	Muswellbrook	301381	6428637

Table B-4 Mine Owned Dwellings

Receiver ID	Landholders	Easting	Northing
1aa	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	297760	6434394
1ab	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299084	6434398
1ac	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299171	6427655
1ad	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	293038	6436801
1ae	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	298783	6428442
1af	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299585	6428763
1ag	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299664	6428876
1ah	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299928	6429225
1ai	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299941	6429237
1aj	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299957	6429246
1ak	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299970	6429257
1al	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299984	6429267
1am	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	300113	6429779
1an	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299662	6429937
1ao	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299585	6430014
1ap	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299957	6430106
1aq	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299951	6430122
1ar	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299932	6430141
1as	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299935	6430177
1at	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299909	6430242
1au	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299892	6430283
1av	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299868	6430351
1aw	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299796	6430380
1ax	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299851	6430393
1ay	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299812	6430453
1az	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299792	6430458
1ba	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299775	6430463
1h	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299751	6430465
1i	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299682	6430469
1j	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299662	6430475
1k	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299624	6430483
1l	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299647	6430484
1m	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299491	6430502
1n	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299591	6430533
1o	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	291505	6430779
1p	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299901	6430903
1q	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299508	6431522
1r	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	298205	6432838
1s	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	298547	6432870
1t	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	296360	6432912
1u	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	296125	6432941
1v	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	296249	6432975
1w	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	297943	6432993
1x	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	297436	6433106
1y	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	296351	6433138

Receiver ID	Landholders	Easting	Northing
1z	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299218	6434300
2aa	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298331	6426589
2ab	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298490	6426604
2ac	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	297160	6426689
2ad	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298534	6426700
2ae	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	297138	6426742
2af	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298640	6426782
2ah	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298721	6426869
2ai	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	297630	6426965
2aj	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298760	6427327
2ak	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	297826	6427710
2al	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	297792	6427732
2b	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	297852	6427737
2c	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	300562	6428120
2d	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	300480	6428149
2e	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298361	6428430
2f	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	297839	6428516
2i	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	299426	6428718
2m	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	292759	6429036
2n	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	293017	6423526
2o	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	292327	6423973
2p	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	292261	6423976
2q	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	292187	6424053
2r	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	292257	6424062
2s	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	292211	6424104
2t	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	293595	6424750
2u	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	294390	6425005
2v	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	294658	6425080
2w	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	291605	6425845
2x	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298374	6426394
2y	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298380	6426499
2z	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298456	6426569
3a	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	301401	6434809
3b	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	301340	6434861
3c	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	299283	6435042
3d	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	301334	6435087
3e	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	301328	6435119
3f	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	301318	6435356
3g	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	299242	6435789
3i	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	300387	6436168
3j	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	301316	6436179
3k	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	298996	6436300
3l	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	297899	6436391
3m	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	297973	6436398
3n	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	299587	6436753
3o	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	297890	6436905
3p	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	297515	6436960

Receiver ID	Landholders	Easting	Northing
3q	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	297714	6436969
3r	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	297666	6438671
3s	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	297229	6438705
5	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	299157	6425521
5aa	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	299058	6424990
5ab	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	299687	6425010
5ac	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	299155	6425038
5ad	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	299776	6425222
5ae	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	298482	6426106
5f	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	298437	6426197
5g	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	298396	6426283
5h	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	289883	6421305
5i	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	291557	6421390
5j	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	289652	6421415
5k	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	291647	6421569
5l	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	291885	6422030
5m	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	293829	6422109
5n	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	290201	6422253
5o	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	290884	6422545
5p	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	293237	6422604
5q	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	294513	6422770
5r	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	295707	6423944
5s	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	295980	6424187
5t	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	296636	6424340
5u	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	297868	6424610
5v	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	290216	6424813
5w	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	290173	6424829
5x	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	290260	6424898
5y	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	298996	6424939
5z	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	299118	6424976
7	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	298474	6426128
7b	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	287608	6421748
7c	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	287636	6421806
7d	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	288584	6426059
7e	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	287898	6427950
7f	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	286867	6428574
7g	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	287944	6432756
7h	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	288913	6434308
7i	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	288166	6434615
7j	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	289298	6434616
7k	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	289566	6436695
8a	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	286721	6420297
8b	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	286950	6420594
8c	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	286885	6420606
8d	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	287322	6421776
8e	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	286763	6422241
8f	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	287200	6425415

Receiver ID	Landholders	Easting	Northing
8g	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	287670	6427813
8h	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	287584	6427890
8i	MANGOOLA COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD	286574	6428569
101	MACH ENERGY AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	299841	6430413
107	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299733	6430469
129	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	298060	6432528
130	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	298497	6432215
135	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299992	6432182
231	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	300494	6429496
246	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	292872	6423435
263	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	291463	6427224
211	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	299511	6426190
274	MUSWELLBROOK COAL COMPANY LTD	288803	6435159
299	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	291514	6421734
309	COAL & ALLIED OPERATIONS PTY LTD*	299946	6432340

* The ownership of this land is subject to the acquisition of the Mount Pleasant Operation by MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd.

Table B-5 Commercial Receivers

Receiver ID	Landholders	Easting	Northing
2ag	BENGALLA MINING COMPANY PTY LTD	298505	6426785
3h	ANGLO COAL (DARTBROOK MANAGEMENT) PTY LTD	298907	6435815
5e	COAL OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA LTD	298433	6426136
6	MUSWELLBROOK RACE CLUB LTD	298605	6426135
83b	LG & CM KELMAN	300909	6429329
183	K.L. & H.R. DAY PTY LTD	300857	6437446
195e	T & RK YOUNG	302034	6432899
205	DAPKOS PTY LTD	301126	6431439
208	FK & WDG ALMOND and PW HUME	299174	6426781
212c	DR & CJ TUBB	299539	6426270
280	MONADELPHOUS PROPERTIES PTY LTD	299773	6426105
281	JR & JA BUCKLEY	299691	6426050
282	JE ANDERSON and KL & J CAMPBELL and MV & DJ & SE & TP HALLETT	299620	6425915
285	THE NEW SOUTH WALES GREYHOUND BREEDERS OWNERS & TRAINERS ASSOCIATION LTD	300280	6427411
285b	THE NEW SOUTH WALES GREYHOUND BREEDERS OWNERS & TRAINERS ASSOCIATION LTD	300172	6427476
285c	THE NEW SOUTH WALES GREYHOUND BREEDERS OWNERS & TRAINERS ASSOCIATION LTD	300136	6427524
286	MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE COUNCIL	300360	6427448
286d	MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE COUNCIL	300709	6429052
287	TELSTRA CORPORATION LTD	300454	6427537
291	MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE COUNCIL	299972	6426608
305	RH ENGLEBRECHT	299173	6426508
308	DL & PA MOORE	299667	6430746
315	FK & WDG ALMOND and PW HUME	299208	6426836
540	GRENTELL PTY LTD	300569	6427621
546	SJ SCOTT	300302	6427587

APPENDIX C

OPERATIONAL NOISE PREDICTIONS

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)										Consent Noise Criteria Day / Evening / Night
		Modification 3 Predictions					Modification 4 Predictions					
		Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			
		Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	
Privately-Owned Residential Receivers												
4	9	<20	<20	32	34	34	<20	<20	33	35	34	39 / 38 / 37
19	8	21	20	36	39	38	22	21	36	39[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
20	8	21	20	36	39	38	22	21	37	39[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
21	8	21	20	36	39	38	22	21	37	39[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
23	8	22	22	37	39[2]	39	24	24	38	40[2]	40	40 / 40 / 40
35	8	26	22	38	41	40	29	27	39	40[2]	41	42 / 41 / 41
35b	8	26	22	38	41[3]	40[3]	28	27	39	40[2,3]	38[2]	41 / 39 / 39
67	7	27	23	39	43	41	27	25	39	43	41	Acquisition
68	7	27	23	39	41[2]	41	28	25	39	41[2]	41	43 / 42 / 42
74	7	26	23	39	41[2]	41	27	24	39	41[2]	41	43 / 42 / 42
77	7	28	23	39	40	39	28	24	39	40	39	42 / 41 / 41
79	7	27	22	38	40	39	28	23	38	40	39	41 / 41 / 41
80	7	27	22	38	40	39	28	23	38	40	39	41 / 41 / 41
82	8	26	21	37	39	38	26	22	37	39	39	41 / 39 / 39
83	7	26	21	37	39[3]	39[3]	27	22	37	38[2,3]	37[2]	40 / 37 / 37
84	8	27	22	37	40	39	27	23	37	40	40	40 / 40 / 40
86	7	28	23	39	40	39	29	24	39	40	39	42 / 42 / 42
96	7	31	26	42	37	35	31	26	42	37	36	Acquisition
102	7	31	26	42	36	34	31	26	42	36	35	Acquisition
108	7	31	26	43	34	33	31	26	43	34	33	Acquisition
112	7	30	27	40	34	33	30	27	40	34	33	Acquisition
118	7	32	27	42	34	33	32	27	42	34	33	Acquisition

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)										Consent Noise Criteria Day / Evening / Night
		Modification 3 Predictions					Modification 4 Predictions					
		Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			
		Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	
120	7	32	27	42	35	34	32	27	42	35	34	Acquisition
120c	7	32	27	42	35	34	32	27	42	35	34	Acquisition
121	7	32	27	42	34	33	32	27	42	34	33	Acquisition
206	8	22	20	36	38	37	24	23	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
207	8	21	20	36	39	38	22	22	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
207b	8	21	20	35	38	37	22	21	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
212	8	20	<20	34	37	36	21	20	35	38	37	41 / 39 / 39
212b	8	20	<20	34	37	36	21	20	35	38	37	41 / 39 / 39
213	8	20	<20	35	38	37	21	20	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
214	8	20	20	35	38	37	21	20	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
215	8	21	20	35	38	37	21	20	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
216	8	21	20	35	38	37	21	20	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
217	8	21	20	36	38	37	21	21	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
218	8	21	20	35	38	37	21	20	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
219	8	21	20	36	38	37	21	20	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
220	8	21	20	36	38	37	21	20	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
221	8	21	20	36	38	37	21	21	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
222	8	21	20	36	39	38	22	21	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
223	8	21	20	36	39	38	22	21	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
224	8	21	20	36	39	38	22	21	36	39[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
225	8	21	20	36	38	37	21	21	36	39	38	41 / 39 / 39
283	9	<20	<20	34	36	35	20	<20	34	37	36	39 / 38 / 37
288	8	24	21	35	38	37	26	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)										Consent Noise Criteria Day / Evening / Night
		Modification 3 Predictions					Modification 4 Predictions					
		Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			
		Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	
288b	8	24	21	35	38	37	26	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39
289	8	26	22	38	39[2]	39	27	25	39	39[2]	40	41 / 40 / 40
526	7	27	23	38	40[3]	39[3]	28	23	38	38[2,3]	37[2]	40 / 37 / 37
527	8	25	21	38	38[2]	38	27	24	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
528	8	25	21	38	38[2]	38	27	24	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
529	8	25	21	38	38[2]	38	27	24	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
530	8	25	21	38	39	38	27	24	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
531	8	25	21	38	39	38	27	24	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
532	8	25	21	38	39	38	27	24	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
533	8	25	21	38	39	38	27	24	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
534	8	25	21	38	39	38	27	25	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
535	8	25	21	38	39	38	27	25	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
536	8	25	21	38	39	38	27	25	38	38[2]	39	41 / 39 / 39
537	8	25	21	38	39	38	27	25	38	38[2]	38	41 / 39 / 39
538	8	24	21	36	38	37	27	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39
539	8	24	21	36	38	37	27	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39
541	8	24	21	35	38	37	26	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39
542	8	24	21	35	38	37	26	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39
543	8	24	21	35	38	37	27	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39
544	8	24	21	35	38	37	26	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39
545	8	24	21	35	38	37	26	25	36	39	37	41 / 39 / 39

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)										Consent Noise Criteria Day / Evening / Night
		Modification 3 Predictions					Modification 4 Predictions					
		Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			
		Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	
Mine-Owned Residential Receivers[4]												
1ac	n/a	23	22	38	41	40	27	27	39	42	41	n/a[4]
1ae	n/a	25	25	40	44	42	35	35	42	45	43	n/a[4]
1af	n/a	25	23	39	43	41	28	27	39	43	42	n/a[4]
1ag	n/a	26	23	39	42	41	28	26	39	43	41	n/a[4]
1ah	n/a	27	23	39	43	41	27	24	39	43	41	n/a[4]
1ai	n/a	27	23	39	43	41	27	24	39	43	41	n/a[4]
1aj	n/a	27	23	40	43	41	27	24	40	43	41	n/a[4]
1ak	n/a	26	23	40	43	41	27	24	40	43	41	n/a[4]
1al	n/a	26	23	39	43	41	27	24	39	43	41	n/a[4]
1am	n/a	28	24	39	40	39	29	24	40	40	39	n/a[4]
1an	n/a	28	26	41	40	38	28	26	41	40	38	n/a[4]
1ao	n/a	28	26	40	39	36	28	26	40	39	36	n/a[4]
1ap	n/a	30	25	41	39	38	30	25	41	39	38	n/a[4]
1aq	n/a	30	25	41	39	38	30	25	41	39	38	n/a[4]
1ar	n/a	30	25	41	39	38	30	25	41	39	38	n/a[4]
1as	n/a	30	25	41	39	37	30	25	41	39	37	n/a[4]
1at	n/a	30	25	41	38	37	30	25	41	38	37	n/a[4]
1au	n/a	30	25	41	38	36	31	26	41	38	36	n/a[4]
1av	n/a	31	26	42	36	35	31	26	42	38	36	n/a[4]
1aw	n/a	31	26	42	36	34	31	26	42	36	35	n/a[4]
1ax	n/a	31	26	42	36	35	31	26	42	36	35	n/a[4]
1ay	n/a	31	26	42	36	34	31	26	42	36	35	n/a[4]

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)										Consent Noise Criteria Day / Evening / Night
		Modification 3 Predictions					Modification 4 Predictions					
		Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			
		Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	
1az	n/a	31	26	42	35	34	31	26	42	35	34	n/a[4]
1ba	n/a	31	26	42	34	33	31	26	42	35	34	n/a[4]
1h	n/a	31	26	42	34	33	31	26	43	35	34	n/a[4]
1i	n/a	31	26	43	34	33	31	26	43	34	33	n/a[4]
1j	n/a	31	26	43	34	33	31	27	43	34	33	n/a[4]
1k	n/a	31	27	43	33	33	31	27	43	33	33	n/a[4]
1l	n/a	31	26	43	34	33	31	27	43	34	33	n/a[4]
1m	n/a	30	27	36	33	32	30	27	36	33	32	n/a[4]
1n	n/a	32	27	44	33	32	32	27	44	34	33	n/a[4]
1p	n/a	33	26	41	36	35	33	26	41	36	35	n/a[4]
2aa	n/a	20	<20	36	39	38	21	20	36	40	39	n/a[4]
2ab	n/a	21	<20	36	39	38	21	20	36	40	39	n/a[4]
2ac	n/a	<20	<20	30	35	34	<20	<20	30	35	34	n/a[4]
2ad	n/a	21	<20	36	39	38	21	20	37	40	39	n/a[4]
2ae	n/a	<20	<20	28	35	34	<20	<20	28	35	34	n/a[4]
2af	n/a	21	20	37	40	39	22	21	37	40	39	n/a[4]
2ah	n/a	21	20	37	40	39	22	21	37	40	39	n/a[4]
2ai	n/a	21	20	36	41	39	21	21	36	41	39	n/a[4]
2aj	n/a	22	21	38	41	40	23	23	38	42	41	n/a[4]
2ak	n/a	24	24	37	41	40	25	25	37	42	40	n/a[4]
2al	n/a	24	24	36	40	38	25	26	36	40	39	n/a[4]
2b	n/a	24	24	38	41	40	25	25	38	41	40	n/a[4]
2c	n/a	25	21	36	39	38	28	27	37	39	38	n/a[4]

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)										Consent Noise Criteria Day / Evening / Night
		Modification 3 Predictions					Modification 4 Predictions					
		Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			
		Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	
2d	n/a	25	21	37	39	38	29	27	37	40	38	n/a[4]
2e	n/a	25	25	39	44	42	36	36	43	47	45	n/a[4]
2f	n/a	25	26	39	43	41	42	42	46	50	48	n/a[4]
2i	n/a	24	24	39	43	42	28	28	40	44	42	n/a[4]
2t	n/a	<20	<20	30	32	31	<20	<20	30	32	32	n/a[4]
2u	n/a	22	21	33	35	34	22	22	33	35	34	n/a[4]
2v	n/a	26	25	34	36	35	26	25	34	35	35	n/a[4]
2x	n/a	20	<20	36	39	38	21	<20	36	39	38	n/a[4]
2y	n/a	20	<20	36	39	38	21	20	36	40	38	n/a[4]
2z	n/a	20	<20	36	39	38	21	20	36	40	38	n/a[4]
5	9	<20	<20	33	35	35	20	<20	33	36	35	n/a[4]
5aa	n/a	<20	<20	32	34	33	<20	<20	32	35	34	n/a[4]
5ab	n/a	<20	<20	31	33	33	<20	<20	32	34	33	n/a[4]
5ac	n/a	<20	<20	32	34	33	<20	<20	32	35	34	n/a[4]
5ad	n/a	<20	<20	32	34	33	<20	<20	32	34	34	n/a[4]
5ae	n/a	20	<20	35	38	37	20	<20	35	38	37	n/a[4]
5f	n/a	20	<20	35	38	37	20	<20	35	39	38	n/a[4]
5g	n/a	20	<20	36	38	37	20	<20	36	39	38	n/a[4]
5r	n/a	27	26	31	33	33	26	26	32	33	33	n/a[4]
5s	n/a	25	25	32	34	33	25	25	32	34	33	n/a[4]
5t	n/a	23	23	32	34	33	23	23	32	34	33	n/a[4]
5u	n/a	20	<20	32	34	33	20	<20	32	35	34	n/a[4]
5y	n/a	<20	<20	32	34	33	<20	<20	32	35	34	n/a[4]

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)										Consent Noise Criteria Day / Evening / Night
		Modification 3 Predictions					Modification 4 Predictions					
		Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			Calm Isothermal		P10[1]			
		Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve / Night	Day	Eve	Night	
5z	n/a	<20	<20	32	34	33	<20	<20	32	35	34	n/a[4]
7	8	20	<20	35	38	37	20	<20	35	39	37	n/a[4]
101	7	31	26	42	36	34	31	26	42	36	35	n/a[4]
107	7	31	26	43	34	33	31	26	43	35	34	n/a[4]
211	9	20	<20	34	37	36	20	<20	35	37	36	n/a[4]
231	7	28	23	38	40	39	28	23	38	40	39	n/a[4]

Notes:

1. Noise levels predicted to result under 10th percentile meteorological conditions as described in Section 4.3 (indicated by 'P10').
2. P10 noise level predicted to result with integrated pro-active and reactive management measures in place. Note that a mitigated level is only presented for receivers where exceedances of the relevant criteria were predicted in the absence of pro-active and reactive management measures. The implementation of pro-active and reactive management measures would also benefit other receivers surrounding the Mount Pleasant Operation.
3. Receiver would comply with proposed noise criteria summarised in Table 3-9 of report.
4. Consent noise criteria do not apply to mine-owned residences.

APPENDIX D

CUMULATIVE NOISE PREDICTIONS

Rec ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,period}$ Noise Levels[1]													Cumulative Noise Criteria Day / Eve /Night
		Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Modification			Mt Arthur Coal Mine			Bengalla Mine			Dartbrook Mine	Cumulative Noise			
		Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve	Night		Day	Eve	Night	
4	9	29	33	33	24	34	34	27	27	33	-[2]	32	37	38	55 / 45 / 40
19	8	32	37	37	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	35	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
20	8	33	37	37	23	35	35	31	31	31	-[2]	35	40	40	55 / 45 / 40
21	8	33	37	37	24	35	35	31	31	31	-[2]	35	40	40	55 / 45 / 40
23	8	34	38	38	22	34	34	31	31	30	-[2]	36	40	40	55 / 45 / 40
35	8	35	38	38	19	32	32	31	31	30	-[2]	37	40	39	55 / 45 / 40
35b	8	35	38	37	19	32	32	31	31	30	-[2]	37	40	39	55 / 45 / 40
206	8	32	36	36	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	34	38	39	55 / 45 / 40
207	8	32	36	36	22	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
207b	8	32	36	36	22	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
212	8	31	35	35	22	34	34	28	28	31	-[2]	33	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
212b	8	31	35	35	22	34	34	28	28	31	-[2]	33	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
213	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
214	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
215	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
216	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
217	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
218	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
219	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
220	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
221	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
222	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
223	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
224	8	32	37	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40
225	8	32	36	36	23	35	35	30	30	31	-[2]	34	39	39	55 / 45 / 40

Rec ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,period}$ Noise Levels[1]												Cumulative Noise Criteria Day / Eve /Night
		Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating the Modification			Mt Arthur Coal Mine			Bengalla Mine			Dartbrook Mine	Cumulative Noise		
		Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve	Night		Day	Eve	Night	
283	9	30	34	34	22	33	33	28	28	32	-[2]	32	37	38	55 / 45 / 40
288	8	32	36	35	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	34	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
288b	8	32	36	35	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	34	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
538	8	33	36	36	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	35	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
539	8	33	36	36	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	35	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
541	8	32	36	35	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	34	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
542	8	32	36	35	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	34	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
543	8	32	36	36	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	34	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
544	8	32	36	35	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	34	38	38	55 / 45 / 40
545	8	32	36	35	22	33	33	30	30	31	-[2]	34	38	38	55 / 45 / 40

Notes:

1. $L_{Aeq,period}$ refers to the L_{eq} noise level measured over the entire daytime period (7.00am-6.00pm), evening period (6.00pm-10.00pm), or night period (10.00pm-7.00am).
2. No noise predictions were available as this receiver is not considered to be impacted by the mine.

APPENDIX E

SLEEP AROUSAL NOISE PREDICTIONS

Receiver ID	NAG	L_{Amax} Noise Level (dBA)		$L_{A1,1min}$ Consent Criterion
		Train Load Out Bin	Benching / Stretching	
Privately-Owned Residential Receivers				
4	9	34	35	45
19	8	39	41	45
20	8	39	40	45
21	8	39	40	45
23	8	41	43	45
35	8	41	42	45
35b	8	40	42	45
67	7	41	42	45
68	7	41	42	45
74	7	41	41	45
77	7	39	39	45
79	7	39	39	45
80	7	39	39	45
82	8	39	39	45
83	7	39	39	45
84	8	40	40	45
86	7	39	39	45
96	7	36	38	45
102	7	33	36	45
108	7	33	36	45
112	7	34	33	45
118	7	34	34	45
120	7	34	34	45
120c	7	33	33	45
121	7	38	38	45
206	8	39	40	45
207	8	38	40	45
207b	8	37	39	45
212	8	37	38	45
212b	8	38	39	45
213	8	38	39	45
214	8	38	40	45
215	8	38	40	45
216	8	38	40	45
217	8	38	40	45
218	8	38	39	45
219	8	38	39	45
220	8	38	40	45
221	8	39	40	45
222	8	39	40	45
223	8	39	41	45
224	8	38	40	45
225	8	36	39	45

Receiver ID	NAG	L_{Amax} Noise Level (dBA)		$L_{A1,1min}$ Consent Criterion
		Train Load Out Bin	Benching / Stretching	
283	9	38	38	45
288	8	38	38	45
288b	8	40	40	45
289	8	39	40	45
526	7	39	40	45
527	8	39	39	45
528	8	39	39	45
529	8	39	39	45
530	8	39	39	45
531	8	39	39	45
532	8	39	39	45
533	8	39	39	45
534	8	39	39	45
535	8	39	39	45
536	8	38	39	45
537	8	37	38	45
538	8	38	38	45
539	8	38	38	45
541	8	38	38	45
542	8	38	38	45
543	8	38	38	45
544	8	38	38	45
545	8	22	31	45
Mine-Owned Residential Receivers[1]				
1ac	n/a	41	44	n/a[1]
1ae	n/a	43	47	n/a[1]
1af	n/a	42	43	n/a[1]
1ag	n/a	41	43	n/a[1]
1ah	n/a	41	42	n/a[1]
1ai	n/a	41	42	n/a[1]
1aj	n/a	41	42	n/a[1]
1ak	n/a	41	42	n/a[1]
1al	n/a	41	42	n/a[1]
1am	n/a	39	40	n/a[1]
1an	n/a	38	39	n/a[1]
1ao	n/a	36	38	n/a[1]
1ap	n/a	38	39	n/a[1]
1aq	n/a	38	39	n/a[1]
1ar	n/a	38	39	n/a[1]
1as	n/a	37	38	n/a[1]
1at	n/a	37	38	n/a[1]
1au	n/a	36	37	n/a[1]
1av	n/a	36	38	n/a[1]
1aw	n/a	35	37	n/a[1]
1ax	n/a	35	37	n/a[1]

Receiver ID	NAG	L_{Amax} Noise Level (dBA)		$L_{A1,1min}$ Consent Criterion
		Train Load Out Bin	Benching / Stretching	
1ay	n/a	35	37	n/a[1]
1az	n/a	34	36	n/a[1]
1ba	n/a	34	36	n/a[1]
1h	n/a	34	36	n/a[1]
1i	n/a	34	36	n/a[1]
1j	n/a	34	36	n/a[1]
1k	n/a	33	33	n/a[1]
1l	n/a	33	35	n/a[1]
1m	n/a	33	32	n/a[1]
1n	n/a	33	33	n/a[1]
1p	n/a	35	35	n/a[1]
2aa	n/a	39	42	n/a[1]
2ab	n/a	39	41	n/a[1]
2ac	n/a	35	35	n/a[1]
2ad	n/a	39	41	n/a[1]
2ae	n/a	34	34	n/a[1]
2af	n/a	39	40	n/a[1]
2ah	n/a	39	40	n/a[1]
2ai	n/a	39	39	n/a[1]
2aj	n/a	41	43	n/a[1]
2ak	n/a	40	41	n/a[1]
2al	n/a	39	40	n/a[1]
2b	n/a	40	42	n/a[1]
2c	n/a	38	39	n/a[1]
2d	n/a	38	39	n/a[1]
2e	n/a	45	50	n/a[1]
2f	n/a	48	58	n/a[1]
2i	n/a	42	44	n/a[1]
2t	n/a	33	32	n/a[1]
2u	n/a	35	34	n/a[1]
2v	n/a	36	35	n/a[1]
2x	n/a	38	40	n/a[1]
2y	n/a	38	41	n/a[1]
2z	n/a	38	41	n/a[1]
5	9	35	36	n/a[1]
5aa	n/a	34	35	n/a[1]
5ab	n/a	33	34	n/a[1]
5ac	n/a	34	35	n/a[1]
5ad	n/a	34	35	n/a[1]
5ae	n/a	37	39	n/a[1]
5f	n/a	38	40	n/a[1]
5g	n/a	38	39	n/a[1]
5r	n/a	33	33	n/a[1]
5s	n/a	34	34	n/a[1]
5t	n/a	34	34	n/a[1]

Receiver ID	NAG	L_{Amax} Noise Level (dBA)		$L_{A1,1min}$ Consent Criterion
		Train Load Out Bin	Benching / Stretching	
5u	n/a	34	35	n/a[1]
5y	n/a	34	35	n/a[1]
5z	n/a	34	35	n/a[1]
7	8	37	39	n/a[1]
101	7	35	37	n/a[1]
107	7	35	37	n/a[1]
211	9	34	36	n/a[1]
231	7	37	37	n/a[1]

Note:

1. Consent noise criteria do not apply to mine-owned residences.

APPENDIX F

CONSTRUCTION IN VICINITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION - NOISE PREDICTIONS

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)	
		P10	Day Consent Noise Criteria
Privately-Owned Residential Receivers			
4	9	33	39
19	8	37	41
20	8	36	41
21	8	36	41
23	8	40	40
35	8	39	42
35b	8	39	41
67	7	40	Acquisition
68	7	40	43
74	7	39	43
77	7	39	42
79	7	38	41
80	7	38	41
82	8	37	41
83	7	37	40
84	8	37	40
86	7	39	42
96	7	42	Acquisition
102	7	42	Acquisition
108	7	43	Acquisition
112	7	40	Acquisition
118	7	42	Acquisition
120	7	42	Acquisition
120c	7	42	Acquisition
121	7	42	Acquisition
206	8	37	41
207	8	38	41
207b	8	36	41
212	8	35	41
212b	8	35	41
213	8	36	41
214	8	36	41
215	8	36	41
216	8	36	41
217	8	37	41
218	8	36	41
219	8	37	41
220	8	37	41
221	8	37	41
222	8	37	41
223	8	37	41
224	8	37	41
225	8	37	41

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)	
		P10	Day Consent Noise Criteria
283	9	35	39
288	8	36	41
288b	8	36	41
289	8	39	41
526	7	38	40
527	8	38	41
528	8	38	41
529	8	38	41
530	8	38	41
531	8	38	41
532	8	38	41
533	8	38	41
534	8	38	41
535	8	38	41
536	8	38	41
537	8	38	41
538	8	37	41
539	8	37	41
541	8	36	41
542	8	36	41
543	8	36	41
544	8	36	41
545	8	36	41
Mine-Owned Residential Receivers[1]			
1ac	n/a	40	n/a[1]
1ae	n/a	43	n/a[1]
1af	n/a	40	n/a[1]
1ag	n/a	40	n/a[1]
1ah	n/a	40	n/a[1]
1ai	n/a	40	n/a[1]
1aj	n/a	40	n/a[1]
1ak	n/a	40	n/a[1]
1al	n/a	39	n/a[1]
1am	n/a	39	n/a[1]
1an	n/a	41	n/a[1]
1ao	n/a	40	n/a[1]
1ap	n/a	41	n/a[1]
1aq	n/a	41	n/a[1]
1ar	n/a	41	n/a[1]
1as	n/a	41	n/a[1]
1at	n/a	41	n/a[1]
1au	n/a	41	n/a[1]
1av	n/a	42	n/a[1]

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)	
		P10	Day Consent Noise Criteria
1aw	n/a	42	n/a[1]
1ax	n/a	42	n/a[1]
1ay	n/a	42	n/a[1]
1az	n/a	42	n/a[1]
1ba	n/a	42	n/a[1]
1h	n/a	42	n/a[1]
1i	n/a	43	n/a[1]
1j	n/a	43	n/a[1]
1k	n/a	43	n/a[1]
1l	n/a	43	n/a[1]
1m	n/a	36	n/a[1]
1n	n/a	44	n/a[1]
1p	n/a	41	n/a[1]
2aa	n/a	37	n/a[1]
2ab	n/a	37	n/a[1]
2ac	n/a	30	n/a[1]
2ad	n/a	37	n/a[1]
2ae	n/a	28	n/a[1]
2af	n/a	38	n/a[1]
2ah	n/a	37	n/a[1]
2ai	n/a	36	n/a[1]
2aj	n/a	39	n/a[1]
2ak	n/a	37	n/a[1]
2al	n/a	36	n/a[1]
2b	n/a	39	n/a[1]
2c	n/a	37	n/a[1]
2d	n/a	38	n/a[1]
2e	n/a	47	n/a[1]
2f	n/a	54	n/a[1]
2i	n/a	41	n/a[1]
2t	n/a	31	n/a[1]
2u	n/a	33	n/a[1]
2v	n/a	34	n/a[1]
2x	n/a	37	n/a[1]
2y	n/a	37	n/a[1]
2z	n/a	37	n/a[1]
5	9	34	n/a[1]
5aa	n/a	33	n/a[1]
5ab	n/a	32	n/a[1]
5ac	n/a	33	n/a[1]
5ad	n/a	33	n/a[1]
5ae	n/a	36	n/a[1]
5f	n/a	36	n/a[1]

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)	
		P10	Day Consent Noise Criteria
5g	n/a	36	n/a[1]
5r	n/a	31	n/a[1]
5s	n/a	32	n/a[1]
5t	n/a	32	n/a[1]
5u	n/a	32	n/a[1]
5y	n/a	33	n/a[1]
5z	n/a	33	n/a[1]
7	8	36	n/a[1]
101	7	42	n/a[1]
107	7	43	n/a[1]
211	9	35	n/a[1]
231	7	38	n/a[1]

Note:

1. Consent noise criteria do not apply to mine-owned residences.

APPENDIX G

CONSTRUCTION OF RAIL SPUR (OUTSIDE MINING LEASES) - NOISE PREDICTIONS

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)		
		P10	*ICNG* Day Management Level Within Recommended Standard Hours	*ICNG* Day Management Level Outside Recommended Standard Hours
Privately-Owned Residential Receivers				
4	9	35	44	39
19	8	51	46	41
20	8	51	46	41
21	8	51	46	41
23	8	69	46	41
35	8	34	46	41
35b	8	34	46	41
67	7	34	45	40
68	7	33	45	40
74	7	33	45	40
77	7	31	45	40
79	7	30	45	40
80	7	30	45	40
82	8	31	46	41
83	7	30	45	40
84	8	30	46	41
86	7	30	45	40
96	7	30	45	40
102	7	29	45	40
108	7	29	45	40
112	7	21	45	40
118	7	19	45	40
120	7	20	45	40
120c	7	21	45	40
121	7	22	45	40
206	8	48	46	41
207	8	51	46	41
207b	8	46	46	41
212	8	41	46	41
212b	8	41	46	41
213	8	46	46	41
214	8	46	46	41
215	8	47	46	41
216	8	47	46	41
217	8	48	46	41
218	8	47	46	41
219	8	47	46	41
220	8	48	46	41
221	8	48	46	41
222	8	49	46	41
223	8	49	46	41

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)		
		P10	*ICNG* Day Management Level Within Recommended Standard Hours	*ICNG* Day Management Level Outside Recommended Standard Hours
224	8	50	46	41
225	8	48	46	41
283	9	38	44	39
288	8	40	46	41
288b	8	38	46	41
289	8	33	46	41
526	7	30	45	40
527	8	38	46	41
528	8	37	46	41
529	8	37	46	41
530	8	35	46	41
531	8	37	46	41
532	8	37	46	41
533	8	37	46	41
534	8	35	46	41
535	8	37	46	41
536	8	37	46	41
537	8	35	46	41
538	8	42	46	41
539	8	39	46	41
541	8	39	46	41
542	8	39	46	41
543	8	39	46	41
544	8	40	46	41
545	8	40	46	41
Mine-Owned Residential Receivers[1]				
1ac	n/a	63	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ae	n/a	42	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1af	n/a	36	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ag	n/a	36	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ah	n/a	33	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ai	n/a	33	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1aj	n/a	33	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ak	n/a	33	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1al	n/a	33	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1am	n/a	31	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1an	n/a	31	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ao	n/a	31	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ap	n/a	30	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1aq	n/a	30	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ar	n/a	30	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1as	n/a	30	n/a[1]	n/a[1]

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)		
		P10	*ICNG* Day Management Level Within Recommended Standard Hours	*ICNG* Day Management Level Outside Recommended Standard Hours
1at	n/a	30	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1au	n/a	30	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1av	n/a	30	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1aw	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ax	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ay	n/a	28	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1az	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ba	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1h	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1i	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1j	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1k	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1l	n/a	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1m	n/a	25	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1n	n/a	24	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1p	n/a	20	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2aa	n/a	51	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2ab	n/a	51	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2ac	n/a	35	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2ad	n/a	51	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2ae	n/a	36	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2af	n/a	51	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2ah	n/a	52	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2ai	n/a	53	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2aj	n/a	67	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2ak	n/a	51	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2al	n/a	50	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2b	n/a	50	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2c	n/a	31	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2d	n/a	34	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2e	n/a	46	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2f	n/a	55	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2i	n/a	37	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2t	n/a	17	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2u	n/a	19	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2v	n/a	22	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2x	n/a	48	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2y	n/a	50	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2z	n/a	50	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5	9	37	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5aa	n/a	34	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5ab	n/a	34	n/a[1]	n/a[1]

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)		
		P10	*ICNG* Day Management Level Within Recommended Standard Hours	*ICNG* Day Management Level Outside Recommended Standard Hours
5ac	n/a	35	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5ad	n/a	35	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5ae	n/a	44	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5f	n/a	45	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5g	n/a	47	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5r	n/a	25	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5s	n/a	28	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5t	n/a	27	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5u	n/a	32	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5y	n/a	34	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
5z	n/a	34	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
7	8	45	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
101	7	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
107	7	29	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
211	9	39	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
231	7	30	n/a[1]	n/a[1]

Note:

1. *ICNG* management levels do not apply to mine-owned residences.

APPENDIX H

CONSTRUCTION OF HUNTER RIVER WATER SUPPLY PUMP STATION & ASSOCIATED WATER PIPELINE - NOISE PREDICTIONS

Construction of Water Pipeline – Noise Predictions

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)		
		P10	*ICNG* Day Management Level Within Recommended Standard Hours	*ICNG* Day Management Level Outside Recommended Standard Hours
Privately-Owned Residential Receivers				
67	7	47	45	40
68	7	57	45	40
289	8	51	46	41
527	8	56	46	41
528	8	56	46	41
529	8	54	46	41
530	8	50	46	41
531	8	49	46	41
532	8	48	46	41
533	8	48	46	41
534	8	46	46	41
535	8	45	46	41
536	8	43	46	41
537	8	42	46	41
Mine-Owned Residential Receivers[1]				
1ae	n/a	33	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1af	n/a	42	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
1ag	n/a	49	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2e	n/a	46	n/a[1]	n/a[1]
2i	n/a	45	n/a[1]	n/a[1]

Note: 1. *ICNG* management levels do not apply to mine-owned residences.

Construction of Hunter River Water Supply Pump Station – Noise Predictions

Receiver ID	NAG	$L_{Aeq,15min}$ Noise Level (dBA)		
		P10	*ICNG* Day Management Level Within Recommended Standard Hours	*ICNG* Day Management Level Outside Recommended Standard Hours
Privately-Owned Residential Receivers				
289	8	39	46	41
527	8	51	46	41
528	8	51	46	41
529	8	49	46	41
530	8	45	46	41
531	8	44	46	41
532	8	43	46	41
533	8	43	46	41
534	8	41	46	41
535	8	40	46	41
536	8	38	46	41
537	8	37	46	41

Note: 1. *ICNG* management levels do not apply to mine-owned residences.

APPENDIX I

PREDICTED NIGHT TIME RAIL SPUR NOISE PREDICTIONS

Receiver ID	Night Time $L_{Aeq,9hours}$	
	Low Wheel Defects	Medium Wheel Defects
Privately-Owned Residential Receivers		
19	40	43
20*	42	45
21*	42	45
23	53	56
206	37	40
207	40	43
207b	34	37
212	31	34
212b	30	33
213	36	39
214	36	39
215	36	39
216	37	40
217	37	40
218	36	39
219	37	40
220	37	40
221	38	41
222	38	41
223	39	42
224	39	42
225	37	41
283	29	32
Mine-Owned Residential Receivers		
1ac	48	51
1ae	36	40
1af	22	25
1ag	21	24
2aa	41	44
2ab	40	43
2ac	30	33
2ad	41	44
2ae	30	33
2af	42	45
2ah	43	46
2ai	41	44

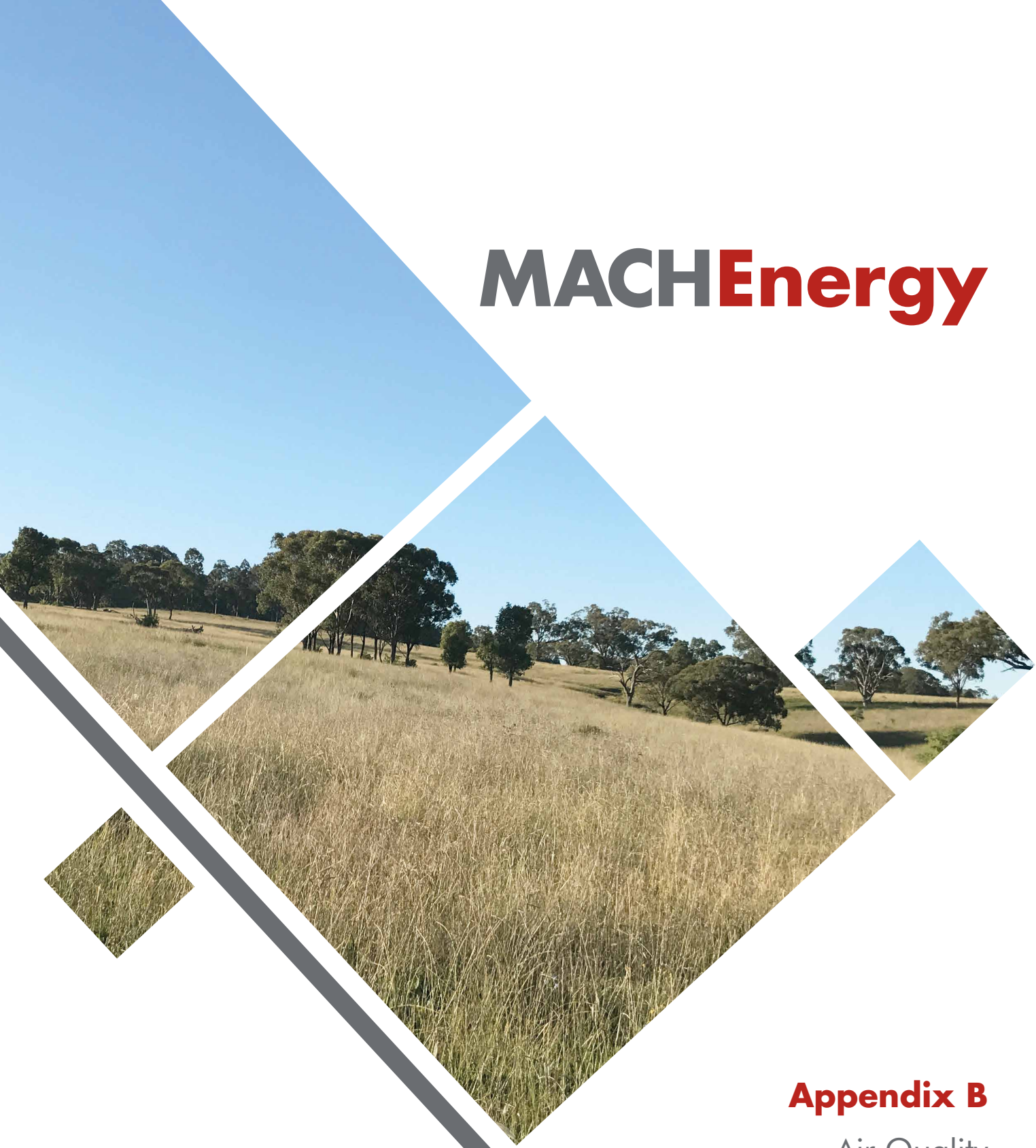
Receiver ID	Night Time $L_{Aeq,9hours}$	
	Low Wheel Defects	Medium Wheel Defects
2aj	51	54
2ak	41	44
2al	40	44
2b	41	44
2c	18	21
2d	21	23
2e	36	39
2f	38	41
2g	39	42
2h	45	48
2i	23	26
2j	39	42
2k	41	44
2l	41	45
2x	38	42
2y	40	43
2z	40	43
5	28	32
5ae	35	38
5f	36	39
5g	37	40
7	35	39
211	29	32

Notes:

1. Predictions at façade.

* Receivers 20 and 21 already subject to acquisition rights from the Mt Arthur Mine.

MACHEnergy



Appendix B

Air Quality Assessment

TODOROSKI AIR SCIENCES
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14 December 2017

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

RE: Air Quality Assessment – Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification

Dear Chris,

Todoroski Air Sciences has assessed the potential air quality impacts associated with the proposed Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification (hereafter referred to as the Modification).

This report assesses the potential change in dust impacts associated with the Modification relative to the predicted impacts presented in the most recent air quality impact assessment for the operation, the *Mount Pleasant Operation Mine Optimisation Modification Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Assessment* (**Todoroski Air Sciences, 2017**).

Overview of Mount Pleasant Mine

The approved Mount Pleasant Operation includes the construction and operation of an open cut coal mine and associated infrastructure located approximately 3 kilometres north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales. The mine is approved to produce up to 10.5 million tonnes per annum of run-of-mine (ROM) coal.

A recent modification application to the approved Mount Pleasant Operation in June 2017 (Modification 3) sought an extension to the permitted period of mining operations at the Mount Pleasant Operation to provide for open cut mining to 22 December 2026. Modification 3 also included an emplacement extension to better align with the underlying topography and facilitate development of a final landform that is more consistent with the characteristics of the local topography and to incorporate additional waste rock capacity. Modification 3 is currently awaiting determination.

Modification description

The Mount Pleasant Operation is seeking approval in the Modification to relocate the approved rail infrastructure from south of Wybong Road, where it will be intersected by Bengalla Mine in the future, to the east of the Bengalla Mine, and north of Wybong Road. The Modification would also involve the relocation of the pump station and water pipeline from the Hunter River, however this has no operational air quality emission significance.

An overview of the key elements of the Modification is presented in **Figure 1**.

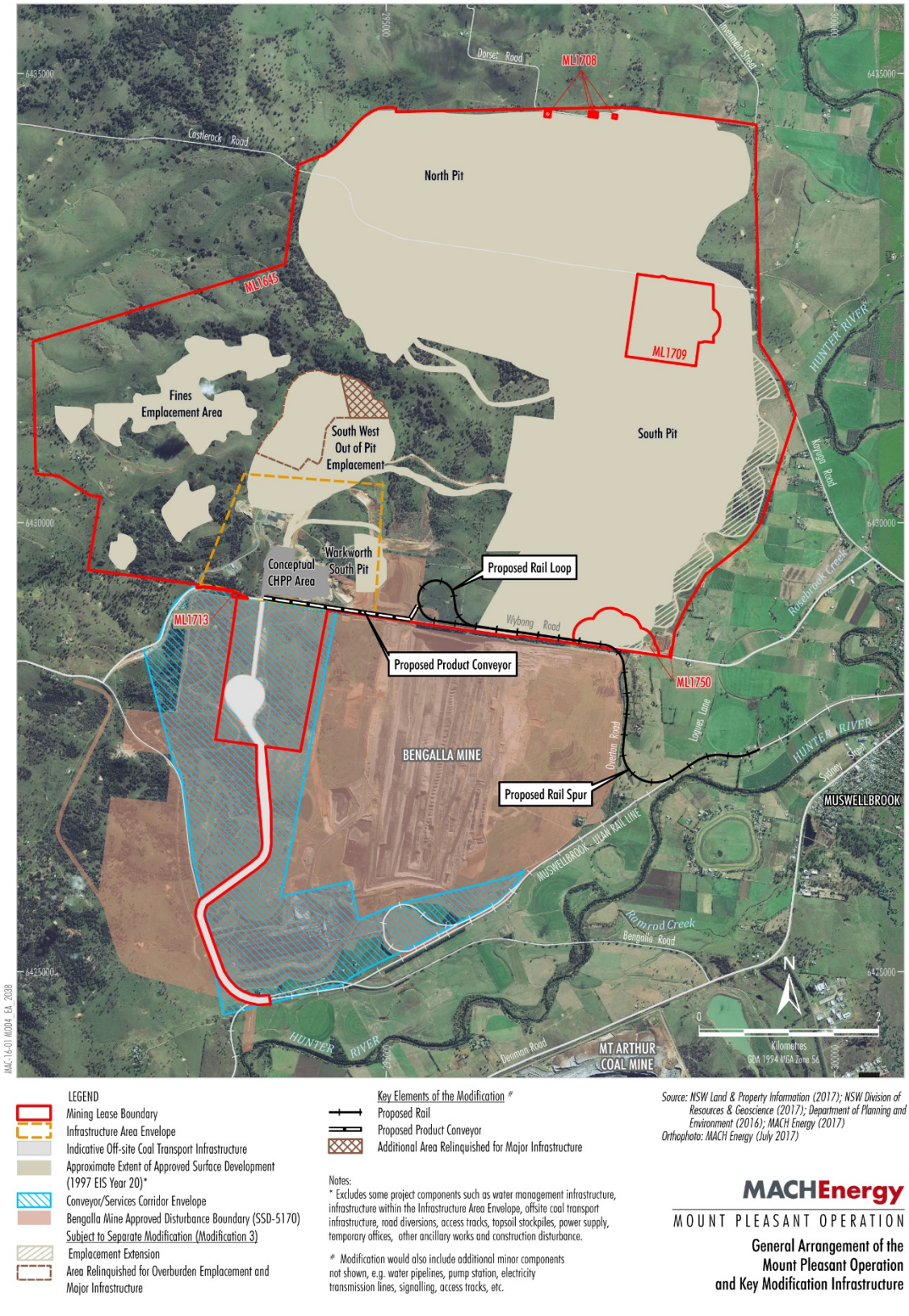


Figure 1: General Arrangement of the Mount Pleasant Operation and Key Modification Infrastructure

Assessment of potential operational air quality impacts

The relocation of the rail infrastructure to the east of Bengalla Mine and north of Wybong Road would result in one additional transfer point and a slight increase to the overall conveyor length between the Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP) and rail loading facility, compared to the approved rail infrastructure. The train load-out facilities would be similar and there would be no additional dust likely to be generated from this activity, but it would be generated in a different location.

The potential change in total dust emissions for the Mount Pleasant Operation as a result of the Modification is expected to be small. However, as the modified sources would be relocated, they may influence the spatial distribution of dust levels from the site. To investigate the extent of this potential effect, air dispersion modelling was performed using the comprehensive and detailed model previously developed for the *Mount Pleasant Operation Mine Optimisation Modification Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Assessment* (**Todoroski Air Sciences, 2017**), which was updated to reflect the Modification conveyors and rail load-out facility.

The air dispersion model is setup identically to allow for a direct comparison with the previous assessment. Further details regarding the air dispersion model setup can be found in the *Mount Pleasant Operation Mine Optimisation Modification Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Assessment* (**Todoroski Air Sciences, 2017**). Until the relocated rail alignment is constructed and commissioned, the approved rail infrastructure would continue to be utilised.

A comparison of the estimated total annual dust emission for Year 2021 (the closest scenario assessed in **Todoroski Air Sciences [2017]** to the estimated operation of the relocated rail alignment) for the Mount Pleasant Operation and the Modification is presented in **Table 1**. The cells highlighted in orange indicate the activities associated with the Modification, while bold typeface indicates an increase in estimated emissions.

It is calculated that the total annual dust emissions associated with the Modification would increase dust emissions by approximately 0.03% relative to the previously assessed Mount Pleasant Operation incorporating Modification 3. The small increase in total annual dust emissions due to the Modification arises from the additional transfer points and the longer section of product coal conveyor. It should be noted, however, that the sources to be modified are being relocated, and these new, modified or relocated sources comprise approximately 0.08% of the total emissions generated by the Mount Pleasant Operation.

Table 1: Comparison of estimated TSP emission rate for the proposed modification (kg/year)

Activity	Scenario 2 – Modification 3	Scenario 2 - Proposed Modification (MOD4)
OB - Topsoil removal with dozer	18,234	18,234
OB - Excavator loading topsoil to haul truck	249	249
OB - Hauling topsoil to dump	2,065	2,065
OB - Emplacing topsoil at dump	249	249
OB - Drilling overburden	14,028	14,028
OB - Blasting overburden	136,831	136,831
OB - Excavator loading OB to haul truck	105,496	105,496
OB - Hauling to dump (Day period)	359,163	359,163
OB - Hauling to dump (Evening/ night period)	310,066	310,066
OB - Emplacing at dump	105,496	105,496
OB - Rehandle OB	10,550	10,550
OB - Dozers on OB in pit	173,225	173,225
OB - Dozers on OB working on dump	173,225	173,225
CL - Dozers ripping/pushing/clean-up	82,223	82,223
CL - Loading ROM coal to haul truck	436,040	436,040
CL - Hauling ROM to hopper - CHPP	273,886	273,886
CHPP - Unloading ROM to hopper	65,406	65,406
CHPP - Rehandle ROM at hopper	87,208	87,208
CHPP - Primary crushing	28,350	28,350
CHPP - Transfer	768	768
CHPP - Conveying to secondary crusher	6	6
CHPP - Secondary crushing	28,350	28,350
CHPP - Tertiary crushing	28,350	28,350
CHPP - Transfer	768	768
CHPP - Conveying to 1000t bin	9	9
CHPP - Transfer	768	768
CHPP - Conveying to CHPP	5	5
CHPP - Transfer	437	437
CHPP - Conveying to Product stockpile	27	27
CHPP - Unloading to Product stockpile	1,094	1,094
CHPP – Transfer point 1	437	437
CHPP – Transfer point 2	-	**437**
CHPP - Conveying to train load-out	80	**157**
CHPP – Transfer point 3	-	**437**
CHPP - Loading coal to train	1,458	1,458
CHPP - Dozers on ROM stockpiles	82,223	82,223
CHPP - Dozers on Product stockpiles	63,343	63,343
OB - Loading Reject to haul truck	1,685	1,685
OB - Hauling Reject to dump	29,997	29,997
OB - Emplacing Reject at dump	1,685	1,685
WE - Overburden emplacement areas	104,148	104,148
WE - Open pit	210,287	210,287
WE - ROM stockpiles	8,395	8,395
WE - Product stockpiles	4,324	4,324
WE - Topsoil stockpiles	7,106	7,106
WE – Initial Rehab	50,069	50,069
OB - Grading roads	57,361	57,361
Locomotive idling	515	515
Diesel powered equipment	4,275	4,275
Total TSP emissions	**3,069,964**	**3,070,915**
% Change in total TSP emissions		**0.03**
% of emissions from changed, new or relocated sources		**0.08**

TSP – Total Suspended Particulates, kg/year – kilograms per year, OB – overburden, CL – coal, t – tonnes, WE – wind erosion

*With proposed haul route to CHPP

Dispersion modelling predictions

The predicted air quality levels due to the Modification are overlaid with the predictions for Scenario 2 of Modification 3 (**Todoroski Air Sciences, 2017**).

The dispersion modelling results comparing the predicted 24-hour average and annual average $PM_{2.5}$, 24-hour average and annual average PM_{10}, annual average TSP and annual average dust deposition levels for Scenario 2 are presented as isopleth diagrams in **Figure 2** to **Figure 7**. Contour plots for $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10} and TSP concentrations are presented in units of micrograms per cubic metre ($\mu g/m^3$), while dust deposition levels are presented in grams per square metre per month (g/m^2/month).

The results indicate that the Modification has a negligible effect at the privately-owned and mine-owned receptor locations (only some very minor differences in the isopleth locations near the relocated sources can be seen upon close inspection of the figures). Note that where the isopleths are the same, only the pink linework (this Modification) can be seen.

As there is no measurable change in the incremental modelling predictions, it is reasonable to conclude that the proposed Modification would not tangibly change the predicted cumulative impacts. It is thus expected that no additional privately-owned receptor locations would exceed criteria as a result of the Modification in comparison with the results presented in the **Todoroski Air Sciences (2017)** assessment.

Assessment of potential construction air quality emissions

The establishment and construction of related infrastructure associated with the Modification has the potential to generate dust emissions.

Potential construction dust emissions will be primarily generated due to material handling, vehicle movements and windblown dust generated from exposed areas. Particulate emissions would also be generated from the exhaust of construction vehicles and plant.

The potential air quality impacts due to these activities are difficult to accurately quantify on any given day due to the short sporadic periods of dust generating activity which may occur over the construction time frame. The sources of dust are temporary in nature during the construction period.

The total amount of dust generated from the construction process is unlikely to be significant given the nature of the activities proposed in comparison to other activities at the Mount Pleasant Operation. As the construction activities would occur for a limited period, no significant or prolonged effect at any off-site receiver is predicted.

To ensure dust generation during the construction activities is controlled and the potential for off-site impacts is reduced, appropriate (operational and physical) mitigation measures may be implemented such as those listed in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Potential construction dust mitigation options

Source	Mitigation Measure
General	Activities to be assessed during adverse weather conditions and modified as required (e.g. cease activity where reasonable levels of dust cannot be maintained)
	Engines to be switched off when not in use for any prolonged period
	Vehicles and plant would be fitted with pollution reduction devices where practical
	Maintain and service vehicles according to manufacturer's specifications
	Haul roads/ transport routes to be sited away from sensitive receivers where possible
Exposed areas and Stockpiles	Minimise area of exposed surfaces
	Water suppression on exposed areas and stockpiles
	Minimise amount of stockpiled material
	Locate stockpiles away from sensitive receivers
	Apply barriers, covering or temporary rehabilitation
	Progressive staging of construction activities
	Rehabilitation of completed sections as soon as practicable
	Keep ancillary vehicles off exposed areas
Material handling	Reduce drop heights from loading and handling equipment
Hauling activities	Watering of haul roads (fixed or mobile) when required
	Sealed haul roads to be cleaned regularly
	Restrict vehicle traffic to designated routes that can be managed by regular watering
	Impose speed limits
	Wheel wash, grids or coarse aggregate near exit points to minimise dirt track out
	Street cleaning to remove dirt tracked onto sealed roads
	Covering vehicle loads when transporting material off- site

Potential coal dust from train wagons

As described in Appendix E of the **Todoroski Air Sciences (2017)** assessment, the potential for any adverse air quality impacts associated with coal dust generation during rail transport would be low and would not make any appreciable difference to local air quality.

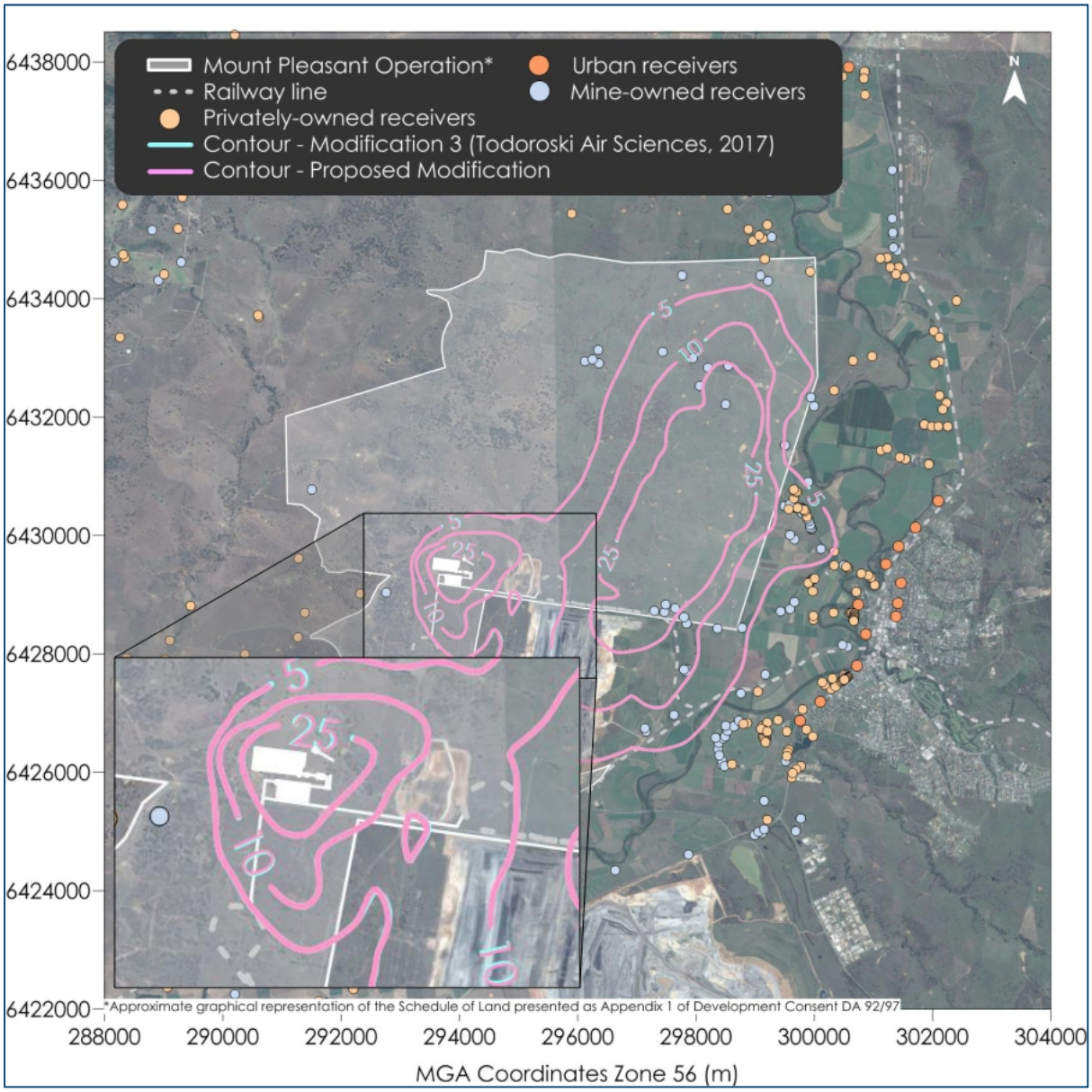


Figure 2: Comparison of predicted incremental maximum 24-hour average $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations for the Modification and Modification 3 in Scenario 2 (µg/m³)

Figure 3: Comparison of predicted incremental annual average $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations for the Modification and Modification 3 in Scenario 2 (µg/m³)

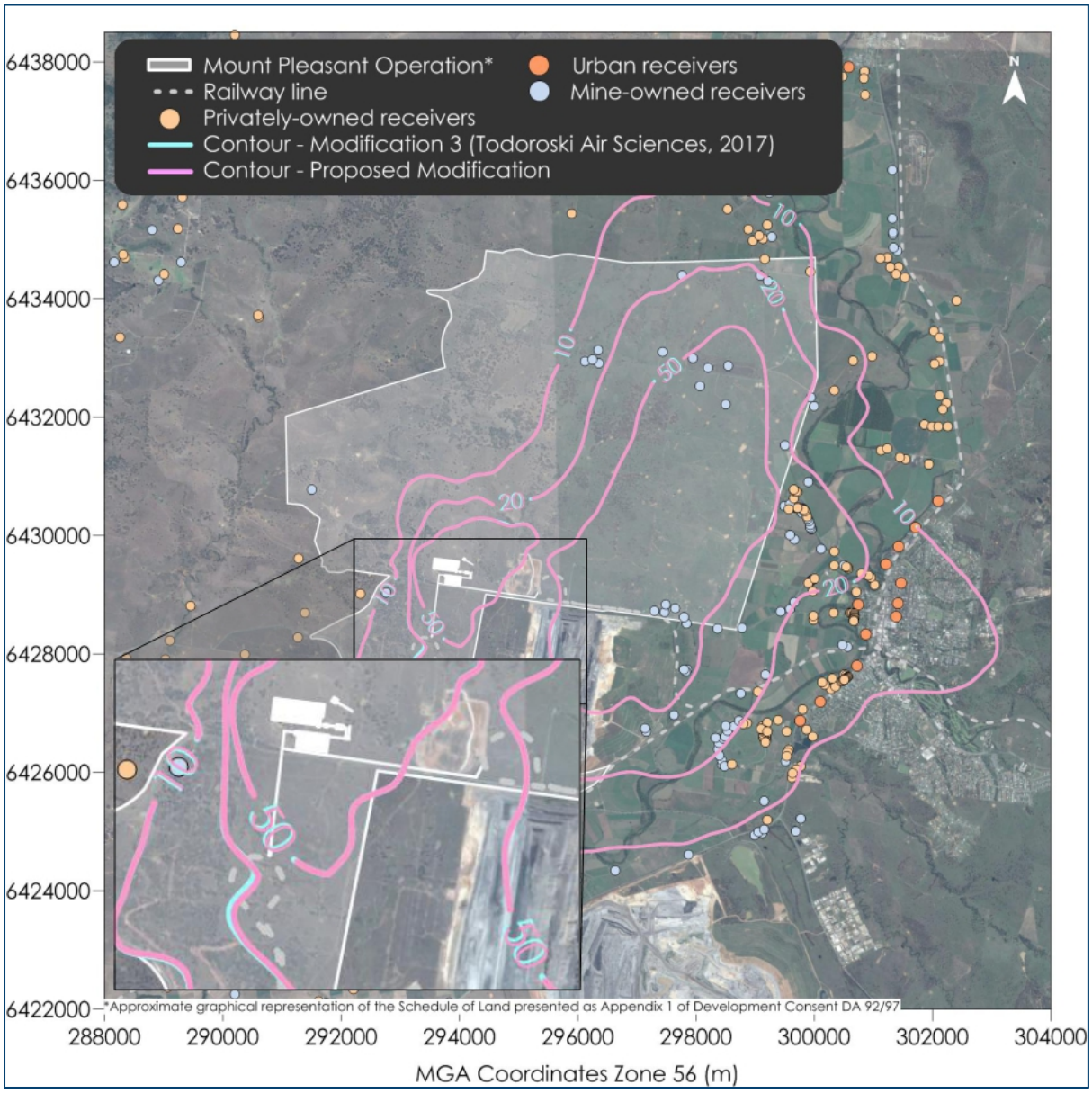


Figure 4: Comparison of predicted incremental maximum 24-hour average PM_{10} concentrations for the Modification and Modification 3 in Scenario 2 (µg/m³)

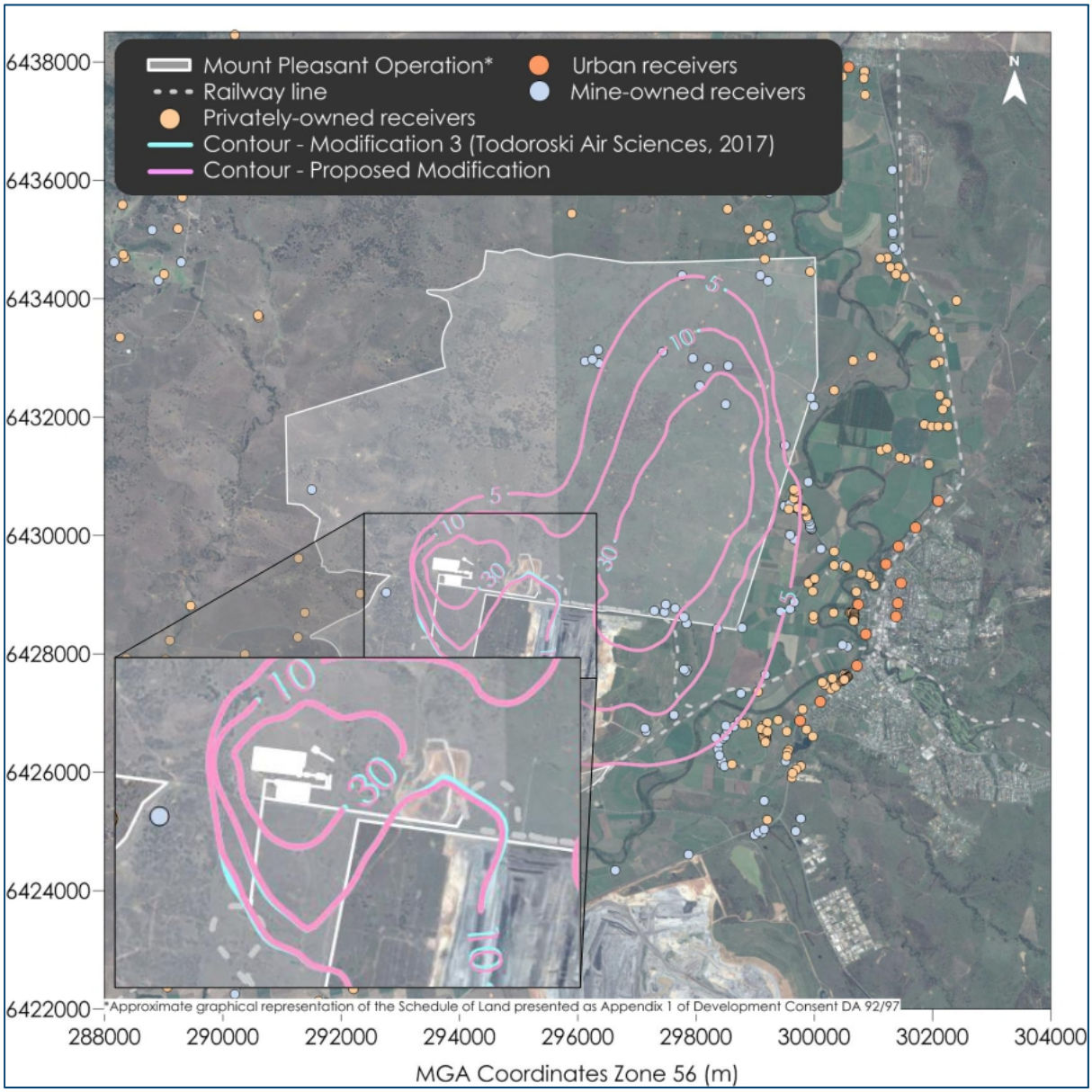


Figure 5: Comparison of predicted incremental annual average PM_{10} concentrations for the Modification and Modification 3 in Scenario 2 (µg/m³)

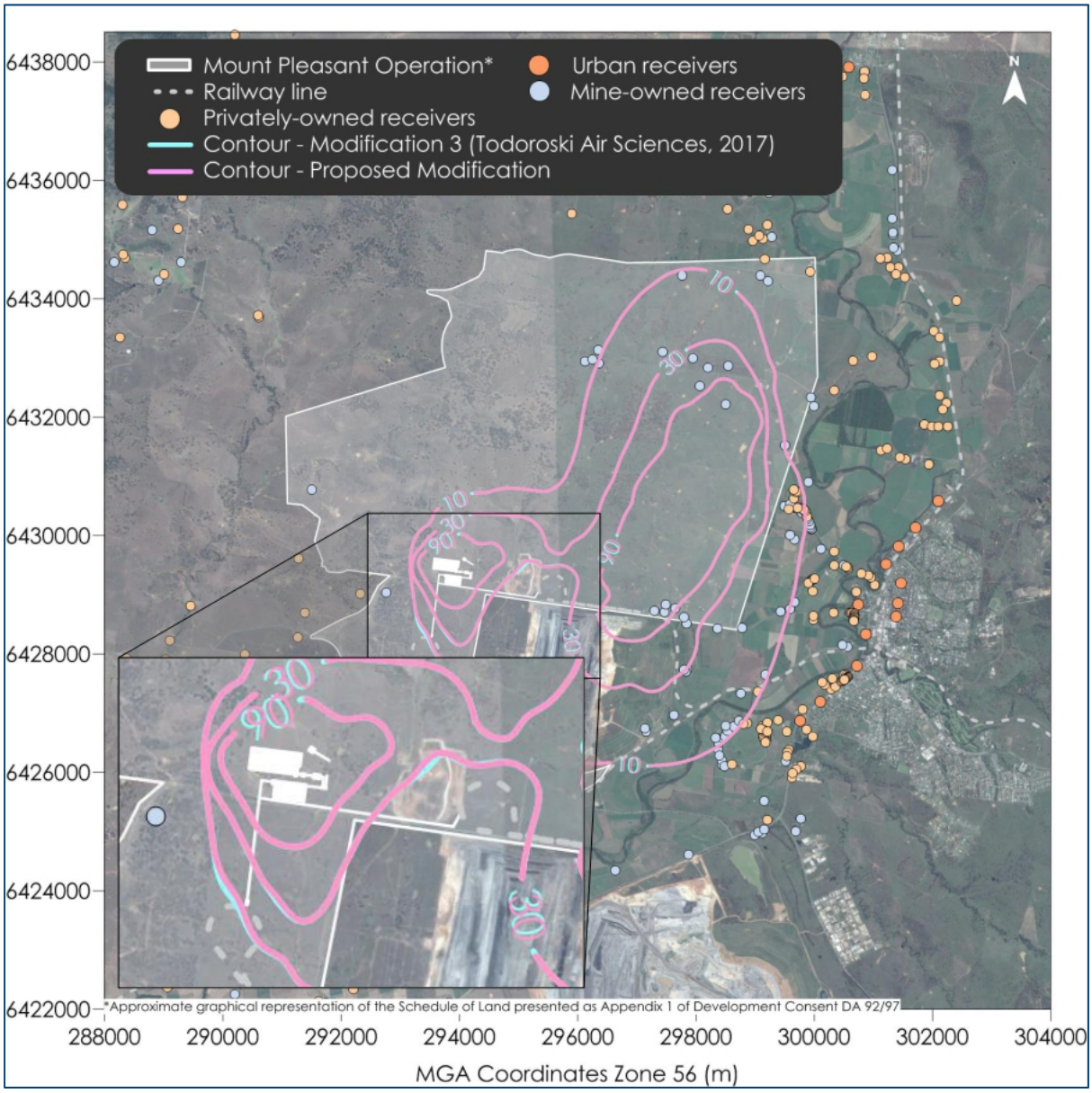


Figure 6: Comparison of predicted incremental annual average TSP concentrations for the Modification and Modification 3 in Scenario 2 (µg/m³)

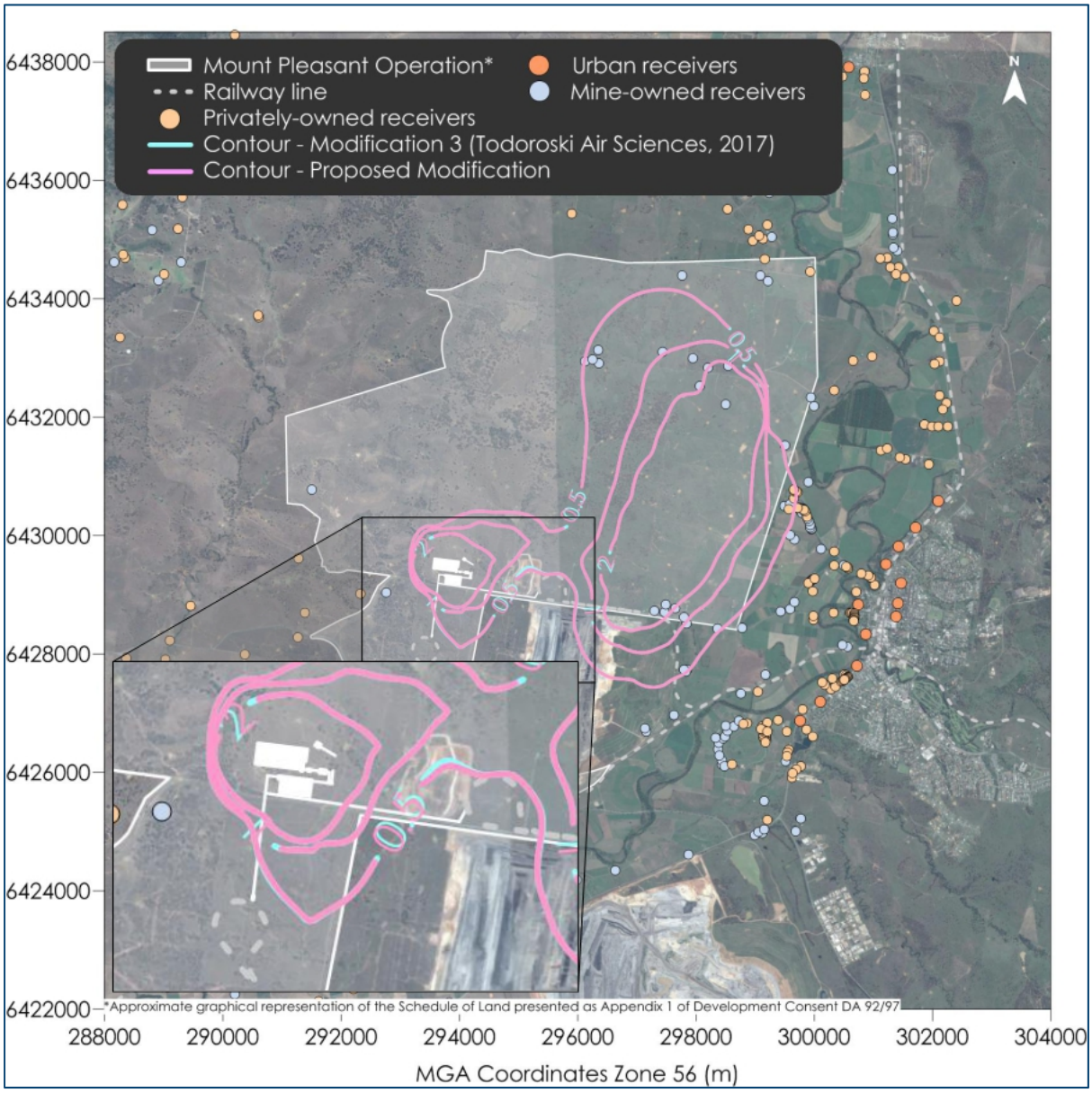


Figure 7: Comparison of predicted incremental annual average dust deposition levels for the Modification and Modification 3 in Scenario 2 (g/m²/month)

Summary and Conclusions

The activities associated with the Modification are predicted to generate less than one tenth of one per cent more dust relative to Modification 3. This change is well within the modelling accuracy and the range of daily or annual variation that naturally occurs in background dust levels.

Direct modelling of the Modification was conducted and compared with the predicted levels for the same scenario modelled in Modification 3 (**Todoroski Air Sciences, 2017**).

The comparison shows that the Modification would not significantly change the dust levels at any off-site receptor. The cumulative levels, including background levels and the emissions from all other mines, would also show no discernible change. No additional privately-owned receptor locations are predicted to exceed any of the relevant air quality criteria as a result of the Modification.

Potential construction emissions associated with the Modification would be temporary in nature during the construction period and would be effectively managed through standard mitigation measures such as minimising disturbance areas.

Consistent with the assessment of coal dust from rail transport presented in **Todoroski Air Sciences (2017)**, the potential for any adverse air quality impacts associated with coal dust generated during rail transport would be low and would not make any appreciable difference to local air quality.

It is concluded that the proposed relocation of the approved rail infrastructure will not result in any discernible additional impact above that presented in the **Todoroski Air Sciences (2017)** assessment at any receptor locations.

Please feel free to contact us if you need to discuss (or require clarification on) any aspect of this assessment.

Yours faithfully,

Todoroski Air Sciences

Aleks Todoroski

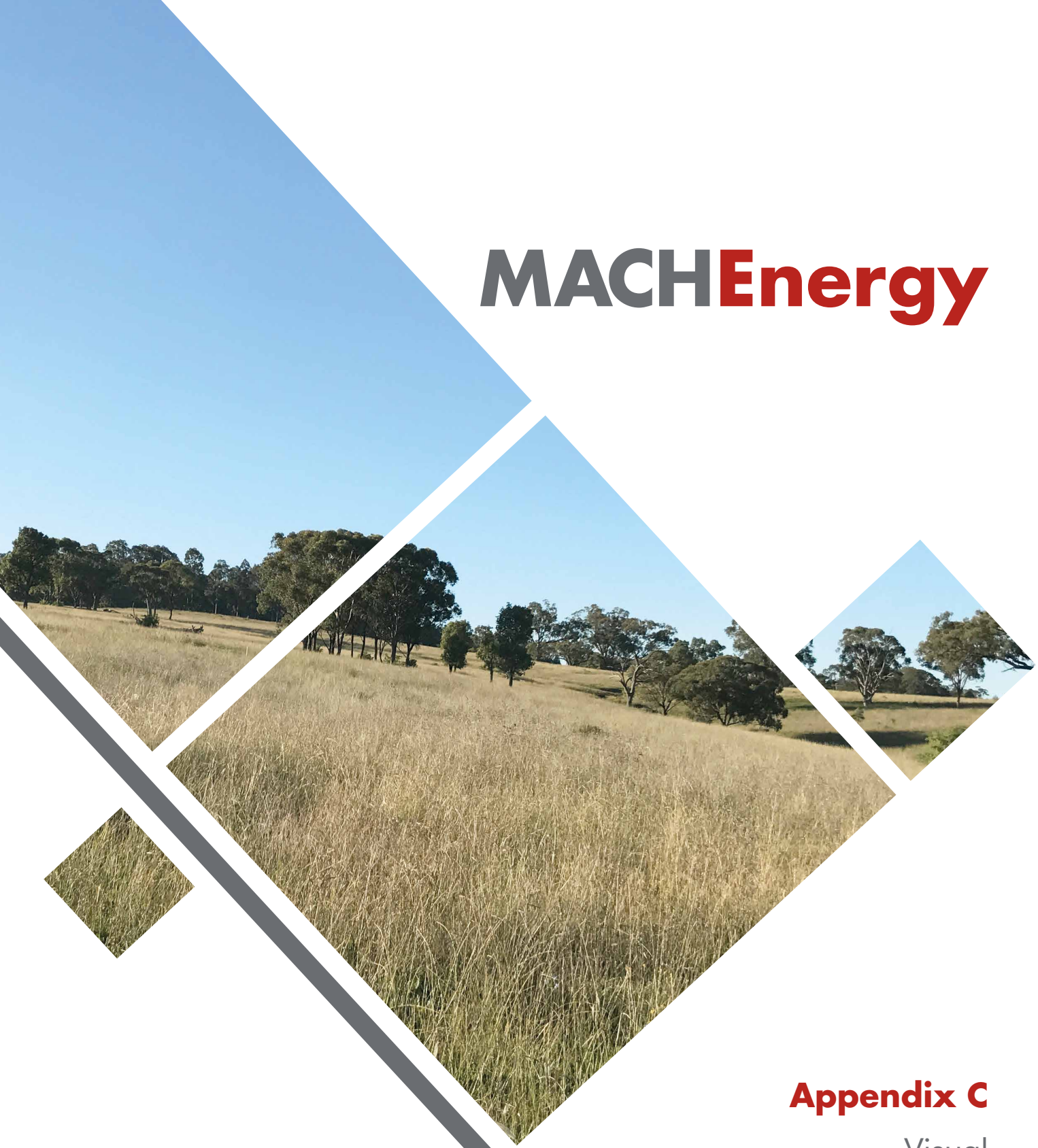
Philip Henschke

References

Todoroski Air Sciences (2017)

"Mount Pleasant Operation Mine Optimisation Modification Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Assessment", prepared for MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd by Todoroski Air Sciences, May 2017.

MACHEnergy



Appendix C

Visual Assessment

Mount Pleasant Operation
RAIL MODIFICATION

Visual Assessment

Prepared for MACH Energy

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Van Pelt + Allen

Mount Pleasant Operation | Rail Modification

Visual Assessment

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Contents

Glossary and Abbreviations vi
1 Introduction 1
1.1 Overview of Mount Pleasant Operation 2
1.2 Overview of the Modification 2
2 Assessment Methodology 3
2.1 Introduction 3
2.2 Consideration of Visual Effect and Sensitivity 3
2.3 Visual Impact 5
2.4 Mitigation 5
2.5 Implementation of Study Method 5
3 Existing Environment 11
3.1 Introduction 11
3.2 Primary Visual Catchment 11
3.3 Land Ownership 11
3.4 Visual Character of the Landscape 11
4 The Modification 23
4.1 General 23
4.2 Modification Components 23
4.3 Rail Spur and Rail Loop 23
4.4 Associated Rail Load-out Infrastructure 26
4.5 Water Pumping Station and Pipeline and Overhead Electricity Transmission Line 26
4.6 Wybong Road Overpass 27
4.7 Headlights – Night Lighting 28
4.8 Headlight Screens 28
4.9 Rehabilitation 31
5 Visual Sensitivity 33
5.1 General 33
5.2 Primary Visual Catchment 33
5.3 Viewing Locations – General 33
5.4 Visibility Considerations 33
5.5 Central View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity 37
5.6 Northern View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity 39
5.7 Eastern View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity 41
5.8 Southern View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity 42
5.9 Western View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity 42
5.10 Changes to Visibility/Sensitivity Created by the Modification 43
5.11 Summary of Viewpoint Sensitivity 43

Contents continued

6 Visual Effects 46
6.1 Introduction 46
6.2 Central View Sector 46
6.3 Northern View Sector 49
6.4 Eastern View Sector 49
6.5 Southern View Sector 52
6.6 Western View Sector 52
6.7 Visual Effect Summary 54
7 Visual Impacts 57
7.1 Muswellbrook 57
7.2 Rural Residences 57
7.3 Roads and Rail 60
7.4 Tourist Localities 63
7.5 Cumulative Visual Impact 63
7.6 Visual Impact in Context of Regional Plans 64
7.7 Lighting Impacts 64
7.8 Visual Impact Summary 65
8 Mitigation 67
9 Conclusion 70
10 Bibliography 71
11 APPENDIX A 72

List of Figures

Figure 1.1 Mount Pleasant Operation Regional Context 2
Figure 2.1 Visual Assessment Methodology 6
Figure 2.2 Focal View Area 9
Figure 3.1 Primary Visual Catchment and Visual Catchment Units 14
Figure 3.2 Land Ownership Overview 15
Figure 3.3 Inset - Local Visual Character Units 16
Figure 3.4 Hunter River Flood Plain Visual Character Unit 17
Figure 3.5 Foothills Visual Character Unit 18
Figure 3.6 Town Areas Visual Character Unit 19
Figure 3.7 Surrounding Ranges Visual Character Unit 20
Figure 3.8 Mine and Industrial Uses Visual Character Unit 21
Figure 3.9 Mine and Industrial Uses - Rail Infrastructure 22
Figure 4.1 General Arrangement of the Mount Pleasant Operation 24

List of Figures continued

Figure 4.2 General arrangements of key Modification elements 25
Figure 4.3 Typical existing Muswellbrook-Ulan rail signal components 27
Figure 4.4 Typical CHPP Components 27
Figure 4.5 Above ground pipeline under construction 27
Figure 4.6 Headlight Profile 29
Figure 4.7 Overhead light screens – detail arrangement 30
Figure 4.8 Ground level headlight screens and rail line - visual characteristics 32
Figure 5.1 View sectors and private receptors 34
Figure 5.2 Detail - View Sectors and Sensitive Receptors 35
Figure 5.3 Tree Cover at Point of Viewing 36
Figure 5.4 Tree Cover at Site 36
Figure 5.5 Views from Elevated Locations 38
Figure 5.6 View from Racecourse Road - Central View Sector 38
Figure 5.7 View from the north 40
Figure 5.8 View from the east 40
Figure 5.9 View from the south 44
Figure 5.10 View from west along Wybong Road 44
Figure 6.1 Photomontage Locations and View Angles. 47
Figure 6.2 Viewpoint 1 - Wybong Road – existing view 48
Figure 6.3 Viewpoint 1 - Wybong Road - proposed Modification 48
Figure 6.4 Viewpoint 2 - Horne Residence - Existing View 49
Figure 6.5 Viewpoint 2 - Horne Residence - Proposed Modification 49
Figure 6.6 Views west towards the Modification 51
Figure 6.7 Viewpoint 3 - Muswellbrook High School- Foley Street / Dolahenty Street – Existing View 53
Figure 6.8 Viewpoint 3 - Muswellbrook High School - Proposed Modification 53
Figure 6.9 View east from Wybong Road - Western View Sector 55
Figure 6.10 Existing visual mitigation bund and planting along Wybong Road 55
Figure 7.1 Views from Elevated Locations around Muswellbrook 58
Figure 7.2 Rural Residences – Central View Sector 59
Figure 7.3 Rural residences - Southern View Sector 61
Figure 7.4 Views north-west towards the Modification from New England Highway 62
Figure 7.5 View towards the Modification from Racecourse Road 62
Figure 8.1 Additional Visual Mitigation 68
Figure 8.2 On-site Mitigation to Headlight Screens 69

List of Tables

Table 2.1 Visual Effect 8
Table 2.2 Visual Sensitivity 10
Table 2.3 Visual Impact 10
Table 5.1 Summary of Viewpoint Sensitivity 45
Table 6.1 Summary of Visual Effects 56
Table 7.1 Summary of Potential Visual Impacts 66
Table 11.1 Visual Effect Calculations 72

Glossary and Abbreviations

ARTC	*Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd*
Contrast	The degree to which a development element differs visually from its landscape setting.
CHPP	Coal Handling and Processing Plant
Integration	The degree to which a development element blends into the existing landscape without necessarily being screened from view.
Landscape Character Unit (LCU)	The landscape features of the locality (topography, vegetation and land use features) combine in various ways to create areas of relative visual uniformity that can be defined as LCUs.
Photomontage	Photomontage is the process and result of making a composite photograph by cutting and joining a number of other photographs or graphic images for illustrative effect. The composite picture or image aims to give a visualisation of a projected visual effect.
Focal View Area (FVA)	This zone is the central most critical part of a view that is seen with the greatest clarity. It is that part of a view that is within a horizontal arc of 30° either side of the centre line of a view and a vertical arc of 30° m above the horizontal.
Scenic amenity	This term encapsulates people's aesthetic experience of the environment; their appreciation and value of a physical environment whether it be an urban, coastal, bushland, rural or industrial setting. Aesthetic appeal is often associated with the reinforcement of cultural or social values and identity.
Screen	The degree to which a development element cannot be seen due to intervening landscape elements such as topography or vegetation.
The Modification	Duplication of approved rail spur, rail loop and associated infrastructure as described in this report.
Visual Character Unit (VCU)	Visual Character Unit. Areas of landscape that have similar topographic, vegetation and land use features that create areas of similar visual character
Visual Effect	A measure of the visual interaction between the Modification and the landscape setting within which it is located.
Visual Impact	A measure of a joint consideration of both visual sensitivity and visual effect that considered together determine the visual impact of a development
Visual Sensitivity	The degree to which a change to the landscape would be perceived in an adverse way.
Primary Visual Catchment	The primary visual catchment includes the most significant parts of the total visual catchment from which the Modification potentially could be seen. This is the area containing the most critical locations with potential views to the Modification, which will be the focus of visual impact assessment.

1. INTRODUCTION

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) has engaged VPA Van Pelt & Allen Visual Planning and Assessment (VPA) to complete a visual impact assessment for the Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification (herein referred to as the Modification).

The purpose of the assessment is to form part of an Environmental Assessment (EA) being prepared to support an application for a Modification of consent under section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

This assessment will:

- Provide a detailed assessment of the visual character and visual effects of the Modification and the changes to the visual landscape as a result of the Modification;
- Compare the new rail spur and its visual effects with the existing/approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur;
- Assess potential visual impacts on private landowners in surrounding areas as well as key vantage points in the public domain, including night lighting impacts; and
- Provide a detailed description of the measures that MACH Energy would implement to minimise visual impacts of the Modification.

1.1 Overview of Mount Pleasant Operation

The Mount Pleasant Operation Development Consent DA 92/97 was granted on 22 December 1999. The Mount Pleasant Operation was also approved under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* (EPBC Act) in 2012 (EPBC 2011/5795).

MACH Energy acquired the Mount Pleasant Operation from Coal & Allied Operations Pty Ltd (Coal & Allied) on 4 August 2016. MACH Energy commenced construction activities at the Mount Pleasant Operation in November 2016 and commenced mining operations in October 2017, in accordance with Development Consent DA 92/97 and EPBC 2011/5795.

The approved Mount Pleasant Operation includes the construction and operation of an open cut coal mine and associated rail spur and product coal loading infrastructure located approximately three kilometres (km) north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW) (Figure 1.1).

The mine is approved to produce up to 10.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of run-of-mine (ROM) coal. Up to approximately nine trains per day of thermal coal products from the Mount Pleasant Operation will be transported by rail to the port of Newcastle for export or to domestic customers for use in electricity generation.

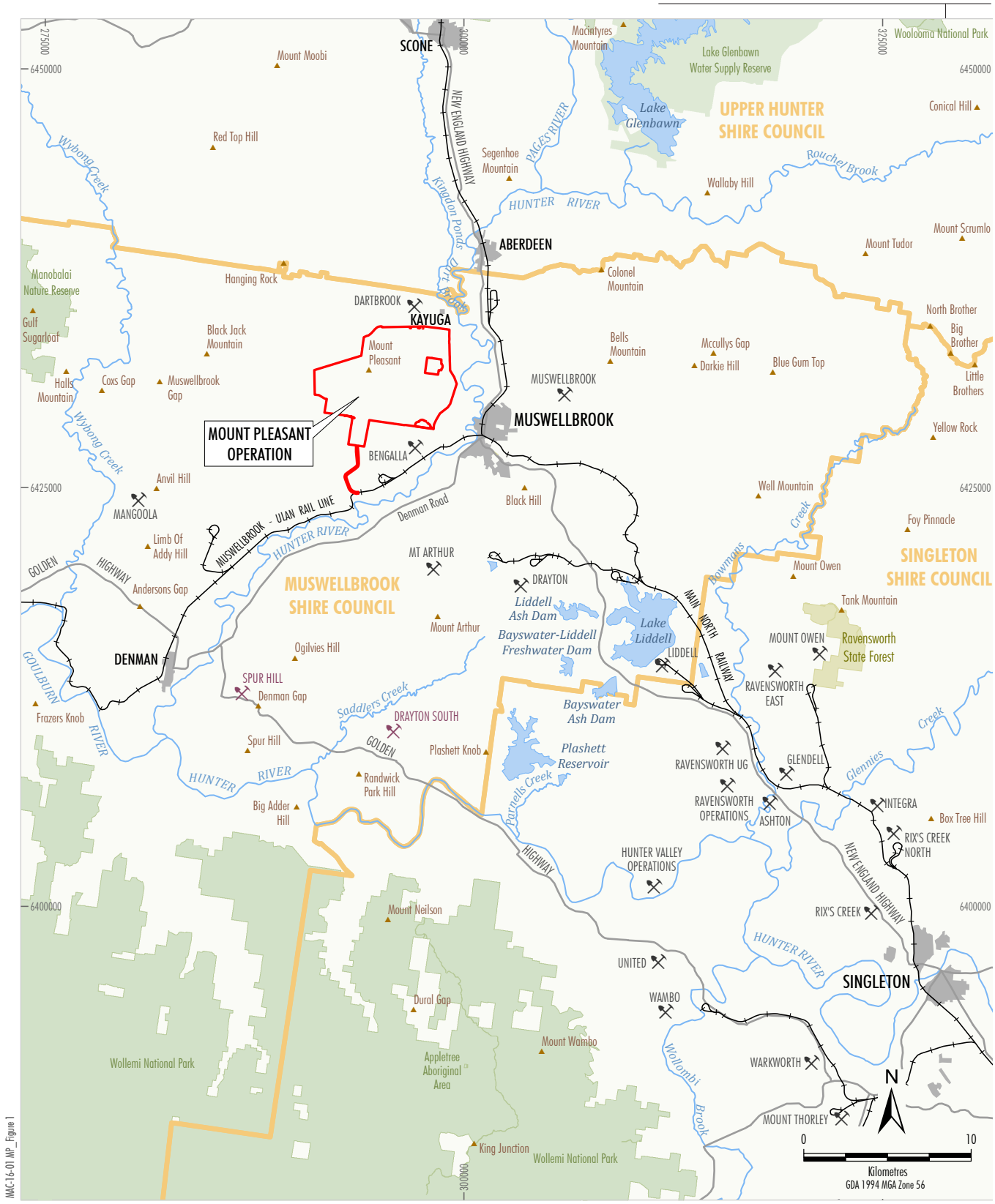
The ultimate extent of the approved Bengalla Mine open cut intersects the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur.

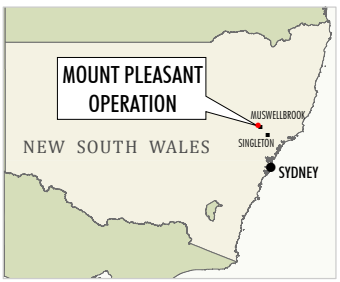
While the intersection of the Bengalla Mine open cut with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail infrastructure is still some years away, MACH Energy is proposing a Rail Modification to obtain approval for future rail and/or conveyor product transport facilities to manage this future interaction.

1.2 Overview of the Modification

The Rail Modification would primarily comprise:

- Duplication of the approved rail spur, rail loop and associated conveyor and rail loading systems and associated services;
- Duplication of the Hunter River water supply pumping station and associated water pipeline and electricity supply that currently follows the rail spur alignment; and
- Demolition and removal of the redundant approved infrastructure within the extent of the Bengalla Mine, once the new rail, product loading and water supply infrastructure has been commissioned and is fully operational.





LEGEND
- Mining Operation
- Proposed Mining Operations (Application Lodged)
- Mining Lease Boundary (Mount Pleasant)
- Railway
- Local Government Boundary
- State Forest
- National Parks and Wildlife Estate

Source: Geoscience Australia (2006); NSW Division of Resources & Energy (2017 Land and Property Information (2017)

MACH Energy
MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATIO

Figure 1.1 | *Mount Pleasant Operation Regional Context*

2. ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

This assessment considers how the Modification would affect the existing approved levels of visual impact from the Mount Pleasant Operation and neighbouring mines. It also includes consideration of new elements within the existing landscape setting and how they are seen from various viewing locations.

This assessment is informed by the visual character of the landscape as well as the visual sensitivity of the various viewing locations.

A combined consideration of both visual sensitivity (Section 5) and visual effect (Section 6) identifies visual impacts (Section 7) and directs if any mitigation strategies are required (Section 8). The overall method of visual assessment of the existing landscape is outlined in Figure 2.1.

The assessment takes into account relevant guidelines, policies and plans including:

- Regional Planning Guidelines - The Strategic Regional Land Use Plan – Upper Hunter Valley (NSW Government, 2012).
- Local Planning Guidelines - The Muswellbrook Shire Council Draft Land Use Development Strategy (Coal Mine Land Use Component).
- Previous Visual Impact Assessments (Coal & Allied, 1997 and 2010) and recent Visual Impact Review (MACH Energy, 2017) prepared for the Mount Pleasant Operation.
- Visual Impact Assessments prepared for the neighbouring Bengalla Mine.
- Mount Pleasant Operation Landscape Management Plan.
- Rehabilitation Guidelines.

Where relevant, this assessment has adopted a similar visual impact assessment methodology relied on for the Visual Impact Assessment prepared for the original Mt Pleasant Mine Environmental Impact Statement (ERM Mitchell McCotter, 1997) (1997 EIS). This included:

- Establishing the visual character and visual effect created by the Modification;
- Review of the approved mine plans with existing rail spur and Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP) within the context of the existing visual settings created by various landscapes in and around Mount Pleasant Operation;
- Consideration of the visibility of the Modification from sensitive receivers using photomontage/visualisations;
- Identification of the likely visual impacts of the Modification (including both short term and long term) with regard to visual effect and sensitivity;
- Consideration of cumulative visual impacts in the locality; and
- A review of the mitigation strategies to ameliorate adverse visual impacts to determine additional requirements to those in existing Landscape Management Plan.

2.2 Consideration of Visual Effect and Sensitivity

The analysis of the interaction between the existing visual environment and the Modification provides the basis for determining impacts and developing mitigation strategies. The impact levels of the Modification are determined by the defined visual effects of the Modification in the landscape and the visual sensitivity at specific viewing locations.

The Modification is evaluated to define the elements that are most significant from a visual perspective in the context of the existing environment. The key Modification elements from a visual context are defined as being "*major*" or "*minor*" and are considered in terms of how they contrast with the main elements of the existing visual environment.

2.2.1 Visual Effect

Visual effect is a measure of the level of visual contrast and integration of the Modification with the existing landscape.

The degree of this contrast with the existing landscape would determine the level of visual effect. A new mining development would have a higher visual effect due to strong contrast with the existing visual environment. Extensions to the operations of an existing mine would have a lesser visual effect due to elements of the development being present in the landscape. The successful completion of rehabilitation would likely reduce the visual effect of a previously operating mine due to the limited residual contrast with the existing landscape.

In a similar way, a development is considered integrated with the existing landscape based on issues of scale, position in the landscape and contrast with the surrounding environment. High visual integration is achieved if a development is dominated by the existing landscape, is of small scale or of limited contrast.

The magnitude of the visual effect for a development, outlined in Table 2.1, is determined by a balanced analysis of the following factors.

Contrast and Integration

The level of contrast and integration of the Modification with its surrounding landscape determines visual effect. Modification elements as expressed through the visual expression elements contrast and integrate to varying degrees with the surrounding landscape. Visual expression elements include form, shape, pattern, line and colour with minor consideration in relation to texture).

The Proportion of a View that includes Modification elements

A lower proportion of the view that is occupied by the Modification elements would result in a lower level of visual effect. This is determined by defining what percentage of the Focal View Area it occupies (see Figure 2.2). The Focal View Area is the area that is occupied by an arc created by sight lines from the eye radiating out vertically and horizontally, at angles of 30 degrees (°) around a centre view line from a nominated viewing location.

The Focal View Area is not representative of the total view, but is the most critical and central part of a view.

Measuring the percentage of the Focal View Area occupied by a development would provide a more conservative measure than the consideration of the development in the context of the whole view zone, which would include both primary and secondary view areas (representing a total view arc of 120° instead of the Focal View Area view arc of 60°).

Generally, a high visual effect would result if a visible element of the Modification occupies a large percentage of the FVA and has a high visual contrast and low integration to the surrounding landscape.

A low or very low visual effect would occur if there is minimal contrast between the visible area of the Modification in the Focal View Area and the existing landscape setting, or the area occupied by the Modification represents only small parts of the total view.

2.2.2 Visual Sensitivity

Visual sensitivity is a measure of how critically a change to the existing landscape is viewed by people from different land use areas in the vicinity of a development.

Residential, tourist and/or recreation areas generally have a higher visual sensitivity than other land use areas such as industrial, agricultural or transport corridors. Land uses with a higher visual sensitivity, such as residential, use the scenic amenity values of the surrounding landscape (e.g. as part of a leisure experience), often over extended viewing periods. Table 2.2 indicates the levels of visual sensitivity associated with land uses relevant to the Modification.

However, the visual sensitivity of individual viewing locations may range from high to low, depending on the following additional factors:

- Screening effects of any intervening topography, buildings or vegetation. Viewing locations with wellscreened views of the Modification would have a lower visual sensitivity than those with more open views.
- Viewing distance from the viewing location to visible areas of the Modification. The longer the viewing distances, the lower the visual sensitivity.
- General orientation of residences to landscape areas affected by the Modification. Viewing locations with

strong visual orientation towards the Modification (i.e. those residences with areas such as living rooms and/or verandas orientated towards it) would have a higher visual sensitivity than those not orientated towards the Modification, and which do not make use of the views toward the Modification.

For any area to be given a sensitivity rank, it must have views to the Modification. This visibility was determined based on field assessment, evaluation and computer analysis of topographic and vegetation data.

2.3 Visual Impact

The visual impact of the Modification has been determined by considering both visual effect and visual sensitivity. The way in which the parameters of visual sensitivity and visual effect are utilised to determine visual impacts is illustrated in Table 2.3.

2.4 Mitigation

Visual and landscape impact mitigation strategies identified as a result of this Visual Assessment would be considered as additional measures to those identified in previous Landscape Management Plans. Visual mitigation measures can be implemented on-site or at the receiver. Mitigation measures are implemented progressively so that visual effects and/or visibility/visual sensitivity factors are decreased in appropriate timeframes to appropriately mitigate impacts. General strategies to reduce visual impacts that may be recommended are outlined below.

2.4.1 Reduce Visual Effects

Rehabilitation of disturbed areas associated with the Mount Pleasant Operation would decrease the visual contrast created by mining operations to the existing landscape. Rehabilitation strategies that emulate patterns, shapes, lines and colours of the existing landscape can reduce the contrast between the Mount Pleasant Operation and the existing landscape, reducing visual effect.

2.4.2 Reduce Visual Sensitivity

Reducing visual sensitivity is achieved by carrying out treatments to minimise the visibility of the Modification. Due to the scale of Modification components (such as the rail spur) screening treatments may be beneficial at the location of the Modification infrastructure or at the point of viewing. Screening treatments implemented at the point of viewing can also be used to redirect views to areas not affected by mining activities as well as generally enhancing the landscape at the viewing point.

2.4.3 Reduce Visual Impacts

Reducing visual impacts is also achieved by the mine plan design and siting that maximises screening of Modification elements by utilising existing topographic features. Maintaining significant high points, and topographic and vegetation features, also contributes to a reduction of visual impact. Measures to reduce visual impacts can also include visual screens that serve to impede potential lighting impacts at night.

2.4.4 Post-mining Visual Setting

On completion of mining operations and following decommissioning of rail spur and rehabilitation, a post-mining local landscape would be created. This landscape would generally reflect post-mining landforms and land use.

2.5 Implementation of Study Method

A combination of the following evaluation processes and analyses were used to determine the potential visual impact of the Modification.

- Evaluation of Modification plans, elevations, maps, aerial photography and reports;
- Field assessment; and
- Photomontage development.

2.5.1 Evaluation of Plans and Reports

Evaluation of the various components of the Modification was based on the Modification description and associated

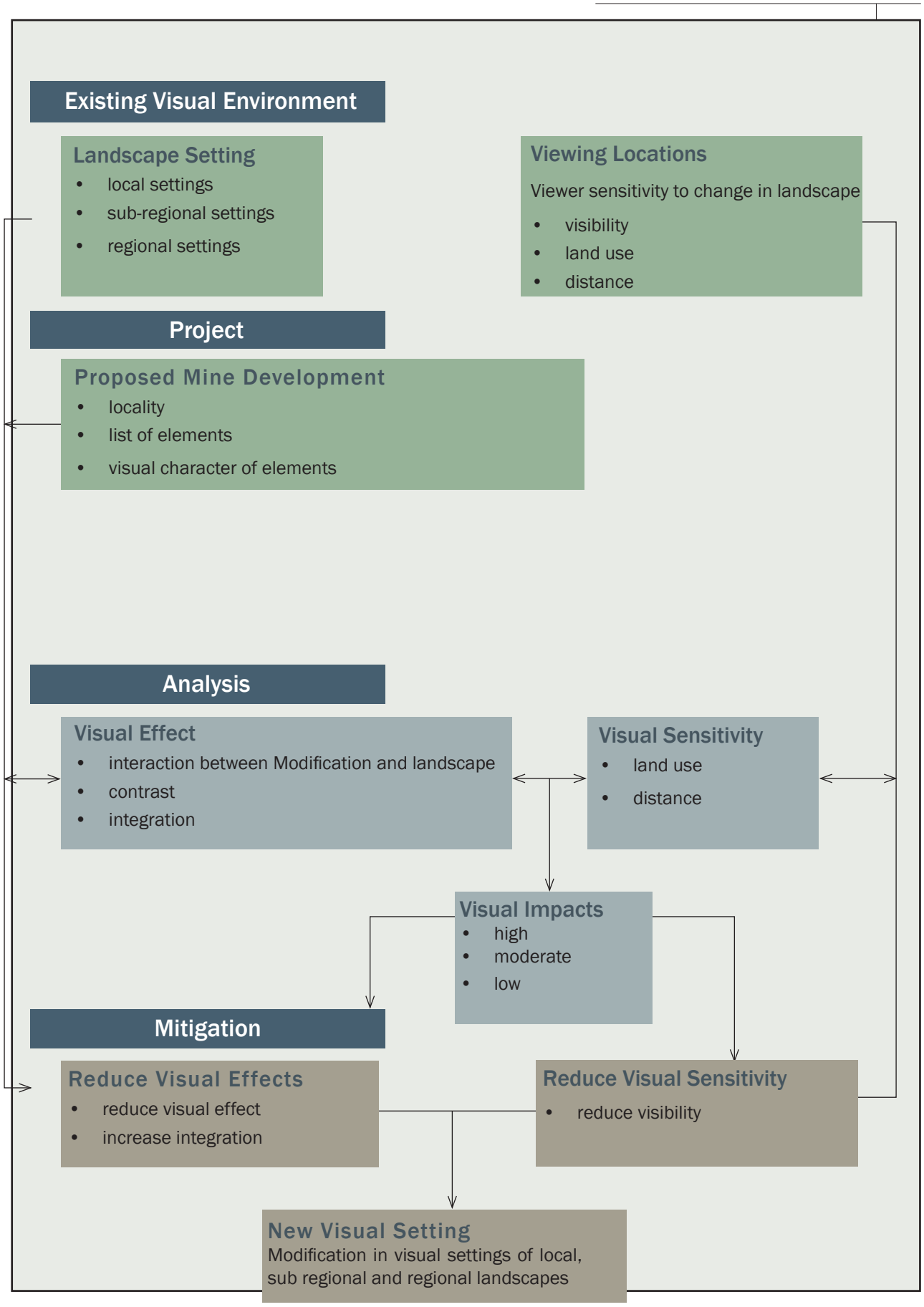


Figure 2.1 | *Visual Assessment Methodology*

figures provided by MACH Energy.

Topographic mapping and aerial photography provided the basis for the establishment of landscape and visual character.

Aerial photography, along with computer analysis also assisted in evaluating the visibility, sensitive receptor locations and potential extent of views to the Modification.

Modification plans were considered in the context of mine plans, rehabilitation and final landform maps of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation to assist in defining visual effects of the Modification.

2.5.2 Field Assessment

A field assessment undertaken in areas surrounding the Mount Pleasant Operation and the proposed rail alignment assisted in confirming previously documented Landscape Character Units and identifying key sensitive receptors for the Modification. The field assessment involved visits to locations within the Primary Visual Catchment including New England Highway, Denman Road, Wybong Road, privately owned rural properties on the Hunter River floodplain and key vantage points within Muswellbrook.

The field assessment provided an indication of the likely visibility of the Modification from each area (e.g. foreground screening, vegetation, open views, etc.), the experience of different Landscape Character Units, and how these are seen together, to consider cumulative effects.

2.5.3 Photomontage Analysis

Photomontages are images that bring a computer model of the terrain and the Modification together with a photograph of the existing landscape to illustrate what the Modification may look like from a given location at various points in time. Photomontages for three locations were developed to illustrate likely visual effects of the proposed rail spur as seen from various nearby locations (refer Section 6).

Photographs towards the proposed Modification location were taken at standing eye level from viewing locations. The location of each of these photograph positions was recorded using GPS. The photomontages provide a realistic representation of the site landscape and how the Modification would be seen from each viewing location in response to light and atmospheric conditions.

The photomontages were used to assist in determining the level of visual effect of the Modification from each of the representative viewing locations (see Section 6).

	Visual Properties		Visual Effect Levels			
	Visual Contrast	Visual Integration	Proportion of View Occupied by the Modification			
Visual Properties in Primary View Zone	High Development elements do not borrow, form, shape, line, colour or texture or scale from existing features of the visual setting and contrast levels are high with existing landscape. eg. Active face of OEA	Low The development lacks integration with visual setting because of scale totally dominating the ability of site or surrounding features, vegetation and or topographic features to integrate the development.	It occupies more than 2.5% of the primary view shed	It occupies between 1 - 2.5% of the primary view shed	It occupies less than 1% of the primary view shed	Type 1
	Moderate Development elements borrow from some features of the visual setting in terms of form, shape, line pattern and or colour and scale, reducing visual contrast with existing setting. eg. newly rehabilitated pit area	Moderate The development has some degree of visual integration with setting from other features, vegetation and or topography achieve some level of integration	It occupies more than 20% of the primary view shed, generally when in a foreground location	It occupies between 20-10% of the primary view shed	It occupies less than 10%	Type 2
	Low Development elements borrow extensively from features in visual setting in terms of form, shape, line, pattern colour and scale minimizing contrast with the existing setting. eg. rehabilitated landscape pattern	High Visual integration is high due to other features, vegetation and or topography achieving dominance and screening or filtering	It occupies more than 40% of the primary view shed	It occupies 40-30% of the primary view shed	It occupies less than 30% of the primary view shed	Type 3
Note: The visual effect of the Modification changes through time with the process of rehabilitation. The more advanced the level of rehabilitation, the higher the visual integration, and the higher the percentage of FVA the modification can occupy.			**High Visual Effect**	**Moderate Visual Effect**	**Low Visual Effect**	

Table 2.1 | *Visual effect*

Distance from Project Site	Area of Primary View Zone
1 km	0.60 km²
2 km	2.4 km²
3 km	5.43 km²
4 km	9.66 km²
5 km	15.09 km²
6 km	21.73 km²
7 km	29.57 km²
8 km	38.62 km²
9 km	48.88 km²
10 km	60.35 km²
11 km	73.02 km²
12 km	86.9 km²
13 km	101.99 km²
14 km	118.29 km²
15 km	135.79 km²

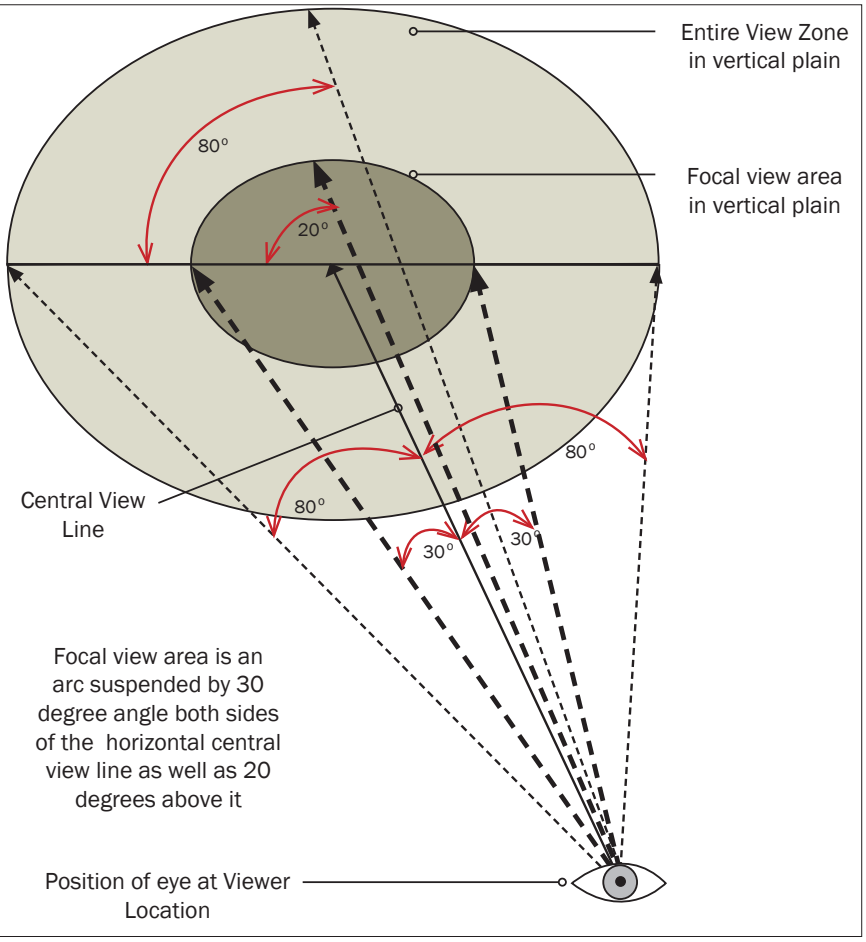


Figure 2.2 | *Focal View area*
The Area of focal view at Various Distances from the Modification

Sensitivity of Land Use	Land Use	Visibility to Modification (High ← Visibility → Low): Nearest visible Modification elements less than 2.5km away	Nearest visible Modification elements between 2.5 - 7.5 km away	Nearest visible Modification elements between 7.5 - 12.5km away	Nearest visible Modification elements more than 12.5km away
High	Urban and rural houses	High Sensitivity	High/Moderate Sensitivity	Moderate Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
	Tourist destination of visually sensitive land uses eg. horse studs, vineyards etc.	High Sensitivity	High/ Moderate Sensitivity	Moderate/Low Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
	Designated tourist & main roads - New England Highway, Denman Road	High Sensitivity	Moderate Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
	Other roads - Edderton, Wybong, Thomas Mitchell Drive	Moderate Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity	Low Sensitivty	Low Sensitivity
	Minor local roads in rural zone	Moderate/Low Sensitivty	Low Sensitivity	Very Low Sensitivity	Very Low Sensitivity
Low	Broad acre rural lands	Low Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity	Very Low Sensitivity	Very Low Sensitivity

Table 2.2 | *Visual sensitivity*
Land Use and Project Visibility combine to create visual sensitivity

Visual Effect	Visual Sensitivity: High	Moderate	Low
High	High Visual Impact	High/Moderate Visual Impact	Moderate/Low Visual Impact
Moderate	High/Moderate Visual Impact	Moderate Visual Impact	Moderate/Low Visual Impact
Low	Moderate/Low Visual Impact	Moderate/Low Visual Impact	Low Visual Impact
Very Low	Low Visual Impact	Very Low Visual Impact	Very Low Visual Impact

Table 2.3 | *Visual impact*
Visual Impact is the interaction between visual effect and sensitivity

3. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

3.1 Introduction

This section of the report describes the visual character of the existing environment. This is necessary in order to establish a baseline on which changes are compared against, and the Visual Effect measured.

As shown in Figure 3.1, the existing environment surrounding Mount Pleasant Operation is comprised of a range of different landscapes and features. This variety is based on differences in topography, vegetation cover and land use patterns.

3.2 Primary Visual Catchment

Mount Pleasant Operation is located west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of NSW. The Primary Visual Catchment represents the area that contains the majority of critical viewpoints of the Modification. The Modification Primary Visual Catchment is defined by the topography of Mount Pleasant and adjacent foothills to the north-west, the altered topography of Bengalla Mine to the south and west of the site, and the town of Kayuga to the north. The Primary Visual Catchment is further defined by Muswellbrook to the east, the hills behind, and by the existing Mt Arthur Coal Mine to the south. The small ridge located in the centre of the Mt Arthur Coal Mine marks the south-eastern corner of the Primary Visual Catchment (Figure 3.1).

3.3 Land Ownership

The land ownership around Mount Pleasant Operation is dominated by various mining companies (Figure 3.2). To the immediate south, land is primarily owned by the Bengalla Mine. Beyond that, land ownership is dominated by Mt Arthur Coal Mine. To the west, but in a different visual catchment, is land owned by Mangoola Coal. To the north, adjacent the Kayuga township, is the Dartbrook Mine.

Private lands are mainly located to the east and west. To the east, Muswellbrook represents an area of high visual sensitivity. To the west there are a number of small scale rural holdings and rural residences and some rural/tourist destinations that are also sensitive to the Modification.

3.4 Visual Character of the Landscape

The existing visual environment has been previously described in the 1997 EIS (ERM Mitchell McCotter, 1997) and Mount Pleasant Project Modification Environmental Assessment (EA) (EMM, 2010), Continuation of Bengalla Mine Visual Impact Assessment (JVP Visual Planning and Design, 2013), Bengalla Mine Development Consent Modification – Statement of Environmental Effects (VPA Visual Assessment and Planning, 2016) and Mount Pleasant Operation Mine Optimisation Modification EA (MACH Energy, 2017). This visual assessment confirms previous studies, reiterating summary findings regarding the visual character of the landscape.

The regional visual landscape surrounding the Modification is strongly defined by the Hunter River Floodplain and contains strongly modified landscapes characterised by existing mining activities and supporting infrastructure surrounded by agricultural and pastoral land uses and remnant woodland along the Hunter River flood plain and surrounding foothills.

The critical existing mining operations in the area including:

- Approved Mount Pleasant Operation;
- Dartbrook Mine to the north;
- Bengalla Mine to the south and west;
- Mt Arthur Coal Mine located to the south;
- Mangoola Coal further to the west; and
- Muswellbrook Coal further to the east.

The visual character of the Modification is defined by several separate Visual Character Units, which include:

- Hunter River Floodplain (Figure 3.3);
- Foothills (Figure 3.4);
- Mine and industrial uses (Figure 3.5 and Figure 3.6);
- Town areas (Figure 3.7); and
- Surrounding ranges (Figure 3.8).

Within each Visual Character Unit there may be a range of visual receivers. These receivers have varying sensitivity to landscape modification. Relevant potentially sensitive visual receivers include:

Towns:

- Muswellbrook; and
- Kayuga.

Roads:

- Wybong Road;
- Racecourse Road;
- New England Highway;
- Foley Street;
- Sydney Road; and
- Denman Road.

Rural Areas:

- Houses and Equestrian Stables along Denman Road;
- Houses in northern Foothills;
- Houses on the edge of the Hunter River Floodplain; and
- Historic houses on Overton Road.

The area within the Mount Pleasant Operation is currently undergoing approved clearance and earthworks, therefore altering the visual character from pastoral grazing to mining.

Several historic homesteads are also located within the visual setting of the Modification.

Figure 3.3 illustrates the more local environment and individual Visual Character Units relevant to the Wybong Rail Loop Study Area.

3.4.1 Mine and Industrial Uses Visual Character Unit

This Visual Character Unit consists of the existing approved Mount Pleasant Operation, Bengalla Mine, Dartbrook Mine to the north, the larger Mt Arthur Coal Mine to the south, and the Thomas Mitchell Drive Industrial Estate. Beyond the Primary Visual Catchment, there are also further extensive mining operations to the south-east, Muswellbrook Coal to the east and Mangoola Coal to the west.

Both Mt Arthur Coal Mine and Bengalla Mine, contribute to the ‘mine’ visual character in this section of the foothills.

The Thomas Mitchell Drive Industrial Estate is an industrial area that also occurs in the Southern Foothills. Although the area would have views to the Modification, the area is not visually sensitive or significant because of its industrial use.

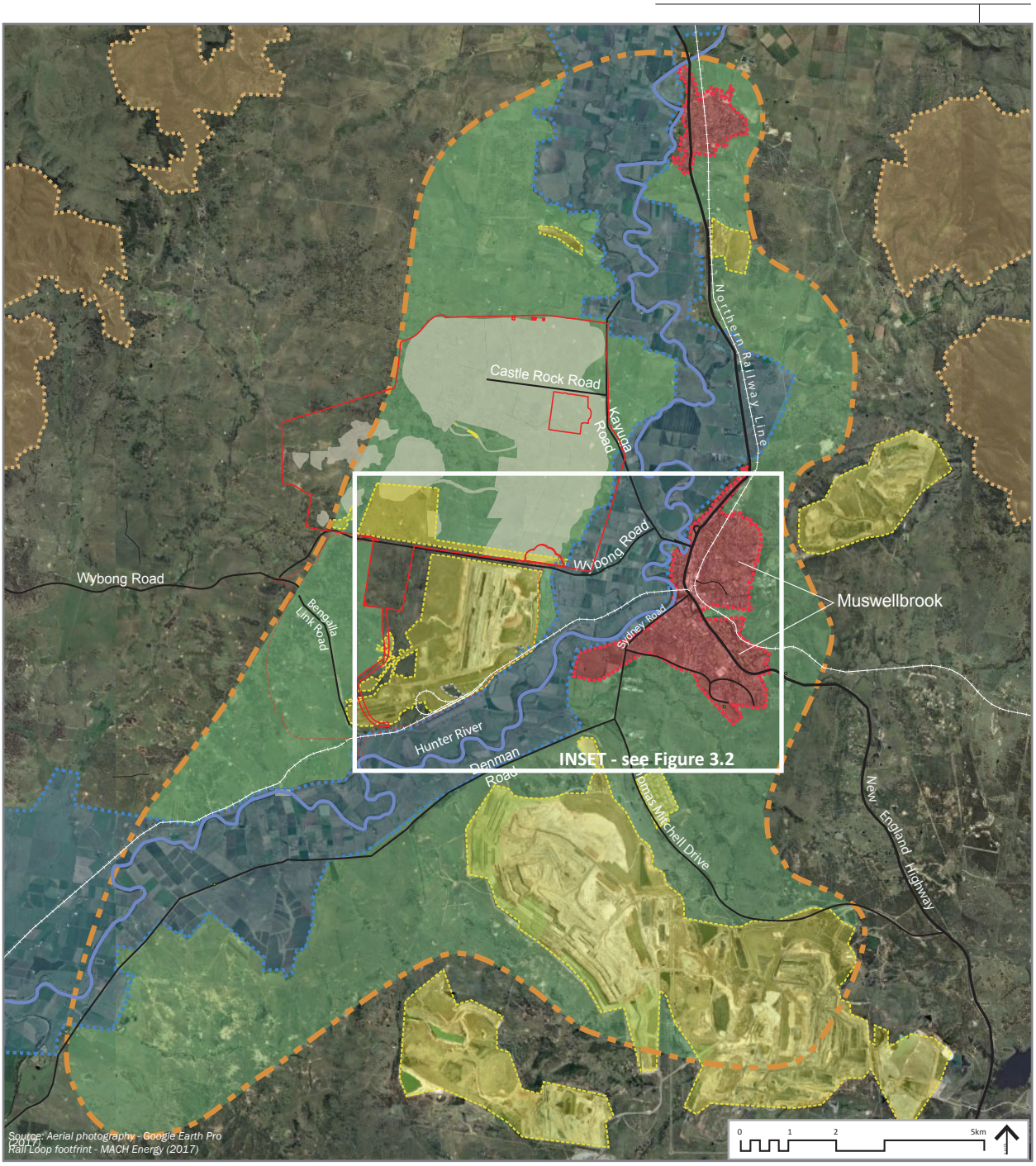
3.4.2 Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy has commenced construction of mine infrastructure and begun overburden removal for open cut mining at the Mount Pleasant Operation. A visual bund is also under construction along its southern boundary adjacent to Wybong Road. This bund is one of the visual mitigation strategies proposed in the Landscape Management Plan.

The Mount Pleasant Operation would consist of active mining areas and an associated out of pit overburden emplacement, with the latter being the element that is visually prominent from off-site areas to the north, east and south. The CHPP and other infrastructure are visually evident only from a limited number of locations to the south and west (e.g. Wybong Road).

The CHPP is a large scale industrial facility clad in natural tones (greens and creams), that is large in both vertical and horizontal dimension. The largest scale horizontal elements are the rail loop and the coal stockpiles. The major vertical elements include the CHPP main building, the rail loading bin and various elevated conveyors.

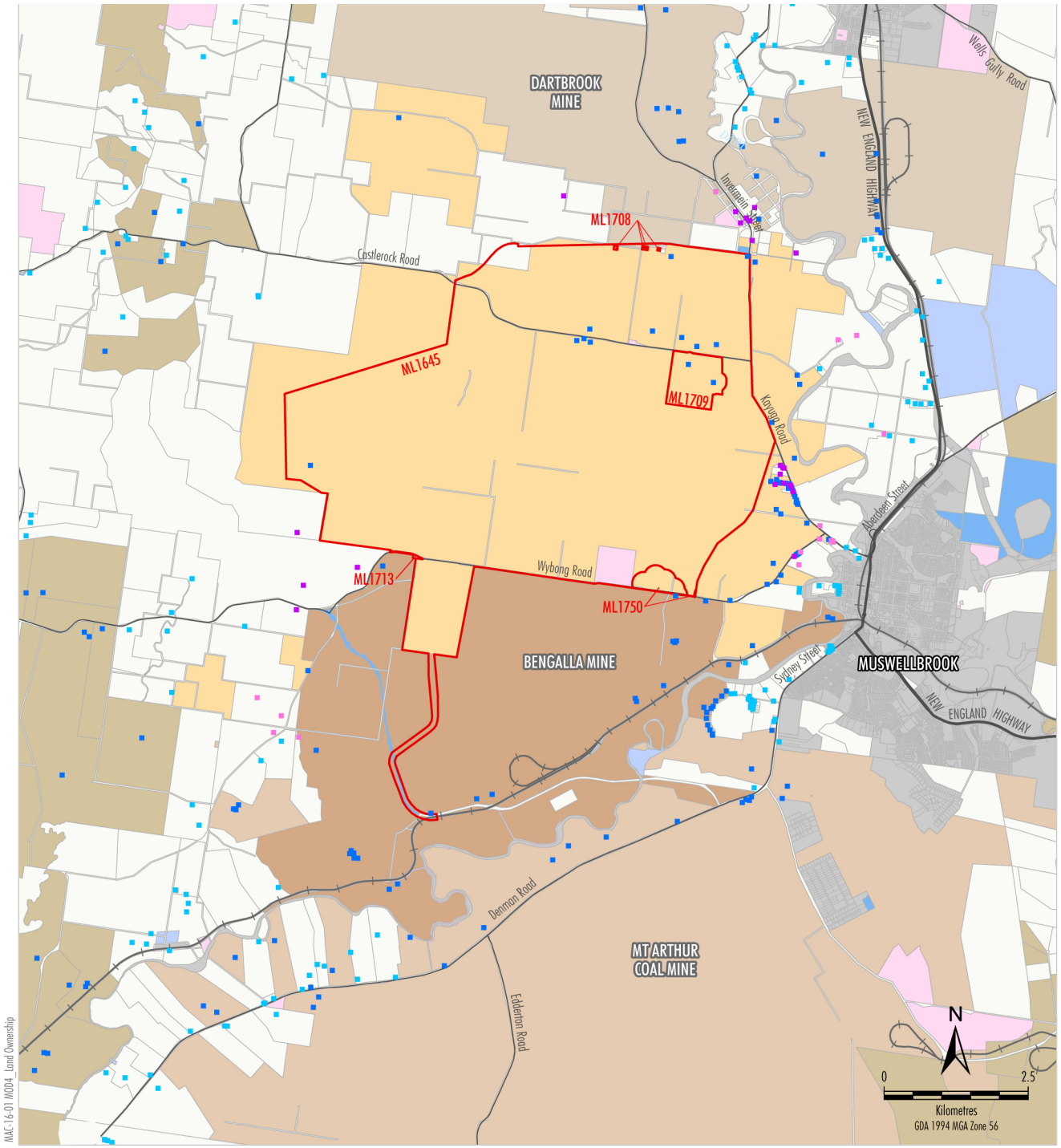
The CHPP, rail spur and rail loop are significant parts of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation which now are part of the existing visual setting. Alterations to the approved mining infrastructure activities that would result in changes to the visual landscape as part of the current Modification are discussed in Section 4 below.



key

- Mount Pleasant Operation Mining Leases
- Extent of Current approved Mount Pleasant Operation activity
- Roads
- Rail Lines
- Hunter River
- Primary Visual Catchment (PVC)
- Towns VCU
- Hunter River floodplain VCU
- Foothills VCU
- Mining and Industrial uses VCU
- Surrounding Ranges VCU

Figure 3.1 | *Primary Visual Catchment and Visual Catchment Units*



LEGEND

- Mining Lease Boundary
- Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter LEPs Zones B2, B5, IN1, SP2, R2, R5, RE1, RE2 and W1
- Crown
- Crown/State of NSW
- State of NSW
- Muswellbrook Shire Council
- Upper Hunter Shire Council
- Mount Pleasant Controlled
- Bengalla Controlled
- Dartbrook Controlled
- Mt Arthur Controlled
- Other Mining/Resource Company Controlled
- Privately-owned Land
- Mine-owned Dwelling
- Privately-owned Residence - MPO Acquisition on Request
- Privately-owned Residence - MPO Mitigation on Request
- Other Privately-owned Residence

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2017); NSW Division of Resources & Geoscience (2017)

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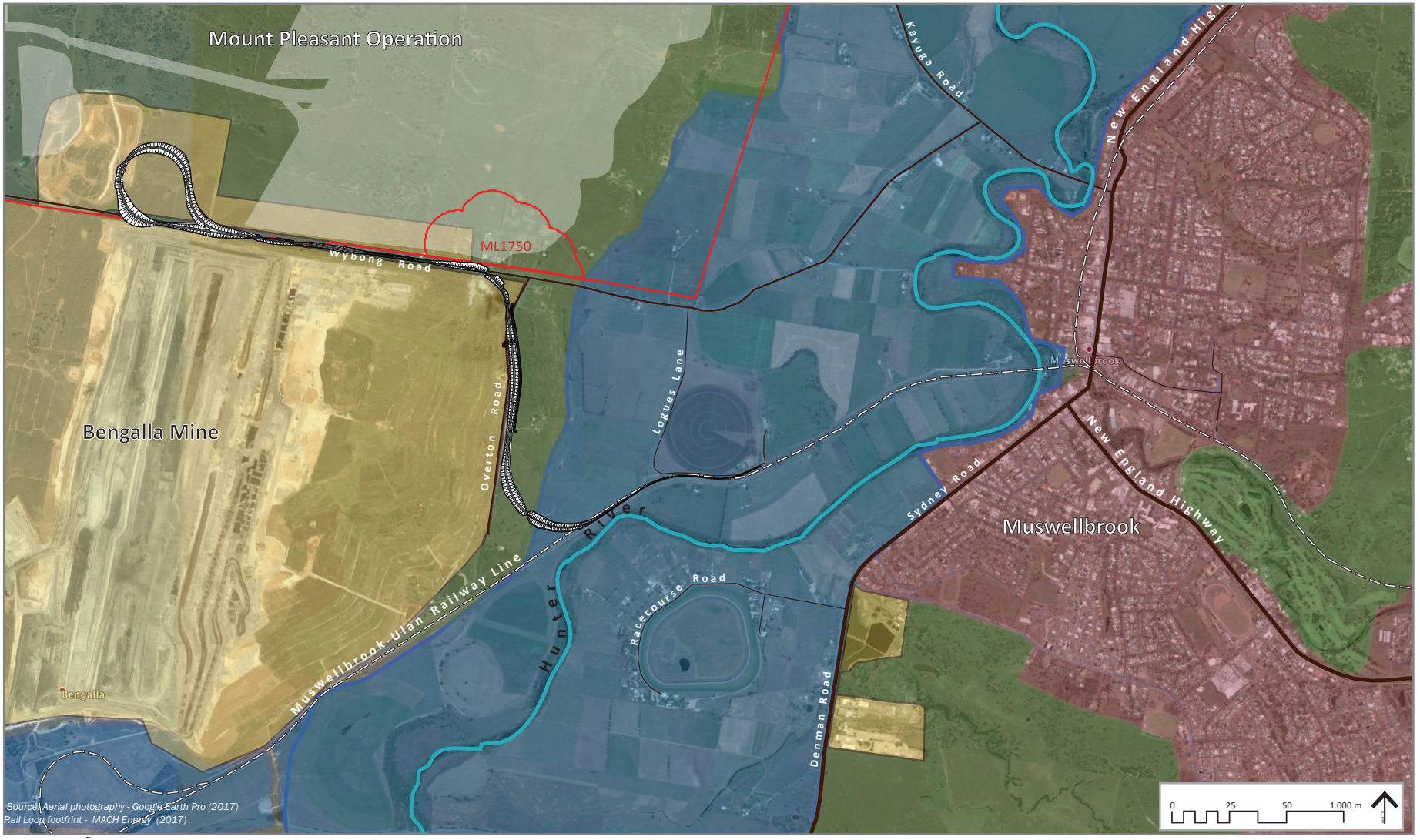
Land Ownership Overview

Figure 3.2 | *Land Ownership Overview*



key

- Mount Pleasant Operation Mining Leases
- Roads
- Extent of Current Approved Mount Pleasant Operation activity
- Wybong Rail Loop and spur
- Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line
- Hunter River
- Towns VCU
- Hunter River Floodplain VCU
- Foothills VCU

Figure 3.3 | *Inset - Local Visual Catchment Units*

Figure 3.4 | *Hunter River Flood Plain Visual Catchment Unit*

Cropland and grassland dominate this VCU, forming strong rectilinear patterns in an open landscape

Figure 3.5 | *Foothills Visual Catchment Unit*

The foothills generally are low elevation with a landscape mix of grassland, scattered trees and open forest. Foothills have generally been cleared for grazing purposes.

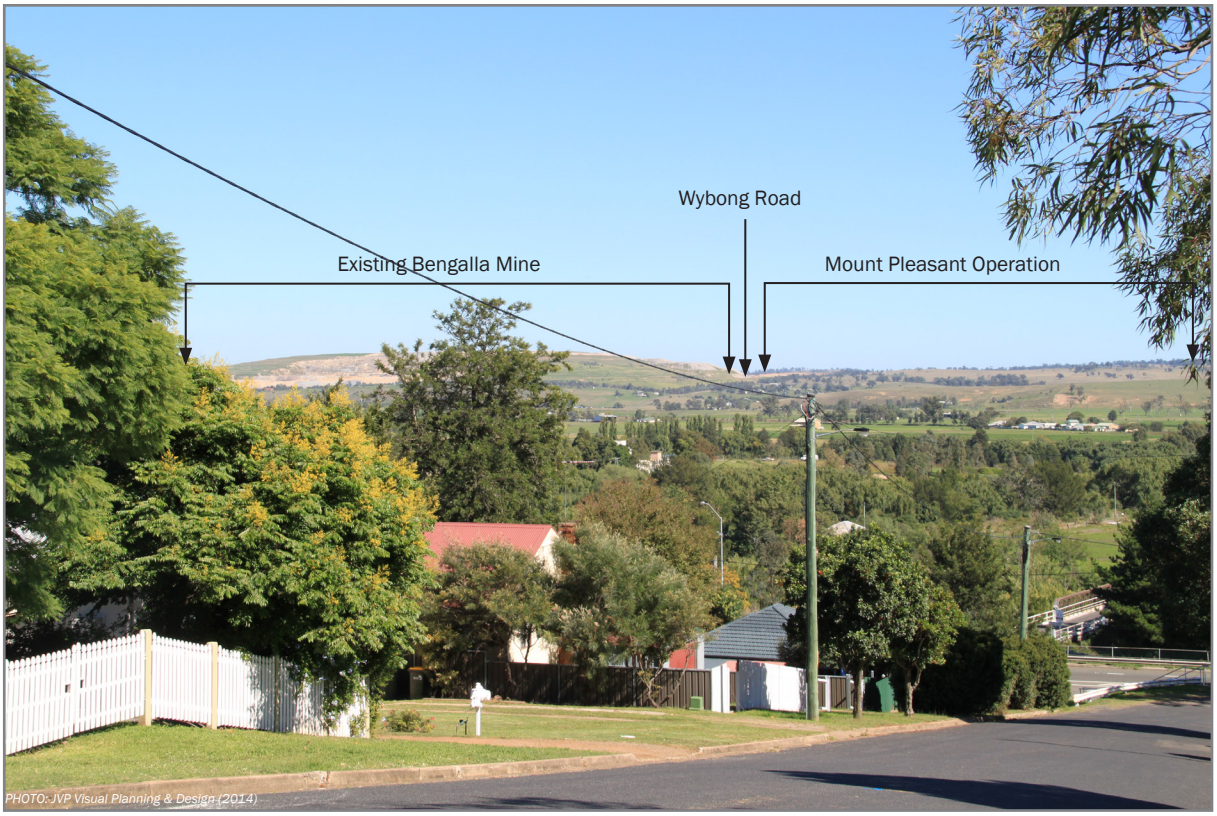


Figure 3.6 | *Town Areas Visual Catchment Unit*

Town areas have differing densities to support various functions; the variety of landscapes also reflects this.

Figure 3.7 | *Surrounding Ranges Visual Catchment Unit*

The surrounding ranges have higher elevations and steeper slopes than those of the foothills, and are often more densely forested. The surrounding ranges are often the backdrop to views across and within the valley.

Figure 3.8 | *Mine and Industrial Uses Visual Catchment Unit*

Earth works and ground clearing within Mount Pleasant Operation (top) has colour and texture indicating active mining. Adjacent open cut pit of Bengalla Mine is typical of modified mining landscapes in the region.

Figure 3.9 | *Mine and Industrial Uses - rail infrastructure*

Scale of rail loop components familiar within the visual catchment . Coal loading carriages (top) rail line with rock ballast embankment and signal light (bottom) on flood plain near Logues Lane.

4. THE MODIFICATION

4.1 General

This section describes the components of the Modification with the potential to cause visual impacts.

Throughout the life of the approved mining operations (including coal transportation), MACH Energy would implement the visual mitigation strategies described in the Landscape Management Plan and any newly identified visual mitigation requirements resulting from this assessment. This is a significant consideration when determining potential visual effects and impacts of the Mount Pleasant Operation (incorporating the Modification) on the surrounding landscape.

The approved rail spur and rail loop are located south of Wybong Road and access the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line (see Figure 4.1).

4.2 Modification Components

Development components associated with the Modification that have potential for material visual implications include:

- Rail Spur and Loop duplication;
- Associated rail load-out infrastructure;
- Water pumping station and above ground sections of pipeline and overhead electricity transmission line;
- Overpass Rail bridge on Wybong Road; and
- Train headlight Screens.

Figure 4.2 identifies the proposed general arrangement of the above key Modification elements.

4.3 Rail Spur and Rail Loop

The rail spur and rail loop duplication would be constructed to the north of Wybong Road adjacent Bengalla Dam Clean Water 1 to the east of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation CHPP. The rail alignment runs to the east, parallel with Wybong Road; it would cross Wybong Road via an overpass near the Tintersection with Overton Road. The alignment curves to follow a southerly alignment to the west of Local Environment Plan (LEP) heritage homestead of “Overdeen” on Overton Road (which is owned by the Bengalla Mining Company).

A section of Overton Road would be relocated to the east of the proposed rail alignment with a road bridge over the line to maintain access to the existing residences (see Figure 4.2 – inset B).

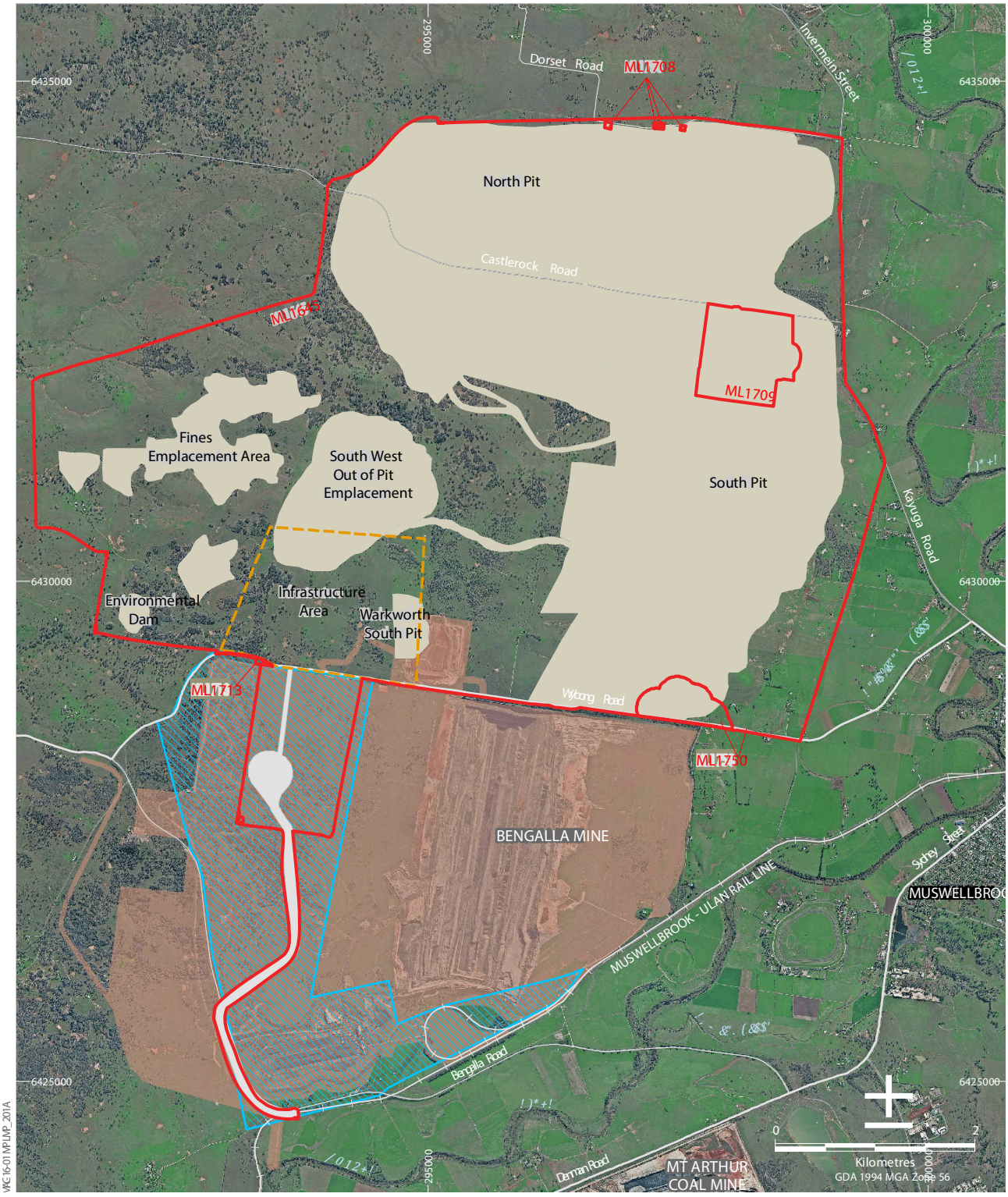
Between “*Overdeen*” and “*Overton*” Homesteads, the alignment turns south-east to traverse across the Hunter River floodplain and connect with existing Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line, which is also located in the Hunter River floodplain.

Railway signals would be located on the spur/loop and within the Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd (ARTC) rail corridor as required to control trains entering the Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line.

The rail spur would be designed to meet ARTC standards, including cut and fill in some areas of its proposed easement with rock ballast (incorporating flood management structures) forming the spur and loop embankments. While not a specific night-lighting mitigation measures, those locations where the Modification rail spur is located in cuttings would reduce both direct lighting and indirect lighting impacts due to the physical containment of the cutting walls.

The engine and coal carriages would be intermittent elements with up to nine scheduled departures per day. As the mine operates 24 hours per day, train head lighting would be an additional visual factor, with some potential for headlight spill into Muswellbrook.

The rail spur and rail loop would be constructed at suitable grades for the train movement and include some sections of cut and fill. The section of the rail spur parallel to Overton Road is predominantly in cut whereas the section of the rail spur that crosses the floodplain would be on fill. Disturbance required for the rail spur would create some landform contrast with associated colour contrast in the cuttings and fill embankments. The contrast would be similar to that created by the existing Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line and approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur and loop.

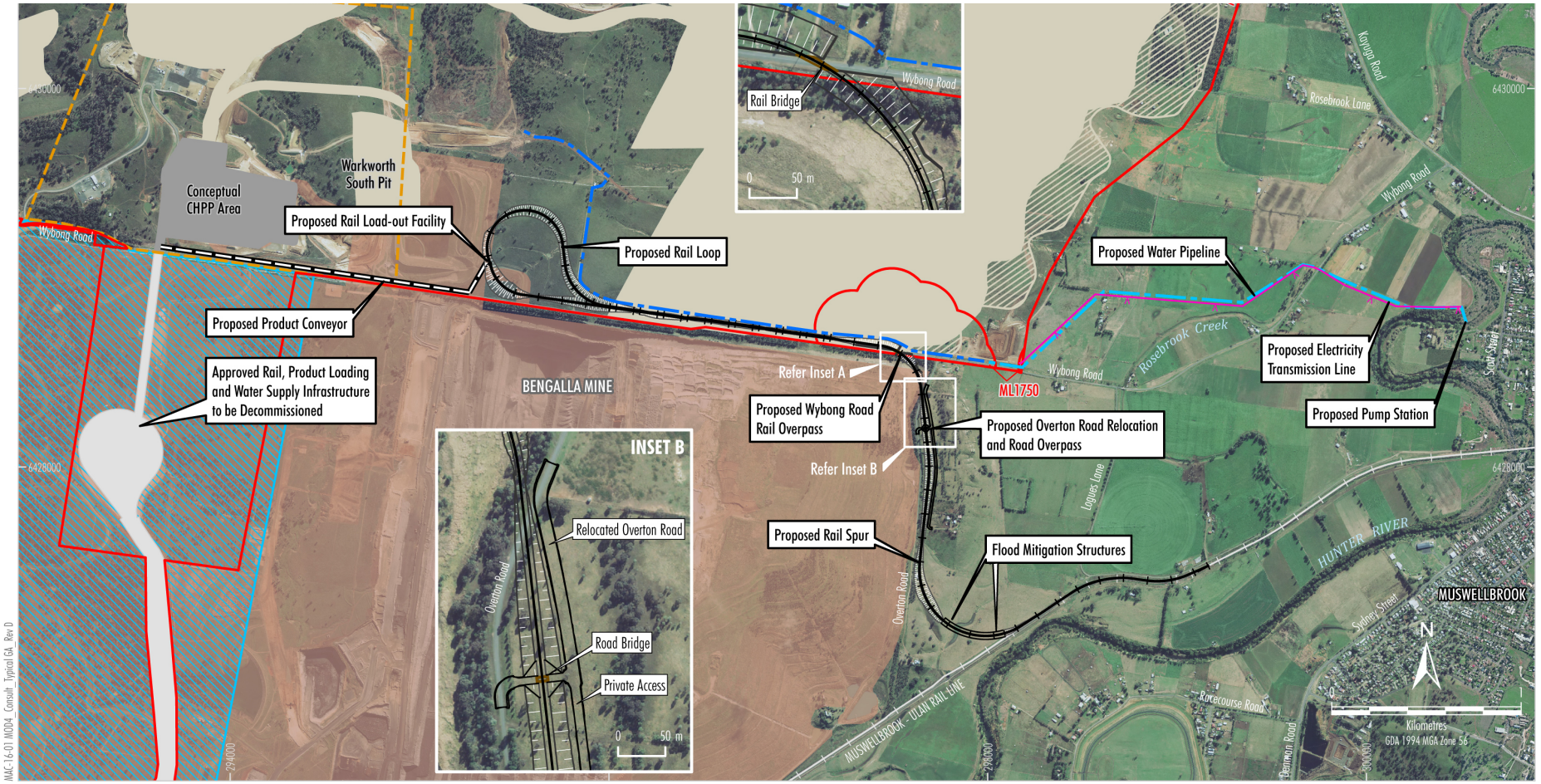


LEGEND
- Mining Lease Boundary
- Infrastructure Area Envelope
- Approximate Extent of Approved Surface Development (1997 EIS Year 20) *
- Indicative Offsite Coal Transport Infrastructure
- Conveyor/Services Corridor Envelope
- Bengalla Mine (SSD-5170)

Notes: * Excludes some project components such as water management infrastructure, infrastructure within the Infrastructure Area Envelope, offsite coal transport infrastructure, road diversions, access tracks, topsoil stockpiles, power supply, temporary offices, other ancillary works and construction disturbance.

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2017); NSW Divisi Resources & Energy (2017); Department of Planning an Environment (2016)

Figure 4.1 | *General Arrangement of the Mount Pleasant Operation*



LEGEND

- Mining Lease Boundary
- Infrastructure Area Envelope
- Indicative Off-site Coal Transport Infrastructure
- Approximate Extent of Approved Surface Development (1997 EIS Year 20)*
- Conveyor/Services Corridor Envelope
- Bengalla Mine Approved Disturbance Boundary (SSD-5170)

Subject to Separate Modification (Modification 3)

- Emplacement Extension
- Area Relinquished for Overburden Emplacement and Major Infrastructure

Key Elements of the Modification #

- Proposed Rail
- Proposed Product Conveyor
- Proposed Water Pipeline - Above Ground
- Proposed Water Pipeline - Buried
- Proposed Pump Station Electricity Transmission Line

Notes:

* Excludes some project components such as water management infrastructure, infrastructure within the Infrastructure Area Envelope, off-site coal transport infrastructure, road diversions, access tracks, topsoil stockpiles, power supply, temporary offices, other ancillary works and construction disturbance.

\# Modification would also include additional minor components not shown, e.g. access tracks, rail signalling and electricity supply, etc.

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2017); NSW Division of Resources & Geoscience (2017); Department of Planning and Environment (2016); MACH Energy (2017)
Orthophoto: MACH Energy (July 2017)

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General Arrangement of the Key Modification Elements

Figure 4.2 | *General Arrangements of Key Modification elements*

The proposed railway overpass over Wybong Road is discussed in Section 4.6.

4.3.1 Visual Characteristics

Horizontal, linear familiar infrastructure consistent with other local rail lines in scale, materials and general visual character. Initially, metals would be more reflective. Over time, metal surfaces would oxidize, reducing the reflectivity and visual contrast of metal rail line components.

Any new railway signals are small vertical elements consistent with existing railway signals evident in existing rural landscape (see Figure 4.3).

4.3.2 Visual Effects

The visual effect of the rail spur and loop would be low where it follows the alignment of the visual bund along Wybong Road and for works at both the mine site and at the junction with the DenmanMuswellbrook section of the Hunter Valley Rail Network as those elements already exist in that location.

The visual effect would initially be high for cut and fill batters as well as box cuts associated with establishing the rail spur, especially to the east of the intersection with Overton Road and Wybong Road. However, this visual effect would be reduced to low when rehabilitation is completed.

The road works associated with Overton Road relocation would have a high visual effect for those using Overton Road to access mine-owned residences due to the prominence of alterations to visual landscape within their view.

The visual contrast of the Wybong Road overpass would be high in the immediate foreground for those travelling along Wybong or Overton Roads.

4.4 Associated Rail Load-out Infrastructure

The conveyor, rail loop and rail loading systems would be located immediately north of Wybong Road. The previously approved position was south of Wybong Road but with greater set back. The components would be consistent with the approved rail load-out infrastructure and would be located within comparable mine site contexts (see Figure 4.4).

4.4.1 Visual Characteristics

The visual character is consistent with the approved rail load-out infrastructure.

4.4.2 Visual Effects

Visual effects would be similar to those of the approved rail load-out infrastructure; scale and viewing perspective may be altered due to rearrangement in the proposed location. The changes would be viewed from Wybong Road in the context of an approved mining operation.

4.5 Water Pumping Station and Pipeline and Overhead Electricity Transmission Line

The proposed pumping station is located adjacent the Hunter River, generally west of and opposite of Lower Hill Street. An underground water pipeline and parallel overhead electricity transmission line connect the pumping station to Mount Pleasant Operation; the water pipeline becoming above ground near the south-eastern corner of the Mount Pleasant Operation Mining Lease boundary near Wybong Road.

4.5.1 Visual Characteristics

The pump station facility would largely be above ground but would also include submerged pumps and a water inlet system adjacent to the Hunter River. The pump infrastructure and enclosure would be of small industrial character, clad in natural tones (greens and creams) and built on a concrete pad.

A 22 kiloVolt (kV) overhead electricity transmission line from the Mount Pleasant Operation substation would supply the pump station with electricity. The overhead transmission line would consist of timber vertical and cross arms used to support suspended cables. The alignment would generally follow the underground pipeline to the Mining Lease boundary.

Figure 4.3 | *Typical existing Muswellbrook-Ulan rail signal components*

Figure 4.4 | *Typical CHPP components*

Figure 4.5 | *Above ground pipeline under construction*

4.5.1 Visual Effects

The pumping station would have a moderate visual effect due to contrasting shape and form in the context of a riparian/agricultural landscape. Scale and character would be similar to agricultural irrigation machinery being utilised in local pastoral areas and other existing mine water supply infrastructure. Visual effect may be reduced by existing vegetation prevalent at pumping location adjacent to the river bank.

The underground pipeline would have a low visual effect, while under construction due to contrasting colours of ground disturbance (Figure 4.5). This would reduce to negligible once ground cover/grasses are reestablished along the disturbed trench line.

The overhead transmission line would have a low visual effect as it would be similar in appearance to other local overhead transmission lines.

4.6 Wybong Road Overpass

Subject to detailed design, it is anticipated that a rail bridge would be constructed over Wybong Road. The conceptual design of the rail bridge over Wybong Road comprises a single span precast girder or steel composite bridge and piled abutments with reinforced earth walls either side of Wybong Road, allowing for approximately 4.6 metres (m) vertical and 10 m horizontal clearance for vehicles travelling along Wybong Road.

4.6.1 Visual Characteristics

The overpass would be similar in scale and character to rural road/rail bridges seen elsewhere throughout Hunter Valley.

4.6.1 Visual Effects

As the overpass would contrast with existing open rural landscape and create a visual barrier to views along Wybong Road, visual effect is determined to be Type 2 High to Moderate dependent upon viewing distance from the overpass.

4.7 Headlights – Night Lighting

The train headlight path has been calculated to reach Muswellbrook from a distance of over 4 km (Figure 4.6). This is an ephemeral component lasting limited periods at night. Frequency is low as there is a total of up to nine coal loadouts per 24 hour period. Notwithstanding, the headlight spill has been mitigated with screens as described in following section.

4.8 Headlight Screens

Mach Energy proposes to establish visual screens to mitigate the potential light spill of train headlights affecting Muswellbrook. The screens would be constructed in three locations on the Wybong Road section of rail spur. There are two variations in the screen format (see Figure 4.7):

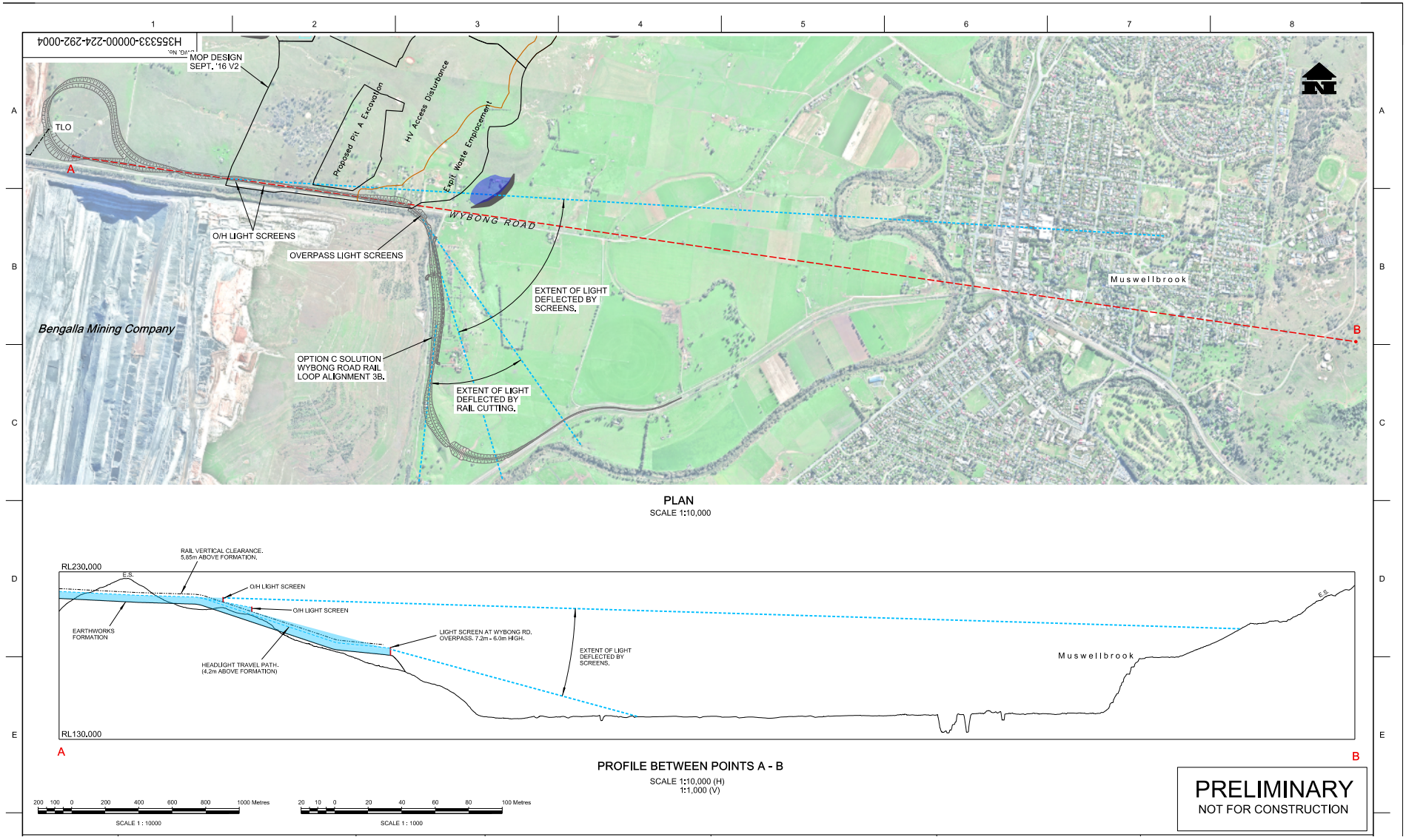
- Overhead light screens – portal screens to block light from trains travelling east along the rail spur parallel with Wybong Road.
- Overpass light screens – ground level - located at curved section of rail spur to block light from trains turning south across Wybong Road.

4.8.1 Visual characteristics

Overhead light “Portal” screens would extend across the rail spur at two locations along Wybong Road. Width and height for the two screens vary dependent upon position and light mitigation requirements. Type A is taller but narrower than Type B.

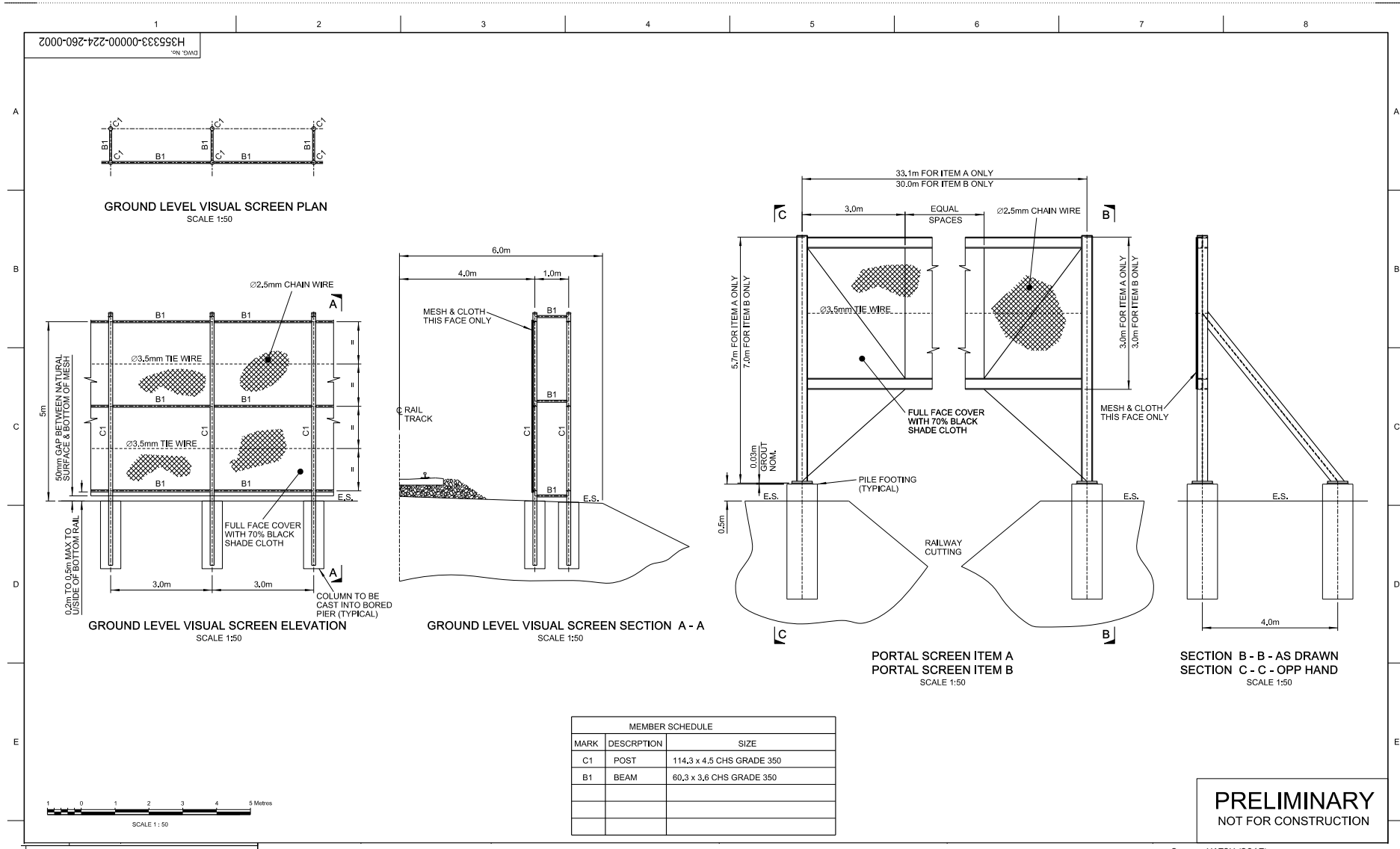
Overpass “Ground Level” light screens comprise multiple frames in a continuous fence on the eastern side of the rail spur as it turns south across Wybong Road. Figure 4.8 shows images taken from another comparable project, which illustrates the visual character of the ground level screens *in situ*.

Both screen formats would be constructed of a galvanised metal frame supporting a chain wire mesh and dark green



Source: HATCH (2017)
Drawing No. H355333-00000-292-260-0004-B

Figure 4.6 | *Headlight Profile*



Source: HATCH (2017)
Drawing No. H355333-00000-224-260-0002-B

Figure 4.7 | *Overhead light screens - detail arrangement*

shade cloth screen to western face. Dark green shade cloths would be used to reduce visual contrast and increase integration with the surrounding areas.

4.8.1 Visual Effects

The visual effect of the headlight screens would be high as the materials, black colour, form and scale contrast with existing landscape. The black screens would be large and visually incongruous components within this rural setting. The ground level overpass screen would create the highest visual effect due to the overall width and height of these structures. At up to approximately 7 m in height, visual mitigation measures to filter views to these components may be 3 to 4 years before achieving any integration with surrounding landscape.

4.9 Rehabilitation

With respect to the removal of redundant infrastructure within the footprint of the Bengalla Mine open cut, no regrading of the rail spur and loop batters, replacement of topsoil or other rehabilitation measures would be implemented in areas that would subsequently be disturbed by the Bengalla Mine.

Rehabilitation of the Modification disturbance areas would be consistent with DA 92/97 and *Mount Pleasant Operation – Mining Operations Plan* (MOP) which would be updated should the Modification be approved.

The Modification would not materially alter the final landform of the Mount Pleasant Operation. At the cessation of mining operations it is anticipated that the conveyors and rail infrastructure would be removed, the rail corridor cut and fill areas regraded and the rail corridor and rail loop would be rehabilitated.

This outcome would be subject to consultation with regulatory agencies including the Muswellbrook City Council and the Division of Resources and Geoscience with respect to final land use of the mine site (i.e. the rail infrastructure could alternatively represent a valuable facility for use by other intensive employment generating industries). MACH Energy would also consult with the Bengalla Mine (with respect to Bengalla Mine land that is the subject of the Modification).

Source: HATCH (2017)

Source: HATCH (2017)

Figure 4.8 | *Ground level headlight screens and rail line - visual characteristics*

This image conveys the finished appearance of the rail spur and broad horizontal ground level headlight screens proposed for location adjacent the Wybong Road overpass. Included in this view are the linear rail lines, rock ballast embankments, metal frame structure and black mesh screening.

5. VISUAL SENSITIVITY

5.1 General

Visibility to the Modification depends on factors such as topography and vegetation, and views from the existing and approved components of the Mount Pleasant Operation including the approved visual impact mitigation measures (e.g. visual bunds).

The sensitivity of viewing locations would depend on the land use of that location. Land uses that utilise the view (i.e. residences and recreation areas) would have a high sensitivity, whereas areas such as rural lots (without a residence) have a low sensitivity, as they do not gain value by utilising the view.

5.2 Primary Visual Catchment

The boundary of the Primary Visual Catchment for the Modification and various view sectors are illustrated in Figures 5.1 and 5.2 and defined below:

- The Central View Sector that includes the Modification and surrounding rural areas on foothills and flood plain;
- The Northern View Sector that includes the town of Kayuga;
- The Eastern View Sector that includes the town of Muswellbrook and adjoining foothills;
- The Southern View Sector that includes the foothills south of the Hunter River Floodplain; and
- The Western View Sector that includes the ridgeline of the foothills in the vicinity of Denman Road.

5.3 Viewing Locations – General

In the vicinity of the Modification there are a number of potential viewing locations. These include:

- Town area of Muswellbrook particularly elevated areas orientated west;
- Rural residences these are usually more isolated properties scattered throughout the adjacent region, and sometimes elevated to take advantage of views across the Hunter River flood plain;
- Recreation areas and Tourist Facilities such as Muswellbrook Racecourse;
- Roads the major road through the Primary Visual Catchment is the New England Highway. Regional roads include Wybong Road, Bengalla Link Road and Denman Road, in addition to smaller local roads; and
- Historic homesteads of ‘Overton’, ‘Overdeen’, ‘Bengalla and ‘Balmoral’.

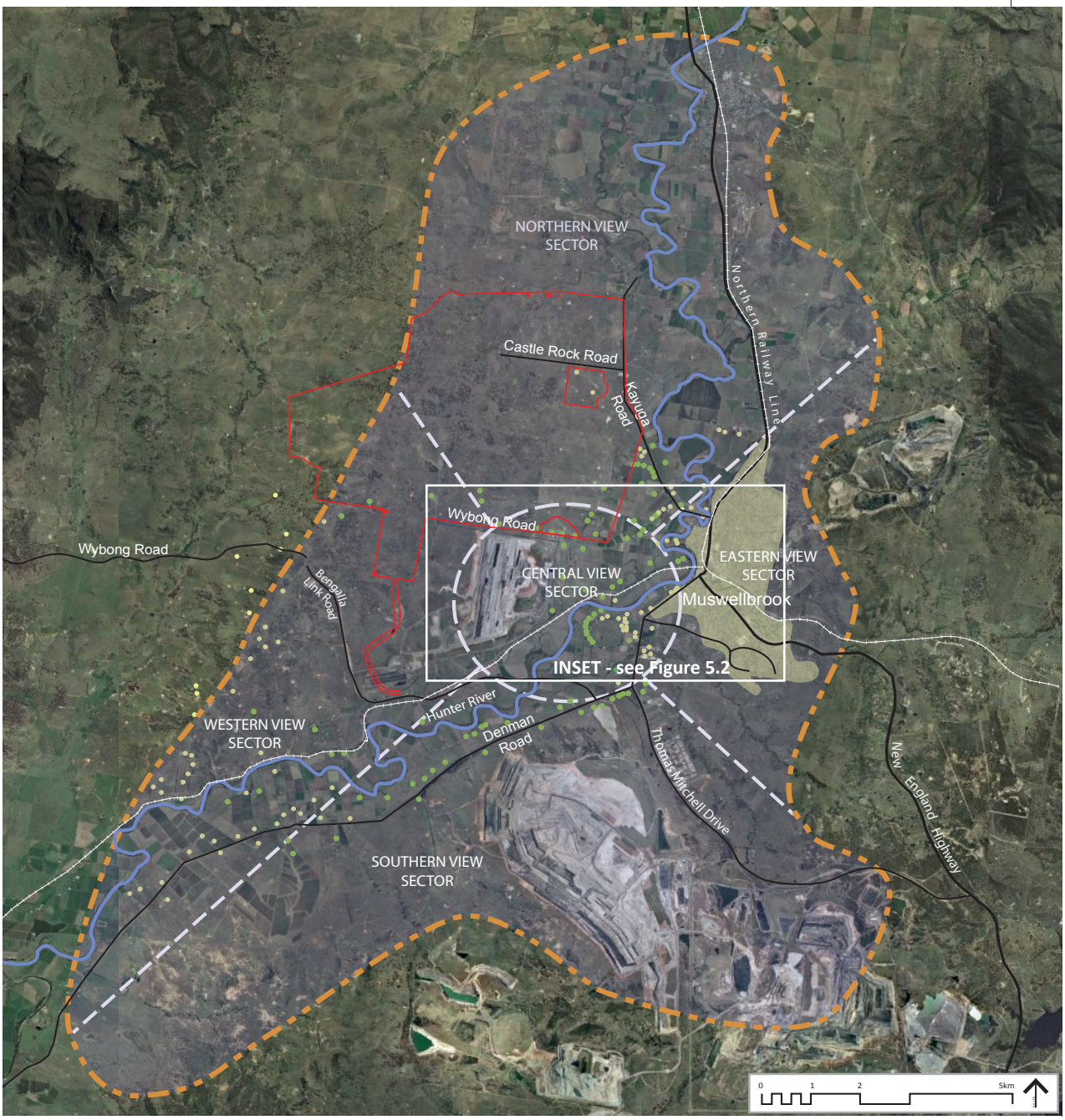
For the purposes of this assessment, computer generated photomontages have been developed from three key sensitive viewing points within the Primary Visual Catchment to illustrate the potential visual effect of the Modification (refer Section 6). Potential views from some additional locations have been illustrated using photographs taken during the site visit.

5.4 Visibility Considerations

5.4.1 Visibility

The influence of vegetation and tree cover at the point of viewing has the potential to screen views to the Modification and approved Mount Pleasant Operation (refer Figure 5.3). Vegetation close to the approved Modification would also influence visibility due to the modest scale of the rail spur and headlight screens (refer Figure 5.4). There is opportunity to mitigate potential visibility through strategic visual mitigation planting.

In Muswellbrook, viewing opportunities of the Modification are limited to elevated areas of the township, as lower view locations are screened by adjoining buildings, gardens and street trees. This screening effect can also be important in relation to individual rural residences where adjoining sheds, homestead gardens and/or trees can create foreground screens. This screening effect may be diminished when viewing locations are situated in elevated locations (Figure 5.5).

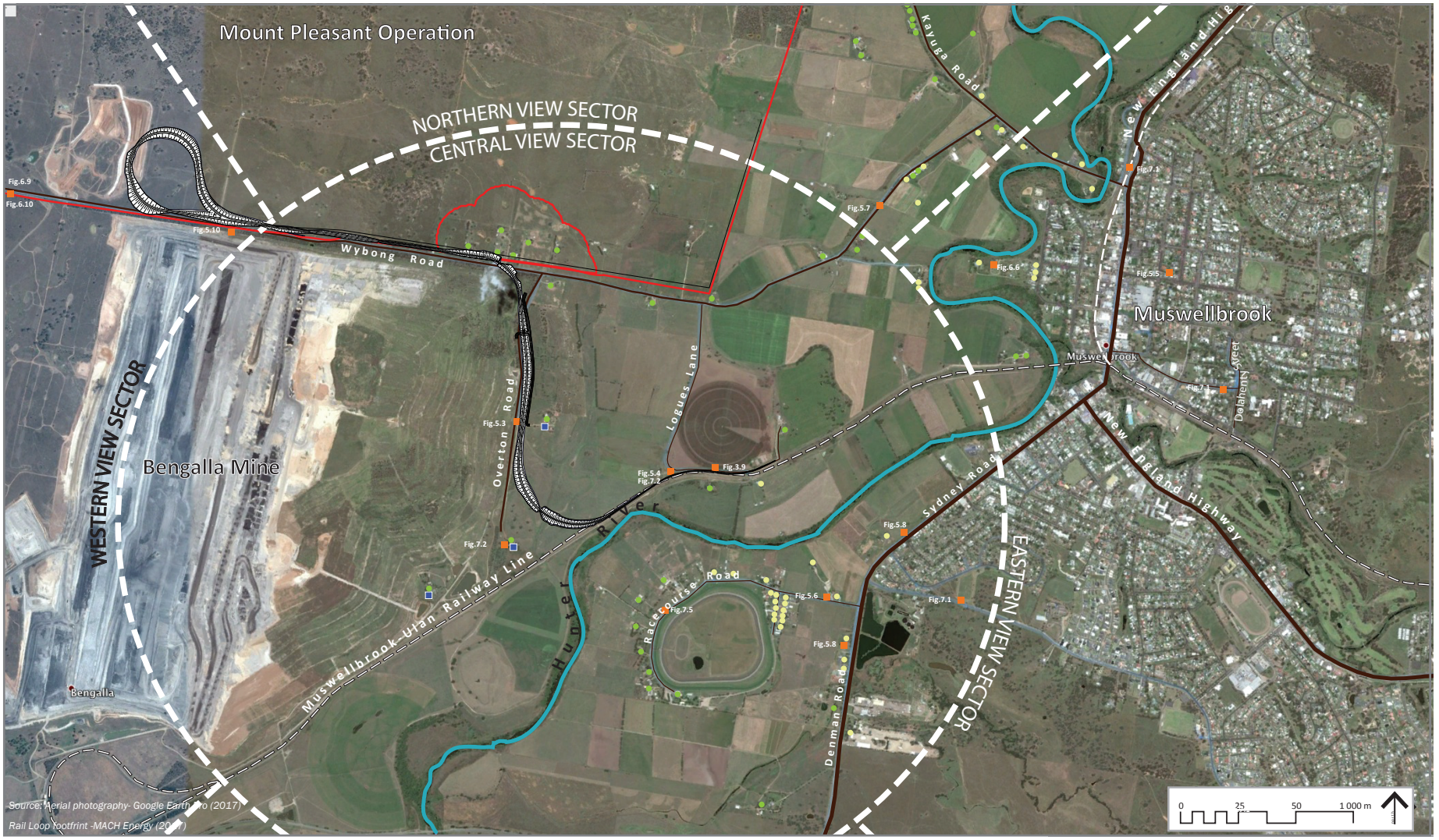


Source: Aerial photography - Google Earth Pro (2017)

key

- Mount Pleasant Operation Mining Leases
- Roads
- Rail Lines
- Hunter River
- Primary Visual Catchment Boundary
- View Sector Boundaries
- Primary View Sector
- Mine owned residences
- Sensitive private residential receptors

Figure 5.1 | *View Sectors and Private Receptors*



key

- Mount Pleasant Operation Mining Lease
- Roads
- View Sector Boundaries
- Wybong Rail Loop and spur
- Muswellbrook - Ulan Rail line
- Hunter River
- Photo locations
- LEP heritage homesteads

Figure 5.2 | *Detail - View Sectors and Sensitive Receptors*

Figure 5.3 | *Tree Cover at Point of Viewing*

Trees alongside a viewing location can provide more effective screening/filtering to distant views. This view is of existing roadside vegetation on Overton Road adjacent the proposed Modification location.

Figure 5.4 | *Tree Cover at Site*

Existing woodland in the vicinity of the Modification, while achieving landscape pattern outcomes, lack the size to initially screen larger elements such as headlight screens.

5.4.2 Land Use Sensitivity

Land use in the vicinity of the Modification varies, which influences the sensitivity of receptors. Land use activities include a range of agricultural pursuits, rural residences, suburban residential areas, tourism and recreation locations, road and rail corridors, as well as coal mining. These land use features contribute to the visual character of the landscape as well as influence visual sensitivity.

In this context, residential areas such as Muswellbrook or rural residences would have sensitivity to larger scale changes to the landscape. As such, these have been assigned a high sensitivity up to 7.5 km away from any visible modification component with a moderate sensitivity resulting for homesteads further away. In the same way, recreation and tourist facilities, as well as tourist roads and highways have been assigned a high sensitivity to up to 2.5 km away. Other significant roads have been assigned a moderate sensitivity up to 2.5 km with minor roads and rural production areas receiving a low sensitivity (Figure 2.2).

Visual sensitivity to the Modification remains constant as it is a relatively smaller scale component of the overall approved Mount Pleasant Operation. The relatively small scale changes to land profiles due to cut and fill embankments have a minor affect on the extent of visual sensitivity in the view catchment. The actual visual impact relates to the overlay of visual effect of the Modification over time due to the approved rehabilitation regime and any additional visual mitigation responses to the Modification. This is discussed further in Section 6: Visual Effect.

5.5 Central View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity

The Central View Sector contains the Modification and includes a number of sensitive receivers in the form of rural residences along Racecourse Road, Overton Road, Wybong Road, Sydney Road and other minor roads off these roads.

Views to the Modification would vary dependent upon the location of the receptor within the view sector. Hunter River riparian vegetation creates significant visual screening from some locations. Other closer sensitive receptors have direct unimpeded views towards to Modification infrastructure components.

5.5.1 Rural Residences

Rural residences on the floodplain at Wybong Road, Racecourse Road, Sheppard Avenue and Sydney Road would have a high sensitivity depending on the extent of visibility to the Modification.

Visibility to the Modification from this sector is variable. Residences in the vicinity of Racecourse Road are the closest to the Modification in the Visual Character Unit (less than 1 km at the closest point). These residences experience views similar to the rest of the floodplain with potential for long views over flat topography except where intervening vegetation provides filtering and screening of views. Views of the Modification from privately owned receptors on Racecourse Road would be minimal due to the presence of screening vegetation along the intervening Hunter River, which currently screens views of the existing Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line (see Figure 5.6).

Residences along Wybong Road are less than 2.5 km from the Modification and some would have direct views onto the headlight screens, rail spur and embankments, trains and any potential lighting spill. As a result, residences along Wybong Road have a high visual sensitivity.

Views of the Modification from the Racecourse are limited by intervening vegetation and topography (see Figure 5.6). The Modification visual character and scale is also consistent with the existing Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line, thereby reducing contrast of components within existing landscape resulting in reduced visual sensitivity.

Residences and recreation uses in this location have been assigned a high sensitivity rating.

The Modification infrastructure elements would also be visible from *'Overton'* and '*Overdeen*' heritage listed homesteads on Overton Road, however both properties are mine owned residences.

5.5.2 Roads

Parts of main roads (Sydney Road and Denman Road) lie within 2.5 km of the southern section of the rail corridor. However, views of this infrastructure would be limited by existing intervening vegetation in most locations. Where there are views to the more elevated components such as headlight screens, the sensitivity would be moderate as these components are located greater than 2.5 km away (typically between 2.5 km and 3.5 km).

Figure 5.5 | *Views from Elevated Locations*
Elevated viewing locations bypass the effects of foreground screens of vegetation or other buildings, to obtain views to distant elements.

Figure 5.6 | *View from Racecourse Road - Central View Sector*
Views are towards Modification area.

Minor roads, including Racecourse Road, Overton Road and other minor roads off these roads, would have moderate to low sensitivity in areas less than 2.5 km from the Modification.

Parts of Wybong Road would have direct views of most of the Modification elements including rail spur and loop and headlight screens to the north of the road. The overpass across Wybong Road is significant as it would partially obstruct views east towards Muswellbrook while introducing a new visual element to Wybong Road. As a minor road, it has a low sensitivity land use.

5.6 Northern View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity

The Northern View Sector includes a number of sensitive receivers in the form of rural residences along Wybong and Kayuga Roads and other minor roads, as well as the New England Highway and the Northern Railway Line.

Views to the Modification infrastructure elements from the Northern View Sector would be limited due to the screening of the area from the north by intervening topography and vegetation.

The Northern Sector contains parts of:

- Hunter River Floodplain Visual Character Unit; and
- Foothills Visual Character Unit.

5.6.1 Hunter River Floodplain

The Hunter River Floodplain supports a number of rural lots with improved pasture and cropping land, along with scattered rural residences along roadways. The adjoining foothills to the north of the Modification screen many of these residences. The open nature of the floodplain and associated rural lots in other areas means views in any direction are unobstructed by topographical features.

Geoffrey Britton and Associates (1997) determined that high visual impacts would occur at rural properties on the floodplain due to the development of the Eastern Out of Pit Emplacement (including the initial development of the outer face) and the initial development of the active mining areas.

Views for any residence that is orientated toward the Modification would mainly be onto the above ground headlight screens associated with the overpass on Wybong Road. Visibility to other at grade linear components of the Modification, such as the rail spur, would be minimal due to intervening vegetation and topography (see Figure 5.7).

Other ephemeral components, such as the coal trains traveling along higher ridgeline past Overton Road, would also be in the view for intermittent intervals up to nine times per day.

Residences with views of the Modification have been assigned a high sensitivity.

5.6.2 Foothills

There are a limited number of residences in the foothills. Most are screened by the adjoining topography to the west of Kayuga Road. Some closer residences adjacent to Wybong Road are owned by Bengalla Mining Company or Mount Pleasant Operation. These mine owned residences have views of the proposed rail spur.

5.6.3 Roads and Northern Railway Line

Both the New England Highway and the Northern Railway Line travel approximately parallel in this view sector, through Aberdeen, heading south toward Muswellbrook. As they run alongside or within the Hunter River Floodplain, the views in a south-westerly direction from the road and rail spur are often unobstructed. At the closest point within the Northern View Sector they are over 5 km away.

Views of the Modification from Overton Road would be limited to the elevated components such as headlight screens, overpass, and rail spur along Overton Road ridge as it turns south.

As the road and rail spur travel closer to the Modification, their sensitivity levels would increase. Within the Northern View Sector, sensitivity would remain moderate due to distance and limited visibility to the Modification.

Figure 5.7 | *View from the north*

Views from Wybong Road in the Northern View Sector are generally screened by existing roadside vegetation.

Figure 5.8 | *View from the east*

Views from Sydney Road towards the Modification are generally screened by riparian vegetation.

5.7 Eastern View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity

This sector contains the highest number of potentially sensitive receivers. This relates to the residential nature of Muswellbrook, the parts of commercial centre and the tourist/main road function of the New England Highway.

Visibility to the existing approved mining operations in the region is high due to the town's partially elevated topography and western orientation. Visibility of the Modification is limited due to the smaller scale and differing characteristics of its components.

Elevated components of the Modification which include the headlight screens, overpass and rail spur along Overton Road ridge as it turns south, and ephemeral components described in Section 5.6.1, would be visible from the Eastern Section.

5.7.1 Hunter River Floodplain and Foothills

These Visual Character Units contain parts of the New England Highway, Sydney Road and some minor roads including Kayuga Road and Skellatar Stock Route. These roads support rural residences.

Other isolated rural residences are those directly to the east and north. Those residences along Kayuga Road and parts of Sydney Road and to the east of the highway (that are not mine owned) have been ascribed a high sensitivity due to their proximity and orientation to the Modification, and their sensitive land use type.

5.7.2 Muswellbrook

The approved visual impact and viewer sensitivity of receivers in Muswellbrook were both determined to be high (Geoffrey Britton and Associates, 1997). Since preparation of the 1997 EIS, residents of Muswellbrook may have become more accustomed to significant modifications to the landscape due to the ongoing development of the Bengalla and Mt Arthur Coal Mines. However, tourists visiting Muswellbrook may not be accustomed to views of mine operations.

Accordingly, residences in Muswellbrook are generally assessed as having moderate to high sensitivity depending on the viewing distance to the Modification.

The exceptions are parts of South Muswellbrook that have a southerly aspect and view in the vicinity of the Skellatar Stock Route and Calgaroo Avenue.

Density of town development (e.g. adjacent housing, gardens and streetscape) screens views from the majority of residences. Residences on the western and southern edges of South Muswellbrook and some elevated residences would be most sensitive to the Modification. Where these houses are less than 7.5 km from the Modification, sensitivity is moderate to high. Where there is adjacent screening, the sensitivity of these residences may decrease to moderate and low.

The Modification would be visible for some residences around Ironbark Road, particularly the vertical headlight screens, as foreground vegetation is limited. These residences are less than 7.5 km from the Modification. The elevation of this area also places viewing locations above topography and vegetation screening resulting in high sensitivity levels.

Residences in North Muswellbrook would generally have high sensitivity due to visibility to the Modification including the headlight screens.

5.7.3 Roads

There would be views to the Modification from the New England Highway entering Muswellbrook from the south-east. Views from this location are further than 2.5 km from the Modification in this view sector resulting in high to moderate sensitivity. Sydney Road within the sector is also less than 2.5 km and travellers would have limited views from the road due to existing intervening vegetation, resulting in moderate sensitivity (Figure 5.8).

Geoffrey Britton and Associates (1997) determined that high visual impacts would occur to people travelling on the New England Highway as a result of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation.

5.8 Southern View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity

5.8.1 Hunter River Floodplain & Southern Foothills

Denman Road, parts of Thomas Mitchell Drive and Edderton Road, and the historic homesteads of '*Edinglassie'* and '*Rous Lench'* occur within this sector over 2.5 km to the south of the Modification.

The most sensitive view locations include a small number of residences (refer Figure 5.1) approximately 3 km from the Modification on the northern edge of the view sector on Denman Road. These locations and similar areas with open views to the Modification would have high sensitivity up to distances of 7.5 km. Views to the Modification would be limited due to the scale of the Modification components and distances.

For locations at greater distances, receptors would have a moderate sensitivity to impacts from the Modification.

5.8.2 Edinglassie and Rous Lench

These homesteads are located on Denman Road approximately 2 km from the Modification rail/spur junction with the existing MuswellbrookUlan Rail Line. These homesteads would have no views to the Modification due to screening from Bengalla Mine Emplacement Area, local intervening topography and vegetation.

5.8.3 Denman Road Rural Residential

The private residential properties along Denman Road within this sector are approximately 2.5 km away from the southern extent of the Modification.

Some properties are on the edge of the Hunter River floodplain where the landform is flat and open; the floodplain vegetation creates visual screening for these residences.

Properties further south are elevated allowing long views towards the Modification. Properties oriented north and north-west have direct views of the Modification (see Figure 5.9). Some properties already have dense foreground vegetation around the residences which may limit views to the Modification.

Sensitivity levels would therefore be moderate to high for properties less than 7.5 km away from visible modification areas, depending on individual levels of screening that may limit visibility. Houses in this location are generally less than 4 km away from the southern extent of the Modification.

5.8.4 Roads

The main road running through this sector is Denman Road. Other roads include Edderton Road and Thomas Mitchell Drive.

Driving north, the intersection of Thomas Mitchell Drive with Denman Road has roadside vegetation, which filters views towards the Modification from the south-east at a distance of approximately 3 km, resulting in low visual sensitivity. Before reaching this intersection, an elevated rise on Thomas Mitchell Drive affords more open views of the Modification. Vegetation in the middle ground filters visibility of Modification components during the day. Train headlights may be visible intermittently at night as there are no headlight screens for light spill in this direction.

Edderton Road would not have views to the Modification due to the existing Bengalla Mine Emplacement Area and intervening vegetation along the floodplain.

Some residences along Denman Road would continue to have views to both the approved Mount Pleasant Operation and the Modification resulting moderate to high sensitivity for residences and moderate sensitivity for Denman Road.

Thomas Mitchell Drive is more than 2.5 km away from the Modification and orientated towards the Modification; it therefore has a moderate sensitivity. The sensitivity for other local roads is moderate to low.

5.9 Western View Sector – Visibility and Visual Sensitivity

The few potential view locations within this sector are associated with Wybong Road. All other roads in this view sector would be screened from the Modification by existing topography or existing Bengalla Mine Emplacement Area.

The majority of rural residences in this view sector are either owned by mining companies or have low visual sensitivity

due to a lack of views to the Modification due to Bengalla Mine or local topography.

View locations are on elevated sections of Wybong Road (see Figure 5.10). There would be views of the rail loop and spur, three headlights screens from the west and the rail overpass across Wybong Road.

Wybong Road would have moderate sensitivity up to 2.5 km away from the Modification and low beyond that.

5.10 Changes to Visibility/Sensitivity Created by the Modification

The visibility and sensitivity to the Modification varies within the sectors. The Northern Sector is dominated by the approved Mount Pleasant Operation, creating low sensitivity based on approved land use.

The Eastern View Sector contains the high sensitivity town of Muswellbrook and locality of Kayuga. Foothills within the Mount Pleasant Operation screen Kayuga. Parts of Muswellbrook would have views to the Modification. A small elevated section of South Muswellbrook, including Ironbark Ridge Estate, would have views onto the Modification. Those areas with views would continue to have a high sensitivity.

The Southern View Sector is dominated by Denman Road. Some residences along Denman Road would continue to have views to both the approved Mount Pleasant Operation and the Modification resulting moderate to high sensitivity for residences and moderate sensitivity for Denman Road.

Sensitive receivers within the Western View Sector would be limited to vehicles traveling along Wybong Road. Roads within the sector have varying sensitivity based on distance and usage type. Views of the Modification would have greater vertical built profile than the existing view but overall scale would remain small due to viewing distances and within the context of approved mining activity.

5.11 Summary of Viewpoint Sensitivity

Table 5.1 provides a summary of the sensitivity of various viewpoints.

Figure 5.9 I *View from the south*
Views from Denman Road towards Overton Road foothills (proposed Modification alignment) and flood plain containing existing coal haul rail line.

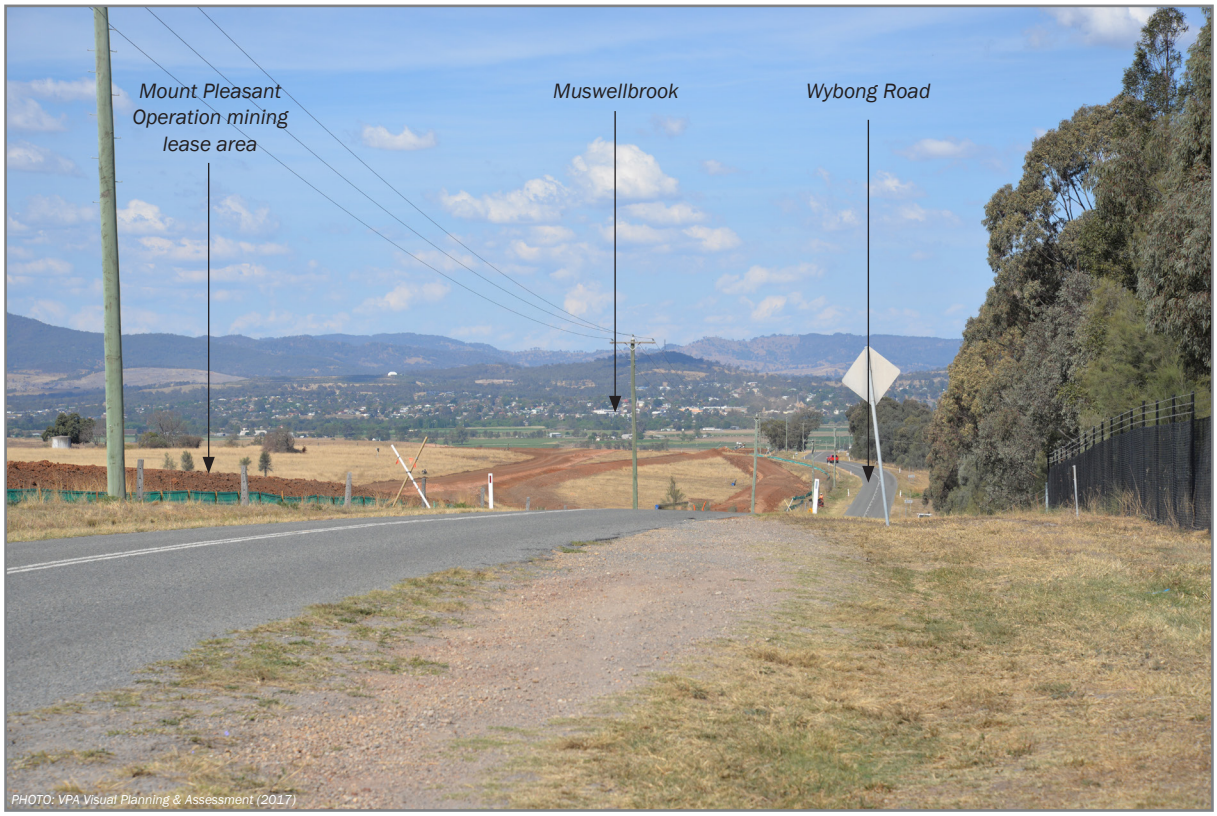


Figure 5.10 I *View from the west along Wybong Road*
Views are towards Muswellbrook and proposed Modification alignment.

Receptor	Sensitivity of Land Use	Visibility to Modification		Visual Sensitivity
		Distance to nearest visible Modification Element	Visibility category	
Central View Sector				
Rural Residences on Floodplain	High	Less than 2.5 km	High	High
Racecourse	High	Less than 2.5 km	High	High
Wybong Road	Low	Less than 2.5 km	High	Moderate / Low
Denman Road	Moderate	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	Moderate
Sydney Road	Moderate	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	Moderate
Racecourse Road	Moderate	Less than 2.5 km	High	Moderate/ Low
Northern View Sector				
Rural Residences on Floodplain	High	Less than 2.5 km	High	High
New England Highway	Moderate	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	Moderate
Northern Railway Line	Moderate	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	Moderate
Eastern View Sector				
Muswellbrook	High	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	High/Moderate
Rural Residences on Floodplain	High	Less than 2.5 km	High	High
New England Highway	Moderate	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	Moderate
Sydney Road	Moderate	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	Moderate
Southern View Sector				
Rural Residences on Denman Road	High	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	High/Moderate
Denman Road	Moderate	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	Moderate
Thomas Mitchell Drive	Moderate	2.5 to 7.5 km	Moderate	Moderate
Edderton Road	Low	Not visible	Nil	Nil
Western View Sector				
Wybong Road	Low	Less than 2.5 km	High	Moderate to Low

Table 5.1 | *Summary of Visual Sensitivity*

6. VISUAL EFFECTS

6.1 Introduction

The visual effect of the Modification would vary from key locations around Mount Pleasant Operation. Potential effects at a number of potential viewing locations in the Central, Northern, Eastern, Southern and Western Sectors and have been assessed through photomontage development. These viewpoints are representative of worst-case scenario views of the Modification obtained from those selected viewpoints as illustrated in Figure 6.1. Visual effects are determined using the methodology referred to in Table 2.1 – Visual Effects.

6.2 Central View Sector

The Sector is dominated by the existing Bengalla Mine Emplacement Area and the improved pasture cropping along the Hunter River floodplain in the eastern part of the sector. There are some rural residences scattered about the floodplain.

Residential properties along Racecourse Road, Sheppard Avenue and Sydney Road west are in close proximity to some Modification components. Some properties are associated with equestrian activity (horse studs and horse stables) potentially increasing the sensitivity of these receptors.

The rural lands adjoining the Modification support a number of rural residences along Wybong Road, Overton Road and Logues Lane.

Photomontage locations in Central View Sector:

- Wybong Road (VP1).
- Horne Residence (VP2).

VP1 - Photomontage Wybong Road

This view from Wybong Road looks west towards the Modification. The location is already west of the Mining Lease eastern boundary. The existing view includes Hunter Valley flood plain pastoral lands in the foreground and middle ground to left of view and foothills with scattered woodland and the Bengalla Mine Emplacement Area in the background.

Rural residential properties at the intersection with Overton Road can be seen centre view to the left of Wybong Road.

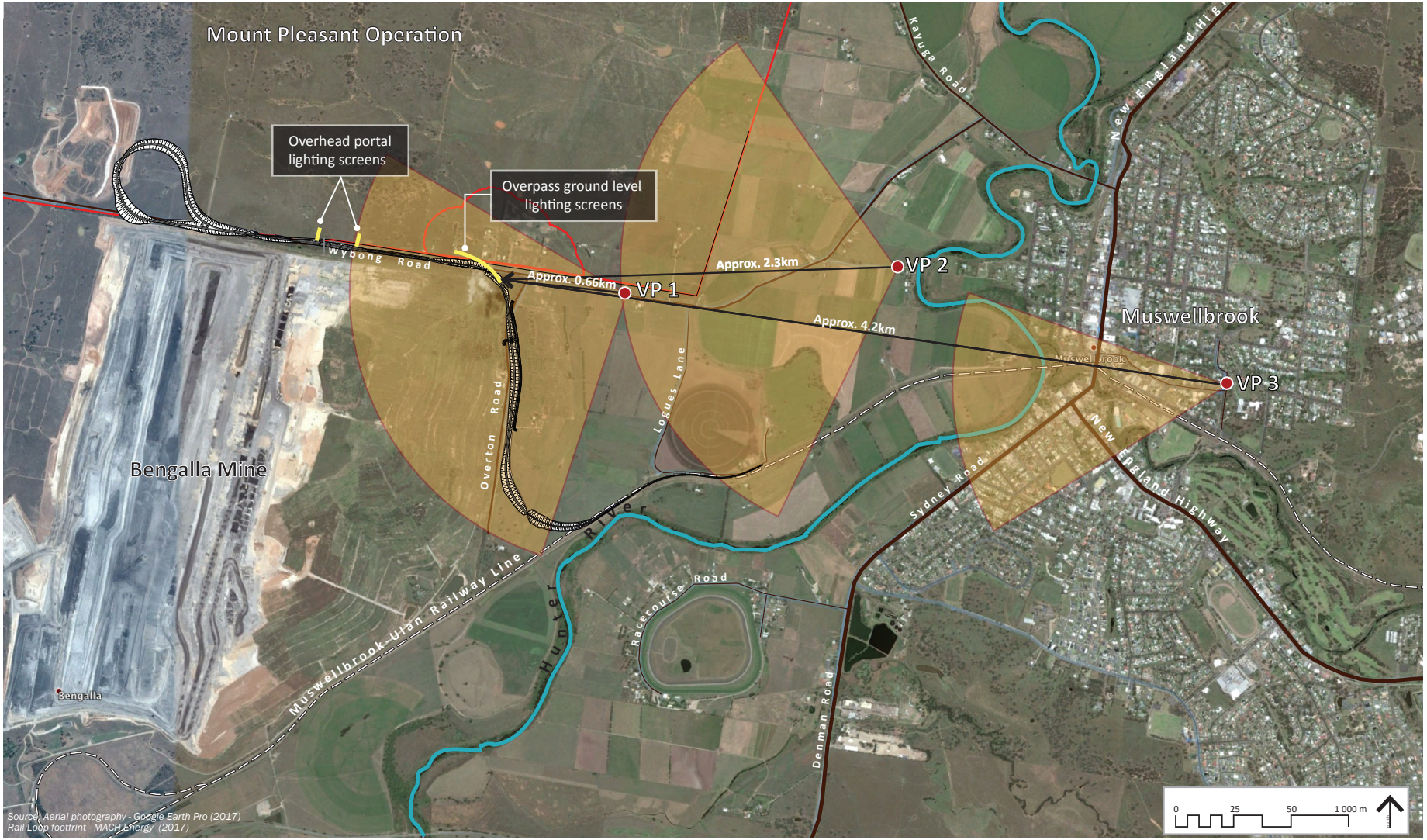
To the right of existing view, Mount Pleasant Operation has commenced work within approved mining lease, with clearing and earthworks underway along the north side of Wybong Road. This view includes an existing timber pole type overhead electricity transmission line parallel to Wybong Road (see Figure 6.2).

Geoffrey Britton and Associates (1997) determined that Wybong Road would be subject to high residual visual impacts (with the implementation of mitigation measures) from the following components of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation:

- visual bund emplacements;
- ancillary structures;
- active mine areas; and
- construction of the fine rejects emplacement.

The Modification is less than a kilometre from this location with a high percentage of the Focal View Area is occupied by the Modification (see Figure 6.3).

The visual effects of the earth works for rail spur cuttings and the embankments are high due to the scale, high levels of visual contrast and lack of visual integration with the surrounding landscape in the construction phase where bare exposed soils create high levels of colour contrast. This will reduce after post-construction rehabilitation of disturbed areas with cover crops improving visual integration. Use of alternative colour headlight screens as recommended in Section 8 further will lower contrast.



key

- Mount Pleasant Operation Mining Lease
- Roads
- Hunter River
- Wybong Rail Loop and spur
- Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line
- Photomontage locations and view angles

Figure 6.1 | *Photomontage Locations and View Angles*

Figure 6.2 | *Viewpoint 1 - WYBONG ROAD - existing view*

Figure 6.3 | *Viewpoint 1 - WYBONG ROAD - proposed Modification*

Figure 6.3 illustrates headlight screens well integrated into existing woodland from this viewpoint. The overpass is moderately contrasting with surrounding landscape character and partially screened by intervening vegetation.

From this distance, the view of embankments, screens and overpass would occupy approximately 4% of the total Focal View Area resulting in a Type 2 Low visual effect (refer Appendix A).

The above ground water pipeline may also be visible along the north side of Wybong Road when it enters the mining lease, however it would be viewed in the context of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation mining areas and supporting infrastructure located north of Wybong Road. Accordingly, it is anticipated the pipeline would have a low visual effect as it is consistent with existing mine elements in this view.

Other components such as overhead transmission line would have low visual effect, as they are consistent with existing elements in this view.

VP2 - Photomontage Horne Residence

This view location is within private residence #35 (Horne Residence) on Wybong Road approximately 2.3 km to the east of the Modification (see Figure 6.4). The existing view includes Hunter Valley floodplain pastoral lands in foreground and middle ground on both sides of property driveway. Rural residential properties opposite on Wybong Road are seen to right of view. Riparian vegetation along the banks of the Hunter River limit views beyond to the left of view. Dominating the background centre view is Bengalla Waste Emplacement Area with Overton Road ridge discernable as line of woodland along the eastern face.

Geoffrey Britton and Associates (1997) determined that high visual impacts would occur at rural properties on the floodplain (including the Horne Residence) due to the development of the Eastern Out of Pit Emplacement (including the initial development of the outer face) and the initial development of the active mining areas for the approved Mount Pleasant Operation.

The view location is 2.3 km away from the nearest rail spur and headlight screens, and the Modification occupies a moderate percentage of the Focal View Area (see Figure 6.5).

The visual effect of the Modification is low due to the scale and moderate levels of visual contrast and integration with the surrounding landscape in the construction phase where bare exposed soils create high levels of colour contrast. As the approved mining activities have been previously assessed as having high visual effects, the incremental change of the Modification will not contribute significantly to the accumulative visual effects.

From this distance, the view of screens, earthworks for cuttings and embankments would occupy approximately 1.2% of the total Focal View Area (refer Appendix A). This will reduce after postconstruction rehabilitation of disturbed areas with cover crops improving visual integration.

The total of all visible Modification components from this location occupies less than 10% of the Focal View Area, resulting in a Type 2 Low visual effect.

6.3 Northern View Sector

The Northern View Sector is dominated by rural cattle grazing land on rolling hills with some improved pasture cropping along the Hunter River floodplain in the eastern part of the sector. There are some rural residences along Kayuga Road. Of significance is the approved Mount Pleasant Operation that dominates the sector. This would create a strong visual effect and would screen the Modification from areas to the north.

The visual effect on the more eastern part of the Northern View Sector is generally unchanged as views are predominantly onto the intervening topography of ridges and riparian vegetation on the flood plain between view locations and the Modification.

6.4 Eastern View Sector

The Eastern View Sector contains the most sensitive land uses and is dominated by the township of Muswellbrook. The rural lands adjoining the Wybong Rail Loop Study Area support a number of rural residences along eastern end of Kayuga Road. It also contains the New England Highway, a main road and tourist route through the Hunter Valley

Figure 6.4 | *Viewpoint 2 - HORNE RESIDENCE - existing view*

Figure 6.5 | *Viewpoint 2 - HORNE RESIDENCE - proposed Modification*

region.

The visual effect of the Modification would have varying visibility from the east, as surrounding buildings and vegetation, particularly on lower elevations, screen some view locations. The riparian vegetation along the Hunter River provides significant screening as seen in Figure 6.6, view taken near a private residence on Lower Hill Street at the western edge of this view sector.

Figure 6.6 | *Views west towards the Modification*

This sector has the most critical view locations and is representative of the greatest population, therefore contains the most relevant photomontage point. Viewpoint 3 (Figure 6.7) and following photomontage (Figure 6.8) provide a reference point for assessing sensitive views in elevated areas of the eastern sector.

The visual effects on the Eastern View Sector will result from the following:

- Construction activity associated rail spur and loop, Overton Road relocation, underground pipeline and overhead electricity transmission line (components previously not visible from many receptors in this view sector for the currently approved infrastructure);
- Cut and fill embankments to rail line and overpass, rock ballast embankments;
- Rail spur and signal lights;
- Coal train movement;
- Headlight screens erected to mitigate the night head lighting of east bound coal trains;
- Overhead electricity transmission line and above ground water pipeline;

Photomontage location within the Eastern Sector include:

- Muswellbrook High School - Foley Street/Dolahenty Street, Muswellbrook (VP3).

VP3 - Photomontage Muswellbrook High School - Foley Street/Dolahenty Street

This view location is taken from adjacent the Dolahenty Street entrance to Muswellbrook High School, near the T-intersection with Foley Street. Included in view residential and commercial areas of lower Central Muswellbrook in foreground; middle ground is occupied by Hunter River floodplain and riparian vegetation between the town and the background foothills. Wybong Road is seen straight on between Bengalla Mine Emplacement Area dominating the background to left of Wybong Road, and existing Mount Pleasant foothills and early mining activity are to right and north. This is considered to be representative of potential views of the Modification from elevated locations in Muswellbrook.

From this elevated location, the ridgeline adjacent Overton Road is discernable from the horizontal band of woodland midway up the Bengalla Waste Emplacement area face (see Figure 6.7). Overton House is also in view from this viewing distance of approximately 4.2 km.

Visual effects of the Modification from this location are reduced by distance from visible components but sensitivity of receptors is high (see Figure 6.8). Components such as the water pipeline, transmission line, signal lights and rail line would be barely discernable. The larger components (Wybong Road overpass and headlight screens) would be visible, creating minor changes to that focal area of the view. This focus is due to the arrangement of the visual elements of Wybong Road being located centre view between two hills; this naturally draws the eye towards this location within the view.

At a distance of approximately 4.2 km, the Modification, including all ephemeral elements and headlight screens, has been conservatively calculated to occupy less then 1% of the Focal View Area (i.e. conservatively assuming all Modification components are visible). At this distance the visual effect of the Modification would be in a Type 1 Low (refer Appendix A).

6.5 Southern View Sector

Rural lands dominate the Southern View Sector. Along the river floodplain, improved pasture cropping and some grazing dominate. Rolling rural hills to the south of Denman Road support vineyards and open grazing lands. There are a limited number of private residences within this sector occurring in the western edge of the sector along Denman Road.

The visual effects on the Southern View Sector would vary but would be limited. In the eastern portions of the sector, the views are onto the southern end of Overton Road ridgeline where the Modification would traverse the south–east face to join existing rail line on the floodplain.

The visual effects on the Southern View Sector will result from the following:

- Construction activity associated rail spur and overhead electricity transmission line (approved components previously not visible from many receptors in this view sector);
- Cut and fill embankments to rail line and overpass;
- Rail spur and signal lights;
- Coal train movement; and
- Headlight screens erected to mitigate the night head lighting of east bound coal trains.

Most visible would be ephemeral components such as train movements across the foothill and headlights at night shining towards the south within the rural context.

Distances of rural residences from this point of Modification are between 2.5 km and 3 km. This distance results in less than 1% of Focal View Area being occupied by visible components of the Modification. At this distance the visual effect of the Modification would be in a Type 2 Low to Very Low (refer Appendix A).

6.6 Western View Sector

The Sector is also dominated by rural lands that support rural life style blocks in the elevated parts west of the existing approved mining leases. Along Denman Road and the river flood plain there are a limited number of residences and the commercial/tourist Pukara Olive Plantation.

Figure 6.7 | *Viewpoint 3 - Muswellbrook High School - Foley Street/ Dolahenty Street – existing view*

Figure 6.8 | *Viewpoint 3 - Muswellbrook High School - Foley Street/ Dolahenty Street - proposed Modification*

Views to the Modification would be limited to those from along Wybong Road as the existing Bengalla Mine screens views to the Modification's southern rail spur. Views from the elevated ridge just inside this view sector include an existing highly modified landscape with large scale disturbance to the rural setting of this region (Figure 6.9). The Modification would contribute a low percentage of additional cumulative visual effect in this context.

The majority of Modification components lie east of the furthest crest in this view, reducing the visible components to the following:

- Construction activity associated with the rail spur and loop and pipeline;
- Cut and fill embankments to rail line and rock ballast embankments;
- Rail spur, loop and signal lights;
- Coal loading and coal train movement; and
- Night lighting from train headlights heading west.

As the Modification activity in the Western View Sector is within one km of this view location, it would occupy a greater percentage of the FVA. As the visual contrast would be low and visual integration is consistent with existing broad scale mine activity in this view, it would have a Type 3 Low visual effect as it occupies less than 30% of the Focal View Area. (Refer Table 2.1 Visual effects).

Existing visual bund and early screen planting being implemented by MACH Energy along the northern side of Wybong Road would further reduce visual effects of the Modification (see Figure 6.10).

6.7 Visual Effect Summary

The visual effects of the Modification vary. The Modification components would create the highest visual effect when viewed from the east within the Central View Sector, particularly from rural residential properties in the vicinity.

From this sector, views would be onto the headlight screens and Wybong Road rail overpass, the rail spur and embankments along Wybong Road and Overton Road, Overton Road relocation works, above ground pipeline and overhead transmission line.

The headlight screens create the highest visual effect of all components due to their scale, appearance and location; also being a constant visible element. Coal loadout journeys from the CHPP occur up to nine times per day, with an average of one or two journeys at night, resulting in ephemeral night lighting (see Section 7.7).

Table 6.1 provides a summary of the visual effect of the Modification at various viewpoints.

Figure 6.9 | *View east from Wybong Road - Western View Sector*

Figure 6.10 | *Existing visual mitigation bund and screen planting along Wybong Road*

Receptor	Visual Contrast	Visual Integration	Proportion of View Occupied by Modification	Visual Effect Level
Central View Sector				
Rural Residences on Floodplain	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Racecourse	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Wybong Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Denman Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Sydney Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Racecourse Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Northern View Sector				
Rural Residences on Floodplain	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
New England Highway	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Northern Railway Line	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Eastern View Sector				
Muswellbrook	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Rural Residences on Floodplain	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
New England Highway	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Sydney Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Southern View Sector				
Rural Residences on Denman Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Denman Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Thomas Mitchell Drive	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Edderton Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low
Western View Sector				
Wybong Road	Moderate	Moderate	Less than 10%	Type 2 Low

Table 6.1 | *Summary of Visual Effects*

7. VISUAL IMPACTS

This section defines the visual impact and mitigation that is anticipated from various viewing locations around the Modification. The visual impact levels are a determinant for potential mitigation strategies.

The visual impact of the Modification would vary according to the visual sensitivity and the areas of visibility (Sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2).

The potentially sensitive viewing locations (receptors) around the Modification, which includes a town, rural residences, roads and tourist locations, have been defined in Section 5 in terms of visibility. The potential visual impacts based on this sensitivity and predicted effects are discussed below.

7.1 Muswellbrook

Muswellbrook occupies most of the Eastern View Sector.

Areas at lower elevation within the town would generally have no views, therefore no sensitivity.

Many elevated parts of Muswellbrook would have direct views (Figure 7.1) onto the most visible components of the Modification (e.g. light screens). Such areas have high visual sensitivity. Minor components such as the Hunter River pump station, pipeline and overhead transmission line have minimal visual effect from these distances.

Areas that would have limited views to the Modification are typically already subject to high visual impacts from the approved Mount Pleasant Operation.

The Modification components located to the west of Wybong Road such as the rail loop, would be out of view due to screening provided by the existing foothills and Bengalla Mine Emplacement Area therefore would not generate additional visual impacts.

7.2 Rural Residences

Rural residences are located throughout the local setting within the Modification view catchment. The residences are located within the Foothills Visual Character Unit and the Hunter River Floodplain Visual Character Unit and take advantage of views in various directions.

Geoffrey Britton and Associates (1997) determined that high visual impacts would occur at rural properties on the floodplain (including the Horne Residence) due to the development of the Eastern Out of Pit Emplacement (including the initial development of the outer face) and the initial development of the active mining areas for the approved Mount Pleasant Operation.

Central View Sector

There are varying levels impact of the Modification on rural residences in this sector as some of the components are screened from view (Figure 7.2).

Any visual impacts on rural residences with views in the Central View Sector would be Moderate. There is no increase to visual impact from the existing high impacts as described above.

Northern and Eastern View Sectors

There are varying levels impact of the Modification on rural residences in these sectors (many are mine owned) as most of the Modification components are screened from view by intervening vegetation and/or topography.

Any visual impacts on rural residences that have views in the Northern and Eastern View Sectors would be very low to none.

Southern View Sector

As residences in the south-west further along the flood plain would not have views to the Modification, there would be no additional visual impacts.

North Muswellbrook - View Place

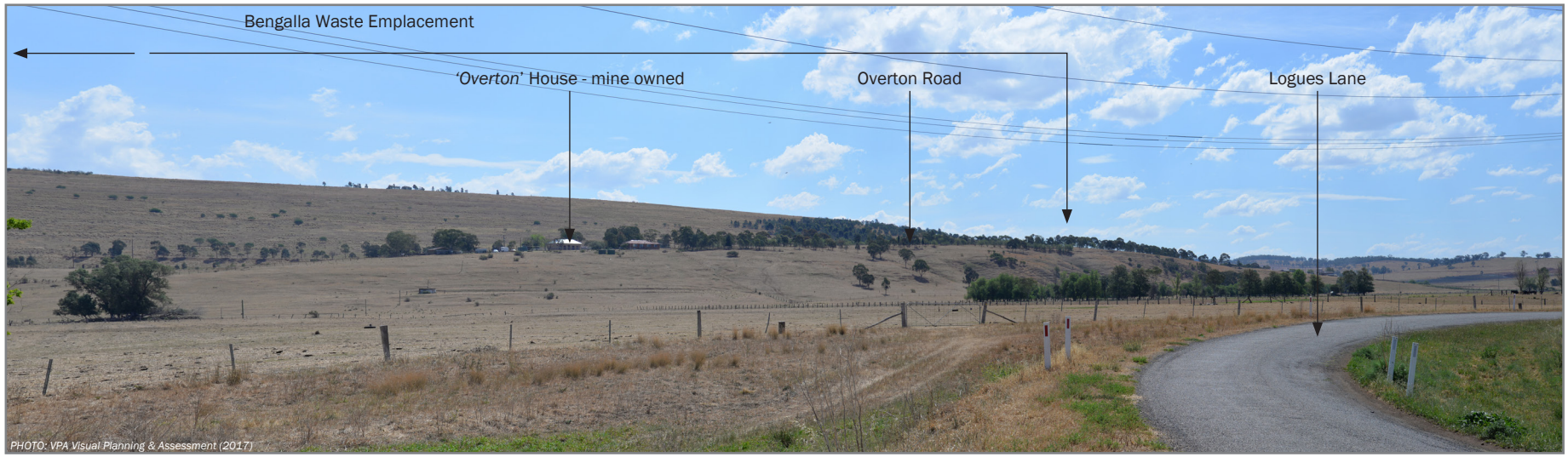
South Muswellbrook - Slellatar Stock Route

Central Muswellbrook - Foley Street

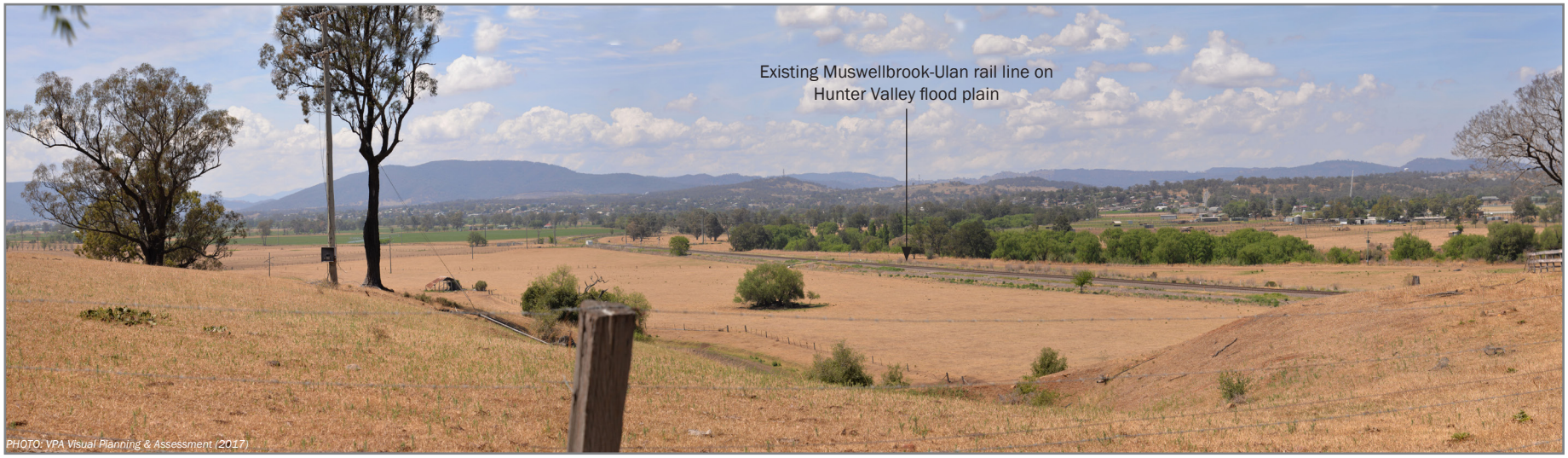
North Muswellbrook - Hill Street

Figure 7.1 | *Views from elevated locations around Muswellbrook*

View west towards Modification area



View towards the Modification location. Potential views to rail spur and ground level headlight screens from this location.



View from Overton Road adjacent mine owned '*Overton*' House

Figure 7.2 | *Rural residences - Central View Sector*

A combination of distant views and moderate to low visual effects would create Moderate to Low visual impacts to residences in the south-east of the sector (Figure 7.3).

This sector contains the historic homesteads of '*Edinglassie*' and '*Rous Lench'*. Both homesteads are owned by Mount Arthur North. These residences would have potential views to the Modification and have high sensitivity, but landscape treatments recommended in the 2007 European Heritage Management Plan would screen the houses and their curtilages from views to the Modification.

Western View Sector

As there are no private rural residences with views to the Modification, levels of impact to residences would be unchanged.

7.3 Roads and Rail

The roads and rail in the locality are:

- Minor Roads;
- New England Highway;
- Denman Road and Sydney Road; and
- Main Northern Railway.

Minor Roads

The Modification is visible from a number of minor roads. These include Wybong Road, Overton Road, Logues Lane, Kayuga Road and Thomas Mitchell Drive. Visual impacts on these roads would vary due to viewing distance from Modification.

Wybong Road is most affected by the Modification. Existing uninterrupted views east towards Muswellbrook and the surrounding ranges would be impeded by the rail overpass structure, the above ground screens to the north of Wybong Road and the portal ground level screen to the east. In this context, the visual impact is Moderate to Low due to existing broad scale approved modifications to the surrounding landscapes along Wybong Road.

Overton Road would be impacted due to the partial relocation east of the rail spur, with a rail bridge across the road to provide continued access to residences on Overton Road. Visual effects would be high as Modification components are very close to all view locations along road. Sensitivity is low being a minor rural road. Visual impacts for this road would be Moderate to Low.

For other minor roads where there are views, (Wybong Road, Logues Lane and Kayuga Road, all less than 2.5 km), levels of visual impact would be Moderate to Low. Thomas Mitchell Drive (between 2.5 km and 7.5 km away) would have Low to Very Low visual impacts.

New England Highway

From south-east of Muswellbrook, the New England Highway would have moderate sensitivity.

The Modification would be visible from one location for a short period travelling north into Muswellbrook from the south-east. Any visual impacts from transient views to the Modification while travelling past this location would be Moderate to Low (Figure 7.4).

Denman Road

This road experiences potential visual impact to the east and south of the Modification.

The visual sensitivity of Denman Road given its tourist use would be moderate at distances greater than 2.5 km.

From the east, visual impact is potentially within south Muswellbrook along Sydney Road. From the south, visual impact is experienced generally between Thomas Mitchell Drive and Edderton Road. From all these locations, the visual effect of the Modification would be low to very low.

The visual impact on this road would be Moderate to Low to the east within Central View Sector and Low to Very Low in the Southern View Sector.

Figure 7.3 | *Rural residences - Southern View Sector*
View north towards Modification area

Figure 7.4 | *Views north-west towards the Modification from New England Highway*
View towards Modification area are screened by vegetation.

Figure 7.5 | *View towards the Modification from Racecourse Road.*

Main Northern Railway

The Modification is most visible from the railway, north of Muswellbrook, for trains moving south. Visibility characteristics are similar to those of the adjacent New England Highway and would be generally screened. Any views would have a moderate sensitivity at this distance with low visual effects creating Low impact levels.

7.4 Tourist Localities

The Hunter Valley generally has a high tourist usage. In relation to the Modification, Denman Road and the New England Highway are significant tourist locations. Within the broader context, special locations such as Pukara Estate olive grove and Muswellbrook Racecourse attract tourists to the area.

There are no views from Pukara Estate in the Southern View Sector, therefore there are no additional visual impacts.

Visual effects impacts would remain high for areas such as the Muswellbrook Racecourse and surrounding training facilities, which would have limited views of the Modification at close proximity within the Central View Sector (see Figure 7.5). Some local vegetation filters views to the Modification. *Where there are views, the visual impact would be* Moderate to Low.

7.5 Cumulative Visual Impact

The visual impacts of the Modification would be primarily be due to the Wybong Road overpass, the headlight screens erected to mitigate headlight pathway spill into Muswellbrook and the unscreened areas of headlight spill south of the screens.

The other approved mining activities in the area would remain visually dominant, as they are of a much greater scale than the Modification.

To consider the cumulative impact of the Modification, it is necessary to consider the following:

- Visual effect in the context of other rail lines and mine activity seen within the one view from sensitive receptors; and
- Visual effect as part of a progression of different views as one moves through the landscape from one visual catchment to another.

From the south, there would be an increased cumulative impact due to the existing rail line potentially being within view from various locations. The proposed Modification would contribute to the number of visible rail line components viewed from elevated locations in the Southern View Sector.

As the existing rail line has limited viewing from the rest of the view catchment, the proposed Modification would not contribute to an increased cumulative visual effect from these areas.

More generally, the visual impact would be viewed in the context of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation, which involves broad scale earthworks and disturbance to the existing landscape north of Wybong Road. Therefore the Modification would not add significantly to the cumulative visual impact created by open cut mining in the locality.

Visual effect of the Modification to the west is of a similar character but lesser overall scale to that currently experienced. However, the only sensitive receptors in this location is people travelling on Wybong Road who have views to Bengalla Mine, Mt Arthur Coal Mine and the approved Mount Pleasant Operation.

Mangoola Coal is not considered as it is to the west of the Modification and would not fall into any views that contain the Modification.

To other areas the visual effect would NOT be significantly increased, as the overall scale of all the components is small.

In terms of sequential visual experiences, the Modification as well as the approved Mount Pleasant Operation and all mines in the locality, would be seen when travelling along Wybong Road and Denman Road and to varying degrees from lesser roads. In this context the overall effect of the Modification would be similar to that experienced for the existing approved Mount Pleasant Operation.

7.6 Visual Impact in Context of Regional Plans

In the context of the NSW *Strategic Regional Land Use Plan – Upper Hunter* and the local *Land Use Development Strategy (Coal Mine Land Use Component)* September 2012, the Modification does not impact significantly on strategic tourist locations over and above that of the existing approved Mount Pleasant Operation and other nearby mines. The visual effect and impact on Denman Road and western view areas would remain similar to existing impacts.

The Modification is a continuation of an existing approved mine and is contained in a small visual catchment with limited extent from sensitive receptors in the western areas. It is also a visual catchment that currently supports mines at Bengalla Mine, Mt Arthur Coal Mine and Dartbrook Mine.

Muswellbrook Shire Council's 2015 report *Mine Affected Road Network Plan* proposes to *'construct a Southern Link Road connecting Wybong Road (East) via Overton Road to the Bengalla Link Road west of the Hunter River crossing (Option 2B)'* (Muswellbrook Shire Council, 2015). The visual effect created by both the Modification and this potential Southern Link Road would increase cumulative visual impacts to areas with views from the south such as Denman Road and associated rural residences.

7.7 Lighting Impacts

7.7.1 Introduction

A key component of this visual assessment is to consider the potential visual impact of the ephemeral night lighting from train headlights as part of the Modification's visual effects.

There are two types of lighting effects that could be experienced from the Modification. The first effect is where the light source is directly visible, and would be experienced if there is a direct line of sight between a viewing location and the light source. The second effect relates to the general night-glow (diffuse light) that results from light of sufficient strength being reflected into the atmosphere. This type of effect would create a strong local focal point and the effect would vary with distance and atmospheric conditions such as fog, low cloud and/or dust particles which all reflect light.

7.7.2 Direct Light Effects

Studies by Hatch Lighting for MACH Energy determined potentially direct rail locomotive light spill pathways onto potentially sensitive areas of Muswellbrook and rural residences in the vicinity of the rail spur on the adjacent floodplain (Figure 4.6). The horizontal arc of light spill extended from approximately Hill Street, south to Denman Road near Thomas Mitchell Drive intersection.

Visual sensitivity varies within this arc with any residential areas and rural residences remaining high.

This Modification includes proposed night lighting mitigation via:

- Rail cuttings (refer Section 4.3); and
- Headlight screens (refer Section 4.8).

Figure 4.6 illustrates how these two forms of lighting mitigation deflect direct lighting effects away from Muswellbrook.

The visual effect of direct lighting to Wybong Road would increase locally, with lateral light spill to either side of the headlight pathway along the rail spur in both easterly and westerly directions. This would be influenced by operation times and frequency, the relative level at which the viewing location is situated and the presence of any off-site barriers such as approved visual bunds and screen planting as part of Mount Pleasant Operation approved visual mitigation, topographic features and/or vegetation.

The proposed Light Screens would limit visual effects to other areas surrounding the Modification including Muswellbrook and would remain similar to that experienced as part of the approved operation.

7.7.3 Diffuse Light Effects

At the Modification, operational areas and machinery night lighting would not be directly visible to most locations due to the screening effect of adjacent Emplacement Areas and adjoining topography and vegetation. Rather, a diffuse effect of light and its interaction with atmospheric conditions may from time to time create a glow around the CHPP,

rail spur and approved Mount Pleasant Operation. The contribution of the Modification to this diffuse lighting effect would be negligible in the context of the existing effect from the approved Mount Pleasant Operation, Bengalla Mine, Mt Arthur Coal Mine and Drayton Mine (currently in care and maintenance).

7.8 Visual Impact Summary

The visual impacts associated with the Modification are generally low to moderate on all the View Sectors. This is mainly as a result of the following:

- Scale and horizontal profile of rail loop and spur in relation to the overall surrounding approved mining activities is minor;
- Visual effects of minor elements (water pumping station, pipelines and overhead electrical transmission line) is low;
- Visual effects during construction and rehabilitation are consistent with existing approved Project elements; and
- Visual effects would lessen following visual mitigation screening and rehabilitation.

Importantly, these rural residences on the floodplain are already predicted to experience high levels of visual impact from the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (Geoffrey Britton and Associates, 1997).

Table 7.1 provides a summary of potential visual impacts.

7.8.1 Lighting Impacts

The visual effect of lighting associated with the Modification would be minimally higher than that for currently approved Mount Pleasant Operation.

The screened intermittent isolated direct lighting from the train headlights adds a minor cumulative impact to overall lighting associated with all other approved mining activities.

Direct and diffuse lighting effects from the rail loading infrastructure were previously more contained behind the Bengalla Mine Emplacement Area. The proposed Wybong Road location results in more exposure to Wybong Road and reduced intervening topography, however, this lighting would only represent a small proportion of Mount Pleasant Operation nightlighting and therefore would have negligible additional impact on the Muswellbrook.

Receptor	Existing/Approved Visual Impact*	Visual Sensitivity	Incremental Modification Effect	Incremental Modification Impact
Central View Sector				
Rural Residences on Floodplain	High	High	Low	Moderate
Racecourse	N/A^	High	Low	Moderate/Low
Wybong Road	Moderate	Moderate/Low	Low	Low
Denman Road	Moderate	Moderate/Low	Low	Low
Sydney Road	N/A^	Moderate/Low	Low	Low
Racecourse Road	N/A^	Moderate/Low	Low	Low
Northern View Sector				
Rural Residences on Floodplain	High	High	Low	Moderate
New England Highway	High	Moderate	Low	Low
Northern Railway Line	High	Moderate	Low	Low
Eastern View Sector				
Muswellbrook	High	High/Moderate	Low	Moderate/Low
Rural Residences on Floodplain	High	High	Low	Low
New England Highway	High	Moderate	Low	Low
Sydney Road	N/A^	Moderate	Low	Low
Southern View Sector				
Rural Residences on Denman Road	Moderate	High/Moderate	Low	Moderate/Low
Denman Road	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low
Thomas Mitchell Drive	N/A^	Moderate	Low	Low
Edderton Road	N/A^	Nil	Low	Low
Western View Sector				
Wybong Road	Moderate	Moderate/Low	Low	Low

Table 7.1 | *Summary of Visual Impacts*

* Existing/approved visual impact described in Geoffrey Britton and Associates (1997) and the Mount Pleasant Operation Modification 3 Environmental Assessment (MACH Energy, 2017). Note that the existing/approved visual impact considers the sensitivity of the receiver.

^ Viewpoint not previously assessed in Geoffrey Britton and Associates (1997) as very limited views of the approved Mount Pleasant Operation are available from these vantage points due to intervening topography/vegetation.

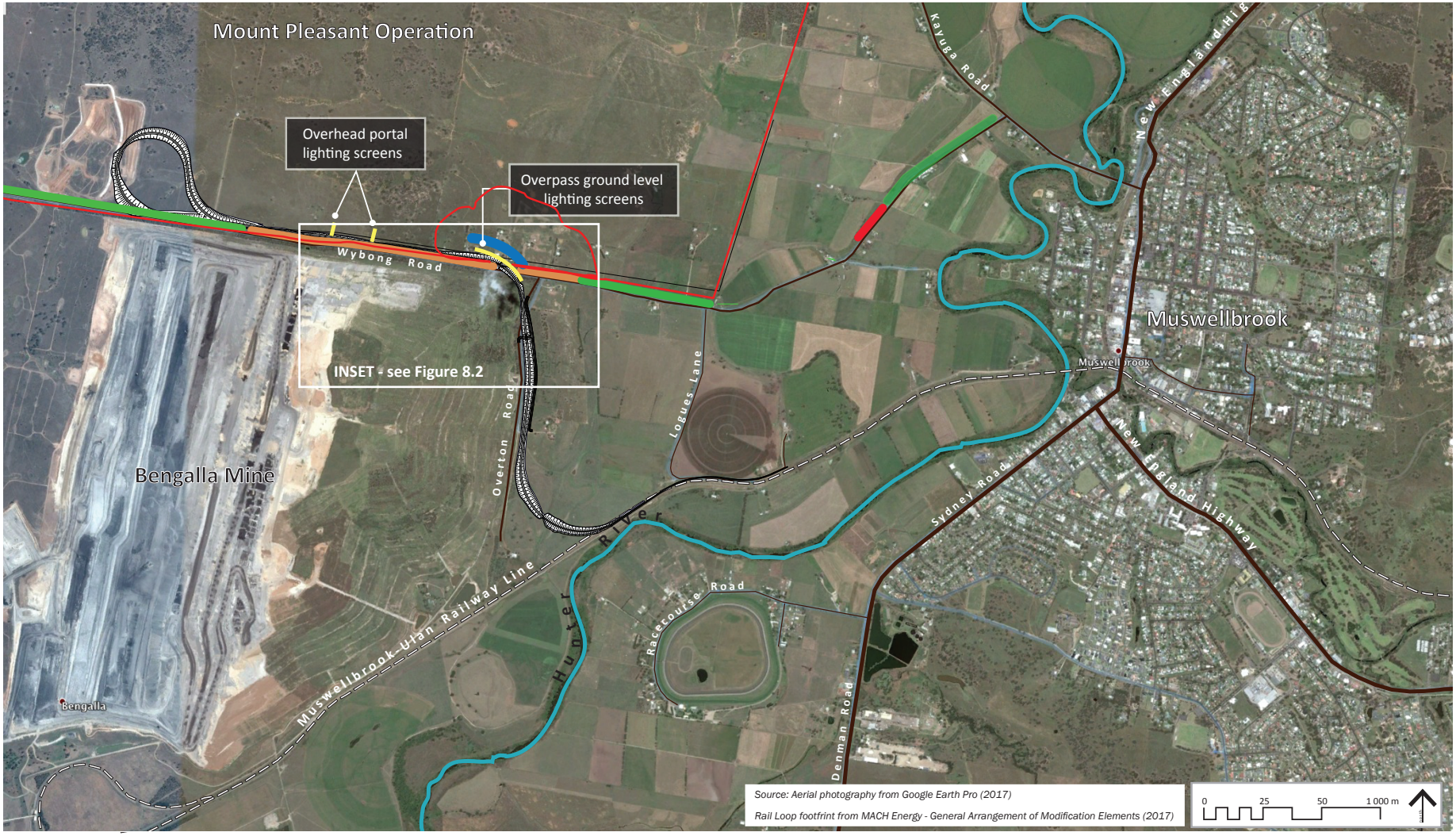
8. MITIGATION

Mitigation measures proposed for the Modification include additional visual screen planting to assist integration of the headlight screens over time. Following initial visual assessment of preliminary headlight screens, use of alternative lighter coloured mesh was recommended; preferred colours being khaki green, eucalyptus tones or beige.

This early mitigation implemntation is reflected in the reduced visual contrast and resulting improved visual integration as illustrated in Section 6 visualisations (Figures 6.3, 6.5 and 6.7).

The existing Landscape Management Plan would be updated to include any additional commitments in this Visual Impact Assessment.

The proposed additional visual mitigation measures for the Modification are shown on Figure 8.1 and Figure 8.2.



key

- Mount Pleasant Operation Mining Leases
- Roads
- Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line
- Rail Loop and Spur
- Hunter River
- Approved planted visual screening
- Approved bund/ planted visual screening
- Existing screen planting
- Additional visual mitigation planted visual screening

Figure 8.1 | *Additional visual mitigation*

Typical headlight screen embankment treatment

- Screen trees planted as tube or advanced stock
- Shrubs planted by seeding or tubestock
- Grasses and herbs planted by direct seeding
- Large shrubs / small trees planted on lower slopes of embankments to screen at lower level
- Tall trees planted on top of embankment or bund to give maximum height

Figure 8.2 | *On-site mitigation to headlight screens*

9. CONCLUSION

The key features of this Modification are the alteration to the realignment of the rail loop and spur, and the associated visual screening proposed to mitigate train headlight spillage into Muswellbrook.

Some of the components, including associated night lighting effects, would be visible from locations predominantly to the east of the Modification, particularly elevated locations within the township. Local topography, visual bunds and existing vegetation of the local landscape limit viewing opportunities of the proposed Modification areas.

The rail loop and spur would result in minor changes to views due to horizontal profile of the visible components. The associated cuttings and headlight screens would have higher visibility from the east, south-east and south due to being seen in elevation from viewing locations. Some sensitive view locations in close proximity to the screens and rail cutting embankments would experience high visual impacts. These sensitive view locations already experience high visual impacts from the approved Mount Pleasant Operation and therefore there would be negligible change to the level of impact at these receivers.

Minor modification components including water pumping station, pipelines and transmission line would result in very minor visible changes to the existing landscape; some being consistent with existing elements in the landscape.

The visual impact of the Modification would decrease as the existing visual bunds and screen planting matures to provide improved visual integration.

The implementation of suggested mitigation strategies would further ameliorate visual impacts. These include:

- alternative low contrast backing mesh to light screens; and
- additional screen planting to embankments on eastern side of headlight screens (if practical).

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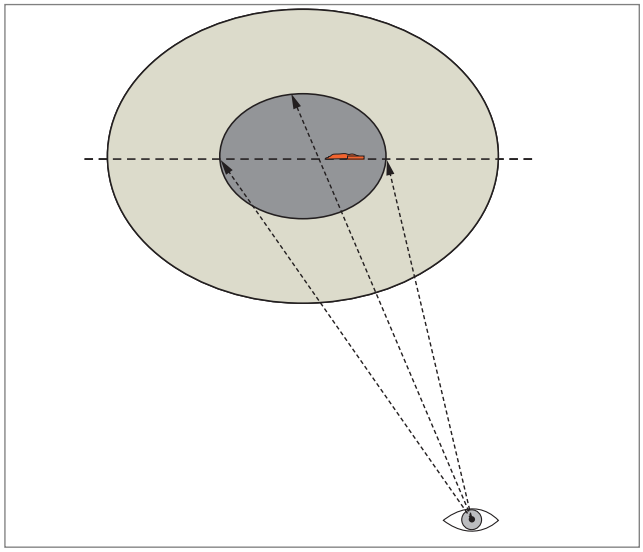
11.APPENDIX

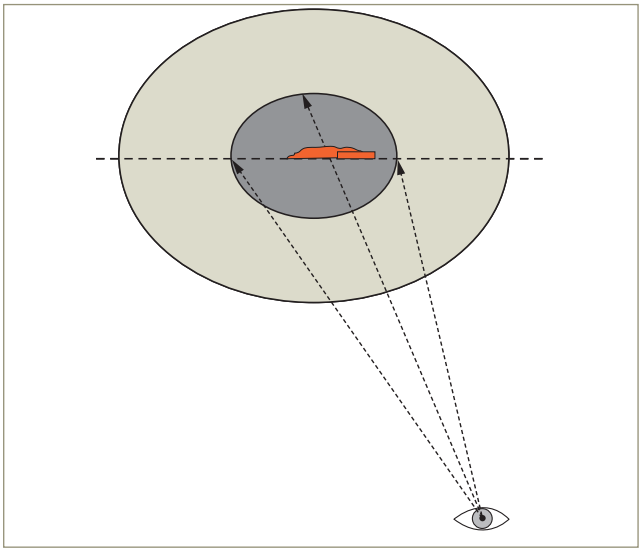
Table 11.1 | Visual Effect Calculations

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Distance from TL (m)	Radius of FVA (m)	Area of FVA (m2)	Diameter of FVA (m)	100% area of affected area	60% area of screen coverage (m2)	Visual Percentage	Visual Effect
250	143.75	32459.03347	287.5	3450	2070	10.63%	HIGH
500	287.5	129836.1339	575	6900	4140	5.31%	HIGH
660	379.5	226226.4797	759	9108	5464.8	4.03%	HIGH
750	431.25	292131.3012	862.5	10350	6210	3.54%	HIGH
1000	575	519344.5355	1150	13800	8280	2.66%	HIGH
1250	718.75	811475.8368	1437.5	17250	10350	2.13%	HIGH
1500	862.5	1168525.205	1725	20700	12420	1.77%	MODERATE
1750	1006.25	1590492.64	2012.5	24150	14490	1.52%	MODERATE
2000	1150	2077378.142	2300	27600	16560	1.33%	MODERATE
2300	1322.5	2747332.593	2645	31740	19044	1.16%	MODERATE
2500	1437.5	3245903.347	2875	34500	20700	1.06%	MODERATE
3000	1725	4674100.82	3450	41400	24840	0.89%	LOW
3500	2012.5	6361970.56	4025	48300	28980	0.76%	LOW
4000	2300	8309512.569	4600	55200	33120	0.66%	LOW
4200	2415	9161237.607	4830	57960	34776	0.63%	LOW
5000	2875	12983613.39	5750	69000	41400	0.53%	LOW
6000	3450	18696403.28	6900	82800	49680	0.44%	VERY LOW
7000	4025	25447882.24	8050	96600	57960	0.38%	VERY LOW

Together with calculations derived from Figure 2.2 – Area of focal view area at various distances the horizontal area can be conservatively calculated using vertical height of visible components as a percentage of the Focal View Area.

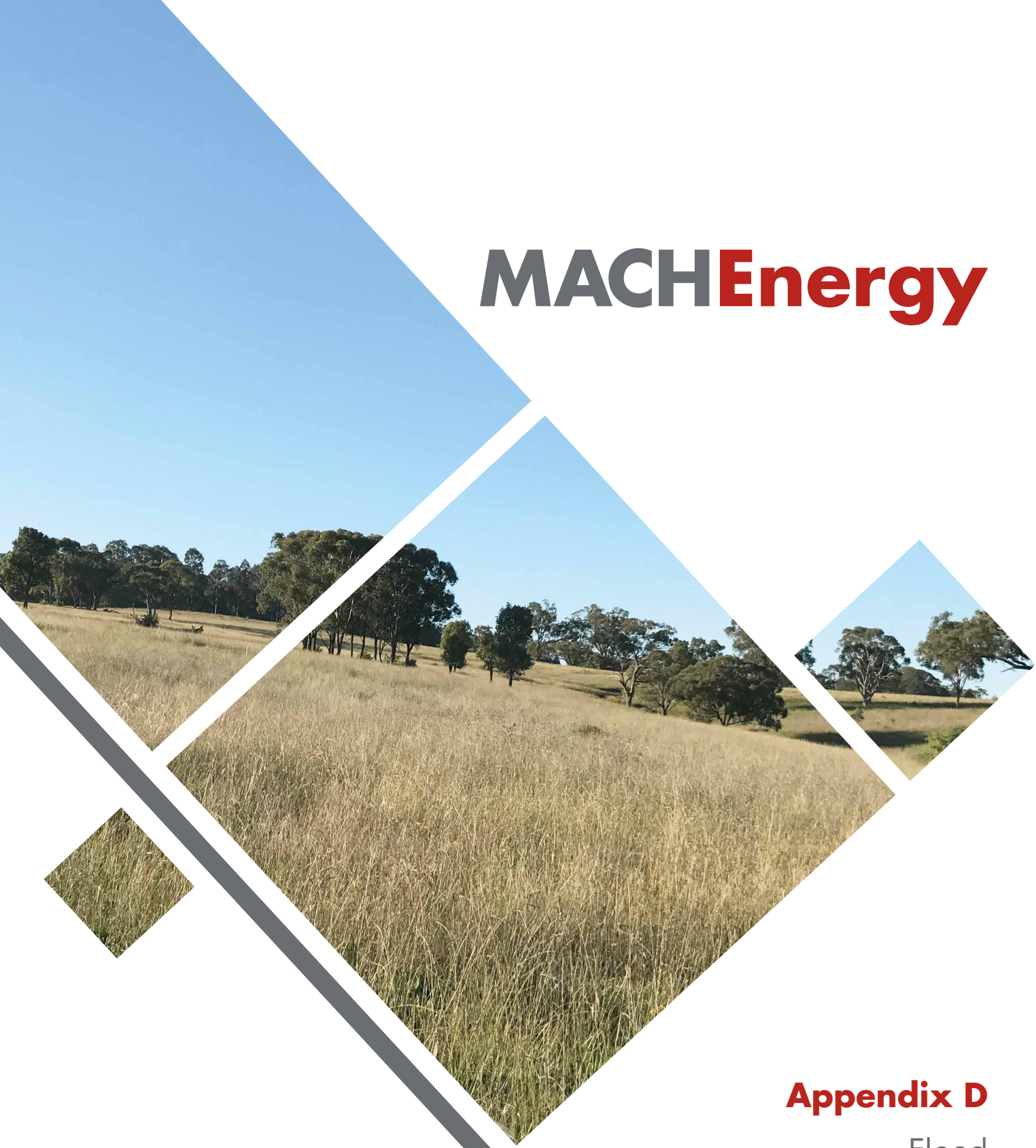
For example, for the headlight screens (7.5 m maximum height) plus embankments and cuttings add additional 7 vertical metres to altered view. Then consider what percentage of the horizontal width is occupied by these elements based on distance.





The two illustrations demonstrate the concept of percentage of Focal View area the same occupied by any visible element from varying distances. The area of focal view increases with distance.

MACHEnergy



Appendix D

Flood Assessment

Mount Pleasant Operation

Rail Modification Flood Assessment

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

0744-09-B3, 19 December 2017

Report Title	Mount Pleasant Operation - Rail Modification Flood Assessment
Client	MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
Report Number	0744-09-B3

Revision Number	Report Date	Report Author	Reviewer
B3	19 December 2017	DN/BC	MB

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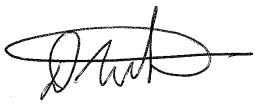

David Newton
Director

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Contents

1 Introduction 6

1.1 Project overview 6

1.2 Proposed modification 6

1.3 Scope of flood assessment 6

1.4 Report structure 9

2 Drainage network 10

2.1 Catchment and floodplain configuration 10

2.2 Glenbawn Dam 10

3 Available data 12

3.1 Streamflow data 12

3.2 Previous study 12

4 Estimation of discharges 14

4.1 Methodology 14

4.2 Flood frequency analysis 14

4.2.1 Selection of period for FFA 14

4.2.2 FFA results 14

4.3 Hydrologic model configuration 16

4.3.1 Design rainfalls 16

4.3.2 Areal reduction factor 16

4.3.3 Temporal patterns 17

4.3.4 Glenbawn Dam 17

4.3.5 Rainfall losses 17

4.4 Adopted peak design discharges 17

5 Hydraulic modelling 19

5.1 Overview 19

5.2 TUFLOW model configuration 19

5.2.1 Spatial configuration 19

5.2.2 Topographic data 19

5.2.3 Manning's roughness 19

5.2.4 Inflow and outflow boundaries 19

5.2.5 Existing hydraulic structures 21

5.3 Hydraulic model verification 21

5.3.1 Overview 21

5.3.2 Model verification results 21

6 Flood impact assessment 25

6.1 Overview 25

6.2 Proposed rail spur 25

6.3 Design criteria and mitigation measures 25
6.4 Existing conditions peak flood depths and extents 25
6.5 Predicted flood level impacts 29
6.6 Predicted flood velocity impacts 29
7 Conclusion 36
8 References 37

List of Figures

Figure 1.1 – Locality map, Mount Pleasant Operation 7
Figure 1.2 – Alignment of proposed rail spur 8
Figure 2.1 – Hunter River floodplain cross-section 11
Figure 3.1 – Location of streamflow gauges 13
Figure 4.1 - LPIII distribution of recorded flows, Muswellbrook Bridge gauge 16
Figure 5.1 – TUFLOW model configuration 20
Figure 5.2 – Comparison of recorded and predicted flow hydrographs, Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge, August 1998 flood event 22
Figure 5.3 – Comparison of recorded and predicted water level hydrographs, Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge, August 1998 flood event 22
Figure 5.4 – Comparison of recorded and predicted flow hydrographs, Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge, November 2000 flood event 23
Figure 5.5 – Comparison of recorded and predicted water level hydrographs, Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge, November 2000 flood event 23
Figure 5.6 – Comparison of model results and historical photographs, November 2000 flood event 24
Figure 6.1 – Existing conditions peak flood depths, 5% AEP design event 26
Figure 6.2 – Existing conditions peak flood depths, 1% AEP design event 27
Figure 6.3 – Existing conditions peak flood depths, 1% AEP plus 20% flow design event 28
Figure 6.4 – Peak flood level impacts, 5% AEP design event 30
Figure 6.5 – Peak flood level impacts, 1% AEP design event 31
Figure 6.6 – Peak flood level impacts, 1% AEP plus 20% flow design event 32
Figure 6.7 – Flood velocity impacts, 5% AEP design event 33
Figure 6.8 – Flood velocity impacts, 1% AEP design event 34
Figure 6.9 – Flood velocity impacts, 1% AEP plus 20% flow design event 35

List of Tables

Table 3.1 – Stream gauges within the study area 12
Table 4.1 – Peak annual discharges at Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge 15
Table 4.2 – Flood frequency analysis results for Muswellbrook Bridge gauge 15
Table 4.3 – Design rainfall depths 16
Table 4.4 – Areal reduction factors for Hunter River to Muswellbrook 17
Table 4.5 – Adopted rainfall losses 17
Table 4.6 – Comparison of RAFTS predicted design discharges and FFA at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge 18
Table 5.1 – Adopted Manning's roughness for different land use types 21
Table 5.2 – Comparison of recorded and predicted peak flood levels at Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge 22

1 Introduction

1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Mount Pleasant Operation Development Consent DA 92/97 was granted on 22 December 1999. The Mount Pleasant Operation was also approved under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* (EPBC Act) in 2012 (EPBC 2011/5795).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd (MACH Energy) acquired the Mount Pleasant Operation from Coal and Allied Operations Pty Ltd (Coal & Allied) on 4 August 2016. MACH Energy commenced construction activities at the Mount Pleasant Operation in November 2016 and commenced mining operations in October 2017, in accordance with Development Consent DA 92/97 and EPBC 2011/5795.

The approved Mount Pleasant Operation includes the construction and operation of an open cut coal mine and associated rail spur and product coal loading infrastructure located approximately three kilometres (km) north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW) (Figure 1.1).

The mine is approved to produce up to 10.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of run-of-mine (ROM) coal. Up to approximately nine trains per day of thermal coal products from the Mount Pleasant Operation will be transported by rail to the port of Newcastle for export or to domestic customers for use in electricity generation.

1.2 PROPOSED MODIFICATION

The ultimate extent of the approved Bengalla Mine open cut intersects the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur.

While the intersection of the Bengalla Mine open cut with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail infrastructure is still some years away, MACH Energy is proposing a Rail Modification to obtain approval for future product transport facilities to manage this interaction.

The Rail Modification would primarily comprise:

- duplication of the approved rail spur, rail loop, conveyor and rail load-out facility and associated services;
- duplication of the Hunter River water supply pump station, water pipeline and associated electricity supply that currently follows the rail spur alignment; and
- demolition and removal of the redundant approved infrastructure within the extent of the Bengalla Mine, once the new rail, product loading and water supply infrastructure has been commissioned and is fully operational.

The Rail Modification would not alter the number of approved train movements on the rail network or operational workforce of the Mount Pleasant Operation. The alignment of the proposed rail spur is shown in Figure 1.2.

1.3 SCOPE OF FLOOD ASSESSMENT

WRM Water & Environment Pty Ltd (WRM) was commissioned by MACH Energy to assess the potential impacts of the new rail spur on Hunter River flooding and provide advice on appropriate design criteria and mitigation measures to prevent adverse flooding impacts on nearby private properties and public infrastructure.

Figure 1.1 – Locality map, Mount Pleasant Operation

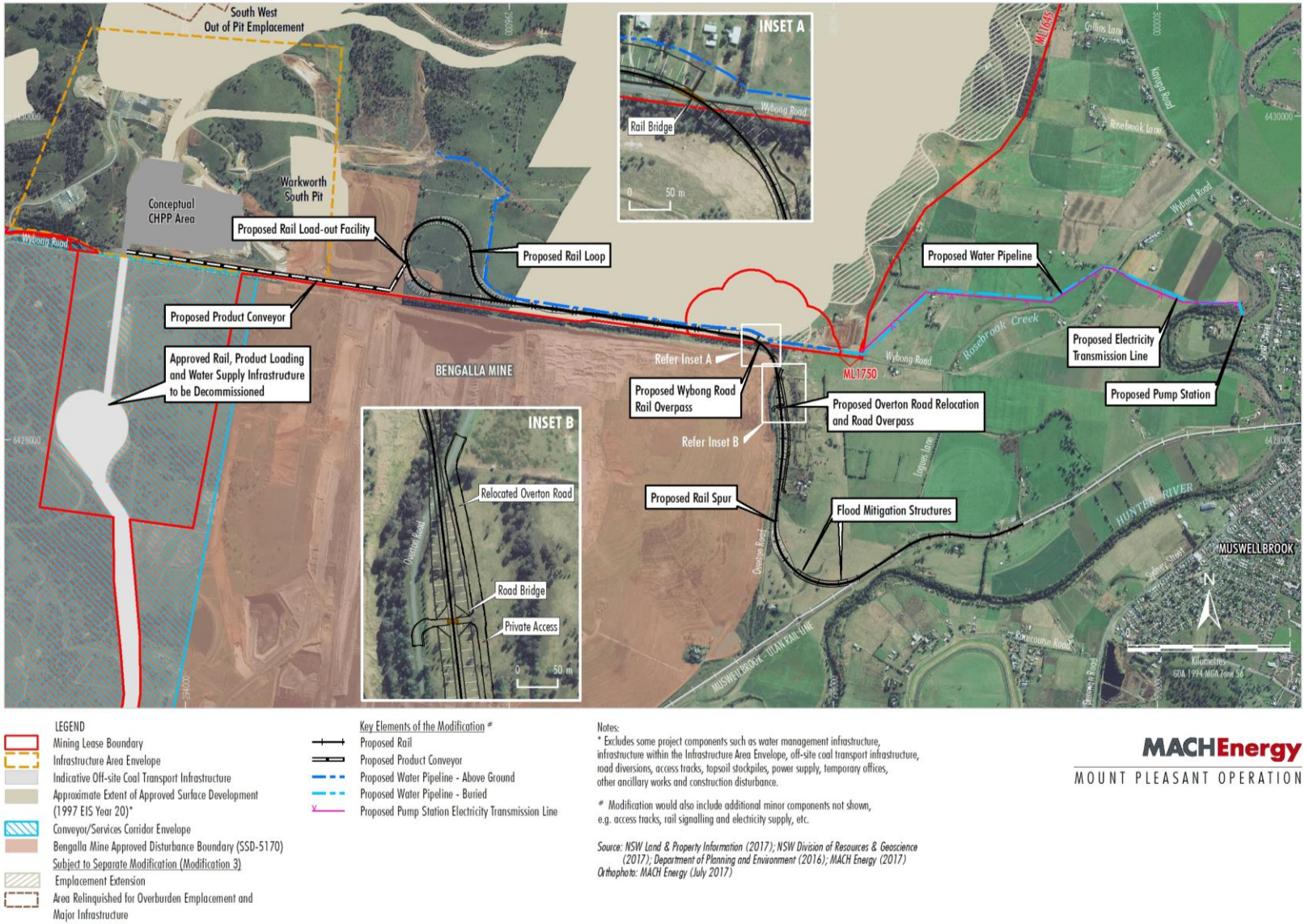


Figure 1.2 – Alignment of proposed rail spur

The Rail Modification involves construction of a new rail spur across part of the floodplain of the Hunter River. The Rail Modification also includes the construction of a water supply pump station and associated water pipeline however these are not considered to have any material effect on flooding given the water supply pipeline would be buried within the Hunter River floodplain and therefore would not impede overland flow during a flood event.

This flood assessment includes detailed hydrologic and hydraulic modelling of the Hunter River floodplain in the area of interest to assess the potential impacts of the proposed rail spur on flood levels and velocities.

1.4 REPORT STRUCTURE

This report details the methodology and results of the flood assessment. The report is structured as follows:

- Section 2 describes the drainage characteristics of catchments in the vicinity of the study area and general data relating to Glenbawn Dam, which is located upstream of the Mount Pleasant Operation.
- Section 3 outlines available data including stream gauge data and previous relevant studies.
- Section 4 describes the development and verification of the hydrologic model and the estimation of design flood discharges.
- Section 5 describes the development and verification of the hydraulic model.
- Section 6 outlines the results of the flood assessment.
- Section 7 presents the conclusions of the study.
- Section 8 is a list of references.

2 Drainage network

2.1 CATCHMENT AND FLOODPLAIN CONFIGURATION

The proposed rail spur is located on the northern floodplain of the Hunter River. The Hunter River has a catchment area of 4,220 square kilometres (km^2) upstream of Muswellbrook.

The Hunter River floodplain in the vicinity of Muswellbrook consists of a wide, flat floodplain with a width of about 2 km. An incised main channel approximately 10 metres (m) deep meanders across the floodplain. The floodplain is drained by a number of meandering floodplain drainage channels which collect local runoff from the floodplain and local catchment inflows. These floodplain channels also convey breakout flows from the Hunter River main channel during flood events.

Figure 2.1 shows a cross-section of the Hunter River floodplain near the proposed rail spur location. The existing Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line is located on an existing embankment across the floodplain.

The existing rail and road embankments crossing the floodplain incorporate various cross-drainage structures, including bridges and culverts, to convey in-bank and floodplain flows. The existing rail embankment impedes some flow but overtops under certain flooding conditions. The Rail Modification rail spur remains at the same elevation as the existing Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line for approximately 1 km from the turnout location before it begins rising toward the foothills adjacent to the Bengalla Mine waste emplacement.

Where the proposed rail spur is increasing in elevation relative to the existing rail line on the floodplain, it will impede flows that would have previously overtopped the existing Muswellbrook-Ulan Rail Line. MACH Energy would implement additional hydraulic structures to reduce the amount of flow that is impeded in order to reduce any potential change in flood levels/velocity at private properties and public infrastructure to acceptable limits.

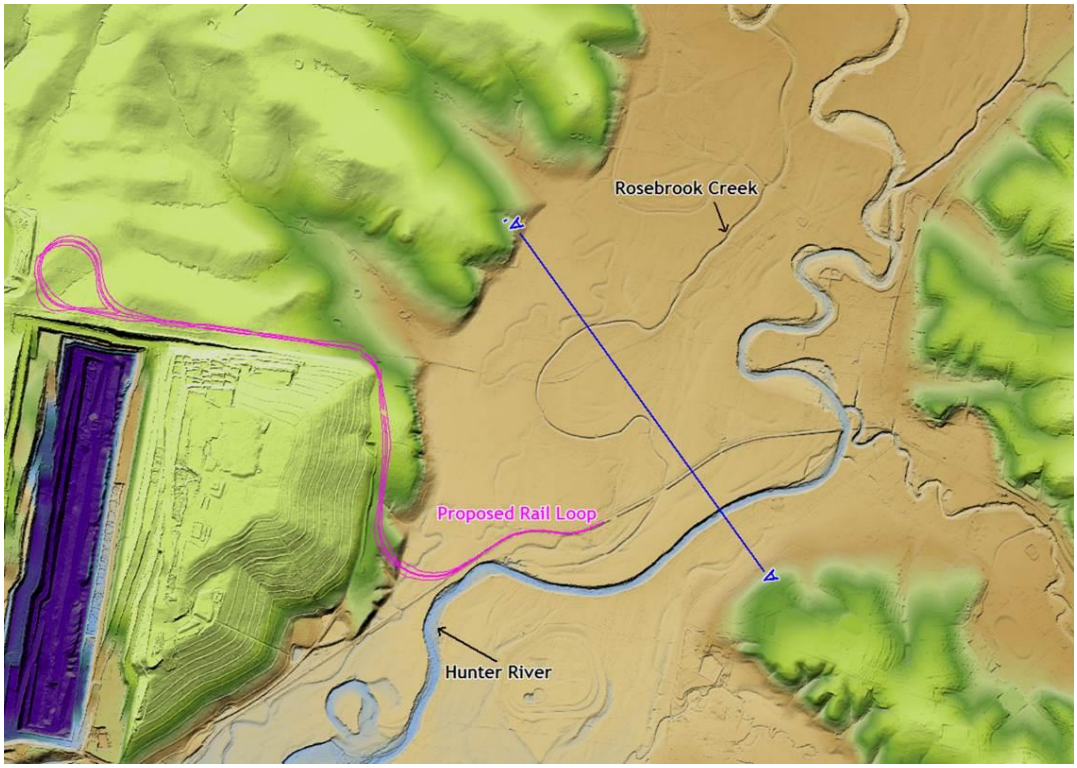
2.2 GLENBAWN DAM

Glenbawn Dam is a major water supply dam located on the Hunter River upstream of Muswellbrook. The structure is an ungated, rock embankment dam, utilising both a chute spillway and fuse plugs for water level control.

The original dam was completed in 1958, however the dam was raised with a three-fold increase in capacity in 1987. Relevant details of Glenbawn Dam are as follows[a]:

- Catchment area = 1,300 km^2
- Surface area at Full Supply Level (FSL) = 26.1 km^2
- Main wall height = 100 m
- Spillway crest level = 280.6 metres above Australian Height Datum (mAHD)
- FSL = 276.2 mAHD
- Storage capacity at FSL = 750,000 megalitres (ML)
- Spillway length = 190 m

[a] Source = NSW Office of Water website



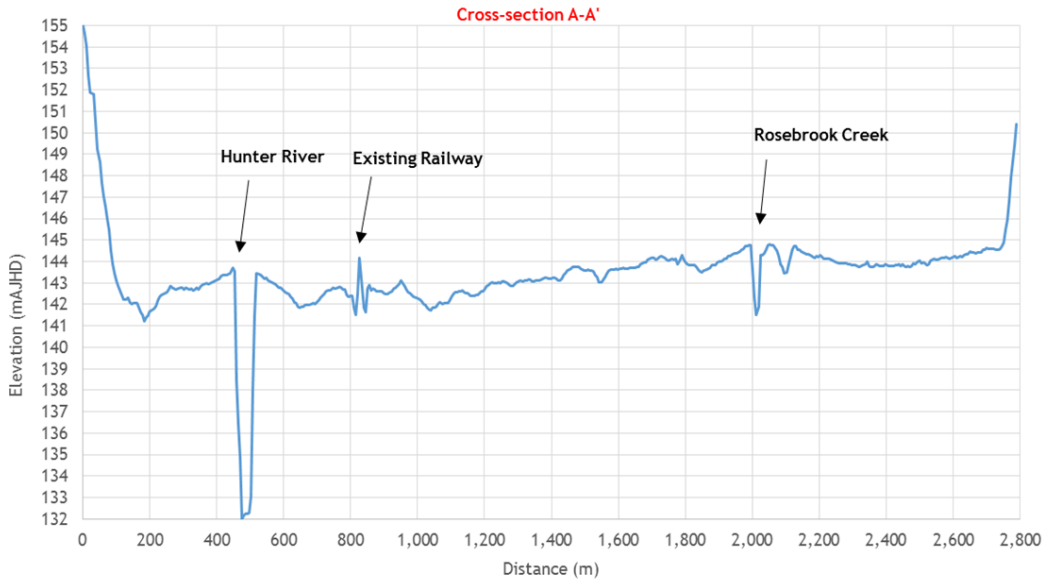


Figure 2.1 – Hunter River floodplain cross-section

3 Available data

3.1 STREAMFLOW DATA

Recorded streamflow data is available at a number of stream gauges within the Hunter River catchment (shown in Table 3.1). Figure 3.1 shows the locations of these streamflow gauges. The most relevant stream gauge is Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge, which is only 3 km north-east of the proposed rail spur.

The Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge has recorded streamflow data since 1913, but significant data was missing prior to 1961. The data recorded since 1961 was used to undertake the flood frequency analysis (FFA) for the study.

Table 3.1 – Stream gauges within the study area

Station Name	Station Number	Catchment area (km^2)	Latitude Longitude	Period of Available Data
Hunter River at downstream Glenbawn Dam	210015	1,295	-32.11 150.99	Aug 1940 - Oct 2017
Hunter River at Aberdeen	210056	3,090	-32.16 150.88	Mar 1959 – Oct 2017
Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge	210002	4,220	-32.26 150.89	Jan 1913 – Oct 2017
Hunter River at Denman	210055	4,530	-32.38 150.71	Feb 1959 – Oct 2017

3.2 PREVIOUS STUDY

A detailed flood study for the Hunter River (Muswellbrook to Denman) was undertaken by WorleyParsons Services Pty Ltd (Worley Parsons) for Muswellbrook Shire Council in 2014. RAFTS hydrologic and TUFLOW hydraulic models were developed for the Hunter River and calibrated to the 1998, 2000 and 2007 historical flood events. The calibrated RAFTS model and TUFLOW model were used to estimate design flood discharges and design flood levels for a range of design events.

The detailed model configuration and parameters of the Hunter River RAFTS model were provided in the 2014 Hunter River flood study report (WorleyParsons, 2014). This includes detailed RAFTS node and link parameters, design rainfall intensities and design rainfall losses.

The design discharges in the 2014 Hunter River flood study (WorleyParsons, 2014) were estimated using standard procedures outlined in 'Australian Rainfall and Runoff – A Guide to Flood Estimation' (1987) (ARR 1987) (Pilgrim, 1987). This includes the Intensity-Frequency-Duration data, temporal patterns and areal reduction factor methodology from the ARR 1987 documentation.

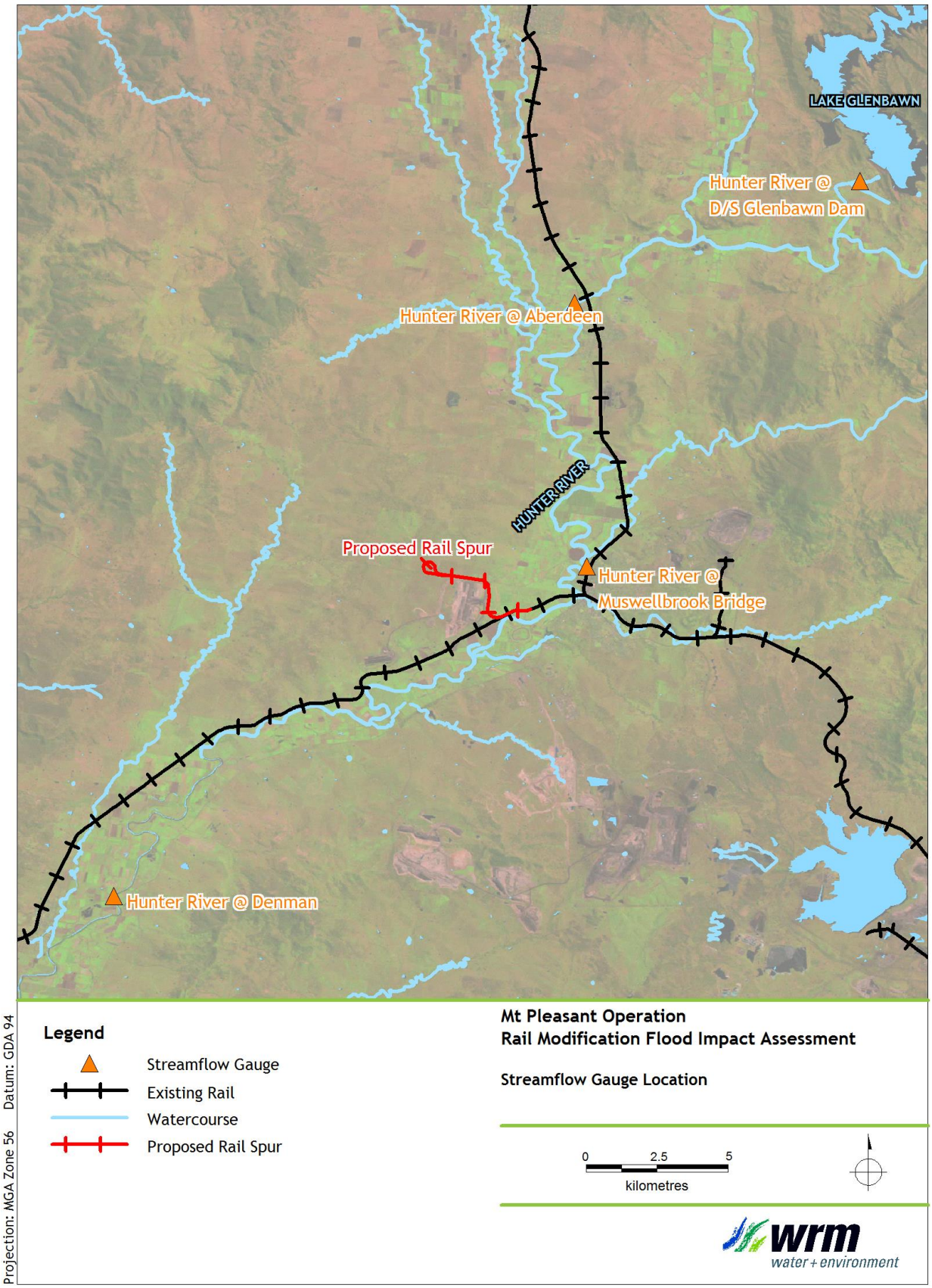


Figure 3.1 - Location of streamflow gauges

4 Estimation of discharges

4.1 METHODOLOGY

The calibrated Hunter River RAFTS model developed by WorleyParsons (2014) was reproduced using the detailed configuration and parameters reported in the 2014 Hunter River flood study report (WorleyParsons, 2014) and was used for this flood assessment.

The design discharge hydrographs were determined in accordance with the methodology recommended in Australian Rainfall and Runoff (ARR) 2016 (Ball et al., 2016), replacing ARR 1987 (Pilgrim, 1987). The major changes between ARR 2016 and ARR 1987 include:

- the use of new rainfall Intensity–Frequency–Duration (2016 IFDs), which are based on a more extensive database, with more than 30 years of additional rainfall data and data from extra rainfall stations;
- the use of an ensemble of 10 temporal patterns to derive the design discharges (the temporal pattern that gives the peak discharge closest to the mean is used), compared to using a single temporal pattern as in ARR 1987; and
- modified areal reduction factors.

The design rainfall losses were selected so that the RAFTS design peak discharges at Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge aligned with the results of the FFA.

4.2 FLOOD FREQUENCY ANALYSIS

4.2.1 Selection of period for FFA

A FFA was undertaken on the Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge (Station No. 210002). The catchment area to Muswellbrook Bridge gauge is 4,220 km^2 and includes Glenbawn Dam. The catchment area of Glenbawn Dam is 1,300 km^2. Glenbawn Dam provides some 120,000 ML of flood storage between the full supply level and the spillway level. The available flood storage volume has a significant impact on the downstream discharges. Hence, hydrology of the Hunter River at Muswellbrook would be expected to be different after the upgrade of Glenbawn Dam in 1987.

Muswellbrook Bridge gauge has recorded streamflow data from 1913 to present. However, significant data was missing prior to 1961. A FFA reflecting post-dam hydrology would use data from 1987 onwards. However, this would only provide 30 years of data.

An additional 26 years of data is available if the full record from 1961 is adopted. However it is noted that this period includes data prior to the dam upgrade in 1987. Hence, a FFA based on data since 1961 is likely to slightly overestimate design discharges at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge. This is considered acceptable because it is a conservative approach for estimation of design discharges and also acceptable for a flood assessment. The model results will not be used to set design flood levels for the proposed rail spur which are determined by the existing rail embankment levels.

4.2.2 FFA results

The peak annual discharges recorded at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge between 1961 and 2016 shown in Table 4.1 were used in the FFA. The FFA was undertaken using the Bayesian inference methodology recommended in the ARR 2016 using the FLIKE software. The FFA results are given in Table 4.1, and represented graphically in Figure 4.1. There is a 90% likelihood that the design discharge is within the 90% confidence limits shown in Figure 4.1. The 5 percent (%) Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) and 1% AEP design peak discharges are 1,732 cubic metres per second (m^3/s) and 3,721 m^3/s, respectively.

Table 4.1 – Peak annual discharges at Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge

Year	Peak Annual Discharge (m^3/s)	Year	Peak Annual Discharge (m^3/s)
1961	93	1989	546
1962	874	1990	808
1963	385	1991	107
1964	542	1992	2,144
1965	28	1993	217
1966	28	1994	72
1967	394	1995	321
1968	701	1996	999
1969	383	1997	120
1970	313	1998	1,502
1971	3,207	1999	227
1972	232	2000	1,598
1973	117	2001	237
1974	327	2002	87
1975	136	2003	117
1976	2,109	2004	182
1977	679	2005	52
1978	865	2006	12
1979	255	2007	256
1980	8	2008	245
1981	86	2009	77
1982	77	2010	197
1983	165	2011	424
1984	1,153	2012	195
1985	237	2013	259
1986	57	2014	20
1987	183	2015	83
1988	139	2016	183

Table 4.2 – Flood frequency analysis results for Muswellbrook Bridge gauge

AEP	Design Discharge (m^3/s)
5%	1,732
2%	2,754
1%	3,721
0.5%	4,872
0.2%	6,705
0.1%	8,348

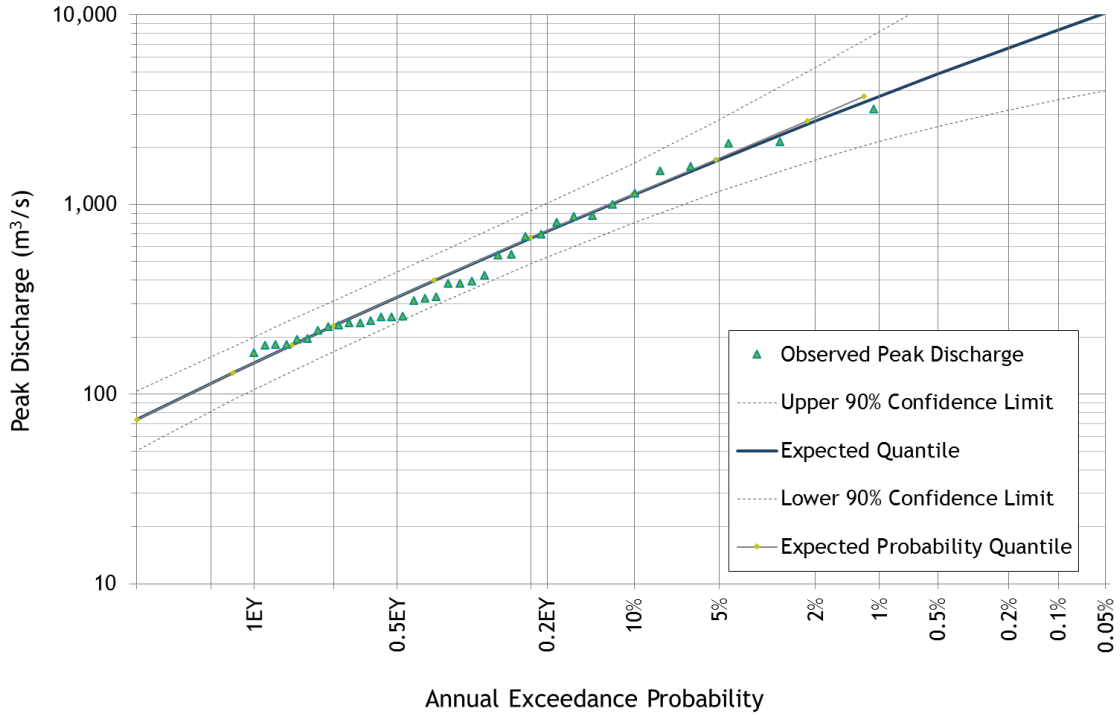


Figure 4.1 - LPIII distribution of recorded flows, Muswellbrook Bridge gauge

4.3 HYDROLOGIC MODEL CONFIGURATION

The model configuration and parameters of the calibrated Hunter River RAFTS model developed by WorleyParsons (2014) are generally unchanged. The adopted Glenbawn Dam configuration is provided in Section 4.3.4.

4.3.1 Design rainfalls

Design rainfall depths were obtained from the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) for a range of design AEPs and storm durations, as shown in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3 - Design rainfall depths

Storm Duration (Hours)	Rainfall Depths (millimetres [mm])			
	10% AEP	5% AEP	2% AEP	1% AEP
12	74	86	102	115
18	87	101	121	137
24	97	113	136	154
36	113	133	160	182
48	125	147	178	203
72	141	166	201	229

4.3.2 Areal reduction factor

Table 4.4 shows the adopted areal reduction factors for the Hunter River catchment to Muswellbrook. The areal reduction factors were estimated in accordance with recommendations of Chapter 4 in ARR 2016. The Hunter River catchment is within the South-East Coast zone.

Table 4.4 – Areal reduction factors for Hunter River to Muswellbrook

Storm Duration (Hours)	Areal Reduction Factor			
	10% AEP	5% AEP	2% AEP	1% AEP
12	0.768	0.758	0.745	0.735
18	0.818	0.810	0.800	0.792
24	0.868	0.863	0.855	0.850
30	0.876	0.871	0.864	0.858
36	0.882	0.877	0.870	0.864
48	0.892	0.886	0.879	0.874
72	0.903	0.898	0.891	0.885

4.3.3 Temporal patterns

The temporal patterns define the variability of rainfall during an event. The ensemble event approach described in ARR 2016 has been used for this analysis. This approach uses an 'ensemble' of 10 temporal patterns for each storm duration to derive a range of estimated flood peaks for each AEP up to the 1% AEP event.

The temporal patterns of relevance to the Hunter River (South-East Coast temporal patterns) were obtained from the ARR 2016 Data Hub (Geoscience Australia, 2016).

4.3.4 Glenbawn Dam

Glenbawn Dam was included in the RAFTS model to account for the effect of available flood storage from the dam. Dam data including the storage curve, full supply level and spillway level were obtained from the NSW Office of Water website. The full supply level was adopted as the initial water level in the dam for all design events.

4.3.5 Rainfall losses

The rainfall losses were adjusted so that the RAFTS peak design discharges matched the results of the FFA. Table 4.5 shows the adopted rainfall losses for the 5% and 1% AEP design events. The adopted rainfall losses are comparable to the recommended rainfall losses from ARR 2016.

Table 4.5 – Adopted rainfall losses

Design Event (AEP)	Initial Loss (mm)	Continuing Loss (mm/hr)
5%	47	1.7
1%	35	1.5

4.4 ADOPTED PEAK DESIGN DISCHARGES

Table 4.6 shows the 5% and 1% AEP RAFTS design discharges and comparison to the FFA results at Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge. The RAFTS predicted design discharges match reasonably well to FFA and hence the RAFTS design discharges were adopted in the hydraulic model to estimate design flood levels and velocities. This is considered conservative given the RAFTS discharges are slightly higher than the FFA discharges. The adopted 5% AEP and 1% AEP peak design discharges are 1,776 m^3/s and 3,841 m^3/s, respectively.

Table 4.6 – Comparison of RAFTS predicted design discharges and FFA at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge

Design Event (AEP)	FFA (m^3/s)	RAFTS (m^3/s)	Difference (RAFTS minus FFA)
5%	1,731	1,776	+2.6%
1%	3,721	3,841	+3.2%

5 Hydraulic modelling

5.1 OVERVIEW

The TUFLOW two-dimensional unsteady flow model (BMT WBM, 2016) was used to estimate flood levels and flood velocities along the channel and floodplain of the Hunter River in the vicinity of the Project.

TUFLOW estimates flood levels and velocities on a fixed grid pattern by solving the full two-dimensional depth averaged momentum and continuity equations for free surface flow. It also incorporates a one-dimensional or quasi two-dimensional modelling system (ESTRY).

5.2 TUFLOW MODEL CONFIGURATION

5.2.1 Spatial configuration

Figure 5.1 shows the extent of the hydraulic model and the locations of the inflow and outflow boundaries. The model extends approximately 6 km upstream and 13 km downstream of Muswellbrook and covers an area of some 70 km^2 including Sandy Creek. The model also includes Rosebrook Creek on the northern floodplain of the Hunter River.

The hydraulic model developed for the Rail Modification covers a smaller area than the model developed by WorleyParsons for the Hunter River (Muswellbrook to Denman) Flood Study (2014). The WorleyParsons hydraulic model was developed to define the characteristics of flooding around the townships of Muswellbrook and Denman to inform the preparation of a Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan. The smaller spatial extent of the hydraulic model developed for this study is considered more appropriate for identifying the potential impacts of the Rail Modification at a finer scale.

5.2.2 Topographic data

LiDAR survey data was provided by MACH Energy covering an area of 560 km^2. The LiDAR was adopted as the topographic data in the hydraulic model. A digital elevation model was derived from the Lidar and a 5 m grid size was adopted for the model.

5.2.3 Manning's roughness

The TUFLOW model uses Manning's 'n' values to represent hydraulic resistance. Discrete regions of continuous vegetation types and land uses were mapped using aerial photography, and an appropriate roughness value assigned to each region. The adopted Manning's 'n' values are shown in Table 5.1. The Manning's 'n' values were refined during model verification and were applied to all design event modelling.

5.2.4 Inflow and outflow boundaries

Figure 5.1 shows the locations of two inflow boundaries, the Hunter River and Sandy Creek, for the hydraulic model. The discharge hydrographs adopted as inflows to these boundaries were obtained from the RAFTS model.

A single normal depth outflow boundary with 0.1% slope was adopted for the Hunter River model. The outflow boundary of this model is located approximately 13 km downstream of Muswellbrook and will not have an impact on flood levels in the vicinity of the proposed rail spur.

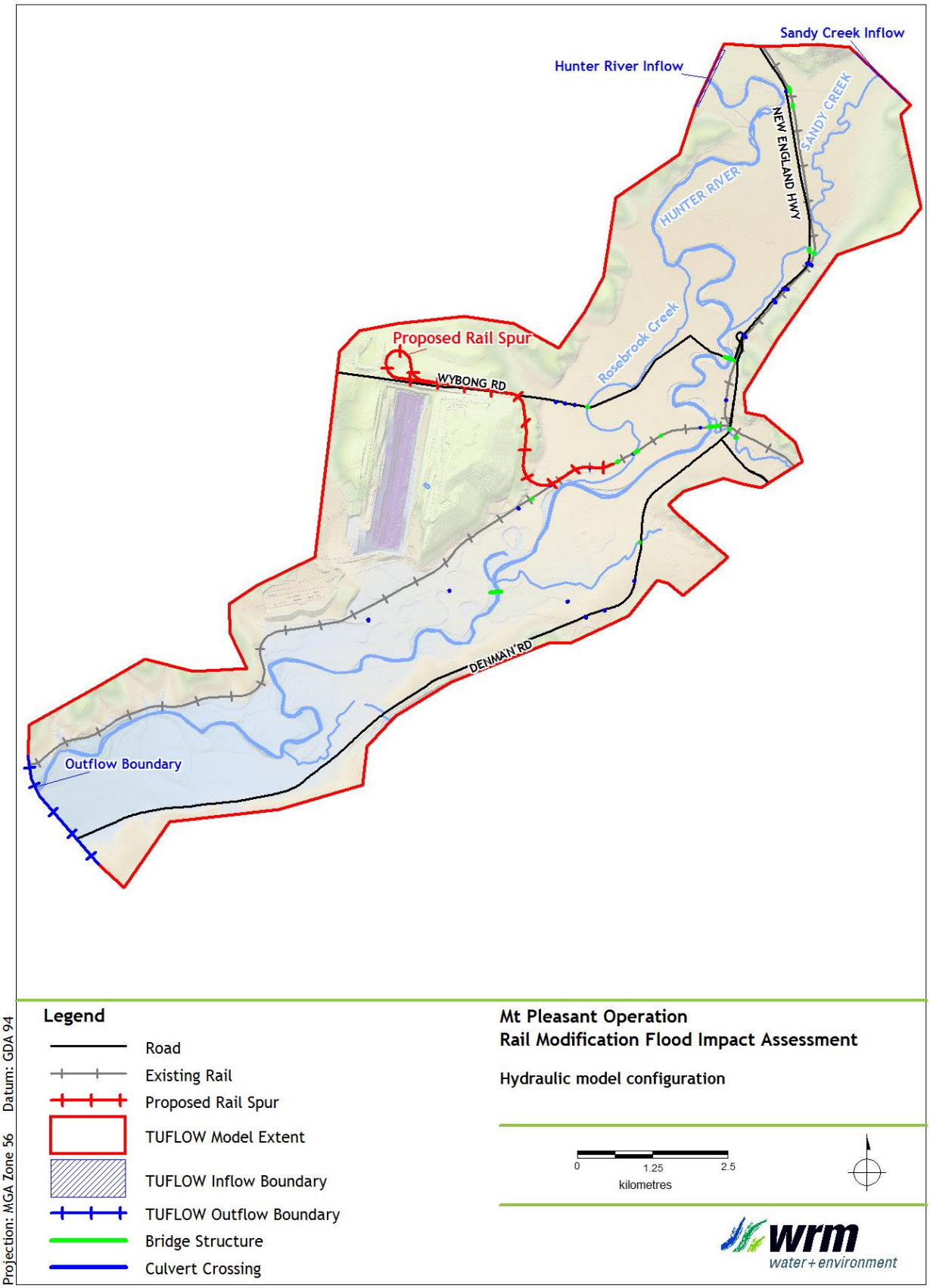


Figure 5.1 – TUFLOW model configuration

5.2.5 Existing hydraulic structures

Survey information on the existing hydraulic structures including culvert crossings and bridges were provided by FYFE (surveyors) dated 15 November 2017. A total of 26 culvert structures and 16 bridge structures were included in the hydraulic model based on the survey information. Figure 5.1 shows the locations of the modelled culvert and bridge structures.

A number of the modelled culvert and bridge structures shown on Figure 5.1 were not included in the WorleyParsons model, which focused on larger structures that had a greater potential to affect flooding at a regional scale.

Table 5.1 – Adopted Manning's roughness for different land use types

Land use	Manning's 'n'
Pasture / Overbank	0.040
Channel	0.030
Dense vegetation	0.065
Road	0.020
Rail	0.035
Urban area	0.100

5.3 HYDRAULIC MODEL VERIFICATION

5.3.1 Overview

The hydraulic model described in Section 5.2 was validated to the August 1998 and November 2000 historical events. These are the largest flood events in the last 24 years.

The recorded flow hydrographs for the Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge for the two historical events were obtained from NSW Department of Primary Industries Office of Water (DPI Water) website and adopted as inflows to the hydraulic model. The recorded flow hydrographs were shifted by about 1.5 hours earlier to account for the model inflow boundary being about 10 km (channel length) upstream of the Muswellbrook Bridge gauge. The model predicted flow and level hydrographs were then compared to the recorded hydrographs to validate the hydraulic model.

5.3.2 Model verification results

Figure 5.2 to Figure 5.5 show the recorded and predicted flow and water level hydrographs at Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge for the August 1998 and November 2000 flood events. Table 5.2 shows the comparison of recorded and predicted peak flood levels at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge for the two historical flood events. The following is of note:

- Using the recorded flow hydrographs, the model predicted discharges at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge match the recorded discharges well for the historical flood events. This indicates there is little channel storage or attenuation from the model inflow boundary to the gauge.
- The model predicted water levels at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge match the recorded water levels well for the historical flood events. The predicted peak flood levels at the gauge are within 0.1 m of the recorded peak flood levels.
- Figure 5.6 shows the comparison of model results and a historical photograph at New England Highway near Muscle Creek (WorleyParsons, 2014) for the November 2000 flood event. The model predicted depths at this locations are comparable to the historical photo.
- Overall, a good validation has been achieved for the August 1998 and November 2000 flood events, and the model is suitable for determining design flood levels and assessing impacts across the study area.

Table 5.2 – Comparison of recorded and predicted peak flood levels at Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge

Event	Peak Flood Level at Muswellbrook Bridge (mAHD)		
	Recorded	Predicted	Difference (m)
August 1998	146.29	146.37	+0.09
November 2000	146.61	146.58	-0.03

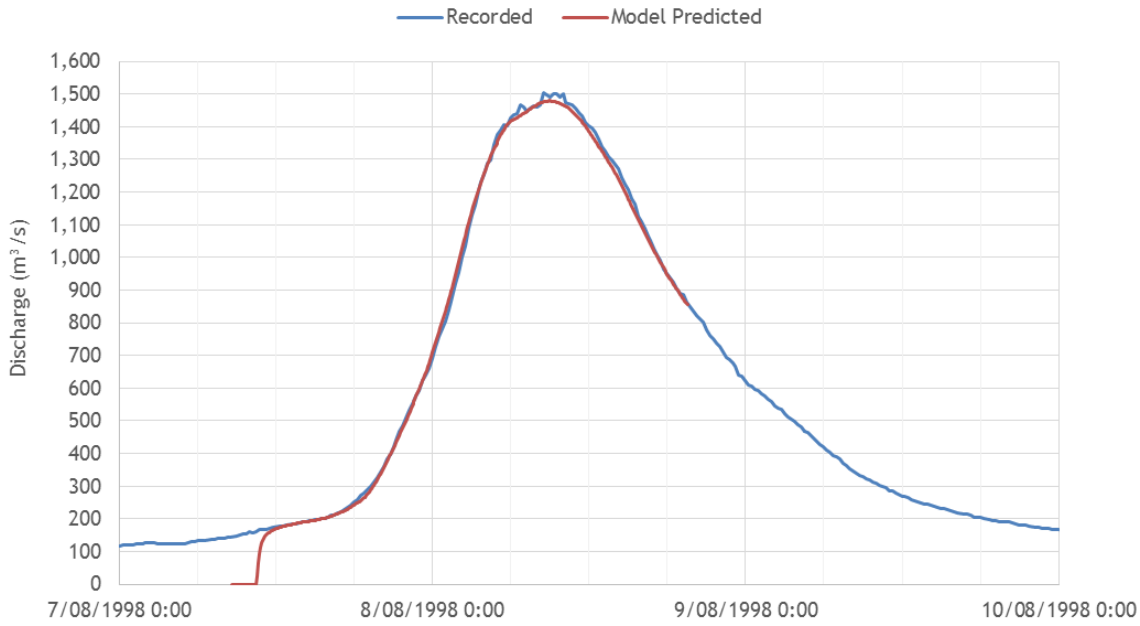


Figure 5.2 – Comparison of recorded and predicted flow hydrographs, Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge, August 1998 flood event

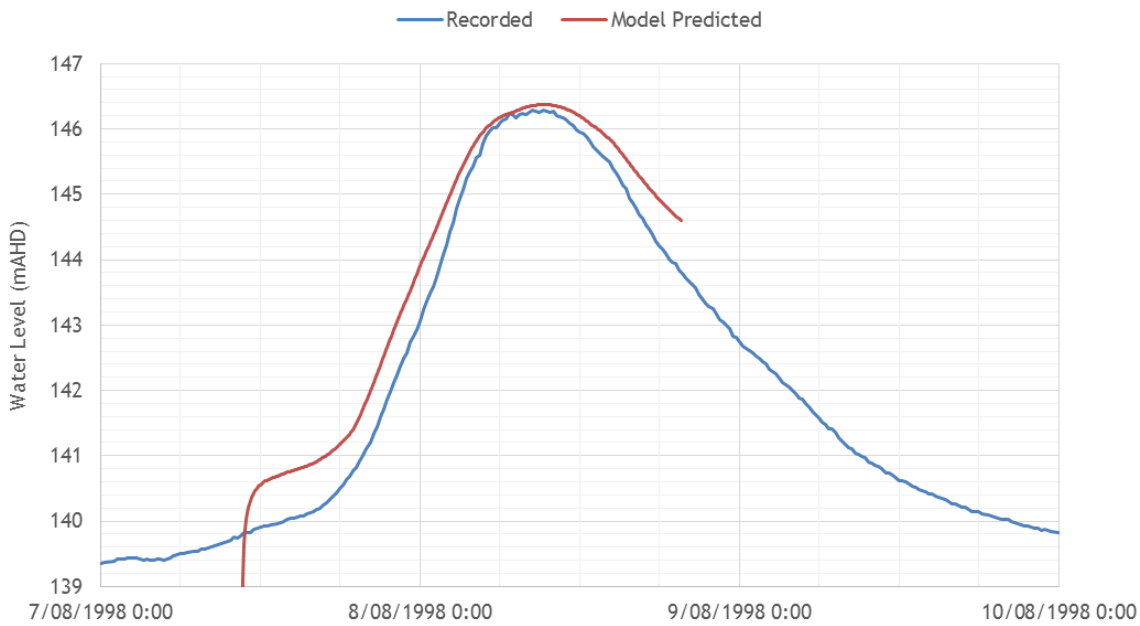


Figure 5.3 – Comparison of recorded and predicted water level hydrographs, Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge, August 1998 flood event

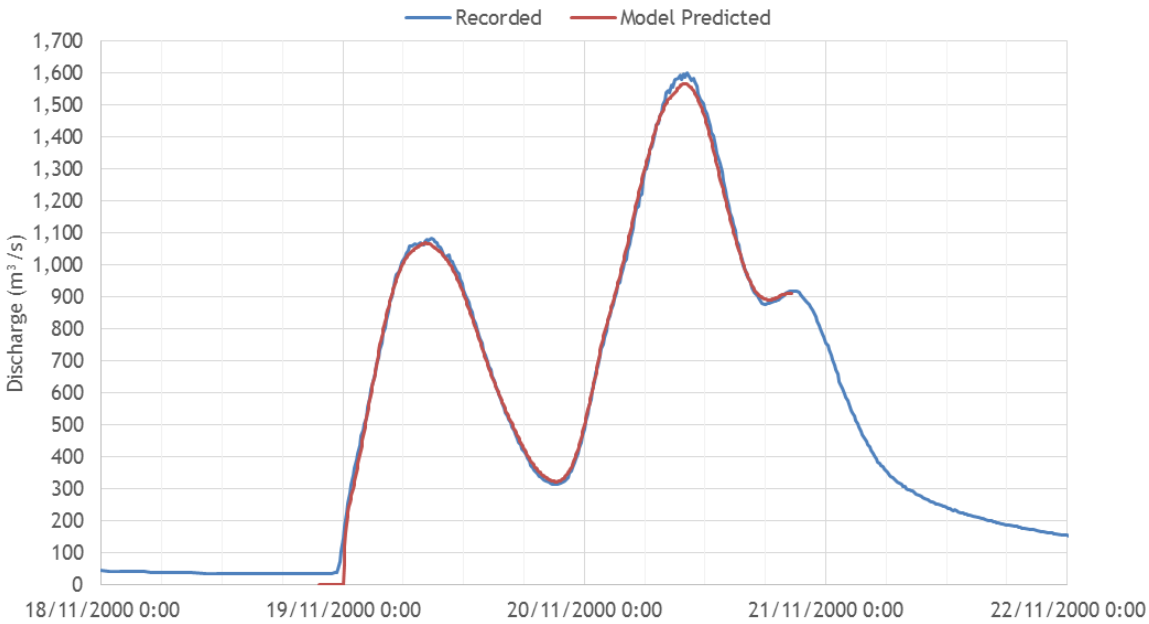


Figure 5.4 - Comparison of recorded and predicted flow hydrographs, Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge, November 2000 flood event

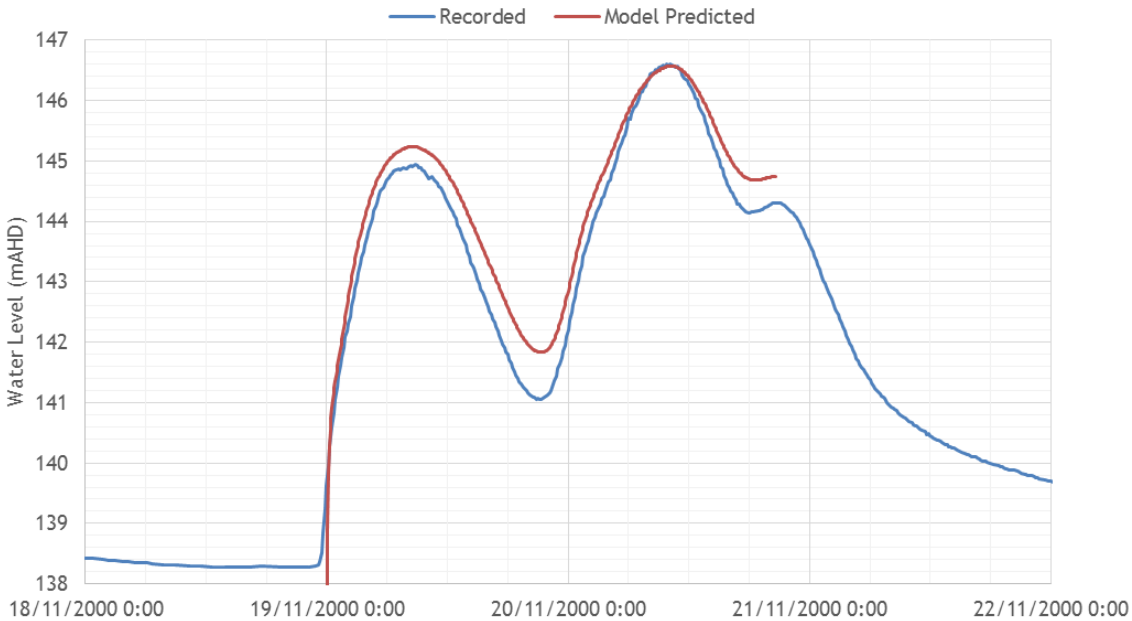
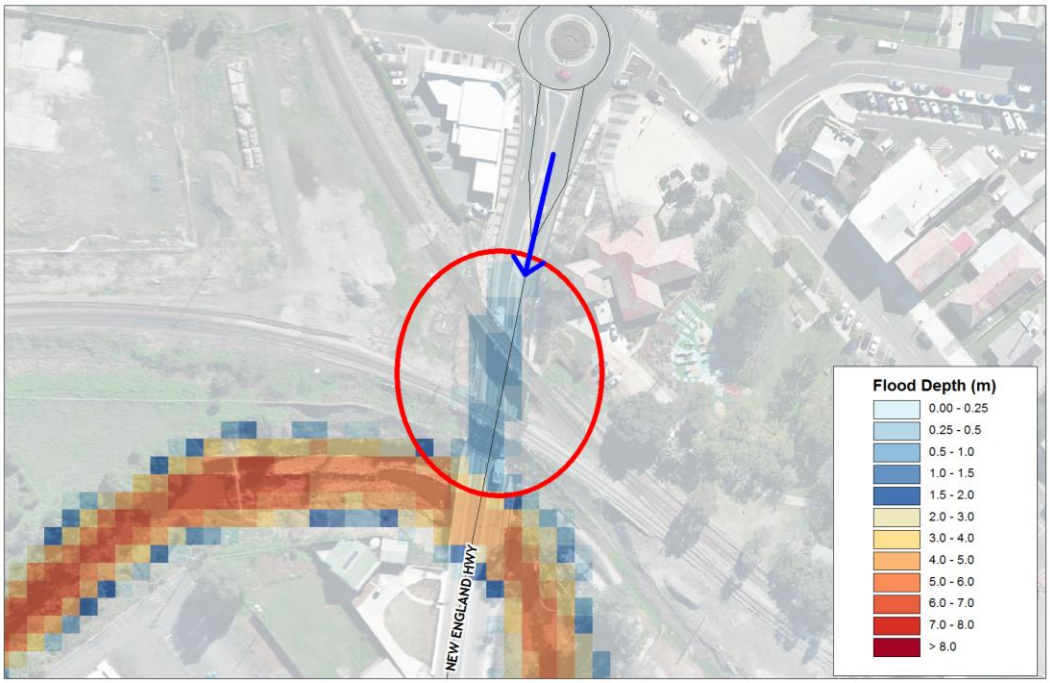


Figure 5.5 - Comparison of recorded and predicted water level hydrographs, Hunter River at Muswellbrook Bridge, November 2000 flood event



NOVEMBER 2000 – MUSWELLBROOK

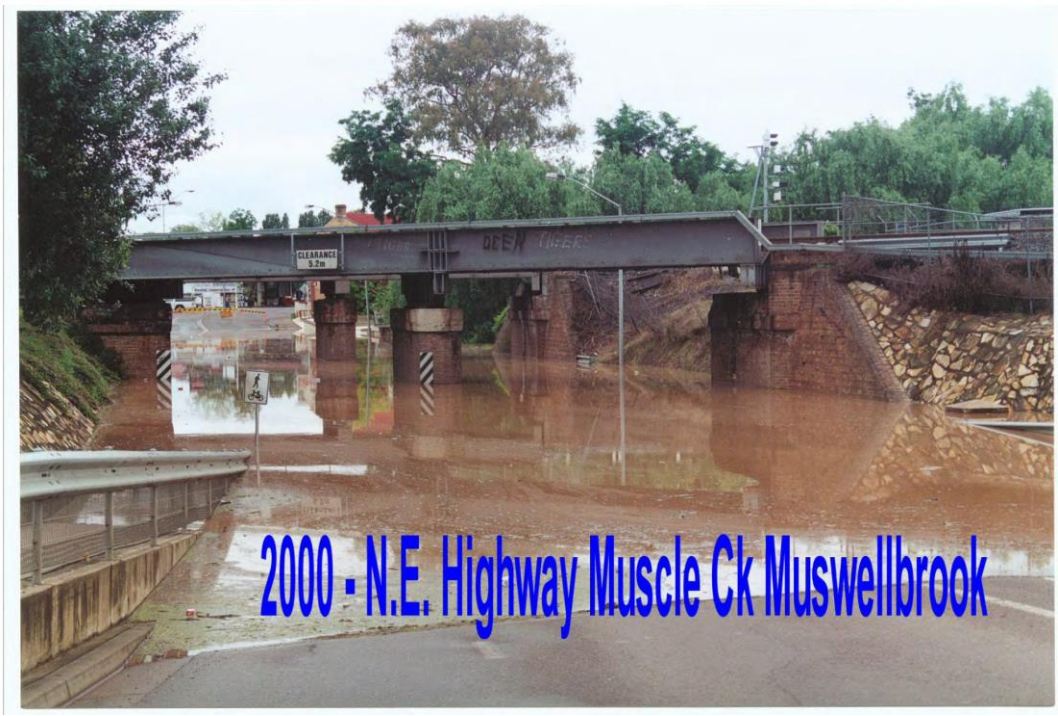


Figure 5.6 – Comparison of model results and historical photographs, November 2000 flood event

6 Flood impact assessment

6.1 OVERVIEW

The hydrologic and hydraulic models described in Section 4 and 5 were used to assess the impacts of the proposed rail spur on flooding. The design discharges from the hydrologic model were input into the hydraulic model to assess the existing conditions flood characteristics. The hydraulic model was then re-run with the proposed rail spur (as described in Section 6.2) and compared to the existing conditions to assess flood impacts.

6.2 PROPOSED RAIL SPUR

An earthworks model of the proposed rail spur was provided by MACH Energy (dated 9 November 2017). The proposed rail spur earthworks model was included in the hydraulic model to assess the flood impacts. Figure 1.2 shows the proposed rail spur.

6.3 DESIGN CRITERIA AND MITIGATION MEASURES

A conceptual design of the proposed rail spur has been modelled to consider potential impacts of the Rail Modification on flooding. The final detailed design of the proposed rail spur (and associated hydraulic structures) will be designed to meet the following criteria for potential flooding impacts for a 1% AEP flood event:

- no more than 0.1 m increase in flood levels on any privately owned land;
- no more than 0.01 m increase in flood levels at any privately owned dwellings or commercial spaces;
- no more than 0.01 m increase in flood levels at any public roads servicing privately owned properties; and
- no more than 0.1 metres per second (m/s) increase in flood velocities on privately owned dwellings or commercial spaces.

Conceptual mitigation measures were included in the modelled design to confirm that the proposed rail spur can be designed to meet the criteria above. The modelled mitigation measures include extension of two existing railway culvert crossings and two bridge openings in the rail embankment. Figure 6.4 shows the proposed mitigation measures, which consist of two bridge openings of 105 m and 90 m. Rail bridges with 15 m span length were assumed at the two proposed bridge openings.

6.4 EXISTING CONDITIONS PEAK FLOOD DEPTHS AND EXTENTS

The hydraulic model was used to estimate flood levels across the Hunter River floodplain for the 5% AEP and 1% AEP design flood events. A sensitivity run with 1% AEP discharge scaled up by 20% (1% AEP plus 20% flow) was also assessed. The peak discharge of the 1% AEP plus 20% flow is 4,609 m^3/s at Muswellbrook gauge, which is similar to the 1% AEP design discharge (4,857 m^3/s) estimated by WorleyParsons (2014) using the ARR 1987 guideline and different baseline data period.

Figure 6.1 to Figure 6.3 show the existing conditions peak flood depths in the vicinity of the proposed rail spur, for the 5% AEP, 1% AEP and 1% AEP plus 20% flow design events. The private dwellings south of the Hunter River channel are generally not inundated for a 5% AEP flood and inundated to a peak flood depths between 0.4 m and 0.7 m for the 1% AEP flood. The peak flood depths at the private dwellings south of the Hunter River channel are between 0.6 m and 1.0 m for the 1% AEP plus 20% flow design flood.

The 5% AEP and 1% AEP peak flood levels at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge are 146.94 mAHD and 148.26 mAHD, respectively. The peak flood level at Muswellbrook Bridge gauge for the sensitivity run (1% AEP plus 20% flow) is 148.56 mAHD.

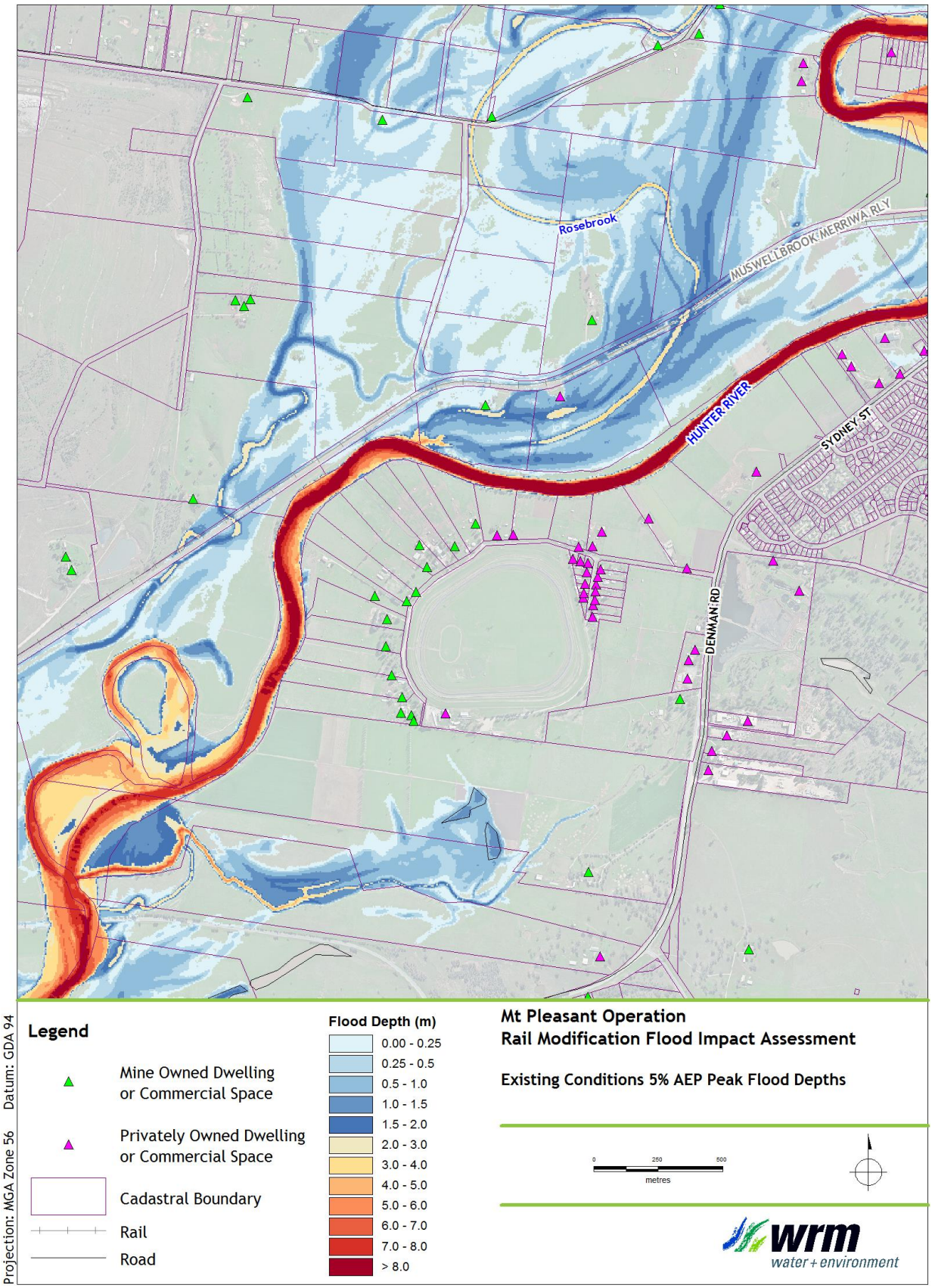


Figure 6.1 - Existing conditions peak flood depths, 5% AEP design event

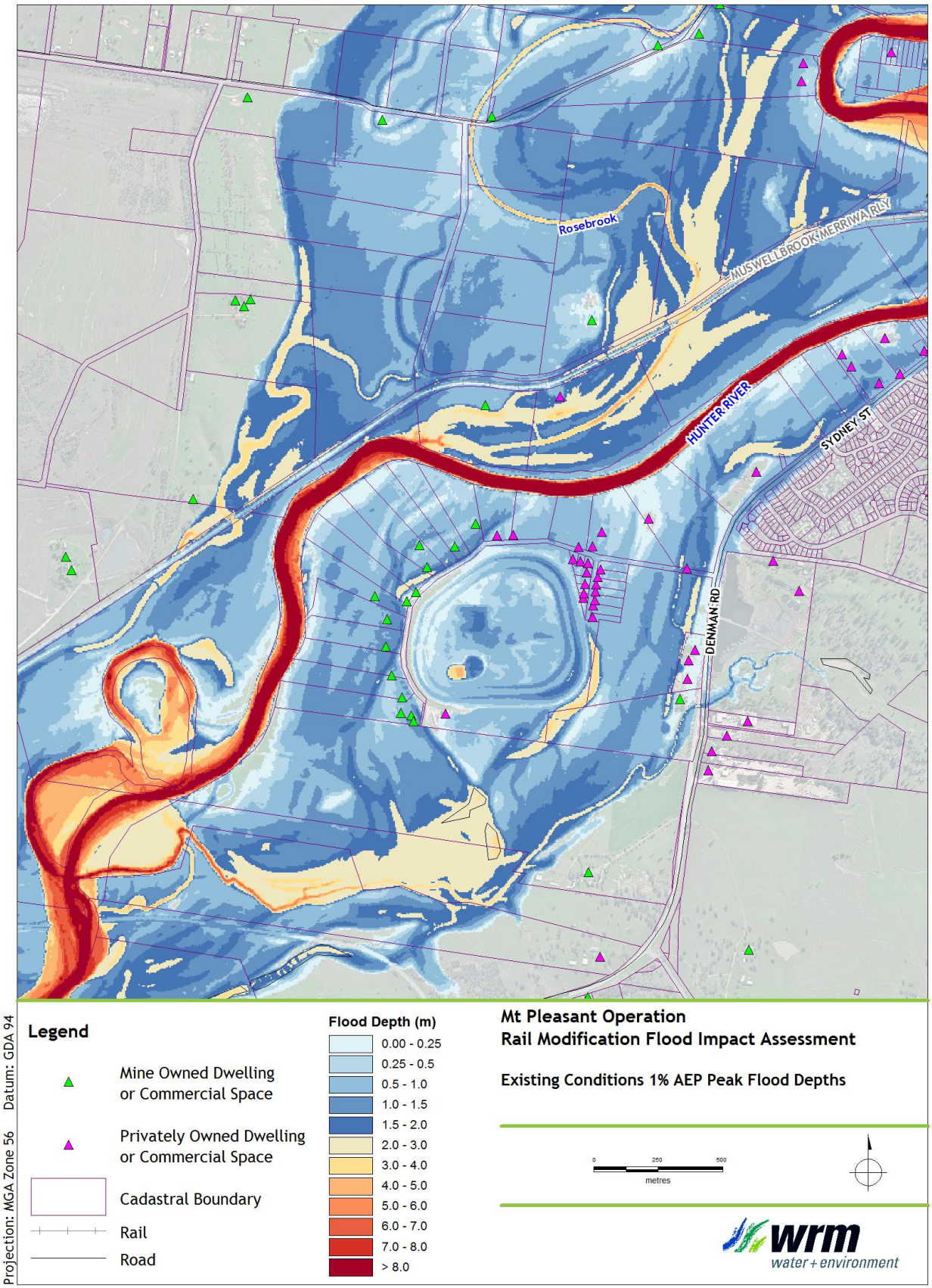


Figure 6.2 – Existing conditions peak flood depths, 1% AEP design event

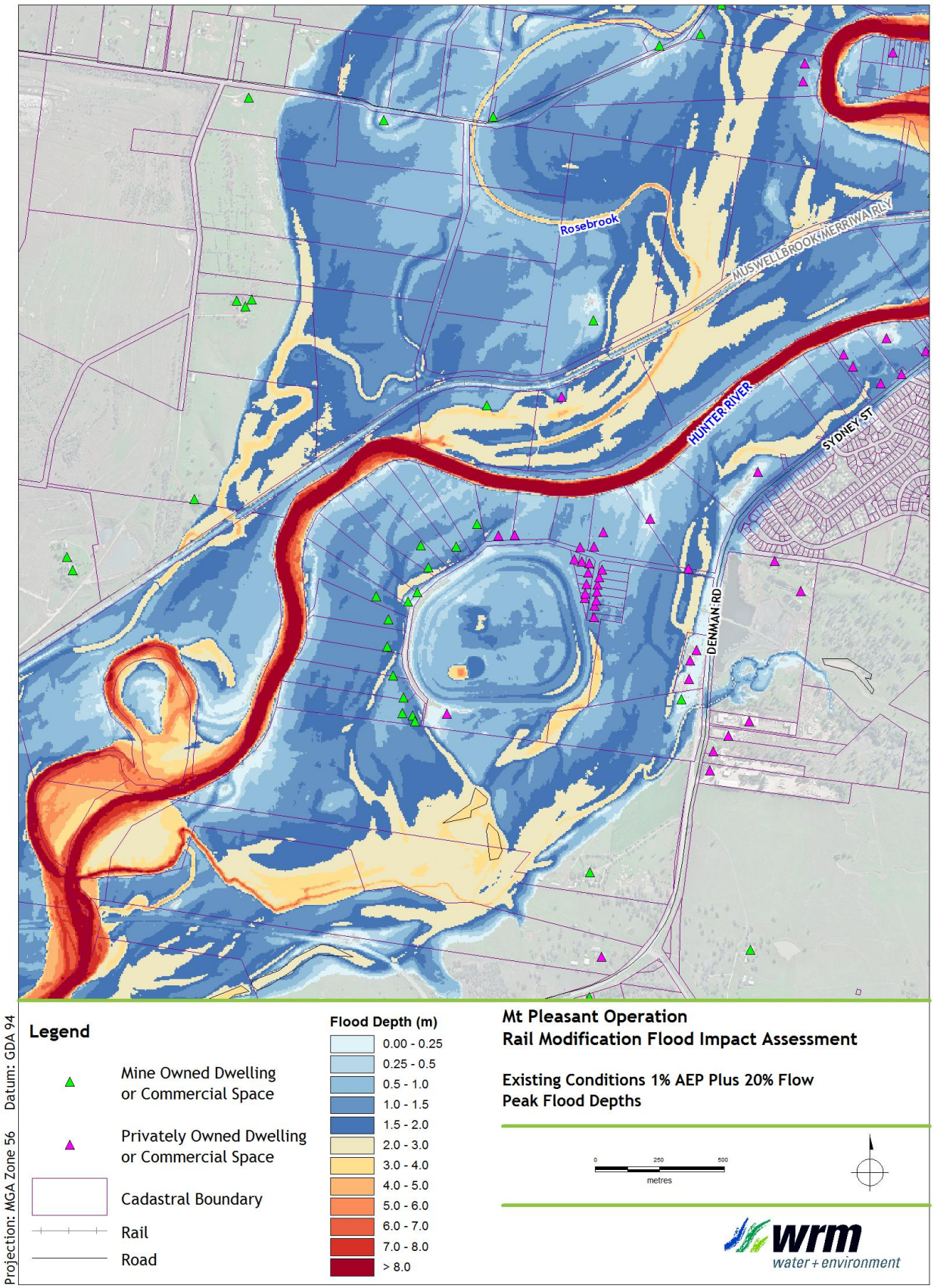


Figure 6.3 – Existing conditions peak flood depths, 1% AEP plus 20% flow design event

6.5 PREDICTED FLOOD LEVEL IMPACTS

The proposed conditions (with proposed rail spur and mitigation measures) were compared to the existing conditions to assess the flood impacts. Figure 6.4 to Figure 6.6 show the flood level impacts for the 5% AEP, 1% AEP and sensitivity run with 1% AEP plus 20% flow. The following is of note:

- The proposed rail spur generally has no adverse flood impacts for the 5% AEP event.
- The proposed rail spur increases peak flood levels immediately upstream (north) of the rail spur by up to 0.16 m and 0.21 m for the 1% AEP and 1% AEP plus 20% flow design events, respectively.
- The proposed rail spur increases the peak flood levels at the existing railway by about 0.05 m for the 1% AEP and 1% AEP plus 20% flow design event. This is mainly due to proposed rail spur redirecting more overtopping flows across the existing railway.
- The peak flood levels downstream (south) of the existing rail line increase by up to 0.01 m for the 1% AEP design events. No private dwellings or commercial spaces are impacted (no peak flood level increases of more than 0.01 m) from the proposed rail spur and mitigation measures.
- For the sensitivity run with 1% AEP plus 20% flow, peak flood levels at a number of private dwellings to the south of the existing rail way increase by just over 0.01 m, compared to existing conditions.

6.6 PREDICTED FLOOD VELOCITY IMPACTS

Figure 6.7 to Figure 6.9 show the flood velocity impacts for the 5% AEP, 1% AEP and sensitivity run with 1% AEP plus 20% flow. The following is of note:

- The proposed rail spur with mitigation measures generally has no flood velocity impacts for the 5% AEP event.
- The flood velocities at the existing railway increase by up to approximately 0.5 m/s for the 1% AEP and 1% AEP plus 20% flow design events. This is mainly due to the proposed rail spur redirecting more overtopping flows across the existing railway.
- The flood velocities at the proposed openings increase by 0.8 m/s and 1.0 m/s for the 1% AEP and 1% AEP plus 20% flow design events, respectively. The peak flood velocity at the proposed openings is 2.1 m/s for the 1% AEP design event.
- There is no adverse flood velocity impacts on private dwellings or commercial spaces.

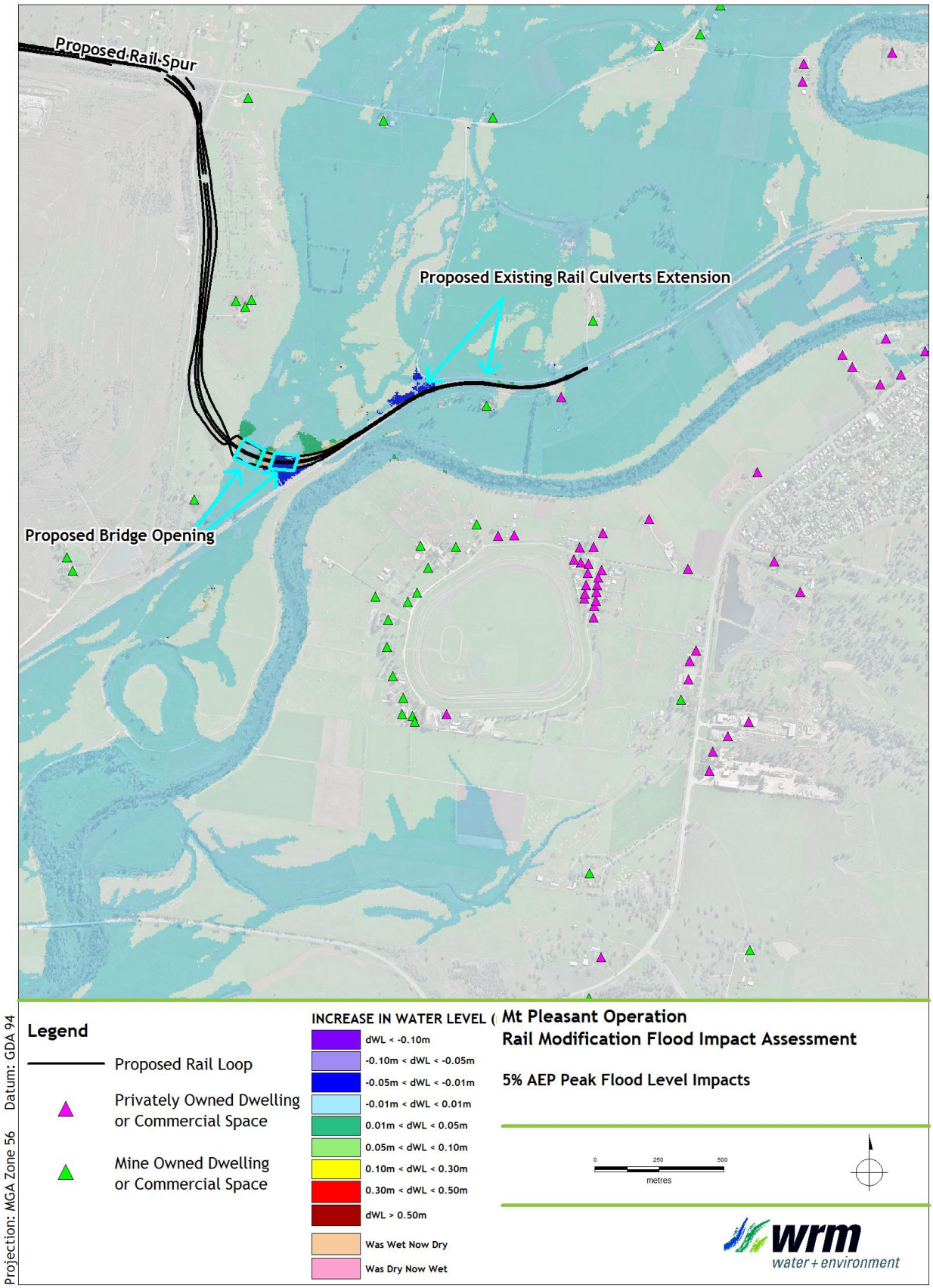


Figure 6.4 - Peak flood level impacts, 5% AEP design event

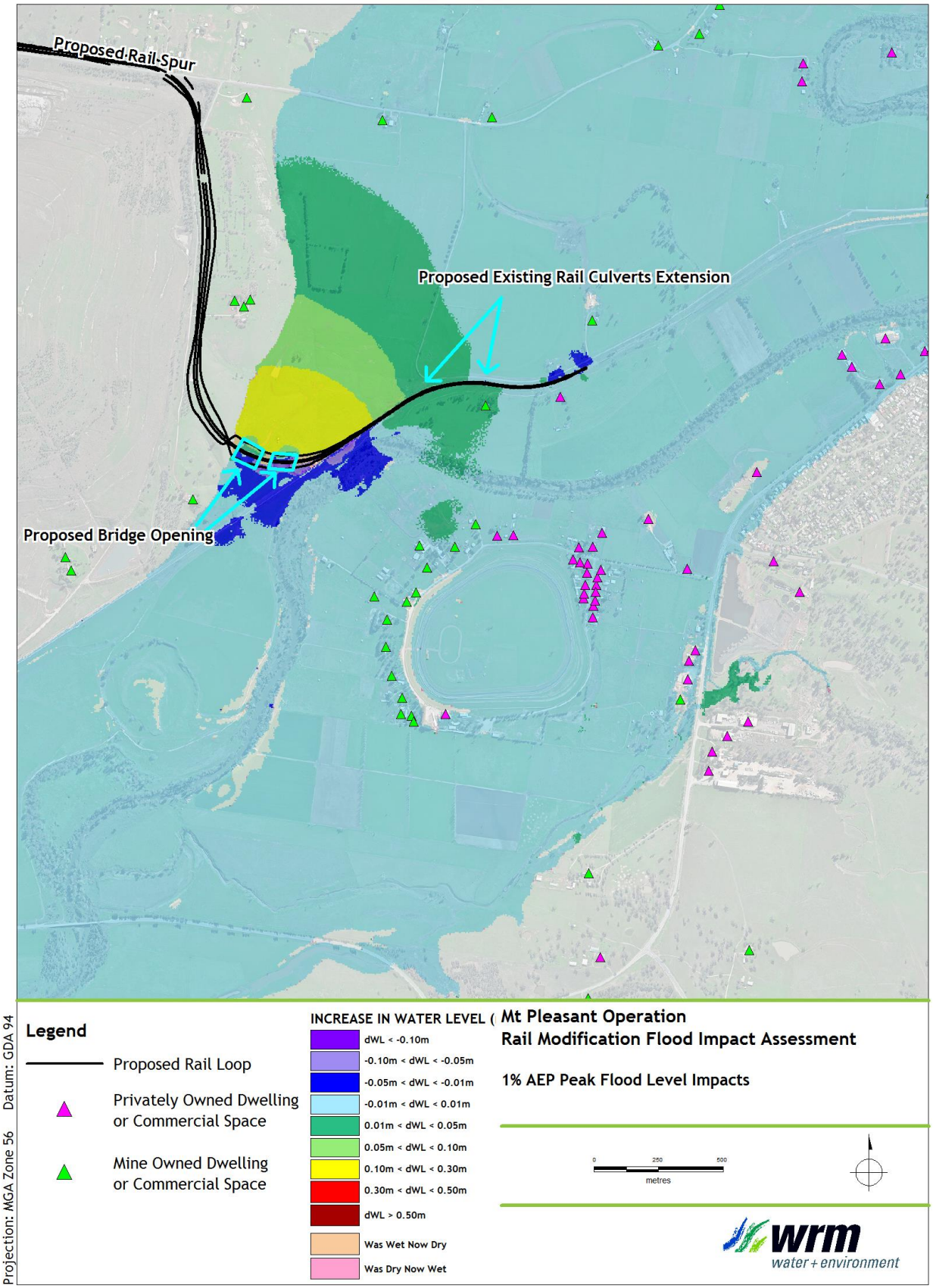


Figure 6.5 - Peak flood level impacts, 1% AEP design event

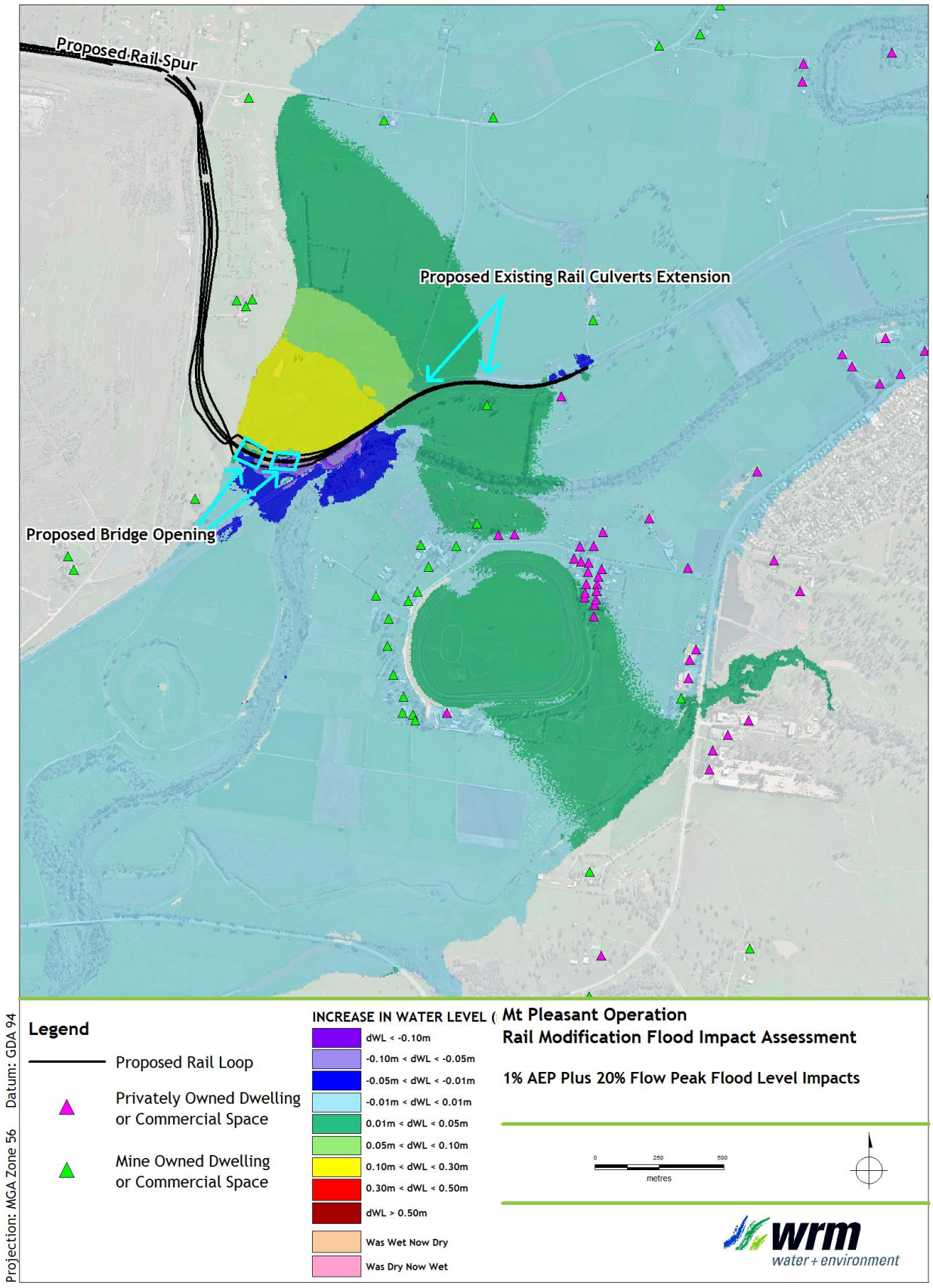


Figure 6.6 - Peak flood level impacts, 1% AEP plus 20% flow design event

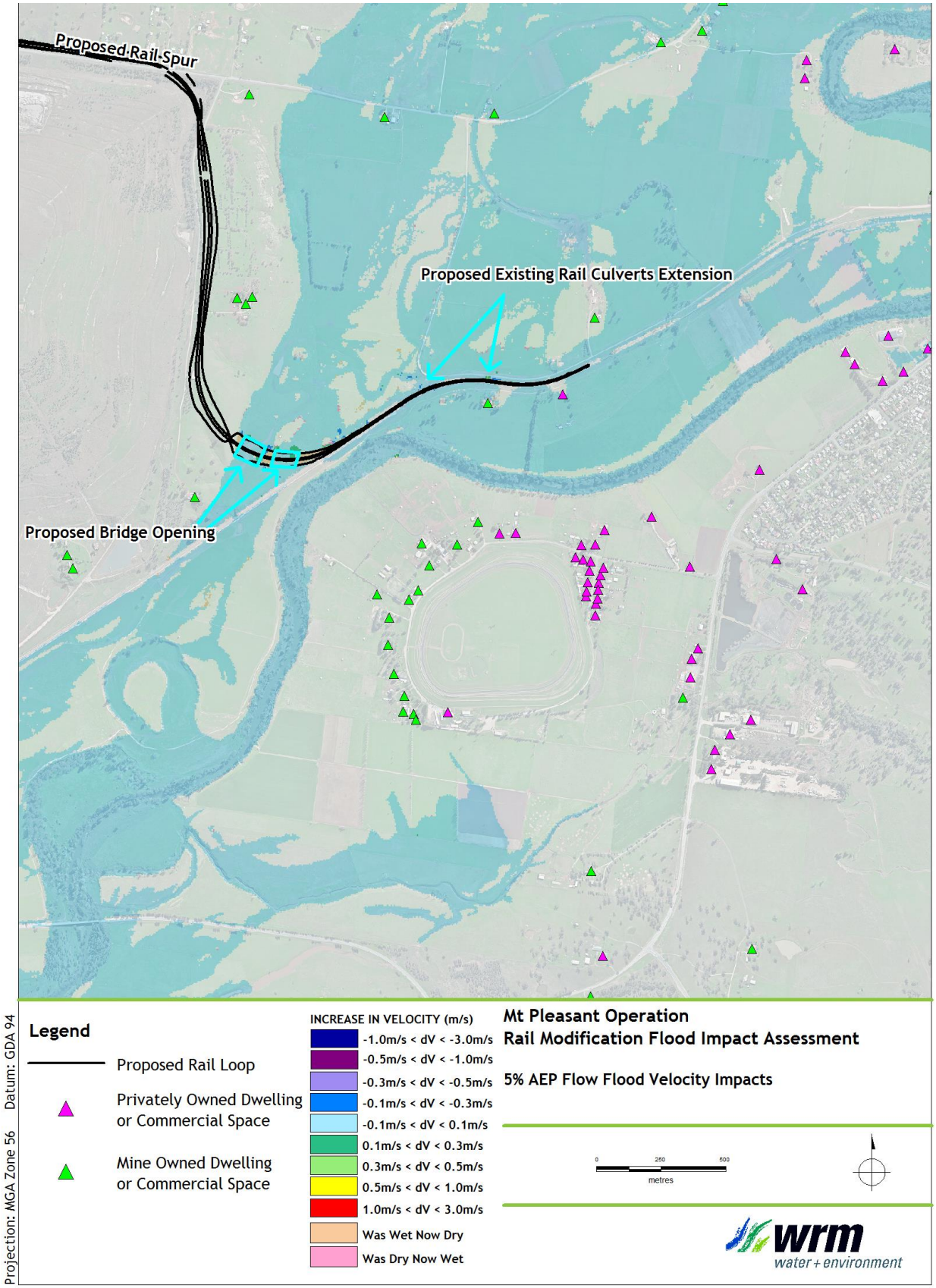


Figure 6.7 – Flood velocity impacts, 5% AEP design event

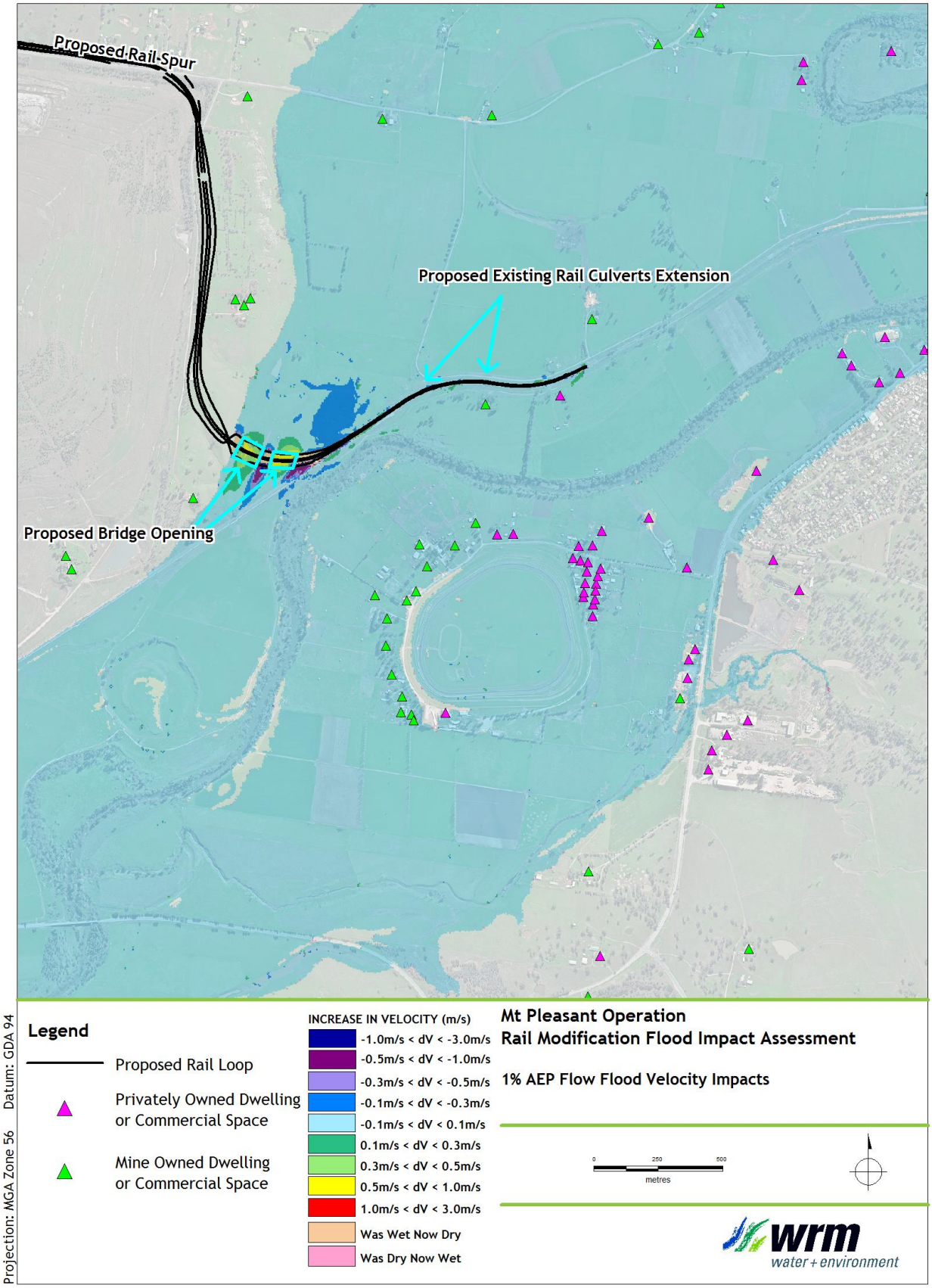


Figure 6.8 - Flood velocity impacts, 1% AEP design event

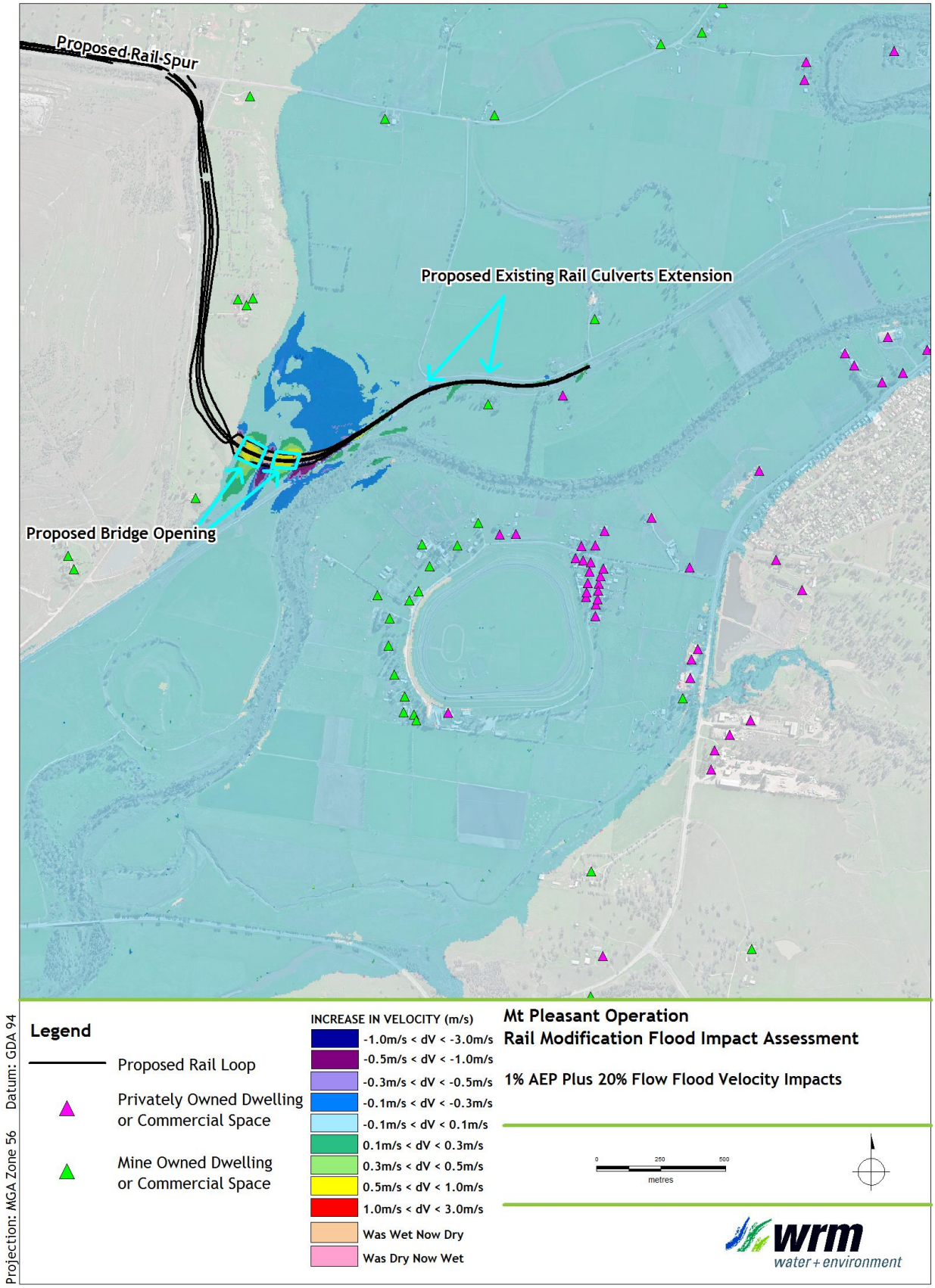


Figure 6.9 - Flood velocity impacts, 1% AEP plus 20% flow design event

7 Conclusion

Detailed hydrologic and hydraulic modelling of the Hunter River floodplain in the area of interest was undertaken to assess the impacts of the proposed rail spur on flood levels and velocities.

The model results show that the proposed rail spur has no adverse flood level and velocity impacts on private dwellings or commercial spaces for the 5% AEP and 1% AEP flood events. For the sensitivity run (1% AEP plus 20% flow), peak flood levels at a number of dwellings are predicted to increase by just over 0.01 m. To put these impacts into context, the modelling suggests that these residences would be subject to 0.6 m to 1.0 m of flooding above ground level without the rail spur and 0.61 to 1.01 m of flooding with the rail spur.

The model results indicate that potential flooding impacts of the rail spur are manageable with the conceptual mitigation works including bridge openings and extension of existing culverts.

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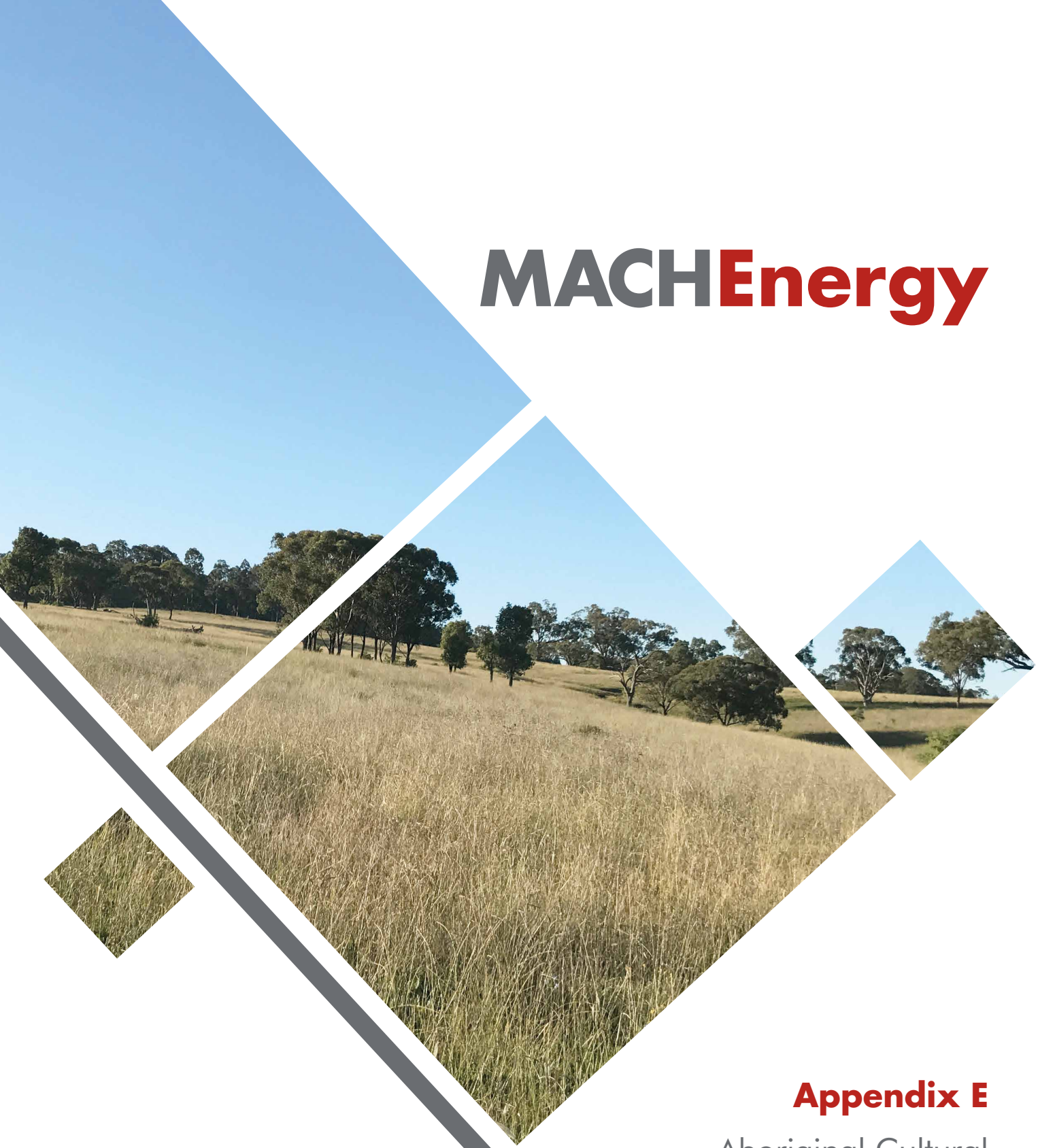

Appendix E

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

niche
Environment and Heritage

Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

Prepared for MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

December 2017

Muswellbrook Shire Local Government Area

Document control

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Cover photograph: General photograph of the Hunter River Flood Plains (Source: Renée Regal, Niche)

Executive Summary

Niche Environment and Heritage Pty Ltd (Niche) was commissioned by MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd (MACH Energy) to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for a proposed modification to the Mount Pleasant Operation Development Consent (DA 92/97) (the Modification). The Modification would primarily comprise:

- Duplication of the approved rail spur, rail loop and associated conveyor and rail load-out facility.
- Duplication of the Hunter River water supply pump station (including power supply) and associated water pipeline that currently follows the rail spur alignment.
- Demolition and removal of the redundant approved infrastructure within the extent of the Bengalla Mine once the new rail, product loading and water supply infrastructure has been commissioned and is fully operational.

The assessment included both Aboriginal heritage survey and archaeological test excavation in select areas, and involved the participation of the Aboriginal community throughout the assessment.

The archaeological survey and test excavation resulted in the identification of five (5) Aboriginal heritage sites comprised of 21 Aboriginal stone artefacts, and concluded that the area generally has low archaeological potential and low scientific significance. Of the identified sites, only three (3) are located within the Modification area and may be subject to impacts associated with the Modification.

On the basis of the investigation, Niche has identified a number of recommendations for MACH Energy in relation to the management of Aboriginal heritage associated with the Modification. In particular, it is recommended that MACH Energy seeks an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (or a variation to an existing permit) for the impacts associated with the Modification.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary ..... **i**

Glossary, Abbreviations and Acronyms ..... **vi**

1. Introduction **1**

1.1 Background 1

1.2 Scope of Assessment 1

1.3 The Proposed Modification 1

1.4 Objectives of the Assessment 4

2. Description of the Study Area **5**

3. Description of the Modification **7**

4. Investigators and Contributors **8**

5. Statutory Framework and Other Approvals **10**

6. Consultation with the Aboriginal Community **11**

6.1 Stage 1 – Notification and Registration 12

6.2 Stage 2 and 3 – Presentation of Project Information and Gathering Information about Cultural Heritage Significance 13

6.3 Stage 4 – Review of Draft Report 15

6.4 Review of Final Report 15

7. Heritage Register Searches **16**

7.1 Commonwealth Registers 16

7.2 State Registers 16

8. Landscape Context **19**

8.1 Overview 19

8.2 Topography 19

8.3 Geology 19

8.4 Soils 21

8.5 Hydrology 21

8.6 Ecology 23

8.7 Past Land Use and Disturbances 23

8.8 Summary 23

9. Aboriginal Archaeological Context **24**

9.1 Ethnography and History 24

9.2 Previous Archaeological Assessments at the Mount Pleasant Operation 24

9.3 Archaeological Studies Undertaken at the Adjoining Bengalla Mine 27
9.4 Regional Archaeological Studies 28
10. Synthesis and Predictive Model 29
11. Aboriginal Heritage Survey Methodology 31
11.1 Survey Sampling Strategy and Proposed Methodology 31
11.2 Survey Methods 31
12. Aboriginal Heritage Survey Results 33
12.1 Overview 33
12.2 Survey Results 35
12.3 Description of Individual Sites 35
13. Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology 37
13.1 Test Excavation Methodology 37
13.2 Artefact Analysis and Cataloguing 38
13.3 Recording and Photography 38
13.4 Sensitive Cultural Information – Management Protocol 38
14. Archaeological Test Excavation Results 39
14.1 Test Area 1 39
14.2 Test Area 2 39
14.3 Test Area 3 45
14.4 Test Area 4 45
14.5 Test Excavation Results Summary 46
14.6 Artefact Distribution 46
14.7 Artefact Assemblage Description 47
15. Analysis and Discussion of Survey and Excavation Results 48
16. Cultural Heritage Values and Significance Assessment 51
16.1 Assessment Framework 51
16.2 Statements of Significance for the Study Area 54
17. Impact Assessment 56
17.1 Potential Impacts Associated with the Modification 56
17.2 Summary of Potential Impacts 56
17.3 Consideration of Cumulative Impacts 57
18. Management Measures and Recommendations 58
19. References 60
Appendix 1 - Community Consultation Log 63

Appendix 2 - Community Consultation Records **64**

Appendix 3 - Surface and Subsurface Test Excavation Methodologies **65**

Appendix 4 - Test Excavation Results **66**

Appendix 5 - Artefact Catalogue – Subsurface Deposits **67**

Appendix 6 – AHIMS Search Results **71**

Appendix 7 – Site Cards for Newly Recorded Sites **72**

Appendix 8 – List of Registered Aboriginal Parties **73**

Appendix 9 – Geomorphological Assessment of Subsurface Archaeological Potential **77**

Appendix 10 – Cadastral Information **78**

List of Figures

Figure 1: Project Location

Figure 2: General Arrangement of the Key Modification Elements

Figure 3: Study Area

Figure 4: Location of AHIMS Registered Sites

Figure 5: Geology Mapping

Figure 6: Hydrology and Soils

Figure 7: Archaeological Field Survey Results

Figure 8: Areas of Testing

Figure 8-1: Test Area 1

Figure 8-2: Test Area 2

Figure 8-3: Test Area 3

Figure 8-4: Test Area 4

Figure 9: Location of Identified Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sites

List of Plates

Plate 1: Example photograph of transect spacing during field survey 32

Plate 2: Artefact of MPO 2017/1 35

Plate 3: Location of site MPO 2017/1 photo facing north 35

Plate 4: Artefact of MPO 2017/2 36

Plate 5: Location of site MPO 2017/2 photo facing east 36

Plate 6: Artefact of MPO 2017/3 36

Plate 7: Location of MPO 2017/3 photo facing south 36

List of Tables

Table 1: Investigators and Contributors to the Assessment

Table 2: List of Contacted Organisations for Step 1 of Consultation Process

Table 3: Field Survey Attendees

Table 4: Test Excavation Program Attendees

Table 5: Summary of Past Aboriginal Archaeological Assessments at the MPO

Table 6: Summary of Known Aboriginal sites within MPO Development Consent DA 92/97

Table 7: Summary of the Aboriginal Archaeological Assessments undertaken for Bengalla Mine

Table 8: Summary of Regional Archaeological Studies

Table 9: Summary of Survey Coverage and Landform Summary

Table 10: Details of Identified Aboriginal Objects During Field Surveys

Table 11: Artefact Count for each Test Pit

Table 12: Raw Material Frequency

Table 13: Artefact Classification

Table 14: Definition of Heritage Values from the Burra Charter

Table 15: Criteria for Assessing Archaeological/Scientific Significance

Table 16: Significance Assessment for Identified Aboriginal Heritage Sites

Table 17: Impact Assessment for Modification

Glossary, Abbreviations and Acronyms

Term	Definition
Aboriginal cultural heritage	The tangible (objects) and intangible (dreaming stories, legends and places) cultural practices and traditions associated with past and present day Aboriginal communities
ACHA	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
ACHCRs	*Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010a)
AHIP	Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
Aboriginal object(s)	The legal definition for material for Aboriginal cultural heritage under the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974*
Archaeology	The scientific study of material traces of human history, particularly the relics and cultural remains of past human activities
Archaeological deposit	A layer of soil material containing archaeological objects and/or human remains
Archaeological site	An area that contains surface or sub surface material evidence of past human activity in which material evidence (artefacts) of past activity is preserved
Artefact	An object made by human agency (e.g. stone artefacts)
Assemblage	A group of artefacts found in close association with one another Any group of items designated for analysis that exist in spatial and/or vertical context – without any assumptions of chronological or spatial relatedness
Avoidance	A management strategy which protects Aboriginal sites within an impact area by avoiding these totally in development
BP	Before Present
cm	centimetre
cm^2	square centimetre
Cumulative impacts	Combination of individual effects of the same kind due to multiple actions from various sources over time
CHL	Commonwealth Heritage List
DECCW	The Department of Conservation, Climate Change and Water, now the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH)
Development	The processes involved in preparing the Study Area for the proposed activities that will have direct and/or indirect physical impact(s) in the one or more forms such as construction, excavation, demolition, clearing etc.
Drainage	Natural or artificial means for the interception and removal of surface or subsurface water
EA	Environmental Assessment
EP&A Act	NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979*
EPBC Act	Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999*
Flake	A piece of stone detached from a core by human activity, displaying a number of attributes such as bulb of percussion, striking platform, termination etc.
Harm	As defined in the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*
ha	hectare
Impact	Influence or effect exerted by a development or other activity on the natural, built and community environment
Impact area	An area that will be the subject to the particular impact

Term	Definition
In situ	Latin words meaning 'on the spot, undisturbed' - In archaeological terminology it is used for objects found in the original location of discard
Isolated artefact / find	A single artefact found in an isolated context
km	kilometre
Landscape unit	An area of common landform, and frequently with common geology, soils and vegetation types, occurring repeatedly at similar points in the landscape over a defined region - It is a constituent part of a land system
Landform	Any one of the various features that make up the surface of the earth
Methodology	The procedures used to undertake an activity, e.g. archaeological investigation
m	metre
m^2	square metres
MPO	Mount Pleasant Operation
NHL	National Heritage List
NPW Act	NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974*
NPW Regulation	NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation, 2009*
NSW	New South Wales
OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
PAD	Potential archaeological deposit A location considered to have a potential for subsurface archaeological material
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party Members of a Local Aboriginal Land Council, registered holders of Native Title, Aboriginal groups or other Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the Modification
RNE	Register of the National Estate
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
Site	See 'Archaeological site' above
Survey coverage	A graphic and statistical representation of how much of a particular area was actually surveyed and therefore assessed

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd (MACH Energy) requires an Environmental Assessment (EA) to facilitate a proposed Rail Modification to the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) (here on referred to as 'the Modification') under section 75W of the New South Wales (NSW) *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*, *1979* (EP&A Act). The MPO is located directly north of the approved Bengalla Mine, approximately 3 kilometres (km) north-west of Muswellbrook, NSW (Figure 1).

The MPO Development Consent DA 92/97 was granted on 22 December 1999. The MPO was also approved under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* (EPBC Act) in 2012 (EPBC 2011/5795).

MACH Energy acquired the MPO from Coal & Allied Operations Pty Ltd (Coal & Allied) on 4 August 2016. MACH Energy commenced construction activities at the MPO in November 2016, in accordance with Development Consent DA 92/97 and EPBC 2011/5795.

The approved MPO includes the construction and operation of an open cut coal mine and associated rail spur and product coal loading infrastructure. The mine is approved to produce up to 10.5 million tonnes per annum of run-of-mine coal. Up to approximately nine trains per day of thermal coal product from the MPO will be transported by rail to the port of Newcastle for export or to domestic customers for use in electricity generation.

1.2 Scope of Assessment

Niche Environment and Heritage Pty Ltd (Niche) has been commissioned by MACH Energy to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to inform the EA being prepared for the Modification. The ACHA for the Modification will specifically assess those areas associated with the Modification, and includes survey of those areas that have not been covered by previous assessments, surveys and investigations.

Although the ACHA for the Modification considered the entire Study Area, the focus of the surveys and impact assessment was on those portions of the Modification that are located outside of the extent of the approved Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) #C0002053 boundary (i.e. those areas subject to previous assessment and/or salvage and management activities).

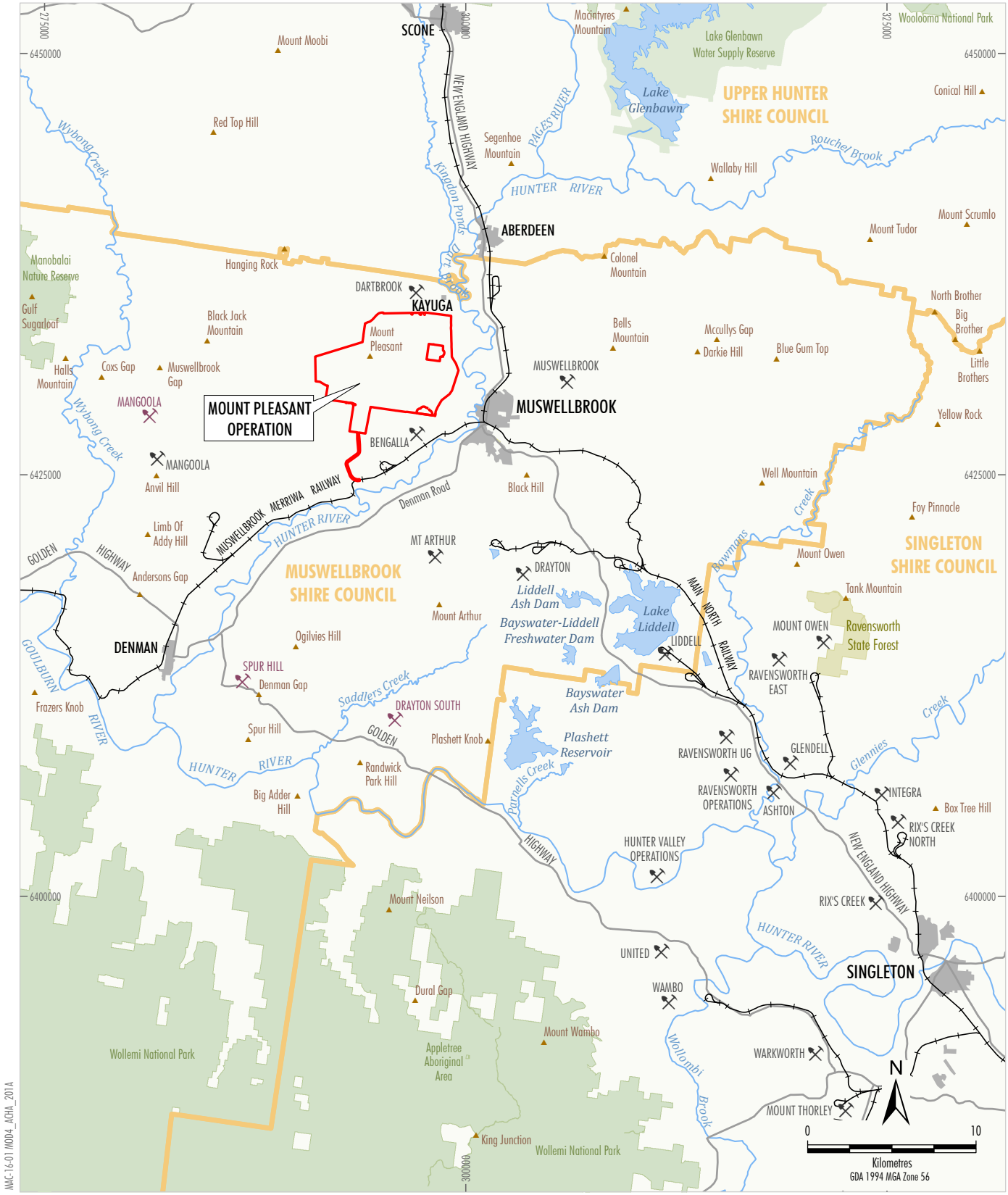
This ACHA will also be used to support an application for a new AHIP(s) (and/or a variation to an existing AHIP[s]) under section 90 of the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974* (NPW Act).

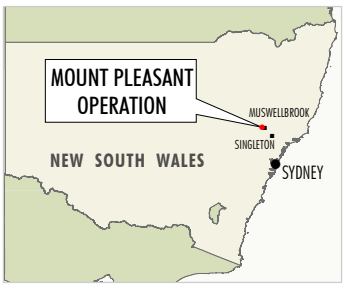
1.3 The Proposed Modification

The ultimate extent of the approved Bengalla Mine open cut intersects the approved MPO rail spur. While the intersection of the Bengalla Mine open cut with the approved MPO rail infrastructure is still some years away, MACH Energy is proposing a Modification to obtain approval for future rail and/or conveyor product transport facilities to manage this future interaction.

Further details regarding the Modification are provided in Section 3.

The general arrangement of the Modification is presented on Figure 2.





LEGEND

- Mining Operation
- Proposed Mining Operations (Application Lodged)
- Mining Lease Boundary (Mount Pleasant)
- Railway
- Local Government Boundary
- State Forest
- National Parks and Wildlife Estate

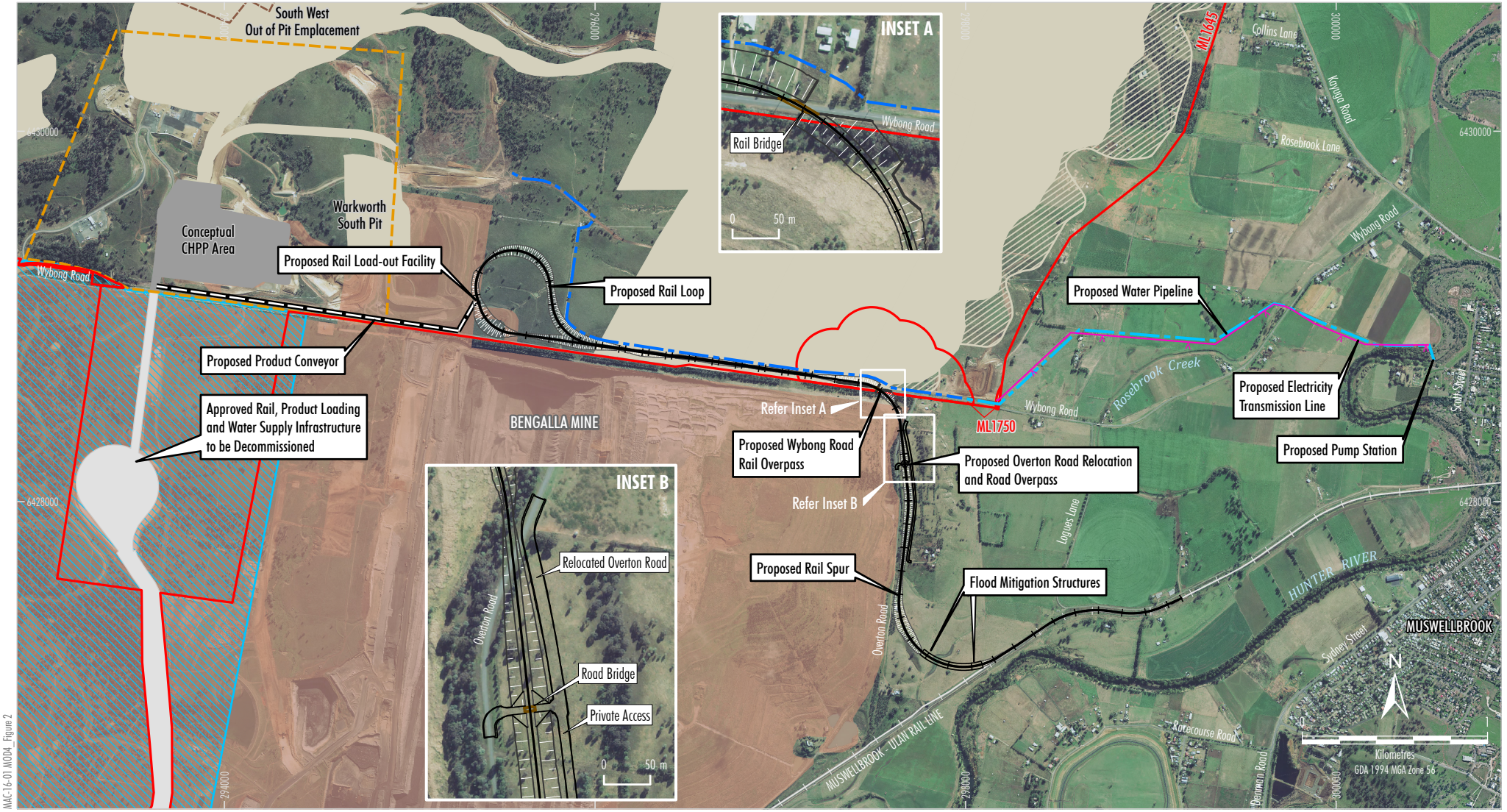
Source: Geoscience Australia (2006); NSW Division of Resources & Energy (2016); Land and Property Information (2016)

MACHEnergy

MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

Project Location

Figure 1



MAC-16-01 MOD4_Figure 2

LEGEND

- Mining Lease Boundary
- Infrastructure Area Envelope
- Indicative Off-site Coal Transport Infrastructure
- Approximate Extent of Approved Surface Development (1997 EIS Year 20)*
- Conveyor/Services Corridor Envelope
- Bengalla Mine Approved Disturbance Boundary (SSD-5170)

Subject to Separate Modification (Modification 3)

- Emplacement Extension
- Area Relinquished for Overburden Emplacement and Major Infrastructure

Key Elements of the Modification #

- Proposed Rail
- Proposed Product Conveyor
- Proposed Water Pipeline - Above Ground
- Proposed Water Pipeline - Buried
- Proposed Pump Station Electricity Transmission Line

Notes:

* Excludes some project components such as water management infrastructure, infrastructure within the Infrastructure Area Envelope, off-site coal transport infrastructure, road diversions, access tracks, topsoil stockpiles, power supply, temporary offices, other ancillary works and construction disturbance.

\# Modification would also include additional minor components not shown, e.g. access tracks, rail signalling and electricity supply, etc.

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2017); NSW Division of Resources & Geoscience (2017); Department of Planning and Environment (2016); MACH Energy (2017)
Orthophoto: MACH Energy (July 2017)

MACHEnergy

MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

General Arrangement of the Key Modification Elements

Figure 2

1.4 Objectives of the Assessment

The objectives of the ACHA are to provide an assessment of the potential for the Modification to harm Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal heritage values, and outline recommended management measures (where required), in accordance with current best practice and informed by input from the Aboriginal community.

The ACHA has been prepared in accordance with (but not limited to) the following regulations and guidelines:

- *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (ACHCRs) (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water [DECCW], 2010a);
- *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b);
- *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010c);
- *NSW Minerals Industry Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects* (NSW Minerals Council, 2010);
- *Guide to Investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage [OEH], 2011);
- *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites [ICOMOS], 2013);
- *Engage Early* (Commonwealth Government, 2016); and
- NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation, 2009* (NPW Regulation).

The ACHA has also been prepared in consideration of the currently approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017).

2. Description of the Study Area

The Study Area is situated within the Hunter Valley, approximately 3 km north-west of Muswellbrook, NSW (Figure 1). The Study Area covers approximately 455 hectares (ha) (Figure 3). Part of the Study Area (i.e. approximately 9.5 ha) has been previously subject to systematic Aboriginal heritage surveys during previous assessment and management activities, and is located within the extent of approved AHIP #C0002053 held by MACH Energy.

The unsurveyed section of the Study Area covers approximately 216 ha, and is the focus of the surveys undertaken for this assessment.

The Study Area stretches across landscapes that include the flood plains of the Hunter River and steep lower to upper slopes of rolling hills situated on the western edge of the flood plains. The Study Area is cleared of most native vegetation and is currently used for intensive cattle grazing and agricultural practices, as well as mining and existing rail infrastructure.

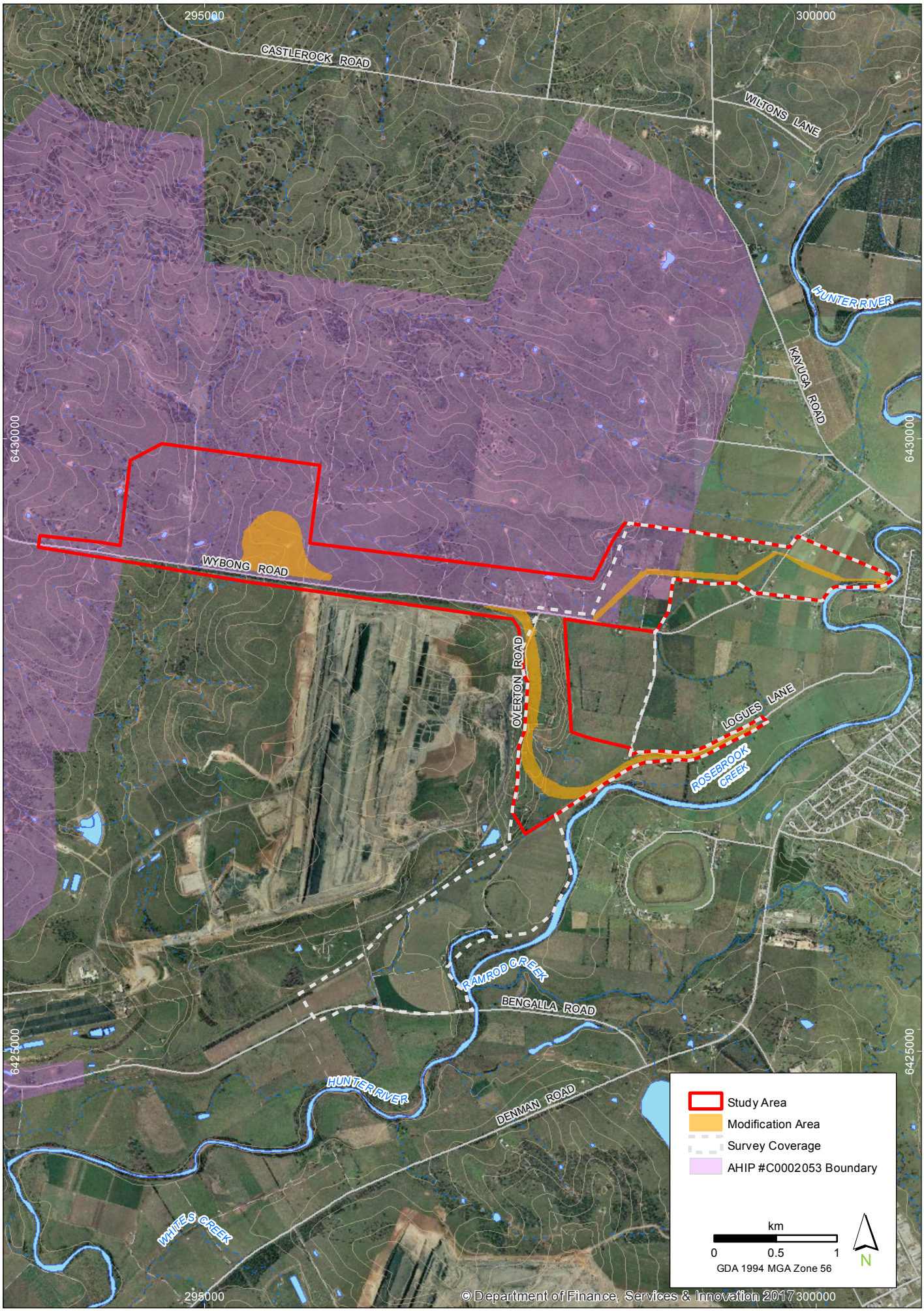
The area subject to archaeological survey for this assessment was larger than the current Study Area and larger than the more refined potential impact area. Detailed mine planning and refinement of the final proposed disturbance area has resulted in the contraction of the conservative footprint for the Modification, and avoidance of direct impact to some identified heritage sites. The footprint of the Modification is approximately 69 ha.

For the purposes of this assessment, the following general terminology will be used:

- **Study Area:** the broad area generally considered in this assessment, including the impact area and surrounds (approximately 455 ha).
- **Survey area:** the larger area subject to systematic survey as part of this assessment (and later refined) (approximately 216 ha).
- **Modification area:** the smaller and more refined area (although still considered conservative) considered for potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage not already covered by the correctly approved AHIP #C0002053 (approximately 47 ha)[1].

These boundaries are presented on Figure 3. Cadastral information is provided in Appendix 10.

[1] Excludes existing approved areas and/or existing infrastructure (e.g. Overton Road, Wybong Road, existing rail and Bengalla Mine waste emplacement).



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Study Area

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 3

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

niche Environment and Heritage

3. Description of the Modification

As outlined in Section 1.3, the ultimate extent of the approved Bengalla Mine open cut will intersect the approved MPO rail spur. While the intersection of the Bengalla Mine open cut with the approved MPO rail infrastructure is still some years away, MACH Energy is proposing a Modification to obtain approval for future rail and/or conveyor product transport facilities to manage this future interaction.

In this regard, the Modification would primarily comprise:

- Duplication of the approved rail spur, rail loop and associated conveyor and rail load-out facility.
- Duplication of the Hunter River water supply pump station (and power supply) and associated water pipeline that currently follows the rail spur alignment.
- Demolition and removal of the redundant approved infrastructure within the extent of the Bengalla Mine once the new rail, product loading and water supply infrastructure has been commissioned and is fully operational.

The earth works associated with the Modification have the potential to harm Aboriginal objects which may exist on the ground surface (such as stone artefacts and scarred trees) or in the soil profile (i.e. subsurface archaeological deposits).

The Modification would not alter the number of approved train movements on the rail network or the operational workforce of the MPO. Once constructed, the operation and maintenance of the Modification would pose no further risk of harm to Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal cultural heritage values that may be present.

The Modification would be assessed under section 75W of the EP&A Act and, if approved, require an AHIP (or variation to an existing permit). The development of the Modification would occur as soon as practicable following all necessary approvals.

4. Investigators and Contributors

This investigation was managed by Balazs Hansel (MA Arch), Senior Heritage Consultant (Niche), who has 17 years' experience as a professional archaeologist and heritage consultant.

In addition, the individuals listed in Table 1 attended and/or supported the surveys and assessment in various capacities.

Consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the ACHA is being managed by MACH Energy. All of the RAPs are invited to provide advice on Aboriginal cultural heritage values during the assessment, regardless of participation in the archaeological survey work or archaeological test excavations.

Table 1: Investigators and Contributors to the Assessment

Contributor	Affiliation	Role	Qualification
Balazs Hansel	Niche	Senior Archaeologist, project manager, test excavation assistance, author	MA Arch, MA Hist 17 years
Renée Regal	Niche	Heritage Team Leader, survey assistance, author	BA(Hons) 12 years
Sam Richards	Niche	Archaeologist, survey assistance	BA (Hons) 3 years
Simon Greenwood	Niche	Archaeologist, survey assistance	BA (Hons) 20 years
Caitlin Marsh	Niche	Archaeologist, test excavation assistance, author	BA(Hons) 4 years
Clare Leevers	Niche	Archaeologist, test excavation assistance, author	BArch, GradDipArch 4 years
Duncan Jones	Niche	Archaeologist, test excavation assistance	BA (Hons) 10 years
Ross Jenkins	Niche	GIS, mapping	BSc, MSc, Grd Dip GIS, PhD
Jamie Reeves	Niche	Director of Niche, internal review	BA (Hons) 18 years
Rhonda Ward	Ungooroo Cultural and Community Services Incorporated	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
George Sampson	Cacatua General Services	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
Ashley Sampson	AGA Services	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
Maree Waugh	Wallangan Cultural Services	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
Jenny-lee Chambers	JLC Cultural Services	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
Clifford Johnson	Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
David Horton	Gomery Cultural Consultants	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
Owen Davidson	Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	

Contributor	Affiliation	Role	Qualification
Natasha Kellett	Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
John Matthews	Aboriginal Native Title Elders Consultant	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
Darryl Matthews	Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
Coleen Stair	Crimson Rose	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	
Maree Waugh	Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Field assistance, provision of cultural knowledge	

5. Statutory Framework and Other Approvals

The NPW Act, administered by the OEH, provides statutory protection for Aboriginal objects and the management of Aboriginal Heritage in NSW. The NPW Act defines Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places as:

> *Aboriginal object means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.*
>
> *Aboriginal place means any place declared to be an Aboriginal place under section 84.*

The OEH is responsible for the implementation of the Aboriginal heritage provisions of the NPW Act. The rationale behind the NPW Act is to prevent the unnecessary or unwanted destruction of Aboriginal objects and to protect and conserve objects where such action is considered not warranted.

Consents regarding harm to Aboriginal objects are managed through the OEH AHIP system. AHIPs are typically required (apart from Part 3A Major Projects and Part 4 Division 4.1 State Significant Developments) to allow any impacts to an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal place.

MACH Energy currently holds two separate AHIPs relevant to the MPO area for the management of Aboriginal heritage, including:

- AHIP #C0002053 – approved by the OEH on 25 August 2016 for a period of 10 years.
- AHIP #C0002092 – initially approved by the OEH on 23 December 2011 for a period of 5 years. This AHIP was transferred to MACH Energy on 8 September 2016 and the approval period was extended to 23 December 2020.

This ACHA will be used to support an application for a new AHIP(s) (and/or a variation to an existing AHIP[s]) under section 90 of the NPW Act.

6. Consultation with the Aboriginal Community

In administering its statutory functions under Part 6 of the NPW Act, the OEH requires that proponents consult with Aboriginal people about the Aboriginal cultural heritage values (cultural significance) of Aboriginal objects and/or places within any given development area in accordance with clause 80C of the NPW Regulation.

The OEH maintains that the objective of consultation with Aboriginal communities about the cultural heritage values of Aboriginal objects and places is to ensure that Aboriginal people have the opportunity to improve ACHA outcomes by (DECCW, 2010a):

- providing relevant information about the cultural significance and values of Aboriginal objects and/or places;
- influencing the design of the method to assess cultural and scientific significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places;
- actively contributing to the development of cultural heritage management options and recommendations for any Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed Study Area; and
- commenting on draft assessment reports before these are submitted by the proponent to the OEH.

Consultation in the form outlined in the ACHCRs (DECCW, 2010a) is a formal requirement where a proponent is aware that their development activity has the potential to harm Aboriginal objects or places. The OEH also recommends that these requirements be used when the certainty of harm is not yet established but a proponent has, through some formal development mechanism, been required to undertake an ACHA to establish the potential harm their proposal may have on Aboriginal objects and places.

The ACHCRs outline a four-stage consultation process that includes detailed step-wise guidance as to the aim of the stage, how it is to proceed and what actions are necessary for it to be successfully completed. The four stages are:

- Stage 1 – Notification of project proposal and registration of interest.
- Stage 2 – Presentation of information about the proposed project.
- Stage 3 – Gathering information about the cultural significance.
- Stage 4 – Review of draft cultural heritage assessment report.

The document also outlines the roles and responsibilities of the OEH, Aboriginal parties including local and state Aboriginal Land Councils and proponents throughout the consultation process.

To meet the requirements of consultation it is expected that proponents will (DECCW, 2010a):

- bring the RAPs, or their nominated representatives, together and be responsible for ensuring appropriate administration and management of the consultation process;
- consider the cultural perspectives, views, knowledge and advice of the RAPs involved in the consultation process in assessing cultural significance and developing any heritage management outcomes for Aboriginal objects(s) and/or places(s);
- provide evidence to the OEH of consultation by including information relevant to the cultural perspectives, views, knowledge and advice provided by the RAPs;
- accurately record and clearly articulate all consultation findings in the final ACHA report; and
- provide copies of their ACHA report to the RAPs who have been consulted.

The consultation process undertaken to seek active involvement from relevant Aboriginal representatives for the Modification followed the current NSW statutory guideline, namely, the ACHCRs. Section 1.3 of the ACHCRs describes the guiding principles of the document. The principles have been derived directly from the Principles section of the Australian Heritage Commission's *Ask First: A guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values* (Australian Heritage Commission, 2002). Both documents share the aim of creating a system where free prior informed advice can be sought from the Aboriginal community.

The following sections outline the process and results of the consultation conducted during this assessment to ascertain and reflect the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the Study Area.

6.1 Stage 1 – Notification and Registration

This stage of the consultation process is used to identify any Aboriginal people or groups who may have a cultural interest in and/or possess cultural knowledge in relation to the Modification area. In accordance with Section 4.1.2 of the ACHCRs (DECCW, 2010a), project notifications (Appendices 1 and 2) were sent on 4 May 2017 to the relevant organisations. The organisations contacted and the dates of correspondence are provided in Table 2.

Table 2: List of Contacted Organisations for Step 1 of Consultation Process

Name of Organisation	Date of Notification Sent	Date of Response Received
OEH	4 May 2017	11 May 2017
Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council	4 May 2017	10 May 2017
National Native Title Tribunal	4 May 2017	-
Native Title Services Corporation Limited	4 May 2017	-
Office of the Registrar, *Aboriginal Land Rights Act, 1983*	4 May 2017	26 May 2017
Muswellbrook Shire Council	4 May 2017	24 May 2017
Hunter Local Land Services	4 May 2017	-

As a result of contacting the relevant organisations, a number of individuals and groups were identified as potentially having an interest in the Modification area. An invitation was sent out to each individual/group inviting Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the "Area of Interest" to register an interest in the Modification by 16 June 2017 (Appendices 1 and 2).

In addition in accordance with Section 4.1.3 of the ACHCRs, public notices inviting the registration of Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the "Area of Interest" were published in the *Singleton Argus* and *Koori Mail* on 31 May 2017, and the *Muswellbrook Chronicle* on 2 June 2017 (Appendices 1 and 2).

In addition, a large number of Aboriginal stakeholder groups with an interest in the MPO have previously been identified (in compliance with the ACHCRs) and MACH Energy (and previously Coal & Allied) has maintained on-going consultation and engagement with these groups since the time of their initial registration. All existing Aboriginal stakeholder groups were contacted to advise them of the Modification and to notify them that they had been automatically registered for the consultation process associated with the Modification (Appendices 1 and 2).

As a result of the registration process undertaken for the Modification, a total of 88 RAPs registered an interest in the Modification. A list of the RAPs for the Modification is provided in Appendix 8. A copy of this list was provided to the Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council and the OEH on 6 July 2017.

A consultation log detailing all Aboriginal community consultation undertaken for the Modification is provided in Appendix 1. The Proposed Methodology for the assessment and a copy of relevant written correspondence sent to and received from the RAPs are provided in Appendix 3 and 2, respectively.

6.2 Stage 2 and 3 – Presentation of Project Information and Gathering Information about Cultural Heritage Significance

6.2.1 Proposed Methodology and Information Session

Information regarding the Modification was provided in writing to all RAPs on 8 September 2017. A copy of the Proposed Methodology for the ACHA was provided for their review and comment in accordance with the ACHCRs (DECCW, 2010a), with a minimum of 28 days allowed for RAPs to provide input on:

- The nature of the Proposed Methodology.
- Any Aboriginal objects or places of cultural value within the indicative Study Area, or issues of cultural significance.
- Any restrictions or protocols considered necessary in relation to any information of sensitivity that may be provided.
- Any other factors considered to be relevant to the heritage assessment.

In addition, all RAPs were invited to provide advice on Aboriginal cultural heritage values at all stages during the preparation of the assessment.

Correspondence that included an invitation to attend an information session regarding the ACHA for the Modification was provided in writing to all RAPs on 19 September 2017. The information session was held at the John Hunter Motel in Muswellbrook, on 10 October 2017. The purpose of the information session was to provide RAPs with an additional opportunity to raise any cultural issues or comments/perspectives regarding the Modification or the Proposed Methodology. A total of 11 representatives of the RAPs attended the information session on 10 October 2017.

The information session supported the information previously provided in writing and included a presentation on the nature and scale of the approved Modification, an overview of the impact assessment process, a discussion of the roles, functions and responsibilities of participants and protocols for the management of any sensitive cultural heritage information. Copies of the attendance record for the information session and a copy of the Proposed Methodology are provided in Appendix 2 and 3 respectively.

6.2.2 Comments on Proposed Methodology

Comments in support of the Proposed Methodology were received from the following RAPs:

- Culturally Aware (16 September 2017); and
- Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy (5 October 2017).

A copy of the submissions are included in Appendix 2.

6.2.3 Test Excavation Proposed Methodology, Sampling Strategy and Additional Information Session

A Test Excavation Proposed Methodology and Sampling Strategy was provided to all RAPs for their review and comment on 19 September 2017, with further additional details and mapping provided on 13 October 2017.

Notification of the proposed archaeological test excavation was provided to the OEH on 5 October 2017, in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b).

An additional information session was held at the John Hunter Motel in Muswellbrook on 17 October 2017, with 10 representatives of the RAPs attending. This additional meeting was held following the receipt of feedback from the RAPs during the initial information session (10 October 2017), the purpose of which was to describe the test excavation methodology in greater detail. Copies of the attendance record for the additional information session and the Test Excavation Proposed Methodology are provided in Appendix 2 and 3, respectively.

6.2.4 Aboriginal heritage field survey

The field survey for the Modification was held on 3 and 4 October 2017. Table 3 provides a list of the representatives from the RAPs that attended the field survey for the assessment. Engagement for the field surveys was undertaken consistent with the requirements of the approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017), including the use of 'administrative co-ordinators' to prepare the fieldwork roster.

Table 3: Field Survey Attendees

Representative	RAP	Survey Dates Attended
Rhonda Ward	Ungooroo Cultural and Community Services Incorporated	Tuesday 3 October 2017 Wednesday 4 October 2017
George Sampson	Cacatua General Services	Tuesday 3 October 2017 Wednesday 4 October 2017
Ashley Sampson	AGA Services	Tuesday 3 October 2017 Wednesday 4 October 2017
Maree Waugh	Wallangan Cultural Services	Tuesday 3 October 2017 Wednesday 4 October 2017
Jenny-lee Chambers	JLC Cultural Services	Tuesday 3 October 2017 Wednesday 4 October 2017
Clifford Johnson	Upper Hunter Wanaruah Council	Tuesday 3 October 2017 Wednesday 4 October 2017

During the field surveys, attending RAPs were invited each day to provide any cultural information or values associated with the Modification area or wider surrounds. For example, the archaeologists encouraged participants to provide input on bush tucker, fauna and other cultural associations/knowledge of the Modification area.

6.2.5 Test excavation program

The archaeological test excavation program for the Modification was held from 23 October to 27 October 2017. Table 4 provides a list of the representatives from the RAPs that attended the test excavation program. As for the field surveys described above, engagement for the test excavation program was undertaken consistent with the requirements of the approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017), including the use of 'administrative coordinators' to prepare the fieldwork roster.

Table 4: Test Excavation Program Attendees

Representative	RAP	Survey Dates Attended
David Horton	Gomery Cultural Consultants	Monday 23 October to Wednesday 25 October 2017
Owen Davidson	Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2017
Natasha Kellett	Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2017
John Matthews	Aboriginal Native Title Elders Consultant	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2017
Darryl Matthews	Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants	Monday 23 October to Thursday 26 October 2017
Clifford Johnson	Upper Hunter Wanaruah Council	Thursday 26 October to Friday 27 October 2017
Coleen Stair	Crimson Rose	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2017
Maree Waugh	Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Tuesday 24 October to Friday 27 October 2017

During the test excavations, attending RAPs were invited each day to provide any cultural information or values associated with the Modification area or wider surrounds. For example, the archaeologists encouraged participants to provide input on bush tucker, fauna and other cultural associations/knowledge of the Modification area.

6.3 Stage 4 – Review of Draft Report

In accordance with the ACHCRs (DECCW, 2010a), a draft of this ACHA was provided to all RAPs listed in Appendix 8 for review and comment on 10 November 2017, with responses requested by 13 December 2017.

As part of the draft review ACHA review process, MACH Energy invited all RAPs to attend an information session on 7 December 2017 at the MPO administration offices. The purpose of the information session was to provide an opportunity for RAPs to discuss, ask questions and/or provide comment on the draft ACHA, particularly the cultural significance and proposed management measures. The information session also included an opportunity to attend a site inspection (i.e. in addition to the field surveys and the archaeological test excavations) to view the Study Area and a selection of the recorded Aboriginal heritage sites. A total of five RAPs attended the information session (Appendix 2).

A verbal comment in support of the draft ACHA was received on 16 November 2017, i.e. a RAP, Norman Archibald, called to advise that he had no concerns with the draft ACHA (Appendix 1). As at 15 December 2017 no other comments had been received.

6.4 Review of Final Report

A copy of the final ACHA will be made available by the Department of Planning and Environment to all RAPs during the exhibition period for the Modification EA. During this exhibition period all RAPs will have the opportunity to review and provide additional comments on the final ACHA as well as any other part of the EA.

7. Heritage Register Searches

7.1 Commonwealth Registers

Under the EPBC Act two mechanisms have been created for the protection of heritage places of National or Commonwealth significance (http://www.environment.gov.au/ heritage/places/national/index.html) – the National Heritage List (NHL) and the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL). The NHL provides protection to places of cultural significance to the nation of Australia, while the CHL comprises natural, Aboriginal and historic heritage places owned and controlled by the Commonwealth. There are no management constraints associated with listing on the Register of the National Estate (RNE) unless the listed place is owned by a Commonwealth agency.

A search of the online Australian Heritage Database, which includes items from the CHL and RNE was conducted on 31 October 2017. Search terms used were: Muswellbrook. No heritage items were identified within or in close proximity to the Study Area.

7.2 State Registers

7.2.1 State Heritage Register

The *State Heritage Register* (SHR) holds items that have been assessed as being of State Significance to NSW. The *State Heritage Inventory* (SHI) contains items that are listed on Local Environmental Plans and/or on a State Government Agency's section 170 register (OEH website – www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/index.html). An assessment of heritage significance is required for items greater than 50 years in age. Items appearing on either the SHR or SHI have been granted a defined level of statutory protection under NSW legislation.

Searches of the SHR and SHI were completed on 31 October 2017. No heritage items were listed within the Study Area, or in the immediate surrounds.

7.2.2 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act Registers

Each Local Government Area is required to create and maintain a Local Environmental Plan that identifies and conserves Aboriginal and historic heritage items. These items are protected under the EP&A Act and the NSW *Heritage Act, 1977*.

A search of the *Muswellbrook Local Environmental Plan 2009* was undertaken on 31 October 2017. There are no Aboriginal heritage items listed in the *Muswellbrook Local Environmental Plan 2009* that are located specifically within the Study Area or immediate surrounds. There are two heritage items listed in Schedule 5 of the *Muswellbrook Local Environmental Plan 2009* which are located within the wider Study Area, including "Overdene Homestead" and "Blunt's Butter Factory". These items are considered further in a separate assessment.

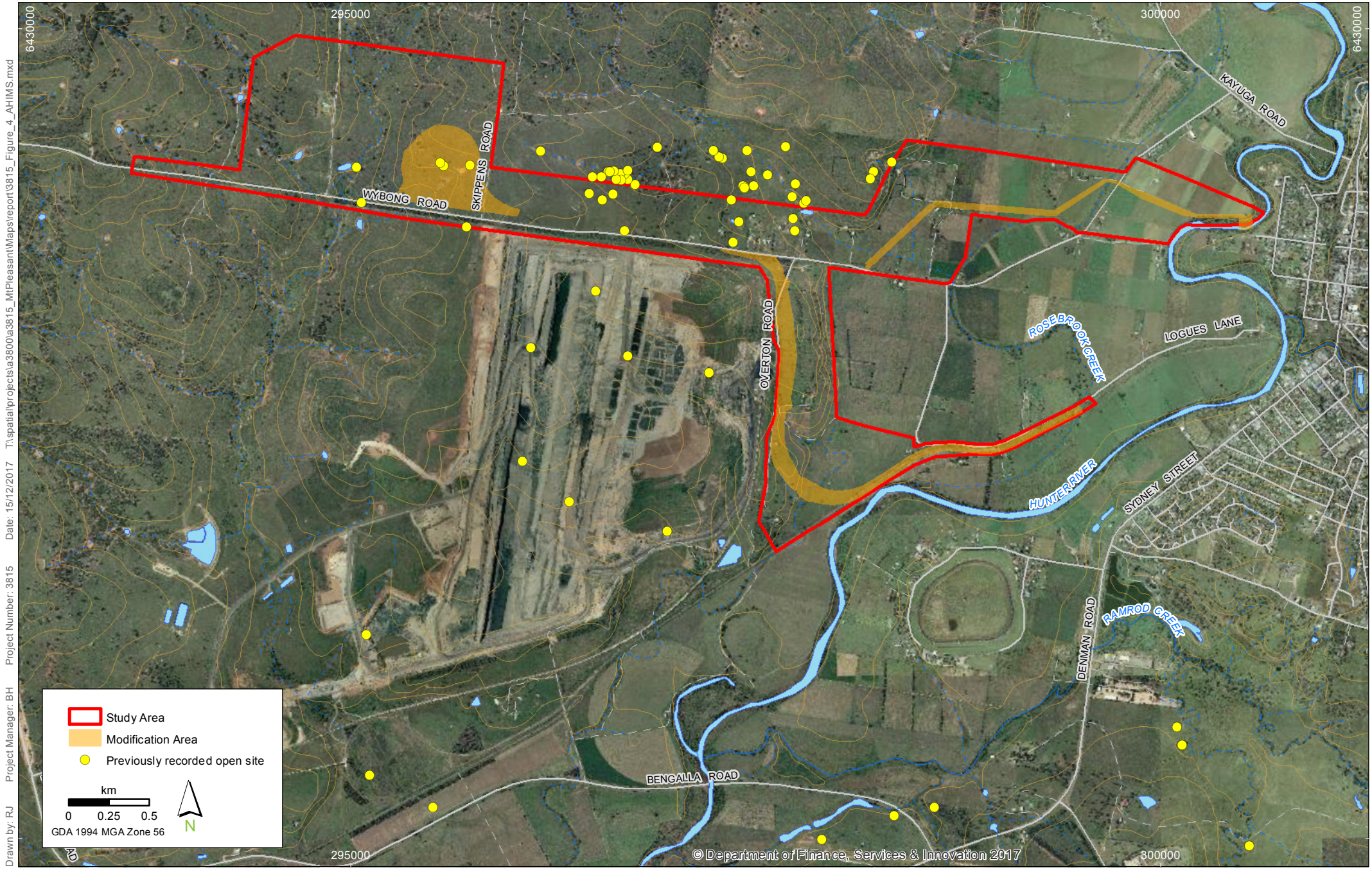
In summary there were no items of Aboriginal heritage value identified on the Commonwealth heritage lists and registers, or the SHR and local heritage schedules.

7.2.3 National Parks and Wildlife Act Registers (AHIMS)

An extensive search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) was conducted on 22 September 2017 (AHIMS Search ID 303300; Appendix 6) for the Study Area and immediate surrounds (Figure 4).

The search identified a total of 67 Aboriginal sites, a portion of which are located within the Study Area. Of the 67 sites recorded on the AHIMS register, a total of 65[2] are stone artefacts (including both isolated finds and artefact scatters). Of these sites, a number have been subject to previous management under existing permits and consents (e.g. AHIP #C0002053). Of note, the AHIMS search results did not identify any previously recorded sites within the survey area for this assessment.

[2] The remaining two sites are previously recorded scarred trees that have been subject to formal reassessment with the status revised on AHIMS as 'not a site'. These sites are not considered further in this assessment.



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Location of AHIMS Registered Sites

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 4

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

8. Landscape Context

8.1 Overview

Consideration of the landscape is essential to the definition and interpretation of past Aboriginal land use across a landscape, and is a requirement of any Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage investigation (DECCW, 2010a: 8). The landscape may provide clues as to those areas of land that may have been more intensively used by Aboriginal people in the past due to the presence of resources such as water, stone, plants and animals; and other raw materials or landscape features associated with sustenance, shelter, tool manufacture and cultural activities.

The landscape provides the context within which the material remains of past Aboriginal occupation may be preserved and detected, due to the movement of soil through geomorphic processes such as erosion or its removal from the landscape through past land use and disturbance (DECCW, 2010a: 8). By considering these factors, an Aboriginal cultural heritage investigation may develop a sampling strategy for identifying any tangible Aboriginal heritage values.

8.2 Topography

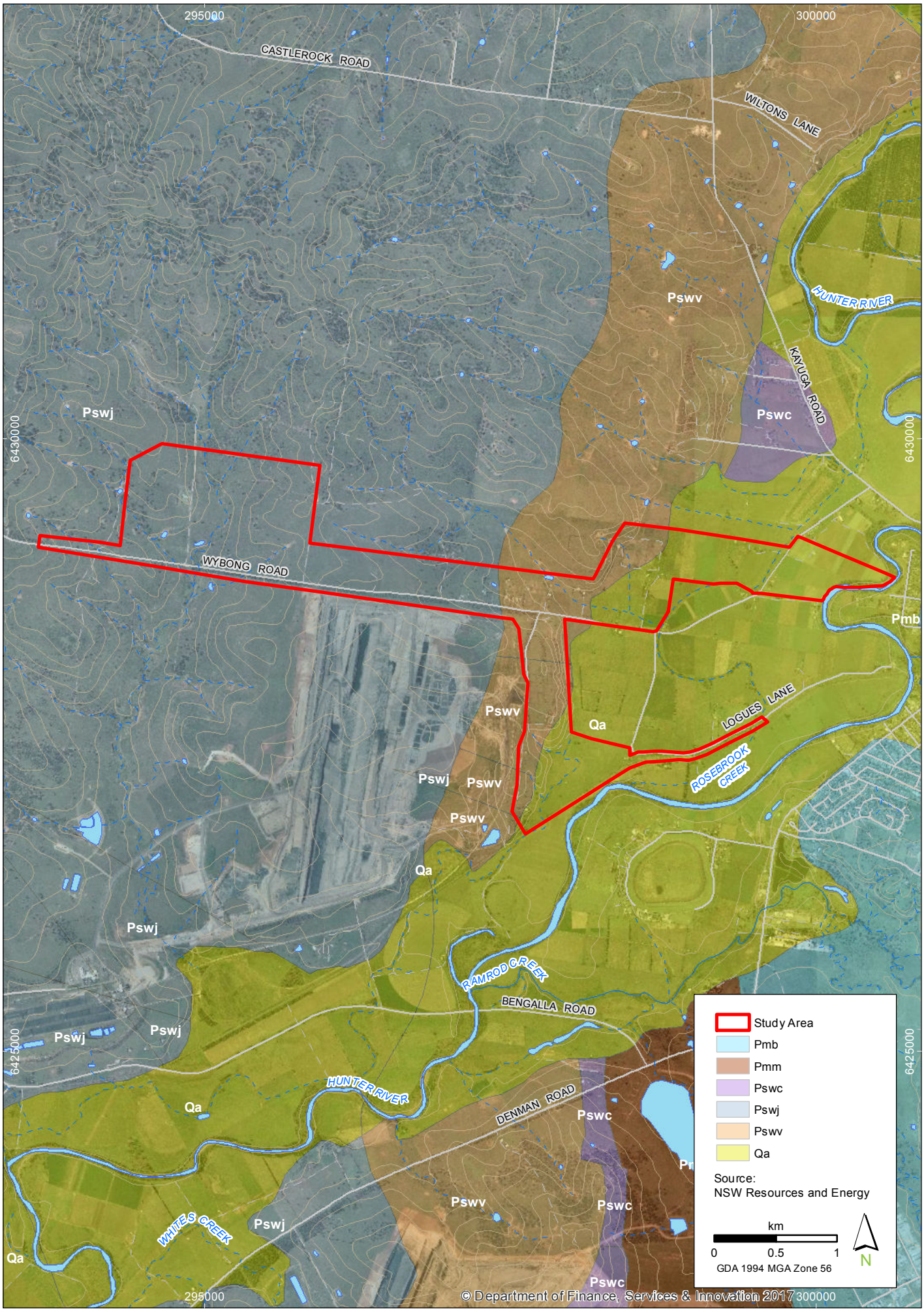
The Study Area is located in the Hunter Valley in a region identified as the Central Lowlands of the Hunter Valley. The Central Lowlands is defined as a belt of lowlands extending through the centre of the Hunter Valley between Newcastle and Murrurundi, that is developed on weak sedimentary rocks. It is comprised of an undulating or gently hilled landscape, with an abrupt transition to the steeper Southern Mountains in the south and north-eastern mountains to the north (Galloway, 1963: 92).

The Study Area is generally situated on the flood plains of the western side of the Hunter River and on the foot slopes and low ridges of the rolling hills located west of the flood plains. Elevation within the Study Area varies between approximately 139 metres (m) and 187 m above sea level. The lowest point is located on the western banks of the Hunter River in the north-eastern corner of the Study Area, while the highest point is located on the top of the low hill in the western section of the Study Area (Figure 3).

8.3 Geology

The Study Area is situated across three different geological formations (Figure 5) (Summerhayes, 1983). The eastern part is situated on the quaternary sediment consisting of sand, silty sand and stream sediment built up by the Hunter River. The central portion of the Study Area is situated on the Late Permian Wittingham Coal Measures and consists of rich coal–bearing sequences with occasional wedges of sandstone and siltstone. The western portion of the Study Area is also located on the Wittingham Coal Measures and consists of conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone and claystone.

There are no known raw material sources for the manufacture of stone artefacts in the Study Area, though the geological formations of the Late Permian Wittingham Measures and associated sandstone and siltstone intrusions are known to have provided exploitable raw materials across the region. Geological mapping for the Study Area is provided in Figure 5.



Geology Mapping

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 5

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

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8.4 Soils

Three soil landscapes have been mapped within the Study Area: the Hunter soil landscape, the Bayswater soil landscape and the Roxburgh soil landscape (Figure 6) (Kovac and Lawrie, 1991).

The Hunter soil landscape is located on the floodplains and river terraces of the Hunter River and associated tributaries. The soil landscape is characterised by alluvial soils on levees and flats adjacent to the present river channel. Alluvial soils within the Hunter soil landscape are characterised by loose, brownish black to black silty to medium clay with a strong structure. Alluvial soils are rapidly draining and highly permeable. Minor stream bank erosion occurs along the present watercourse and gully erosion on adjacent terraces (Kovac and Lawrie, 1991). The archaeological test excavations confirmed that that multiple flood events have accumulated a large amount of alluvial deposits in the area.

The Hunter River alluvial flood plain has accumulated a substantial amount of soil which has the potential of containing subsurface archaeological material of various age. The very shallow, sometimes skeletal soils of the steep slopes and ridge in the western part of the Study Area have considerably less potential for containing any subsurface archaeological material.

The Bayswater soil landscape covers the undulating hills south-west of Muswellbrook. It is characterised by yellow solodic soils on slopes of 3-10% gradient. Alluvial soils are contained within drainage lines. Red, yellow and brown podzolic soils occur on slopes. Moderate sheet and gully erosions are common within the yellow solodic soils (Kovac and Lawrie, 1991). Archaeological test excavation within the Bayswater soil landscape was limited to hill crests where deposits where shallow, before reaching reddish brown medium clay. This soil has limited potential to hold subsurface archaeological deposits due to the shallow, in some areas skeletal nature of the soil profile and also due to high level of erosion, especially around the edges of the hill crest and upper slopes.

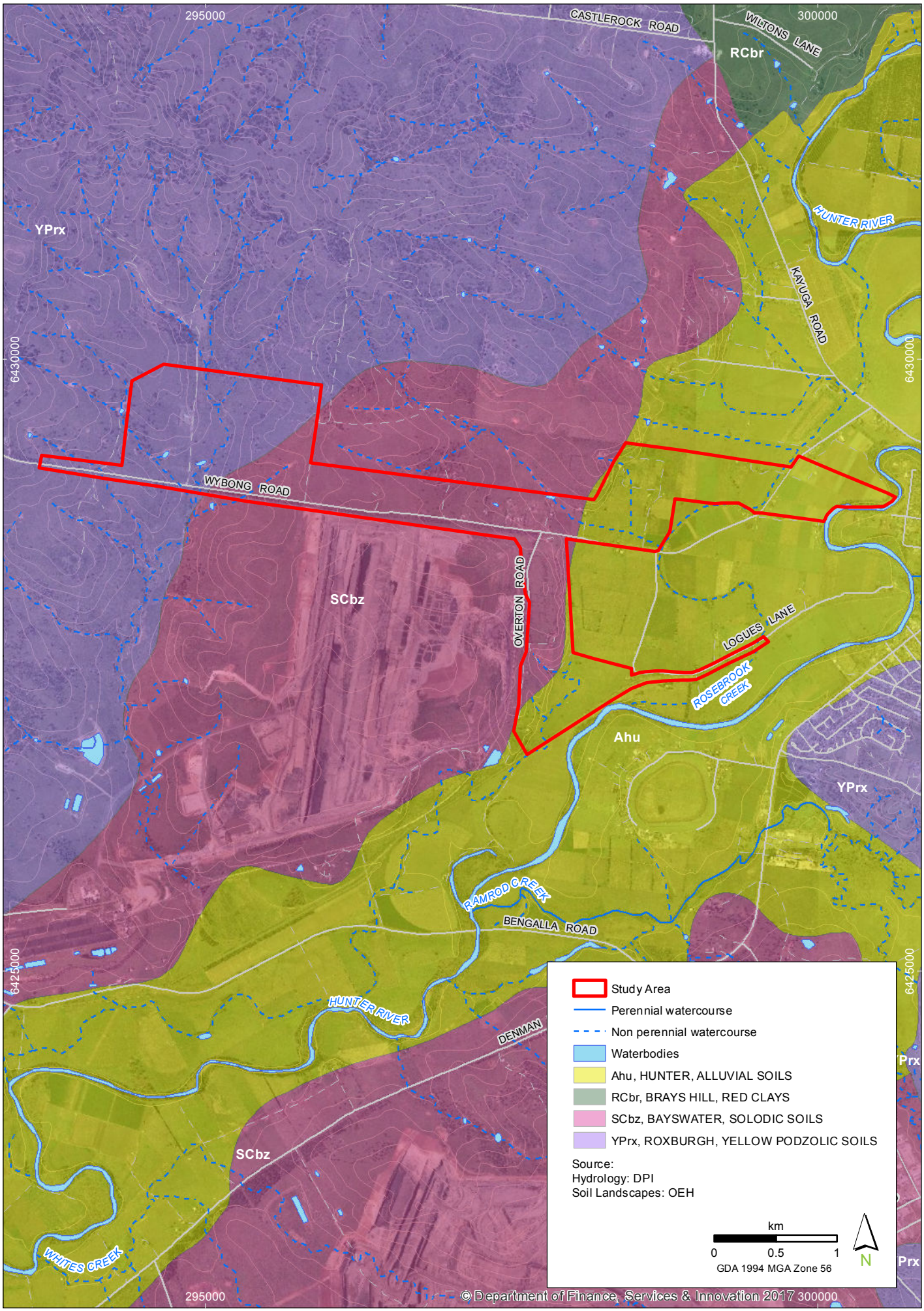
The Roxburgh soil landscape is associated with the undulating low hills to the west of the Bayswater soil landscape. Yellow podzolic soils occur on upper- to mid-slopes with red solodic soils on more rounded hills. Lithosols occur on crests and yellow soloths have been recorded in some gullies (Kovac and Lawrie, 1991).

8.5 Hydrology

Water is considered one of the primary factors in the prediction of the location of Aboriginal sites in the landscape. In general terms, the proximity of permanent water increases the potential for both surface and subsurface Aboriginal objects in a given area. The Study Area is located adjacent to the Hunter River and drains towards the east into the river.

The Hunter River is a major waterway and it is also a very important cultural landscape for the local Aboriginal people. Rosebrook Creek is another waterway (3rd order stream) within the Study Area (Figure 6). There are historic stream and river channels located within the Study Area, with sometimes considerable depth of between 2 m to 3 m. These channels could have been the part of the Hunter River natural system before the impact of European settlement and land use patterns.

Further information is provided in Appendix 9.



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Hydrology and Soils

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 6

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

8.6 Ecology

The original vegetation within the Study Area has been historically cleared and the land has been subject to intensive farming activities. Due to the historical land use impact it is very difficult to reconstruct the nature and quantity of natural resources that might have been present for Aboriginal people in the past. However, given the large amount of Aboriginal sites in the wider area and particularly within the Hunter Valley flood plains, the original vegetation might have provided ample resources for Aboriginal people in the past. Animals such as wallabies, kangaroos, possums, flying foxes as well as parrots, reptiles, freshwater fish and yabbies might have been abundant and would have made up part of the diet of the Wanaruah and Kamilaroi people. Plant resources such as bark extracted from various trees for making everyday items, canoes and shields must have also been abundant in the area. Utilising seeds and other parts of plants such as Kangaroo grass could have also been part of the resources collected in the area.

8.7 Past Land Use and Disturbances

The Study Area has largely been used for intensive agricultural activities including large scale cropping, and grazing activities. Anthropogenic modifications in the Study Area have included large scale vegetation clearance, construction of rural infrastructure such as vehicle access tracks, fences, stockyards, dwellings, dams and some modification to select drainage lines. The Study Area comprises a large, modified northern channel of the Hunter River which has been cut-off from the main arm sometime before the 1950's. Historical aerial images from 1958 demonstrate the channel being separated from the Hunter River. The surrounding flood plains have been the subject of multiple flood events and the archaeological test excavation confirmed the deposition of multiple layers of deposits within the area. The flood plains have been the subject of decades of intensive ploughing and consequent erosion and soil disturbance. The south-western portion of the Study Area comprising the north-south ridge and lower to upper steep slopes have been the subject of extreme erosion due to the clearing of the original vegetation and other natural processes. This area has been used for grazing and also includes a number of small lots that comprises still intact or dilapidated dwelling and farm buildings.

8.8 Summary

The above landscape context demonstrates that the Study Area contains (or would have contained at some point in the past) some resources capable of supporting a range of past Aboriginal land use. There are permanent and temporary water sources in the Study Area; and also some potential for outcrops of stone resources. There is also some potential for the preservation of surface and subsurface Aboriginal objects across the surface of the Study Area, particularly in association with flood plains of the Hunter River and its tributaries.

Archaeological visibility and exposure within the Study Area is limited due to the cover pasture. Visibility and exposure occur as a result of recent ploughing, grazing practices, associated with rural structures, erosion and surface wash around drainage lines and on slopes.

The entire Study Area has been subjected to a high level of disturbance since the colonisation of the area by European settlers. The signs of that disturbance are visible both on aerial imagery and also on the ground as confirmed by the field survey and archaeological test excavation. The post depositional events associated with disturbances caused by intensive agricultural activities are considered to have had significant impact on the spatial and vertical integrity of archaeological resources in the area.

9. Aboriginal Archaeological Context

9.1 Ethnography and History

The Study Area is located on the traditional country of the Wanaruah and Kamilaroi people. Tindale (1974) has identified the Wanaruah boundaries as being from south at Broke to north at Murrurundi, and running between Sandy Hollow and Gresford (west to east) (Attenbrow, 2010:34). Attenbrow (2010:35) points out that such boundary mapping, undertaken as it was in the nineteenth century is indicative at best; however there appears to be reasonably strong agreement between those who have mapped language boundaries that the area is Wanaruah country.

The records and histories of the Wanaruah and their Country at the time of contact with Europeans are subject to bias and are generally fragmented, providing nothing like a complete picture of the way Aboriginal people were living prior to European contact. Nevertheless, we know the Wanaruah regularly communicated, moved, traded and participated in ceremonies between their Country and neighbouring areas. It is most likely family groups or clans would 'interact along both physical and social boundaries' rather than be strictly confined to the 'tribal' borders that were to be artificially imposed by European anthropologists.

It is generally accepted that Aboriginal occupation of Australia dates back at least 40,000 years. Although archaeological evidence for the east coast regions of NSW show occupation from at least 20,000 years ago, the majority of sites in the Upper Hunter are believed to be mid-late Holocene (Davies, 1991). Confirmed dates for the Hunter Valley come from a number of excavated sites including Bobadeen Shelter, Sandy Hollow Shelter (C14 date of 1,300 Before Present [BP]) and Milbrodale Shelter (C14 date of 1,400 BP) (Griffiths, 1992).

The Lower Hunter was 'discovered' by John Singleton in 1770, and a mining settlement was established in Newcastle in 1801. The middle and upper reaches of the valley were not settled until explorations by John Howe in 1819 (Griffiths, 1992). Between the years of 1820-1825 the issuing of land grants contributed to an exponential increase in settlers and agricultural activity, which in turn had a dramatic effect on the landscape through clearing, grazing and cultivation (Environmental Resources Management Australia [ERM], 2009).

By the late 1830s the impact of European settlement meant that the traditional life of the Wanaruah had been irreversibly effected. Dispossessed, and with greatly reduced numbers due to conflict and European diseases, many Aboriginal people were removed from Country into Aboriginal missions and reserves, where the Protector of Aborigines (1881) and the Aborigines Protection Board (1883) established a system of protective segregation (Umwelt Environmental Consultants, 2009).

Despite this devastation, aspects of traditional knowledge and culture survive today, and the Wanaruah retain strong cultural attachments to land and Country.

9.2 Previous Archaeological Assessments at the Mount Pleasant Operation

A number of Aboriginal heritage investigations, surveys and assessments have been undertaken at the MPO and surrounds. A summary of these assessments is provided in Table 5.

Table 5: Summary of Past Aboriginal Archaeological Assessments at the MPO

Author	Date	Title	Assessment details
Rich	1995	*Mt Pleasant Coal Lease, New Muswellbrook, NSW: Archaeological survey for Aboriginal sites*	The entire MPO area was assessed for Aboriginal cultural heritage resulting in the identification of 327 Aboriginal archaeological sites that comprised of 1,408 stone artefacts. Rich concluded that compared to some other parts of Hunter lowlands, the MPO does not contain a substantial archaeological resource (Rich, 1995:6). This lack of substantial resource is reflected in the low artefact counts of the current assessment.
ERM Mitchell McCotter	1995	*Mount Pleasant Coal Lease, Muswellbrook NSW: An archaeological survey for Aboriginal sites*	ERM Mitchell McCotter were engaged to undertake an assessment over eight days to identify Aboriginal objects, sites and areas of potential archaeological subsurface deposit. This assessment was carried out prior to the final development of the MPO mine plan. The artefact types identified comprised of backed blades, cores, flakes and a number of flakes with evidence of retouch and use wear. Larger artefacts such as axe heads were made of volcanic and quartzite material. Whilst smaller artefacts were made of silcrete, indurated mudstone, quartz, petrified wood and fine grained rock types.
ERM Mitchell McCotter	1997	*Mount Pleasant Mine EIS Fine Rejects Emplacement Area Archaeological Investigations*	As part of this Environmental Impact Statement, ERM Mitchell McCotter undertook some supplementary assessment to complement the 1995 assessment and survey areas that previously had not been considered as part of the mine plan. During this assessment a further 24 Aboriginal sites were identified that comprised of 79 artefacts. Site distribution was comparable to the pattern previously identified by Rich (1995).
HLA-Envirosciences	2007	*Aboriginal Heritage Assessment: Mount Pleasant Block 1*	HLA Envirosciences was commissioned to prepare an Aboriginal heritage assessment for Block 1 including the areas of Hilltop, Hillview and Boxfield properties. Overall, 73 Aboriginal sites were identified during the field assessment, including seven potential scarred trees and 66 open sites associated with artefacts. Most of the sites were recorded in a disturbed context. Seven of the sites have been assessed as having moderate to high scientific significance while the rest have been assessed as having low scientific significance.
McCardle Cultural Heritage Management	2007	*Mount Pleasant Indigenous Archaeological Assessment Stage 2*	McCardle Cultural Heritage Management was commissioned by Rio Tinto Coal Australia (RTCA) to carry out an archaeological assessment of Stage 2 of the MPO. 219 Aboriginal sites were recorded during the survey, including 117 isolated finds, 92 low density artefact scatters, eight (8) potential scarred trees and two (2) potential hearths. The findings were consistent with the regional patterns of Aboriginal sites.
Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd	2007	*Coal & Allied Stage 4 Mount Pleasant Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage Report*	RTCA through Coal & Allied commissioned Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd to undertake a cultural heritage assessment. The assessment identified 276 Aboriginal sites, including 271 sites associated with one or more artefacts and five (5) potential scarred trees. Artefact distribution was similar to the results of previously conducted assessments and scarred trees have also been recorded in the area.
Scarp Archaeology	2009	*Technical Advisor Report: Cultural Heritage Investigations Stage 5 Mount Pleasant Mine, Hunter Valley*	RTCA and Coal & Allied commissioned Scarp Archaeology to carry-out an Aboriginal heritage assessment. A total of 136 Aboriginal sites were recorded including 113 isolated finds, 20 artefact scatters and three (3) possible scarred trees.

Author	Date	Title	Assessment details
Scarp Archaeology	2010a	*Technical Advisor Report: Cultural Heritage Investigations, Conveyor Easement Survey, Mount Pleasant Mine, Hunter Valley*	RTCA commissioned Scarp Archaeology to carry out a cultural heritage assessment of the proposed conveyor easement. A total of 64 Aboriginal archaeological sites were found including 55 isolated finds, six (6) artefact scatters and three (3) possible scarred trees. Results were consistent with previous surveys and artefact densities were similar to the intensity previously recorded sites.
Scarp Archaeology	2010b	*Technical Advisor Report: Cultural Heritage Investigations of the Proposed Broomfield Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Conservation Area for the Mount Pleasant Coal Mine, Hunter Valley, Muswellbrook LGA*	Coal & Allied commissioned Scarp Archaeology to carry out a cultural heritage investigation of the Broomfield Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Conservation Area. Altogether 2,370 flaked stone artefacts and also eight (8) scarred trees were found. The findings were consolidated into 104 Aboriginal sites. The assessment nominated some potential archaeological deposits (PADs).
Scarp Archaeology	2011	*Technical Advisor Preliminary Advice: Cultural Heritage Investigations- Mount Pleasant Mine, Hunter Valley Stage 6*	Scarp Archaeology was commissioned by RTCA and Coal & Allied to carry out a cultural heritage investigation. A total of 36 Aboriginal sites were recorded comprising isolated finds and potential scarred trees.
South East Archaeology	2016	*Report on Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment of the proposed water supply pipeline at Mount Pleasant at the Mount Pleasant Operations, Hunter Valley New South Wales.*	South East Archaeology was engaged by MACH Energy to complete an Aboriginal Objects Due Diligence Assessment of an approved water pipeline and pump station. This assessment concluded that the above ground pipeline could be developed in the areas that were highlighted as having no Aboriginal cultural heritage constraints.
South East Archaeology	2017a	*Mount Pleasant Operation, Hunter Valley, New South Wales: Aboriginal Heritage reassessment of three previously reported scarred trees*	Approximately 57 scarred trees were identified within the MPO during previous archaeological investigations. Three of these scarred trees were reassessed by South East Archaeology, and this reassessment was conducted by Dr Mark Burns of Global Soil Systems and Michael Marsh of South East Archaeology. Representatives of the local Aboriginal community were also present for the inspection. This assessment concluded that all three scars were not of Aboriginal origin.
South East Archaeology	2017b	*Mount Pleasant Operation, Hunter Valley, New South Wales. Aboriginal Heritage reassessment of four previously reported scarred trees.*	Approximately 57 scarred trees were identified within the MPO during previous archaeological investigations. Four of these scarred trees were reassessed by South East Archaeology, and this reassessment was conducted by Dr Mark Burns of Global Soil Systems and Michael Marsh of South East Archaeology. Representatives of the local Aboriginal community were also present for the inspection. This assessment concluded that all four scars were not of Aboriginal origin. As a result modified tree MTP-51 (AHIMS ID #37-2-2855), which is located within the current Study Areas AHIMS search's, status was changed to 'Not a Site' on the AHIMS register
South East Archaeology	2017c	*Mount Pleasant Operation, Hunter Valley, New South Wales: Aboriginal Heritage reassessment of 11 previously reported scarred trees*	Approximately 57 scarred trees were identified within the MPO during previous archaeological investigations. Eleven of these scarred trees were reassessed by South East Archaeology, and this reassessment was conducted by Dr Mark Burns of Global Soil Systems and Michael Marsh of South East Archaeology. Representatives of the local Aboriginal community were also present for the inspection. This assessment concluded that all eleven scars were not of Aboriginal origin. As a result modified tree MTP-901 (AHIMS ID #37-2-3479), which is located within the current Study Areas AHIMS searches, status was changed to 'Not a Site' on the AHIMS register.

During these previous assessments approximately 1,382 Aboriginal heritage sites have been identified within the MPO Development Consent DA 92/97 area (Table 6). These site types include open artefact sites (including artefact scatters, isolated finds and/or PADs), scarred trees and stone sources. As a result of these previous assessments approximately 626 Aboriginal sites have been salvaged and require no further management. In relation to the remaining Aboriginal cultural heritage sites identified, approximately 175 are approved for salvage/disturbance under AHIP #C0002053, while the remaining 581 are either approved for disturbance under AHIP #C002092 or require *in situ* conservation (MACH Energy, 2017:13-14).

Table 6: Summary of Known Aboriginal sites within MPO Development Consent DA 92/97

Site Type	Approximate Number of Aboriginal Heritage Sites
Open Artefact Sites[1]	1,358
Scarred Trees	22
Stone Sources	2
Total	**1,382**

Source: MPO Aboriginal Heritage Site Database (originally provided by Rio Tinto in 2016).

[1] Including artefact scatters, isolated finds and/or PADs.

Note: Excludes those previously reported sites that have been verified as not being of Aboriginal origin

9.3 Archaeological Studies Undertaken at the Adjoining Bengalla Mine

A number of archaeological studies have been undertaken for the approved Bengalla Mine which is located generally to the south-west of the approved MPO. The Aboriginal objects and sites identified during the assessments at the Bengalla Mine outlined in Table 7 are similar to those identified across the Study Area.

Table 7: Summary of the Aboriginal Archaeological Assessments undertaken for Bengalla Mine

Author	Date	Title	Assessment details
Rich	1993	*Proposed Bengalla Coal Mine, Muswellbrook NSW: Summary of Aboriginal Heritage*	Rich was engaged by Costain Resources to undertake an archaeological assessment of the proposed Bengalla Mine mining lease area. This assessment hypothesised that three stone industries were present within the area (microblade, small flaked tool and a large tool industry) each of which occurred over different landforms. The find types were similar to those found within the larger Muswellbrook area.
White	1998	*Archaeological salvage of sites B10 & B33 Bengalla Mine, Hunter Valley NSW*	This report details the results of an archaeological test excavation of an Aboriginal stone quarry site located within the Bengalla Mine mining lease area. In summary the B10 quarry site assemblages showed some large artefacts (more than 8 centimetres (cm) in length). Flaked and heat shattered debitage was also present at the site. At B33 only 146 artefacts were relocated during the test excavation. Apart from one knapping floor being located within B33 the artefacts from the surface collection at this location indicate a casual discard of cores that were not flaked on site, and a range of tool types including broken pieces of edge-ground axe and backed artefacts. Which are similar to those artefact types identified within the MPO mining lease area.
Hansen Bailey	2007	*Bengalla Mine Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan*	This Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan was prepared in accordance with DA 211/93 M1 Schedule 3, Condition 38. It was prepared in consultation with the local Aboriginal community and similar to the MPO management plan outlines the process for managing future archaeological assessment and Aboriginal object management.

Author	Date	Title	Assessment details
AECOM	2013	*Bengalla Continuation of Mining Project Aboriginal Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment*	AECOM Australia Pty Ltd (AECOM) prepared an Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage impact assessment for the Bengalla Continuation of Mining Project. A total of 289 archaeological sites were identified including 196 AHIMS sites, 54 newly identified sites, alongside 39 sites identified during previous assessments that were not registered on AHIMS. The 196 AHIMS sites comprised 112 artefact scatters, 79 isolated finds, 4 scarred trees and 1 quarry. The identified quarry is a very rare site type within the area and has the potential to provide additional information on the stone procurement processes and artefact curation methods within the wider area. The newly identified sites comprised 29 artefact scatters and 25 isolated finds. 282 sites were assessed as low significance, 6 sites were assessed as moderate significance and one sites (AHIMS ID #37-2-0579) was assessed as high significance. The newly identified sites comprised 29 artefact scatters and 25 isolated finds.
AECOM	2015	*Aboriginal Archaeological Due Diligence Assessment for Bengalla Development Consent Modification*	AECOM was commissioned by Hansen, on behalf of Bengalla Mining Company, to undertake an Aboriginal archaeological due diligence assessment of land required to facilitate the construction of clean water diversion levees. Two (2) new Aboriginal sites were identified during the survey, comprising one (1) artefact scatter and one (1) isolated find. No additional heritage constrains were identified during the due diligence assessment.

9.4 Regional Archaeological Studies

Two major regional archaeological studies have been carried out for the Hunter Valley during the last 35 years. The National Parks and Wildlife Service of New South Wales (NPWS) commissioned a large scale report on the Aboriginal archaeological resources of the Hunter Valley in 1984. The report was prepared by Philip J. Hughes and consisted of five volumes in total. In addition, a baseline study of Aboriginal heritage resources of the Upper Hunter Valley was prepared by ERM in 2004. The details of both reports are summarized in Table 8 below.

Table 8: Summary of Regional Archaeological Studies

Author	Date	Title
Hughes	1984	*An overview of the archaeology of the Hunter Valley, its environmental setting and the impact of development*
ERM	2004	*Upper Hunter Valley Aboriginal Heritage Baseline Study*

Both of the above-described studies provide detailed information on the archaeological resources, environmental settings, land systems and the impact of historical land use in the Hunter Valley. Both investigations concluded that the highest density of Aboriginal sites are found in the Central Lowlands subregion in which the Study Area is located. The reports also state that this density is partly the result of the concentration of development and subsequent archaeological investigation in this region. The highest number of recorded sites in the area are open sites associated with surface stone artefacts. The second highest number of sites are axe grinding grooves, associated on most occasions, with sandstone surface geology on the periphery of the lowlands and in areas with surface intrusions of bedrock associated with water sources. Most of the sites currently registered on AHIMS were located during consultant archaeological studies and investigations, and are generally associated with major developments in the Hunter Valley.

10. Synthesis and Predictive Model

The predictive model has been developed based on the modelling formulated from the results of previous archaeological investigations, including the documented landform context, location and type of Aboriginal sites previously recorded within the local area. The following criteria have been used to determine the archaeological potential (both surface and subsurface) for the Study Area:

- Patterns of Aboriginal land use and occupation of the region, to identify those landscape areas where material was likely to have been deposited.
- Distribution of known sites within the Study Area and broader Muswellbrook area, to identify the landforms known to contain archaeological materials (and patterning of those materials).
- Geomorphic evolution of the Study Area, to identify those natural processes that may have affected the archaeological resource.
- Terrain integrity of the Study Area and the Modification area, considering the impact of post contact land use history on the potential of archaeological site survival.
- Likely detection of archaeological materials within the proposed works area, considering the nature of the resource (surface/subsurface materials) and ground surface visibility constraints.

Based on these criteria, the following predictive model has been formulated specific to the Study Area:

- Open lithic sites (artefact scatters and isolated artefacts) would be the most likely site type to occur within the Study Area, being most common on or in proximity to water-related landforms such as flood plains, alluvial terraces and gentle slopes <100 m from natural watercourses.
- Ceremonial sites are unlikely to occur due to recent land use history.
- Stone arrangements are very rare but do occur in the much broader region. There is limited chance of these occurring in the Study Area due to the level of surface disturbance from past land use.
- The geological characteristics of the Study Area are not consistent with those required for rock shelters. As such, closed sites (such as rock shelters with potential for art, artefacts and/or PADs) are unlikely to occur within the Study Area.
- Limited potential for bedrock exposure consequently reduces the potential for sites such as axe grinding grooves or quarries, although they may be present in association with the hill slopes and crest located above the flood plains of the Hunter River (mostly outside the Study Area).
- Scarred trees exhibit scars caused by the removal of bark or wood. There is almost nil possibility for scarred trees to occur within the Study Area due to the extensive clearing and agricultural activities that have occurred since European colonisation.
- No post-contact sites with shared significance by Aboriginal and European people are known to be located within the Study Area.
- Aboriginal places are places of cultural significance to Aboriginal people. No Aboriginal places have been declared within the subject area (October 2017) or listed on AHIMS (http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/conservation/AboriginalPlacesNSW.html).
- Burials are rare but do occur in the wider region and are associated with sandy soils and rockshelters. Burials are unlikely to occur in the Study Area due to the lack of suitable contexts, absence of rockshelters, the high level of erosion present and historic surface disturbance.

Artefact scatters and isolated artefacts in open site context would be the most likely Aboriginal archaeological sites to occur within the Study Area. It seems that isolated artefacts occur in almost every part of the landscape and the identification of those sites will be dependent on ground surface visibility and exposure.

The spatial extent and density of the recorded artefact scatters suggest that the potential of finding high density, extensive sites are very low and the most likely context will be low density, background scatters situated close to permanent water sources and located in some exposures or eroded, truncated soil profiles. There is a high possibility to locate those type of sites on exposed, eroded landform units associated with the Hunter River, Rosebrook Creek and the tributaries of those waterways. However, in line with previous survey results, the large amount of alluvial deposits present by the Hunter River might make the identification of those sites difficult. There is a low possibility for outcropping bedrock and consequently raw material resources in the western part of the Study Area on the crest and steep slopes of the hills rising above the floodplains of the Hunter River. There is a low to almost nil possibility of finding scarred trees in the Study Area due to the excessive clearing of native vegetation.

11. Aboriginal Heritage Survey Methodology

11.1 Survey Sampling Strategy and Proposed Methodology

A Proposed Methodology for the assessment was provided to the RAPs on 8 September 2017. A copy of the Proposed Methodology is provided in Appendix 3. In addition, Niche developed a survey sampling strategy for the ACHA that aimed to provide 100% coverage of the survey area.

The survey methodology was prepared in consideration of (but not limited to):

- *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b).
- *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017).

The *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b) requires a stratified and weighted sample of the landscapes to be assessed based on their occurrence in an impact or disturbance footprint, and the anticipated Aboriginal cultural heritage potential within those landforms. As the survey resulted in 100% coverage of the survey area, there was no need to develop a sample strategy for the landform context.

As described in Section 2, although the ACHA for the Modification considered the entire Study Area, the focus of the surveys and impact assessment was on those portions of the Modification that are located outside of the extent of the approved AHIP #C0002053 boundary (i.e. those areas subject to previous assessment and/or salvage and management activities). Further, it is noted that the field surveys covered a much larger area that the current Study Area. The survey area is presented on Figure 3.

11.2 Survey Methods

The Aboriginal heritage survey was conducted on 3 and 4 October 2017. All survey transects were conducted on foot. Survey participants were generally spaced between 5 m and 10 m apart and features or exposures of interest were opportunistically investigated in more detail. Spacing between field survey participants was adjusted according to the surface visibility and exposure frequency (Plate 1).

Survey transects were recorded on handheld non-differential Global Positioning System (GPS) units with an average accuracy of ± 5 m. Environmental variables such as overall landform, slope, distance from water, visibility, soils and the presence of stone outcrops were recorded, and representative photographs were taken.

Located archaeological sites and Aboriginal objects were recorded in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b) using standard archaeological practice and according to requirements of AHIMS recording protocol including:

- Marking the location of every identified archaeological object and/or feature.
- Photo recording of the overall site including scale and markers for objects and/or features.
- Non-differential GPS recording of centre point and extent of every archaeological site.
- Description of features, objects, general environment, landscape unit, soils, disturbance levels and initial significance.
- Photo records of representative number of archaeological objects and/or features.

Plate 1: Example photograph of transect spacing during field survey

A comments and suggestions log was also maintained during the survey allowing for the representatives of the RAPs present to provide any comments regarding cultural values of the Study Area or management recommendations to be documented.

12. Aboriginal Heritage Survey Results

12.1 Overview

The entire survey area and all of its landforms and soil landscapes have been subject to systematic survey and assessment during the field campaign (Figure 7). The survey team conducted all transects on foot with the average distance of 5 m to 10 m between participants. Distance was adjusted (i.e. to less than 5 m apart) on areas with higher ground surface visibility. As the exact footprint of the proposed works was not known during the survey stage an area larger than that required was inspected. The field survey covered 100% of the Modification area (with the exception of those areas within the extent of the approved AHIP #C0002053) (Figure 7).

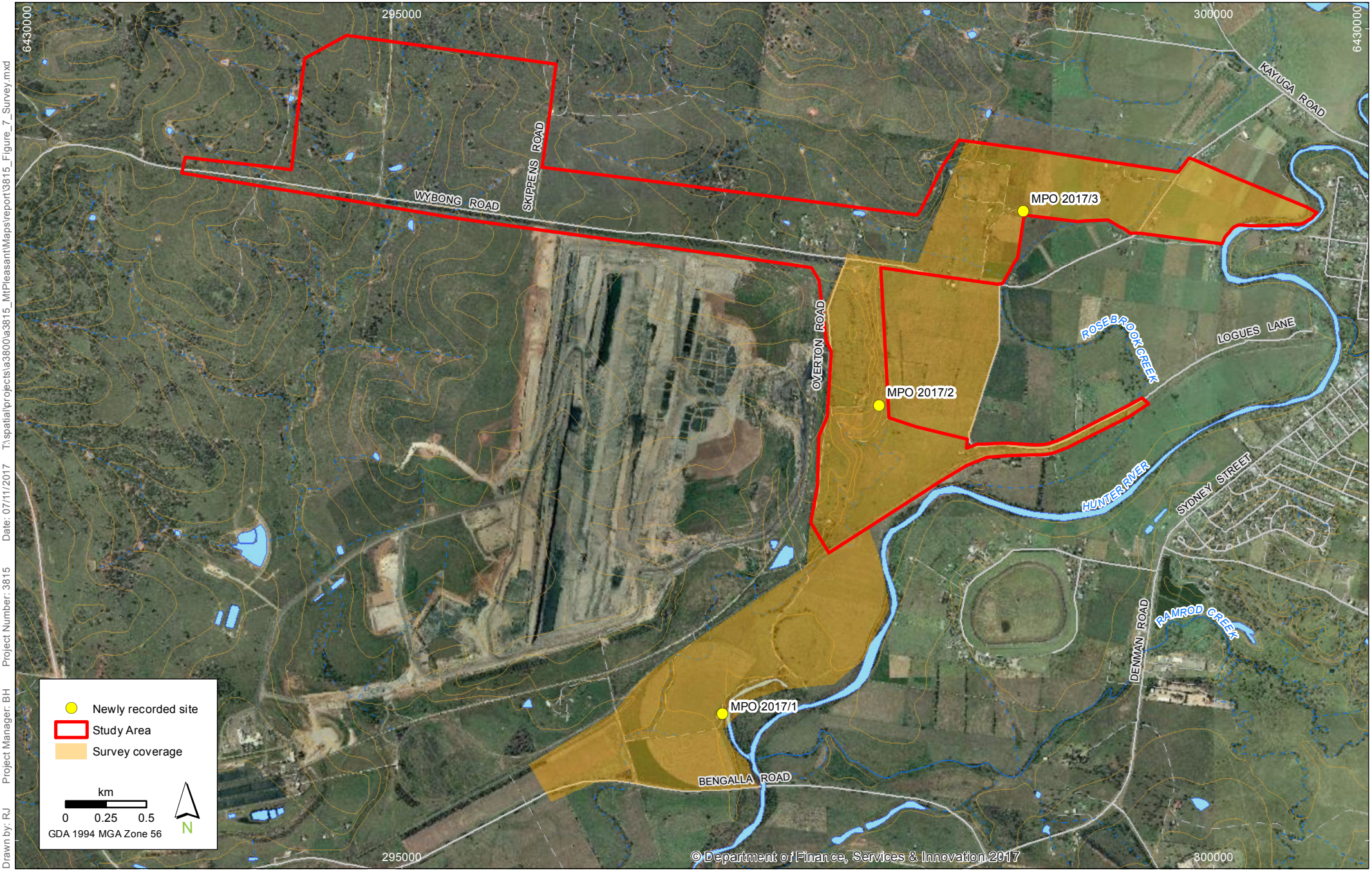
Visibility was poor across the entire survey area, due to vegetation cover (between 0-5%). Visibility was restricted by high grass cover with the exception of exposures from vehicles and animal tracks, earthworks, agricultural activities and surface wash and erosion in drainage lines. Effective survey coverage was less than 5% due to the thick grass cover on the open areas and sometimes thick undergrowth in the re-vegetated woodland. Notwithstanding, the survey provided an opportunity to inspect the entire survey area, and is considered sufficient for the purposes of this assessment. A summary of survey and landform coverage is provided in Table 9.

Table 9: Summary of Survey Coverage and Landform Summary

Landform / Survey Unit	Survey and Landform Unit Area (m^2)	Visibility (%)	Exposure (%)	Effective Coverage (m^2)	Effective Coverage (%)	Number of Sites	Number of Features
Hill	304,000	5	5	760	0.25	0	0
Slope	320,000	5	5	800	0.25	1	1
Flood Plain	3,673,000	5	5	9,182.5	0.25	2	2

m^2 = square metres

The survey confirmed the degree of past land use and disturbance—vegetation clearing, agricultural activities, grazing, construction of rural infrastructure and consequent heavy erosion that frequently resulted in complete loss of top soil — identified from the desktop assessment. The survey confirmed the general pattern of Aboriginal objects in the wider area and also confirmed the predictive model developed for the Study Area. Isolated stone artefacts were found on the flood plain on a farm access road (MPO 2017/1; AHIMS ID #37-2-0027), in an area that had recently been ploughed (MPO 2017/3; AHIMS ID #33-2-0025) and on the slopes of the former bank of the Hunter River (MPO 2017/2; AHIMS ID #33-2-0026) (Figure 7).



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Archaeological Field Survey Results

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 7

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

12.2 Survey Results

Altogether three Aboriginal heritage sites were identified during the field survey. Details of the recorded objects are provided in Table 10 below.

Table 10: Details of Identified Aboriginal Objects During Field Surveys

AHIMS ID	Site ID	Coordinates (MGA/GDA)	Description	Scientific Significance	Comment
33-3-0027	MPO 2017/1	E 296973 N 6425781	Isolated find located on an unformed track situated on the west bank of the Hunter River.	Low	Site does not extend beyond the isolated find.
33-2-0026	MPO 2017/2	E 297938 N 6427683	Isolated find located on the lower/steep slope of a south-north high ridge above the flood plains of the Hunter River.	Low	Site does not extend beyond the isolated find.
33-2-0025	MPO 2017/3	E 298826 N 6428879	An isolated find on the floodplains of the Hunter River and Rosebrook Creek.	Low	Site does not extend beyond the isolated find.

12.3 Description of Individual Sites

During the survey campaign, three (3) new Aboriginal heritage sites were identified and recorded. The individual sites are described in details below.

MPO 2017/1 (AHIMS ID #33-2-0027)

This is an isolated find comprising one stone artefact located on an unformed vehicle track, on the western bank of the Hunter River (Plates 2 and 3). The artefact is a silcrete median flake. The scientific significance of MPO 2017/1 was assessed as low.

Plate 2: Artefact of MPO 2017/1

Plate 3: Location of site MPO 2017/1 photo facing north

MPO 2017/2 (AHIMS ID #33-2-0026)

This is an isolated find comprising one stone artefact located on the lower slopes of a steep hill in the western part of the Study Area (Plates 4 and 5). The artefact is a mudstone complete tool with scalar, steep retouch along one margin. The scientific significance of MPO 2017/2 was assessed as low.

Plate 4: Artefact of MPO 2017/2

Plate 5: Location of site MPO 2017/2 photo facing east

MPO 2017/3 (AHIMS ID #33-2-0025)

This is an isolated find comprising one stone artefact located on along a graded area, approximately 250 m north-west of Rosebrook Creek (Plates 6 and 7). The graded area was existing at the time of the survey, and was undertaken as part of existing agricultural practices. The artefact is a silcrete median flake. The scientific significance of MPO 2017/3 was assessed as low.

Plate 6: Artefact of MPO 2017/3

Plate 7: Location of MPO 2017/3 photo facing south

13. Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

As described in Section 6.2.3, a Test Excavation Proposed Methodology and Sampling Strategy was provided at all RAPs for their review and comment on 19 September 2017, with further additional details and mapping provided on 13 October 2017. Notification of the proposed archaeological test excavation was provided to the OEH on 5 October 2017, in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b).

The purpose of this section is to describe the methodology undertaken to conduct archaeological test excavation for the Modification. The purpose of the test excavation was to determine whether further Aboriginal objects and archaeological potential exist within the Study Area. Test excavations were conducted in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b).

13.1 Test Excavation Methodology

The test excavation was carried out over five days from 23 October to 27 October 2017. The test excavation focused on landform units of potential sensitivity that may be subject to impacts associated with the Modification, and included testing of landforms of both higher and lower archaeological potential. The flexibility to place excavation pits of the transect grid was reserved, and if appropriate pits could have been placed in areas of interest to the Aboriginal community.

The test pits were excavated according to Requirement 16 and Requirement 17 of the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b) as follows:

- The test excavation pits were placed in systematic manner appropriate to the scale and locations being investigated, with each investigation point being separated by at least 5 m. Original layout of test excavation pits were on a 20 m by 20 m grid system.
- Test excavation pits measure 50 cm by 50 cm.
- Test excavation pits extended into 1 m by 1 m units in the event of deposits of deeper than 60 cm found or any archaeological features were located.
- The test excavation pits were hand excavated using hand tools only.
- The test excavation program utilised 5 cm spits for the first test pit for each location, and 10 cm spits for each test pit thereafter (or appropriate sediment profile/stratigraphic excavation, whichever is smaller).
- Spits re-adjusted to 5 cm should cultural layers, features or high density of artefacts located. Should well defined cultural layers be found, the program allowed for spits to follow the actual horizons of those layers until all cultural materials are excavated.
- All excavated soil dry sieved through 5 millimetre aperture wire mesh. Dry sieving was conducted next to each pit, on a tarpaulin and the pits were backfilled upon completion of the excavation of each sample location.
- Any artefacts and samples were provided with unique identification numbers, tagged, bagged and prepared for further analysis on site/at excavation base.
- Excavation units were recorded using standard archaeological practises including written information of the test unit, and photographic and scale-drawn records of the stratigraphy/soil profile, features and informative Aboriginal objects were made for each single excavation point.

- Excavation units were excavated to:
  - at least the base of the identified Aboriginal object-bearing units, and were continued to confirm that the soils below are culturally sterile;
  - to the base of artefact bearing layers;
  - to refusal at rock; or
  - to groundwater, where present.

13.2 Artefact Analysis and Cataloguing

A full record and catalogue of the artefacts was prepared in accordance with Requirement 19 and Requirement 20 of the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b). A full artefact catalogue of the items identified during the test excavation program is provided in Appendix 5.

The long term disposition of artefacts, in accordance with *the Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017) will require placing artefacts at the temporary keeping place at the Broomfield Homestead Complex (1100 Wybong Road, Mount Pleasant). Artefact analysis and the preparation of a catalogue has been completed by Simon Greenwood and Balazs Hansel (Niche).

13.3 Recording and Photography

The location of each excavation pit has been recorded using hand-held, non-differential GPS. Excavation results of each test pit were recorded on a spit sheets. Archaeological features were sketched and photographed. Upon completion the stratigraphy of each pit was scale drawn and photographed.

13.4 Sensitive Cultural Information – Management Protocol

During the consultation process MACH Energy and Niche provided the opportunity for the RAPs to provide cultural information, including a statement of the value of identified sites and other matters. The input points were listed within the relevant excavation methodologies (Appendix 3).

RAPs were made aware that MACH Energy or Niche staff would seek cultural information and supporting evidence in regard to matters of cultural value.

In the event that a stakeholder had sensitive or restricted public access information it was proposed that MACH Energy and Niche would manage this information (if provided by the Aboriginal community) in accordance with a sensitive cultural information management protocol. The protocol would include making note of and managing the material in accordance with the following key limitations as advised by Aboriginal people at the time of the information being provided:

- any restrictions on access to the material;
- any restrictions on communication of the material (confidentiality);
- any restrictions on the location/storage of the material;
- any cultural recommendations on handling the material;
- any names and contact details of persons authorised within the relevant Aboriginal stakeholder to make decisions concerning the Aboriginal material and the degree of authorisation;
- any details of any consent given in accordance with customary law; and
- any access and use by the registered Aboriginal stakeholders of the cultural information in the material.

There was no sensitive material provided by the RAPs to MACH Energy or Niche at the time of preparation of this report.

14. Archaeological Test Excavation Results

As described in Section 13.1, the test excavation was carried from 23 October to 27 October 2017. The participants of this assessment are outlined in Section 6.2.5. Four areas were targeted during the test excavation and are presented on Figures 8, 8-1, 8-2, 8-3 and 8-4. Two areas concentrated on the ridgelines and two areas were located on the alluvial flood plains of the Hunter River and its tributaries. A detailed summary is provided below.

14.1 Test Area 1

Area 1 is located in the south-western part of the Study Area on the top of a north-south ridge (Figures 8 and 8-1). In Area 1, fourteen (14) test pits were excavated in 5 cm spits for the first test pit and 10 cm spits for subsequent test pits. The excavated area covered altogether approximately 3.5 m². Three transects were laid out within the test area and a total of 14 test pits were excavated as follows:

- five test pits along Transect 1;
- five test pits along Transect 2; and
- four test pits along Transect 3.

The typical soil profile within Area 1 was observed as follows:

- A1 horizon – compact clayey silt mix – 0-10 cm (Munsell: 2.5YR 4/6 pH: 5.5).
- A2 horizon – moderately compact to compact reddish brown silty clay – 10-30 cm (large degree of variation) (Munsell: 2.5YR 5/4 pH: 5.5).
- B horizon – moderately compact to compact dark reddish brown sterile clay – 30-40 cm (large degree of variation) (Munsell: 2.5YR 3/4 pH: 6.5).

Test pit 14 (in Transect 3) was not excavated due to the close proximity to an overhead power line. No artefacts were recovered at Area 1.

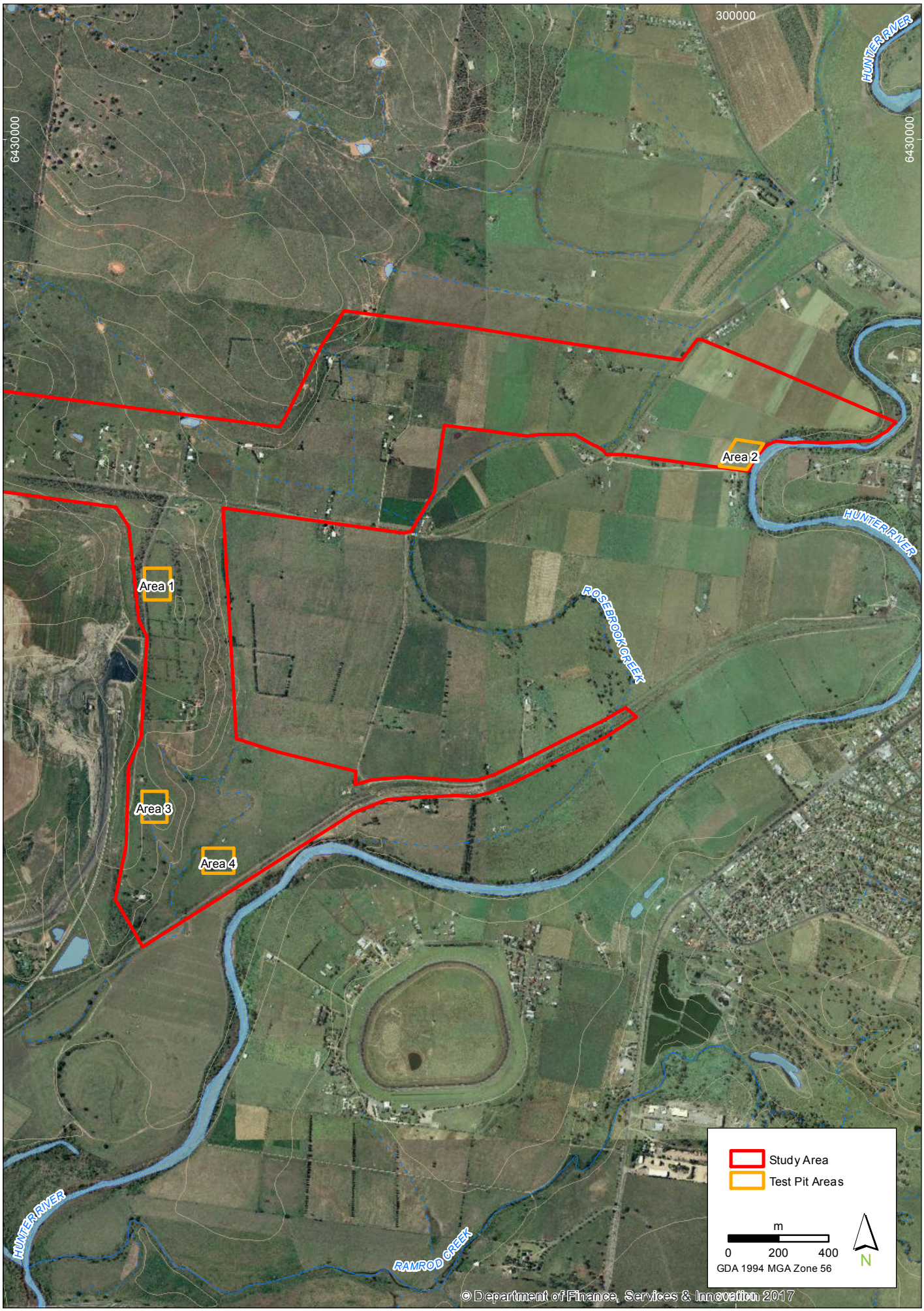
14.2 Test Area 2

Area 2 is located on the western bank of the Hunter River (Figures 8 and 8-2). Area 2 contained two transects containing a total of five test pits. Initially ten test pits were marked out, but due to the deep, alluvial deposit encountered the excavation team (including representatives of the RAPs) decided to expand two test pits into 1 m by 1 m excavation units in order to be able to fully investigate the depth of the deposit. The 1 m^2 test pits were extended in quadrants of 50 square centimetres (cm^2) test pits and excavated to a depth of 1 m and 1.2 m respectively. Altogether approximately 3.25 m² were excavated. The layout of transects was as follows:

- three test pits along Transect 1; and
- two test pits along Transect 2.

The typical soil profile within Area 2 was observed as follows:

- A1 horizon – moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present – 0-10 cm (Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5).
- A2 horizon – moderately soft to firm dark reddish brown silty loam – 10-80 cm (large degree of variation) (Munsell: 2.5YR 5/4 pH: 5.5).
- B horizon – firm to compact very dusky red clay – 100-120 cm (large degree of variation) (Munsell: 2.5YR 3/4 pH: 6.5).



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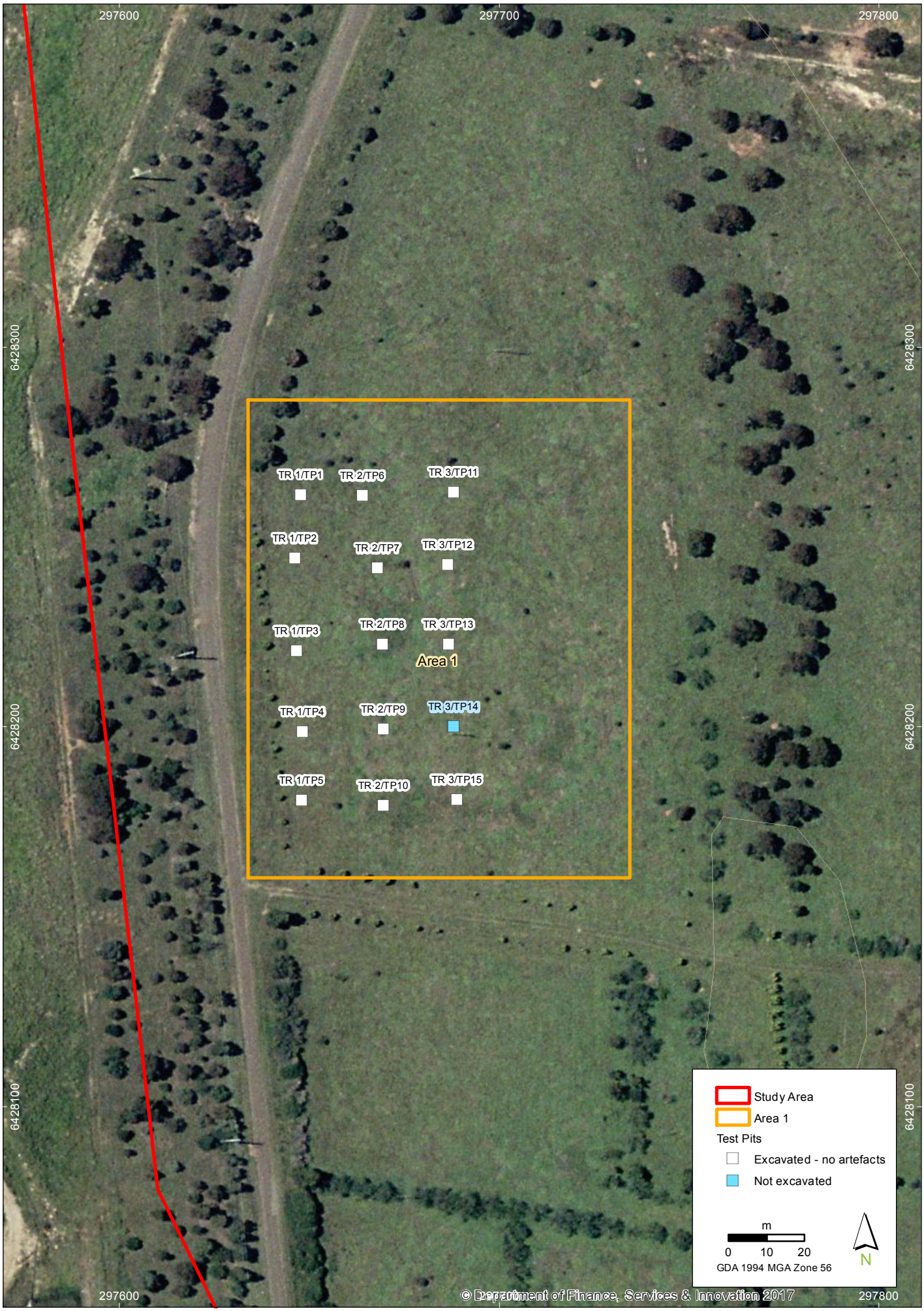
Areas of Testing

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 8

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

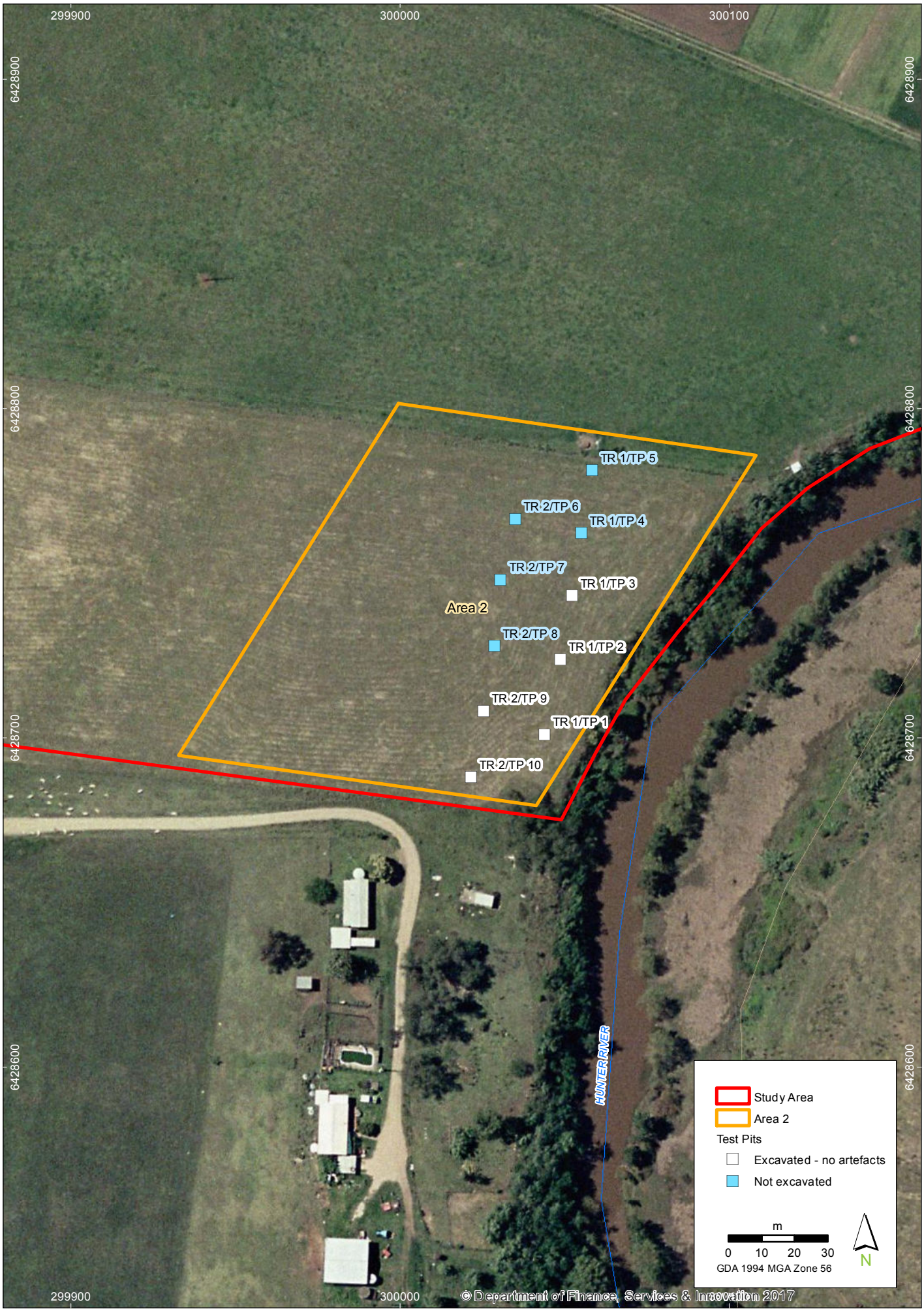


Test Area 1

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 8-1

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

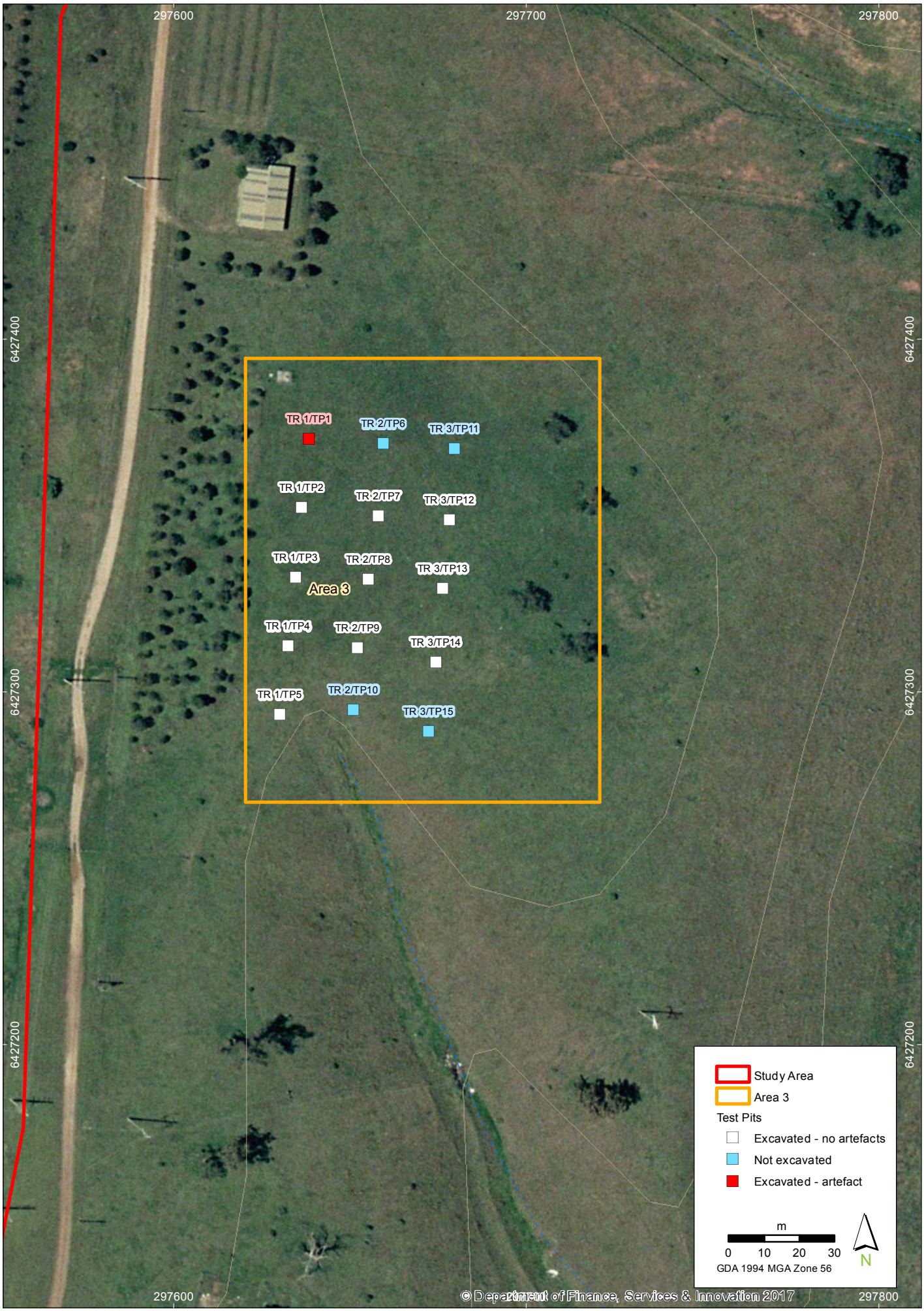


Test Area 2

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 8-2

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

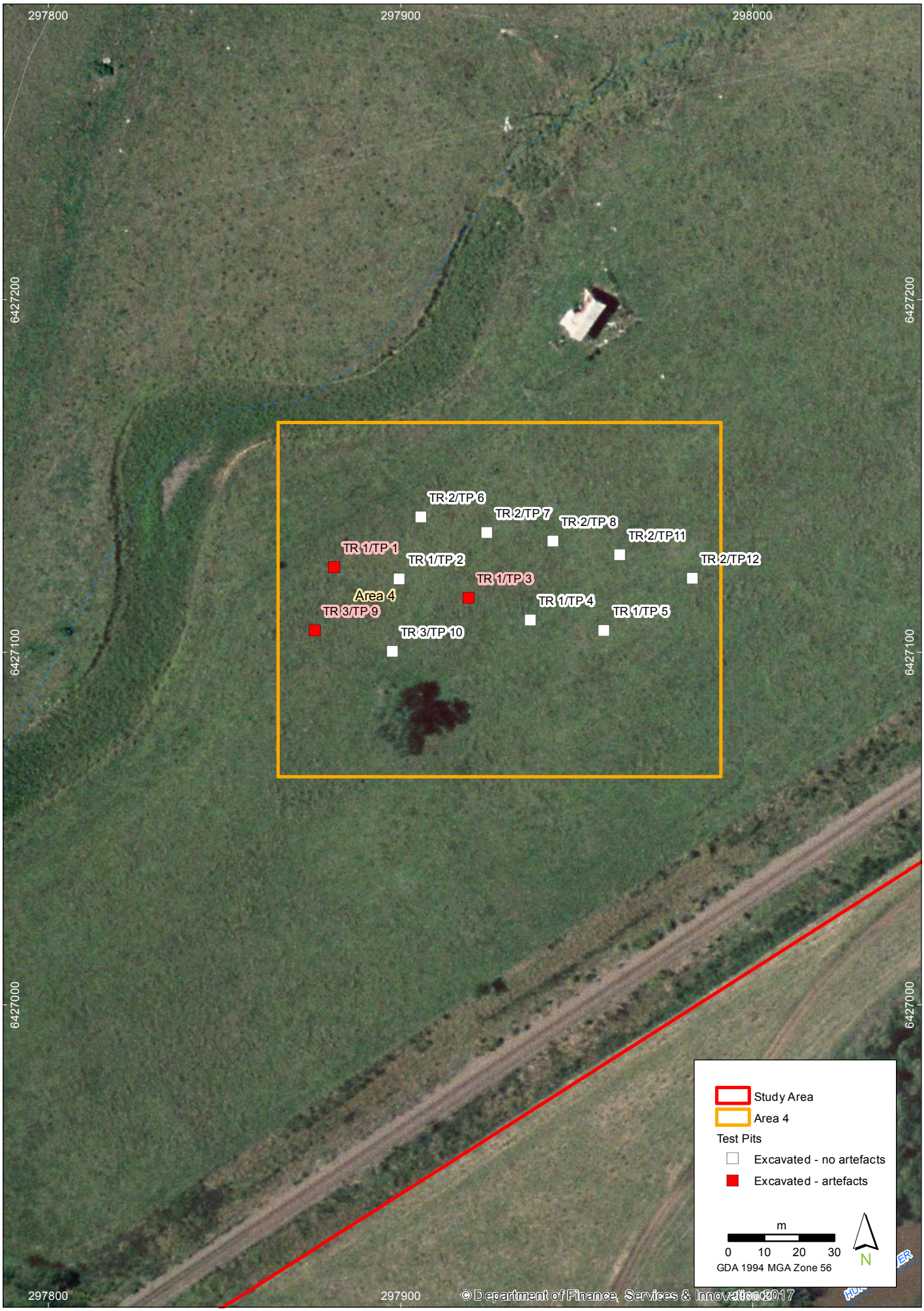


Test Area 3

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 8-3

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013



Test Area 4

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 8-4

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

Test pits 4 to 8 were not excavated, following a decision made by the excavation team to expand and deepen test pits 1 and 10. No artefacts were recovered at Area 2.

14.3 Test Area 3

Area 3 is located on the top of a low spur, in the western part of the Study Area, approximately 800 m south of Area 1 (Figures 8 and 8-3). Area 3 contained three transects comprising a total of eleven (11) completed pits. The test pits were excavated in 5 cm spits for the first test pit and 10 cm spits for subsequent pits. Altogether approximately 2.75 m² was excavated at Area 3 as follows:

- five test pits along Transect 1;
- three test pits along Transect 2; and
- three test pits along Transect 3.

The typical soil profile within Area 3 was observed as follows:

- A1 horizon – loose dark brown loam/silty loam – 0-10 cm (Munsell: 7.5YR 3/4 pH: 5.5).
- A2 horizon – moderately compact to compact greyish brown silty clay – 10-20 cm (Munsell: 5YR 3/4 pH:6).
- B horizon – moderately compact to compact clay – 25-30 cm (Munsell: 5YR 4/6 pH: 7).

Altogether one artefact was found at Area 3, located in test pit 1 (Figure 8-3).

The remaining four test pits were not excavated within this test area following consultation with the attending representatives of the RAPs. As these pits were located on the higher slope and affected by extensive erosion the low potential for subsurface archaeology was confirmed, and the team revised the strategy to focus excavation efforts on the lower flood plain areas.

14.4 Test Area 4

Area 4 is located on the alluvial terrace of the Hunter River, approximately 200 m south-east of Area 3 (Figures 8 and 8-4). Altogether twelve (12) test pits were excavated. Eleven (11) test pits were excavated in 10 cm spits and one was extended to 1 m^2 in quadrants and excavated first in 5 cm spits for the first quadrant and then 10 cm for subsequent quadrants. Transects were laid out as follows:

- five test pits along Transect 1;
- five test pits along Transect 2; and
- two test pits along Transect 3.

The typical soil profile within Area 4 was observed as follows:

- A1 horizon – friable dark brown loam/silty loam – 0-10 cm (Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6).
- A2 horizon – moderately compact to compact very dark grey silty clay – 10-20 cm (large degree of variation) (Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH: 7).
- B horizon – moderately compact to compact clay – 20-30 cm (large degree of variation) (Munsell: 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH: 7.5).

Altogether 17 artefacts were recovered in three test excavation units comprising six (6) 50 cm by 50 cm test pits. These artefacts were identified in test pits 1, 3 and 9 (Figure 8-4).

14.5 Test Excavation Results Summary

Altogether 18 Aboriginal artefacts were recovered during the excavation (Appendix 5) including one artefact from Test Area 3 and 17 artefacts from Test Area 4. These artefact sites were then registered on AHIMS as two separate sites MPO 2017/4 (AHIMS ID #33-2-0028) (for the single artefact in Area 3) and MPO 2017/5 (AHIMS ID #33-2-0029) (for the cluster of artefacts in Area 4) (Appendix 7). The analysis and discussion of these results is presented within Section 15 of this report.

A sample of photographs and section drawings have been included within this report, as there were no changes across the site in terms of soil profiles and disturbance.

Across all four areas there is evidence of modern disturbance through pasture improvement activities. There was significant disturbance/mixing observed in the A1 profile, likely the result of erosion activity over the past 20 years. Evidence of disturbance/mixing of the A2 soil profile was also observed, albeit to a lesser extent than that identified in the A1. All test pits showed low levels of 'natural' disturbance in the form of grass and tree roots.

As described in Appendix 9, a geomorphologist attended two days of the test excavation program. This included assessment of the soil profiles and the provision of advice regarding the geomorphology present in the test excavation areas. Further details regarding the outcome of this assessment are provided in Appendix 9.

14.6 Artefact Distribution

A total of 18 artefacts were recovered during the test pit program (Appendix 5). Artefacts were recovered only from Areas 3 and 4. Artefacts were recovered from four test pits total, with the majority of artefacts being located in Area 4 TR 1 TP 1 (61% of all artefacts) and Area 4 TR 3 TP9 (28% of all artefacts). The highest number of artefacts in a single test pit was 11 artefacts. Table 11 provides a summary of the number of artefacts recovered at each location.

Table 11: Artefact Count for each Test Pit

Test Pit / Site Name	Artefact Count
Area 3 TR 1 TP1	1
Area 4 TR 1 TP 1 QA	5
Area 4 TR 1 TP 1 QB	3
Area 4 TR 1 TP 1 QC	2
Area 4 TR 1 TP 1 QD	1
Area 4 TR 1 TP 3	1
Area 4 TR3 TP 9	5
Total:	*18*

In all but one case the artefacts were found within Spit 1 and Spit 2 (the top 20 cm) of the respective test pits. Only in Area 4 TR 3 TP 9 were artefacts uncovered in Spit 3 and even then the there was only a single artefact found below 20 cm depth.

Despite the extensive nature of the testing program only a small number of artefacts were identified. Based on the small sample of recovered artefacts, it is difficult to make robust conclusions on what the subsurface distribution of artefacts may mean in terms of past Aboriginal use of the landscape. Generally the area has been heavily disturbed by pasture improvement and tilling, however while there is obvious and sustained ground disturbance (both natural and cultural) in the Study Area, the clustering of artefacts in Area 4 is most likely representative of the original location of deposition in the landscape. Hence the artefact clustering present within the Study Area is interpreted to be in the general area they were discarded by Aboriginal people in the past.

14.7 Artefact Assemblage Description

The majority of artefacts recovered were silcrete (*n* = 11), with the remainder being classified as mudstone (*n* = 4), quartz (*n* = 1), slate (*n* = 1) and quartzite (*n* = 1) (Table 12). Artefact assemblages are usually dominated by silcrete, mudstone, chert and quartz in the region.

Table 12: Raw Material Frequency

Raw Material	Frequency	% of Total
Silcrete	11	62%
Mudstone	4	23%
Quartz	1	5%
Slate	1	5%
Quartzite	1	5%
Total	*18*	*100%*

Most of the recovered artefacts have been broken either during their lifetime or by post-depositional processes. Due to the low number of complete flakes the average size of artefacts would not be concluded and would not yield considerable information on the assemblage.

Artefact classification was conducted using the categories described by the AHIMS site card system, and attributes considered useful for comparison with other Upper Hunter assemblages, for the entire artefact assemblage. Table 13 summarises the assemblage by artefact class.

Table 13: Artefact Classification

Row Labels	Frequency	% of Total
Medial flake	6	33%
Complete flake	3	16%
Distal flake	3	16%
Proximal flake	4	23%
Complete tool	1	6%
Broken tool	1	6%
Total	*18*	*100%*

15. Analysis and Discussion of Survey and Excavation Results

As a result of the field survey, a total of three Aboriginal heritage sites were identified. Of these sites, two are located within the Study Area however only one is located within the Modification area (Figure 9).

As a result of the test excavation program, a total of two additional Aboriginal heritage sites were identified. Both of these sites are located within the Modification area (Figure 9).

As a result of the nature of the objects identified (i.e. the absence of any datable material), there were no dating samples collected during the test pit excavation, so it is not possible to date the artefact assemblage by association with other features or the sediments within which they were located. There were no time period-diagnostic artefacts (such as backed artefacts) but the shallow depth and generally small size of most artefacts suggests that the assemblage dates to the Holocene period.

Area 1 and Area 2 did not yield any artefacts and no cultural layers or stratified deposits were found. The top soil ('A' horizon) at Area 1 was very shallow, in some areas skeletal, and has been the subject of high levels of disturbance. Area 2 has yielded quite different results displaying deep deposits of various grain size alluvial deposits with almost no inclusion other than grass roots and various percentage of silt.

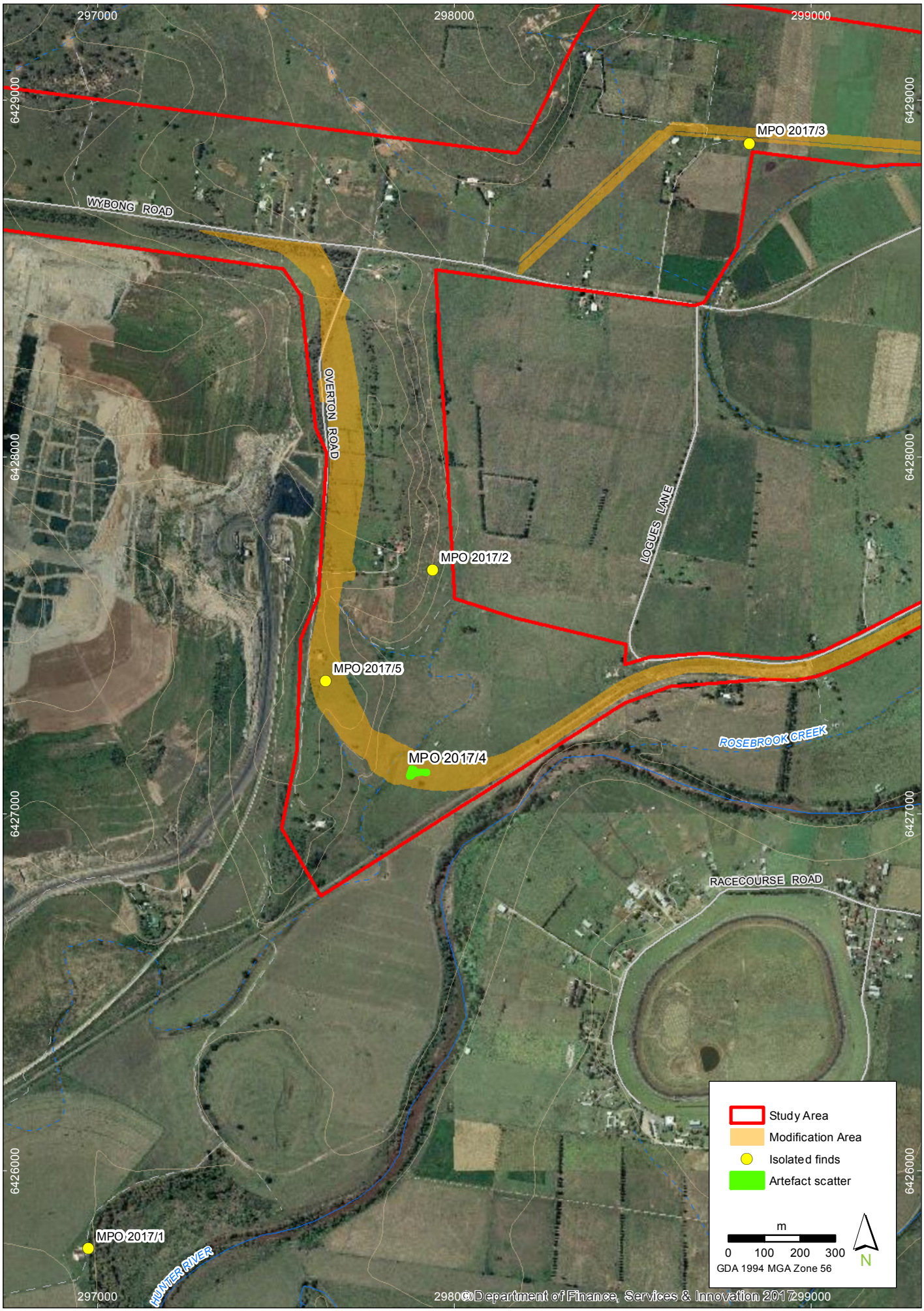
There was one artefact found in TP 1 at Area 3 within colluvial deposits, comprising of a high number of medium to large size of pebbles and silty clay deposits. The soils in Area 3 are mostly heavily eroded colluvial deposits with high silt and cobble content. Erosion is particularly extensive around the edges of the spur and generally very high all across the entire area.

Area 4 has yielded the most artefacts (17) found in three separate test pits. Most of the artefacts (80%) are broken flakes or tools which could be associated with the intensive ploughing in the area which has obvious signs on the ground and also has been confirmed by historical aerial imagery. The spatial distribution of artefacts show density increasing closer to the old channel of the Hunter River. Vertical distribution of artefacts show a generally even density from Spit 1 down to Spit 3. High levels of disturbance caused by agricultural activities and bioturbation have been recorded in every test pit.

The spatial and vertical distribution of the artefacts has been the subject of extensive post-depositional disturbance caused by intensive historical land use, particularly agricultural activities such as ploughing and construction of rural infrastructure.

The Study Area is located within close proximity of waterways and situated on flood plains with various levels of alluvial deposits. While the close proximity of permanent water would suggest higher intensity and frequent occupation of the area, the frequent and various extent of flood events might have altered the landscape and either removed archaeological deposits from the landscape or covered those artefacts with varying thicknesses of alluvial deposits. Both of these processes might have had significant impact on the spatial and vertical integrity of archaeological resources in the area.

The artefacts are not interpreted to be *in situ*, and stratified archaeological deposits are not present. However the artefacts are likely to be in the general vicinity of where these were discarded and therefore may be able to provide further information on past Aboriginal land use by considering relative densities of raw materials, artefact types and artefacts in general.



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Location of Identified Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sites

MPO Rail Modification

FIGURE 9

Imagery: (c) LPI 2013

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Overall, Niche considers that the archaeological test excavation program has obtained sufficient information regarding the archaeological subsurface potential of the Study Area, to assist in the understanding of the nature and extent of archaeological resources. The program has resulted in the sampling of each landform present, and has also allowed for testing within the area of potential impacts associated with the Modification (i.e. the Modification area).

16. Cultural Heritage Values and Significance Assessment

16.1 Assessment Framework

The Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS, 2013) defines the basic principles and procedures to be observed in the conservation of important places. It provides the primary framework within which decisions about the management of heritage sites in Australia should be made. The Burra Charter defines cultural significance as being derived from the following criteria presented in Table 14.

Table 14: Definition of Heritage Values from the Burra Charter (Source: Australia ICOMOS, 2013)

Cultural Significance Criteria	Definition
Aesthetic value	Aesthetic value includes aspects of sensory perception for which criteria can and should be stated. Such criteria may include consideration of the form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric; the smells and sounds associated with the place and its use.
Historic value	Historic value encompasses the history of aesthetics, science and society, and therefore to a large extent underlies all of the terms set out in this section. A place may have historic value because it has influenced, or has been influenced by, an historic figure, event, phase or activity. It may also have historic value as the site of an important event. For any given place the significance will be greater where evidence of the association or event survives *in situ*, or where the settings are substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive. However, some events or associations may be so important that the place retains significance regardless of subsequent treatment.
Scientific value	The scientific or research value of a place will depend upon the importance of the data involved, on its rarity, quality or representativeness, and on the degree to which the place may contribute further substantial information.
Social value	Social value embraces the qualities for which a place has become a focus of spiritual, political, national or other cultural sentiment to a majority or minority group.

16.1.1 Other Approaches: Scientific Significance

The categorisation into aesthetic, historic, scientific and social values is one approach to understanding the concept of cultural significance. However, more precise categories may be developed as understanding of a particular place increases.

The NSW DECCW guidelines for the significance assessment of Aboriginal archaeological sites are contained within the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage: Standards and Guidelines Kit* (NPWS, 1997). The Kit identifies two main streams in the overall significance assessment process: the assessment of cultural/social significance to Aboriginal people and the assessment of scientific significance to archaeologists. This approach encapsulates those aspects of the Burra Charter that are relevant to Aboriginal archaeological sites. The guidelines specify the following criteria for scientific significance, as paraphrased in Table 15.

Table 15: Criteria for Assessing Archaeological/Scientific Significance

Significance Criteria	Definition
Research Potential	It is the potential to elucidate past behaviour which gives significance under this criterion rather than the potential to yield collections of artefacts. Matters considered under this criterion include – the intactness of a site, the potential for the site to build a chronology and the connectedness of the site to other sites in the archaeological landscape.
Representativeness	As a criterion, representativeness is only meaningful in relation to a conservation objective. Presumably all sites are representative of those in their class or they would not be in that class. What is at issue is the extent to which a class of sites is conserved and whether the particular site being assessed should be conserved in order to ensure that we retain a representative sample of the archaeological record as a whole. The conservation objective which underwrites the 'representativeness' criteria is that such a sample should be conserved.
Rarity	This criterion cannot easily be separated from that of representativeness. If a site is 'distinctive' then it will, by definition, be part of the variability which a representative sample would represent. The criteria might best be approached as one which exists within the criteria of representativeness, giving a particular weighting to certain classes of site. The main requirement for being able to assess rarity will be to know what is common and what is unusual in the site record but also the way that archaeology confers prestige on certain sites because of their ability to provide certain information. The criterion of rarity may be assessed at a range of levels: local, regional, state, national, and global.
Educational Potential	Heritage sites and areas should be conserved and managed in relation to their value to people. It is assumed that archaeologists have the ability to speak of the value of sites to members of their own profession. Where archaeologists or others carrying out assessments are speaking for the educational value of sites to the public, the onus is on them to go to the public for an assessment of this value, or to reputable studies which have canvassed public demand for education. The danger, otherwise, is that archaeologists would be projecting their values onto a public which is itself given no voice on the matter.
Aesthetics	Archaeologists are not expected to include an assessment of aesthetic significance along with their assessment of scientific significance. In relation to heritage places, aesthetic significance is generally taken to mean the visual beauty of the place. Aesthetic value is not inherent in a place, but arises in the sensory response people have to it.

16.1.2 Grading Values and Significance

The following gradations, where a site or zone satisfies at least one criterion, have been applied to provide a measure of the values/significance for Aboriginal objects identified within the Study Area, and to provide an overall assessment of the significance of each of the zones used that define the Study Area.

Low: The site or object contains only a single or limited number of features, and has no potential to meaningfully inform our understanding of the past beyond what it contributes through its current recording (i.e. no or low research potential). The site or object is a representative but unexceptional example of the most common class of sites or objects in the region. Many more similar examples can be confidently predicted to occur within the Study Area, and in the region.

Moderate: The site or object derives value because it contains features, both archaeological and contextual, which through further investigation may contribute to our understanding of the local past. These features include, but are not limited to: the relationship with landscape features or other Aboriginal archaeological sites or areas of identified heritage importance; diagnostic archaeological or landscape features that inform a chronology; and a relatively large assemblage of stone artefacts. The presence of a diverse artefact and feature assemblage, and connectedness with landscape features and other notable sites provide relatively higher representative and rarity values than sites of low significance.

High: The site or object has value because it contains archaeological and/or contextual features which through further investigation may significantly contribute to our understanding of the past, both locally and on a regional scale. These features include, but are not limited to: Aboriginal ancestral remains; the site's relationship with landscape features or other Aboriginal archaeological sites or areas of identified heritage importance; diagnostic archaeological or landscape features that inform a chronology; and a very large assemblage of stone artefacts associated with other features such as oven remains or shell middens. Such sites will be relatively rare, and will be representative of a limited number of similar sites that make up this class; hence they derive high representative and rarity values.

16.1.3 Assessment of Values and Significance

This stage is used to assess and discuss the cultural significance of the values identified during the identification and assessment of cultural significance by consulting Aboriginal people and to prepare a statement of significance. The assessment of values is a discussion of what is significant and why. An assessment of values is more than simply restating the evidence collected during the background review and identification of values stages of the project. Rather, the assessment should lead to a statement of significance that sets out a succinct summary of the salient values that have been identified.

The assessment and justification in the statement of significance must discuss whether any value meets the following criteria outline in *Assessing Heritage Significance* (NSW Heritage Office, 2001):

- Does the Study Area have a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons? – Social value.
- Is the Study Area important to the cultural or natural history of the local area and/or region and/or state? – Historic value.
- Does the Study Area have potential to yield information that would contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of the local area and/or region and/or state? – Scientific (archaeological) value.
- Is the Study Area important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics in the local area and/or region and/or state? – Aesthetic value.

Assessment of each of the criteria (above) should be graded in terms that allow the significance to be described and compared; for example, as high, moderate or low. In applying these criteria, consideration should also be given to:

- Research potential: does the evidence suggest any potential to contribute to an understanding of the area and/or region and/or state's natural and cultural history?
- Representativeness: how much variability (outside and/or inside the Study Area) exists, what is already conserved, how much connectivity is there?
- Rarity: is the Study Area important in demonstrating a distinctive way of life, custom, process, land-use, function or design no longer practised? Is it in danger of being lost or of exceptional interest?
- Education potential: does the Study Area contain teaching sites or sites that might have teaching potential?

Thus the statement of significance is a succinct summary of the salient values drawn from the identification of values.

16.2 Statements of Significance for the Study Area

As described in Section 15, although the surveys and test excavations for this assessment identified a total of five Aboriginal heritage sites, only four are located within the Study Area and only three are located within the Modification area (Figure 9). Notwithstanding, for completeness, a significance assessment has been prepared for all five identified sites regardless of the potential for impacts associated with the Modification.

No further areas of Aboriginal cultural heritage value were identified. All of the recorded sites were assessed as having low scientific significance.

16.2.1 Social Value

As previously discussed, the landscape of the Hunter River maintains a role as an important cultural and social item for the Wanaruah people. The river provides a tangible link between today's communities, who manage the land in contemporary circumstances, and their Wanaruah ancestors.

16.2.2 Aesthetic Value

The Study Area has no outstanding values for aesthetic characteristics in the local area and/or region and/or state. No aesthetically significant archaeological site has been identified. The RAPs have not made comment on the aesthetic values of the Study Area.

16.2.3 Historic Value

Consultation with the RAPs, desktop investigations and background literature review identified no direct historical figures, events, phases or activities within the historical or oral history records relevant to the Study Area. The Study Area has not been demonstrated to be important to the cultural or natural history of the local area and/or region and/or state. However, the RAPs expressed that the Study Area has an important place in the wider cultural values of the area and Hunter Valley region.

16.2.4 Scientific (Archaeological) Value

The Study Area has limited potential to yield information that would contribute to a further understanding of the cultural or natural history of the local area and/or region and/or state. The Study Area contains Aboriginal objects, but these have very limited research or information potential beyond their current recording and incorporation into the AHIMS register and MACH Energy database.

16.2.5 Cultural Value

With the exception of the Aboriginal heritage sites identified during this survey and previous surveys, there were no specific areas or places of cultural value identified during the survey for the Modification. Previous assessments have identified various cultural values by the Aboriginal community in relation to the area of the MPO. No additional cultural values were provided by the Aboriginal community during the assessment for Modification.

Table 16 outlines the identified values for each of the Aboriginal sites located during the field surveys.

Table 16: Significance Assessment for Identified Aboriginal Heritage Sites

Site details	Located within Modification area?	Social or cultural values	Historic value	Scientific (archaeological) value	Aesthetic value	Aboriginal Cultural Value
MPO 2017/1 (37-3-0027)	No*	There have been no spiritual, traditional, historical or contemporary associations and attachments identified by the RAPs. There is however the contemporary view held by the RAPs that all Aboriginal objects and sites are important within the region due to their interconnectivity with the natural landscape and past occupation of the region.	None	Low	None	To be included once the draft report has been reviewed by the RAPs.
MPO 2017/2 (37-3-0026	No*	There have been no spiritual, traditional, historical or contemporary associations and attachments identified by the RAPs. There is however the contemporary view held by the RAPs that all Aboriginal objects and sites are important within the region due to their interconnectivity with the natural landscape and past occupation of the region.	None	Low	None	
MPO 2017/3 (37-3-0025)	Yes	There have been no spiritual, traditional, historical or contemporary associations and attachments identified by the RAPs. There is however the contemporary view held by the RAPs that all Aboriginal objects and sites are important within the region due to their interconnectivity with the natural landscape and past occupation of the region.	None	Low	None	
MPO 2017/4 (37-3-0028)	Yes	There have been no spiritual, traditional, historical or contemporary associations and attachments identified by the RAPs. There is however the contemporary view held by the RAPs that all Aboriginal objects and sites are important within the region due to their interconnectivity with the natural landscape and past occupation of the region.	None	Low	None	
MPO 2017/5 (37-3-0029)	Yes	There have been no spiritual, traditional, historical or contemporary associations and attachments identified by the RAPs. There is however the contemporary view held by the RAPs that all Aboriginal objects and sites are important within the region due to their interconnectivity with the natural landscape and past occupation of the region.	None	Low	None	

* Located outside of Modification area and would not be subject to impacts associated with the Modification.

17. Impact Assessment

The *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (OEH, 2011) requires that both direct and indirect impact to Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places be considered.

Generally, direct impact refers to occasions where an activity physically impacts a site or objects and therefore affects the heritage values of the site or objects (e.g. disturbance of the ground surface or soil units in areas where known Aboriginal objects exist or in areas that require further investigation to confirm the presence or absence of Aboriginal objects or cultural value).

Indirect impact is usually taken to mean impact stemming from secondary consequences of the activity, and may affect sites or objects as an indirect consequence of the activity. Examples of such indirect impact are increased visitors to a site, or increased erosion in an area as a result of an activity.

17.1 Potential Impacts Associated with the Modification

The area subject to survey for this assessment was larger than the current Modification area (i.e. the area to which impacts may occur as a result of the Modification). Detailed mine planning and refinement of the final proposed disturbance area has resulted in the avoidance of direct impact to some identified heritage sites.

For the purposes of this assessment, the three (3) Aboriginal heritage sites that occur within the Modification area are considered to have the potential to be directly impacted by the proposed activities, which will involve the excavation of soil profiles and will result in the complete removal of potential archaeological resources.

The other identified Aboriginal heritage sites are not considered to be subject to direct or indirect impacts as a result of the Modification, due to their significant distance from the Modification activities. Impacts to these sites are not considered further in this assessment.

17.2 Summary of Potential Impacts

As required by the *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW, 2010b), a consideration of the likely impacts (and loss of value) to Aboriginal heritage sites as a result of the Modification is listed in Table 17.

Table 17: Impact Assessment for Modification

Site ID	Type of Impact	Degree of Impact	Consequence of Impact
MPO 1/2017 (33-3-0027)	None	None	None
MPO 2/2017 (33-2-0026)	None	None	None
MPO 3/2017 (33-2-0025)	Direct	Total	Total loss of value
MPO 4/2017 (33-2-0028)	Direct	Total	Total loss of value
MPO 5/2017 (33-2-0029)	Direct	Total	Total loss of value

The Modification is located in an area of low Aboriginal archaeological potential that has been subject to systematic survey, and unanticipated impacts and harm to cultural values are not likely. Taken within the context of the known Aboriginal heritage sites at the MPO and surrounds, the sites discussed in this report are all of low scientific significance, and harm to some of these sites represents a low level of harm and loss of cultural value. Such low levels of harm are not significant in terms of the principles of ecological sustainable development and inter-generational equity described and recommended in the *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (OEH, 2011).

17.3 Consideration of Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts are the successive, incremental and combined impacts of one or more activities on the environment, including cultural heritage values. Taken in context with pre-existing development and conservation in the region, it is considered that the Modification would occur within a highly disturbed landscape (e.g. due to extensive agricultural activities).

None of the identified Aboriginal objects are assessed as rare or unique, and they represent a well-documented and researched segment of Aboriginal archaeological resources in the area. The Modification is not expected to cause a loss of heritage resources that could be viewed as being very rare or unique or unlikely to exist elsewhere. Therefore, the Modification would not result in any significant cumulative impact on Aboriginal heritage in the region.

18. Management Measures and Recommendations

The currently approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017), which was prepared in consultation with the RAPs and relevant government agencies, outlines the management requirements for Aboriginal heritage at the MPO. While the majority of the Modification area is located outside of the boundaries to which the currently approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017) applies, the requirements of the plan have been considered in the development of the recommendations made by this assessment. Further, the recommendations made below refer to practical measures that should be taken to protect and conserve Aboriginal objects or places to mitigate harm to Aboriginal objects or places.

The recommendations made in relation to the Modification are as follows:

1. MACH Energy should continue to liaise with the RAPs throughout life of the Modification. Consultation should be undertaken consistent with the consultation requirements outlined in the currently approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017).

2. Additional inspection by archaeologists and representatives of the RAPs, following final design of all supporting ancillary infrastructure (e.g. power supply to the pump station, access tracks etc.), where the location has not already been subject to systematic archaeological survey.

3. An AHIMS site card for each of the newly identified sites have been submitted for the AHIMS register for all newly recorded sites in line with legislative requirements under the NPW Act.

4. The MPO Aboriginal Heritage Site Database and the currently approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017) should be updated as soon as practicable to incorporate the Modification (noting that this update is not required prior to the implementation of the agreed/relevant management measure).

5. MACH Energy should seek a new area based AHIP (and/or a variation to an existing AHIP) to allow for impacts associated with the Modification. This ACHA would form part of this application.

6. Prior to any surface disturbance impacts occurring, site MPO 2017/3 should be subject to salvage (i.e. surface collection) and should be stored at the MPO temporary storage facility at the Broomfield Homestead Complex (1100 Wybong Road, Mount Pleasant).

7. Once analysis has been completed by Niche for the artefacts collected during the archaeological test excavation program, all artefacts should be stored at the MPO temporary storage facility at the Broomfield Homestead Complex (1100 Wybong Road, Mount Pleasant).

8. For any previously unrecorded Aboriginal heritage sites that may be identified during the Modification, they should be managed consistent with the requirements outlined in the currently approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017).

9. MACH Energy should implement emergency response procedures for any discovery of unknown Aboriginal objects and/or unexpected skeletal remains during construction activities for the Modification, in accordance with the currently approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017).

10. In accordance with currently approved *Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan* (MACH Energy, 2017) Aboriginal cultural heritage should continue to be a component of all employee and contractor inductions.

19. References

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Appendix 1 - Community Consultation Log

DATE	ORGANISATION CONTACTED	HOW CONTACTED	CONTACTED BY	NATURE OF CONSULTATION
4/05/2017	Step 1 Government Organisations (Wanaruah LALC, Office of Environment and Heritage (Dubbo), Muswellbrook Shire Council, Hunter Local Land Services, NTSCORP, National Native Title Tribunal, Office of the Registrar)	Post	Chris Lauritzen, MACH Energy	Step 1 letters sent out to relevant organisation requesting details of Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the Area of Interest for the Mount Pleasant Operation.
9/05/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Ross Pahuru, Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation	Response to Step 1 letter received.
9/05/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Tracey Skene, Culturally Aware	Response to Step 1 letter received.
10/05/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Renee MacDonald, Wanaruah LALC	Response to Step 1 letter received.
11/05/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Naomi Golightly, Office of Environment and Heritage	Response to Step 1 letter received.
16/05/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Kathie Steward Kinchela, Yinarr Cultural Services	Response to Step 1 letter received.
24/05/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Kim Manwarring, Muswellbrook Shire Council	Response to Step 1 letter received.
26/05/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Bianca Ceissman, Office of the Registrar	Response to Step 1 letter received.
29/05/2017	Existing Registered Aboriginal Parties for the Mount Pleasant Operation	Post	Chris Lauritzen, MACH Energy	Letters sent out to existing RAPs at the Mount Pleasant Operation to advise them of the registration process and to notify them that they have been automatically registered as Registered Aboriginal Parties.
29/05/2017	Aboriginal stakeholders identified by relevant government organisations	Post	Chris Lauritzen, MACH Energy	Step 2 letters sent out to groups/individual identified during Step 1 (who are not already automatically registered for the Project), inviting Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the Area of Interest to register an interest in the Project.
31/05/2017	N/A	Public Notice	MACH Energy	A public notice was published in the Koori Mail on 31 May 2017, inviting Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the Area of Interest to register an interest in the Project.
31/05/2017	N/A	Public Notice	MACH Energy	A public notice was published in the Singleton Argus on 31 May 2017, inviting Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the Area of Interest to register an interest in the Project.
1/06/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Kristen Kerr, Warrabinga NTCAC	Provided registration of interest.
1/06/2017	Amanda Howard	Email	MACH Energy	Confirmed receipt of Step 2 correspondence.
2/06/2017	N/A	Public Notice	MACH Energy	A public notice was published in the Muswellbrook Chronicle on 2 June 2017, inviting Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the Area of Interest to register an interest in the Project.
5/06/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Des Hickey	Provided registration of interest for Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying and Valley ELM Corp.
27/06/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Amanda Howard	Provided a registration of interest.
5/07/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Carolyn Hickey, A1 Indigenous Cultural Services	Provided a registration of interest.

6/07/2017	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council	Post	MACH Energy	Provided correspondence to OEH and Wanaruah LALC providing copies of registration materials and a list of the Registered Aboriginal Parties.
8/09/2017	Registered Aboriginal Parties	Post	MACH Energy	A copy of the Proposed Methodology was distributed to all Registered Aboriginal Parties for their review and comment. Feedback was requested by COB Wednesday 11 October 2017.
15/09/2017	MACH Energy	Telephone	Margaret Matthews, Aboriginal Native Title Consultants	Confirmed that Margaret, John and another individual will be attending the information session.
16/09/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Tracey Skene, Culturally Aware	Provided support for the Proposed Methodology.
25/09/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council	Confirmed attendance at information session.
25/09/2017	MACH Energy	Telephone	Deidre Perkins, Divine Diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants	Provided apology for information session.
5/10/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Ross Pahuru, Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation	Confirmed attendance at information session.
5/10/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Ann Hickey, Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy	Provided support for the Proposed Methodology.
5/10/2017	Office of Environment and Heritage	Email	MACH Energy	Provided notification to OEH of proposed test excavations in accordance with Requirement 15C of the Code of Practice.
9/10/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Office of Environment and Heritage	Confirmed receipt of test excavation notification.
10/10/2017	Registered Aboriginal Parties	Information Session	MACH Energy	Information session held to discuss Modification and Proposed Methodology.
12/10/2017	Registered Aboriginal Parties	Email/Telephone	MACH Energy	Provided invitation to attend additional information session on 17 October 2017.
12/10/2017	MACH Energy	Email	Lance Syme, Warrabinga	Emailed to request copies of documentation from steps 2 and 3 of the consultation process.
13/10/2017	Registered Aboriginal Parties	Email/Post	MACH Energy	Provided additional figure to support the test excavation proposed methodology.
13/10/2017	Lance Syme, Warrabinga	Email	MACH Energy	Provided response and copies of requested documentation.
17/10/2017	Registered Aboriginal Parties	Information Session	MACH Energy	Additional information session held to discuss proposed archaeological test excavation program.
12/10/2017	Buda Mada Koori Womens Aboriginal Corporation	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Barry & Colleen Stair	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Lower Wonnarua Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	BJC Cultural Management	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Muswellbrook Culture Consultants	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Chantae Griffiths	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Mingga Consultants	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Esther Tighe	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Fiona Draper	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Gina Field	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Wonnarua Culture Heritage	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Gomeroi Murri Ganuurr Yuuray Wadi Palinka	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Hazel Collins	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Crimson-Rosie	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session

12/10/2017	Aboriginal Native Title Consultants	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Galamaay Consultant	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Bawurra Consultants	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	KL.KG Saunders Trading Services	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Luke Cameron Cultural Management	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	ME Griffiths Cultural Management	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Marvonia Welsh	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Michele Stair	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council Incorporated	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Ungooroo Cultural & Community Services Inc	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Roger Noel Matthews	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Moreeites	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	Breeza Plains Culture and Heritage Consultants	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	T & G Culture Consultants	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
12/10/2017	My Land Cultural Heritage	Telephone	MACH Energy	Invitation to Information Session
10/11/2017	Registered Aboriginal Parties	Post	MACH Energy	A copy of the draft ACHA was distributed to all RAPs for their review and comment.
16/11/2017	MACH Energy	Telephone	Norman Archibald	Called to advise that he had no issues with the draft report.
22/11/2017	Registered Aboriginal Parties	Post	MACH Energy	An invitation to a draft ACHA information session and site inspection was provided to all RAPs.

Appendix 2 - Community Consultation Records

STEP 1 CORRESPONDENCE

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

4 May 2017

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Noel,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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Should you know of any Aboriginal person or group who may wish to be consulted in relation to the process described above, could you please provide their details before **5.00pm on 23 May 2017** to MACH Energy via the following contact details:

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Danielle Wallace
PO Box 379, WEST RYDE NSW 2114
dwallace@resourcestrategies.com.au
Mobile: 0414 833 397

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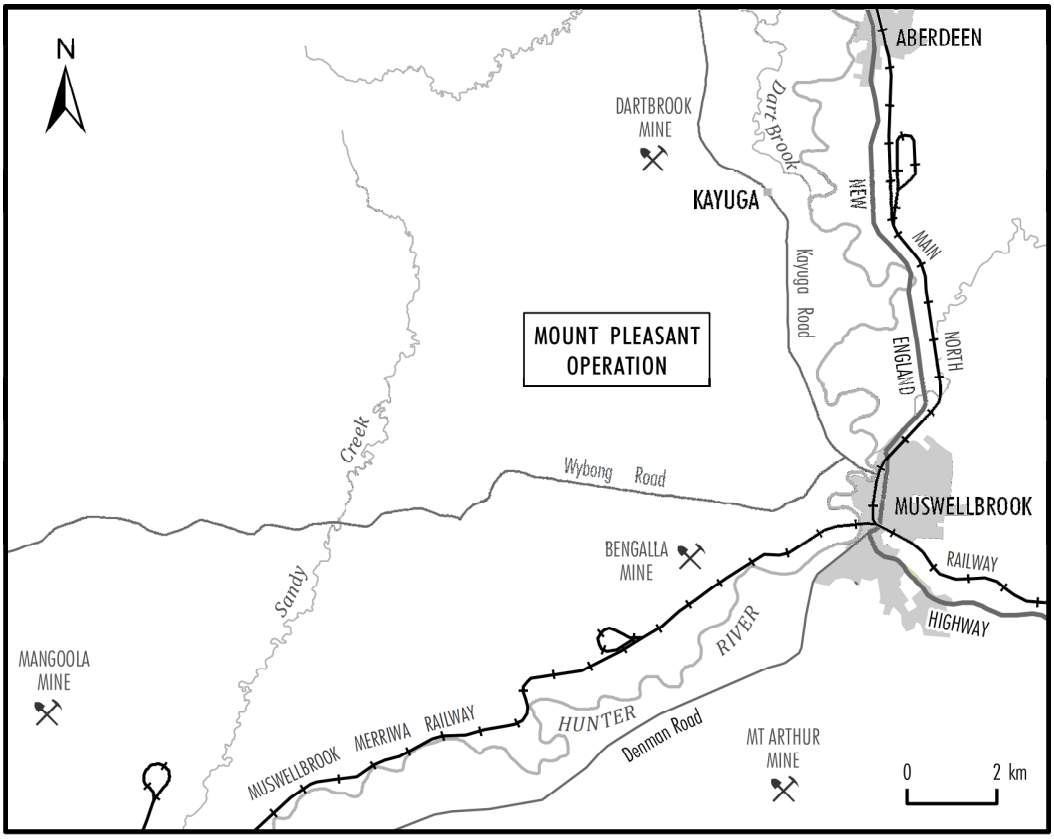
Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

4 May 2017

Office of Environment and Heritage
PO Box 2111
DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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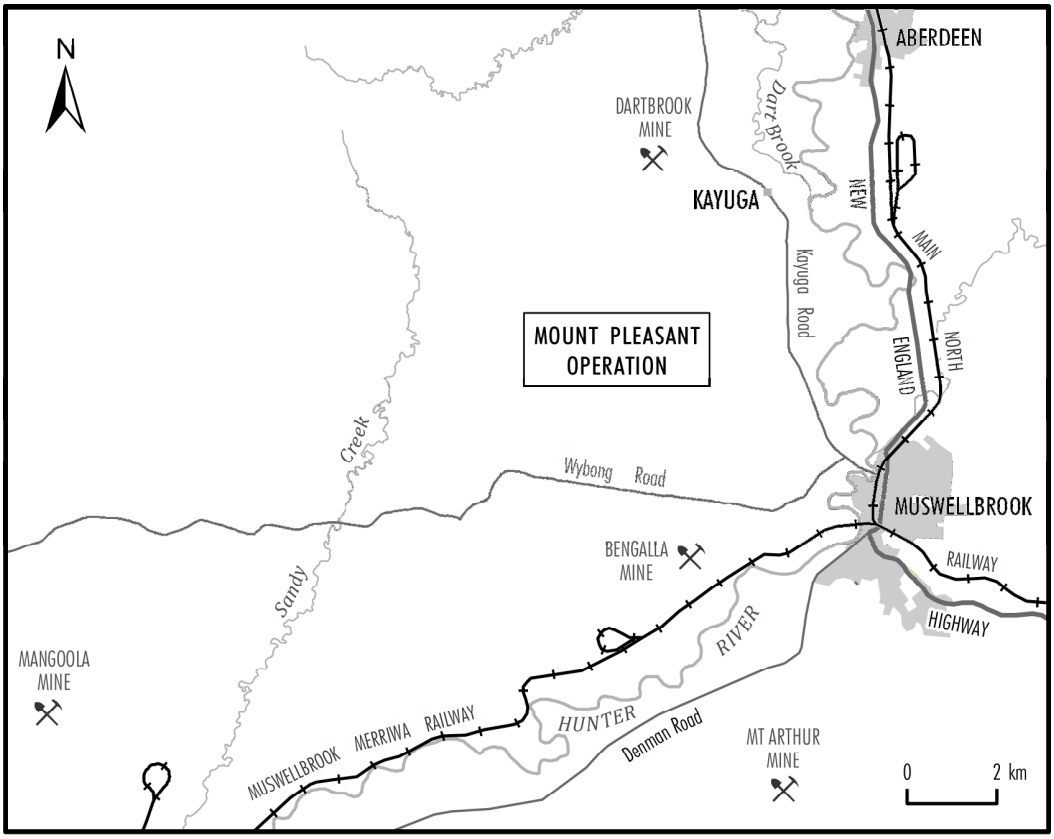

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

4 May 2017

Muswellbrook Shire Council
Attn: Steve McDonald, General Manager
PO Box 122
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Steve,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

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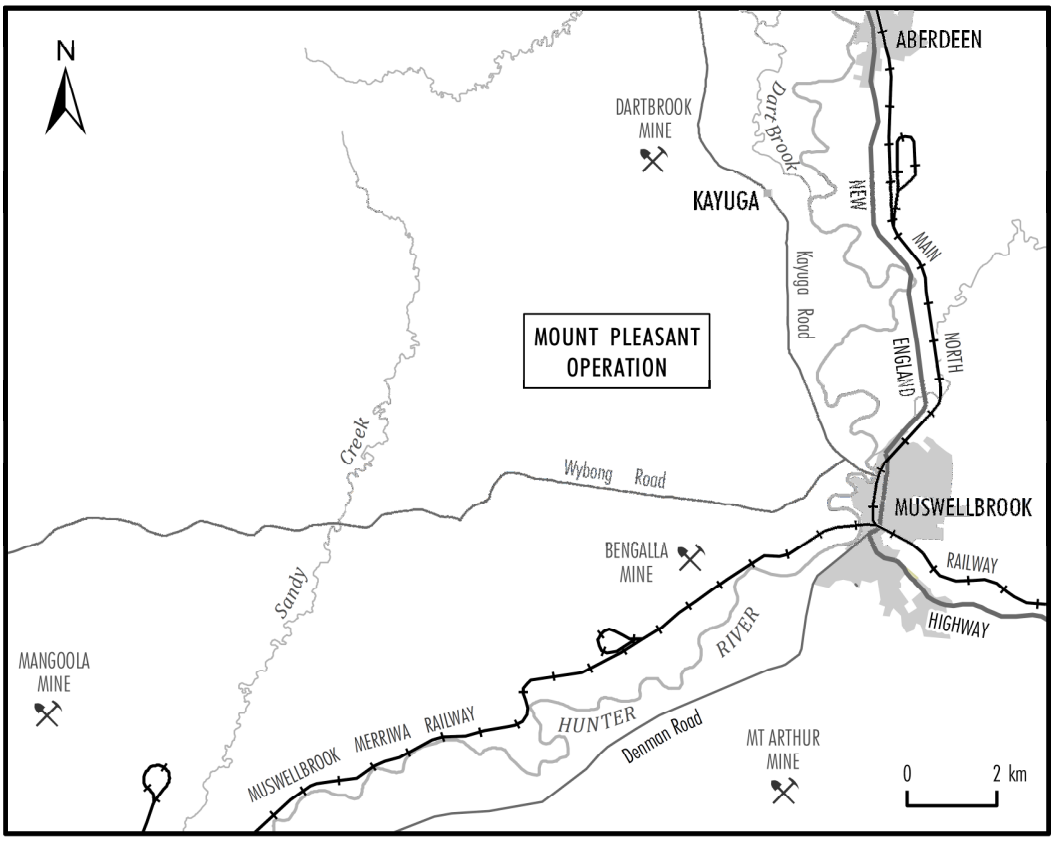

MACHEnergy

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

4 May 2017

Hunter Local Land Services
Attn: Brett Miners, General Manager
98 John Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Brett,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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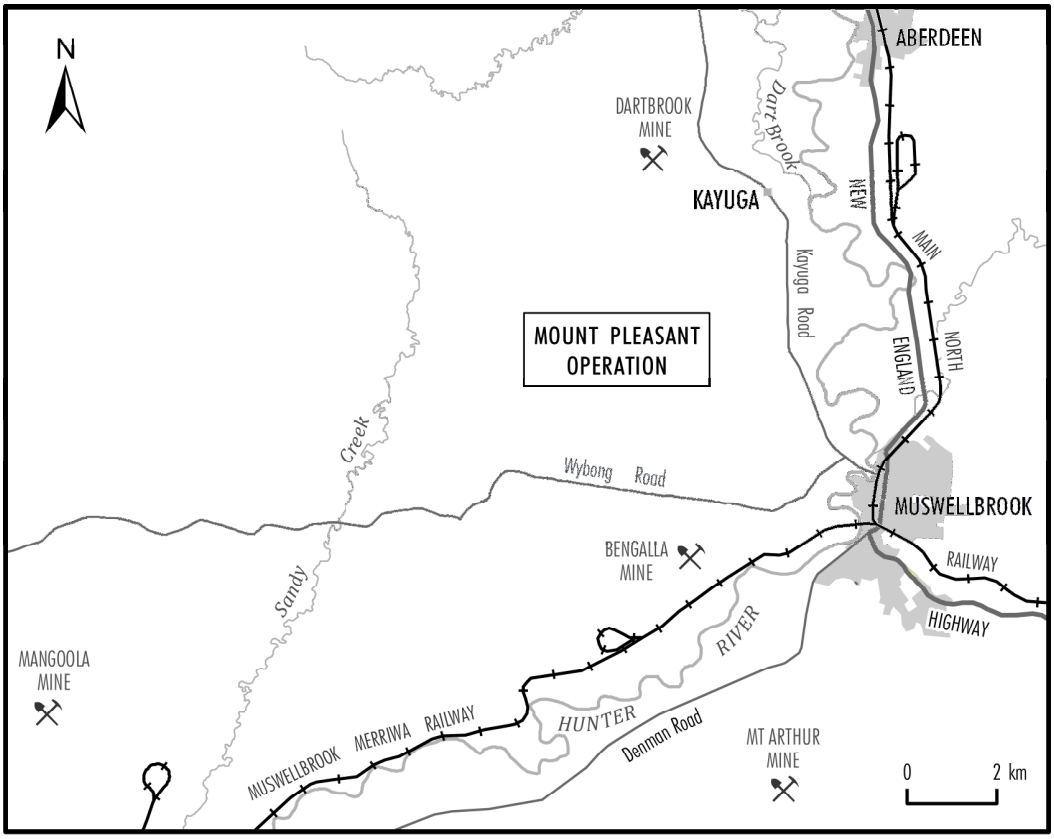

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

4 May 2017

Native Title Services Corporation Limited
PO Box 2105
STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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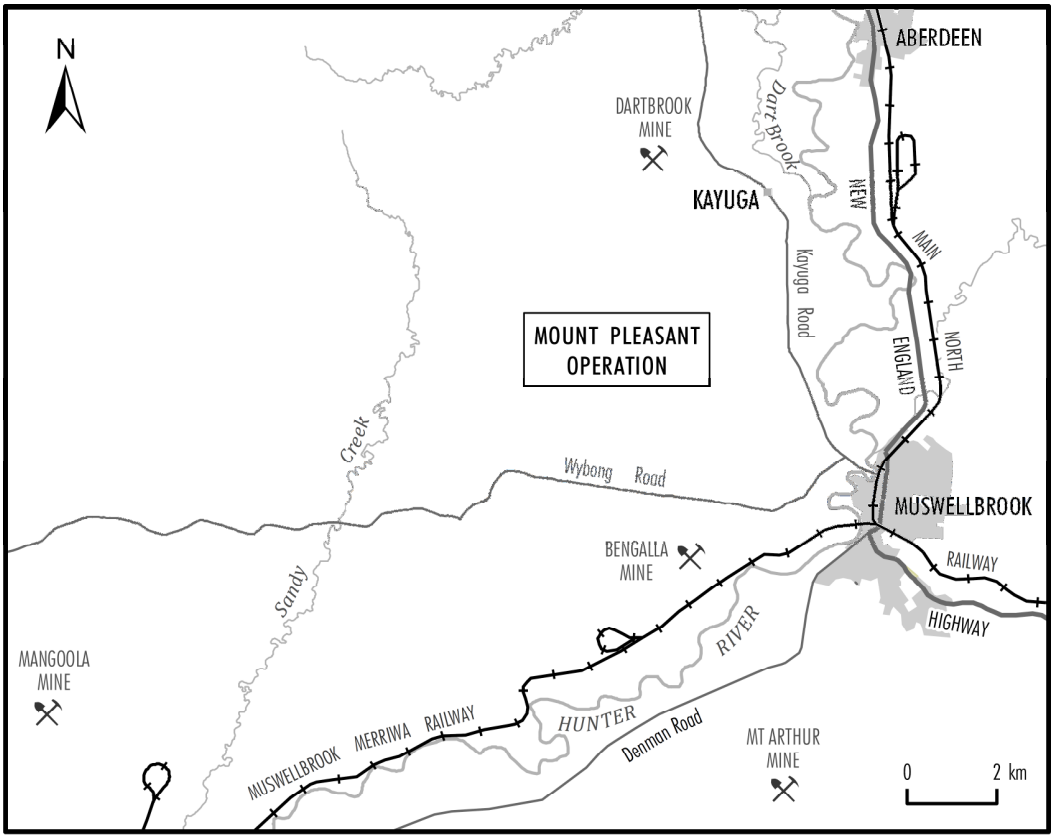

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

4 May 2017

National Native Title Tribunal
NSW & ACT Registry
GPO Box 9973
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam,

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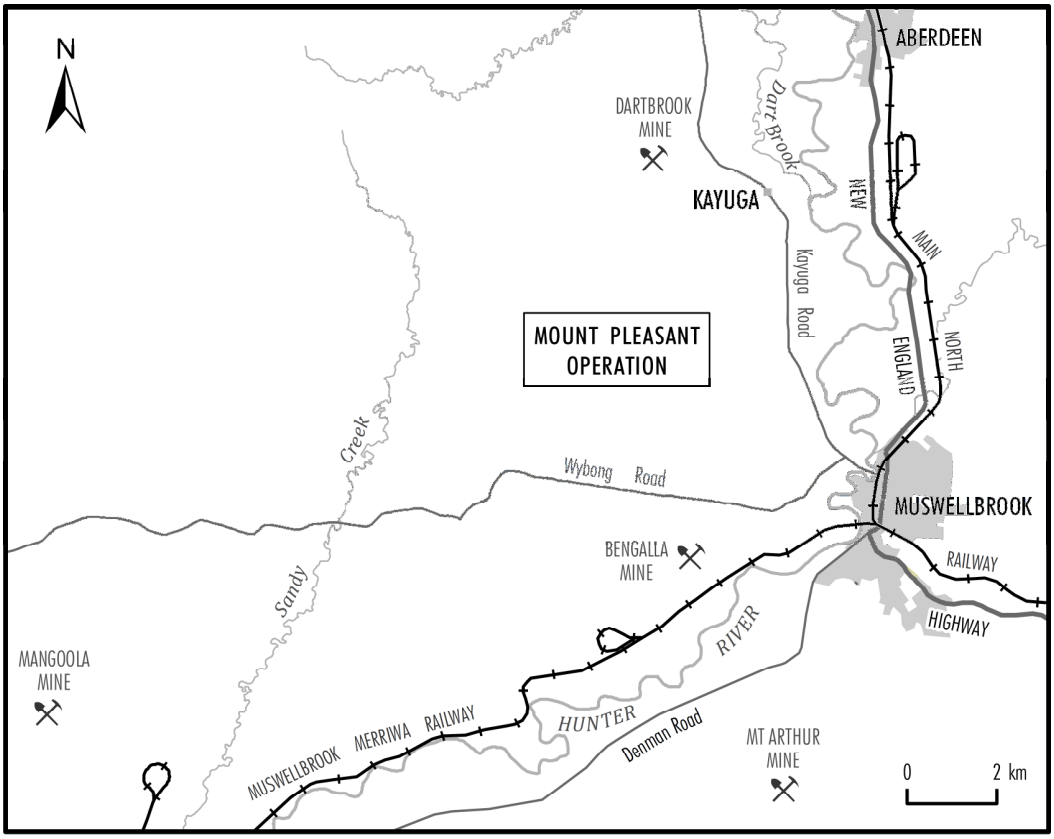

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

4 May 2017

The Registrar
Office of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983
PO Box 112
GLEBE NSW 2037

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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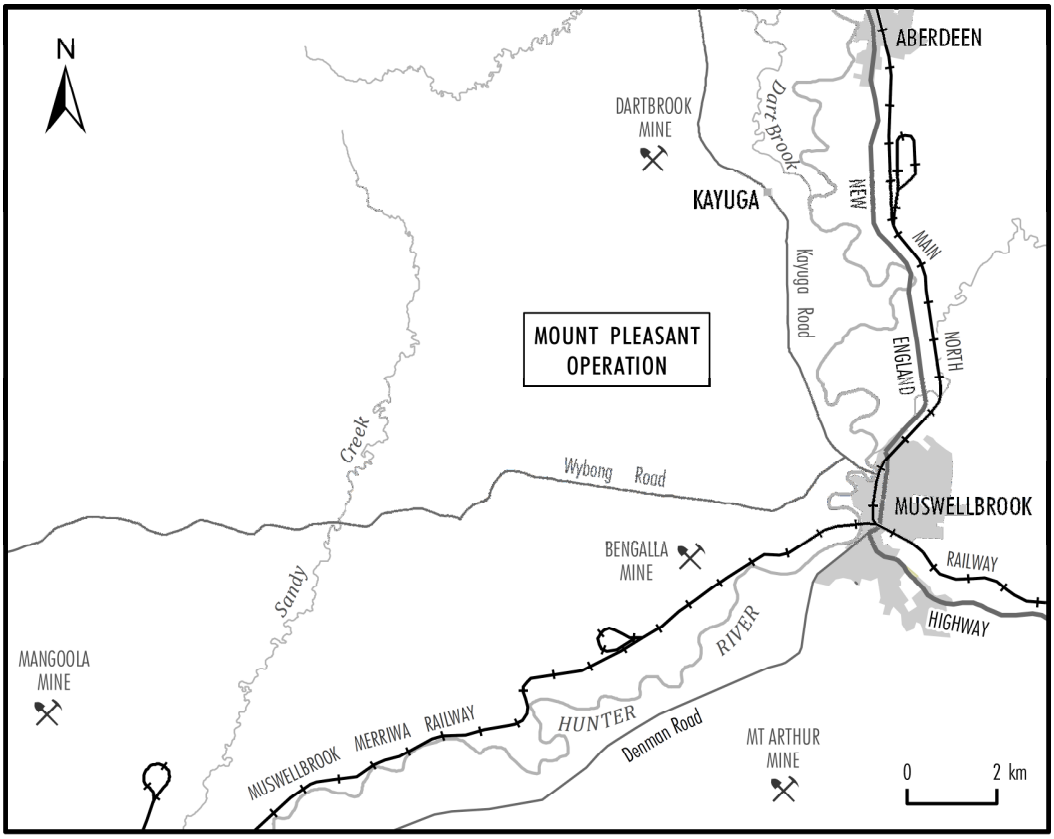


From: Ross Pahuru [Manager@hvabcorp.org.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 May 2017 2:13 PM
To: Danielle Wallace
Subject: FW: Mount Pleasant Operations - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
Attachments: admin.wanaruah@bigpond.com_20170509_084301.pdf

Hi there

Please kindly put the Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation down as a interested party.

We are usually kept informed on this type of notice from Mach Energy however we seem to have slipped through the Gap

We have also recently changed Email addresses,

The Manager is manager@hvabcorp.org.au

Or the office office@hvabcorp.org.au

Can you also amend your records to show this

Kind Regards

Subject: Mount Pleasant Operations - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

Good morning,

Mach Energy would like registered Aboriginal parties and cultural knowledge holders to register their interest by contacting:

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/-Danielle Wallace
PO Box 379 West Ryde NSW 2114
dwallace@resourcestrategies.com.ao
0414 833 397

Please see the attached letter for further details.

Regards
Renee

Renee MacDonald
Administration

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council

PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

From: Tracey Skene [tracey@marrung-pa.com.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 May 2017 7:03 PM
To: Danielle Wallace
Subject: EOI Mt Pleasant

Good evening Danielle,

I would like to put forward my Expression of interest for Mt Pleasant culture heritage Assessment.

Thanks
Tracey Skene
Culturally Aware
Mobile phone 0474106537

From: Admin-Wanaruah [admin.wanaruah@bigpond.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 May 2017 3:49 PM
To: Danielle Wallace
Subject: Mount Pleasant Operation - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
Attachments: admin.wanaruah@bigpond.com_20170510_150339.pdf; Registered Aboriginal Parties.xlsx

Good afternoon Danielle,

Please find attached Wanaruah Lalc's letter of interest and a list of
Registered Aboriginal Parties that may be interested in the process.

Regards
Renee

Renee MacDonald
Administration

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council

PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333
Ph: 02 6543 1288

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land I work upon, the Wanaruah People and pay my respects to Elders past, present and future.

-

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus

From: Naomi Golightly [Naomi.Golightly@environment.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 11 May 2017 10:01 AM
To: Danielle Wallace
Subject: OEH Aboriginal Stakeholder Register for Upper Hunter Shire LGA
Attachments: RODHCC_Aboriginal Stakeholder Register_10032017_Upper Hunter Shire.pdf

Dear Danielle,

I refer to your letter to the Office of Environment and Heritage, dated 4 May 2017.

Please find attached the Aboriginal Stakeholder list for your nominated project area.

The attached list includes self-nominated individuals and Aboriginal organisations who may wish to register an interest in your project. Further consultation in accordance with the DECCW 2010 *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents* is required to identify the Aboriginal people on this list who may hold either cultural or historical knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within your proposed project area.

To ensure we can respond to enquiries promptly, please direct future correspondence to our central mailbox: rog.hcc@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Naomi Golightly
Assistant Regional Operations Officer
Hunter Central Coast Branch
Regional Operations Division
Office of Environment and Heritage
Locked Bag 1002, Dangar, NSW 2309
(Level 4/26 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle)
T: 4927 3179
M: 0472 876 146
W: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

This email is intended for the addressee(s) named and may contain confidential and/or privileged information.
If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and then delete it immediately.
Any views expressed in this email are those of the individual sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

Office of Environment & Heritage

Hunter Central Coast Branch
Regional Operations Division
Aboriginal Stakeholder Register

Upper Hunter Shire Council

Organisation	First name	Surname	Address 1	City	State	Post code	Landline	Mobile	Email
	Michelle	Saunders	24 Walhallow Village	CAROONA	NSW	2343		0458 516 775	michellesaunders@y7mail.com
Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation	Rhonda	Griffiths	182 Bridge St	MUSWELLBROOK	NSW	2333	02 6543 1180	0429 989 878	h973809@bigpond.net.au
Lower Wonnaruah Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd	Barry	Anderson	156 The Inlet Road	BULGA	NSW	2330	02 6574 5303	0417 403 153	
Wallagan Cultural Services	Maree	Waugh	PO Box 40	CESSNOCK	NSW	2325		0439 813 078	Mareewaugh30@hotmail.com
Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation	Alan	Paget	PO Box 3095	SINGLETON	NSW	2330	(02) 6571 5111		admin@ungooroo.com.au
Culturally Aware	Tracey	Skene	7 Crawford Place	MILFIELD	NSW	2325		0474 106 537	traceyamorrung-pa.com.au
Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Laurie	Perry	254 John St	SINGLETON	NSW	2330		0412 593 020	l.perry@optusnet.com.au
Kauma Pondee Inc.	Jill	Green	Unit 6/1 Central Street	LAMBTON	NSW	2305		0434 210 190	kaumapondee@live.com.au
Jarban & Mugrebea	Les	Atkinson	11 Nelson Street	CESSNOCK	NSW	2325		0466 316 069	Les.atkinson@hotmail.com
Wonnarua Culture Heritage	Gordon	Griffiths	19 O'Donnell Crescent	METFORD	NSW	2323	02 4934 6437	0401 028 807	
Kawul Cultural Services	Vicky	Slater	33 Gardner Circuit	SINGLETON	NSW	2330		0421 077 521	Vicki.slater@hotmail.com
Jumbunna Traffic Management Group Pty Ltd	Norm	Archibald	17 Flobern Ave	WAUCHOPE	NSW	2446		0413 718 149	jtmanagement@live.com.au
Aliera French Trading	Aliera	French	23B Gommera St	BLACKSMITHS	NSW	2281		0421 299 963	Aliera.french.trading@hotmail.com
Gidawaa Walang & Barkuma Neighbourhood Centre Inc.	Ann Hickey	Debbie Dacey-Sullivan	76 Lang Street	KURRI KURRI	NSW	2327	02 4937 1094	Anne 0411 196 991	gidawaa.walang@hotmail.com
Yarrawalk (A division of Tocomwall Pty Ltd), Tocomwall Pty Ltd on behalf of Scott Franks and Anor on behalf of the Plains Clans of the Wonnaru People NSD1680/2013	Scott	Franks	PO Box 76	CARRINGBAH	NSW	1495		0404 171 544	scott@tocomwall.com.au
Deslee Talbott Consultants	Deslee	Matthews	Unit 2 / 19 South Street	GUNNEDAH	NSW	2380		0431 205 336	m-desley@hotmail.com
D F T V Enterprises	Derrick	Vale Snr	5 Mountbatten Close	RUTHERFORD	NSW	2320		0438 812 197	deckavale@hotmail.com
Myland Cultural & Heritage Group	Warren	Schillings	30 Taurus Street	ELERMORE VALE	NSW	2287		0431 392 554	warren@yarnteen.com.au
Hunters & Collectors	Tania	Matthews	U211 Walowa St	NARRABRI	NSW	2390		0409 193 612	Tamatthews10@hotmail.com
AGA Services	Adam	Sampson	260 Hidden Valley Row	WYBONG	NSW	2333		0419 815 764	aga.services@hotmail.com
	Steve	Talbott	73 Kiah Road	GILLIESTON HEIGHTS	NSW	2321		0429 662 911	gomeroi.namoi@outlook.com
Cacatua Culture Consultants	Donna & George	Sampson	260 Hidden Valley Row	WYBONG	NSW	2333	02 4028 6942	0403 765 019 0434 877 016	cacatua4service@tpg.com.au
Divine Diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants	Deidre	Perkins	6 Ashleigh Street	HEDDON GRETA	NSW	2321	02 4937 4573	0425 654 290 preferred	dedemaree3@hotmail.com
Crimson-Rosie	Jeffery	Matthews	6 Eucalypt Avenue	MUSWELLBROOK	NSW	2333	02 6543 4791		

Office of Environment & Heritage

Hunter Central Coast Branch
Regional Operations Division
Aboriginal Stakeholder Register

Upper Hunter Shire Council

Organisation	First name	Surname	Address 1	City	State	Post code	Landline	Mobile	Email
Wonnarua Elders Council	Richard	Edwards	PO Box 844	CESSNOCK	NSW	2325			
Lower Hunter Wonnarua Cultural Services	Lea-Anne Ball and Uncle Tommy Miller		51 Bowden Street	HEDDON GRETA	NSW	2321	02 4937 2694	0402 636 521 (Uncle)	tn.miller@southernphone.com.au
Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated	David	Ahoy	5 Killara Drive	CARDIFF SOUTH	NSW	2285		0421 329 520	lowerhunterai@gmail.com
Wattaka Wonnarua CC Service	Des	Hickey	4 Kennedy Street	SINGLETON	NSW	2330		0432 977 178	deshickey@bigpond.com
Widescope Indigenous Group	Steven	Hickey	73 Russell Street	EMU PLAINS	NSW	2750		0425 232 056 0425 230 693	Widescope.group@live.com
Kawul Pty Ltd trading as Wonn1 Sites	Arthur	Fletcher	619 Main Road	GLENDALE	NSW	2285	02 4954 7751	0402 146 193	Wonn1sites@gmail.com
Roger Matthews Consultancy	Roger	Matthews	15 Parkinson Avenue	MUSWELLBROOK	NSW	2333		0455 671 288	
Yinarr Cultural Services	Kathleen	Steward Kinchela	Lot 5 Westwood Estat	MERRIWA	NSW	2329		0475 436 589	yinarculturalservices@bigpond.com dontminemeay@gmail.com
Hunter Traditional Owner	Paulette	Ryan	165 Susan Street	SCONE	NSW	2337		0431109001	hto.paulette@gmail.com

LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL
WANARUAH

P.O. BOX 127
19 MAITLAND STREET,
MUSWELLBROOK 2333
ABN 33 251 730 169

PH: (02) 6543 1288
(02) 6543 1962
FAX: (02) 6542 5377
EMAIL: wanarua@bigpond.net.au

10th May 2017

Attn: Danielle Wallace,
PO Box 379 West Ryde NSW 2114
dwallace@resourcestrategies.com.au
(Sent by email)

Re: Mount Pleasant Operation – Aboriginal Culture Heritage Assessment

Dear Danielle,

Thank you for your letter dated 4th May 2017 relating to the above subject.

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council wishes to be consulted on these matters.

Please find attached a list of Registered Aboriginal Parties who may also wish to be included in this consultation process.

Please do not hesitate to contact Wanaruah LALC should you require any further information or assistance in this venture.

We look forward to working with you in the future.

Regards

Renee MacDonald
Administration Officer
Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council

Organisation	Contact	Address 1	City	Phone	Mobile	Email	Alternative Address
Aboriginal Native Title Elders Consultants	Margaret Matthews	4 Calgaroo Avenue	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333		041 158 2874		
Aliera French Trading	Aliera French	12 Haydon Street	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333	(02) 6541 2765	0421 299 963	Aliera.french.trading@hotmail.com	
Black Creek Aboriginal Corporation	Tracey White	PO Box 168	Kurri Kurri, NSW 2327	(02) 4990 6747		blackcreek@idl.net.au	
Bullen Bullen	Loyd Mathews	16B Mahogany Avenue	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333		0417 725 956		
Cacatua Culture Consultants	Donna & George Sampson	Unit 1b/11 Glenwood Dr	Thornton, NSW 2322	(02) 4028 6942 (02) 4028 6943	0403 765 019 0434 877 016	cacatua@resetdsl.net.au	
Carrawonga Consultants	Cheryl Moodie & Justin Mathews	11 Coolibah Close	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333		0411 958 511 0401 154 328		
Culturally Aware	Tracey Skene	7 Crawford Place	Millfield, NSW 2325			tracey@marrung-pa.com.au	
D F T V Enterprises	Derrick Vale Sr	11/97 Brooke Street	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333		0438 812 197	deckavale@hotmail.com	5 Mountbatten Close, Rutherford NSW 2320
Deslee Talbott Consultants	Deslee Matthews	Unit 2/19 South Street	Gunnedah NSW 2380		0431 205 336		
Gidawaa Walang & Barkuma Neighbourhood Centre	Debbie Dacey-Sullivan	76 Lang Street	Kurri Kurri, NSW 2327	(02) 4937 1094	0411 196 991	gidawaa.walang@hotmail.com	
Giwiirr Consultants	Michele Stair	8 Fitzgerald Avenue	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333	(02) 6541 0506	0432 214 402		
Hunter Traditional Owner	Paulette Ryan	14 Barton Avenue	Singleton Heights	(02) 6474 4906	0432 672 273		
Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation	Rhonda Griffith	PO Box 579	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333				
Hunter Valley Cultural Consultants	Christine Matthews	40 Humphries Street	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333	(02) 6543 4521	0438 390 882		
Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying	Luke Hickey	165 Susan Street	Scone, NSW 2337	(02) 6541 0525	0402 446 223 0423 930 690	hvcs@bigpond.com	
Hunter Valley Environment Land & Mining Services	Des Hickey	4 Kennedy Street	Singleton NSW 2330		0432 977 178	valleyelmcorp@bigpond.com	
						deshickey@bigpond.com	
Hunter Valley Natural & Cultural Resources	David French	10 Mill Street	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333				
Indigenous Outcomes	Robert Smith	33 Clif Street	Heddon Greta, NSW 2321		0402 679 809	cki23701@bigpond.net.au	
Jarban + Mugrebea	Les Atkinson	11 Nelson Street	Cessnock, NSW 2325		0402 353 317	les.atkinson@hotmail.com	
	Jeff Matthews	6 Eucalypt Avenue	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333	(02) 6543 4791			
Kawul Cultural Services	Vicky Slater	Po Box 817	Singleton, NSW 2330		0431 720 887		
Kayaway	Mark Hickey	6/20-22 Government Rd	Thornton, NSW 2322		0423 829 335	kayaway@rocketmail.com	
Lower Hunter Wonnarua Council Inc	Lea-Anne Ball Uncle Tommy Miller	51 Bowden Street	Heddon Greta, NSW 2321	(02) 4937 2694	0447 266 590 0402 636 521	tn.miller@southernphone.com.au lea-anne.ball@bigpond.com	
Lower Wonnaruah Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd	Barry Anderson	156 The Inlet RD	Bulga, NSW 2330		0417 403 153	barry156@bigpond.com	
Mingga Consultants	Clifford Matthews	11 Coolibah Close	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333	(02) 6541 0751	0421 942 902		
Mooki Plains Management	Stephen Matthews	28 Herbert Street	Gunnedah NSW 2380	(02) 6742 5563			
Mooki Plains Management	Les Field	4 Hinton Dr	Gunnedah NSW 2380	(02) 6742 5563			
Muswellbrook Cultural Consultants	Brian Horton	10 Scott Steet	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333				
Ngarramang-Kuri Aboriginal Culture & Heritage Group	Abie Wright	21 Bancroft Street	Glendale, NSW 2285		0466 589 238	abie@yarnteen.com.au	
Roger Noel Matthews Consultancy	Roger Noel	15 Parkinson Avenue	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333				
	Scott Smith	Unit 4 122 Upper Street	Tamworth NSW 2340		0403 139 411		
St Clair Singleton Aboriginal Corporation	Cultural Heritage Officer	PO Box 710	Singleton, NSW 2330				
T & G Culture Consultants		19 O'Donnell Cres	Metford, NSW 2323		0428 147 417		
Ungooroo Cultural & Community Services	Rhonda Ward	8 Blaxland Avenue	Singleton, NSW 2330		0450 754 199	ungooroo59@hotmail.com	
Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation	Alan Paget & Sarah Hall	PO Box 3095	Singleton, NSW 2330	(02) 6571 5111		admin@ungooroo.com.au	
Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants	Melissa & Darrel Matthews	14 Edinglassie Avenue	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333	(02) 6541 3532	0439 556 641		
Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council Inc	Rhonda Perry & Georgina	17/174 John Street	Singleton, NSW 2330	(02) 6572 1889 (02) 6572 1500			
Valley Culture,	Larry Van Vliet	140 Sydney Street	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333		0417 725 965		
Wanaruah Custodians	Barbara Foot	35 Acacia Circuit	Singleton, NSW 2330	(02) 6573 1712	0421 151 650		
Wanaruah Loacal Aboriginal Land Council		PO Box 127	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333	(02) 6543 1288		wanaruah@hunterlink.net.au	
Wattaka Wonnarua C.C. Service	Des Hickey	4 Kennedy Street	Singleton, NSW 2330	(02) 6573 3786 (02) 6571 2609	0432 977 178	deshickey@bigpond.com	
Widescope Indigenous Group pty Ltd	Amanda Hickey	73 Russell Street	Emu Plains, NSW 2750		0416 643 226	widescope.group@live.com	
Wonn 1 Contracting	Arthur Fletcher	619 Main Rd	Glendale, NSW 2285	(02) 4954 7751	0402 146 196	wonn1sites@gmail.com	
Wonnarua Culture Heritage	Gordon Griffiths	19 O'Donnell Crescent	Metford, NSW 2323	(02) 4934 6437	0401 028 807		
Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Laurie Perry	PO Box 3066	Singleton, NSW 2330	(02) 6571 5419	0412 593 020		
Wonnaruah Elders Council	Uncle Tommy Miller	PO Box 184	Singleton NSW 2330				
Tocomwall	Scott Franks					scott@tocomwall.com.au	

Yinarr Cultural Services	Kathleen Steward	111 Westwood Rd	Gungal, NSW 2333	(02) 6547 6077	0432 720 623	yinarrculturalservices@bigpond.com	
	Alison Sampson	36 Hill Street	Caroona, NSW 2343		0401 151 124 0434 642 004	Allieat29@hotmail.com	
Devine diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants	Deidre Perkins	6 Ashleigh Street	Heddon Greta, NSW 2321	(02) 4937 4573	0425 654 290	divinediggers@bigpond.com	
DRM Cultural Management	Helen Faulkner	81 Wansbeck Valley Rd	Cardiff, NSW 2285		0412 369 661		
Esther Tighe		1/86 Edward Street	Gunnedah NSW 2380	(02) 6742 7105	0422 648 350		
Griffiths Group	Priscilla Priestley	7 Yeoman Avenue	Metford, NSW 2323		0422 651 752		
Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated	Les Ahoy	74 Hayden Brook Rd	Booragul, NSW 2284		0411 095 249	Lowerhunterai@gmail.com	
	Michelle Saunders	24 Walhallow Village	Walhallow, NSW 2343				
Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council		PO Box 401	East Maitland, NSW 2323	(02) 4934 8511	0402 927 449		
Murrawan Cultural Consultants Pty Ltd	Robert Smith	33 Clif Street	Heddon Greta, NSW 2321		0402 679 809	murrawancc@gmail.com	
Moreeites	Susan Cutmore	Unit 11/97 Brook Street	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333		0411 570 568	Suewong58@hotmail.com	
Myland Cultural & Heritage Group	Warren Schillings	30 Taurus Street	Elermore Vale, NSW 2287		0431 392 554	warren@yamuloong.com	
	Ron Smith	Flat 8 6 Hastings River Dr	Port Macquarie, NSW 2444		0401 167 950	scottosmith@live.com.au	
	Rosyln Sampson	Unit 4 122 Upper Street	Tamworth NSW 2340		0403 139 411	Laurarose2010@live.com.au	
	Rebecca Lester	297 Pioneer Rd	Singleton, NSW 2330		0423 044 586	Sandra_rebecca@y7mail.com	
Waabi Gabinya Cultural Consultancy	Elizabeth Howard	19 Foley Street	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333		0439 813 078	waabigabinyacc@hotmail.com	
Wallagan Cultural Services	Maree Waugh	PO Box 40	Cessnock, NSW 2325		0439 813 078	Mareewaugh30@hotmail.com	
Warrigal Cultural Services	Aaron Slater	PO Box 1095	Singleton, NSW 2330		0478 844 530	Warragil_c.s@hotmail.com	
Smith Dhagaans Cultural group	Tim Smith	46 Springvale Cct	Cameron Park, NSW 2285		0401 100 708	Smith.Dhagaans@hotmail.com	
	Steven Saunders	35 Walhallow Village	Caroona, NSW 2343		0487 192 486		
Thawan Heritage Consultant	Jennifer Hampton	35 Larool Street	Tamworth NSW 2340		0428 540 646	thawanheritageconsultant@hotmail.com	
	Trevor Robinson	PO Box 73	Peak Hill, NSW 2869				
Wurrumay Consultants	Kerrie Slater	PO Box 817	Singleton, NSW 2330		0423 935 556	wurrumay@hotmail.com	
J & A Leonardi		69 Nelson Street	Barnsley, NSW 2278	(02) 4955 2136			
	Stephen Talbot	28a Kiah Rd	Gillieston Heights, NSW 2321		0429 662 911	gomeroi.namoi@outlook.com	
Wonnarua Traditional Custodian	Des Hickey	4 Kennedy Street	Singleton, NSW 2330			Wonnaruatraditionalcustodians@yahoo.com.au	
	Barry French	12 Haydon Street	Muswellbrook, NSW 2333		040 146 0322		
	Mandy Howard				045 959 0934	Amanda.howard@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au	
JLC Cultural Services	Jenny-Lee Chambers	33 Goulburn Drive	Sandy Hollow, 2333		043 208 7829	ilcculturalservices@gmail.com	
	Warren Taggart				042 755 4211	warrentaggart@bigpond.com	
Giwiirr Consultants	Rodney Matthews			02 6541 0506	044 750 6339	bigrodshouse@hotmail.com	
	Glen Morris			02 6543 3008			
	David Horton				040 040 0592		

From: Kim Manwarring [Kim.Manwarring@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 24 May 2017 10:29 AM
To: Danielle Wallace
Cc: Scott Brooks
Subject: FW: MACH Energy Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Correspondence
Attachments: MACH Energy - Registration of Aboriginal Interest Groups for Cultural Heritage Assessment.pdf

Good Morning Danielle

Thankyou for your correspondence.

We have forwarded this onto Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council as well as Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation for their information and consultation with interested Members.

We note that the closing date was yesterday.

Regards

Kim

Kim Manwarring
Community Worker

Direct: 02 6549 3764
Mobile: 0408 978 512

www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

I respectfully acknowledge the local Aboriginal people who are the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which I work.

muswellbrook shire council

explore www.workingwithatsi.info

From: Kim Manwarring
Sent: Wednesday, 24 May 2017 10:20 AM
To: 'Manager@hvabcorp.org.au'; Noel Downs (ceo.wanaruah@bigpond.com); Wanaruah Admin (admin.wanaruah@bigpond.com)
Cc: Scott Brooks
Subject: MACH Energy Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Correspondence

Good Morning Ross and Noel

Please find attached correspondence Council has received from MACH Energy.

Council apologises for the lateness in providing this correspondence to you.

We are hoping that your organisations and members have been directly consulted with regarding the preparation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment.

Regards

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS ACT 1983 (NSW)

11-13 Mansfield Street
Glebe NSW 2037
PO Box 112, Glebe NSW 2037
P. 02 9562 6327 F. 02 9562 6350

26 May 2017

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Danielle Wallace
PO Box 379
WEST RYDE NSW 2114

Dear Danielle

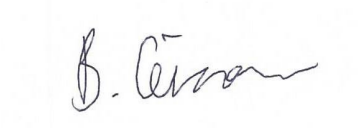
Re: Request - Search for Registered Aboriginal Owners

I refer to your letter dated 4 May 2017 regarding Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment within the area of Muswellbrook, NSW.

I have searched the Register of Aboriginal Owners and the project area described *does not appear* to have Registered Aboriginal Owners pursuant to Division 3 of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act* 1983 (NSW).

I suggest that you contact the Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council on 02 6543 1288. They will be able to assist you in identifying other Aboriginal stakeholders for this project.

Yours sincerely



Bianca Ceissman
Administration Support Officer
Office of the Registrar, *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (NSW)*

STEP 2 CORRESPONDENCE

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

29 May 2017

Michelle Saunders
24 Walhallow Village
CAROONA NSW 2343

Dear Michelle,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97).

As part of these environmental approvals, MACH Energy will be preparing an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment(s), and therefore may seek a new Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under section 90 of the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974* to move and/or destroy Aboriginal objects (or a variation to the existing permits [AHIP #C0002053, #C0002092]). The subject area of the any such application is depicted as the "Area of Interest" as shown on the plan below.

In accordance with the requirements as set out in the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010) (Consultation Guidelines) issued by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, MACH Energy is required to conduct a community consultation process with relevant Aboriginal people to assist in the preparation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment.

Also in accordance with the requirements of the Consultation Guidelines, Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the "Area of Interest" are invited to register an interest in a process of community consultation with MACH Energy.

Should you wish to register an interest in the community consultation process described above, could you please provide your details before **5.00pm on Friday 16 June 2017** to MACH Energy via the following contact details:

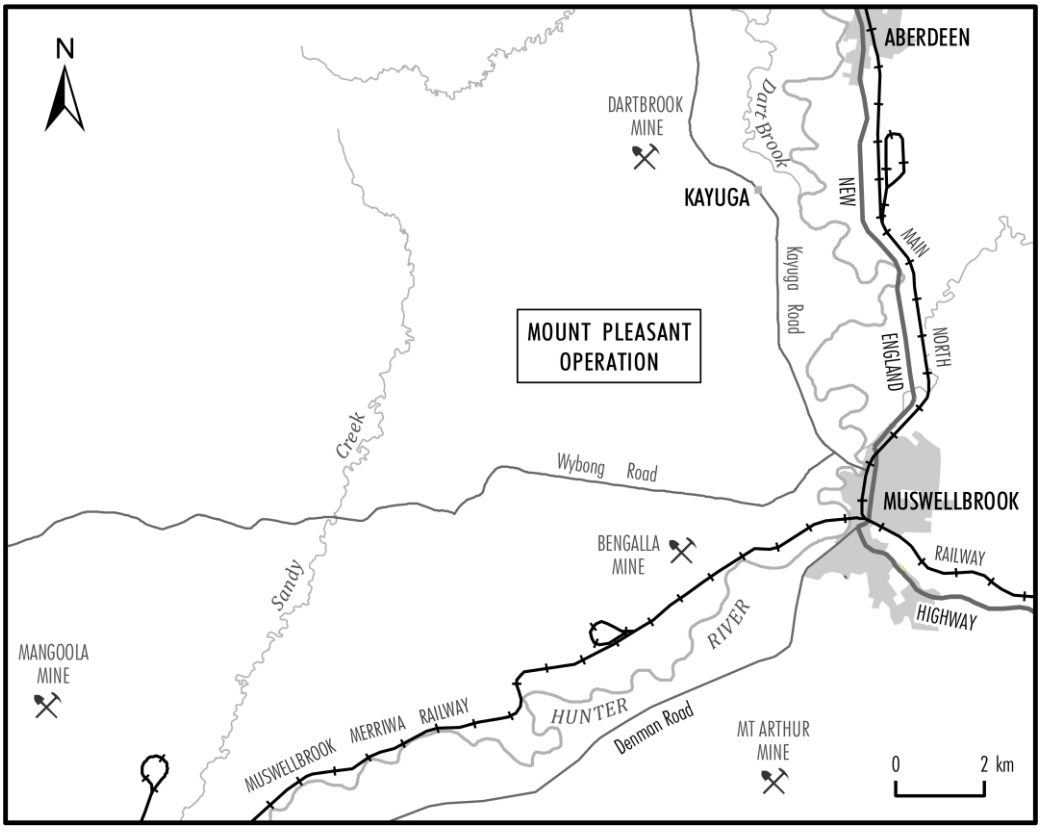
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

MACH Energy advises that the details of any Aboriginal person or group who registers an interest in the consultation process for the Mount Pleasant Operation will be forwarded to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and the Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council in accordance with Section 4.1.5. of the Consultation Guidelines, unless they specify that they do not want their details released.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

29 May 2017

Kauma Pondee Inc.
Jill Green
Unit 6/1 Central Street
LAMBTON NSW 2305

Dear Jill,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

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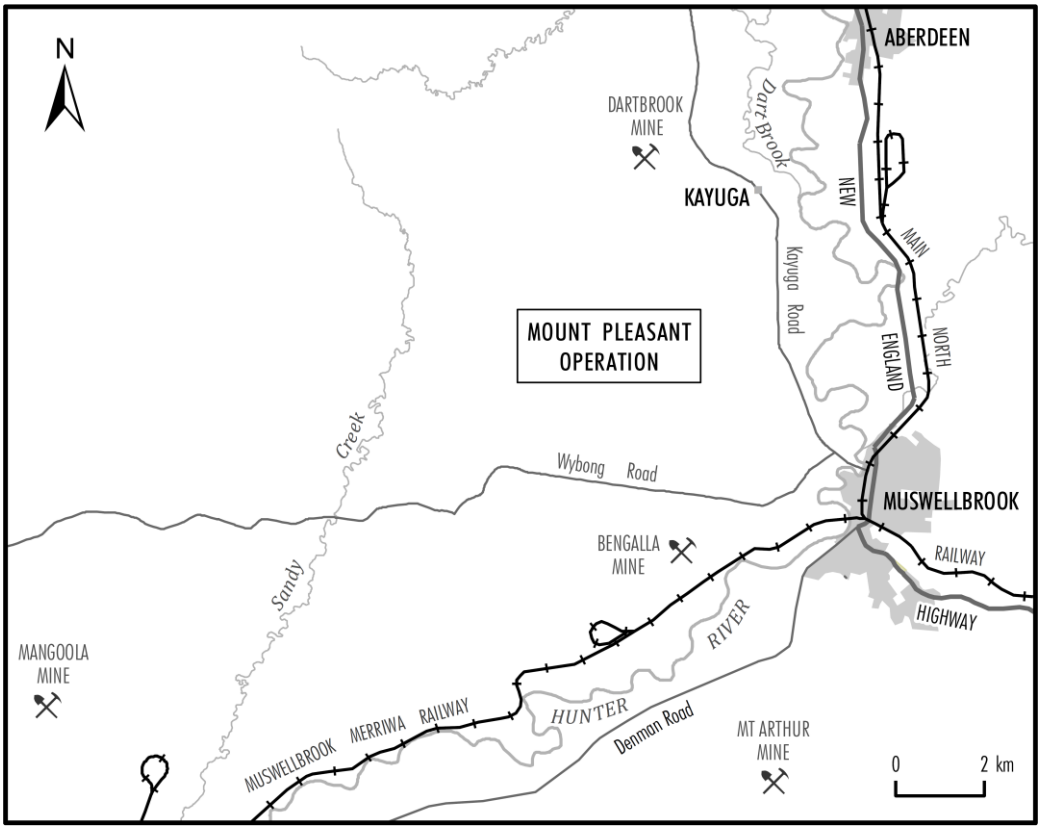
Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

29 May 2017

Hunters & Collectors
Tania Matthews
U211 Walowa Street
NARRABRI NSW 2390

Dear Tania,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

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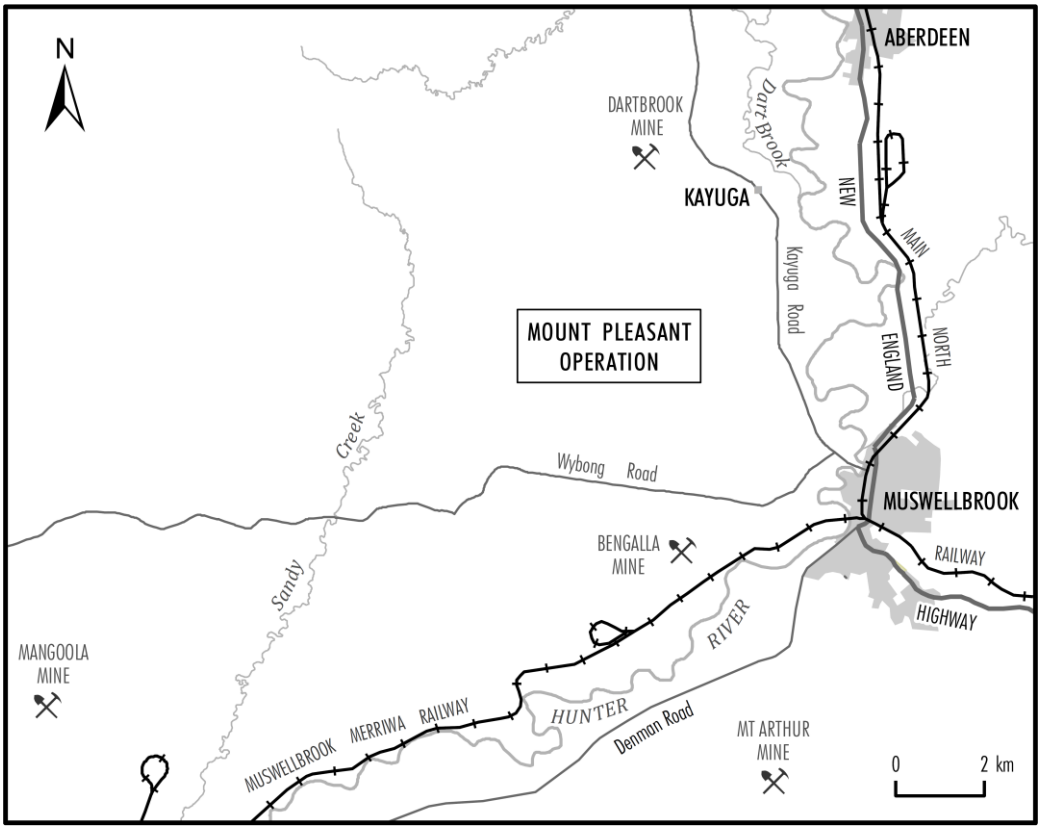
Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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29 May 2017

Black Creek Aboriginal Corporation
Tracey White
PO Box 168
KURRI KURRI NSW 2327

Dear Tracey,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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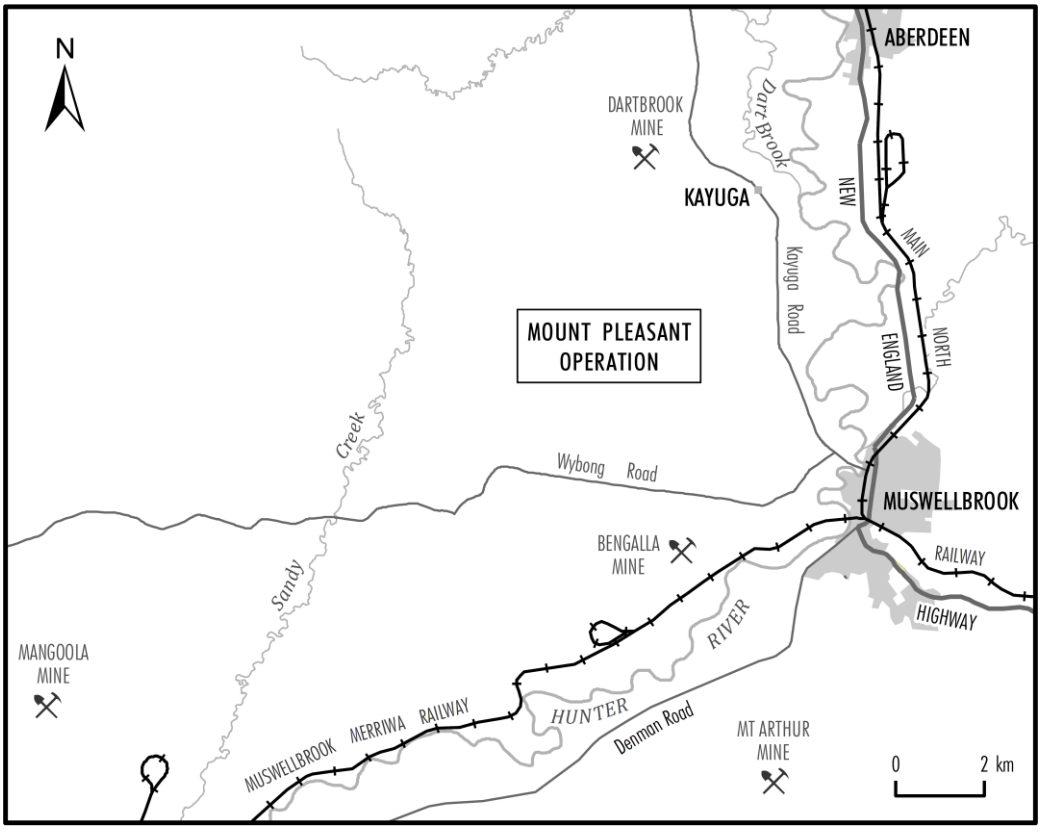

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29 May 2017

Hunter Valley Environment Land & Mining Services
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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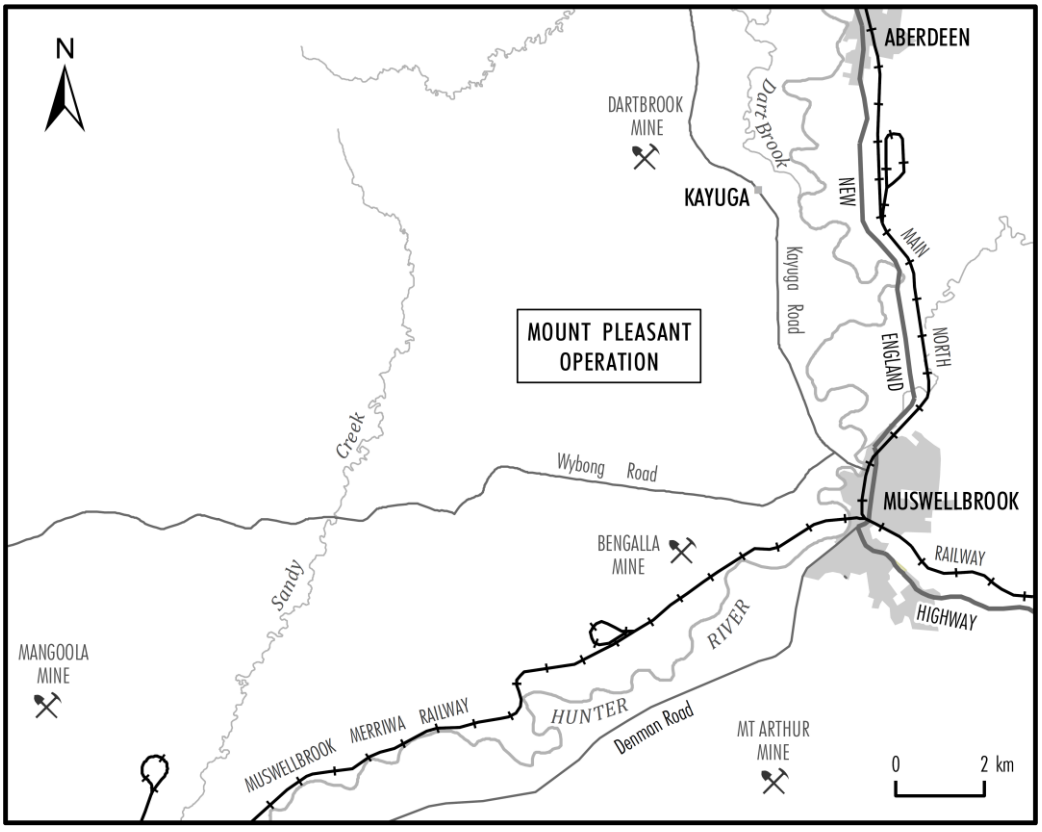

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29 May 2017

Mooki Plains Management
Stephen Matthews
28 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Stephen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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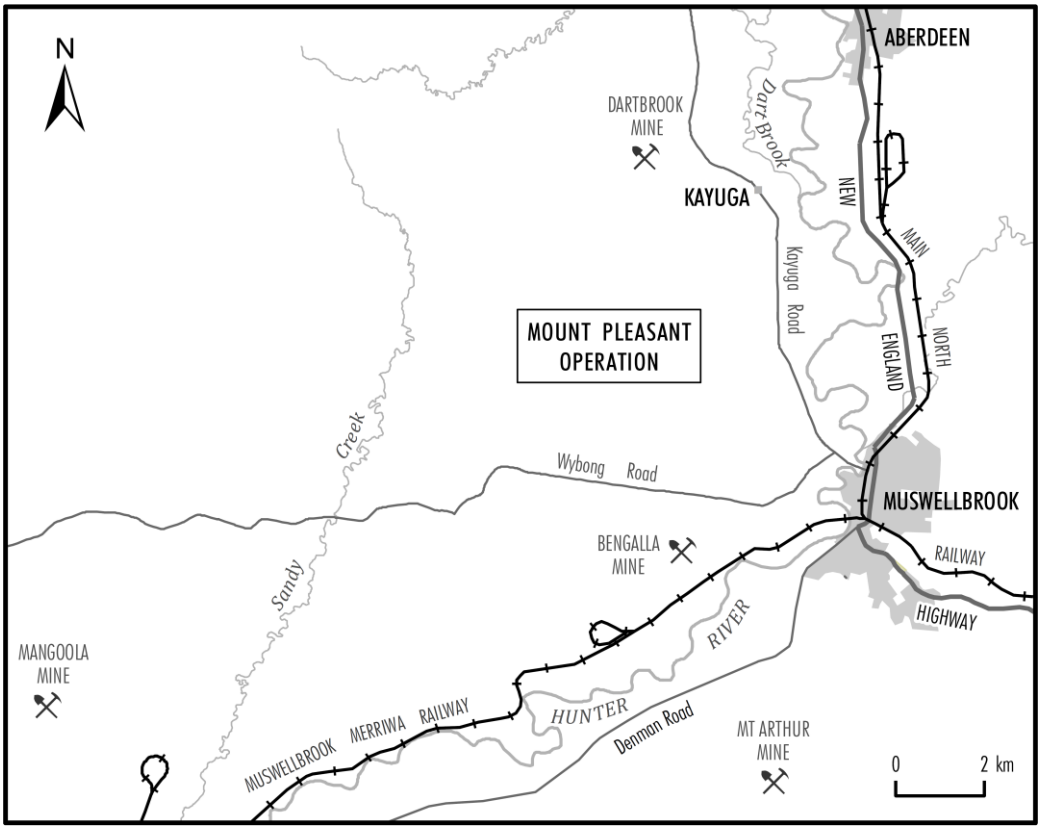

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29 May 2017

Ngarramang-Kuri Aboriginal Culture & Heritage Group
Abie Wright
21 Bancroft Street
GLENDALE NSW 2285

Dear Abie,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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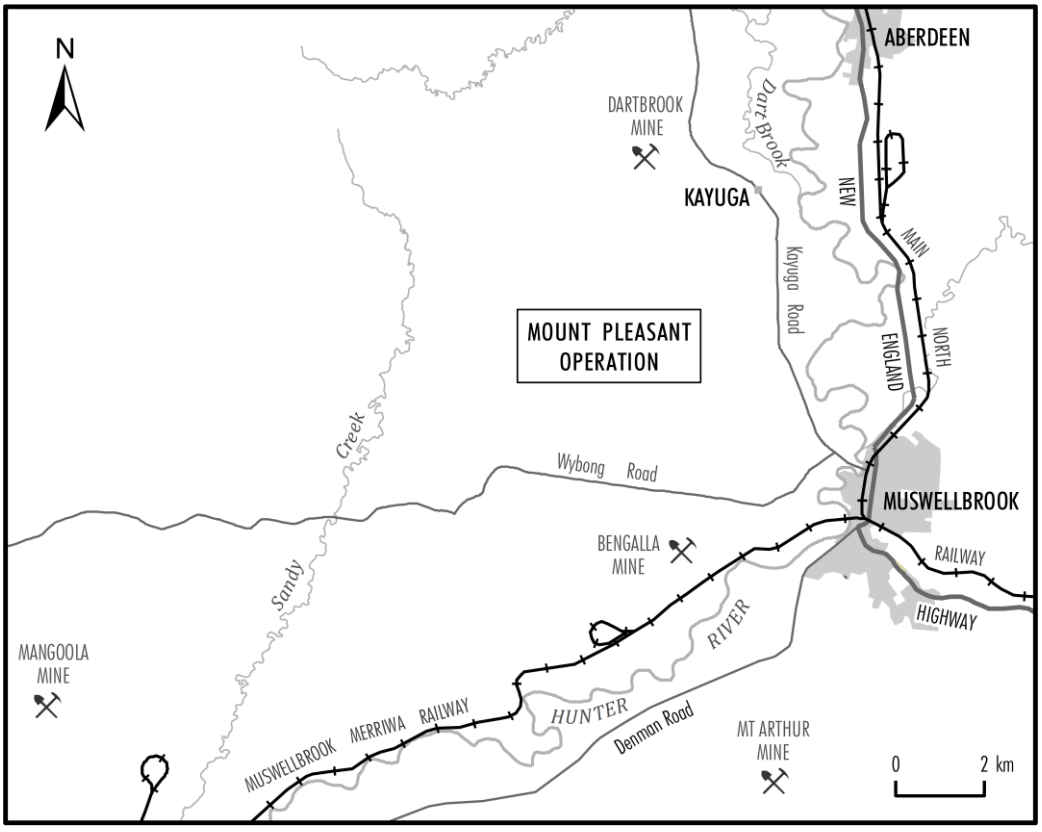

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29 May 2017

Scott Smith
Unit 4/122 Upper Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Scott,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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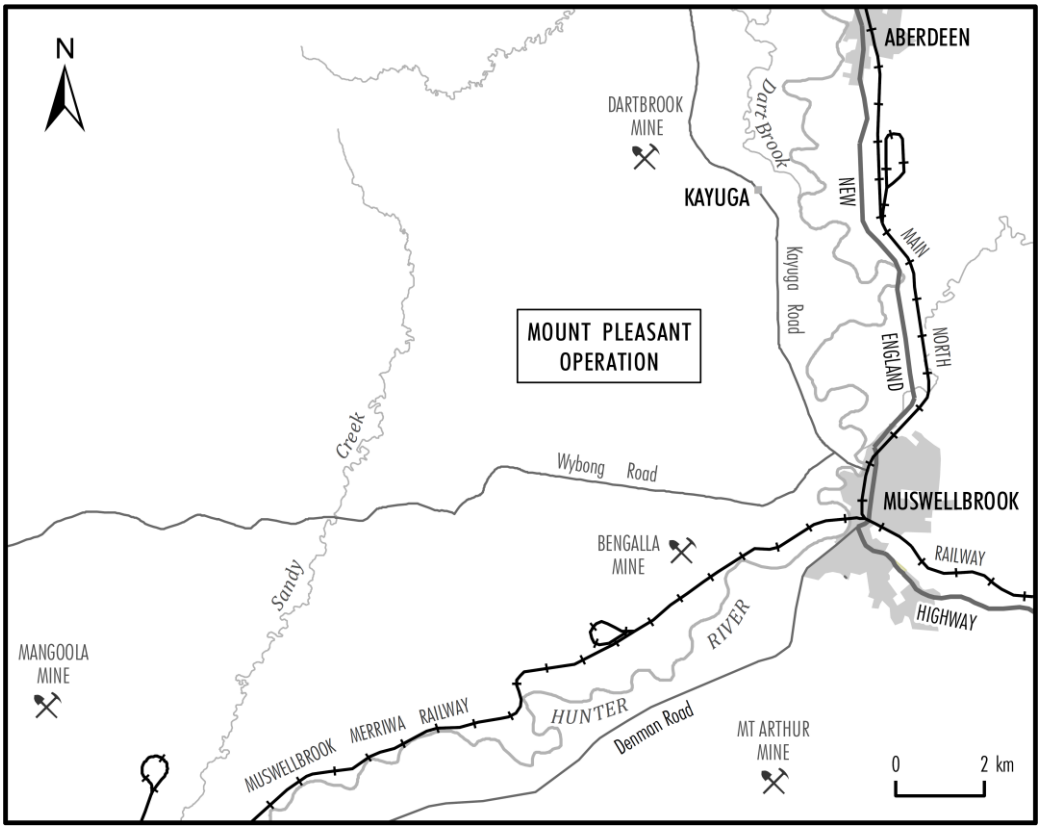

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29 May 2017

St Clair Singleton Aboriginal Corporation
Cultural Heritage Officer
PO Box 710
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Cultural Heritage Officer,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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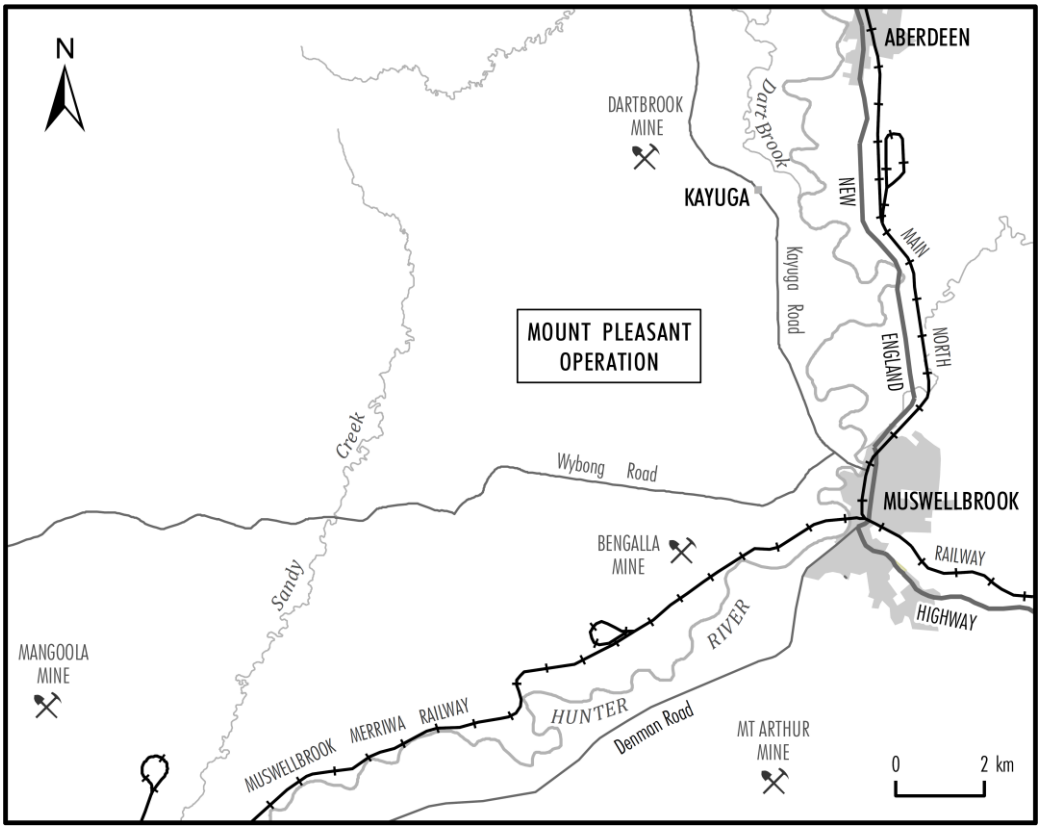

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29 May 2017

Alison Sampson
36 Hill Street
CAROONA NSW 2343

Dear Alison,

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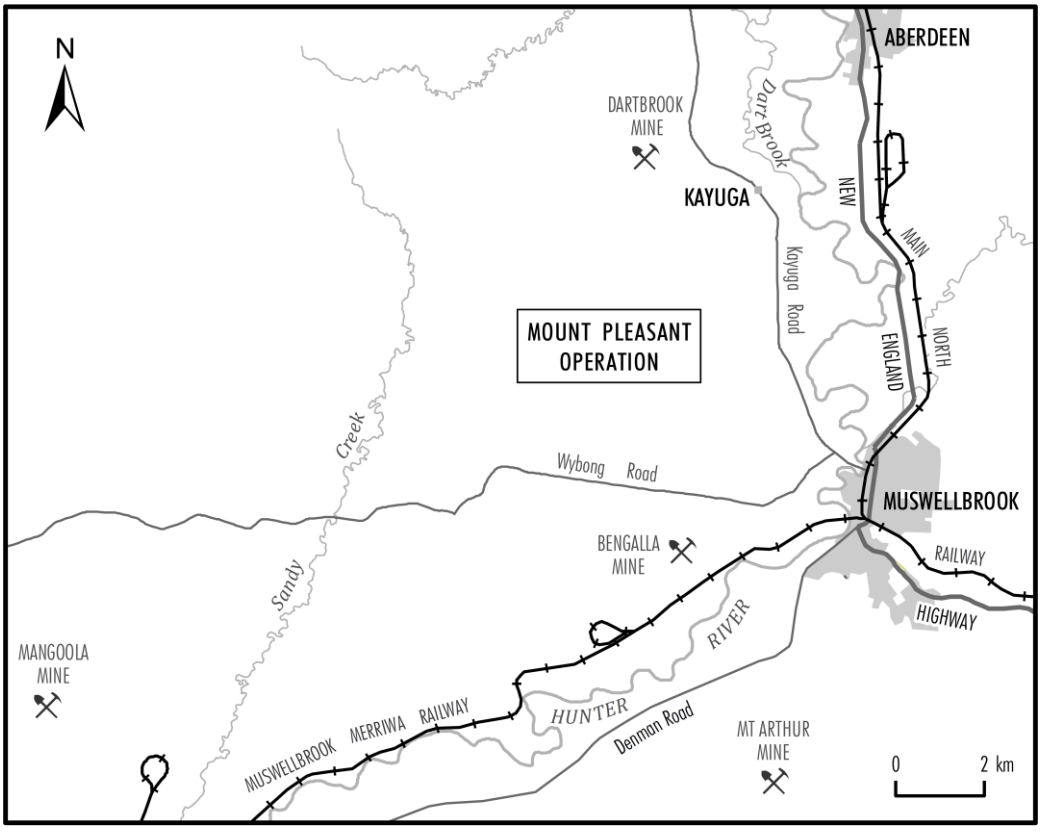

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29 May 2017

Griffiths Group
Priscilla Priestley
7 Yeoman Avenue
METFORD NSW 2323

Dear Priscilla,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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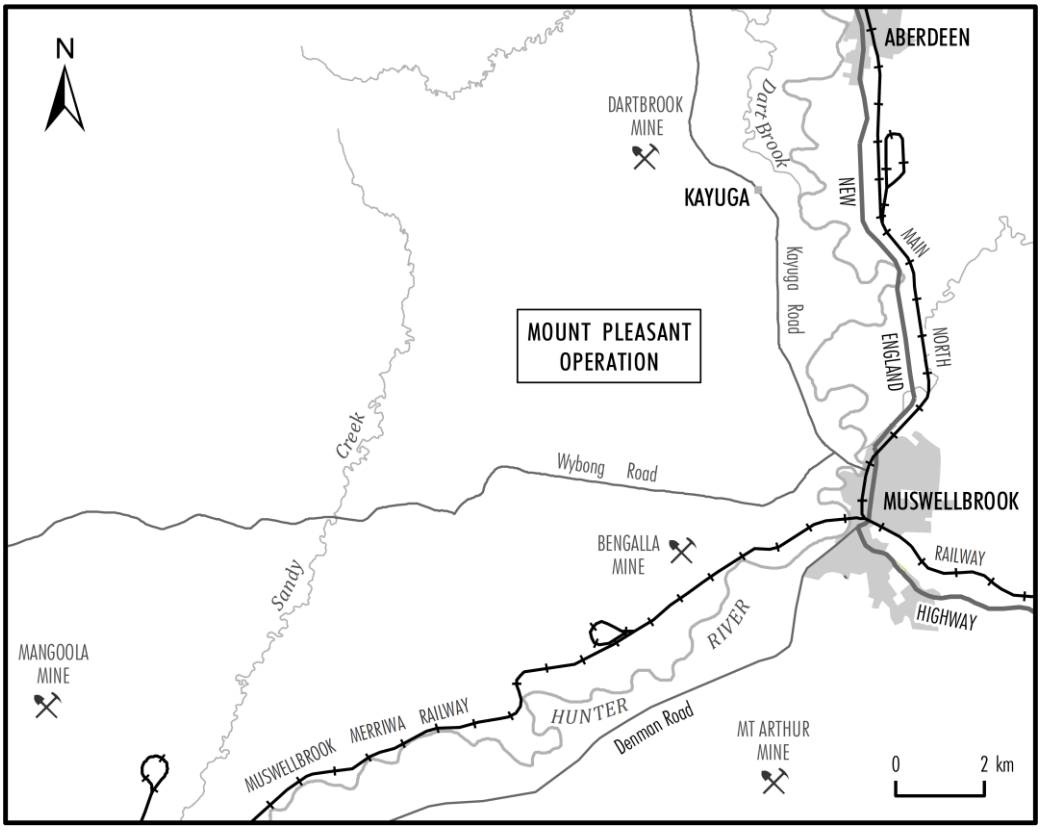

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29 May 2017

Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 401
EAST MAITLAND NSW 2323

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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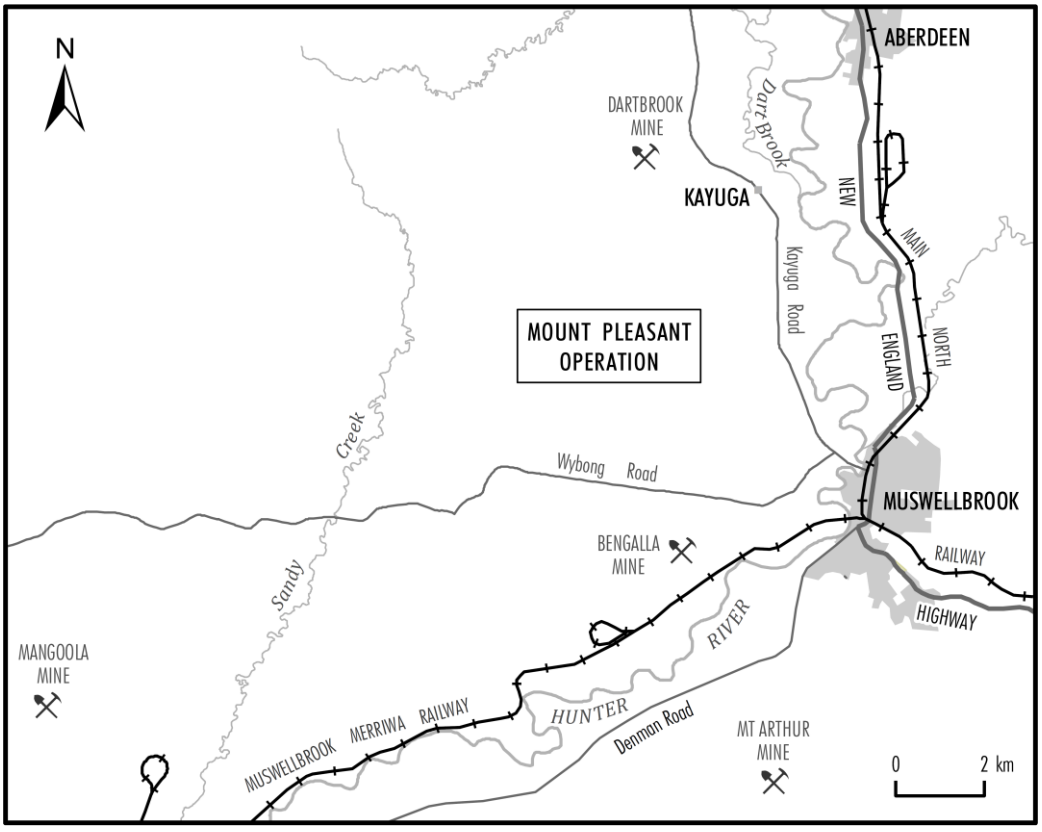

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29 May 2017

Ron Smith
Flat 8/6 Hastings River Drive
PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444

Dear Ron,

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
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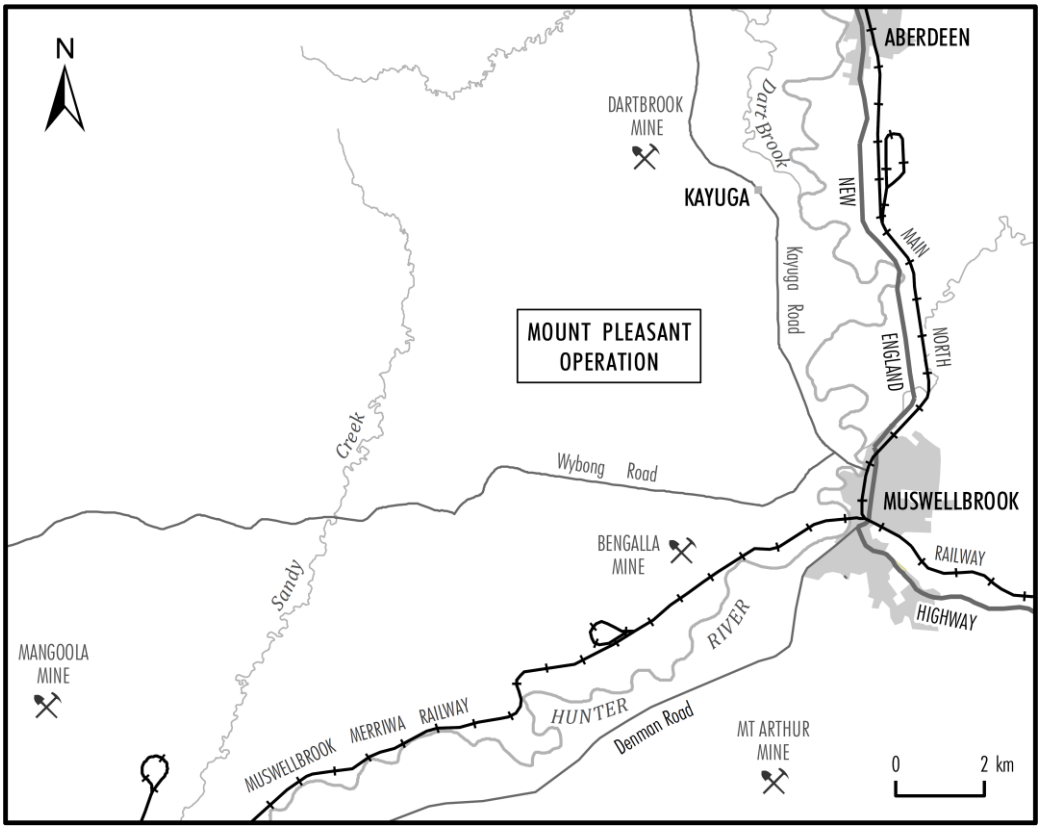
Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



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29 May 2017

Roslyn Sampson
Unit 4/122 Upper Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Roslyn,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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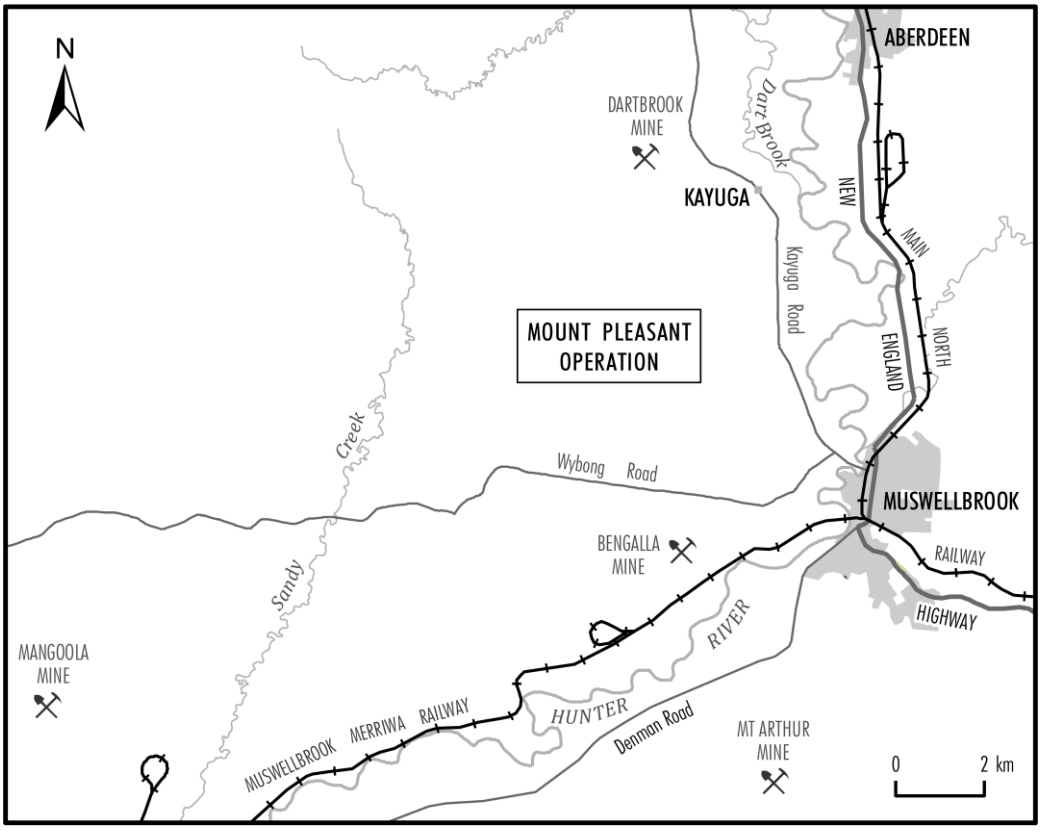

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29 May 2017

Warrigal Cultural Services
Aaron Slater
PO Box 1095
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Aaron,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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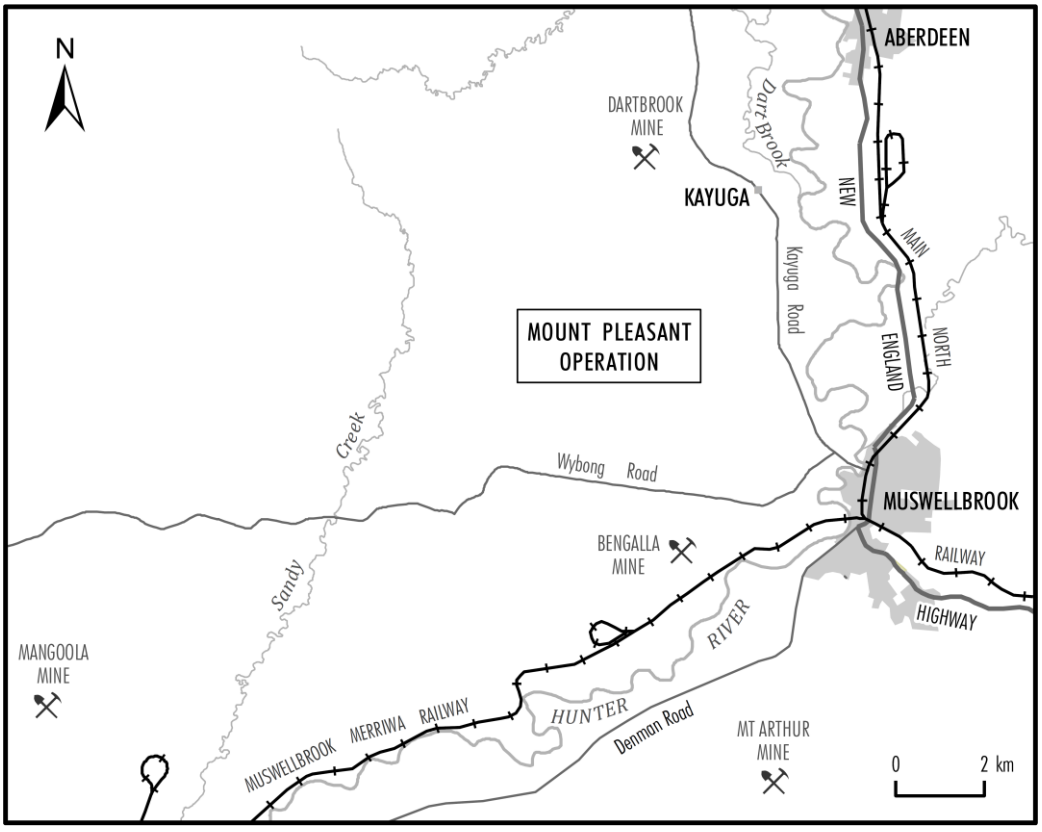

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29 May 2017

Steven Saunders
35 Walhallow Village
CAROONA NSW 2343

Dear Steven,

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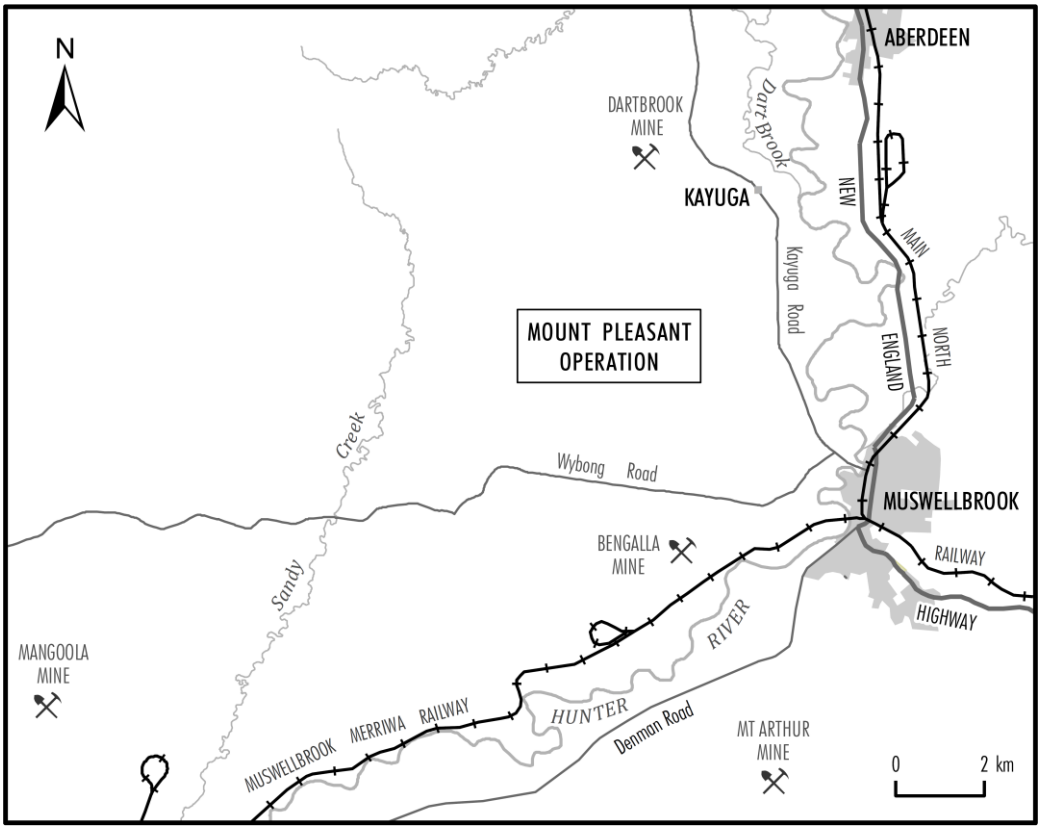

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29 May 2017

Thawan Heritage Consultant
Jennifer Hampton
35 Larool Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Jennifer,

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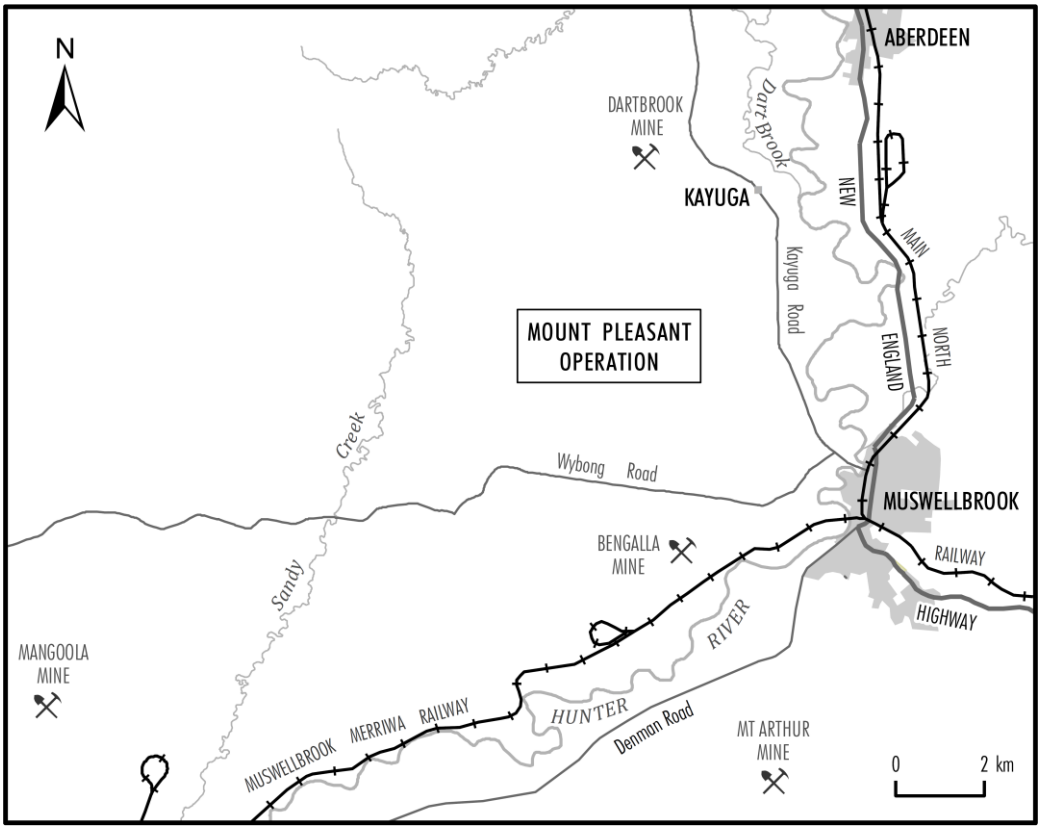

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29 May 2017

Trevor Robinson
PO Box 73
PEAK HILL NSW 2869

Dear Trevor,

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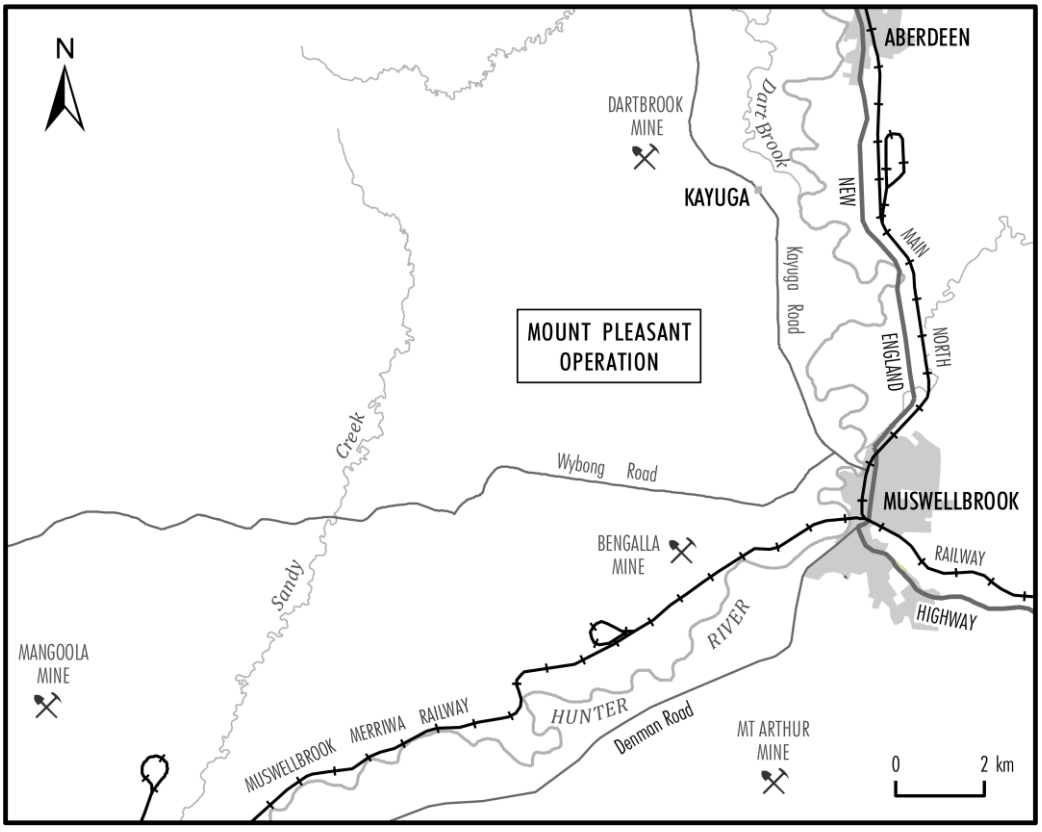

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29 May 2017

Wurrumay Consultants
Kerrie Slater
PO Box 817
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Kerrie,

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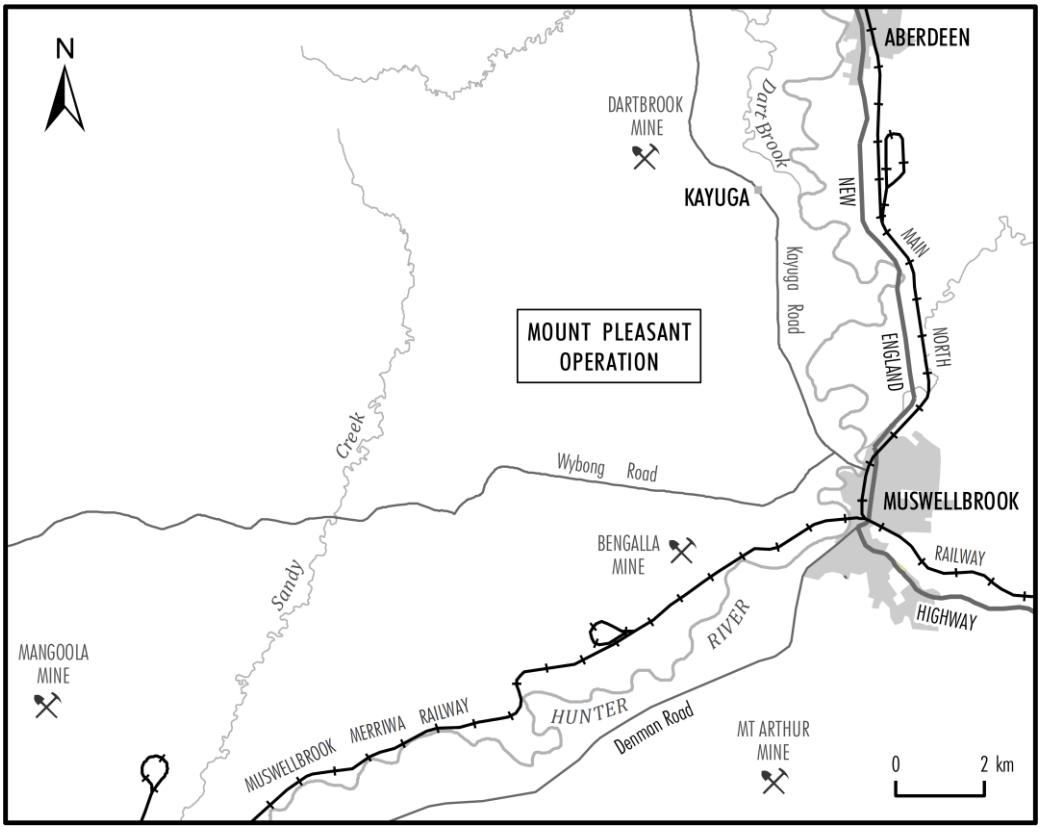

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29 May 2017

J & A Leonardi
69 Nelson Street
BARNSLEY NSW 2278

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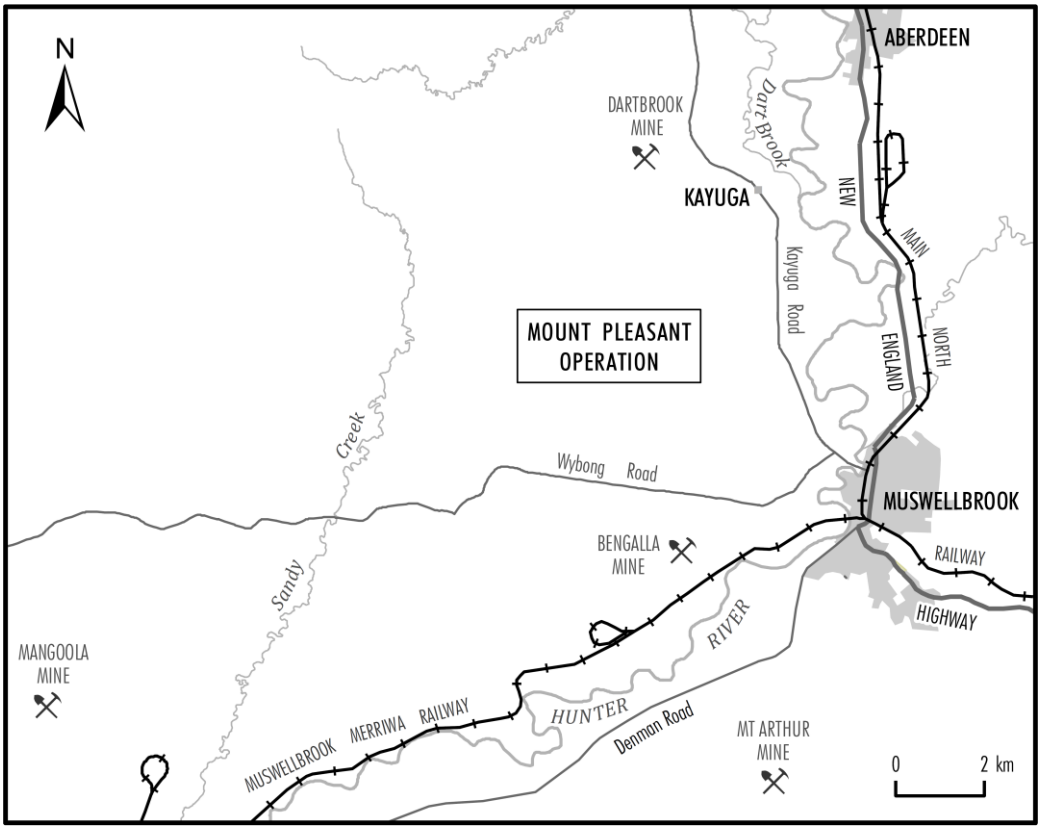

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29 May 2017

Barry French
12 Haydon Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Barry,

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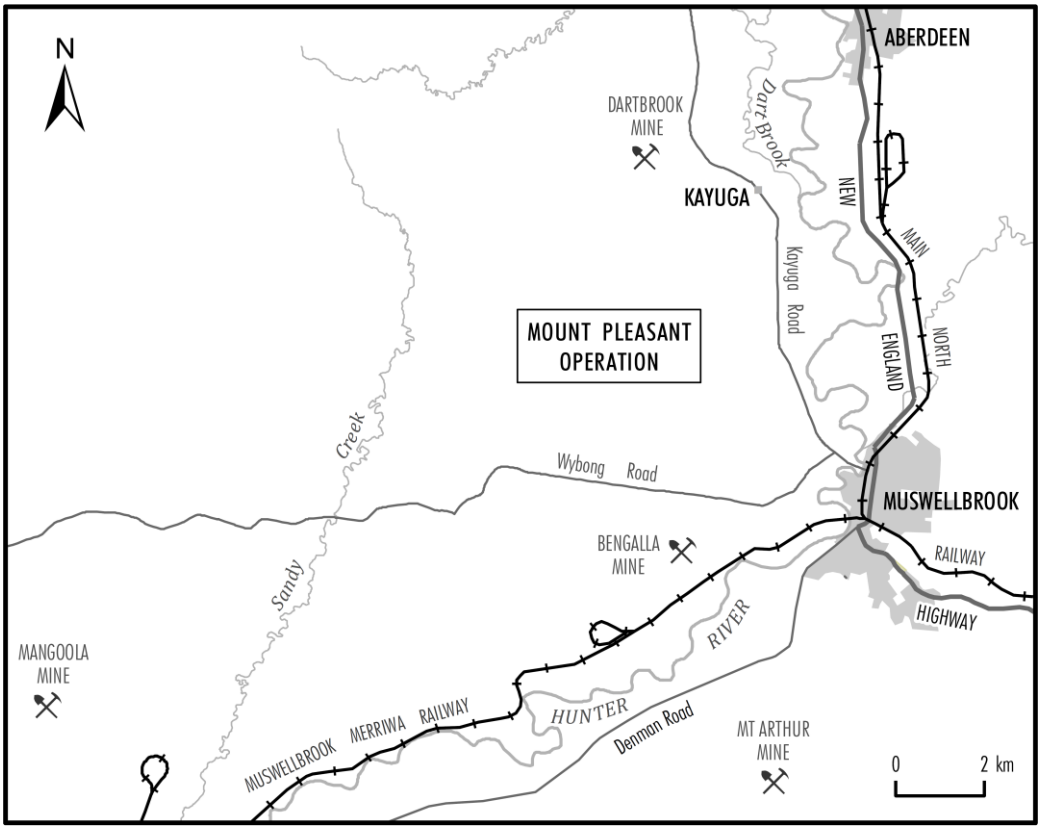

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29 May 2017

Glen Morris
12 Bell Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Glen,

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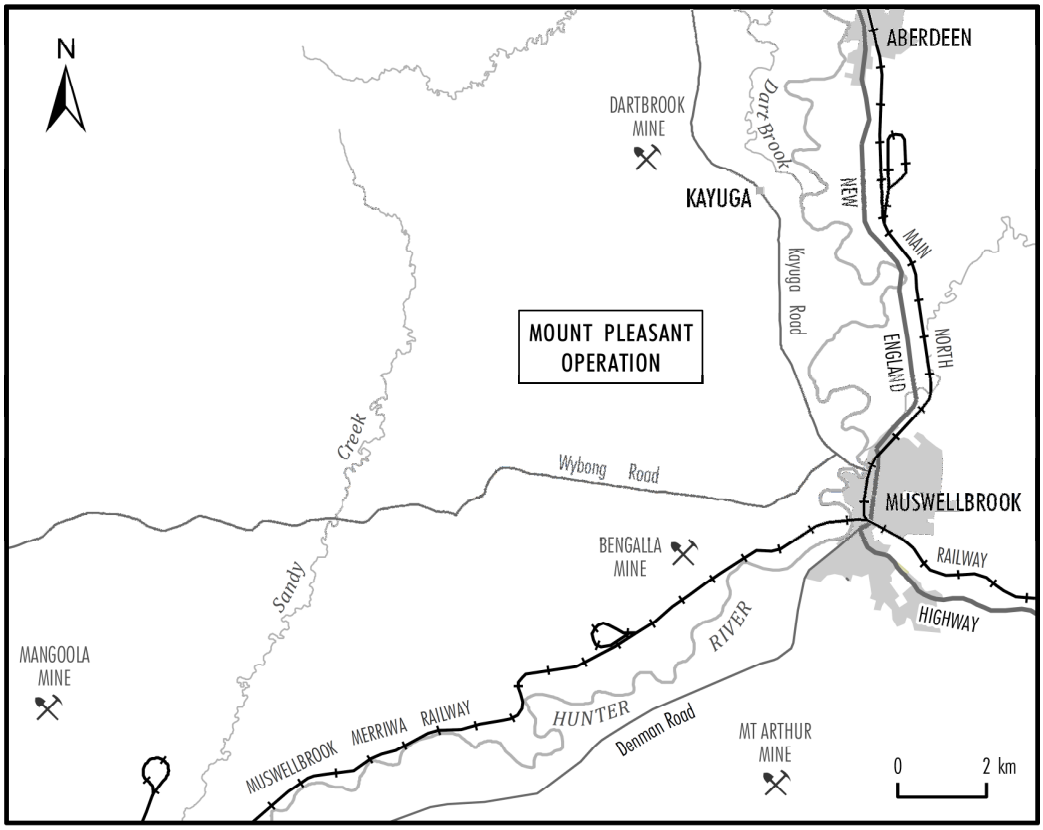

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29 May 2017

Mandy Howard

Via email: Amanda.howard@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mandy,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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In accordance with the requirements as set out in the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010) (Consultation Guidelines) issued by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, MACH Energy is required to conduct a community consultation process with relevant Aboriginal people to assist in the preparation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment.

Also in accordance with the requirements of the Consultation Guidelines, Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the "Area of Interest" are invited to register an interest in a process of community consultation with MACH Energy.

Should you wish to register an interest in the community consultation process described above, could you please provide your details before **5.00pm on Friday 16 June 2017** to MACH Energy via the following contact details:

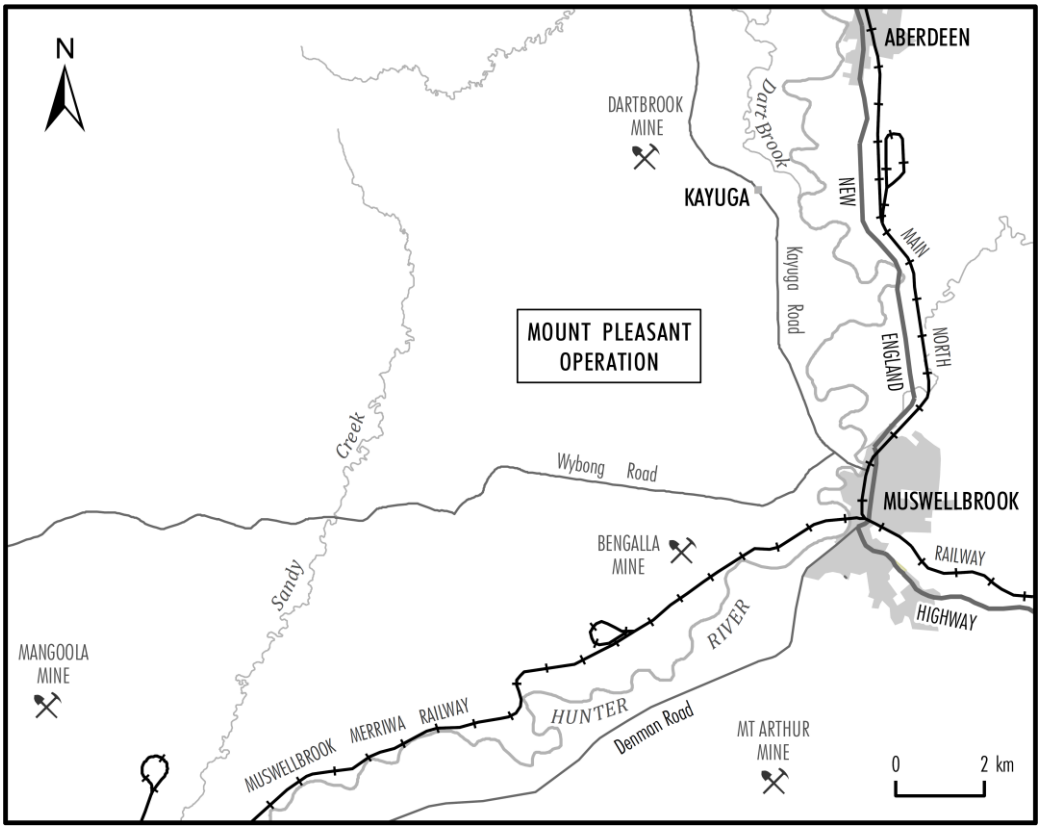
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

MACH Energy advises that the details of any Aboriginal person or group who registers an interest in the consultation process for the Mount Pleasant Operation will be forwarded to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and the Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council in accordance with Section 4.1.5. of the Consultation Guidelines, unless they specify that they do not want their details released.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



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29 May 2017

AGA Services
Adam Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear Adam,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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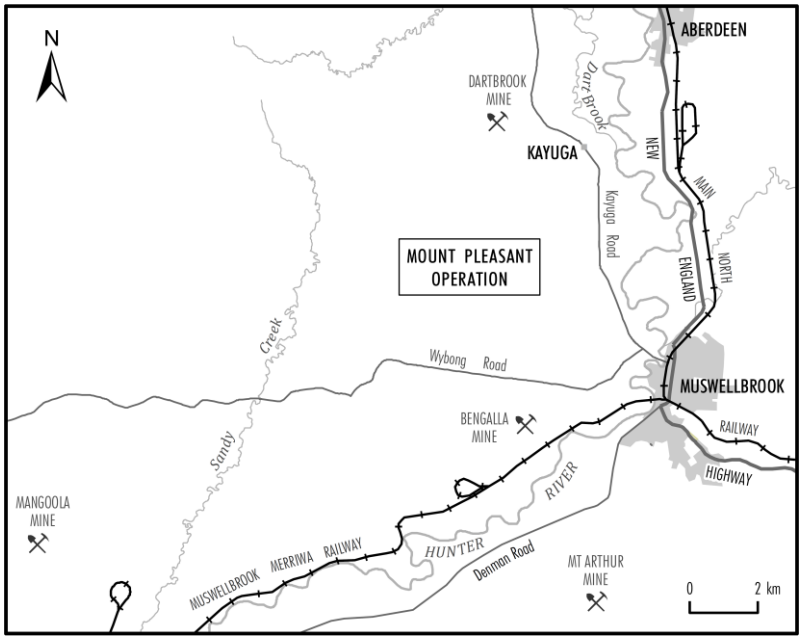

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29 May 2017

Aliera French Trading
Aliera French
12 Haydon Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Aliera,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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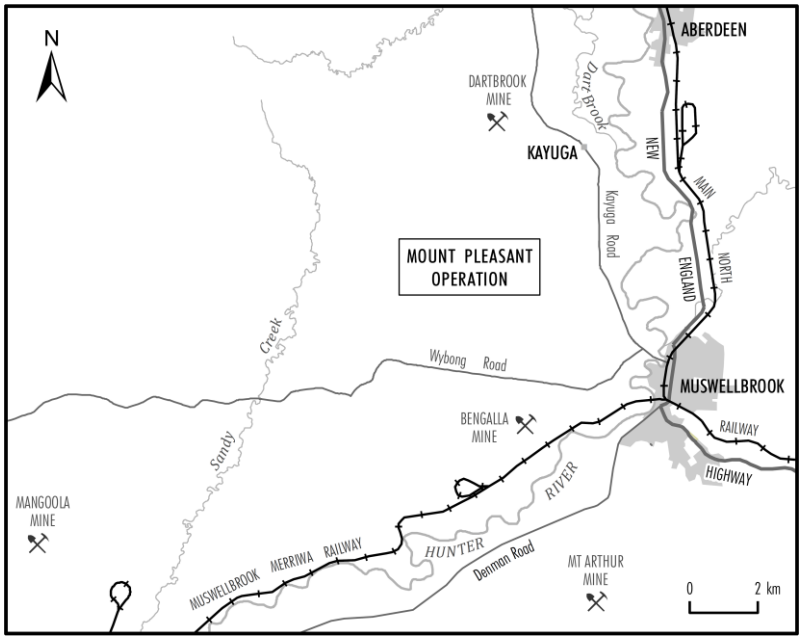

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29 May 2017

Buda Mada Koori Womens Aboriginal Corporation
Alison Howlett
PO Box 3011
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Alison,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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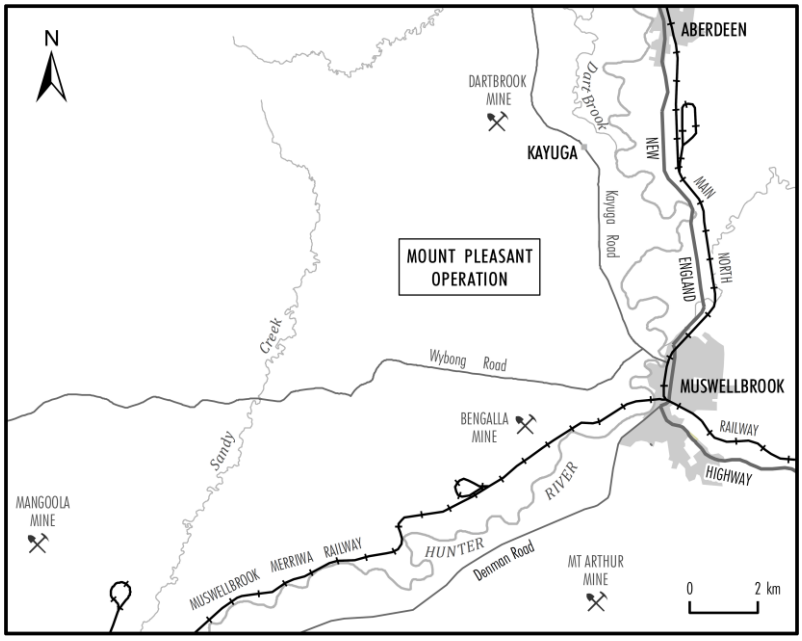

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29 May 2017

Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation
Allen Paget
PO Box 3095
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Allen,

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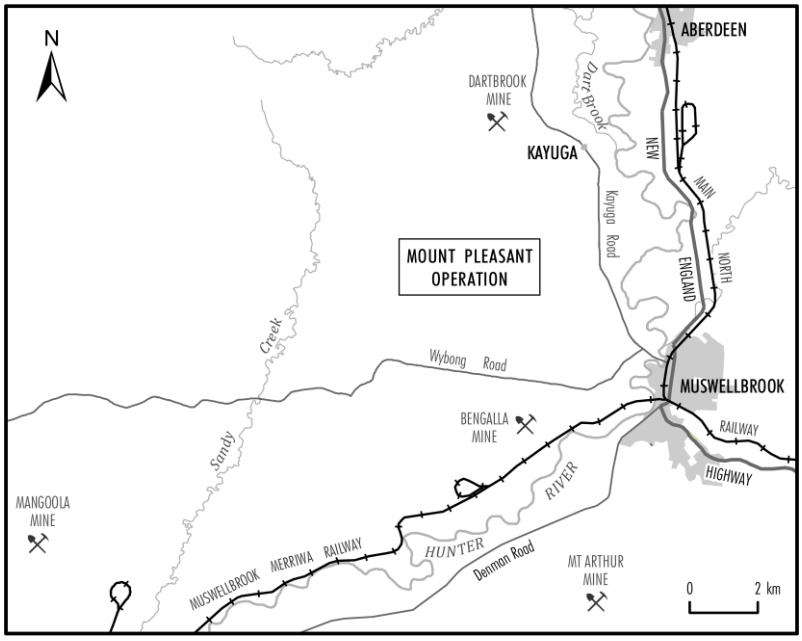

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29 May 2017

Amanda Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Amanda,

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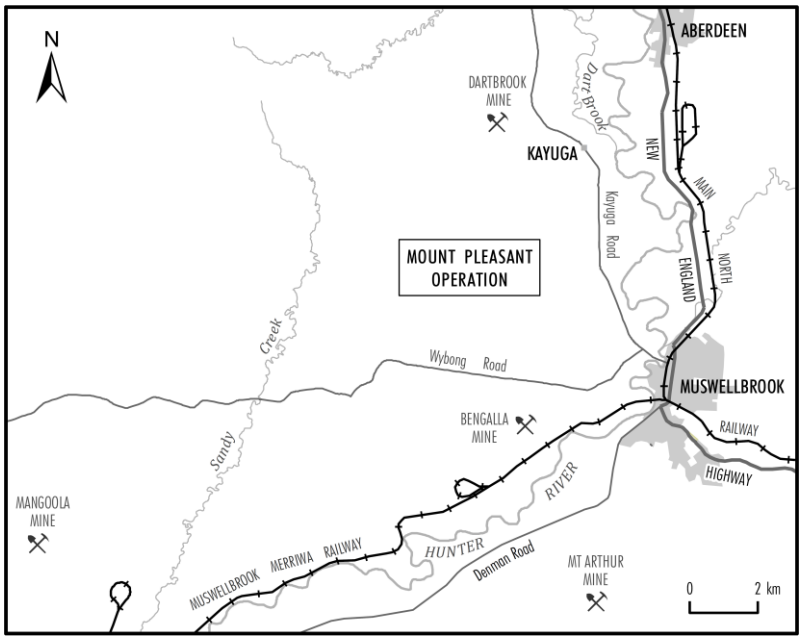

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29 May 2017

Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy
Anne Hickey
76 Lang Street
KURRI KURRI NSW 2327

Dear Anne,

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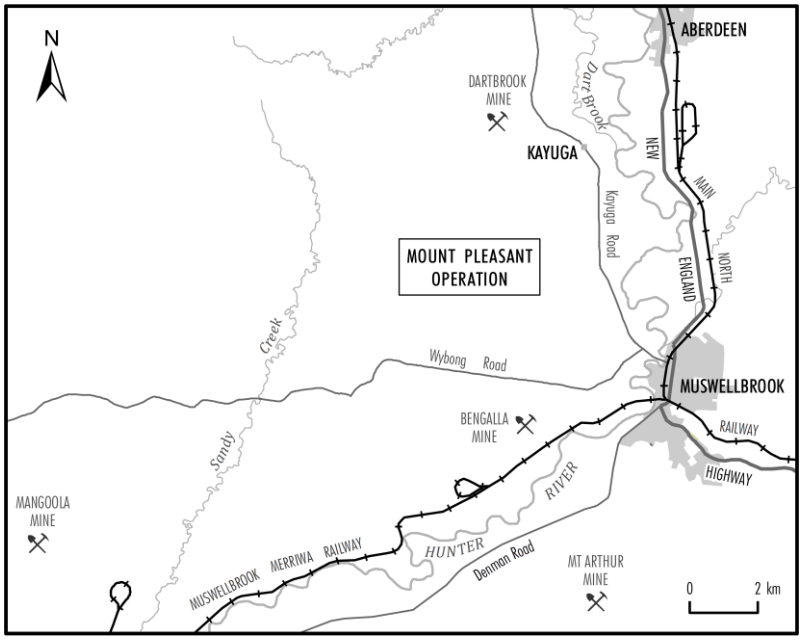

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29 May 2017

Wonnarua Elders Council Inc.
Arthur Fletcher
PO Box 844
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Arthur,

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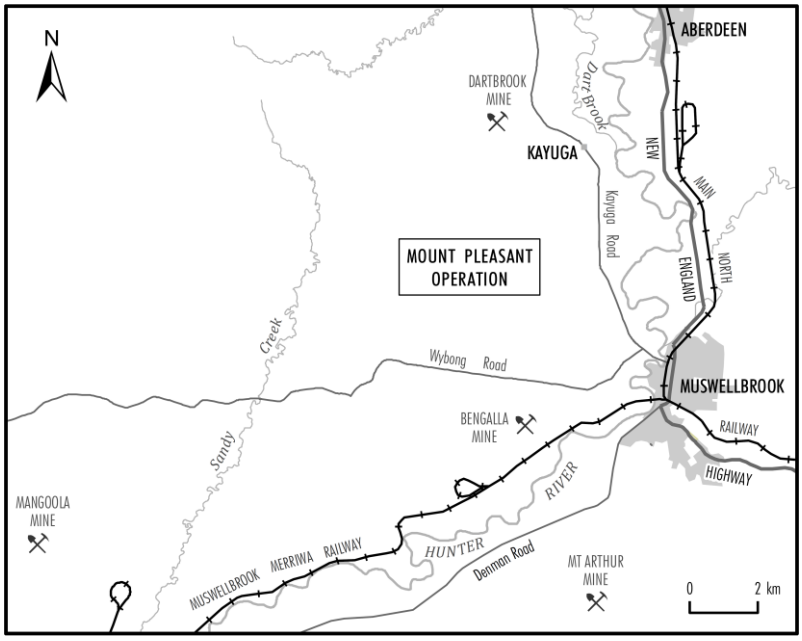

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29 May 2017

Kauwul (Wonn 1)
Arthur Fletcher
619 Main Road
GLENDALE NSW 2285

Dear Arthur,

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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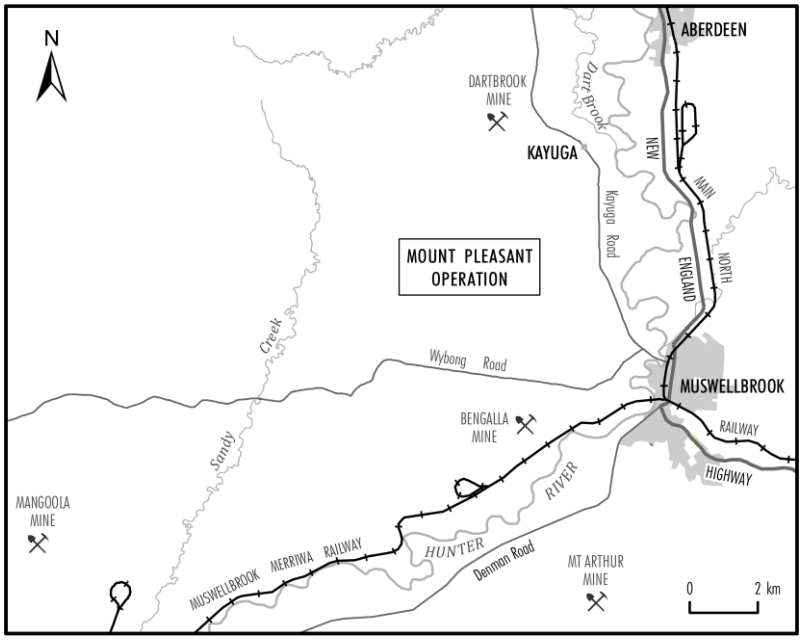

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

29 May 2017

Barry & Colleen Stair
8 Acacia Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Barry & Colleen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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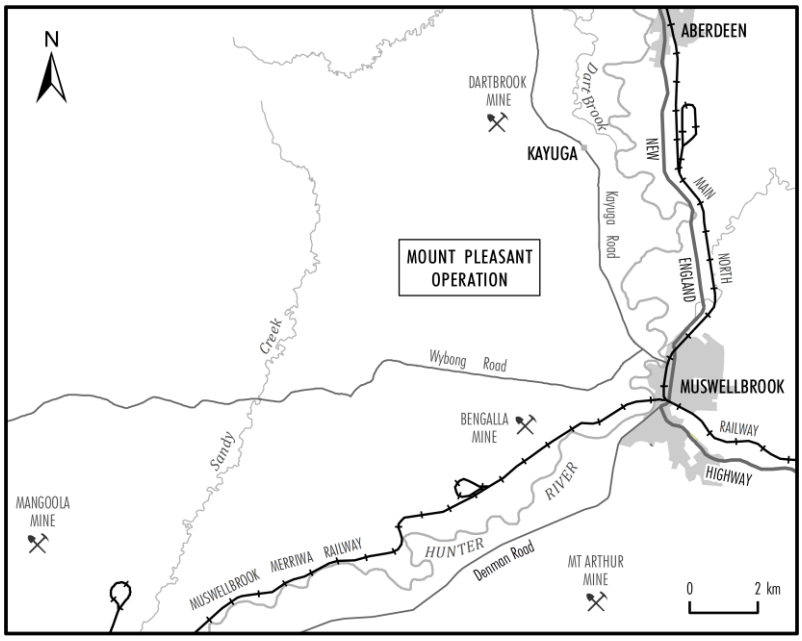

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29 May 2017

Lower Wonnarua Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd
Barry Anderson
156 Inlet Road
BULGA NSW 2330

Dear Barry,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
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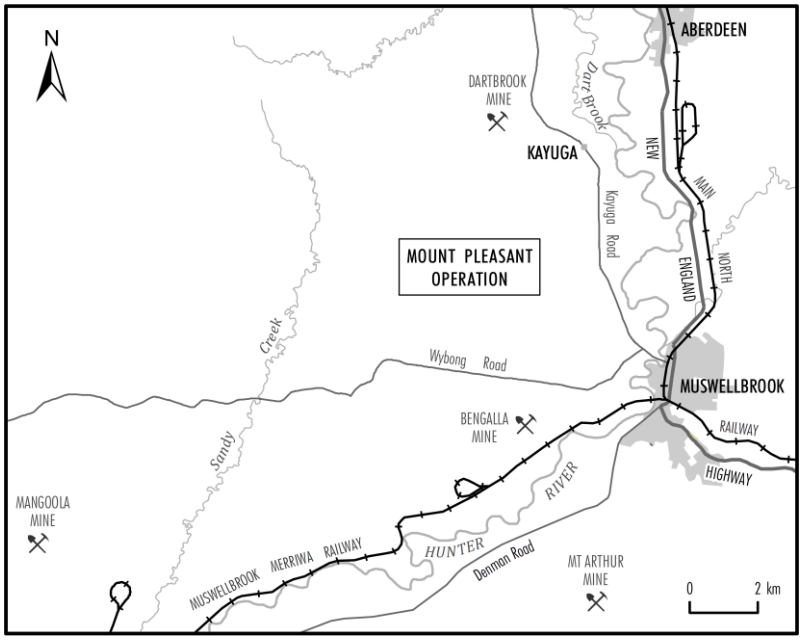

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29 May 2017

Yarrawalk Enterprises
Barry McTaggart
913 Wollombi Road
BROKE NSW 2330

Dear Barry,

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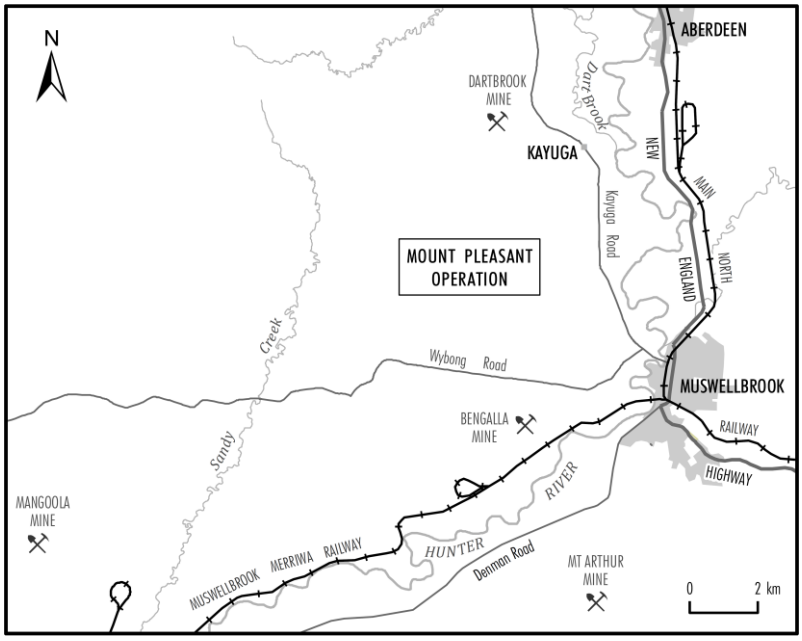

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29 May 2017

BJC Cultural Management
Ben Cameron
11 Stanley Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Ben,

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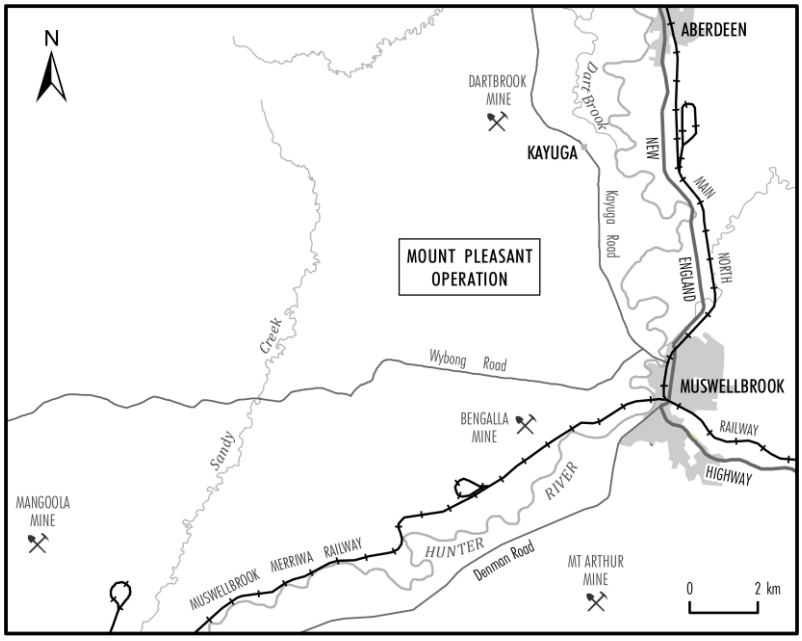

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29 May 2017

Muswellbrook Culture Consultants
Brian Horton
10 Scott Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Brian,

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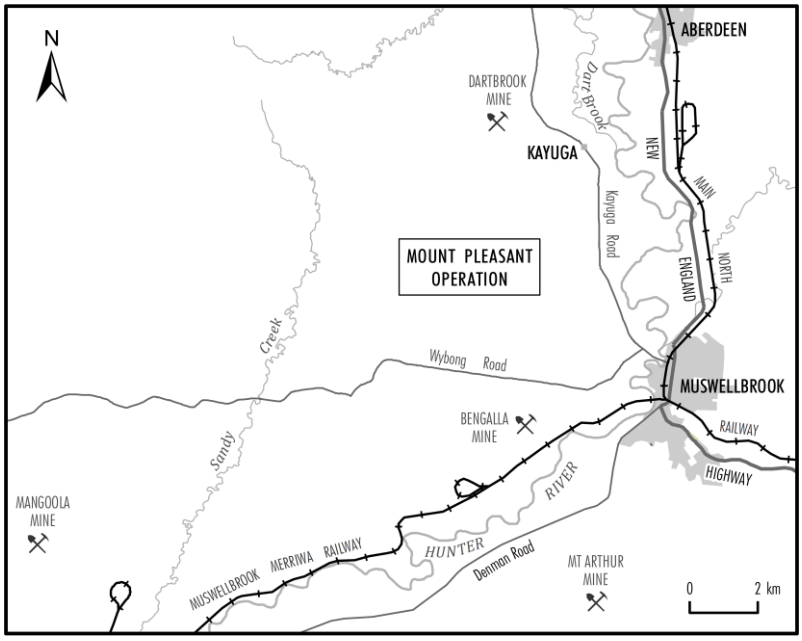

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29 May 2017

Chantae Griffiths
14 Westerweller Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Chantae,

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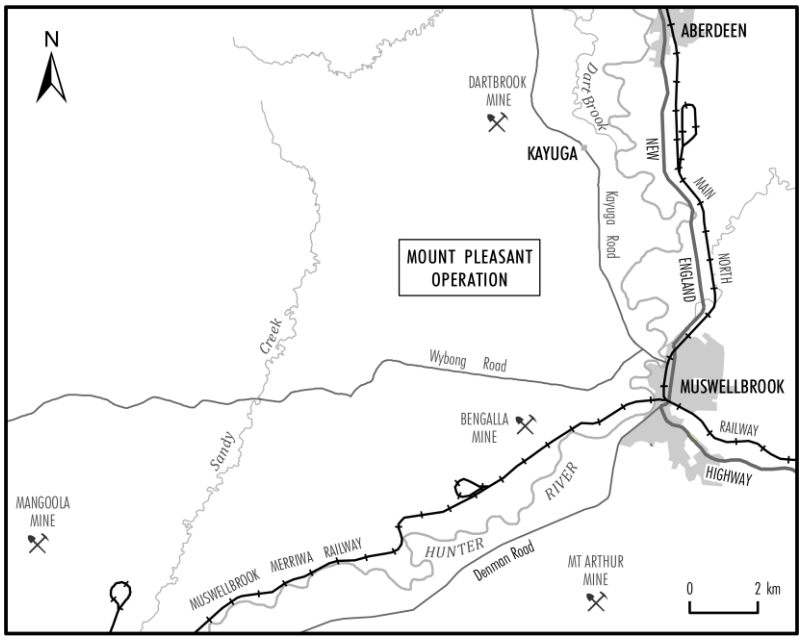

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29 May 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Consultants
Christine Archbold
13 Bimbadeen Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Christine,

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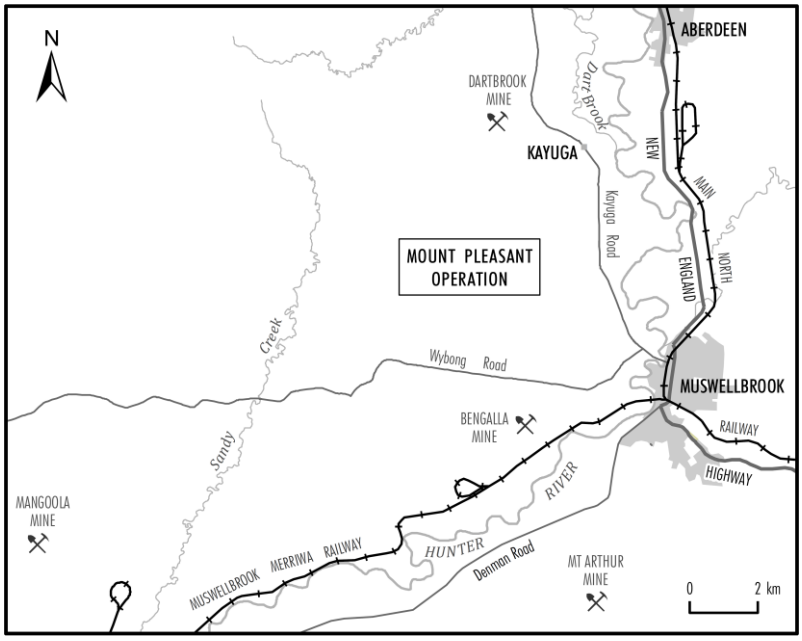

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29 May 2017

Clifford Johnson
77 Tobruk Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Clifford,

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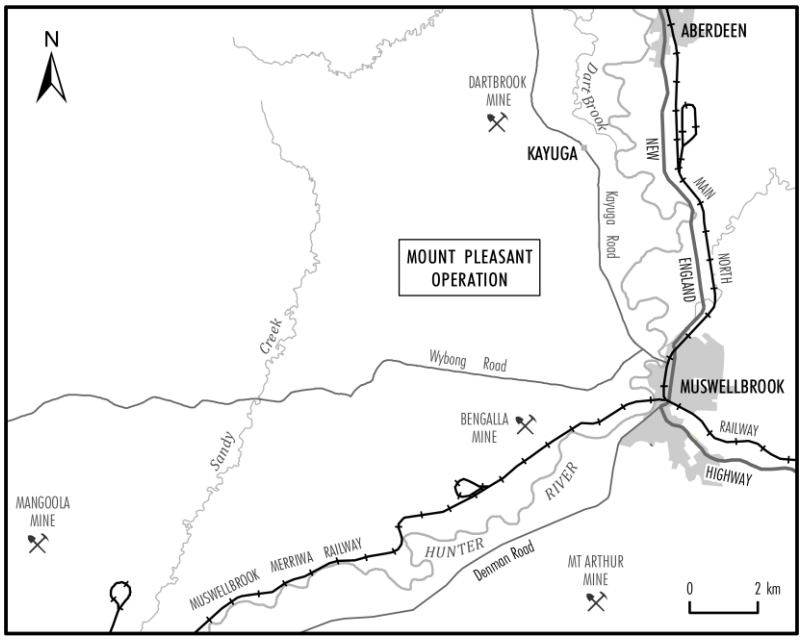

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29 May 2017

Mingga Consultants
Clifford Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

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C/- Julie Fletcher
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Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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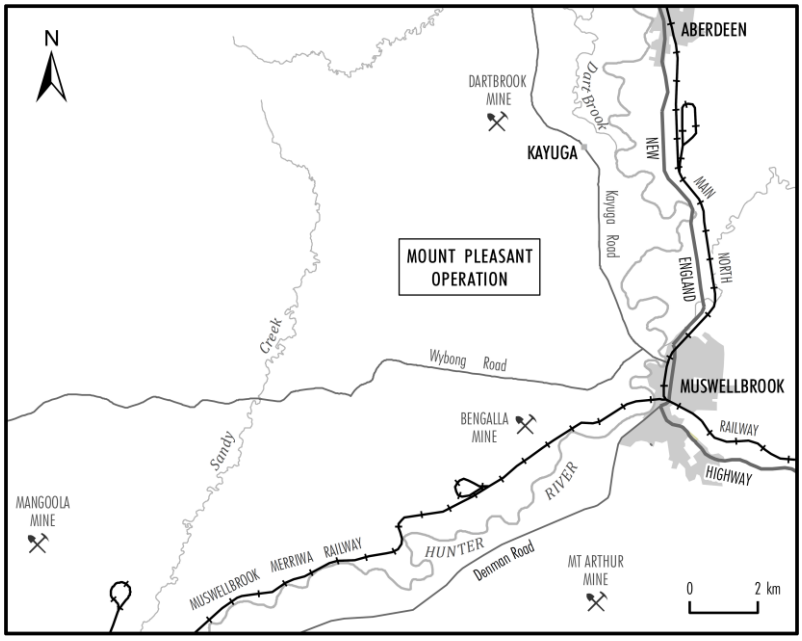

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29 May 2017

Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants
Darrel Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Darrel,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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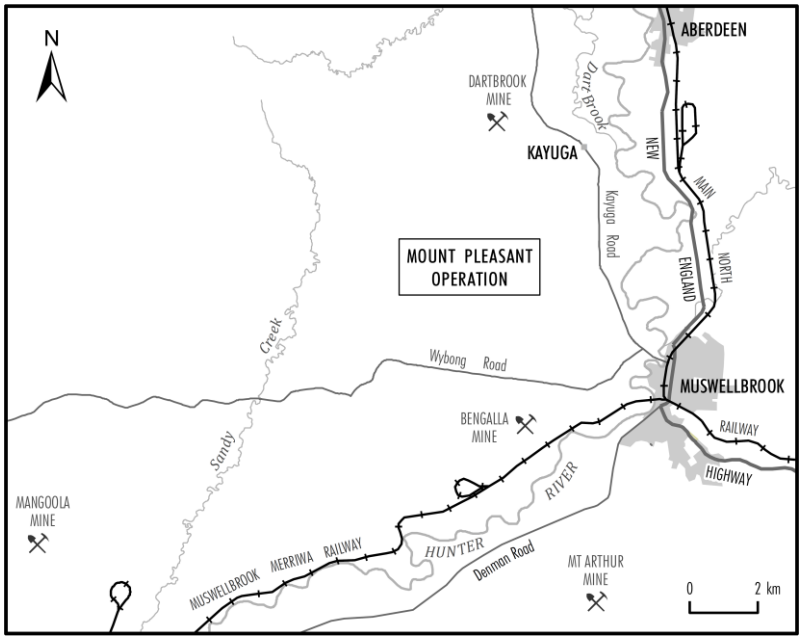

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29 May 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated
David Ahoy
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear David,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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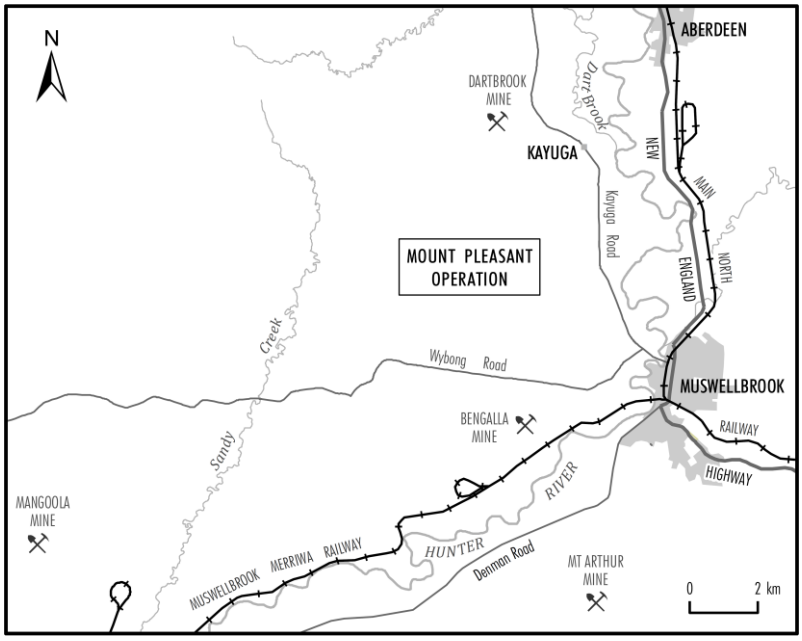

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29 May 2017

Upper Hunter Natural and Cultural Resources Management
David French
Flat 3, 60 Tindale Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear David,

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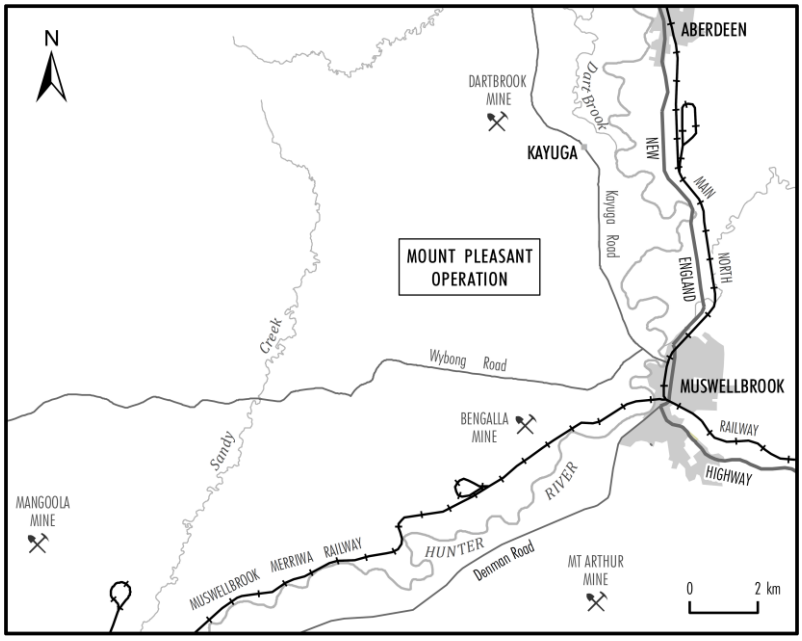

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29 May 2017

Gomery Cultural Consultants
David Horton
10 Scott Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear David,

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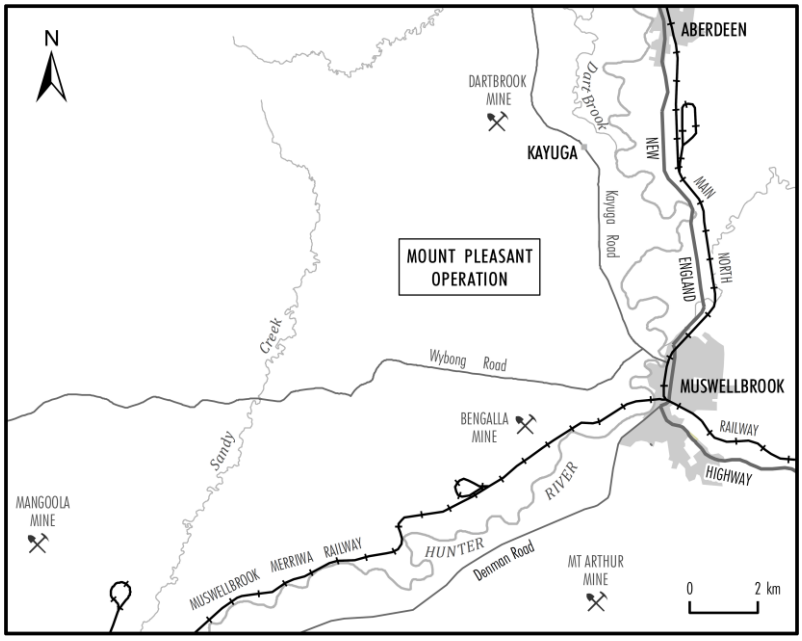

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29 May 2017

Divine Diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants
Deidre Perkins
6 Ashleigh Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Deidre,

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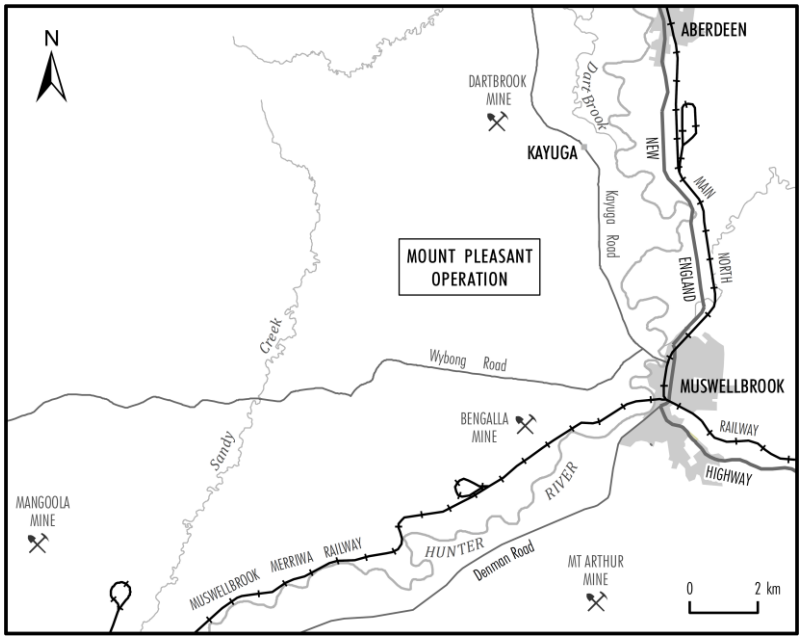

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29 May 2017

DFTV Enterprises
Derrick Vale Sr
5 Mountbatten Close
RUTHERFORD NSW 2320

Dear Derrick,

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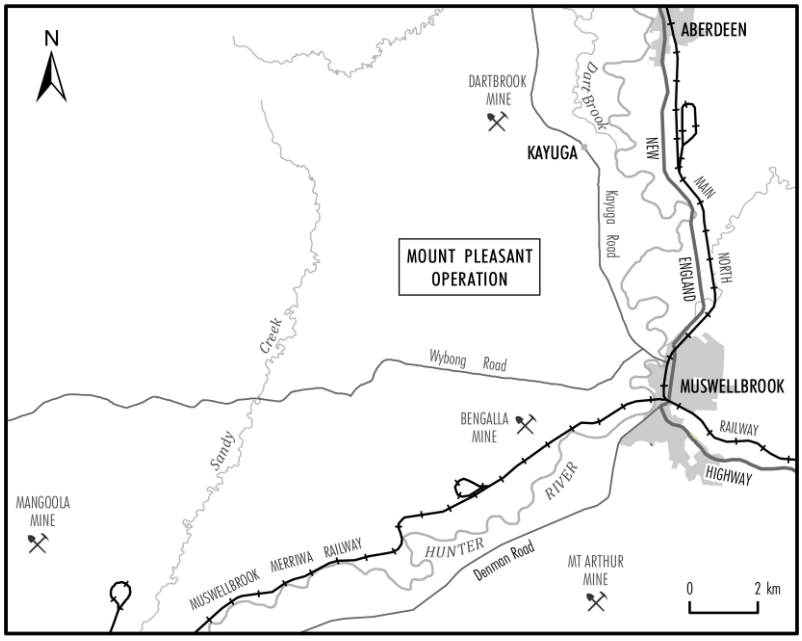

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29 May 2017

Wattaka Wonnarua Cultural Consultants Service
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

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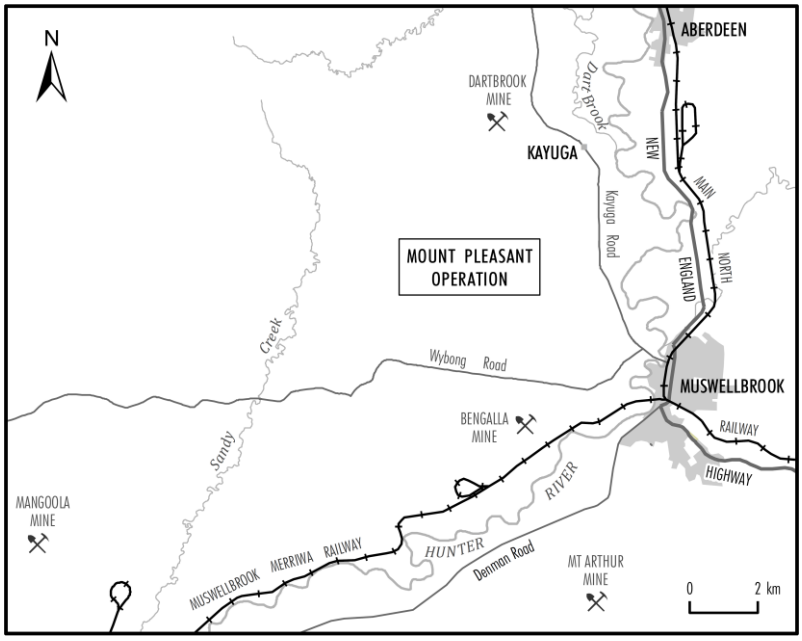

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29 May 2017

Wonnarua Traditional Custodians
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

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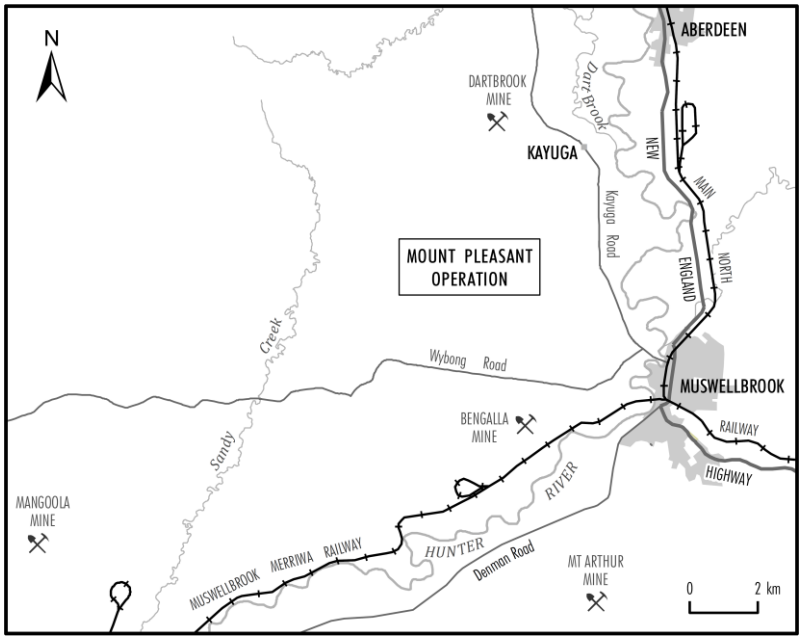

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29 May 2017

Deslee Talbot Consultant
Deslee Matthews
2/19 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Deslee,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
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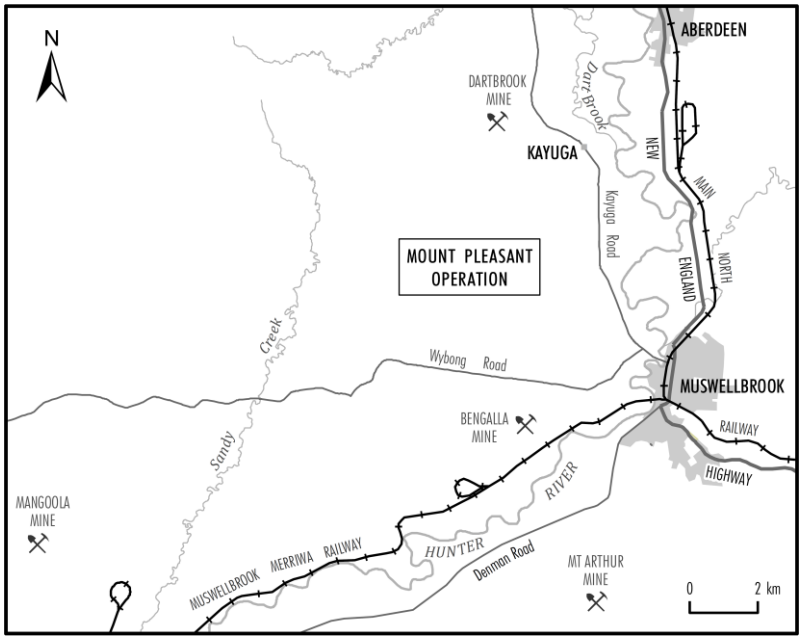

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29 May 2017

Waabi Gabinya Cultural Consultancy
Elizabeth Howard
19 Foley Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Elizabeth,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
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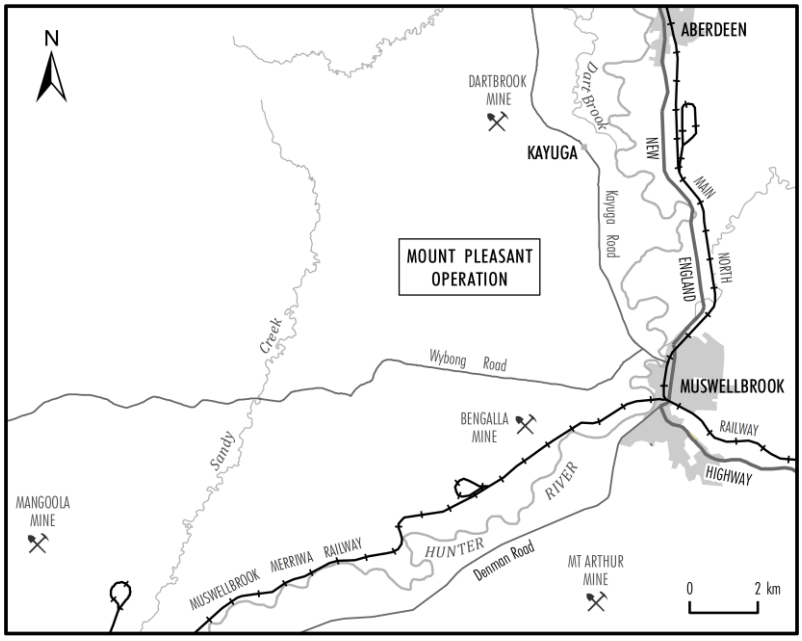

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29 May 2017

Esther Tighe
1/86 Edward Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Esther,

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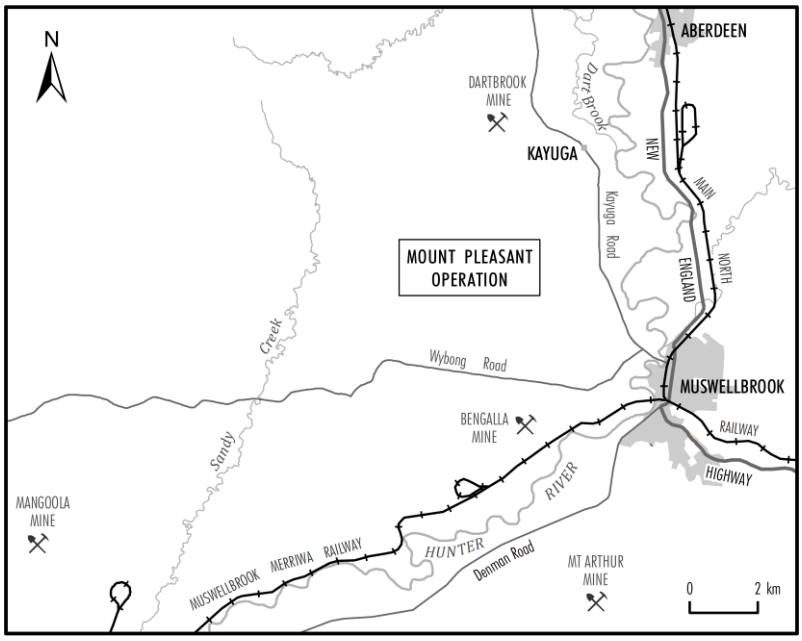

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29 May 2017

Fiona Draper
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Fiona,

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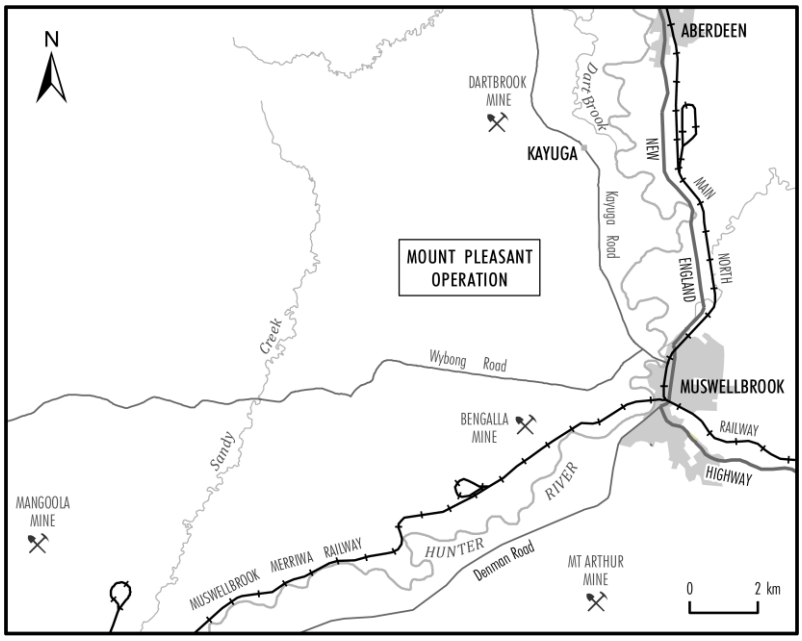

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29 May 2017

Cacatua General Services
George Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear George,

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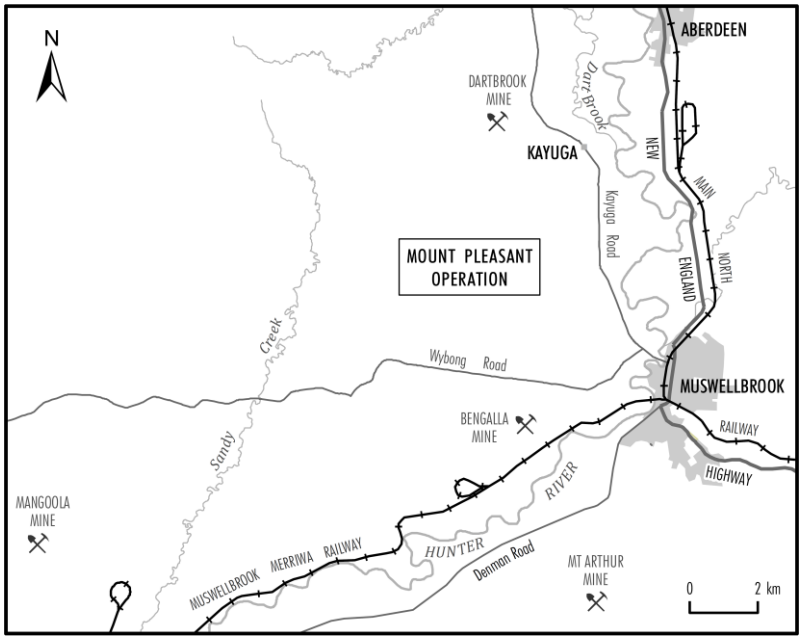

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29 May 2017

Gina Field
4 Meldrum Place
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

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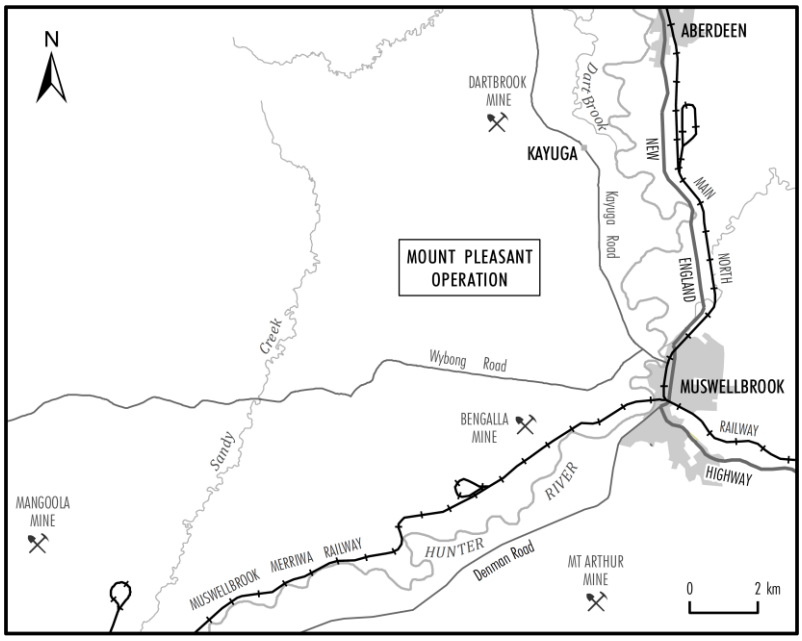

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29 May 2017

Wonnarua Culture Heritage
Gordon Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Gordon,

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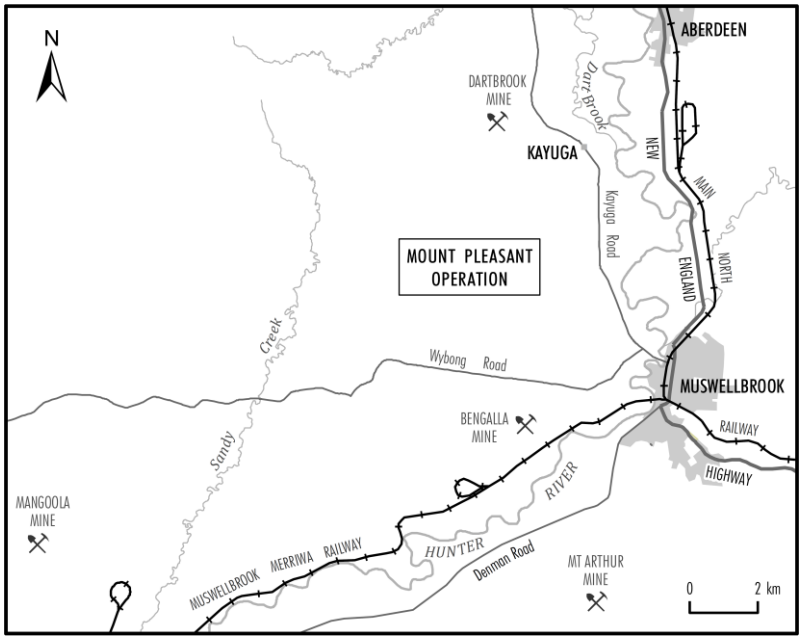

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29 May 2017

Gomeroi Murri Ganuurr Yuuray Wadi Palinka
Greg Griffiths
3 Jarmain Close
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

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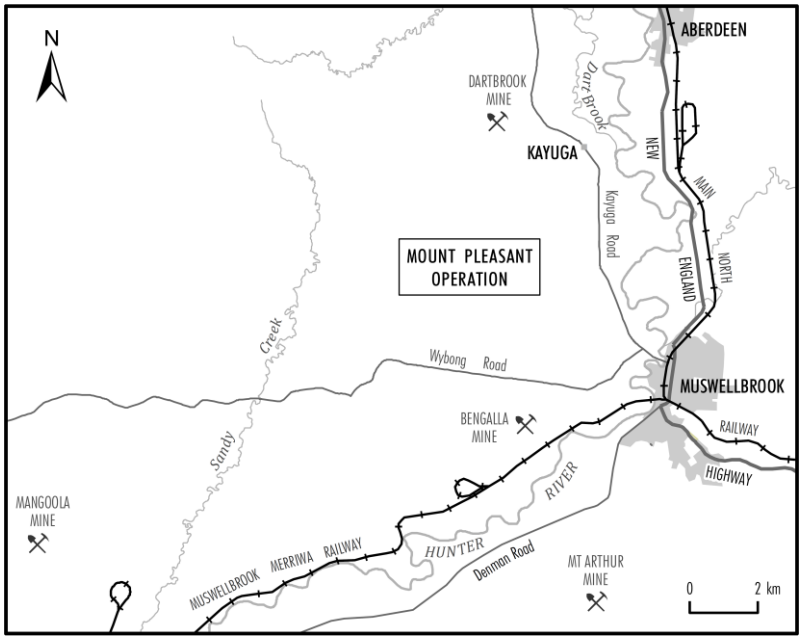

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29 May 2017

Hazel Collins
3 Carroll Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

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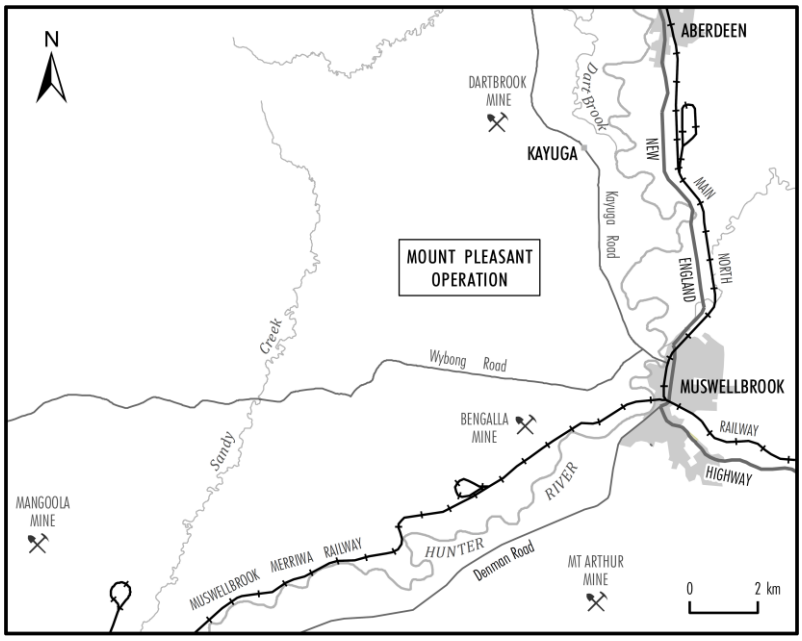
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



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29 May 2017

DRM Cultural Management
Helen Faulkner
81 Wansbeck Valley Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Helen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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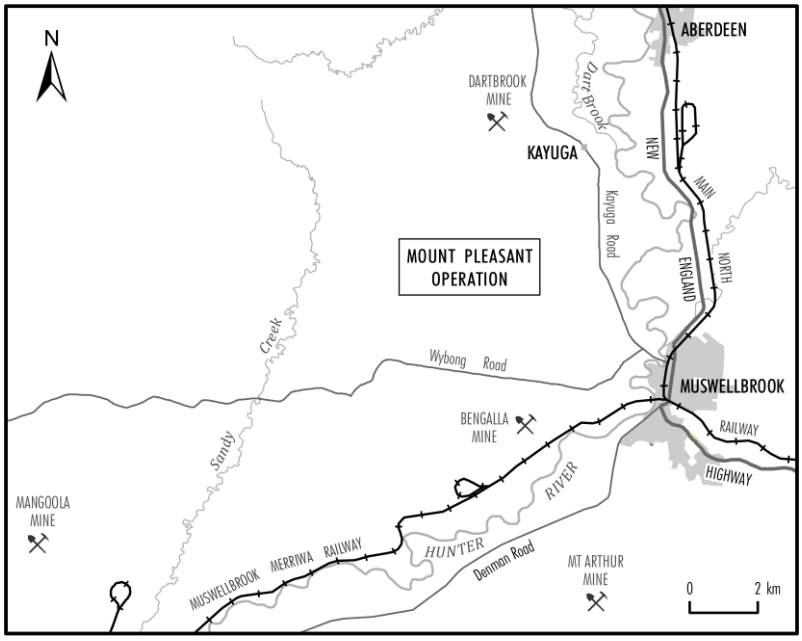

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29 May 2017

I & E Aboriginal Culture and Heritage
Ivy Jaeger
Unit 1/162 Myall Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Ivy,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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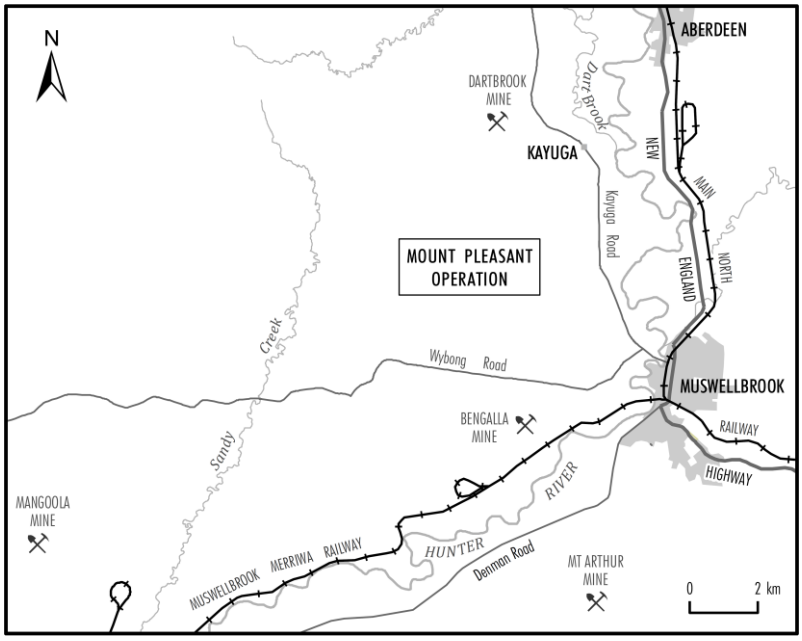

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29 May 2017

Crimson-Rosie
Jeff Matthews
6 Eucalypt Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Jeff,

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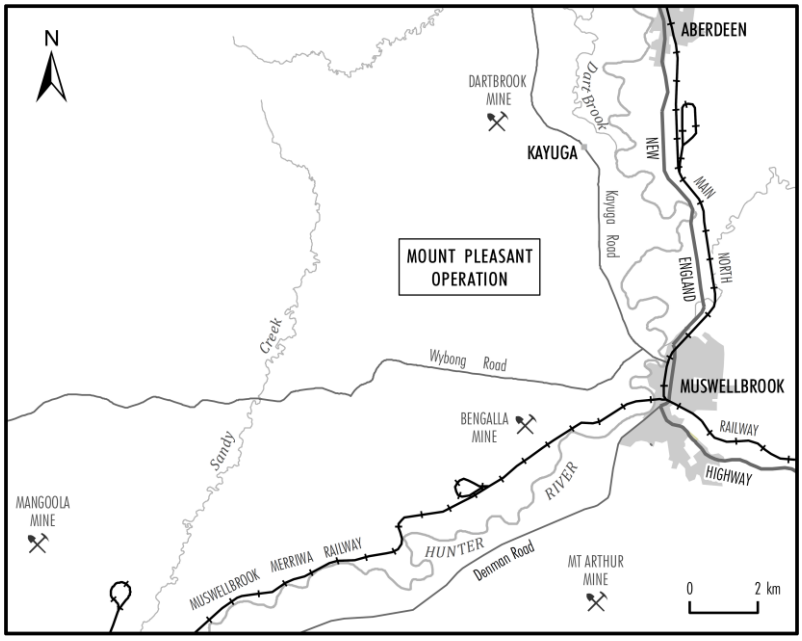

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29 May 2017

JLC Cultural Services
Jenny-Lee Chambers
39 Goulburn Drirve
SANDY HOLLOW NSW 2333

Dear Jenny-Lee,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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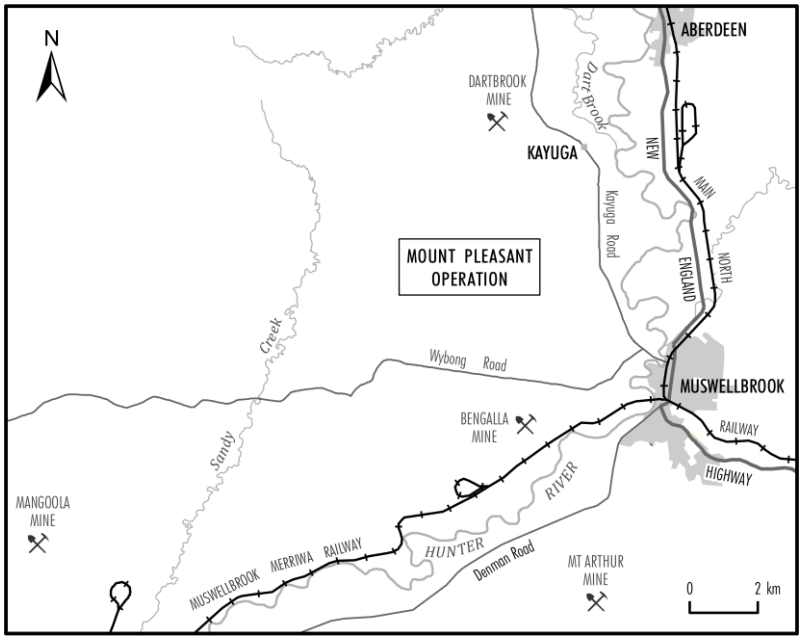

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29 May 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Corporation
Jill Green
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear Jill,

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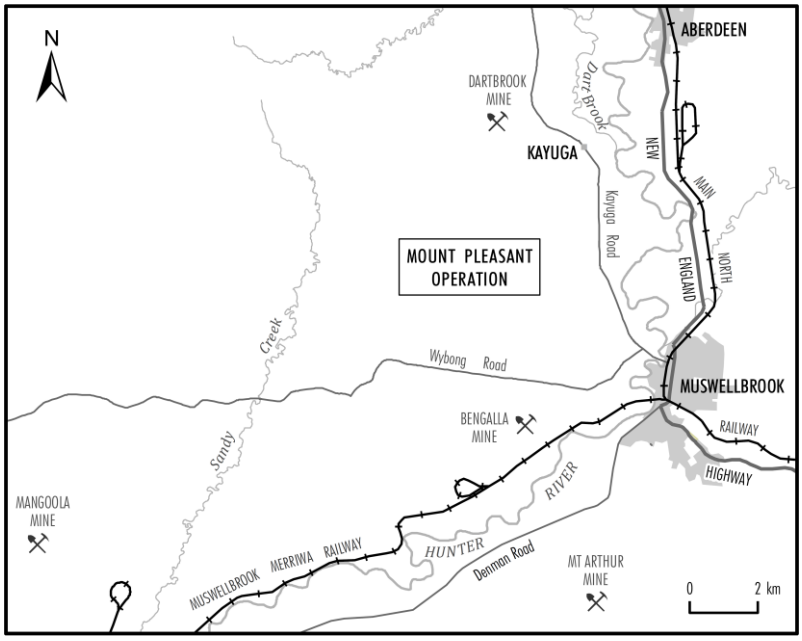

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29 May 2017

Aboriginal Native Title Consultants
John & Margaret Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear John & Margaret,

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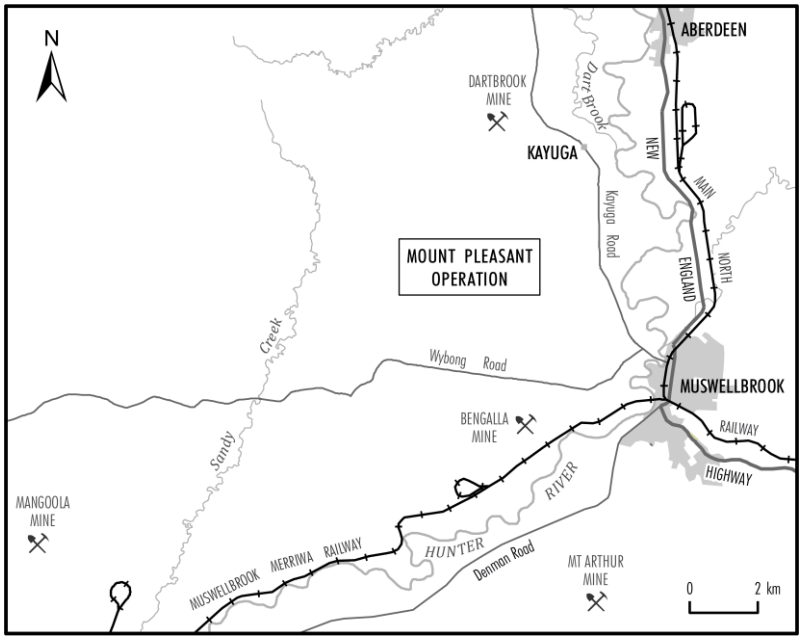

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29 May 2017

Carrawonga
Justin Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Justin,

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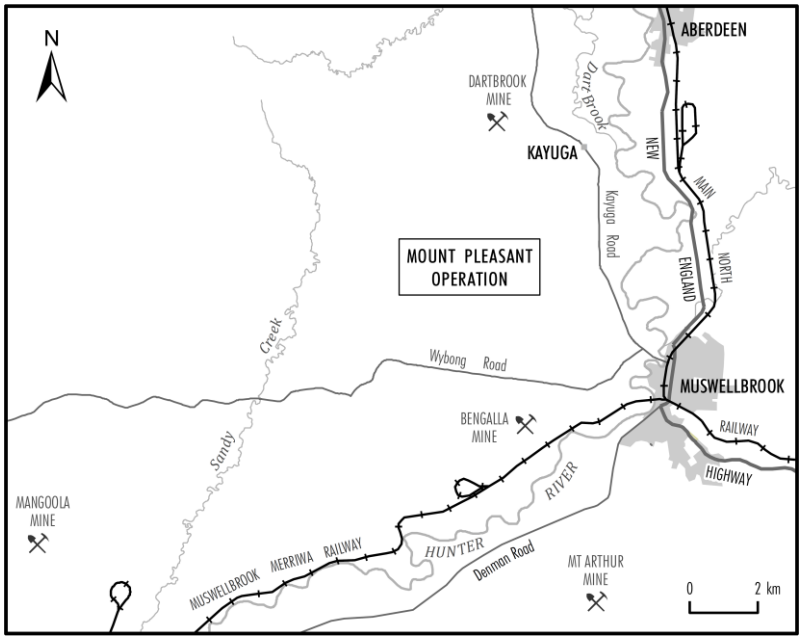

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29 May 2017

Galamaay Consultant
Karen Matthews
21 Bando Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Karen,

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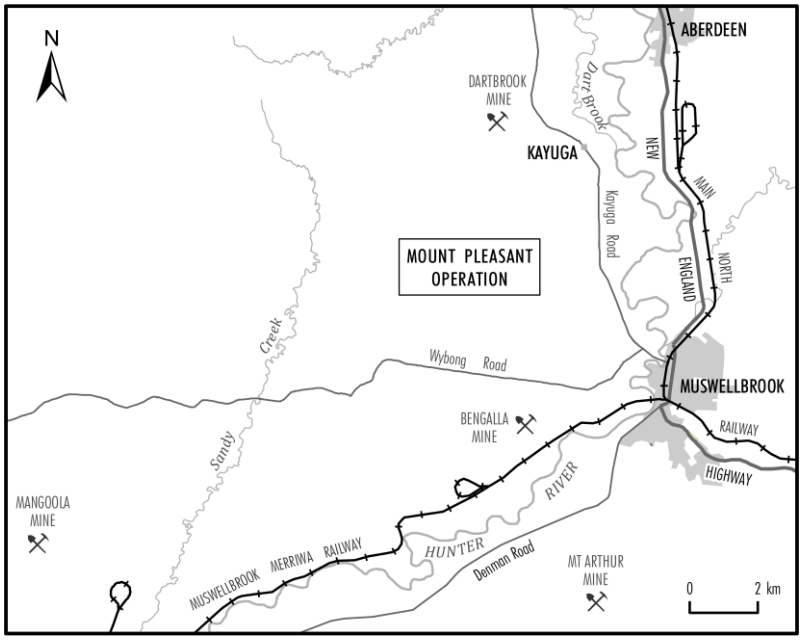

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

29 May 2017

Yinarr Cultural Services
Kathleen Steward-Kinchela
111 Westwood Rd
GUNGAL NSW 2333

Dear Kathie,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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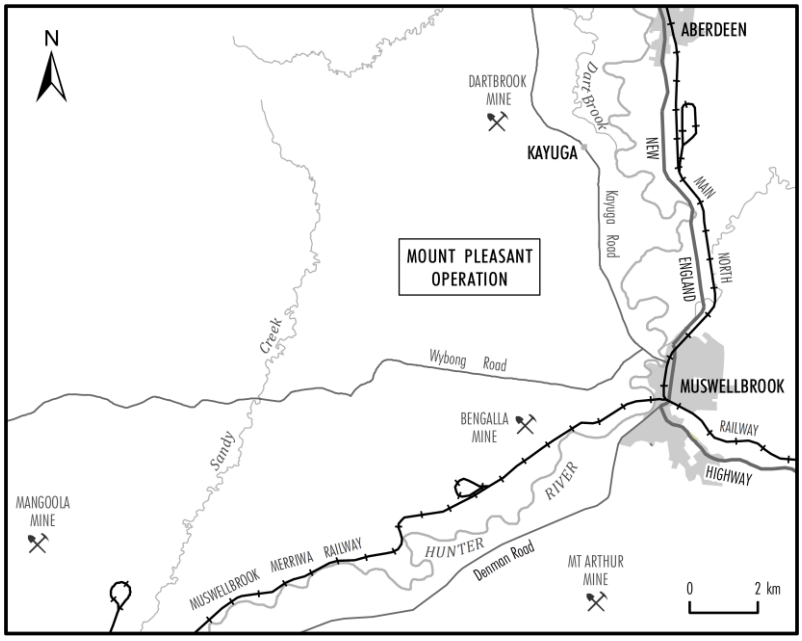

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29 May 2017

HECMO Consultants
Kerren Boyd
Lot 136 Main Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kerren,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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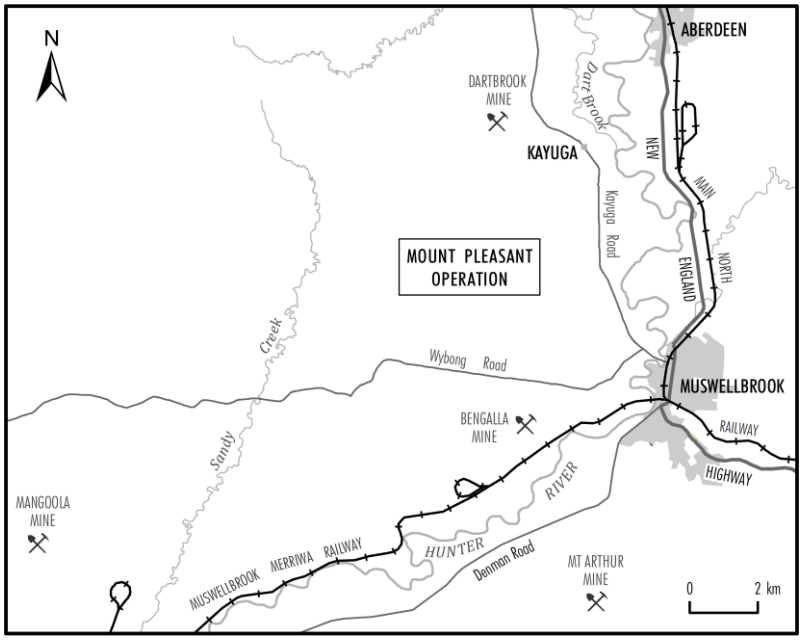

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29 May 2017

Bawurra Consultants
Kevin Sampson
1 Martin Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kevin,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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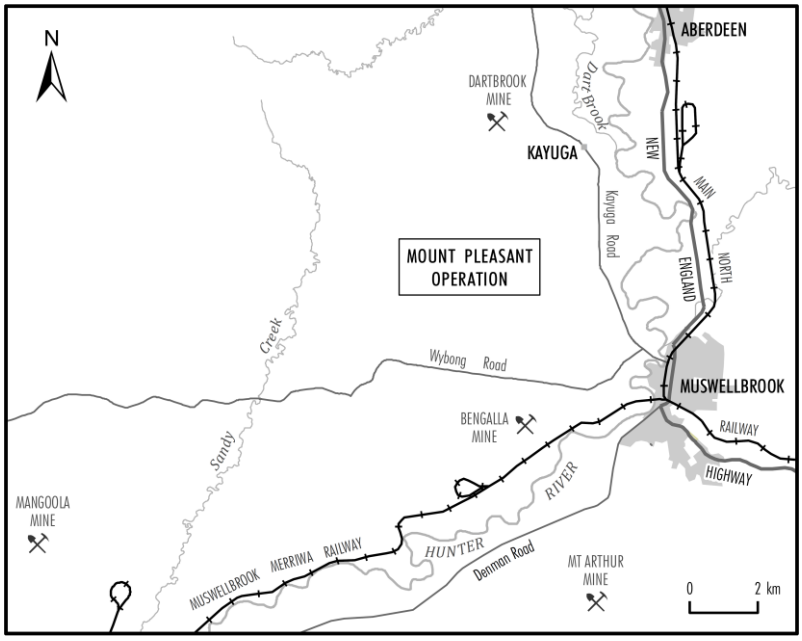

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29 May 2017

Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Kristen Kerr
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Kristen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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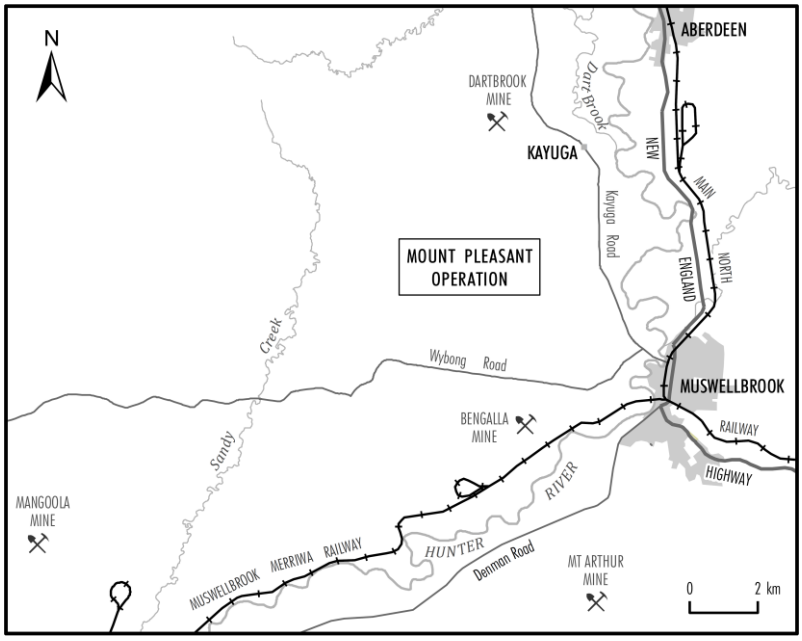

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29 May 2017

KL.KG Saunders Trading Services
Krystal Saunders
20 Ruderford Road
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Krystal,

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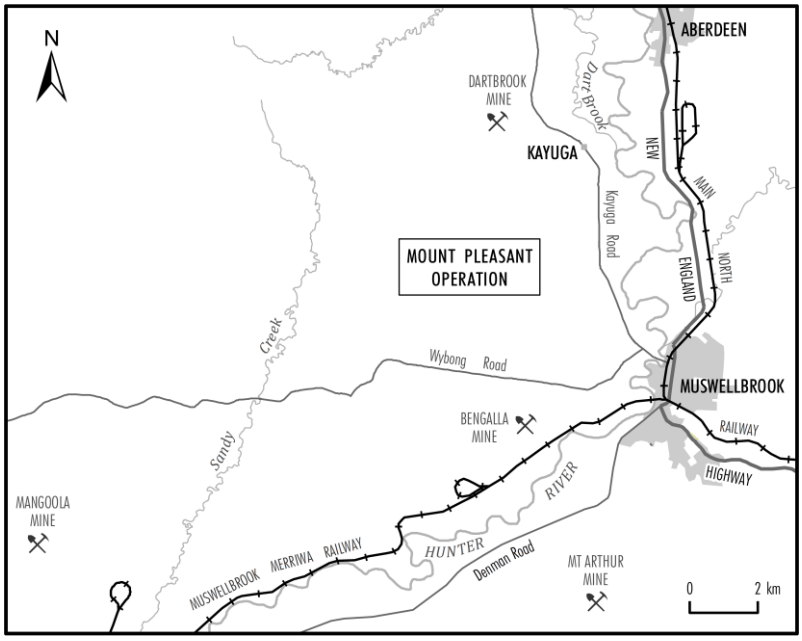

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29 May 2017

Valley Culture
Larry van Vliet
140 Sydney Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Larry,

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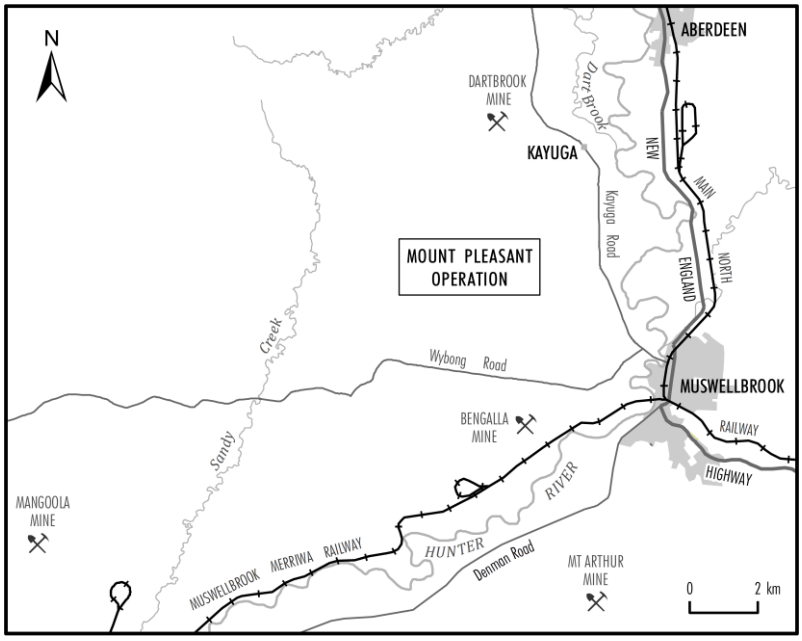

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29 May 2017

Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation
Laurie Perry
PO Box 3066
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Laurie,

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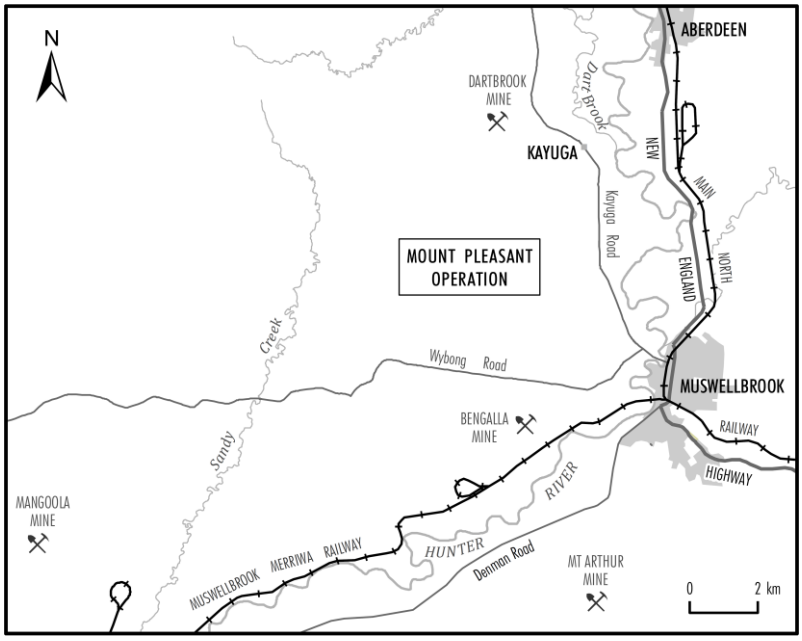

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29 May 2017

Jarban & Mugrebea
Les Atkinson
11 Nelson Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Les,

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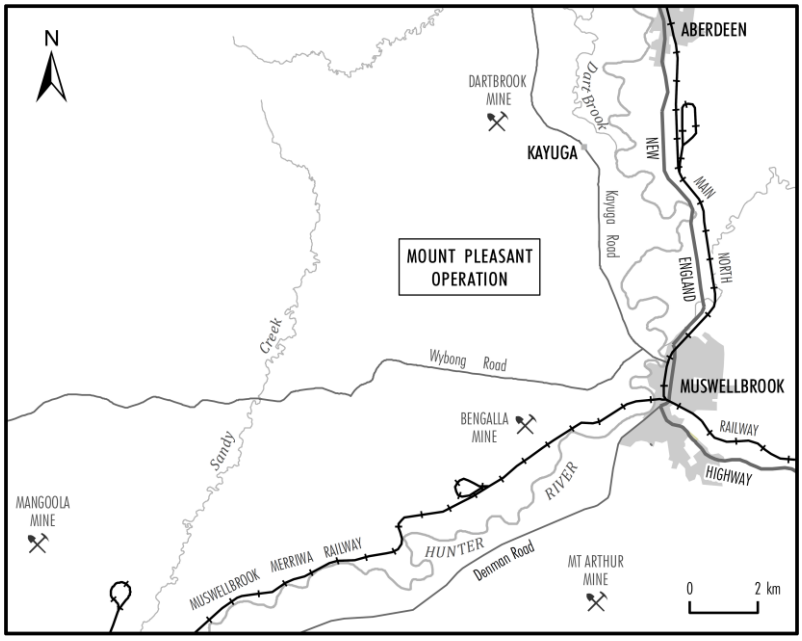

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29 May 2017

L.J Culture Management
Les Field
4 Hinton Drive
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Les,

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
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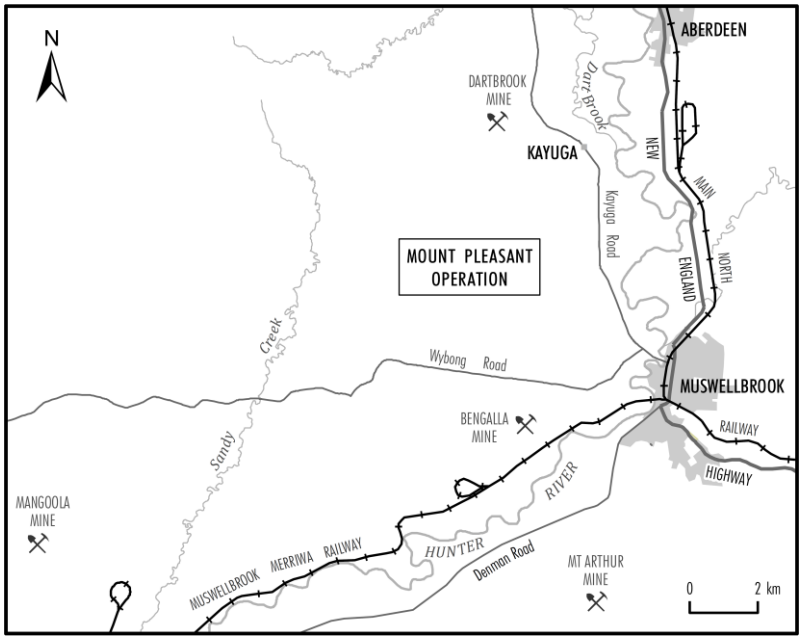
Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



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29 May 2017

Luke Cameron Cultural Management
Luke Cameron
28 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Luke,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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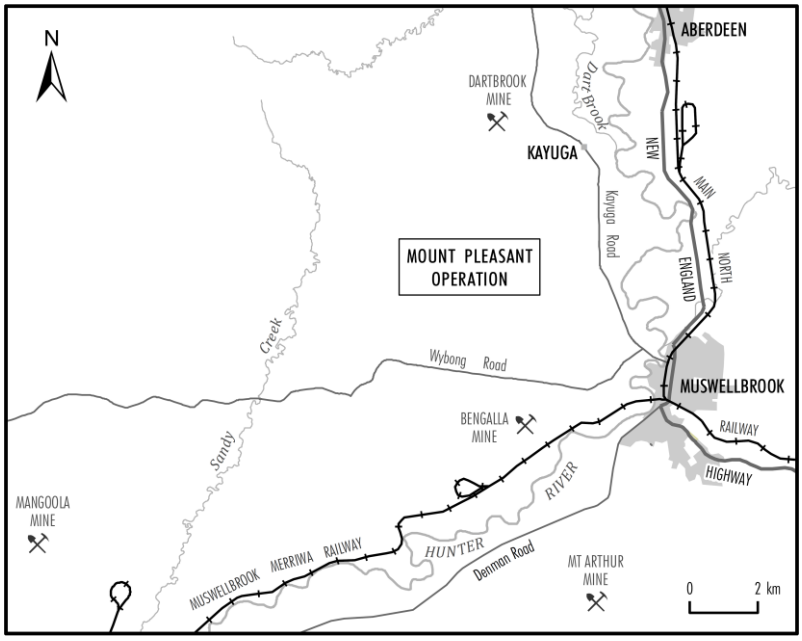

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29 May 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying
Luke Hickey
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Luke,

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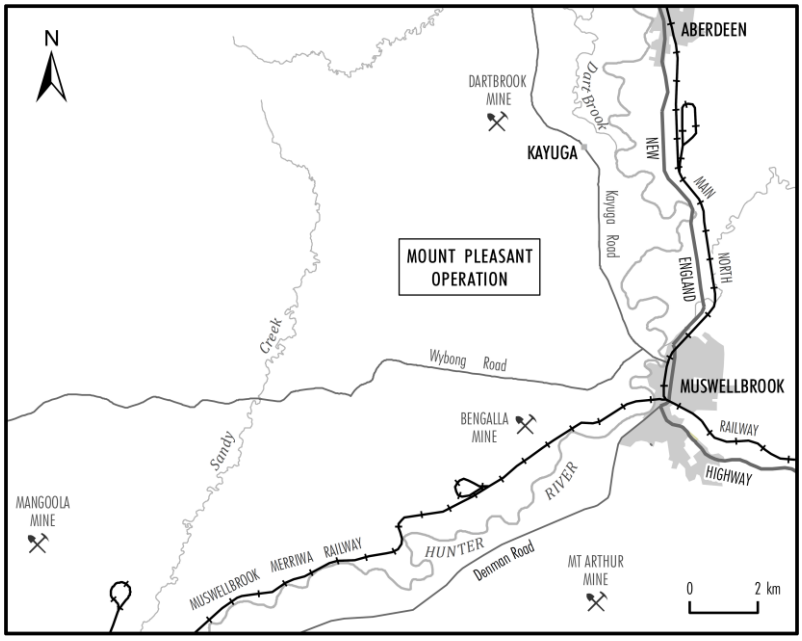

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29 May 2017

Wallangan Cultural Services
Maree Waugh
29 Anzac Avenue
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Maree,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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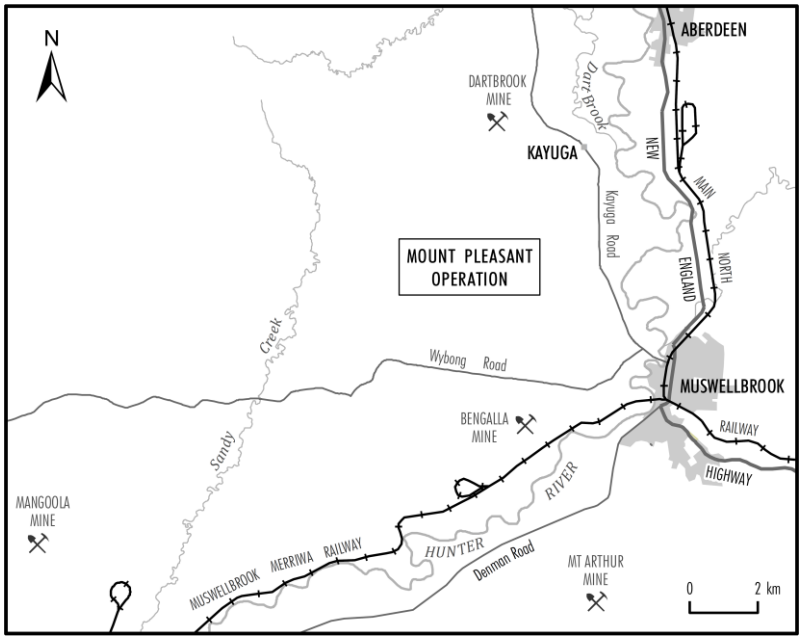

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29 May 2017

Wanaruah Aboriginal Custodians Corporation
Maria Stocks
10 Tulloch Close
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Maria,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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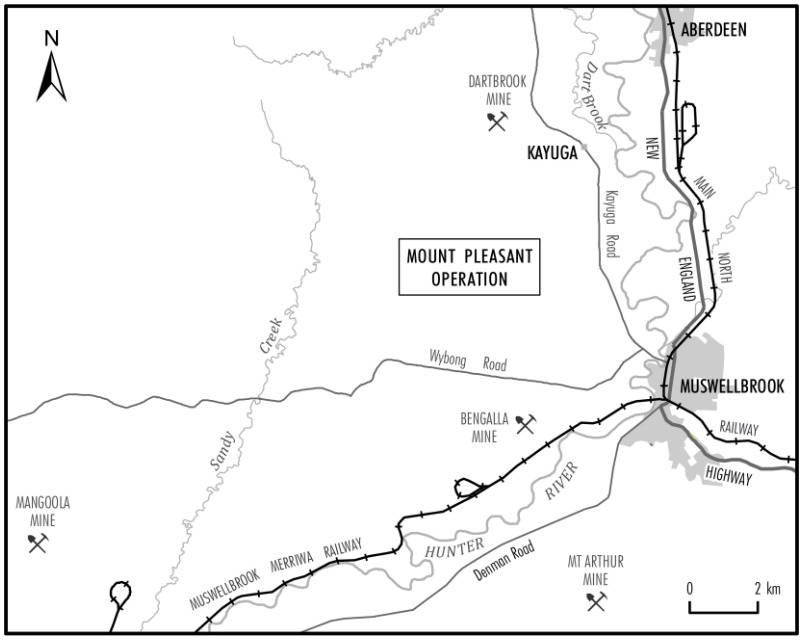

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29 May 2017

ME Griffiths Cultural Management
Marie-Ellen Griffiths
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Marie-Ellen,

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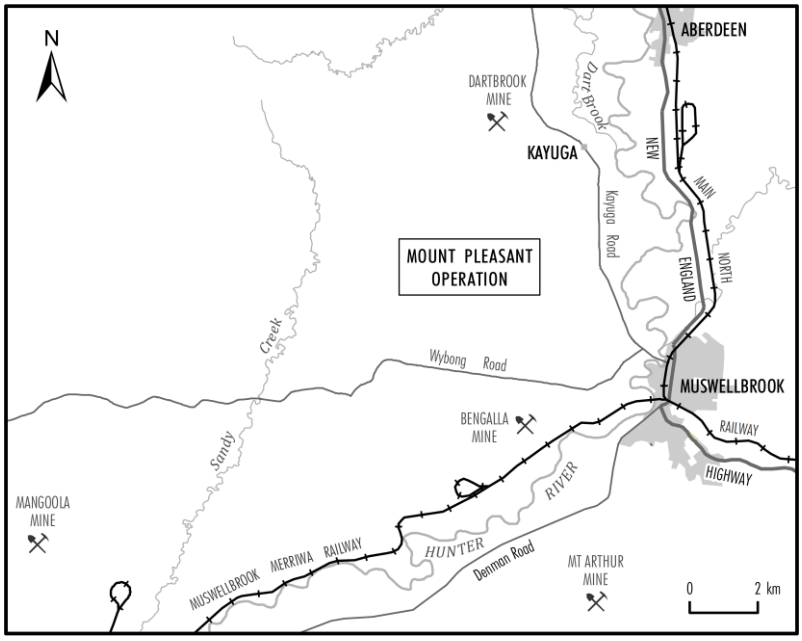

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29 May 2017

Kayaway Eco-Cultural and Heritage Services
Mark Hickey
6/22 Government Street
THORNTON NSW 2322

Dear Mark,

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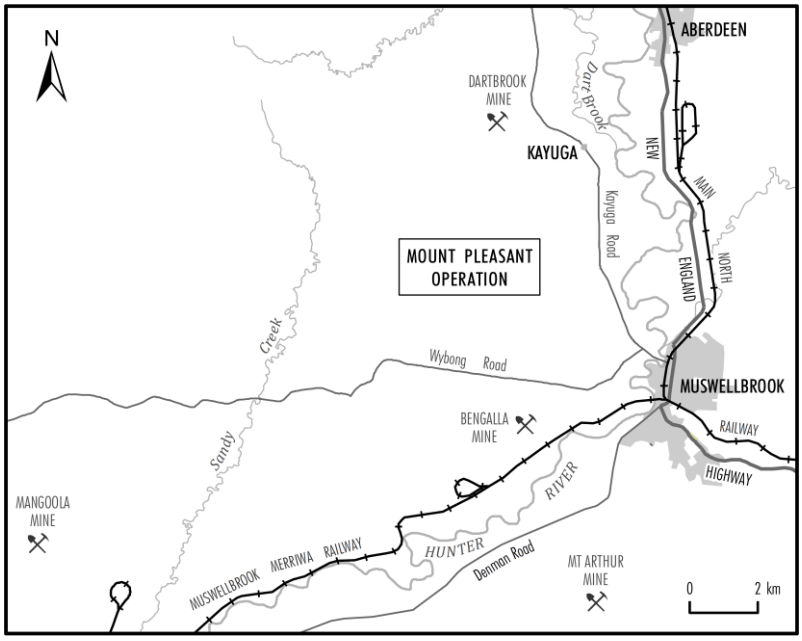

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29 May 2017

Marvonia Welsh
1 Yabsley Avenue
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

Dear Marvonia,

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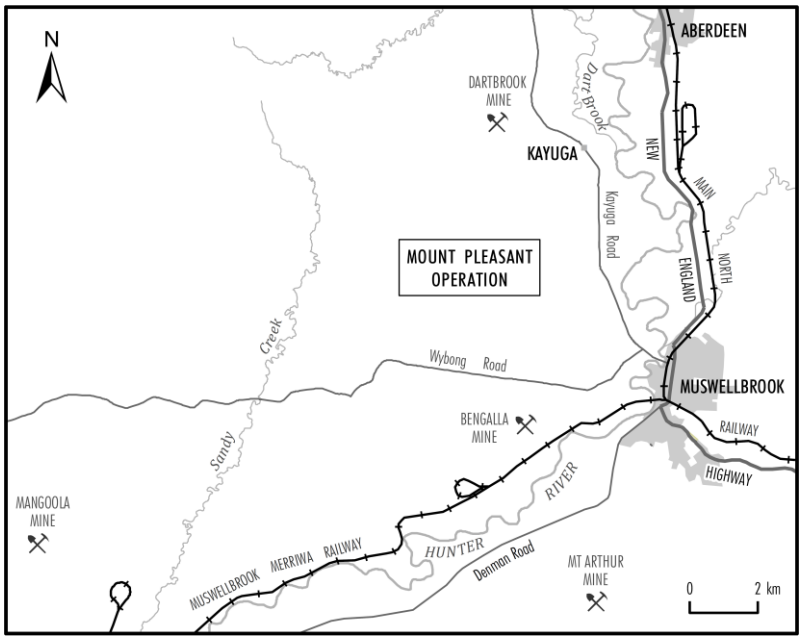

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29 May 2017

Michele Stair
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Michele,

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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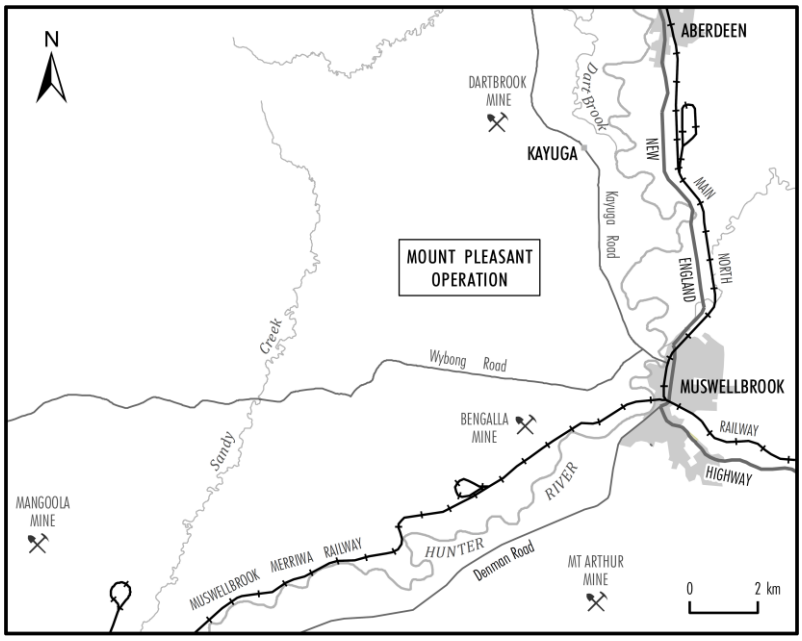

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

29 May 2017

Jumbunna Traffic Management Group Pty Ltd
Norm Archibald
17 Flowburn Avenue
WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Dear Norm,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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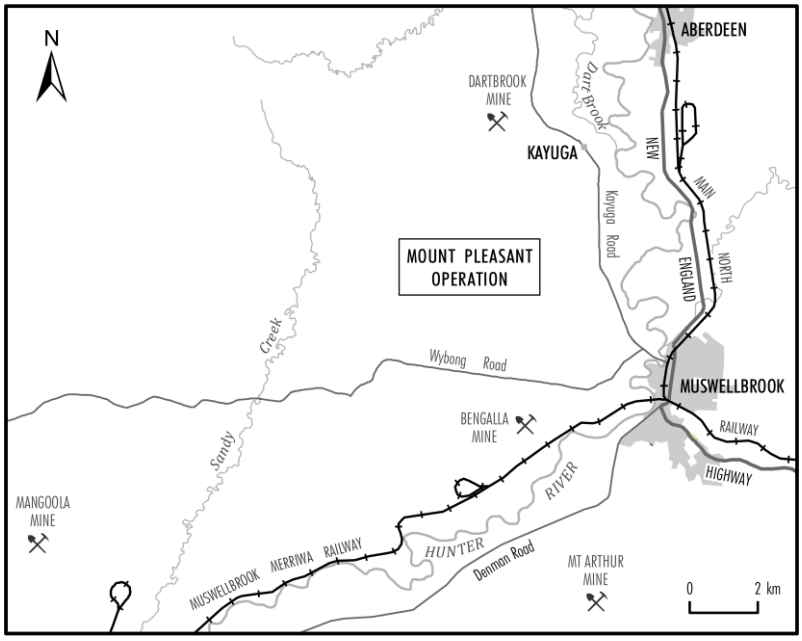

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29 May 2017

HTO Environmental Management Services
Paulette Ryan
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Paulette,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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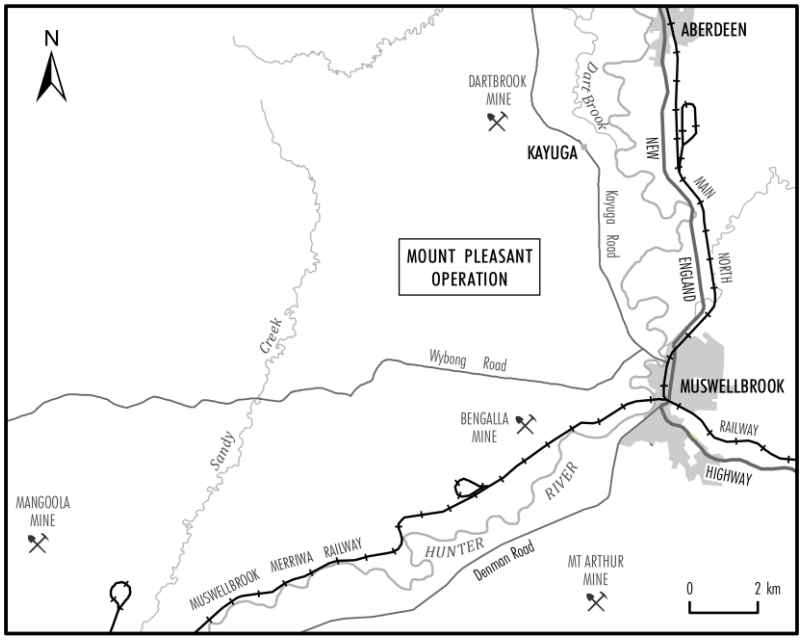

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29 May 2017

Wonnarua Culture and Heritage
Rebecca Lester
20 Regent Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Rebecca,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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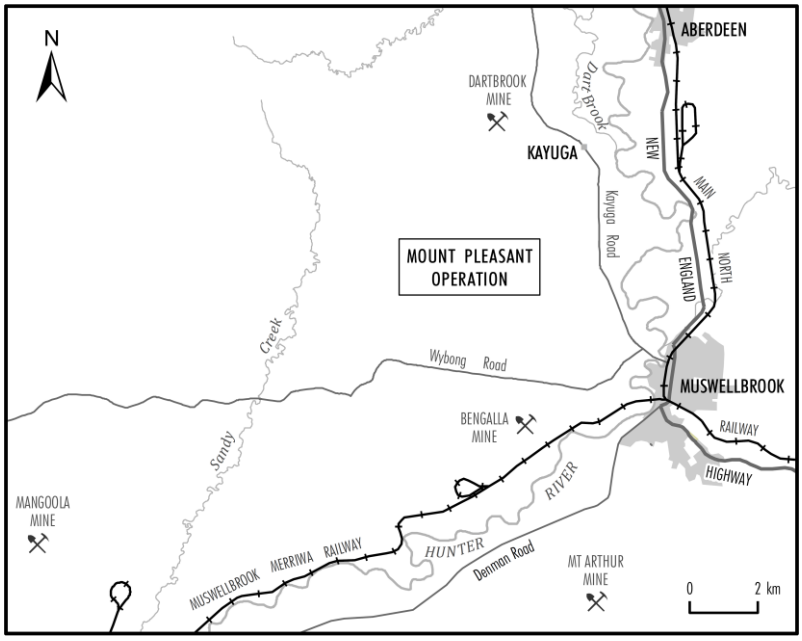

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29 May 2017

Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council Incorporated
Rhoda Perry
PO Box 184
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhoda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Yours sincerely,

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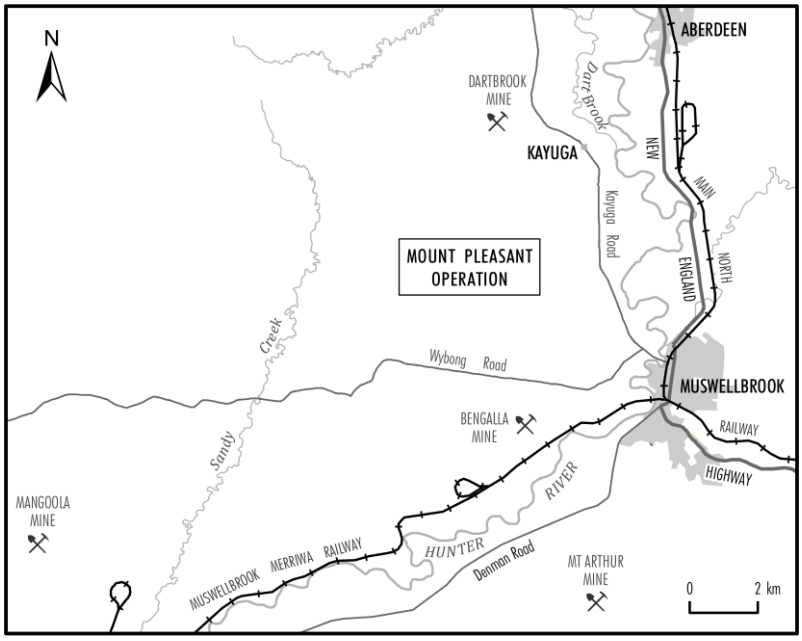

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29 May 2017

Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation
Rhonda Griffiths
PO Box 579
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rhonda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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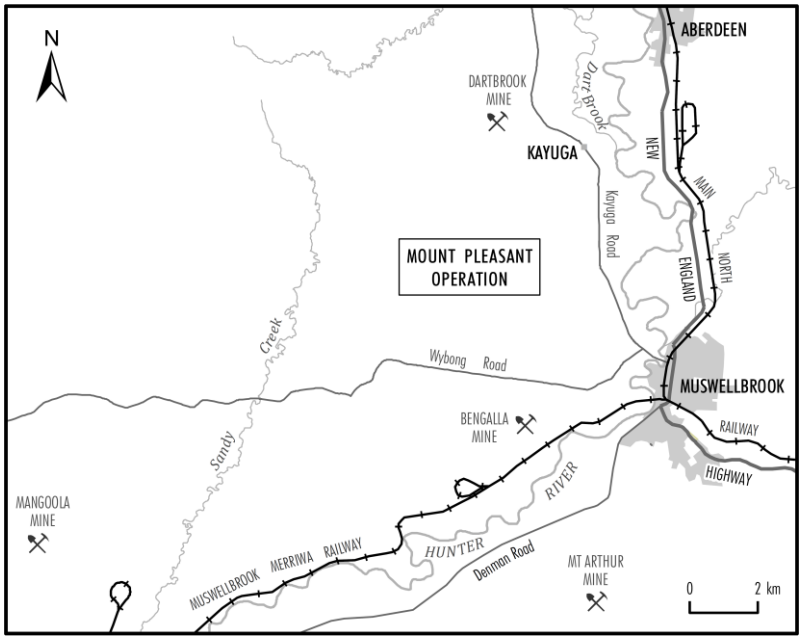

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29 May 2017

Ungooroo Cultural & Community Services Inc
Rhonda Ward
8 Blaxland Avenue
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhonda,

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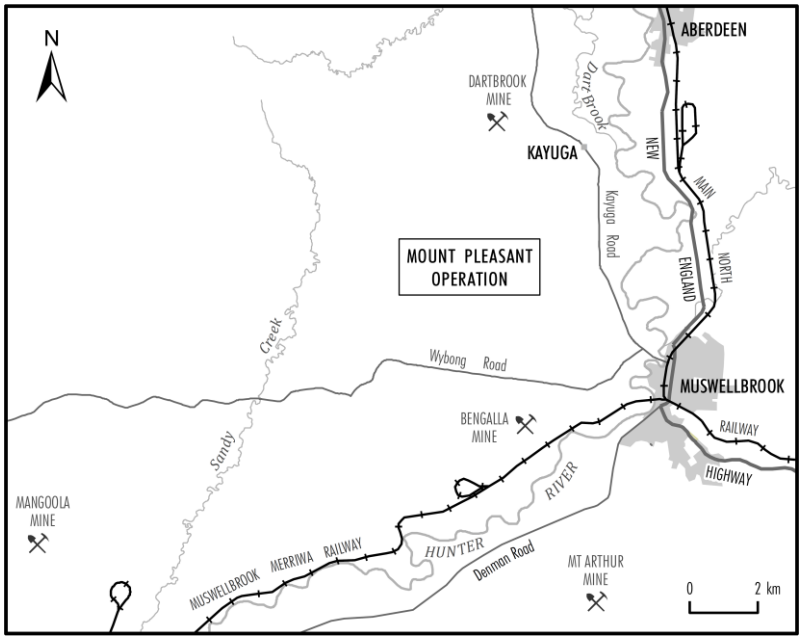

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29 May 2017

Hunter Valley Traditional Owner Environmental Management Services
Rick Coles
PO Box 1042
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rick,

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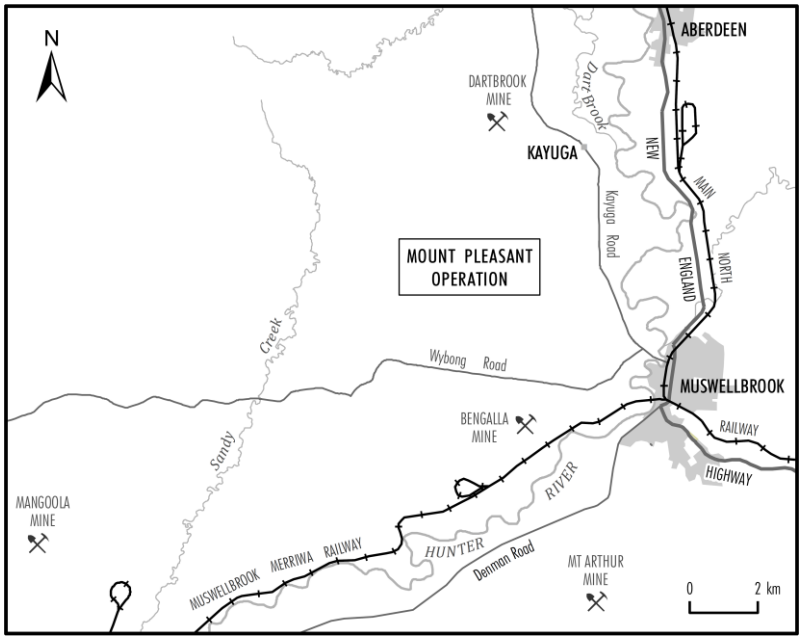

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29 May 2017

Murrawan Cultural Consultants
Robert Smith
33 Clift Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Robert,

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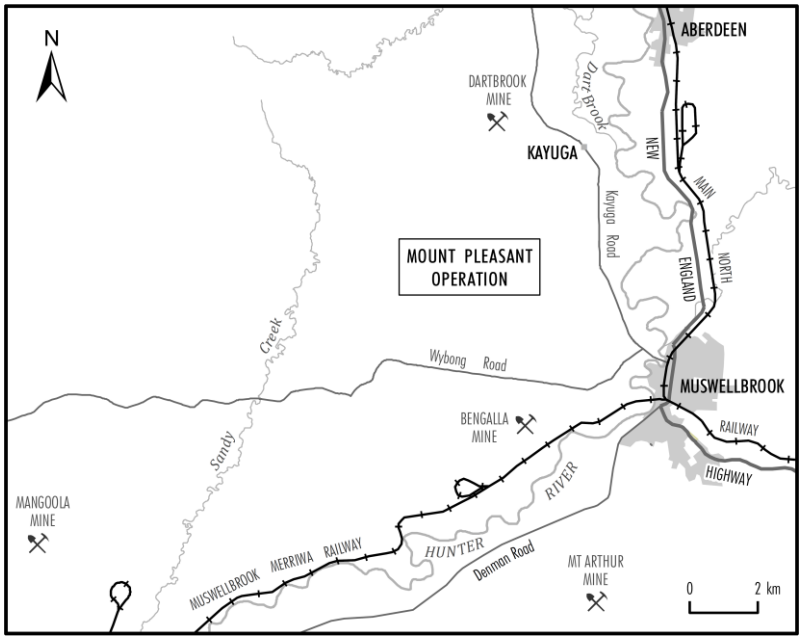

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29 May 2017

Kawul Cultural Services
Rodney Hickey
33 Gardner Circuit
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rodney,

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
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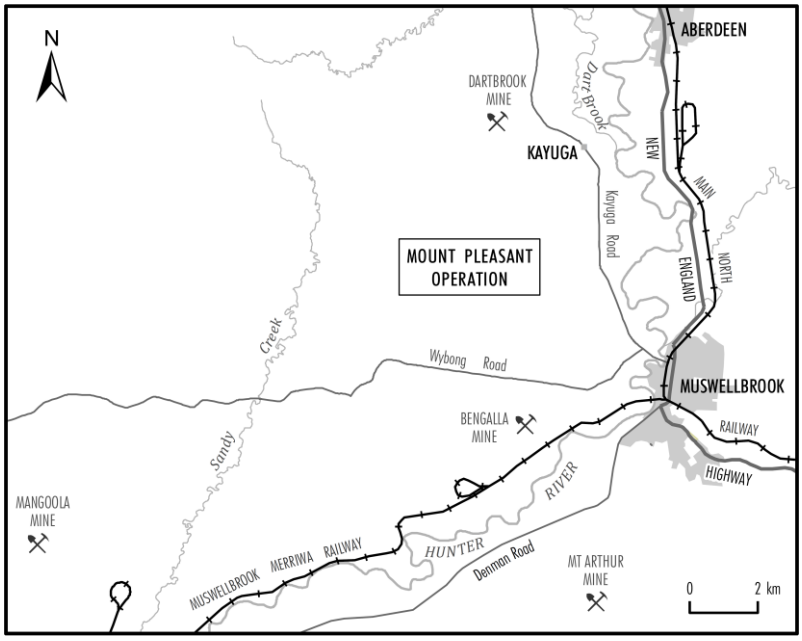
Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



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29 May 2017

Giwiirr Consultants
Rodney Matthews
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rodney,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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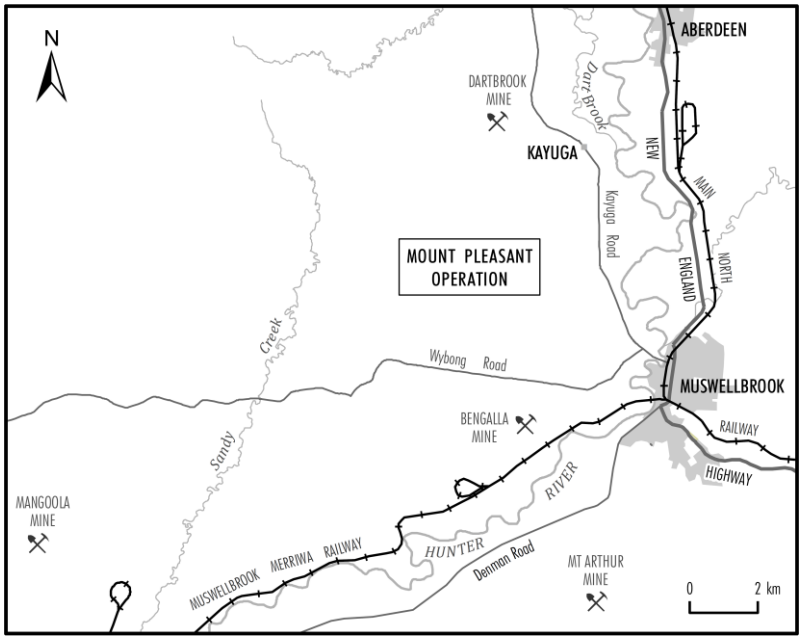

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29 May 2017

Roger Noel Matthews
3 Nowland Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Roger,

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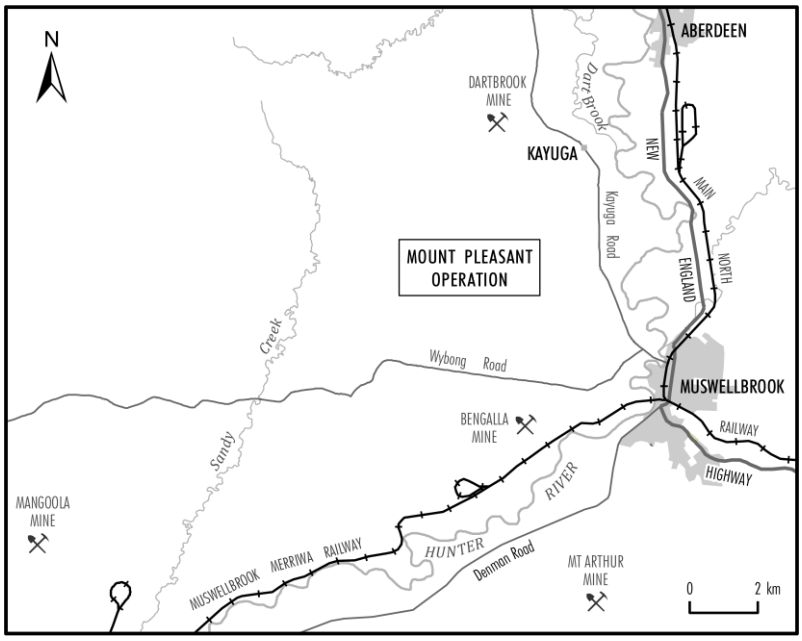

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29 May 2017

Tocomwall Pty Ltd
Scott Franks
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott,

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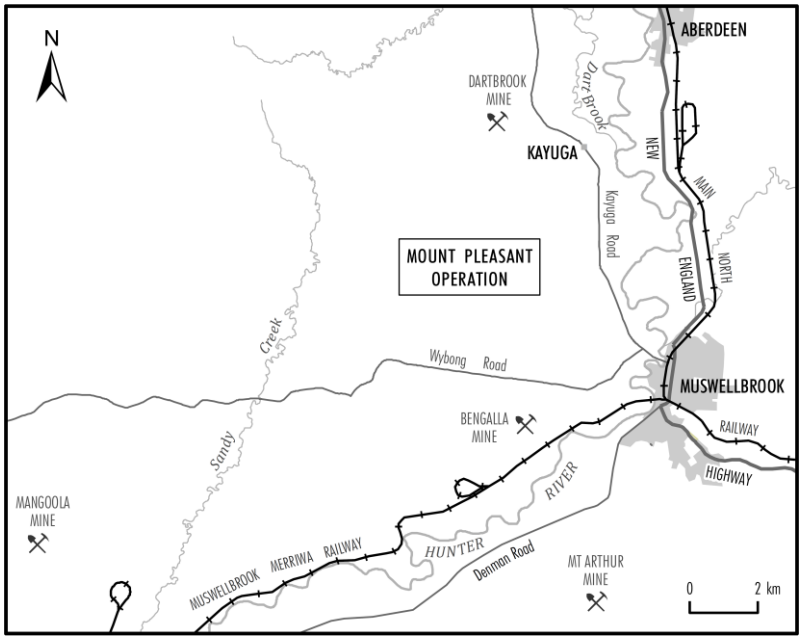

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29 May 2017

Plains Clans of the Wonnarua People Registered Native Title Claim
Scott Franks & Robert Lester
C/- Tocomwall Pty Ltd
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott and Robert,

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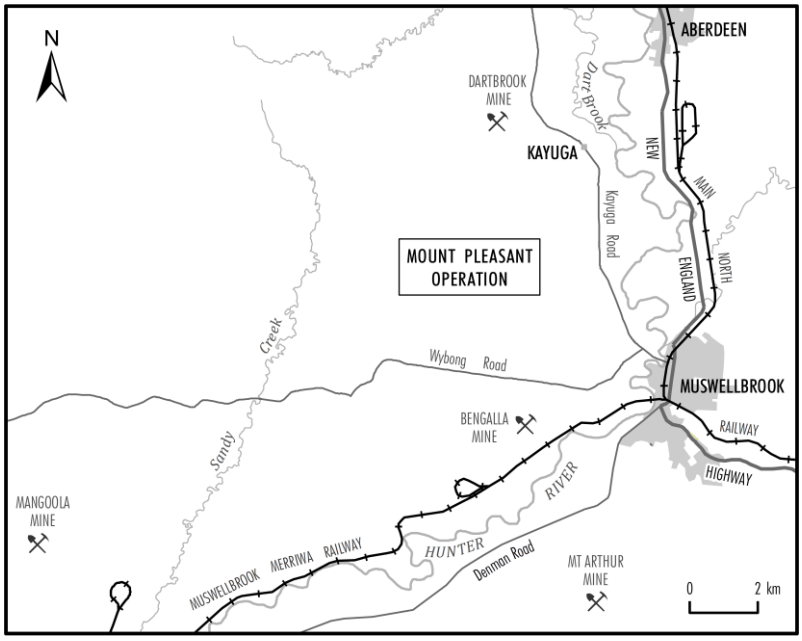

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29 May 2017

Gomeroi Namoi Traditional Owners
Stephen Talbott
73 Kiah Road
GILLIESTON HEIGHTS NSW 2321

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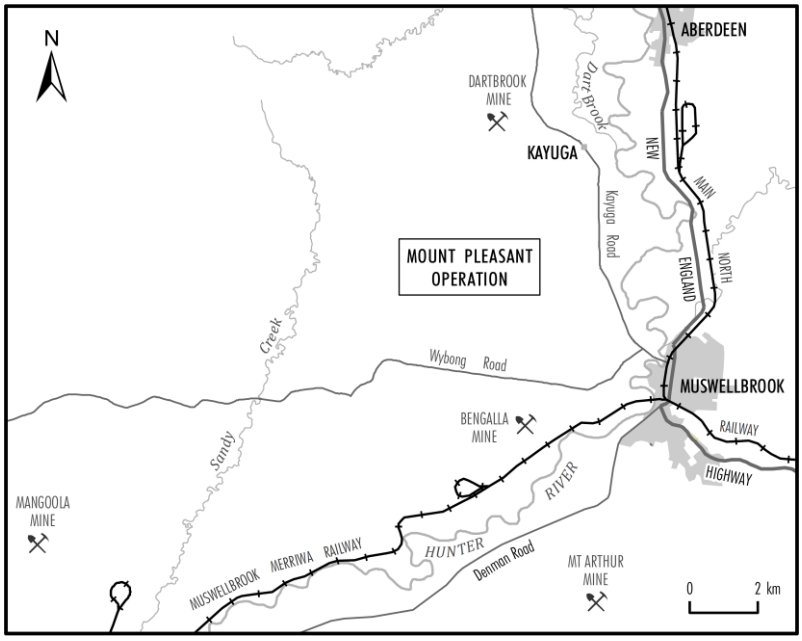

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29 May 2017

Widescope Indigenous Group Pty Ltd
Steven Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Steven,

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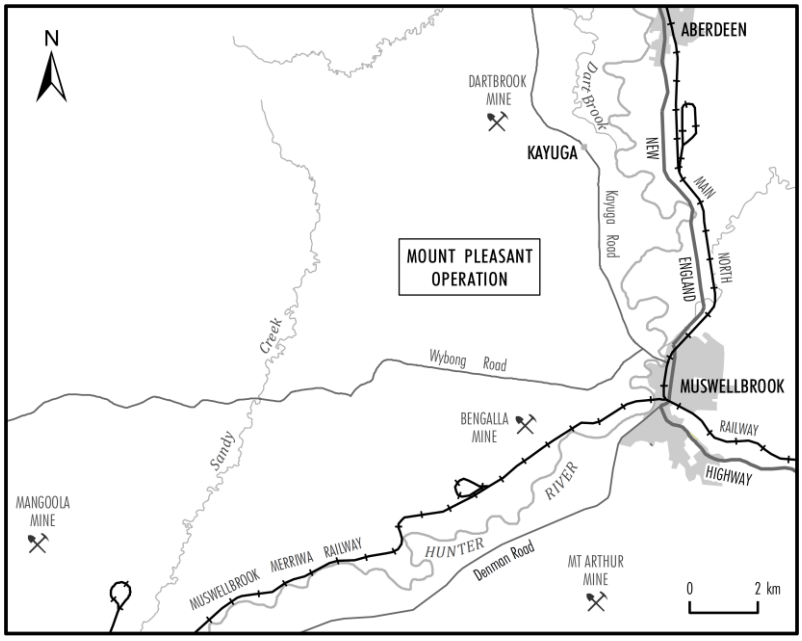

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29 May 2017

Moreeites
Susan Cutmore
11/97 Brook Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

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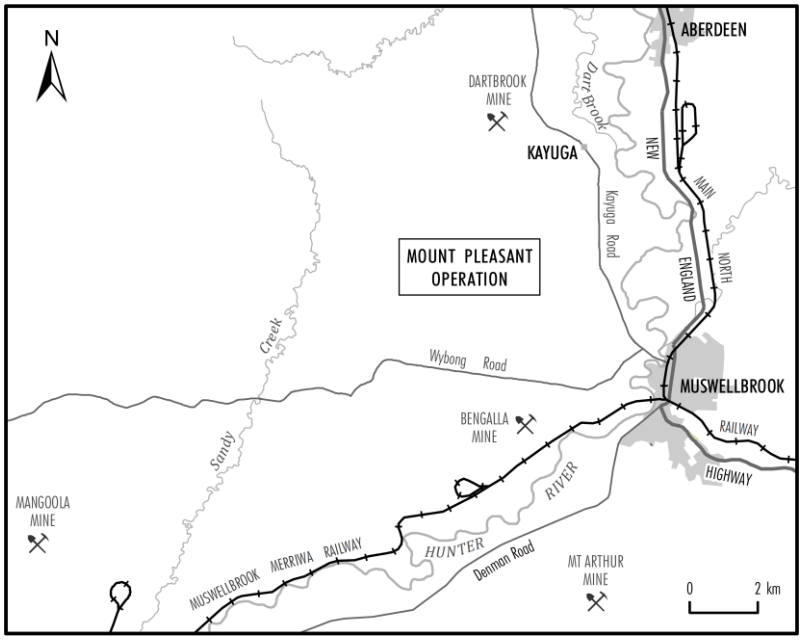

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29 May 2017

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council
Suzie Worth & Noel Downs
PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Suzie and Noel,

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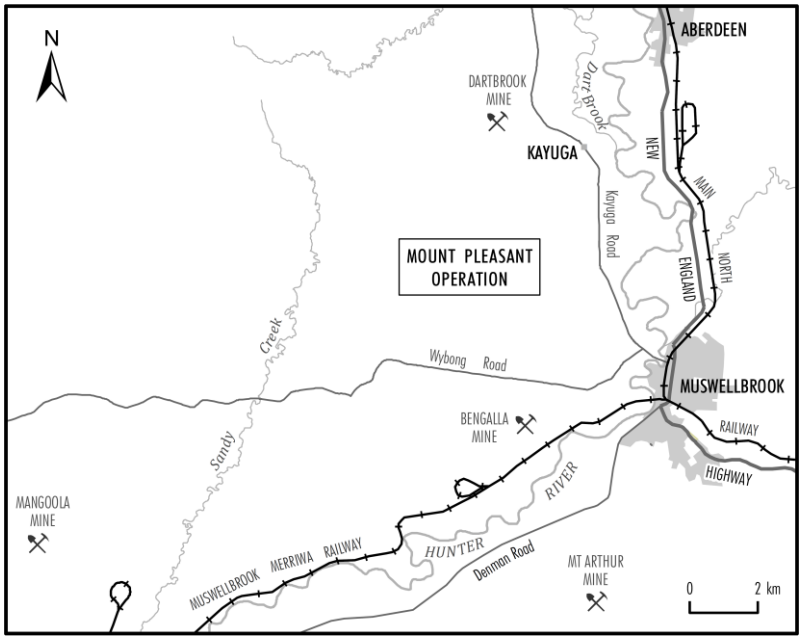

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

29 May 2017

Bunda Counsultants
Tammy Knox
23 Cunningham Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Tammy,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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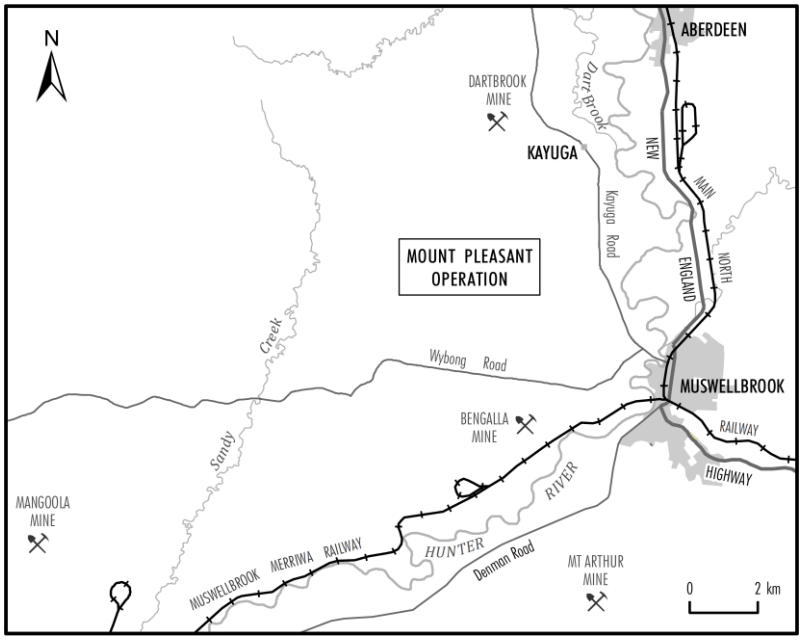

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29 May 2017

Breeza Plains Culture and Heritage Consultants
Terry Matthews
396 Armidale Road
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Terry,

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Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
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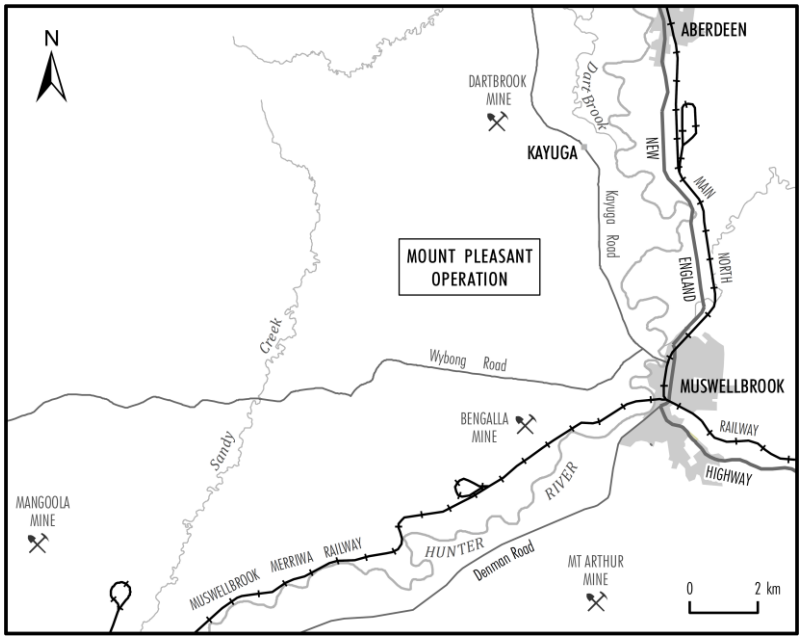

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29 May 2017

Smith Dhagaans Cultural Group
Timothy Smith
46 Springvale Circuit
CAMERON PARK NSW 2285

Dear Timothy,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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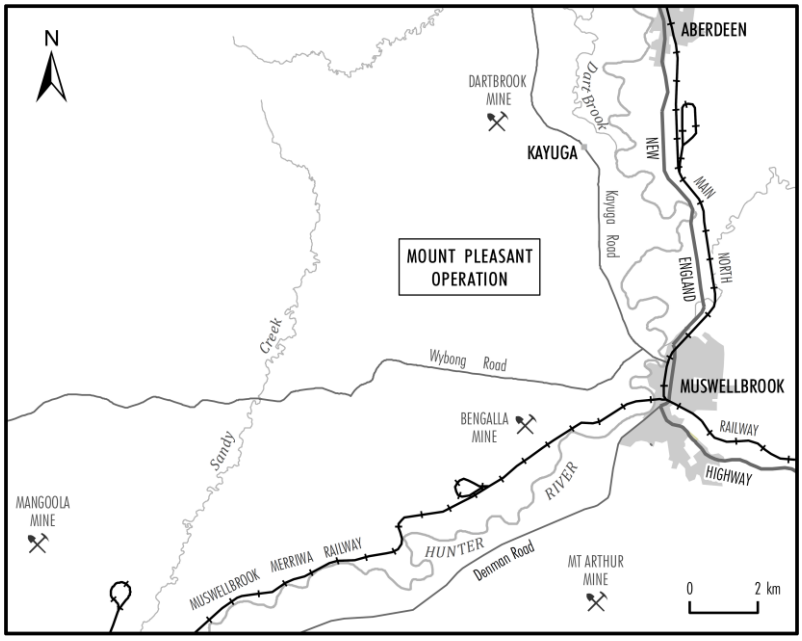

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29 May 2017

Lower Hunter Wonnarua Council Inc.
Tom Miller
51 Bowden Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Tom,

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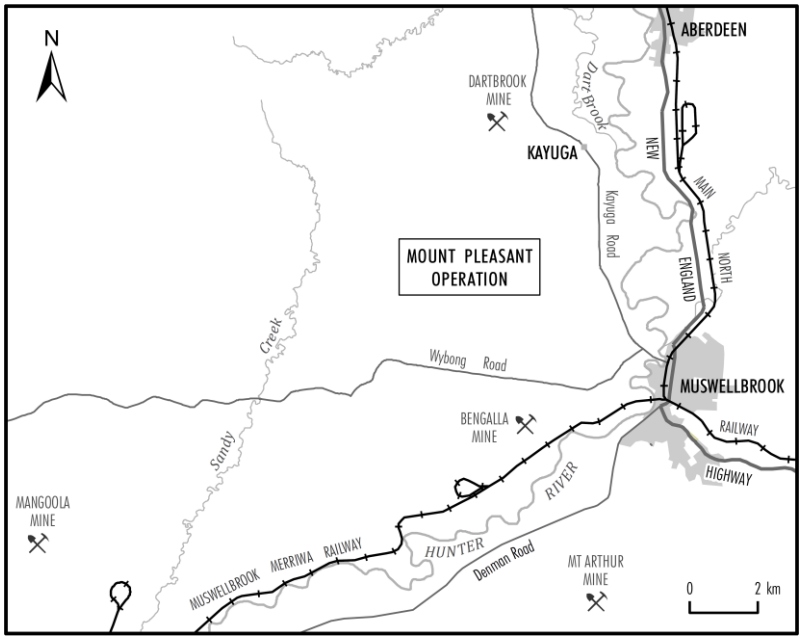

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29 May 2017

T & G Culture Consultants
Tony Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Tony,

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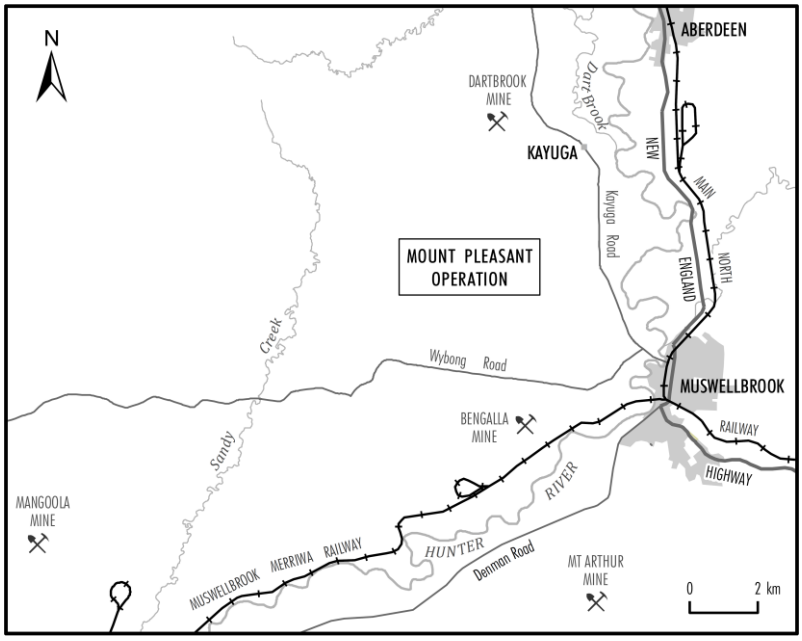

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29 May 2017

Culturally Aware
Tracey Skene
7 Crawford Place
MILLFIELD NSW 2325

Dear Tracey,

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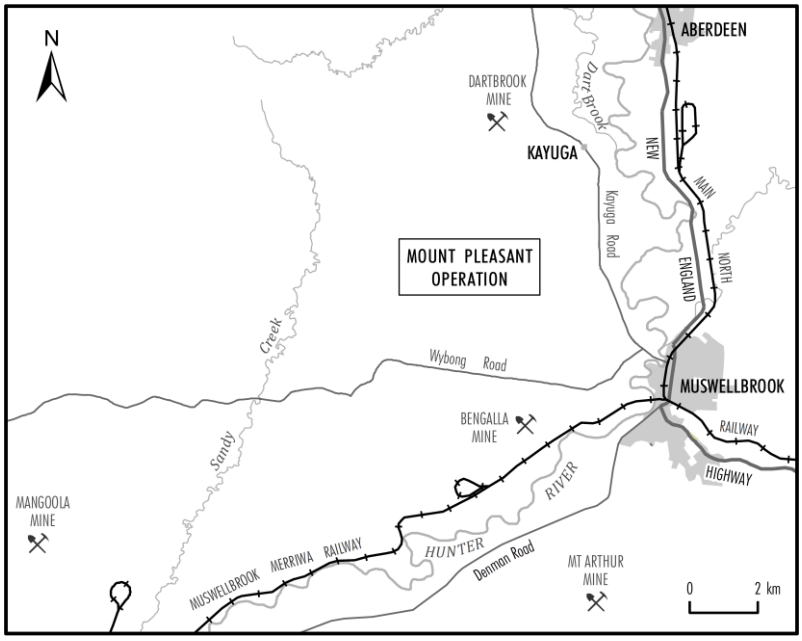

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29 May 2017

My Land Cultural Heritage
Warren Schillings
4 Wattle Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Warren,

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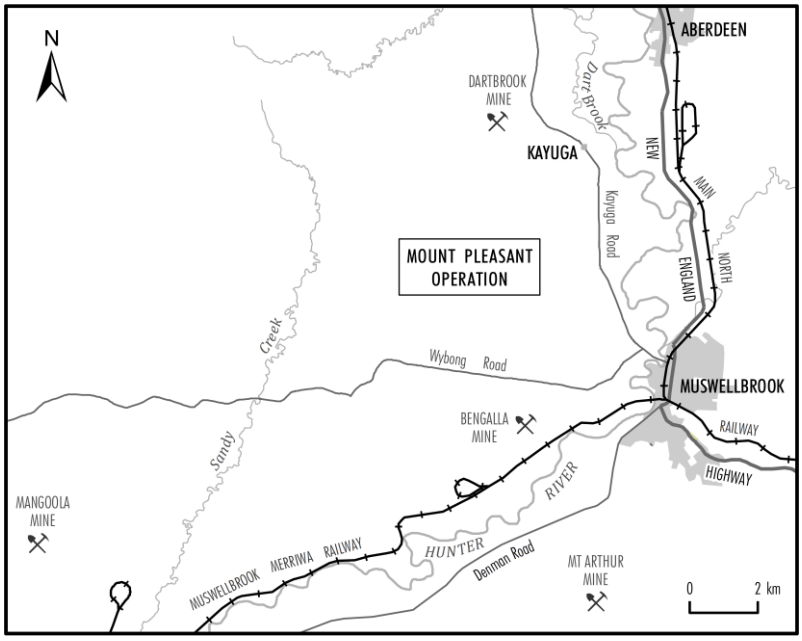

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29 May 2017

Warren Taggart
78 Castlereagh Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

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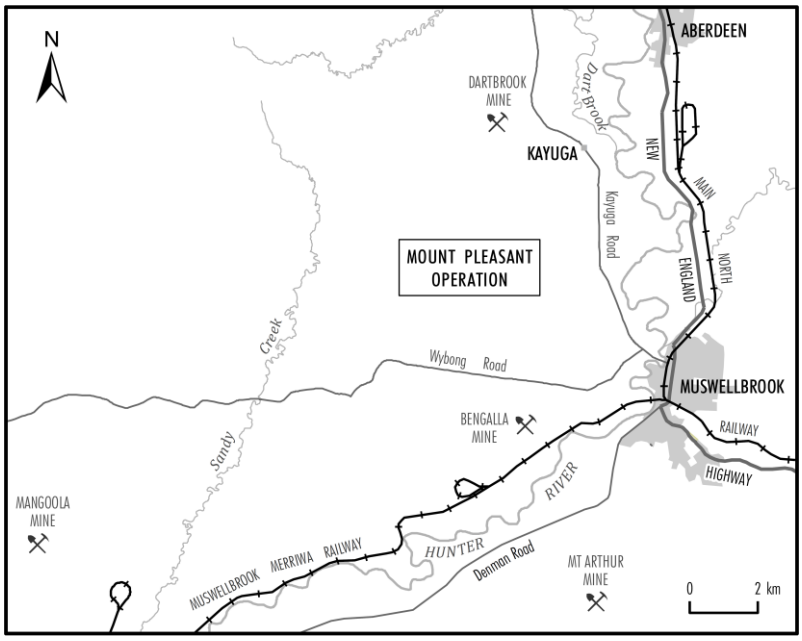

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29 May 2017

Bigundi Biame Traditional People
Wayne Griffiths
16 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

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- Contacting various government organisations and requesting a list of any Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the "Area of Interest".
- Writing to the Aboriginal persons or groups identified by the above process to notify them of the Mount Pleasant Operation and invite them to register an interest in the community consultation process.

- Placing a notice in a local newspaper and inviting Aboriginal persons or groups to register an interest in the community consultation process.

Due to your previous involvement at the Mount Pleasant Operation, you have been automatically registered for the consultation process. <u>You do not need to contact MACH Energy to re-register.</u>

MACH Energy advises that the details of any Aboriginal person or group who registers an interest in the consultation process for the Mount Pleasant Operation will be forwarded to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and the Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council in accordance with Section 4.1.5. of the Consultation Guidelines, unless they specify that they do not want their details released.

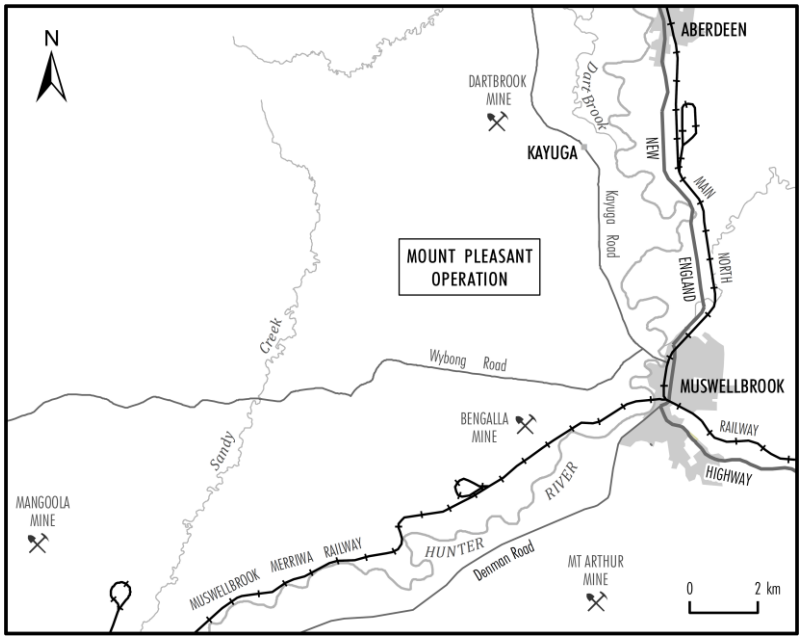
Should you have any queries regarding your registration, please do not hesitate to contact MACH Energy via the following contact details:

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



Subject: FW: Registraion / Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage

From: "Carolyn .H" <cazadirect@live.com>
Date: 3 July 2017 at 3:26:41 am GMT+1
To: "julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au" <julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au>
Subject: Registraion / Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage

A1 Indigenous Services

Contact: Carolyn
M: 0411650057
E: Cazadirect@live.com
A: 73 Russell St, Emu Plains NSW 2750
ABN: 20 616 970 327

Amanda Hickey Cultural Services
Contact : Amanda Hickey
Address : 73 Russell Street, Emu Plains
Email ; amandahickey@live.com.au
Mobile : 0434 480 558
ABN : 498 242 132 40

Hi Julie ,
A1 Indigenous Services and **Amanda Hickey Cultural Services** would like to register for consultation and an field work for this project, We hold cultural knowledge of this area.
Insurances Attached.
Thank you
Carolyn Hickey
Amanda Hickey DeZwart

Subject: FW: MPO ACHA Correspondence - Amanda Howard

From: Amanda Howard <Amanda.Howard@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 27 June 2017 at 3:30:42 am GMT+2
To: Julie Fletcher <julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au>
Subject: RE: MPO ACHA Correspondence - Amanda Howard

Hi Julie

Just a quick email to let you know that I would be interested in registering so that I could be a part of the community consultation with Mach Energy, sorry for taking so long in replying to this email.

Thanks

Amanda Howard

Aboriginal Health Liaison Officer | **Upper Hunter Community Health**
The Cottage, Corner Brentwood and Brecht Street Muswellbrook
Tel (02) 6542 2760 | Fax (02) 6542 2001 | Mob 0408 663 243 |
Amanda.Howard@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au
www.health.nsw.gov.au

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Land that I work on. I would like to pay my respects to our Elders Past and Present and Future.

NSW GOVERNMENT Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying
165 Susan St Scone NSW 2337 Luke Hickey manager
Ph: 0435911820 email: microlith99@gmail.com
ABN: 9631450760

Date: 5th June 2017

To: MACH Energy
Ph: 1800886889
Email: Julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au

Attn: Tessa Bryant Heritage Advisor

Re: Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

Dear Julie

Please register my group in this cultural & heritage project we wish to have an active involvement in the works and consultation.
My group have relevant cultural knowledge in the area of interest
Please call or email if you require any further information.

Regards

Luke Hickey
Manager

Aboriginal & Native Title Corporation Email: valleyelmcorp@bigpond.com
Ph: 0432977178 4 Kennedy St Singleton NSW 2330
ABN: 42289115689

Date: 5th June 2017

To: MACH Energy

Re: Mount Pleasant Operation-Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment.

Attn: Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au

Dear Julie

Please register our corporation and involvement in the above said project
Our corporation and members hold cultural knowledge relevant in the area of interest we have been involved in this project now for many years.
If you require any further information please call or email.

Regards

Des Hickey
Director & contact person

WARRABINGA

Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation

ICN: 2972 Incorporated in the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850
FAX: 02 4627 8633
EMAIL: info@warrabinga.com.au

1 June 2017

Ms Julie Fletcher
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
Via: Julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au

Ms Fletcher,

Re: Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment.

Please be advised Warrabinga NTCAC would like to register for the Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and be involved in all consultation, meetings and fieldwork.

All correspondence should be emailed to:
info@warrabinga.com.au or posted to the details above.

Kind regards,

Kristen Kerr

PUBLIC NOTICES

receive a letter indicating that in Dr Fergie's
on you can attend the AGM and you want to
d the AGM, you should attend.

process is being done in accordance with the
ctions provided to Dr Fergie unanimously at the
garla Community Meeting on 28 October 2016
· Resolution #1. Resolution #1 was passed 82 in
r, with 0 votes against and 0 abstainers.

TING DETAILS
23 June & 24 June 2017
: 10:30 am 23 June 2017 (registration)
tion: Westland Hotel Motel
/cDouall Stuart Avenue
lla Norrie SA 5608

se contact the below details to register your dance at the meeting

act:
a Sidhu
an Waterhouse Lawyers
u@normans.com.au
3210 1249

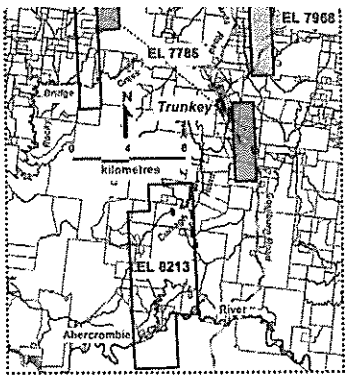
Minister for Resources. The licence holder has sought the Minister's consent to conduct prospecting activities.

Name and postal address of person by whom the act would be done

Minister for Resources, PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre, NSW 2310.

Notification Day

For the purposes of Section 29(4) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (C'th) the notification day is **14 June 2017**. Under Section 30 of that Act persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice.



How further information about the act can be obtained: Further information may be obtained from Jedda Hoffman; Titles Services, NSW Department of Planning and Environment, (02) 4931 6424.

National Native Title Tribunal

ıg the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court)
ow.

ns must write to the Registrar of the Federal
land, 4003 **on or before 13 September 2017.**
me a party is required.

mination of native title for a particular area.
a party to any of these applications, there may
rminations, to take into account those native title

Alex Davidson & Ors on behalf of the Kabi Kabi
n and State of Queensland

No: QUD908/2016

ember 2016

tatus: The Native Title Registrar has ***accepted*** registration.

pplication area covers about 719 sq km and
nately 19 km north of Brisbane.

eton Bay Regional Council and Brisbane City

Yuwaalaraay/Euahlayi People and State

No: QUD32/2017

ary 2017

tatus: The Native Title Registrar has ***accepted*** registration.

pplication area covers about 5483 sq km and
nately 17 km south of St George.

onne Shire Council

s, call Sylvia Jagtman on freecall 1800 640 501

0152SV

Mount Pleasant Operation
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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Contact details for registration are as follows. **Registrations must be made by 5.00pm AEST on Friday 16 June 2017.**

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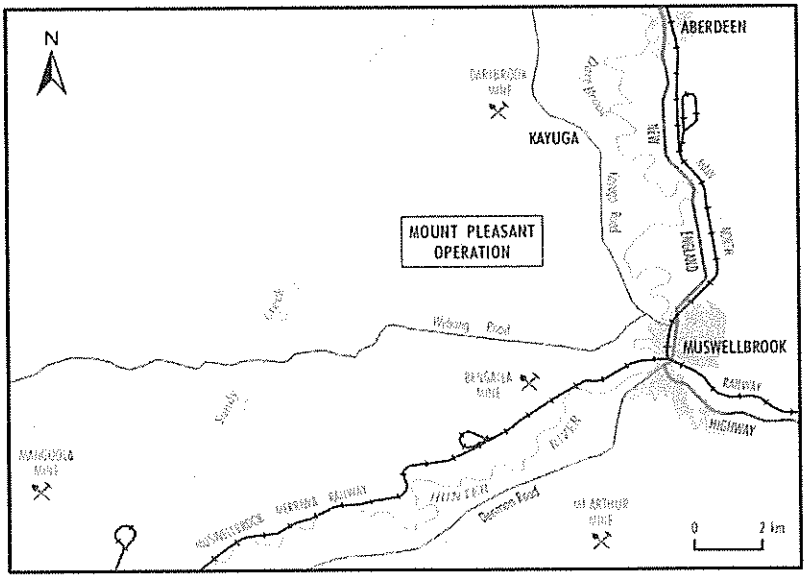
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889



The Singleton Argus **Connect with Classifieds** Phone: 02 6572 2611 Email: classifiedshunter@fairfaxmedia.com.au Fairfax Media

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
Temporary Road Closure

Liddell Coal Operations advises that the Old New England Hwy may be closed between 9:00am - 5:00pm from **Monday 5th June to Saturday 10th June 2017** for the purposes of blasting. The closure could be up to 20 minutes in duration. If weather conditions are unfavourable, blasting will be delayed.

For updated information on this blast or any other blasts at Liddell Coal Operations, please contact free call 1800 037 317.

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Public Notices

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Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

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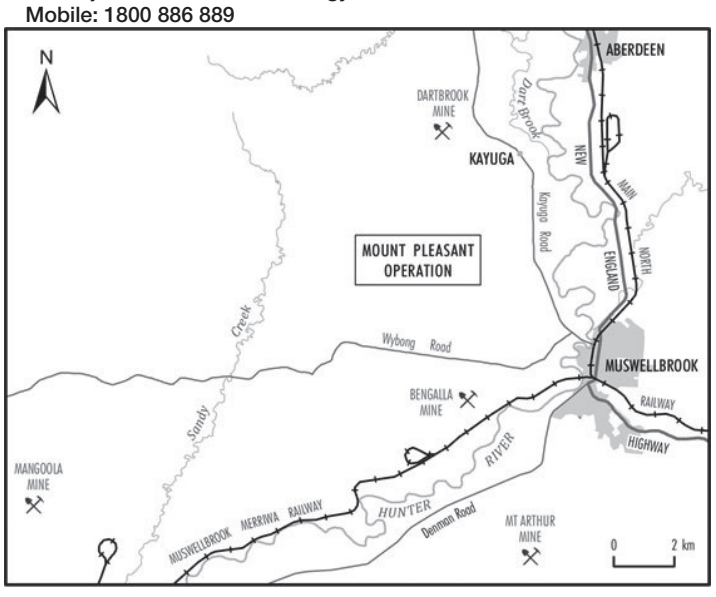

Public Notices

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Pentecost / Whitsuntide
Saturday 3rd June at 7.30pm

COAL & ALLIED
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PUBLIC NOTICE
For updated blast times please phone free call 1800 099 669.

Mount Thorley Warkworth wishes to advise of the following road closures on **Wednesday 31st May, Thursday 1st June, Friday 2nd June, Monday 5th June, Tuesday 6th June and Wednesday 7th June 2017**for the purposes of blasting. Closure will occur between 9am and 5pm depending upon weather conditions and will be for approximately 10 minutes.

Through traffic will not be possible while road closures are in place.

PUTTY ROAD will be closed between the Jerrys Plains Road and to a point 600m West of Charlton Road.

CHARLTON ROAD will be closed between Putty Road and Cobcroft Road.

WALLABY SCRUB ROAD will be closed between Putty Road and Jerrys Plains Road.

JERRYS PLAINS ROAD may be closed from Long Point Road to Wallaby Scrub Road.

If weather conditions are poor, blasting will be delayed until a day of suitable weather. Mount Thorley Warkworth apologises for any inconvenience caused.

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Duties will include tractor work, fencing, irrigation and general farm work.

A current Drivers licence is essential for all positions. Please ensure you state which position you are applying for.

Applications including a current Resume should be sent to recruit@coolmore.com.au

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There are 3 casual postions available with the potential to turn permanent after the probationary period.
You will be rostered on an attractive roster rotating day and night shifts.
The successful candidates will be remunerated with competitive rates that will reflect your experience.
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If you have any questions or would like to apply please forward your resume to mark.lennard@emlmaintenance.com or call Mark on 0417 275 911.

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The team at Hunter Admin have the local knowledge and connections to find the right person for the right job. Our recruitment staff have over 100 years' worth of experience in the industry specialising in all facets of administration. We talk the lingo employers and candidates understand and offer a flexible approach to staffing offering both labour hire and permanent recruitment solutions.
We urgently seek expressions of interest for the following positions as temporary assignments and permanent positions:

Administration Roles
- Trainees to advanced level skills
- Medical Receptionists

Accountants
- Bookkeeper to Senior Accountant

Stores persons
- Must have current forklift ticket

Purchasing Officer
- Must have negotiation skills

Maintenance Scheduler
- Accurate data entry skills and flexibility to work shifts

To express interest in any of the above positions in the first instance send resume and cover letter to:
Gerard Abrams
info@hunteradmin.com.au
www.hunteradmin.com.au
0498 007 696

Positions Vacant

COOLMORE AUSTRALIA

RELIEF NIGHT WATCH/FOALING ATTENDANT

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Interested candidates should send their application including CV to recruit@coolmore.com.au

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Our Positions Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.
Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only', training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.
Placing misleading ads is an offence against the Trade Practices Act and State/Territory Fair Trading Acts and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval.
For advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission or local consumer affairs agency.

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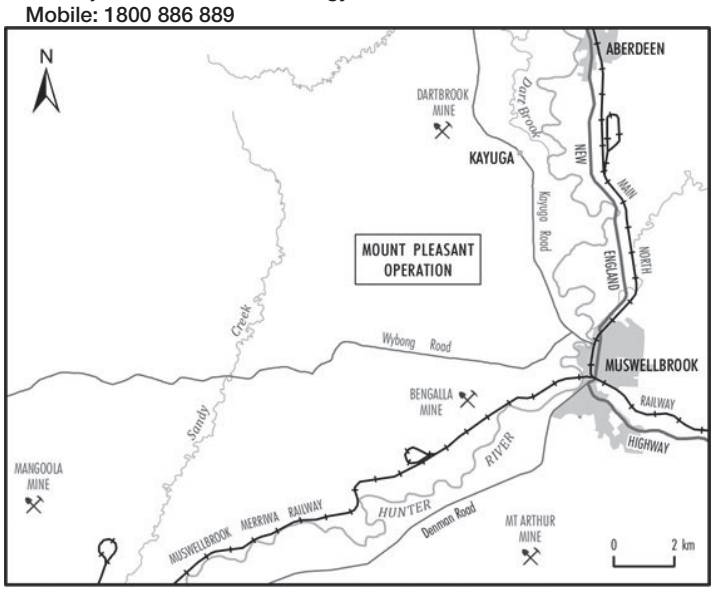

Public Notices

MANGOOLA OPEN CUT
GLENCORE

Public Notice
Road Closures Due to Blasting Activities - Wybong Road

Mangoola Coal Operations wish to advise that Wybong Road closures due to blasting activities may take place between:

Monday 5th June 2017 and Friday 9th June 2017

The road will be closed between west of the mine entrance road for up to 3kms west along Wybong Road. The road closure will occur between 10am and 2pm and be closed for 15 minutes but most likely between ~12:00pm and ~12:30pm. These times are subject to change depending on environmental conditions. Roadside signs will display the date and approximate time of each closure.

For further information, please contact our Blasting and Community Response Hotline:
1800 014 339

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Nick Birch
Nbirch75@gmail.com
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OEH AND LALC LETTERS

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

6 July 2017

Office of Environment and Heritage
Locked Bag 1002
DANGAR NSW 2309

Attention: Nicole Davis, Archaeologist – Planning

Dear Nicole,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the New South Wales (NSW) Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water [DECCW], 2010) a list of Registered Aboriginal Parties that registered an interest in the community consultation process with MACH Energy Pty Ltd for the Mount Pleasant Operation is provided in Enclosure A.

Copies of the notification letters sent to Aboriginal stakeholders and the public notice published in accordance with Section 4.1.6 of the OEH policy *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (DECCW, 2010) are provided in Enclosures B and C respectively.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager - Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

Enclosure A: *Registered Aboriginal Parties for the Mount Pleasant Operation*
Enclosure B: *Correspondence sent to Aboriginal Stakeholders*
Enclosure C: *Public Notice*

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6 July 2017

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Attention: Noel Downs, CEO

Dear Noel,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the New South Wales (NSW) Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water [DECCW], 2010) a list of Registered Aboriginal Parties that registered an interest in the community consultation process with MACH Energy Pty Ltd for the Mount Pleasant Operation is provided in Enclosure A.

Copies of the notification letters sent to Aboriginal stakeholders and the public notice published in accordance with Section 4.1.6 of the OEH policy *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (DECCW, 2010) are provided in Enclosures B and C respectively.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager - Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

Enclosure A: *Registered Aboriginal Parties for the Mount Pleasant Operation*
Enclosure B: *Correspondence sent to Aboriginal Stakeholders*
Enclosure C: *Public Notice*

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY CORRESPONDENCE

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

AGA Services
Adam Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear Adam,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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If you wish to provide input on the following, please make a submission to MACH Energy (via the contact details provided at the end of this letter) by **5:00pm Wednesday 11 October 2017**:

- The nature of the Proposed Methodology.
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MACH Energy would appreciate any comments you would like to make on the enclosed Proposed Methodology by 5:00pm Wednesday 11 October 2017. Please provide any comments via the following contact details:

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

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Mount Pleasant Operation

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8 September 2017

Aliera French Trading
Aliera French
12 Haydon Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Aliera,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Yours sincerely,

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Mount Pleasant Operation

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8 September 2017

Buda Mada Koori Womens Aboriginal Corporation
Alison Howlett
PO Box 3011
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Alison,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Yours sincerely,

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Mount Pleasant Operation

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8 September 2017

Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation
Allen Paget
PO Box 3095
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Allen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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8 September 2017

Amanda Hickey Cultural Services
Amanda Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Amanda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Yours sincerely,

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Mount Pleasant Operation

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8 September 2017

Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy
Anne Hickey
76 Lang Street
KURRI KURRI NSW 2327

Dear Anne,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Wonnarua Elders Council Inc.
Arthur Fletcher
PO Box 844
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Arthur,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Kauwul (Wonn 1)
Arthur Fletcher
619 Main Road
GLENDALE NSW 2285

Dear Arthur,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Barry & Colleen Stair
8 Acacia Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Barry & Colleen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Lower Wonnarua Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd
Barry Anderson
156 Inlet Road
BULGA NSW 2330

Dear Barry,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Yarrawalk Enterprises
Barry McTaggart
913 Wollombi Road
BROKE NSW 2330

Dear Barry,

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

BJC Cultural Management
Ben Cameron
11 Stanley Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Ben,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Muswellbrook Culture Consultants
Brian Horton
10 Scott Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Brian,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Chantae Griffiths
14 Westerweller Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Chantae,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Consultants
Christine Archbold
13 Bimbadeen Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Christine,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Clifford Johnson
77 Tobruk Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Clifford,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Mingga Consultants
Clifford Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Clifford,

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8 September 2017

Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants
Darrel Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Darrel,

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8 September 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated
David Ahoy
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear David,

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8 September 2017

Upper Hunter Natural and Cultural Resources Management
David French
Flat 3, 60 Tindale Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear David,

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8 September 2017

Gomery Cultural Consultants
David Horton
10 Scott Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

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8 September 2017

Divine Diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants
Deidre Perkins
6 Ashleigh Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Deidre,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

DFTV Enterprises
Derrick Vale Sr
5 Mountbatten Close
RUTHERFORD NSW 2320

Dear Derrick,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Wattaka Wonnarua Cultural Consultants Service
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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8 September 2017

Wonnarua Traditional Custodians
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

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8 September 2017

Deslee Talbot Consultant
Deslee Matthews
2/19 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Deslee,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Waabi Gabinya Cultural Consultancy
Elizabeth Howard
19 Foley Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Elizabeth,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Esther Tighe
1/86 Edward Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Esther,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Fiona Draper
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Fiona,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Cacatua General Services
George Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear George,

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8 September 2017

Gina Field
4 Meldrum Place
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Gina,

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8 September 2017

Wonnarua Culture Heritage
Gordon Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Gordon,

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8 September 2017

Gomeroi Murri Ganuurr Yuuray Wadi Palinka
Greg Griffiths
3 Jarmain Close
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Greg,

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8 September 2017

Hazel Collins
3 Carroll Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Hazel,

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8 September 2017

DRM Cultural Management
Helen Faulkner
81 Wansbeck Valley Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Helen,

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

I & E Aboriginal Culture and Heritage
Ivy Jaeger
1/162 Myall Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Ivy,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Crimson-Rosie
Jeff Matthews
6 Eucalypt Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Jeff,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

JLC Cultural Services
Jenny-Lee Chambers
39 Goulburn Drirve
SANDY HOLLOW NSW 2333

Dear Jenny-Lee,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Mount Pleasant Operation

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8 September 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Corporation
Jill Green
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear Jill,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Aboriginal Native Title Consultants
John & Margaret Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear John & Margaret,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Carrawonga
Justin Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Justin,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Galamaay Consultant
Karen Matthews
21 Bando Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Karen,

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8 September 2017

Yinarr Cultural Services
Kathleen Steward-Kinchela
111 Westwood Rd
GUNGAL NSW 2333

Dear Kathie,

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8 September 2017

HECMO Consultants
Kerren Boyd
Lot 136 Main Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kerren,

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8 September 2017

Bawurra Consultants
Kevin Sampson
1 Martin Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kevin,

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8 September 2017

Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Kristen Kerr
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Kristen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

KL.KG Saunders Trading Services
Krystal Saunders
20 Ruderford Road
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Krystal,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Valley Culture
Larry van Vliet
140 Sydney Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Larry,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation
Laurie Perry
PO Box 3066
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Laurie,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Jarban & Mugrebea
Les Atkinson
11 Nelson Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Les,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

L.J Culture Management
Les Field
4 Hinton Drive
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Les,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Luke Cameron Cultural Management
Luke Cameron
28 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Luke,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying
Luke Hickey
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Luke,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Wallangan Cultural Services
Maree Waugh
29 Anzac Avenue
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Maree,

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8 September 2017

Wanaruah Aboriginal Custodians Corporation
Maria Stocks
10 Tulloch Close
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Maria,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

ME Griffiths Cultural Management
Marie-Ellen Griffiths
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Marie-Ellen,

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8 September 2017

Kayaway Eco-Cultural and Heritage Services
Mark Hickey
6/22 Government Street
THORNTON NSW 2322

Dear Mark,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Marvonia Welsh
1 Yabsley Avenue
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

Dear Marvonia,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Michele Stair
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Michele,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Jumbunna Traffic Management Group Pty Ltd
Norm Archibald
17 Flowburn Avenue
WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Dear Norm,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

HTO Environmental Management Services
Paulette Ryan
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Paulette,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Wonnarua Culture and Heritage
Rebecca Lester
20 Regent Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Rebecca,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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8 September 2017

Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council Incorporated
Rhoda Perry
PO Box 184
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhoda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation
Rhonda Griffiths
PO Box 579
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rhonda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Ungooroo Cultural & Community Services Inc
Rhonda Ward
8 Blaxland Avenue
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhonda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Hunter Valley Traditional Owner Environmental Management Services
Rick Coles
PO Box 1042
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rick,

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8 September 2017

Murrawan Cultural Consultants
Robert Smith
33 Clift Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Robert,

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8 September 2017

Kawul Cultural Services
Rod Hickey
33 Gardner Circuit
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rodney,

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8 September 2017

Giwiirr Consultants
Rodney Matthews
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rodney,

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8 September 2017

Roger Noel Matthews
3 Nowland Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Roger,

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8 September 2017

Tocomwall Pty Ltd
Scott Franks
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Plains Clans of the Wonnarua People Registered Native Title Claim
Scott Franks & Robert Lester
C/- Tocomwall Pty Ltd
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott and Robert,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Gomeroi Namoi Traditional Owners
Stephen Talbott
73 Kiah Road
GILLIESTON HEIGHTS NSW 2321

Dear Stephen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Widescope Indigenous Group Pty Ltd
Steven Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Steven,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Moreeites
Susan Cutmore
11/97 Brook Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Susan,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council
Suzie Worth & Noel Downs
PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Noel & Suzie,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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8 September 2017

Bunda Counsultants
Tammy Knox
23 Cunningham Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Tammy,

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8 September 2017

Breeza Plains Culture and Heritage Consultants
Terry Matthews
396 Armidale Road
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Terry,

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8 September 2017

Smith Dhagaans Cultural Group
Timothy Smith
46 Springvale Circuit
CAMERON PARK NSW 2285

Dear Timothy,

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8 September 2017

Lower Hunter Wonnarua Council Inc.
Tom Miller
51 Bowden Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Tom,

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8 September 2017

T & G Culture Consultants
Tony Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Tony,

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8 September 2017

Culturally Aware
Tracey Skene
7 Crawford Place
MILLFIELD NSW 2325

Dear Tracey,

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Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

My Land Cultural Heritage
Warren Schillings
4 Wattle Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Warren,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

Please find enclosed for your review, a copy of the Proposed Methodology for the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment(s) for the proposed Transport Modification at the MPO (the Modification).

In accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (New South Wales [NSW] Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010) issued by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, we have provided the Proposed Methodology for your review and feedback. Your feedback may include the identification of issues or areas of cultural significance that may be used to affect, inform or refine the Proposed Methodology.

If you wish to provide input on the following, please make a submission to MACH Energy (via the contact details provided at the end of this letter) by **5:00pm Wednesday 11 October 2017**:

- The nature of the Proposed Methodology.
- Any Aboriginal objects or places of cultural value within the indicative study area, or issues of cultural significance, that you are aware of.
- Any restrictions or protocols you may consider necessary in relation to any information of sensitivity that you may provide.
- Any other factors you consider to be relevant to the heritage assessment.

All comments received will be taken into consideration as the Methodology is finalised.

MACHEnergy

An information session with all Registered Aboriginal Parties and MACH Energy representatives will be held to provide further information on the proposed Modification and to allow for additional comment on the Proposed Methodology. Details regarding the information session will be provided separately.

MACH Energy would appreciate any comments you would like to make on the enclosed Proposed Methodology by 5:00pm Wednesday 11 October 2017. Please provide any comments via the following contact details:

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Warren Taggart
78 Castlereagh Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Warren,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
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If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Bigundi Biame Traditional People
Wayne Griffiths
16 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Wayne,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Valley ELM Corp
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Amanda Howard
The Cottage, Corner Brentwood and Brecht Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Amanda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

A1 Indigenous Services
Carolyn Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Carolyn,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

8 September 2017

Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Kristen Kerr
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Kristen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – TRANSPORT MODIFICATION PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Kristen Kerr
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Kristen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

Further to provision of the Proposed Methodology to you (letter dated 8 September 2017), please note the below regarding an information session and proposed text excavation.

Information Session

An information session with all Registered Aboriginal Parties and MACH Energy representatives will be held on Tuesday 10 October 2017 to discuss the Proposed Methodology and Modification 4. The information session will be held at the John Hunter Motel (91 Maitland Street, Muswellbrook), and will commence at 10.00am and conclude at approximately 12.00pm.

Can you please indicate whether you are interested in attending the information session by Friday 6 October 2017 via the contact details provided at the end of this letter.

Proposed Test Excavation Methodology and Sampling Strategy

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the proposed test excavation methodology and sampling strategy associated with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment being prepared for the Mount Pleasant Operation and/or to inform the design of local public roads/intersections. The enclosed document should be read in conjunction with the Proposed Methodology previously provided (letter dated 8 September 2017).

If you wish to provide comment on the proposed test excavation methodology and sampling strategy, please make a submission to MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd by **5:00pm Friday 20 October 2017** via the contact details provided at the end of this letter.

All relevant comments received will be taken into consideration as the methodology is finalised.

Contact Details

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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29 May 2017

Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Kristen Kerr
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Kristen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is situated 4km north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97).

As described below, and due to your previous involvement at the Mount Pleasant Operation, you have been automatically registered for the consultation process. You do not need to contact MACH Energy to re-register.

As part of these environmental approvals, MACH Energy will be preparing an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment(s), and therefore may seek a new Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under section 90 of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974 to move and/or destroy Aboriginal objects (or a variation to the existing permits [AHIP #C0002053, #C0002092]). The subject area of the any such application is depicted as the "Area of Interest" as shown on the plan below.

In accordance with the requirements as set out in the Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010) (Consultation Guidelines) issued by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, MACH Energy is required to conduct a community consultation process with relevant Aboriginal people to assist in the preparation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment. This includes:

- Contacting various government organisations and requesting a list of any Aboriginal persons or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to, or who have a right or interest in, determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the "Area of Interest".
- Writing to the Aboriginal persons or groups identified by the above process to notify them of the Mount Pleasant Operation and invite them to register an interest in the community consultation process.

- Placing a notice in a local newspaper and inviting Aboriginal persons or groups to register an interest in the community consultation process.

Due to your previous involvement at the Mount Pleasant Operation, you have been automatically registered for the consultation process. <u>You do not need to contact MACH Energy to re-register.</u>

MACH Energy advises that the details of any Aboriginal person or group who registers an interest in the consultation process for the Mount Pleasant Operation will be forwarded to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and the Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council in accordance with Section 4.1.5. of the Consultation Guidelines, unless they specify that they do not want their details released.

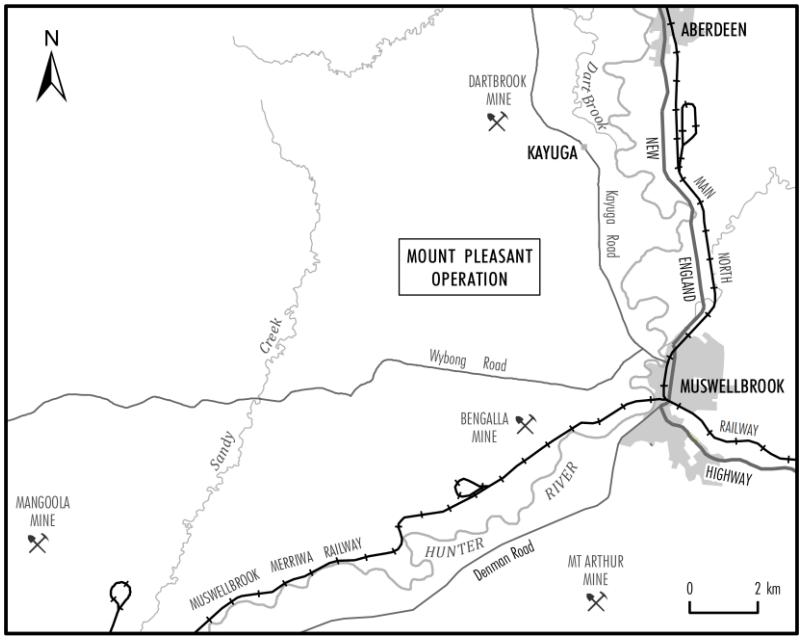
Should you have any queries regarding your registration, please do not hesitate to contact MACH Energy via the following contact details:

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager – Resource Development
MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Plan showing 'Area of Interest'



From: Klay Marchant [klay.marchant@machenergyaustralia.com.au]
Sent: Thursday, 12 October 2017 12:18 PM
Subject: Mount Pleasant Operation - Information Session Tuesday 17 October 2017

All,

As you are aware, an information session for the Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification (Modification 4) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment was held with Registered Aboriginal Parties on Tuesday 10 October 2017.

MACH Energy Australia is proposing to hold an additional follow-up information session with Registered Aboriginal Parties.

To allow for attendance outside of standard work hours, this follow-up information session will be held on Tuesday 17 October 2017 from 6.00pm to 7.00pm at the John Hunter Motel in Muswellbrook (91 Maitland Street, Muswellbrook). Light refreshments and drinks will be provided. However, please note that MACH Energy will not be paying for travel expenses or attendance at the information session.

If you require any further information regarding the information session, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Regards,

Klay Marchant

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
GPO Box 94 | Brisbane QLD 4001
ABN: 34 608 495 441
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

The information contained in this email, including any attachments, is proprietary and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, use of this information is unauthorized, please notify the sender and delete this message. This email may be personal and therefore not representative of the views of MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd. No part of the material contained in this email may be reproduced, adapted or communicated without the written consent of the copyright owner. Internet communication is not secure, therefore MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd does not guarantee the accuracy of the information contained within, nor does it accept legal responsibility for the contents of this message or any attached files.

Total Control Panel Login

To: dwallace@resourcestrategies.com.au Remove this sender from my allow list
From:
klay.marchant@machenergyaustralia.com.au

You received this message because the sender is on your allow list.

From: Klay Marchant [klay.marchant@machenergyaustralia.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 13 October 2017 9:58 PM
To: lance.syme@warrabinga.com.au
Subject: Mount Pleasant Operation - Information Session Tuesday 17 October 2017
Attachments: ltr - Warrabinga - 29 May 2017.pdf; ltr - Warrabinga - 8 September 2017.pdf; Test Excavation Methodology - Mount Pleasant OPeration.pdf; MPO Transport Modification - Proposed Methodology.pdf; ltr - Warrabinga - 19 September 2017.pdf

Lance,

As requested, please find attached copies of the requested documentation to date. Note that we are still currently working through Stage 3 of the process and anticipate providing the draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for your review in the coming months.

Please don't hesitate to call should you wish to discuss.

Regards,

Klay

-----Original Message-----
From: lance.syme@warrabinga.com.au [mailto:lance.syme@warrabinga.com.au]
Sent: Thursday, 12 October 2017 4:04 PM
To: Klay Marchant <klay.marchant@machenergyaustralia.com.au>
Subject: Re: Mount Pleasant Operation - Information Session Tuesday 17 October 2017

Klay,

Can you please provide a copy of the documentation to satisfy stage 2 and Stage 3 of the consultation requirements which are no doubt part of the SEARs issued for your modification project.

Regards,

Lance syme

On 2017-10-12 13:17, Klay Marchant wrote:
> All,
>
> As you are aware, an information session for the Mount Pleasant
> Operation Rail Modification (Modification 4) Aboriginal Cultural
> Heritage Assessment was held with Registered Aboriginal Parties on
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> However, please note that MACH Energy will not be paying for travel

Name	Registered Aboriginal Group	Signature
Colleen Hair	Crimson Rosie	c.stair
Arthur R.C. Fletcher.	KAWWAL.TA.WONN1	a.c. Fletcher
Clifford Johnson	U H C	
Ross P	U.H.C	R P
Luke Hickey	HVCS.	
STEVEN Hickey	W.I.G	
Noel Davis	Warawuah LALC	
Tracey Skene	Culturally Aware	
Maree Waugh	Wallangan cultural Services	
KATHIE STEWARD KINCHELA	YINARR CULTURAL SERVICES	
Natasha Kellett	Yinarr Cultural Services	
Julie Fletcher	MACH Energy Australia	

Subject: FW: MT pleasant operation-Transport modification proposed methodology for Aboriginal cultural heritage Assessment

From: Tracey Skene [mailto:tracey@marrung-pa.com.au]
Sent: Saturday, 16 September 2017 1:37 PM
To: Julie Fletcher <julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au>
Subject: MT pleasant operation-Transport modification proposed methodology for Aboriginal cultural heritage Assessment

Good evening Julie,

I received the methodology inthr post on Friday 15th September 2017 , Culturally Aware has viewed and read and at this point of time have no concerns at the moment with the proposed methodology.

Thanks
Tracey Skene
Culturally Aware
Please forward all correspondence to this email address due to IT issues with anigunya@hotmail.com culturally awares old email.

Subject: FW: Mount Pleasant Operation Information session for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Methodology

From: Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy [mailto:gidawaa.walang@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, 5 October 2017 3:24 PM
To: Julie Fletcher <julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au>
Subject: Mount Pleasant Operation Information session for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Methodology

Hello Julie,
Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy supports the proposed methodology for the above project.

Yours sincerely
Ann Hickey

Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy

trading name of Barkuma Neighbourhood Centre Inc.
76 Lang Street, Kurri Kurri 2327 I Phone: 02 4937 1094
www.barkuma.org I Fax: 02 4936 4449

Subject: FW: meeting on the 10th

From: Ross Pahuru [mailto:Manager@hvabcorp.org.au]
Sent: Thursday, 5 October 2017 3:06 PM
To: Julie Fletcher <julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au>
Subject: meeting on the 10th

Hi dearheart

Has anybody from HVAC notified you that we will be there?

There will be Cliff Johnson and myself representing the HVAC.

Cheers
rosco
Ross Pahuru
General Manager
Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 579
Muswellbrook, NSW 2333
Ph 02 6543 1180, Mob 0457 487 976, Fax 02 6543 1106
Note my new email address Manager@hvabcorp.org.au. Please remember to update your records

'I understand that I live and work on the land that belongs to the first peoples of Australia particularly that of the Wanaruah Nation. I respectfully acknowledge the People, their ancestors and those yet to come.

Subject: FW: Mt Pleasant Information Session

-----Original Message-----
From: Admin-Wanaruah [mailto:admin.wanaruah@bigpond.com]
Sent: Monday, 25 September 2017 2:07 PM
To: Julie Fletcher <julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au>
Subject: Mt Pleasant Information Session

Hi Julie,

Noel will be attending the information session on Tuesday 10th October.

Regards
Renee

--
Renee MacDonald
Administration Officer

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council

PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333
Ph: 02 6543 1288

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land I work upon, the Wanaruah People and pay my respects to Elders past, present and future.

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

AGA Services
Adam Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear Adam,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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Contact Details

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Aliera French Trading
Aliera French
12 Haydon Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Aliera,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Buda Mada Koori Womens Aboriginal Corporation
Alison Howlett
PO Box 3011
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Alison,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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Yours sincerely,

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19 September 2017

Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation
Allen Paget
PO Box 3095
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Allen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
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Mount Pleasant Operation

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19 September 2017

Amanda Hickey Cultural Services
Amanda Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Amanda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy
Anne Hickey
76 Lang Street
KURRI KURRI NSW 2327

Dear Anne,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Wonnarua Elders Council Inc.
Arthur Fletcher
PO Box 844
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Arthur,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Kauwul (Wonn 1)
Arthur Fletcher
619 Main Road
GLENDALE NSW 2285

Dear Arthur,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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19 September 2017

Barry & Colleen Stair
8 Acacia Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Barry & Colleen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Lower Wonnarua Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd
Barry Anderson
156 Inlet Road
BULGA NSW 2330

Dear Barry,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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Yours sincerely,

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19 September 2017

Yarrawalk Enterprises
Barry McTaggart
913 Wollombi Road
BROKE NSW 2330

Dear Barry,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

BJC Cultural Management
Ben Cameron
11 Stanley Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Ben,

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Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
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19 September 2017

Muswellbrook Culture Consultants
Brian Horton
10 Scott Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Brian,

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Chantae Griffiths
14 Westerweller Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Chantae,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Consultants
Christine Archbold
13 Bimbadeen Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Christine,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Clifford Johnson
77 Tobruk Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Clifford,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Mingga Consultants
Clifford Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Clifford,

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19 September 2017

Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants
Darrel Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Darrel,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated
David Ahoy
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear David,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Upper Hunter Natural and Cultural Resources Management
David French
Flat 3, 60 Tindale Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear David,

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19 September 2017

Gomery Cultural Consultants
David Horton
10 Scott Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear David,

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19 September 2017

Divine Diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants
Deidre Perkins
6 Ashleigh Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Deidre,

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19 September 2017

DFTV Enterprises
Derrick Vale Sr
5 Mountbatten Close
RUTHERFORD NSW 2320

Dear Derrick,

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19 September 2017

Wattaka Wonnarua Cultural Consultants Service
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

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19 September 2017

Wonnarua Traditional Custodians
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

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19 September 2017

Deslee Talbot Consultant
Deslee Matthews
2/19 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Deslee,

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Waabi Gabinya Cultural Consultancy
Elizabeth Howard
19 Foley Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Elizabeth,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Esther Tighe
1/86 Edward Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Esther,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Fiona Draper
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Fiona,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Cacatua General Services
George Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear George,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Gina Field
4 Meldrum Place
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Gina,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Wonnarua Culture Heritage
Gordon Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Gordon,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Gomeroi Murri Ganuurr Yuuray Wadi Palinka
Greg Griffiths
3 Jarmain Close
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Greg,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Hazel Collins
3 Carroll Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Hazel,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

DRM Cultural Management
Helen Faulkner
81 Wansbeck Valley Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Helen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

I & E Aboriginal Culture and Heritage
Ivy Jaeger
1/162 Myall Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Ivy,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Crimson-Rosie
Jeff Matthews
6 Eucalypt Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Jeff,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

JLC Cultural Services
Jenny-Lee Chambers
39 Goulburn Drirve
SANDY HOLLOW NSW 2333

Dear Jenny-Lee,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Corporation
Jill Green
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear Jill,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Aboriginal Native Title Consultants
John & Margaret Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear John & Margaret,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Carrawonga
Justin Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Justin,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Galamaay Consultant
Karen Matthews
21 Bando Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Karen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Yinarr Cultural Services
Kathleen Steward-Kinchela
111 Westwood Rd
GUNGAL NSW 2333

Dear Kathie,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

HECMO Consultants
Kerren Boyd
Lot 136 Main Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kerren,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Bawurra Consultants
Kevin Sampson
1 Martin Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kevin,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Kristen Kerr
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Kristen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

KL.KG Saunders Trading Services
Krystal Saunders
20 Ruderford Road
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Krystal,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Valley Culture
Larry van Vliet
140 Sydney Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Larry,

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19 September 2017

Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation
Laurie Perry
PO Box 3066
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Laurie,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Jarban & Mugrebea
Les Atkinson
11 Nelson Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Les,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

L.J Culture Management
Les Field
4 Hinton Drive
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Les,

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19 September 2017

Luke Cameron Cultural Management
Luke Cameron
28 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Luke,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying
Luke Hickey
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Luke,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Wallangan Cultural Services
Maree Waugh
29 Anzac Avenue
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Maree,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Wanaruah Aboriginal Custodians Corporation
Maria Stocks
10 Tulloch Close
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Maria,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

ME Griffiths Cultural Management
Marie-Ellen Griffiths
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Marie-Ellen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Kayaway Eco-Cultural and Heritage Services
Mark Hickey
6/22 Government Street
THORNTON NSW 2322

Dear Mark,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Marvonia Welsh
1 Yabsley Avenue
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

Dear Marvonia,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Michele Stair
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Michele,

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19 September 2017

Jumbunna Traffic Management Group Pty Ltd
Norm Archibald
17 Flowburn Avenue
WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Dear Norm,

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19 September 2017

HTO Environmental Management Services
Paulette Ryan
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Paulette,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Wonnarua Culture and Heritage
Rebecca Lester
20 Regent Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Rebecca,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council Incorporated
Rhoda Perry
PO Box 184
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhoda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation
Rhonda Griffiths
PO Box 579
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rhonda,

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19 September 2017

Ungooroo Cultural & Community Services Inc
Rhonda Ward
8 Blaxland Avenue
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhonda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Hunter Valley Traditional Owner Environmental Management Services
Rick Coles
PO Box 1042
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rick,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Murrawan Cultural Consultants
Robert Smith
33 Clift Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Robert,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Kawul Cultural Services
Rod Hickey
33 Gardner Circuit
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rodney,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Giwiirr Consultants
Rodney Matthews
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rodney,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Roger Noel Matthews
3 Nowland Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Roger,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Tocomwall Pty Ltd
Scott Franks
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Plains Clans of the Wonnarua People Registered Native Title Claim
Scott Franks & Robert Lester
C/- Tocomwall Pty Ltd
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott & Robert

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19 September 2017

Gomeroi Namoi Traditional Owners
Stephen Talbott
73 Kiah Road
GILLIESTON HEIGHTS NSW 2321

Dear Stephen,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Widescope Indigenous Group Pty Ltd
Steven Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Steven,

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19 September 2017

Moreeites
Susan Cutmore
11/97 Brook Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Susan,

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19 September 2017

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council
Noel Downs
PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Noel

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19 September 2017

Bunda Counsultants
Tammy Knox
23 Cunningham Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Tammy,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Breeza Plains Culture and Heritage Consultants
Terry Matthews
396 Armidale Road
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Terry,

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

19 September 2017

Smith Dhagaans Cultural Group
Timothy Smith
46 Springvale Circuit
CAMERON PARK NSW 2285

Dear Timothy,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Lower Hunter Wonnarua Council Inc.
Tom Miller
51 Bowden Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Tom,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

T & G Culture Consultants
Tony Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Tony,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Culturally Aware
Tracey Skene
7 Crawford Place
MILLFIELD NSW 2325

Dear Tracey,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

My Land Cultural Heritage
Warren Schillings
4 Wattle Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Warren,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Warren Taggart
78 Castlereagh Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Warren,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Bigundi Biame Traditional People
Wayne Griffiths
16 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Wayne,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Valley ELM Corp
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

Amanda Howard
The Cottage, Corner Brentwood and Brecht Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Amanda,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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19 September 2017

A1 Indigenous Services
Carolyn Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Carolyn,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED TEST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

From: Klay Marchant [klay.marchant@machenergyaustralia.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 13 October 2017 9:55 PM
Subject: Mount Pleasant Operation - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
Attachments: Mount Pleasant Operation - Proposed Archaeological Test Pit Areas.pdf

All,

As you would be aware, a draft Test Excavation Proposed Methodology and Sampling Strategy was provided to you for your review on 19 September 2017.

Further to this correspondence, please find attached an additional supporting figure showing the locations of the proposed test excavation activities.

If you require any further information, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Regards,

Klay Marchant

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
GPO Box 94 | Brisbane QLD 4001
ABN: 34 608 495 441
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

The information contained in this email, including any attachments, is proprietary and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, use of this information is unauthorized, please notify the sender and delete this message. This email may be personal and therefore not representative of the views of MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd. No part of the material contained in this email may be reproduced, adapted or communicated without the written consent of the copyright owner. Internet communication is not secure, therefore MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd does not guarantee the accuracy of the information contained within, nor does it accept legal responsibility for the contents of this message or any attached files.

Total Control Panel Login

To: dwallace@resourcestrategies.com.au Remove this sender from my allow list
From:
klay.marchant@machenergyaustralia.com.au

You received this message because the sender is on your allow list.

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

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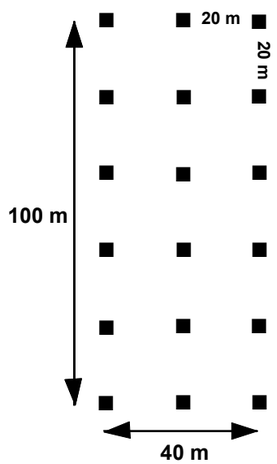
37-2-3481 37-2-2853 37-2-3484 37-2-3034 37-2-2852 37-2-2854 37-2-3033 37-2-3480 37-2-3486 37-2-3035 37-2-3474 37-2-3468 37-2-3485 37-2-3036 37-2-3471 37-2-2850 37-2-3037 37-2-3466 37-2-2851 37-2-3488 37-2-3489 37-2-3478 37-2-3040 37-2-3477 37-2-3490 37-2-3039 37-2-3038 MP 2017/3 37-2-3491 37-2-3494 37-2-3370 37-2-3493 37-2-3492 37-2-0570 37-2-0572 37-2-0571 MP 2017/2

Example Excavation Layout (20 m x 20 m grid)



Mount Pleasant Mod4 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

- Previously recorded open site
- New Site
- Indicative Test Pit Areas
- Conceptual Rail - Conveyor Alignment
- Study Area

m
0 100 200 300 400 500
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56

N

© Land and Property Information 2015

Date: 13/10/2017 Path: T:\SpatialWorking\jr\3815\3815_TestPits_A3_JR.mxd

Name	Registered Aboriginal Group	Signature
MARGARET MATTHEWS.	ANTC.	
JOHN MATTHEWS.		
DARREL MATTHEWS	~~UHHC~~ UHHC.	
ROSS PAHURU	~~HVAC~~ HVAC	
Clifford Johnson	HVAC	
Luke Hick.	HVCS.	
Colleen Stair	Crimson Rosie	
Jeff. Matthews	Crimson-Rosie	
Noel Downs	Wanarruah LALC	
KATHIE STEWARD KINCHELA	GINARR CULTURAL SERVICES	

DRAFT ACHA CORRESPONDENCE

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

AGA Services
Adam Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear Adam

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

As you would be aware, MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approval under the New South Wales (NSW) *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for a modification to the approved Mount Pleasant Operation Development Consent (DA 92/97).

Draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

Please find enclosed for your review a copy of the draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed Rail Modification at the Mount Pleasant Operation (the Modification).

In summary,

- The archaeological survey and test excavation resulted in the identification of five (5) Aboriginal heritage sites comprised of 21 Aboriginal stone artefacts.
- The draft ACHA concludes that the area generally has low archaeological potential and low scientific significance.
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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Aliera French Trading
Aliera French
12 Haydon Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Aliera

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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10 November 2017

Buda Mada Koori Womens Aboriginal Corporation
Alison Howlett
PO Box 3011
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Alison

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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10 November 2017

Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation
Allen Paget
PO Box 3095
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Allen

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10 November 2017

Amanda Hickey Cultural Services
Amanda Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Amanda

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10 November 2017

Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy
Anne Hickey
76 Lang Street
KURRI KURRI NSW 2327

Dear Anne

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10 November 2017

Wonnarua Elders Council Inc.
Arthur Fletcher
PO Box 844
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Arthur

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10 November 2017

Kauwul (Wonn 1)
Arthur Fletcher
619 Main Road
GLENDALE NSW 2285

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10 November 2017

Barry & Colleen Stair
8 Acacia Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Barry & Colleen

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10 November 2017

Lower Wonnarua Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd
Barry Anderson
156 Inlet Road
BULGA NSW 2330

Dear Barry

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Yarrawalk Enterprises
Barry McTaggart
913 Wollombi Road
BROKE NSW 2330

Dear Barry

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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10 November 2017

BJC Cultural Management
Ben Cameron
11 Stanley Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Ben

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10 November 2017

Muswellbrook Culture Consultants
Brian Horton
10 Scott Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Brian

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10 November 2017

Chantae Griffiths
14 Westerweller Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Chantae

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10 November 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Consultants
Christine Archbold
13 Bimbadeen Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Christine

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10 November 2017

Clifford Johnson
77 Tobruk Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Clifford

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10 November 2017

Mingga Consultants
Clifford Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

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10 November 2017

Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants
Darrel Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Darrel

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10 November 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated
David Ahoy
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear David

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10 November 2017

Upper Hunter Natural and Cultural Resources Management
David French
Flat 3, 60 Tindale Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear David

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Gomery Cultural Consultants
David Horton
18 Caroona Reserve
CAROONA NSW 2343

Dear David

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10 November 2017

Divine Diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants
Deidre Perkins
6 Ashleigh Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Deidre

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10 November 2017

DFTV Enterprises
Derrick Vale Sr
5 Mountbatten Close
RUTHERFORD NSW 2320

Dear Derrick

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10 November 2017

Wattaka Wonnarua Cultural Consultants Service
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des

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10 November 2017

Wonnarua Traditional Custodians
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

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Deslee Talbot Consultant
Deslee Matthews
2/19 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Deslee

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10 November 2017

Waabi Gabinya Cultural Consultancy
Elizabeth Howard
19 Foley Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Elizabeth

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10 November 2017

Esther Tighe
1/86 Edward Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Esther

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10 November 2017

Fiona Draper
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

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Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Cacatua General Services
George Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear George

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10 November 2017

Gina Field
4 Meldrum Place
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Gina

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10 November 2017

Wonnarua Culture Heritage
Gordon Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Gordon

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10 November 2017

Gomeroi Murri Ganuurr Yuuray Wadi Palinka
Greg Griffiths
3 Jarmain Close
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Greg

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10 November 2017

Hazel Collins
3 Carroll Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Hazel

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10 November 2017

DRM Cultural Management
Helen Faulkner
81 Wansbeck Valley Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Helen

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10 November 2017

I & E Aboriginal Culture and Heritage
Ivy Jaeger
1/162 Myall Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Ivy

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10 November 2017

Crimson-Rosie
Jeff Matthews
6 Eucalypt Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Jeff

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10 November 2017

JLC Cultural Services
Jenny-Lee Chambers
39 Goulburn Drirve
SANDY HOLLOW NSW 2333

Dear Jenny-Lee

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Corporation
Jill Green
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear Jill

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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10 November 2017

Aboriginal Native Title Consultants
John & Margaret Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear John & Margaret

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10 November 2017

Carrawonga
Justin Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Justin

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10 November 2017

Galamaay Consultant
Karen Matthews
21 Bando Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Karen

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10 November 2017

Yinarr Cultural Services
Kathleen Steward-Kinchela
111 Westwood Rd
GUNGAL NSW 2333

Dear Kathie

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10 November 2017

HECMO Consultants
Kerren Boyd
Lot 136 Main Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kerren

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10 November 2017

Bawurra Consultants
Kevin Sampson
1 Martin Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kevin

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10 November 2017

Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Kristen Kerr
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Kristen

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10 November 2017

KL.KG Saunders Trading Services
Krystal Saunders
20 Ruderford Road
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Krystal

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10 November 2017

Valley Culture
Larry van Vliet
140 Sydney Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Larry

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation
Laurie Perry
PO Box 3066
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Laurie

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10 November 2017

Jarban & Mugrebea
Les Atkinson
11 Nelson Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Les

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10 November 2017

L.J Culture Management
Les Field
4 Hinton Drive
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Les

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10 November 2017

Luke Cameron Cultural Management
Luke Cameron
28 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Luke

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10 November 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying
Luke Hickey
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Luke

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10 November 2017

Wallangan Cultural Services
Maree Waugh
29 Anzac Avenue
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Maree

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10 November 2017

Wanaruah Aboriginal Custodians Corporation
Maria Stocks
10 Tulloch Close
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Maria

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10 November 2017

ME Griffiths Cultural Management
Marie-Ellen Griffiths
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Marie-Ellen

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10 November 2017

Kayaway Eco-Cultural and Heritage Services
Mark Hickey
6/22 Government Street
THORNTON NSW 2322

Dear Mark

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Marvonia Welsh
1 Yabsley Avenue
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

Dear Marvonia

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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10 November 2017

Michele Stair
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Michele

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10 November 2017

Jumbunna Traffic Management Group Pty Ltd
Norm Archibald
17 Flowburn Avenue
WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Dear Norm

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10 November 2017

HTO Environmental Management Services
Paulette Ryan
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Paulette

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10 November 2017

Wonnarua Culture and Heritage
Rebecca Lester
20 Regent Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Rebecca

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10 November 2017

Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council Incorporated
Rhoda Perry
PO Box 184
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhoda

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10 November 2017

Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation
Rhonda Griffiths
PO Box 579
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rhonda

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10 November 2017

Ungooroo Cultural & Community Services Inc
Rhonda Ward
8 Blaxland Avenue
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhonda

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10 November 2017

Hunter Valley Traditional Owner Environmental Management Services
Rick Coles
PO Box 1042
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rick

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
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If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Murrawan Cultural Consultants
Robert Smith
33 Clift Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Robert

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10 November 2017

Kawul Cultural Services
Rodney Hickey
33 Gardner Circuit
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rodney

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10 November 2017

Giwiirr Consultants
Rodney Matthews
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rodney

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10 November 2017

Roger Noel Matthews
3 Nowland Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Roger

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10 November 2017

Tocomwall Pty Ltd
Scott Franks
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott

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10 November 2017

Plains Clans of the Wonnarua People Registered Native Title Claim
Scott Franks & Robert Lester
C/- Tocomwall Pty Ltd
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott & Robert

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10 November 2017

Gomeroi Namoi Traditional Owners
Stephen Talbott
73 Kiah Road
GILLIESTON HEIGHTS NSW 2321

Dear Stephen

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10 November 2017

Widescope Indigenous Group Pty Ltd
Steven Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Steven

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10 November 2017

Moreeites
Susan Cutmore
11/97 Brook Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

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10 November 2017

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council
Suzie Worth & Noel Downs
PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Suzie & Noel

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Bunda Counsultants
Tammy Knox
23 Cunningham Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Tammy

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10 November 2017

Breeza Plains Culture and Heritage Consultants
Terry Matthews
396 Armidale Road
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Terry

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10 November 2017

Smith Dhagaans Cultural Group
Timothy Smith
46 Springvale Circuit
CAMERON PARK NSW 2285

Dear Timothy

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10 November 2017

Lower Hunter Wonnarua Council Inc.
Tom Miller
51 Bowden Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Tom

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10 November 2017

T & G Culture Consultants
Tony Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Tony

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10 November 2017

Culturally Aware
Tracey Skene
7 Crawford Place
MILLFIELD NSW 2325

Dear Tracey

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10 November 2017

My Land Cultural Heritage
Warren Schillings
4 Wattle Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Warren

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10 November 2017

Warren Taggart
78 Castlereagh Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

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10 November 2017

Bigundi Biame Traditional People
Wayne Griffiths
16 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Wayne

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MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Phone: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the Mount Pleasant Operation, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager, Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Valley ELM Corp
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – RAIL MODIFICATION – DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

10 November 2017

Amanda Howard
The Cottage, Corner Brentwood and Brecht Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Amanda

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10 November 2017

A1 Indigenous Services
Carolyn Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Carolyn

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22 November 2017

AGA Services
Adam Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear Adam

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22 November 2017

Aliera French Trading
Aliera French
12 Haydon Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Aliera

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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22 November 2017

Buda Mada Koori Womens Aboriginal Corporation
Alison Howlett
PO Box 3011
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Alison

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22 November 2017

Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation
Allen Paget
PO Box 3095
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Allen

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22 November 2017

Amanda Hickey Cultural Services
Amanda Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Amanda

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22 November 2017

Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy
Anne Hickey
76 Lang Street
KURRI KURRI NSW 2327

Dear Anne

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION AND SITE INSPCTION FOR DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the MPO, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

Wonnarua Elders Council Inc.
Arthur Fletcher
PO Box 844
ESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Arthur

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

Kauwul (Wonn 1)
Arthur Fletcher
619 Main Road
GLENDALE NSW 2285

Dear Arthur

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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22 November 2017

Barry & Colleen Stair
8 Acacia Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Barry & Colleen

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22 November 2017

Lower Wonnarua Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd
Barry Anderson
156 Inlet Road
BULGA NSW 2330

Dear Barry

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22 November 2017

Yarrawalk Enterprises
Barry McTaggart
913 Wollombi Road
BROKE NSW 2330

Dear Barry

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22 November 2017

BJC Cultural Management
Ben Cameron
11 Stanley Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Ben

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22 November 2017

Muswellbrook Culture Consultants
Brian Horton
10 Scott Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Brian

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22 November 2017

Chantae Griffiths
14 Westerweller Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Chantae

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the MPO, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Consultants
Christine Archbold
13 Bimbadeen Drive
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Christine

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION AND SITE INSPCTION FOR DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
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22 November 2017

Clifford Johnson
77 Tobruk Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Clifford

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Mount Pleasant Operation

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22 November 2017

Mingga Consultants
Clifford Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Clifford

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Yours sincerely,

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22 November 2017

Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants
Darrel Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Darrel

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22 November 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated
David Ahoy
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear David

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22 November 2017

Upper Hunter Natural and Cultural Resources Management
David French
Flat 3, 60 Tindale Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear David

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22 November 2017

Gomery Cultural Consultants
David Horton
18 Caroona Reserve
CAROONA NSW 2343

Dear David

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22 November 2017

Divine Diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants
Deidre Perkins
6 Ashleigh Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Deidre

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C/- Julie Fletcher
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Mobile: 1800 886 889

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

DFTV Enterprises
Derrick Vale Sr
5 Mountbatten Close
RUTHERFORD NSW 2320

Dear Derrick

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General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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22 November 2017

Wattaka Wonnarua Cultural Consultants Service
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des

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22 November 2017

Wonnarua Traditional Custodians
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des

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22 November 2017

Deslee Talbot Consultant
Deslee Matthews
2/19 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Deslee

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22 November 2017

Waabi Gabinya Cultural Consultancy
Elizabeth Howard
19 Foley Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Elizabeth

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22 November 2017

Esther Tighe
1/86 Edward Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

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22 November 2017

Fiona Draper
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

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22 November 2017

Cacatua General Services
George Sampson
260 Hidden Valley ROW
WYBONG NSW 2333

Dear George

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the MPO, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

Gina Field
4 Meldrum Place
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Gina

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION AND SITE INSPCTION FOR DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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22 November 2017

Wonnarua Culture Heritage
Gordon Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Gordon

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22 November 2017

Gomeroi Murri Ganuurr Yuuray Wadi Palinka
Greg Griffiths
3 Jarmain Close
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Greg

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22 November 2017

Hazel Collins
3 Carroll Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Hazel

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22 November 2017

DRM Cultural Management
Helen Faulkner
81 Wansbeck Valley Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Helen

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22 November 2017

I & E Aboriginal Culture and Heritage
Ivy Jaeger
1/162 Myall Road
CARDIFF NSW 2285

Dear Ivy

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22 November 2017

Crimson-Rosie
Jeff Matthews
6 Eucalypt Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Jeff

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22 November 2017

JLC Cultural Services
Jenny-Lee Chambers
39 Goulburn Drirve
SANDY HOLLOW NSW 2333

Dear Jenny-Lee

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22 November 2017

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Corporation
Jill Green
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

Dear Jill

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the MPO, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
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22 November 2017

Aboriginal Native Title Consultants
John & Margaret Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear John & Margaret

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

Carrawonga
Justin Matthews
4 Calgaroo Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Justin

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22 November 2017

Galamaay Consultant
Karen Matthews
21 Bando Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Karen

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Yours sincerely,

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22 November 2017

Yinarr Cultural Services
Kathleen Steward-Kinchela
111 Westwood Rd
GUNGAL NSW 2333

Dear Kathie

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22 November 2017

HECMO Consultants
Kerren Boyd
Lot 136 Main Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

Dear Kerren

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22 November 2017

Bawurra Consultants
Kevin Sampson
1 Martin Street
BREEZA NSW 2381

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22 November 2017

Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Kristen Kerr
PO Box 282
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Kristen

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22 November 2017

KL.KG Saunders Trading Services
Krystal Saunders
20 Ruderford Road
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Krystal

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C/- Julie Fletcher
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Mobile: 1800 886 889

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

Valley Culture
Larry van Vliet
140 Sydney Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Larry

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION AND SITE INSPCTION FOR DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation
Laurie Perry
PO Box 3066
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Laurie

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22 November 2017

Jarban & Mugrebea
Les Atkinson
11 Nelson Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Les

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Yours sincerely,

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22 November 2017

L.J Culture Management
Les Field
4 Hinton Drive
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Les

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22 November 2017

Luke Cameron Cultural Management
Luke Cameron
28 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Luke

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22 November 2017

Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying
Luke Hickey
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Luke

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22 November 2017

Wallangan Cultural Services
Maree Waugh
29 Anzac Avenue
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Maree

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22 November 2017

Wanaruah Aboriginal Custodians Corporation
Maria Stocks
10 Tulloch Close
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Maria

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

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www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

ME Griffiths Cultural Management
Marie-Ellen Griffiths
10 Herbert Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Marie-Ellen

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION AND SITE INSPCTION FOR DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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22 November 2017

Kayaway Eco-Cultural and Heritage Services
Mark Hickey
6/22 Government Street
THORNTON NSW 2322

Dear Mark

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22 November 2017

Marvonia Welsh
1 Yabsley Avenue
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

Dear Marvonia

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22 November 2017

Michele Stair
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Michele

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22 November 2017

Jumbunna Traffic Management Group Pty Ltd
Norm Archibald
17 Flowburn Avenue
WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Dear Norm

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22 November 2017

HTO Environmental Management Services
Paulette Ryan
165 Susan Street
SCONE NSW 2337

Dear Paulette

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22 November 2017

Wonnarua Culture and Heritage
Rebecca Lester
20 Regent Street
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

Dear Rebecca

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22 November 2017

Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council Incorporated
Rhoda Perry
PO Box 184
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhoda

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the MPO, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation
Rhonda Griffiths
PO Box 579
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rhonda

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION AND SITE INSPCTION FOR DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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22 November 2017

Ungooroo Cultural & Community Services Inc
Rhonda Ward
8 Blaxland Avenue
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rhonda

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Mount Pleasant Operation

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22 November 2017

Hunter Valley Traditional Owner Environmental Management Services
Rick Coles
PO Box 1042
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rick

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22 November 2017

Murrawan Cultural Consultants
Robert Smith
33 Clift Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Robert

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22 November 2017

Kawul Cultural Services
Rod Hickey
33 Gardner Circuit
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Rodney

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22 November 2017

Giwiirr Consultants
Rodney Matthews
8 Fitzgerald Avenue
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Rodney

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22 November 2017

Roger Noel Matthews
3 Nowland Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Roger

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22 November 2017

Tocomwall Pty Ltd
Scott Franks
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott

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22 November 2017

Plains Clans of the Wonnarua People Registered Native Title Claim
Scott Franks & Robert Lester
C/- Tocomwall Pty Ltd
PO Box 76
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Dear Scott & Robert,

RE: MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION – INFORMATION SESSION AND SITE INSPCTION FOR DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the MPO, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
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22 November 2017

Gomeroi Namoi Traditional Owners
Stephen Talbott
73 Kiah Road
GILLIESTON HEIGHTS NSW 2321

Dear Stephen

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

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22 November 2017

Widescope Indigenous Group Pty Ltd
Steven Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Steven

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22 November 2017

Moreeites
Susan Cutmore
11/97 Brook Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Susan

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22 November 2017

Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council
Suzie Worth & Noel Downs
PO Box 127
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Suzie & Noel,

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22 November 2017

Bunda Counsultants
Tammy Knox
23 Cunningham Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Tammy

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22 November 2017

Breeza Plains Culture and Heritage Consultants
Terry Matthews
396 Armidale Road
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Terry

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22 November 2017

Smith Dhagaans Cultural Group
Timothy Smith
46 Springvale Circuit
CAMERON PARK NSW 2285

Dear Timothy

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22 November 2017

Lower Hunter Wonnarua Council Inc.
Tom Miller
51 Bowden Street
HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321

Dear Tom

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Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 34 608 495 441

t: +61 8 6141 7100
e: info@machenergyaustralia.com.au
www.machenergyaustralia.com.au

22 November 2017

T & G Culture Consultants
Tony Griffiths
19 O'Donnell Crescent
METFORD NSW 2333

Dear Tony

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22 November 2017

Culturally Aware
Tracey Skene
7 Crawford Place
MILLFIELD NSW 2325

Dear Tracey

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22 November 2017

My Land Cultural Heritage
Warren Schillings
4 Wattle Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Warren

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22 November 2017

Warren Taggart
78 Castlereagh Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Warren

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22 November 2017

Bigundi Biame Traditional People
Wayne Griffiths
16 South Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Dear Wayne

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22 November 2017

Valley ELM Corp
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

Dear Des

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22 November 2017

Amanda Howard
The Cottage, Corner Brentwood and Brecht Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Dear Amanda

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22 November 2017

A1 Indigenous Services
Carolyn Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

Dear Carolyn

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All participants attending the site inspection will need to bring appropriate enclosed footwear, long pants, high visibility long sleeve shirt (or vest) and a hat.

Should you wish to inspect any specific sites and/or areas during the site inspection, please advise MACH Energy (via the contact details provided below) prior to the site inspection and the request will be taken into consideration.

Transport from the MPO Administration Offices to the Study Area and around the Study Area (to the sites to be inspected) will be provided by MACH Energy. Should anyone require assistance (or know of someone requiring assistance) in relation to boarding buses, mobility or have any specific dietary requirements, please advise MACH Energy via the contact details below prior to attendance at the information sessions and/or site inspections.

Aboriginal Community Elders

MACH Energy welcomes and requests community Elders to attend the information session and/or site inspection. Should anyone know of an Elder who may not be a RAP or who may not be aware of the information session/site inspection, could you please let MACH Energy know (via the contact details below) so that they can be invited/involved.

Cultural Values

The draft ACHA reports for the Modification, which have separately been provided for your review, include a consideration of known cultural values associated with the Study Area and surrounds. Any additional cultural values input provided during the draft ACHA review period will be incorporated and considered as the ACHA reports are finalised.

Should you have any queries regarding the Modification, or to indicate whether you are interested in attending the information session and site inspection please advise MACH Energy via the contact details provided below by 4 December 2017:

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
C/- Julie Fletcher
Email: julie.fletcher@machenergyaustralia.com.au
Mobile: 1800 886 889

If you require any further information regarding the MPO, please contact us on 1800 886 889.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lauritzen
General Manager Resources Development
Mount Pleasant Operation

Name	Registered Aboriginal Group	Signature
Arthur.C. Fletcher.	KAWUL TA. WONN 1	A.C. Fletcher.
RICHARD EDWARDS	W.E.C	
Ross Pahuru	HVAC	
Rhonda Griffiths	HVAC	
Noel Downs	WLALC	

Appendix 3 - Surface and Subsurface Test Excavation Methodologies

MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION TRANSPORT MODIFICATION

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY
ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

MACHEnergy

SEPTEMBER 2017
Project No. MAC-16-01
Document No. 00872317

1 INTRODUCTION

The Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) is an approved open cut coal mining operation located in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW), approximately 4 kilometres north-west of Muswellbrook (Figure 1).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97).

In this regard, MACH Energy proposes to commence preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment(s) (ACHA) for a modification to the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97) to include various additional infrastructure components, and/or an application to the Muswellbrook Shire Council for the new public road linking Bengalla Road and Wybong Road (Eastern Link Road) (collectively referred to as the Modification).

The additional infrastructure may include conveyors, rail lines, public and internal roads, water supply pipelines and other minor infrastructure. The field surveys described in Section 5 will be undertaken to conservatively allow for all potential additional infrastructure (i.e. the surveys will cover a larger area than will be required to be disturbed for the Modification). This will also allow for infrastructure design to consider the results of field surveys and any Aboriginal heritage sites identified.

Key components of the Modification would include the construction of a new rail loop and associated loadout infrastructure (including a conveyor), as well as the Eastern Link Road. The Modification would also involve the decommissioning of the approved rail loop and associated infrastructure, as well as an alternative water supply pipeline (the currently approved water supply pipeline shares the same alignment as the currently approved rail loop and spur). Final positioning of the alignments for the rail (and associated loadout infrastructure, e.g. conveyor), Eastern Link Road and water supply pipeline will be subject to detailed design as well as further consultation with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and the Muswellbrook Shire Council. The areas of land that the ACHA(s) for the Modification relates to are shown on Figure 2 (refer to 'indicative study area').

Approved disturbance areas at the MPO, areas subject to previous systematic survey and those areas within the extent of the existing MPO Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) boundaries, would not be subject to survey as part of the Modification (although potential impacts would be considered as part of the impact assessment).

As part of the modification request, MACH Energy will be preparing an ACHA(s) to identify ways to avoid or minimise potential harm to Aboriginal objects (including appropriate management and mitigation measures). Following both this assessment(s) and the community consultation process described in the following sections, a new AHIP(s) will likely be sought under section 90 of the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974* to move and/or destroy Aboriginal objects (or a variation to the existing permits).

This document presents a Proposed Methodology for the ACHA(s) for the Modification. The Proposed Methodology has been designed to conform to the relevant requirements of various regulatory and advisory documents and guidelines. These guidelines and documents include (but are not limited to):

- *Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (NSW Department of Environment and Conservation [DEC], 2005), for assessing potential impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage for development applications assessed under Part 3A of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979*.

- *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (*Part 6 *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974)* (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water [DECCW], 2010a).
- *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b).
- The Australia ICOMOS *Burra Charter* (Australia ICOMOS, 2013).
- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage: Standards and Guidelines Kit* (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, 1997).
- *Ask First: A guide to Respecting Indigenous Heritage Places and Values* (Australian Heritage Commission, 2002).
- Clause 80C of the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation, 2009* (New South Wales Government, 2009).
- *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010c).
- *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage [OEH], 2011).
- NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974: Part 6 Approvals – Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants* (DEC, 2004).
- *NSW Minerals Industry Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects* (NSW Minerals Council, 2010).
- *Engage Early – Guidance for proponents on best practice Indigenous engagement for environmental assessments under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* (Department of the Environment, 2016).

2 MANAGEMENT OF ABORIGINAL HERITAGE AT THE MPO

MACH Energy holds two separate AHIPs relevant to the MPO area for the management of Aboriginal heritage, including:

- AHIP #C0002053 – approved by the OEH on 25 August 2016 for a period of 10 years.
- AHIP #C0002092 – approved by the OEH on 23 December 2011 for a period of 5 years. Transferred to MACH Energy on 8 September 2016.

The extents of AHIP #C000205 and AHIP #0002092 are presented on Figure 2.

In addition to the requirements of the above-described AHIPs, the management of Aboriginal heritage at the MPO is also undertaken in accordance with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation – Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (MACH Energy, 2017).

3 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Hunter Valley region has been subject to an increasing number of Aboriginal cultural heritage surveys, assessments and investigations. Previous investigations undertaken at the MPO and immediate surrounds include (but are not limited to):

- Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments and archaeological surveys for the MPO:
  - *Mt Pleasant Coal Lease, New Muswellbrook, NSW: Archaeological survey for Aboriginal sites* (Rich, 1995).
  - *Mt Pleasant Mine EIS North-West Emplacement Area Archaeological Investigations* (ERM Mitchell McCotter, 1996).
  - *Mt Pleasant Mine EIS Fine Rejects Emplacement Area Archaeological Investigations* (ERM Mitchell McCotter, 1997b).
  - *Aboriginal Heritage Assessment: Mount Pleasant Block 1* (HLA-Envirosciences, 2007).
  - *Mount Pleasant Indigenous Archaeological Assessment Stage 2* (McCardle Cultural Heritage Management, 2007).
  - *Aboriginal Cultural Survey Stage 3 Mount Pleasant, NSW* (Roberts, 2007).
  - *Coal & Allied Stage 4 Mount Pleasant Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage Report* (Nur-Run-Gee, 2007).
  - *Technical Advisor Report: Cultural Heritage Investigations Stage 5 Mount Pleasant Mine, Hunter Valley* (Scarp Archaeology, 2009).
  - *Technical Advisor Report: Cultural Heritage Investigations, Conveyor Easement Survey, Mount Pleasant Mine, Hunter Valley* (Scarp Archaeology, 2010a).
  - *Technical Advisor Report: Cultural Heritage Investigations of the Proposed Broomfield Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Conservation Area for the Mount Pleasant Coal Mine, Hunter Valley, Muswellbrook LGA* (Scarp Archaeology, 2010b).
  - *Technical Advisor Preliminary Advice: Cultural Heritage Investigations - Mount Pleasant Mine, Hunter Valley Stage 6* (Scarp Archaeology, 2011).
- Various archaeological assessments and surveys undertaken for the Bengalla Coal Mine (Rich, 1993; Environmental Resources Management Australia, 2007a).
- Various salvage reports (Environmental Resources Management Australia, 2007b; ENSR Australia, 2008).
- On-going salvage, investigations and Aboriginal heritage management activities at the MPO.

An Aboriginal Heritage Site Database has been developed for the MPO and is maintained by MACH Energy. The Aboriginal Heritage Site Database is based on numerous archaeological surveys and assessments undertaken at the MPO.

The previously identified Aboriginal cultural heritage sites located at the MPO are presented on Figure 3, with the exception of those sites that have already been subject to salvage and/or management.

4 PRELIMINARY PREDICTIVE MODEL

Consideration of the results of previous archaeological investigations indicates that previously unidentified Aboriginal cultural heritage sites may occur in and around the Study Area (Figure 2):

- Aboriginal cultural heritage sites are known to exist within and around the Study Area.
- Other site types, such as scarred trees or grinding grooves, have also been reported to occur within the region, but to a much lesser degree.
- The Study Area has been subjected to intensive agricultural practices over the past century which have variously impacted upon the survival of Aboriginal heritage sites. Agricultural activities have included vegetation clearance, crop production, animal pasture, road construction, exploration and localised mining activity.
- On the basis of the nature of the known archaeological record in the wider region and the landforms present in the Study Area, it has been determined that the area retains potential to contain some Aboriginal heritage sites (e.g. artefact scatters).

5 PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The Proposed Methodology for the cultural and archaeological assessment for the ACHA(s) is as follows:

- Conduct a search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System database and existing Aboriginal Heritage Sites Databases.
- Conduct a search of the National Heritage List, Commonwealth Heritage List and the Register of the National Estate.
- Conduct a desktop assessment to delineate areas of known and predicted Aboriginal objects, places and/or Aboriginal heritage values, including a detailed review of previous assessments.
- Provision of existing information on Aboriginal heritage sites within the Study Area and immediate surrounds to the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs).
- Identify the Aboriginal cultural heritage values associated with the relevant area through consulting with Aboriginal people with cultural knowledge or responsibilities for Country in which the Modification will occur.
- Representative archaeological survey of the Study Area, which will likely be undertaken using a combined approach of vehicular and pedestrian transects, and informed by the results of previous archaeological investigations.
- Conduct an archaeological assessment (including an archaeological significance assessment) of any known or potential Aboriginal heritage sites identified within the Study Area (which may include the use of existing information).
- Document any comments regarding the cultural significance of Aboriginal heritage sites and/or areas within the Study Area.
- Document the Aboriginal cultural heritage impact assessment and the recommendations to minimise potential impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- In consultation with the RAPs, develop recommended management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal objects, places and/or Aboriginal cultural heritage values within the Study Area.
- A request by MACH Energy to RAPs for comments regarding the cultural significance of Aboriginal heritage sites and/or areas within the Study Area.

- In consultation with the RAPs, identification of recommended management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal heritage sites/areas within the Study Area.
- Provide a copy of the draft ACHA(s) to the RAPs for their review and feedback.
- Documentation of feedback received as part of the cultural assessment from RAPs for presentation in the final ACHA report(s) (subject to the sensitivity of the information provided).

In accordance with the OEH policy *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (DECCW, 2010a), MACH Energy will request that RAPs provide, where relevant, during the conduct of the ACHA(s), cultural information regarding:

- whether there are any Aboriginal objects of cultural value to Aboriginal people in the area of the proposed Modification; and
- whether there are any places of cultural value to Aboriginal people in the area of the proposed Modification.

This will include places of social, spiritual and cultural value, historic places with cultural significance, and potential places/areas of historic, social, spiritual and/or cultural significance.
In addition, it is noted that the purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist MACH Energy in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (and/or a variation application to an existing AHIP), and to assist the Director-General in his or her consideration and determination of the application.

6 SENSITIVE CULTURAL INFORMATION – MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL

In the event that a RAP has sensitive or restricted public access information, it is proposed that MACH Energy would manage this information (if provided by the Aboriginal community) in accordance with a sensitive cultural information management protocol. It is anticipated that the protocol would include making note of and managing the material in accordance with the following key limitations/requirements as advised by the relevant RAP at the time of the information being provided:

- any restrictions on access to the material;
- any restrictions on communication of the material;
- any restrictions on the location/storage of the material;
- any cultural recommendations on handling the material;
- any contextual information;
- any names and contact details of persons authorised by the relevant RAP to make decisions concerning the Aboriginal material and the degree of authorisation;
- any details of any consent given in accordance with customary law;
- the level of confidentiality to be accorded to the material; and
- any access and use by the RAPs of the cultural information in the material.

All RAPs should be aware of the mandatory OEH requirement that all feedback provided must be documented in the final ACHA report(s), including copies of any submissions received and the proponents response to the issues raised.

7 ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT

Following consultation on the Proposed Methodology and the undertaking of any required field components, a draft ACHA report(s) will be prepared. The draft ACHA(S) will be provided to all RAPs for review and comment and will include:

- details of the sites/objects and/or places and their precise locations within the Study Area and an assessment of potential impacts from the Modification;
- detailed records of the consultation conducted with RAPs and how any comments received throughout the assessment process were considered; and
- management and mitigation recommendations drawing on information provided by RAPs and the results of the ACHA(s).

Relevant management and mitigation measures outlined in the existing Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (MACH Energy, 2017) will also be considered, where relevant to Aboriginal sites located in the Study Area.

8 CRITICAL TIMELINES

Critical timelines for the Modification ACHA(s) are outlined below:

1. Collation of culturally significant information – ongoing throughout process until the end of the draft ACHA review period.
2. Information Session – September/October 2017.
3. Provision of comments on the Proposed Methodology to MACH Energy – September/October 2017.
4. Field survey – anticipated to occur in September/October 2017.
5. Provision of a draft ACHA (including proposed management and mitigation measures) to RAPs for review and comment – anticipated to occur in October/November 2017.
6. Provision of comments from RAPs on draft ACHA to MACH Energy – anticipated to occur in October/November 2017.
7. Finalise ACHA report taking into consideration comments received – anticipated to occur in December 2017.
8. As part of the process, an AHIP(s) (or a variation to an existing AHIP) under section 90 of the NSW *National Parks & Wildlife Act, 1974* will likely be sought. This would occur following finalisation of the ACHA(s).

REFERENCES

Australian Heritage Commission (2002) *Ask First: A guide to Respecting Indigenous Heritage Places and Values.*

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Department of Environment and Conservation (2005) *Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation.*

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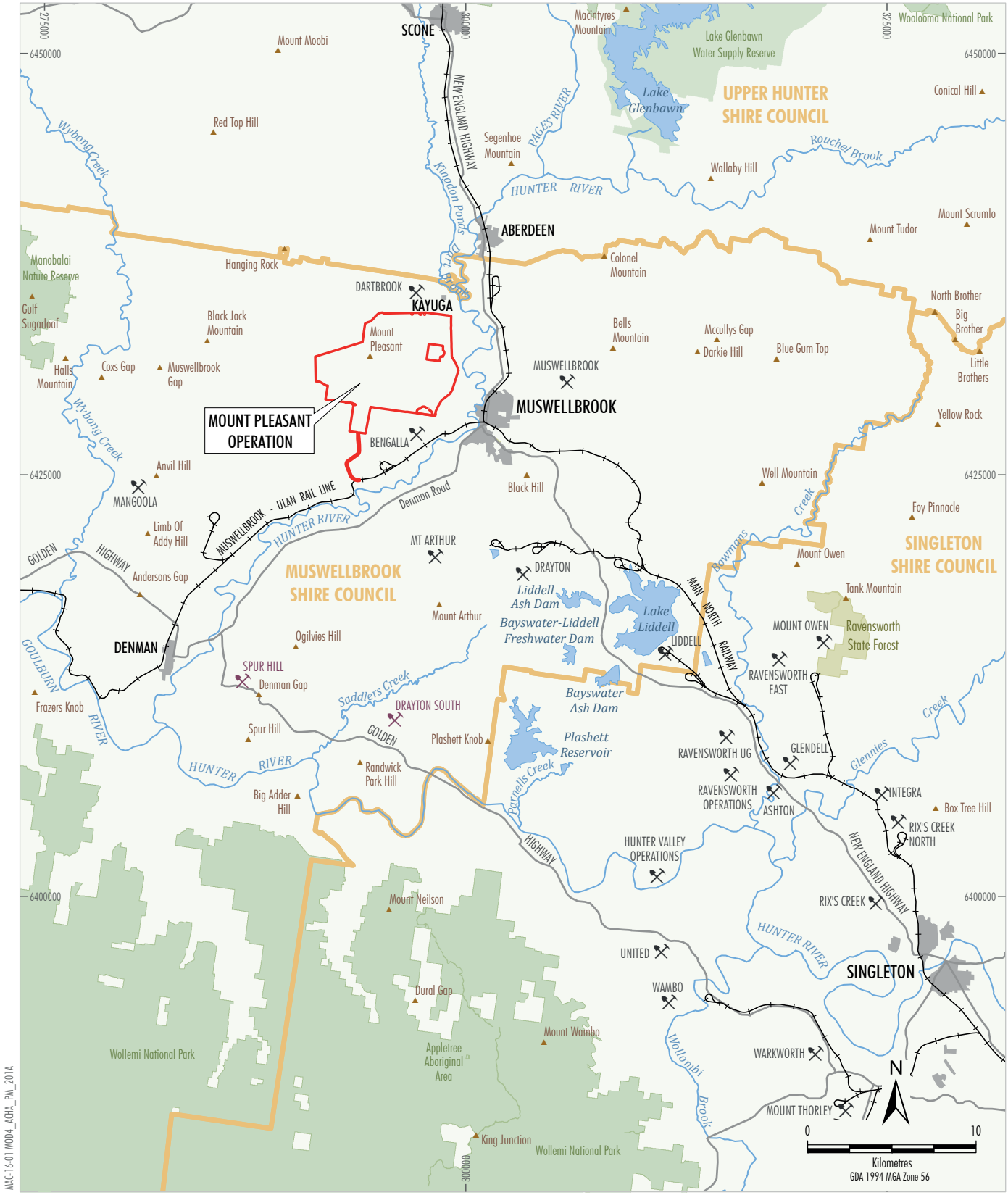
Scarp Archaeology (2010b) *Technical Advisor Report: Cultural Heritage Investigations of the Proposed Broomfield Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Conservation Area for the Mount Pleasant Coal Mine, Hunter Valley, Muswellbrook LGA*. Report prepared for Rio Tinto Coal Australia.

Scarp Archaeology (2011) *Technical Advisor Preliminary Advice: Cultural Heritage Investigations – Mount Pleasant Mine, Hunter Valley Stage 6*. DRAFT Report prepared for Rio Tinto Coal Australia.

FIGURES



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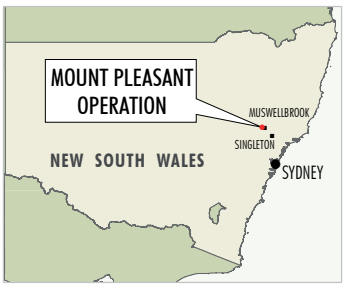

LEGEND

- Mining Operation
- Proposed Mining Operations (Application Lodged)
- Mining Lease Boundary (Mount Pleasant)
- Railway
- Local Government Boundary
- State Forest
- National Parks and Wildlife Estate

Source: Geoscience Australia (2006); NSW Division of Resources & Energy (2017); Land and Property Information (2017)

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Kilometres
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56

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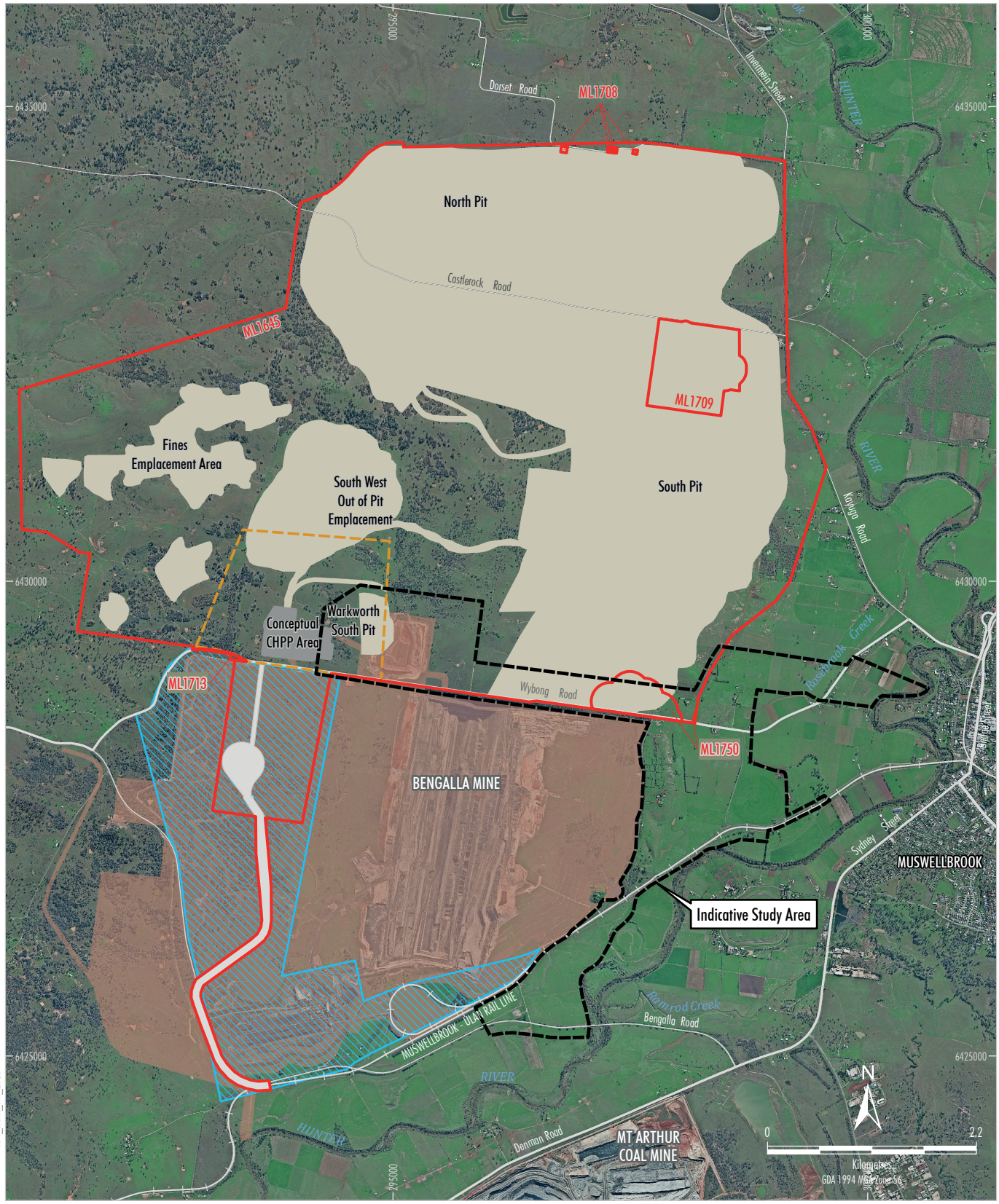
MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

Regional Location

Figure 1



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LEGEND

- Mining Lease Boundary
- Infrastructure Area Envelope
- Indicative Offsite Coal Transport Infrastructure
- Approximate Extent of Approved Surface Development (1997 EIS Year 20)*
- Conveyor/Services Corridor Envelope
- Bengalla Mine Approved Disturbance Boundary (SSD-5170)
- Indicative Study Area

Notes: * Excludes some project components such as water management infrastructure, infrastructure within the Infrastructure Area Envelope, offsite coal transport infrastructure, road diversions, access tracks, topsoil stockpiles, power supply, temporary offices, other ancillary works and construction disturbance.

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2017); NSW Division of Resources & Energy (2017); Department of Planning and Environment (2016); MACH Energy (2017)
Orthophoto: MACH Energy (Aug 2016)

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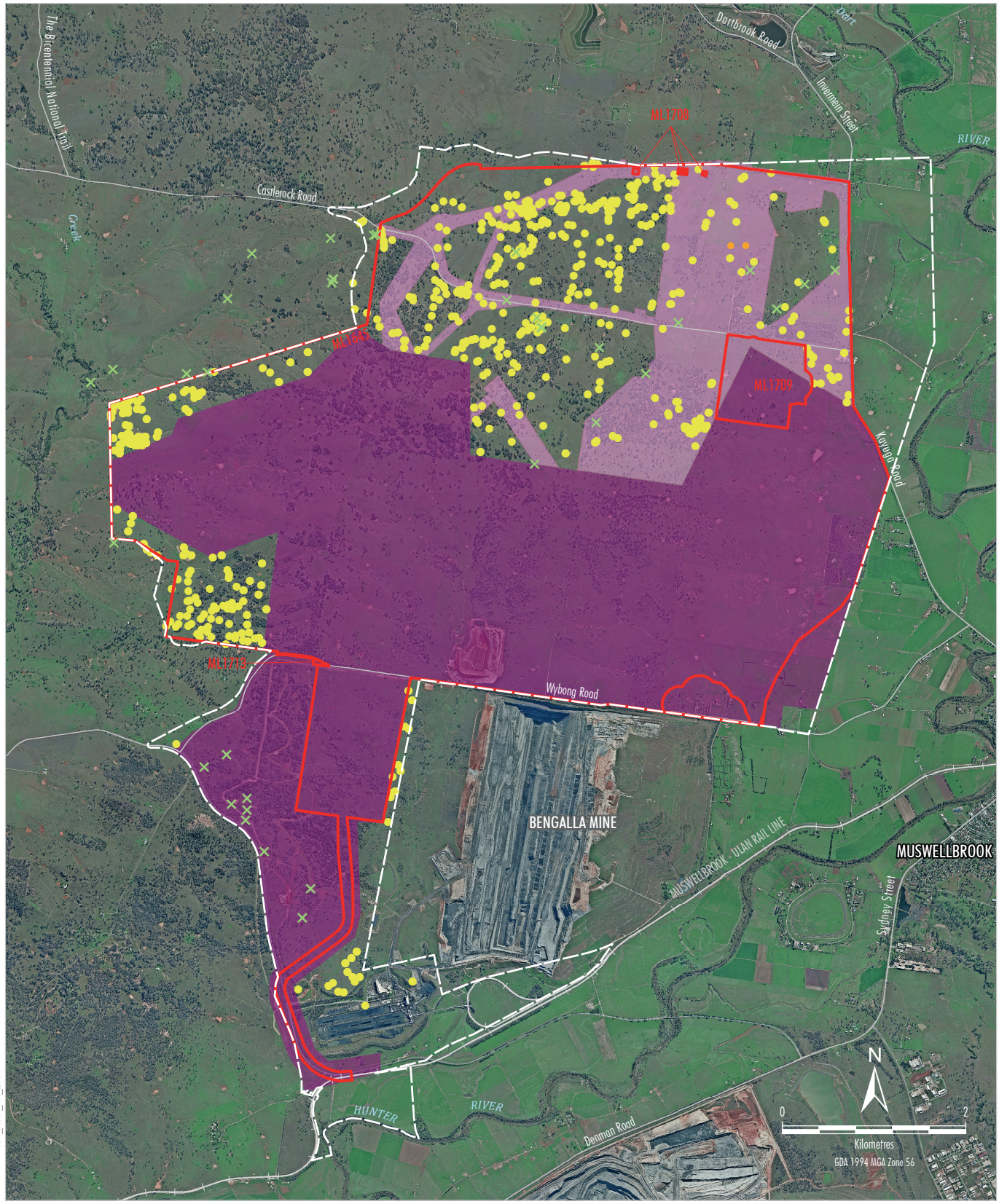
MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

Indicative Study Area

Figure 2



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LEGEND

- Modified Development Consent Boundary[1]
- Mining Lease Boundary
- AHIP #C0002053
- AHIP #C0002092

Aboriginal Heritage Sites[2]

- Knapping Floor
- Open Artefact Site
- Stone Source
- Scarred Tree

[1] Approximate graphical representation of the Schedule of Land presented as Appendix 1 of Development Consent (DA 92/97)

[2] Excluding sites already subject to salvage and/or management.

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2015); NSW Department Resources & Engery (2016); MACH Energy (2016); Rio Tinto (2016)

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MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

Known Aboriginal Hertiage Sites at the Mount Pleasant Operation

Figure 3

niche
Environment and Heritage

Mount Pleasant Operation

Test Excavation Methodology and Sampling Strategy

Prepared for MACH Energy

19 September 2017

Introduction

MACH Energy Australia Pty Limited (MACH Energy) is seeking environmental approvals under the New South Wales (NSW) *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and/or Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* for potential future development associated with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation (MPO) Development Consent (DA 92/97).

In this regard, MACH Energy has engaged Niche Environment and Heritage (Niche) to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment(s) (ACHA) for a modification to the approved MPO Development Consent (DA 92/97) (to include various additional infrastructure components) and/or to inform the design of local public roads/intersections.

A Proposed Methodology for the ACHAs was provided to all Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for their review and comment (dated 8 September 2017).

Although the field surveys are yet to be undertaken and/or completed, on the basis of the potentially sensitive landforms identified within the indicative study area (e.g. alluvial terraces and floodplains associated with the Hunter River), Niche anticipates undertaking a preliminary test excavation program to assess the nature of potential sub-surface archaeological deposits which may occur.

This document outlines the proposed test excavation methodology and sampling strategy within the indicative study area. The methodology was prepared in line with the following instruments:

- Requirements outlined in the approved Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan.
- *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW 2010* (Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water [DECCW], 2010) (Code of Practice).
- NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation, 2009.*

Test excavation methodology

Sampling Strategy

The test excavation program is proposed to be sufficiently comprehensive to allow characterisation of the Aboriginal objects present without having a significant impact on the archaeological value of the study area. This includes test excavation pits located specifically to test those areas of potential archaeological deposit (PAD) that have no archaeological exposure or visibility, test the boundaries of known sites (where appropriate) and/or confirm areas of low potential (where relevant).

As stated above, the field surveys have not yet been completed. In this regard, Niche anticipates finalising and revising this methodology as needed, following the completion of the field survey and receipt of feedback and comments from the RAPs. Niche will consolidate and analyse all data collected during the field survey of the indicative study area and based on this will identify final locations for the archaeological excavation campaign. Potential test excavation locations will be selected on the basis of predicted archaeological sensitivity, landscape context, disturbance level and in consultation with the RAPs. Notwithstanding, indicative zones of interest are presented on Figure 1 noting that Zone 1 represents those areas considered to have a lower potential for retaining archaeological subsurface deposits, while Zone 2 represents those areas of likely higher research potential.

The selection of the locations for the test excavations will aim to target representative landform units, any PADs recorded during the survey that warrant investigation and also will consider further investigation of the subsurface potential of recorded surface artefact scatters. Test excavation will be carried out in line with Requirements 16 and 17 of the Code of Practice (DECCW, 2010); combining 0.5 m by 0.5 m test units into open area test trenches to investigate areas no greater than 3 m² at each location. Initial excavation units will be extended according to the findings and on the basis of the day to day analysis of recovered artefacts and samples. Further details regarding test excavation techniques are provided below.

Test Excavation Techniques

It is proposed that the test excavation units would be excavated according to Requirements 16 and 17 of the Code of Practice (DECCW, 2010) including (but not limited to) the following criteria:

- The test excavation pits will be placed in systematic manner appropriate to the scale and locations being investigated, with each investigation point being separated by at least 5 metres (m).
- Test excavation pits would measure 50 centimetres (cm) x 50 cm.
- The test excavation pits will be hand excavated using hand tools only.
- The test excavation program will utilise 5 cm spits for the first test pit for each location, and 10 cm spits for each test pit thereafter (or appropriate sediment profile/stratigraphic excavation (whichever is smaller).
- Spits will be re-adjusted to 5 cm should cultural layers, features or high density of artefacts located. Should well defined cultural layers be found, spits would follow the actual horizons of those layers until all cultural materials are excavated.
- All excavated soil will be dry sieved through 5 mm aperture wire mesh. It is anticipated that dry sieving would be conducted next to each pit, on a tarpaulin and the pits would be immediately backfilled upon completion of the excavation of each sample location.
- Any artefacts and samples will be provided with unique identification numbers, tagged, bagged and prepared for further analysis on site/at excavation base.

- Excavation units will be recorded using standard archaeological practices including written information of the test unit, and photographic and scale-drawn records of the stratigraphy/soil profile, features and informative Aboriginal objects will be made for each single excavation point.
- Excavation units will be excavated to:
  - at least the base of the identified Aboriginal object-bearing units, and will continue to confirm that the soils below are culturally sterile; or
  - to the base of artefact bearing layers, which is expected to the B horizon; or
  - to refusal at rock should this occur in the absence of B horizon or base of artefact layer; or
  - to groundwater, where present.
- Following test excavation, an Aboriginal Site Impact Recording form would be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar as soon as practicable, for each AHIMS site that has been the subject of test excavation.

It is noted that the methodology may be adjusted based on observations made during the surface archaeological survey, advice from a suitably qualified geomorphologist (should further advice be required) and advice from the RAPs. It is further noted that as a result of feedback obtained during the excavations, or in the event of unexpected finds, further modifications to the above-described methodology may be required.

Results of the test excavation will be incorporated into an Archaeological Report (AR) which may form part of an ACHA.

Storage of Aboriginal Objects

The Code of Practice requirements that any Aboriginal objects that are moved during test excavation must be reburied as soon as practicable in a secure temporary storage location in accordance with Requirement 26 pending any agreement reached as to the long-term management of the salvaged Aboriginal objects.

The person carrying out the test excavation is responsible for ensuring that procedures are put in place so that Aboriginal objects that are reburied are not harmed. The location of the secure temporary storage location must be submitted to AHIMS with a site update record card for the site(s) in question.

In this regard, it is proposed that all recovered archaeological and cultural material will be the subject of preliminary analysis to inform decision making at each location. Recovered archaeological and cultural material will be tagged, labelled and stored in line with the Code of Practice and returned for safe keeping to MACH Energy as per the requirements of the AHMP.

Proposed Timeframes

The approximate timeframes for this assessment are outlined below. These timeframes are indicative only and are subject to change, however the timing of the below steps will be conveyed to all RAPs as soon as practicable:

- Provision of comments on proposed test excavation methodology and sampling strategy, requested by 20 October 2017.
- Finalisation of proposed test excavation methodology and sampling strategy, 21 October 2017.
- Test excavation fieldwork, proposed week commencing 23 October 2017.

- Provision of a draft ACHA (including proposed management and mitigation measures) to RAPs for review and comment – anticipated to occur in October/November 2017.
- Provision of comments from RAPs on draft ACHA to MACH Energy – anticipated to occur in October/November 2017.
- Finalise ACHA report taking into consideration comments received – anticipated to occur in December 2017.
- As part of the process, an AHIP(s) (or a variation to an existing AHIP) under section 90 of the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Act, 1974 will likely be sought. This would occur following finalisation of the ACHA(s).

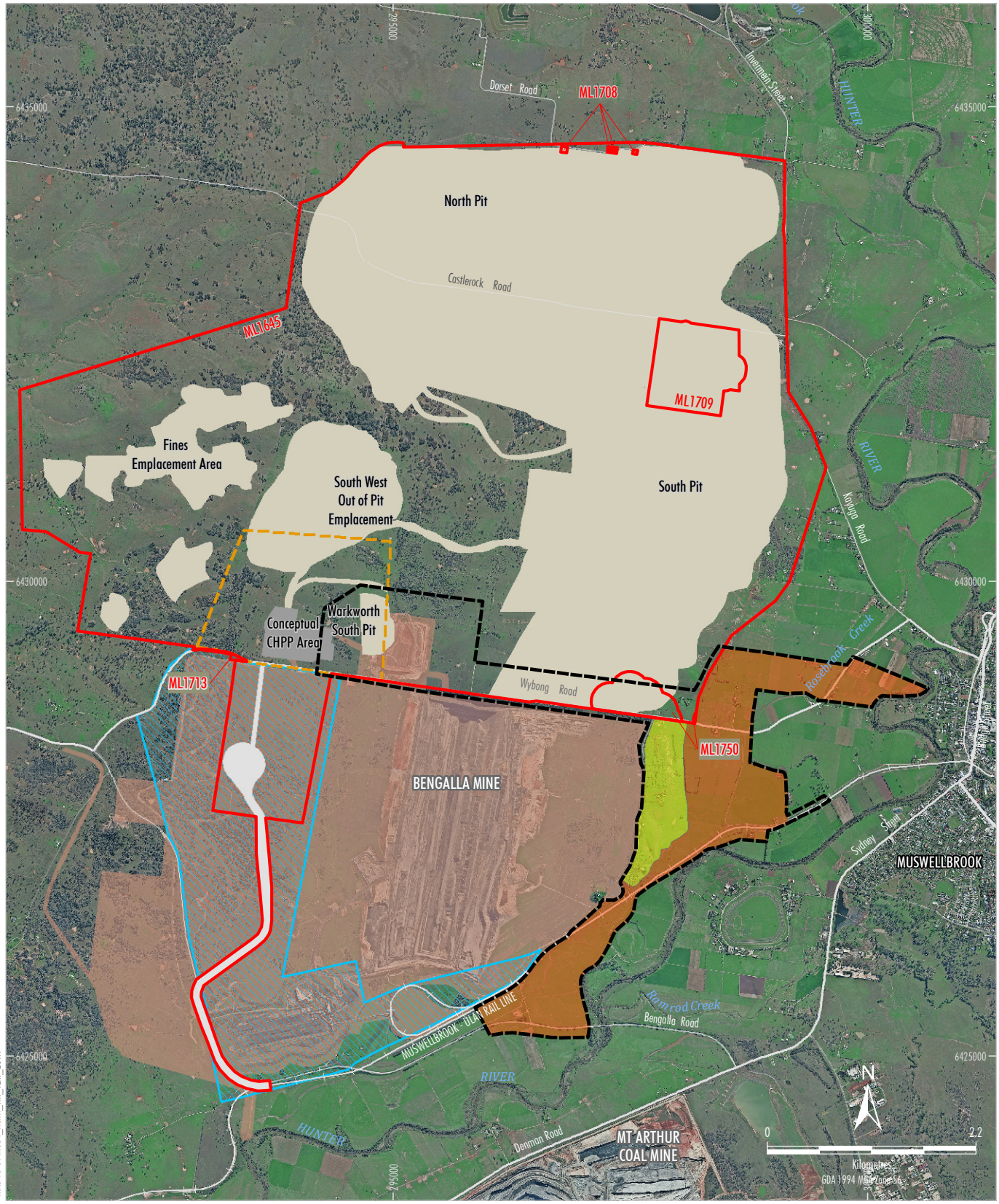
References

Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW 2010 (Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water [DECCW], 2010)

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Regulation, 2009

Mount Pleasant Operation Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (2017)



MAC-16-01 MOD4_ACHA_PM_TEM_201A

LEGEND

- Mining Lease Boundary
- Infrastructure Area Envelope
- Indicative Offsite Coal Transport Infrastructure
- Approximate Extent of Approved Surface Development (1997 EIS Year 20)*
- Conveyor/Services Corridor Envelope
- Bengalla Mine Approved Disturbance Boundary (SSD-5170)
- Indicative Study Area

Indicative Investigation Area

- Zone 1
- Zone 2

Notes: * Excludes some project components such as water management infrastructure, infrastructure within the Infrastructure Area Envelope, offsite coal transport infrastructure, road diversions, access tracks, topsoil stockpiles, power supply, temporary offices, other ancillary works and construction disturbance.

Source: NSW Land & Property Information (2017); NSW Division of Resources & Energy (2017); Department of Planning and Environment (2016); MACH Energy (2017)
Orthophoto: MACH Energy (Aug 2016)

MACHEnergy

MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

Archaeological Test Excavations – Zones of Interest

Figure 1

Niche Environment and Heritage

A specialist environmental and heritage consultancy.

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PO Box 2443 North Parramatta NSW 1750
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All mail correspondence should be through our Head Office

Appendix 4 - Test Excavation Results

A sample of section drawings and photographs have been provided throughout the appendix for the test pits subject to excavation. Due to the repetitive nature of the test pits sections, drawings have not been included for each individual test pit.

4.1 Area 1

Transect 1 Test Pit 1

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-5cm	**Sediment Description** Friable red silty loam containing grass, roots, bioturbation and evidence of past agricultural uses. Munsell: 2.5YR 5/6 pH: 5.5	None
2	5-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable red silty loam containing grass, roots, bioturbation. Munsell: 2.5YR 5/6 pH: 5.5	None
3	10-15cm	**Sediment Description** Firm red silty loam containing occasional sandstone rocks. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 6	None
4	15-20cm	**Sediment Description** Compact red silty loam containing occasional sandstone rocks <30cm. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
5	20-25cm	**Sediment Description** Firm- compact red silty loam containing large sandstone rocks <30cm. Base of spit containing dark red compact silty clay. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5; clay: 2.5 YR 3/6 pH: 6.5	None

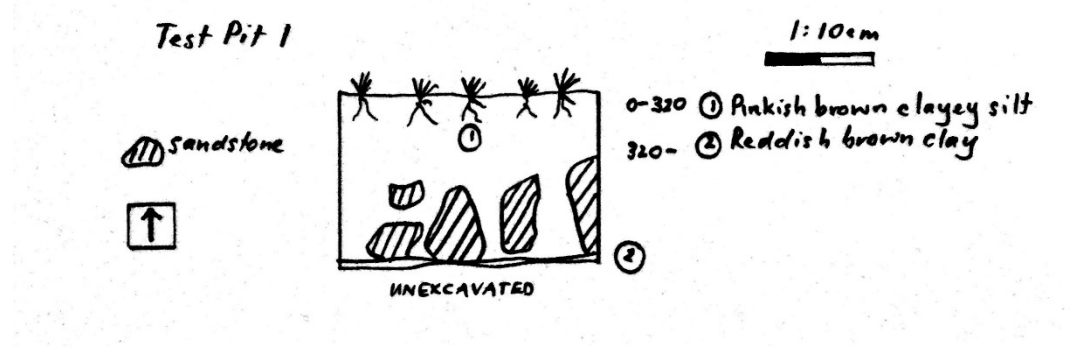


Plate 1: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 1

Plate 2 Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 1

Transect 1 Test Pit 2

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable red silty loam containing grass, roots, bioturbation and occasional charcoal flecks. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/6 pH: 5.5	None
2	10-19cm	**Sediment Description** Friable to firm red clayey silt coming down onto compact reddish brown silty clay. Inclusions included charcoal flecks and small pebbles. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/4 pH: 6	None

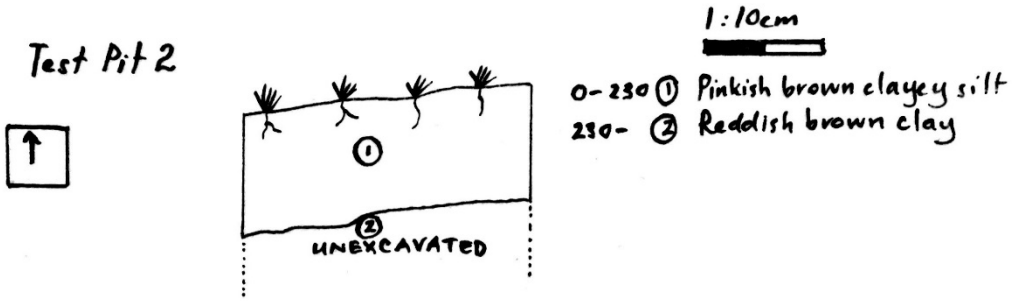


Plate 3: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 2

Plate 4: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 2

Transect 1 Test Pit 3

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Compact dark reddish brown silty clay mix with patches of red clay. Plough mixing and insect burrows present. Munsell: 2.5YR 3/4 pH: 6.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Compact reddish brown silty clay mix with clay increasing with depth and patches of red clay. Evidence of plough mixing and insect burrows. Munsell: 2.5YR 5/4 pH: 5.5	None
3	20-25cm	**Sediment Description** Compact dark brown clay with light brown silt patches and clay at base. Evidence of insect burrows. Munsell: 2.5YR 5/4 pH: 5.5	None

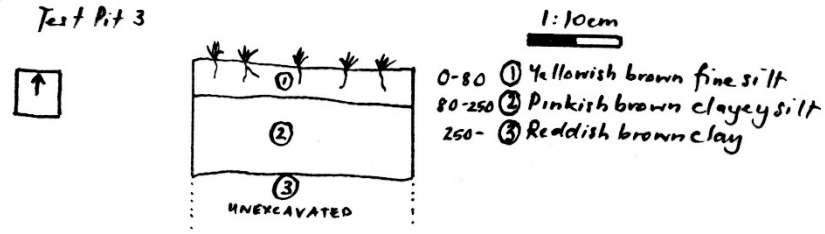


Plate 5: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 3

Plate 6: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 3 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 4

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Compact reddish brown clayey silt mix. Insect burrows present. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/3 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Compact reddish brown clayey silt. Sandstone cobbles (10% 6-8cm) and insect burrowing present. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/6 pH: 6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Compact reddish brown clayey silt transitioning to yellowish red clay at ~27cm. Sandstone cobbles (10% 6-8cm) and insect burrowing present. Munsell: clay 5YR 4/6 pH: 6.5	None

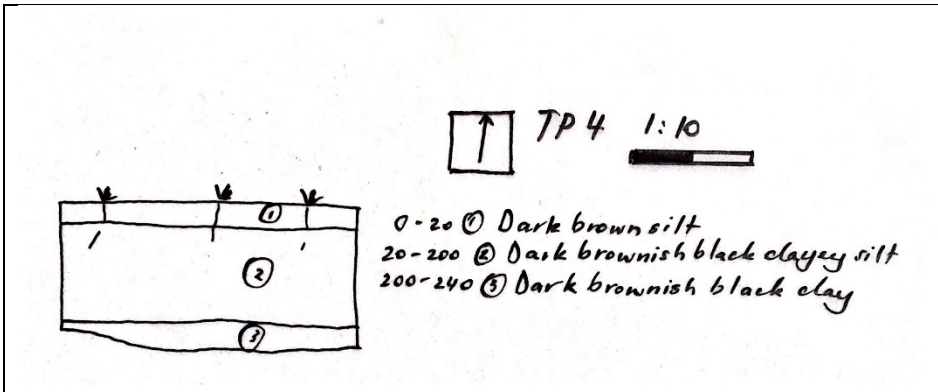


Plate 7: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 4

Plate 8: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 4 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 5

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Compact dark reddish brown clayey silt mix. Insect burrows and grass roots present. Munsell: 2.5YR 3/3 pH: 5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Compact reddish brown clayey silt with a clear and undulating lower horizon onto dark reddish brown sterile clay. Plant roots and thin (5cm) root channel through base of pit and insect burrowing present. Munsell: 2.5YR 5/3 pH: 6; clay 2.5YR ¾ pH6.5	None

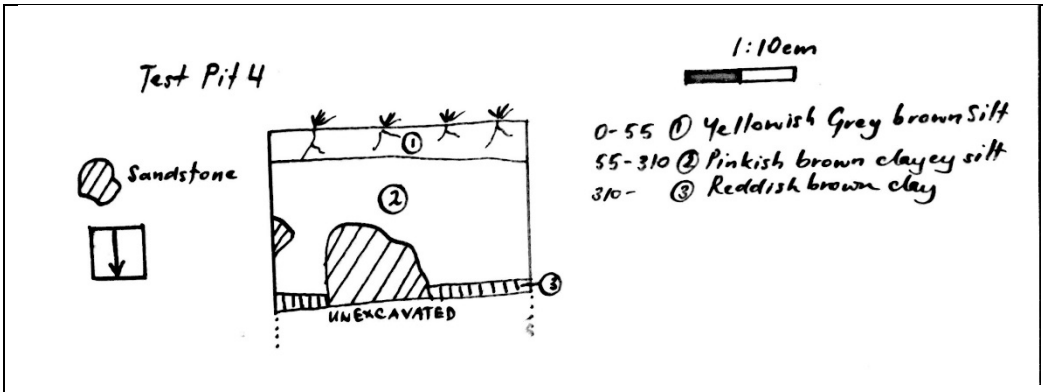


Plate 9: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 5

Plate 10: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 5 - Northern Section

Transect 2 Test Pit 6

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dusky red silty loam (~5cm thickness) overlaying friable reddish brown clayey silt. Small fragments of sandstone (<10cm) grass, occasional charcoal flecks. Munsell: 2.5YR 3/2 pH: 5.5; 2.5YR 5/3 pH:5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm reddish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. Munsell: 2.5YR 5/3 pH:5.5	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm reddish brown clay with increasing compaction relative to depth. Munsell: clay 2.5YR 4/6 pH: 7.5	None

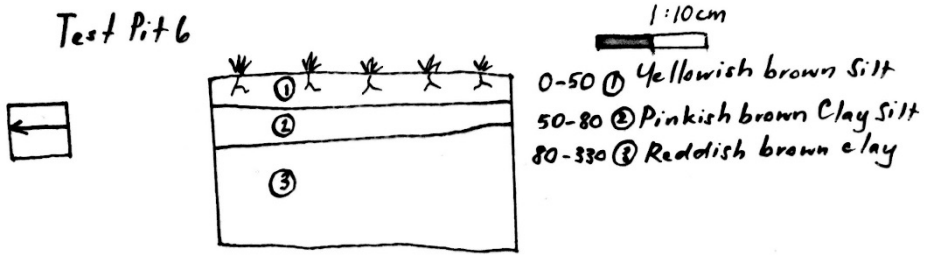


Plate 11: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 6

Plate 12: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 6

Transect 2 Test Pit 7

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dusky red fine silt (~5cm thickness) overlaying friable reddish brown clayey silt. Grass roots included within. Munsell: 2.5YR 3/2 pH: 5.5; 2.5YR 4/3 pH:5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Friable reddish brown clayey silt. Occasional tree root and moderate fine roots, area with charcoal in SE corner appears to be natural burnt root channel. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/3 pH:6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm reddish brown clayey silt coming onto compact dark reddish brown silty clay. Tree roots, some small charcoal inclusions. Munsell: clay 2.5YR 4/6 pH: 7.5	None

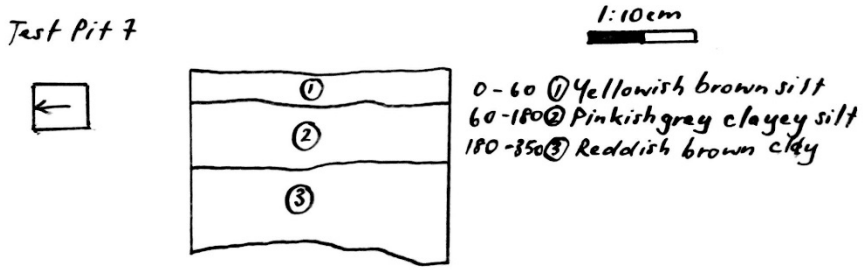


Plate 13: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 7

Plate 14: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 7

Transect 2 Test Pit 8

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-13cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark reddish brown fine silt (~4cm thickness) overlaying firm weak red clayey silt. Grass roots included within. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/2 pH: 6; 2.5YR 3/4 pH:7	None
2	13-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm weak red clayey silt overlying dark reddish brown compact clay. Occasional tree root and moderate fine roots. Munsell: 2.5YR 3/4 pH: 7	None

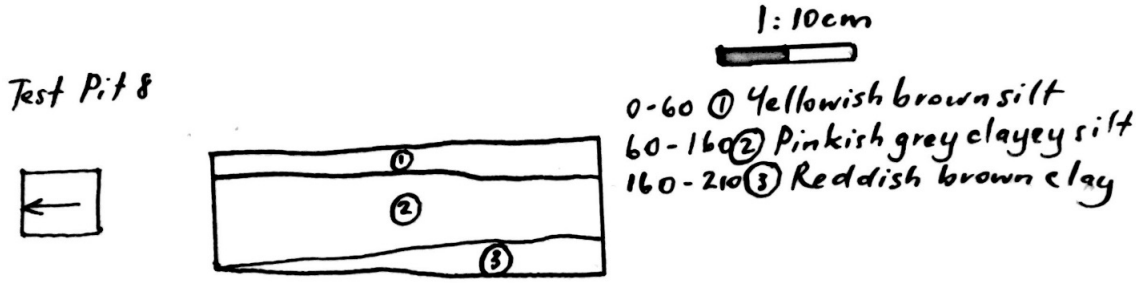


Plate 15: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 8

Plate 16: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 8

Transect 2 Test Pit 9

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Compact reddish black clayey silt. Red compact clay visible in NW corner. Frequent roots and insect burrows present throughout. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/1 pH: 5.5; 2.5 YR 4/2 weak red	None
2	10-15cm	**Sediment Description** Compact weak red clayey silt with diffuse and undulating lower horizon to red compact red clay. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/6 pH: 6	None

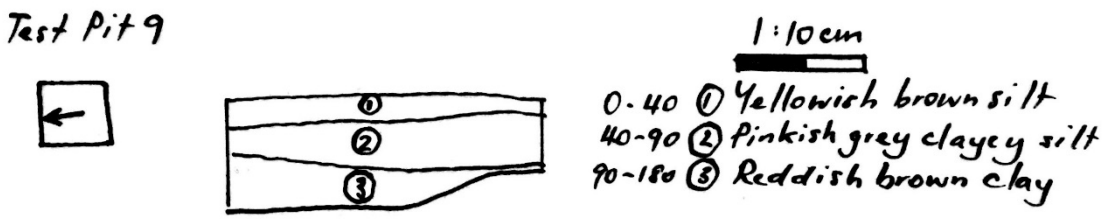


Plate 17: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 9

Plate 18: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 9 - Northern Section

Transect 2 Test Pit 10

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Compact dark brown clayey silt. Frequent roots and insect burrows present throughout. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 5.5	None
2	10-15cm	**Sediment Description** Compact reddish brown with clear undulating horizon to red clay. Munsell: 5YR 4/3 pH: 5.5; 2.5YR 4/6 pH: 6	None

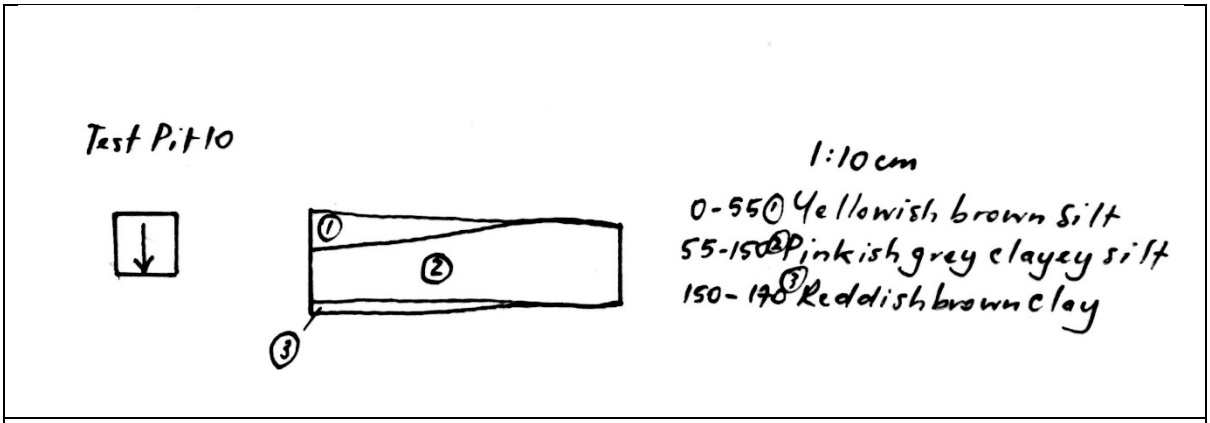


Plate 19: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 10

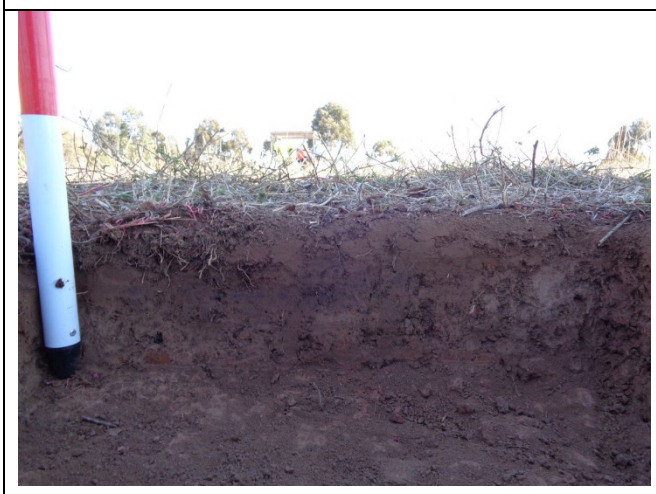


Plate 20: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 10 - Northern Section

Transect 3 Test Pit 11

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dusky red fine silt over friable weak red clayey silt. Fine plant roots and bioturbation present. Munsell: 2.5YR 3/2 pH: 5.5; 5YR 5/2 pH: 5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm weak red clayey silt over compact red silty clay. Fine roots and bioturbation present. Munsell: 2.5YR 5/2 pH: 6; 2.5YR 4/6 pH: 6	None

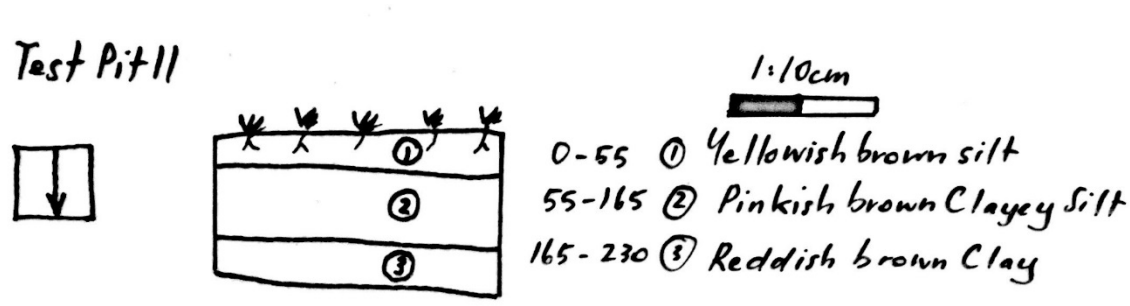


Plate 21: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 11

Plate 22: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 11 - Southern Section

Transect 3 Test Pit 12

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Compact very dusky red clayey silt with clear sloping horizon to red clay. Frequent grass roots contained within. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm weak red clayey silt over compact red silty clay. Insect burrows and large root channel present in north area of the square. Munsell: 2.5YR 5/2 pH: 5.5; 2.5YR 3/4 pH: 6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Excavation of root channel in north area of square – reddish brown silty loam with black decomposed organic material within the root channel. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1 pH: 5.5	None
4	30-40cm	**Sediment Description** Excavation of root channel base consisting of black silty loam with infrequent charcoal inclusions and small gravels. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1 pH: 5.5	None

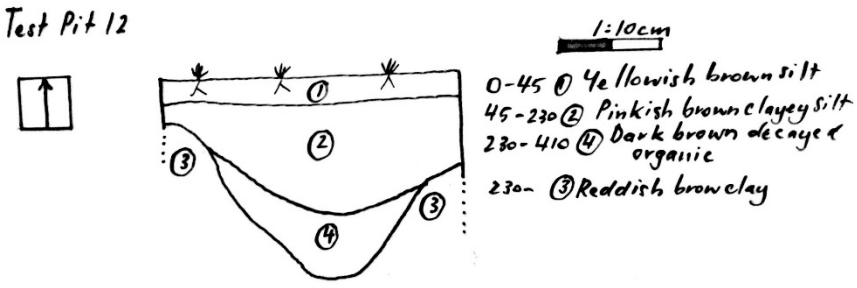


Plate 23: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 12

Plate 24: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 12

Transect 3 Test Pit 13

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose very dusky red fine. Fine plant roots and bioturbation present. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm weak red silty clay with irregular channel filled with friable weak red, like the remains of a tree root. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/2 pH: 6; 2.5YR 3/3 pH: 6	None

Plate 25: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 13 - Western Section

Transect 3 Test Pit 15

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose very dusky red fine. Fine plant roots and bioturbation present. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Friable weak red clayey silt over and infilling compact reddish brown silty clay. Root channel infilled with dark clayey silt contained within. Munsell: 2.5YR 4/3 pH: 5.5; 2.5YR 3/4 pH: 6	None

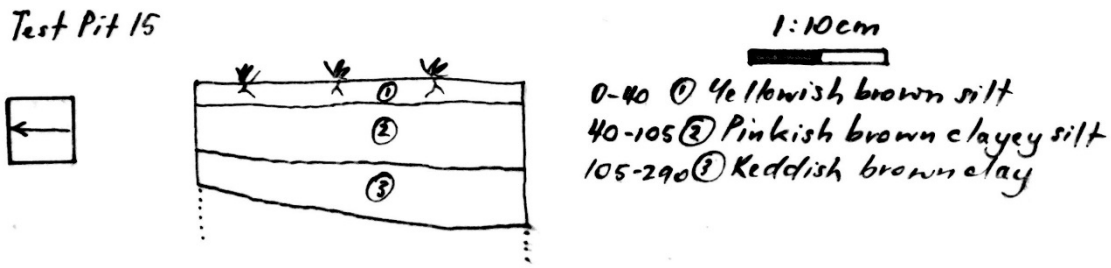


Plate 26: Section of Area 1, Test Pit 15

Plate 27: Photograph of Area 1, Test Pit 15

4.2 Area 2

Transect 1 Test Pit 1

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-5cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
2	5-10cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
3	10-15cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft very dusky loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions, insect burrows and small river pebbles <1%. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 6	None
4	15-20cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose changing to friable with depth consistency and grass and root inclusions, and insect burrows. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
5	20-25cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Friable consistency and grass and root inclusions, and small pebbles <5mm. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
6	25-30cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Friable consistency and grass and root inclusions, and insect burrows. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 6.5	None
7	30-47cm	**Sediment Description** Change in consistency from friable to loose with same dark reddish brown silty loam. No inclusions. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 7	None
8	47-50cm	**Sediment Description** Dark reddish brown sandy silt with charcoal flecking visible in base of spit. Friable to firm consistency, changing to looser, loamier silt alluvium towards 50cm. Small rootlets throughout. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 7.5	None
9	50-60cm	**Sediment Description** Decrease in compaction, same loamy silt as above. Small rootlets throughout. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 7.5	None

10	60-70cm	**Sediment Description** Change from loose loamy silt to clayey silt, increase in compaction towards base of spit. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 7.5	None
11	70-80cm	**Sediment Description** Firm to compact dark reddish brown clayey silt with fine grains. Rootlets throughout. Munsell: 5YR 3/3 pH: 8	None
12	80-90cm	**Sediment Description** Firm to compact dark reddish brown clayey silt with fine grains. Rootlets throughout. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 7.5	None
13	90-100cm	**Sediment Description** Firm to compact dark reddish brown clayey silt with fine grains. Rootlets throughout. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 7.5	None

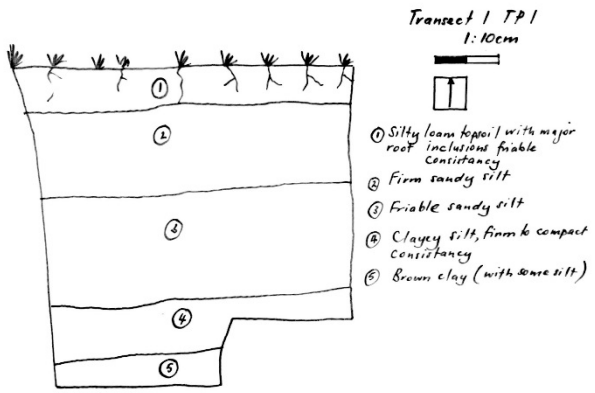


Plate 28: Section of Area 2, Test Pit 1

Plate 29: Photograph of Area 2, Test Pit 1 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 2

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency increasing slightly with depth and containing grass and root inclusions. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft very dusky loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions, insect burrows and small river pebbles <1%. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 6	None
4	30-34cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose changing to friable with depth consistency and grass and root inclusions, and insect burrows. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None

Plate 30: Photograph of Area 2, Test Pit 2 - Western Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 3

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None

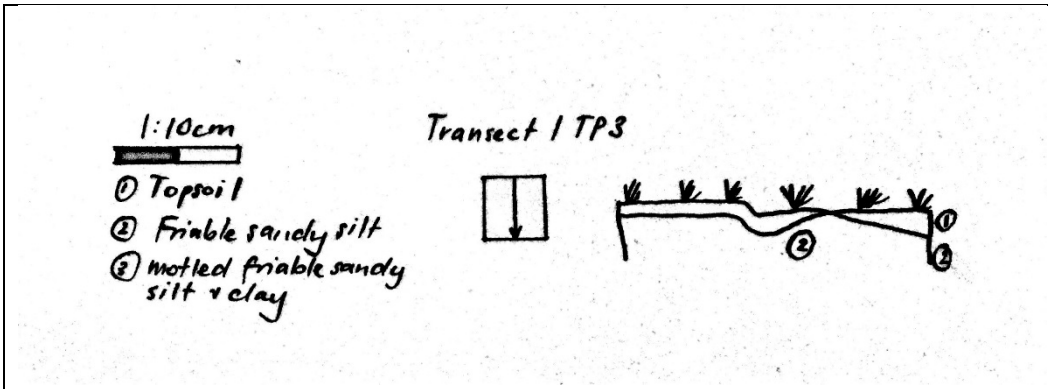


Plate 31: Section of Area 2, Test Pit 3

Plate 32: Photograph of Area 2, Test Pit 3

Transect 2 Test Pit 9

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency increasing slightly with depth and containing grass and root inclusions. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft very dusky loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions, insect burrows and small river pebbles <1%. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 6	None
4	30-40cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose changing to friable with depth consistency and grass and root inclusions, and insect burrows. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None

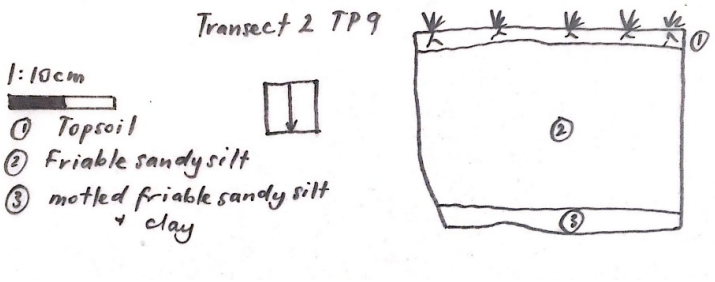


Plate 33: Section of Area 2, Test Pit 9

Plate 34: Photograph of Area 2, Test Pit 9

Transect 2 Test Pit 10

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency with grass and root inclusions. Evidence of ploughlines. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Moderately soft dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Loose consistency increasing slightly with depth and containing grass and root inclusions. Evidence of ploughing. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Very dusky loam with fine grained silt clay present. Loose to friable consistency with grass and root inclusions, insect burrows and small river pebbles <1%. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 6	None
4	30-40cm	**Sediment Description** Dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Friable changing to firm with depth consistency and grass and root inclusions, and insect burrows. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
5	40-50cm	**Sediment Description** Dark reddish brown loam with fine grained silt present. Firm compaction. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	None
6	50-60cm	**Sediment Description** Dark reddish brown firm loam and silt with small rootlets throughout. Firm compaction. Munsell: 5YR 3/3 pH 8	None
7	60-70cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark reddish brown loam with higher silt content. Munsell: 5YR 3/3 pH 8	None
8	70-80cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark reddish brown loam with higher silt and fluctuating sand content. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/2 pH: 7.5	None
9	80-90cm	**Sediment Description** Compact dark reddish brown silt with roots and rootlets throughout. Munsell: 5YR 3/3 pH 8	None
10	90-100cm	**Sediment Description** Compact dark reddish brown silt with roots and rootlets throughout. Munsell: 5YR 3/3 pH 8	None
11	100-110cm	**Sediment Description** Compact very dusky red silty loam with increasing clay and silt content. Roots and rootlets throughout. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH 7.5	None

12	110-120cm	**Sediment Description** Compact very dusky red silty loam with increasing clay and silt content. Roots and rootlets throughout. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH 7.5	None
13	120-124cm	**Sediment Description** Compact very dusky red silty clay. No inclusions. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH 7.5	None

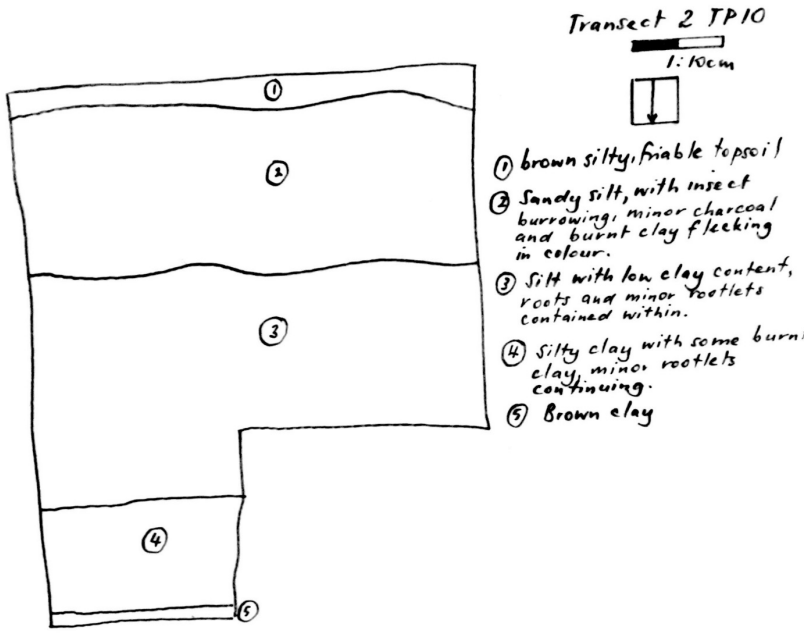


Plate 35: Section of Area 2, Test Pit 10

Plate 36: Photograph of Area 2, Test Pit 10 - Eastern Section

4.3 Area 3

Transect 1 Test Pit 1

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-5cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silt with fine grass roots and frequent/ high stone inclusions (<10cm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/3 pH: 5.5	None
2	5-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silt with fine grass roots and frequent/ high stone inclusions (1-3cm in diameter). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/4 pH: 5.5	Quartzite proximal flake with crushed platform
3	10-15cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silt with fine grass roots and frequent (80%) stone inclusions (<5cm in diameter). Munsell: 2.5YR 3/4 pH: 6	None
4	15-20cm	**Sediment Description** Compact layer of dark reddish brown fine silt with ~70% small pebbles and gravel. Fine plant roots included within. Munsell: 5YR 3/4 pH:6	None
5	20-25cm	**Sediment Description** Friable yellowish red silty loam over compact yellowish red silty clay. Munsell: 5YR 4/6 pH:6.5	None
6	25-30cm	**Sediment Description** Friable yellowish red silty loam over compact yellowish red silty clay. Munsell: 5YR 4/6 pH: 7	None
7	30-35cm	**Sediment Description** Friable yellowish red silty loam over compact yellowish red silty clay. Small depression determined to be tree root. Munsell: 5YR 4/6 pH: 7	None

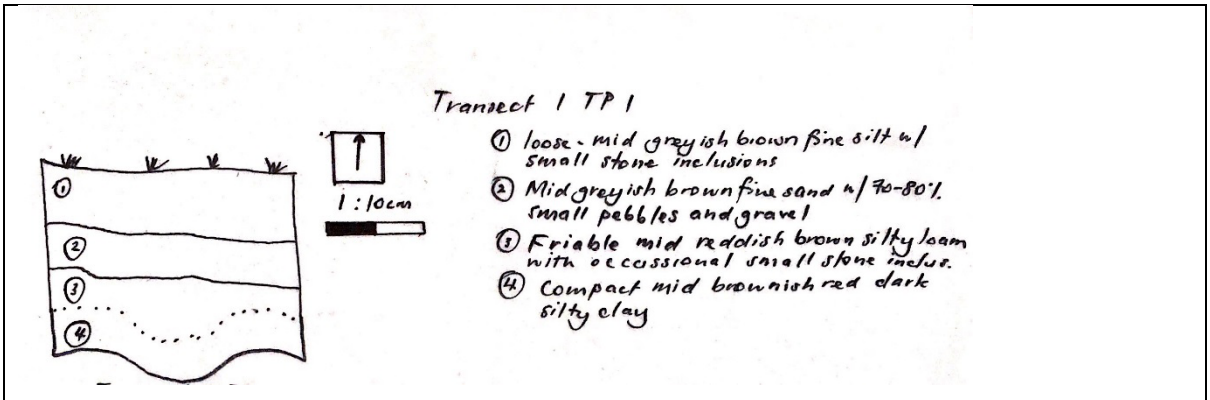


Plate 37: Section of Area 3, Test Pit 1

Plate 38: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 1 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 2

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots overlaying a thick layer of small rocks (<15cm)and gravel (1-10cm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots overlaying firm yellowish red silty clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6; 5YR 4/6 pH: 7	None

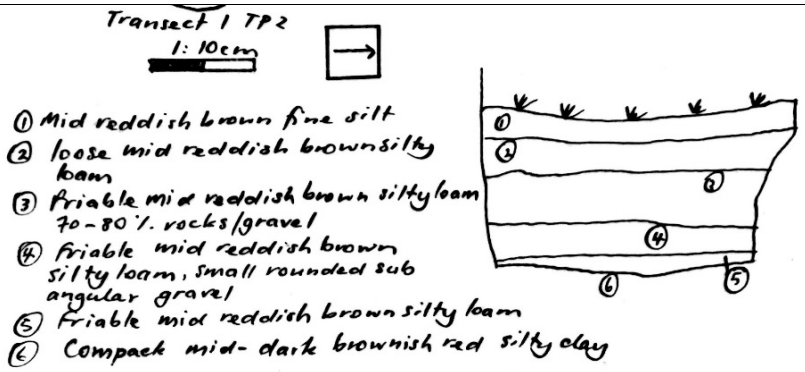


Plate 39: Section of Area 3, Test Pit 2

Plate 40: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 2 – Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 3

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 60% gravel (1-10cm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Compact dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots overlaying compact/cemented yellowish red silty clay with 80%-95% subangular gravels. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6; 5YR 4/6 pH: 7	None

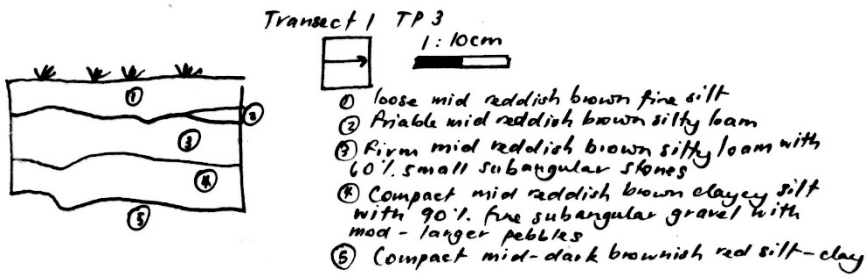


Plate 41: Section of Area 3. Test Pit 3

Plate 42: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 3 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 4

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 60-70% small rocks (<15cm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firmdark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots overlaying compact/cemented yellowish red silty clay with 50% subangular gravels. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6; 5YR 4/6 pH: 7	None

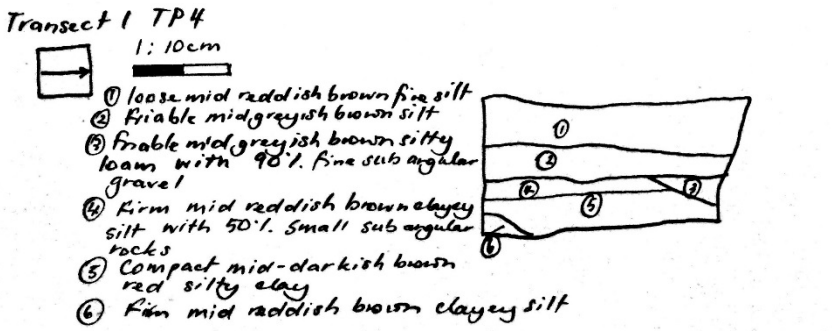


Plate 43: Section of Area 3, Test Pit 4

Plate 44: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 4 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 5

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silt with fine grass roots over friable dark brown silty loam. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 40% subangular gravel with occasional medium stones. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots compaction increasing with depth. 30% fine gravel included within. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6;	None
4	30-35cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown silt filling a root channel cutting into yellowish red compact silty clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6; 5YR 4/6 pH: 7	None

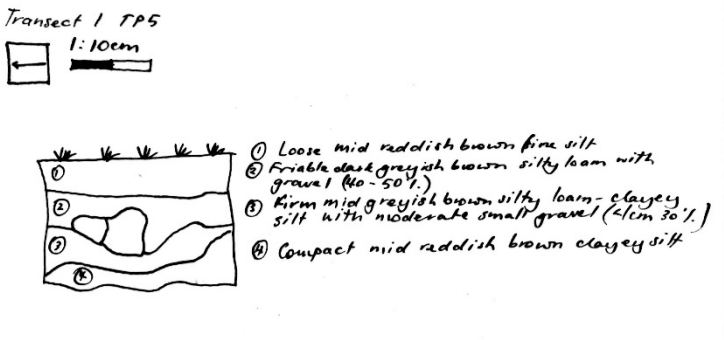


Plate 45: Section of Area 3. Test Pit 5

Plate 46: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 5 - Northern Section

Transect 2 Test Pit 7

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silt with fine grass roots over friable dark brown silty loam with 30% fine subangular gravel (<1cm) with small pebbles (<5cm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Friable to firm dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 40% subangular gravel with occasional medium stones. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots compaction increasing with depth. 90-95% fine gravel, small pebbled and small-medium cobbled included within. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None

Plate 47: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 7 - Northern Section

Transect 2 Test Pit 8

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots over dark brown silty loam . Subangular gravel (<1cm) with small pebbles (<5cm) contained within. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Friable to firm dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 40% subangular gravel with occasional medium stones over yellowish red silty clay at bottom of spit. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6; 5YR 4/6 pH: 7	None

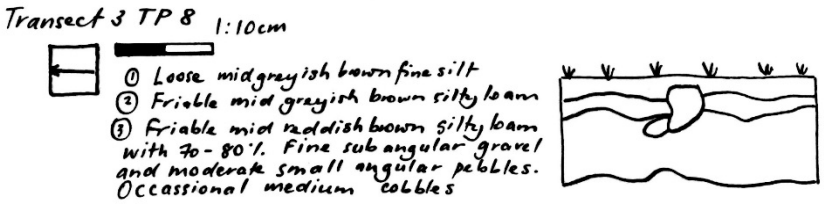


Plate 48: Section of Area 3, Test Pit 8

Plate 49: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 8 - Northern Section

Transect 2 Test Pit 9

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown silty loam. Subangular gravel (<1cm) with small pebbles (<5cm) contained within. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 40% subangular gravel with occasional medium stones. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6;	None

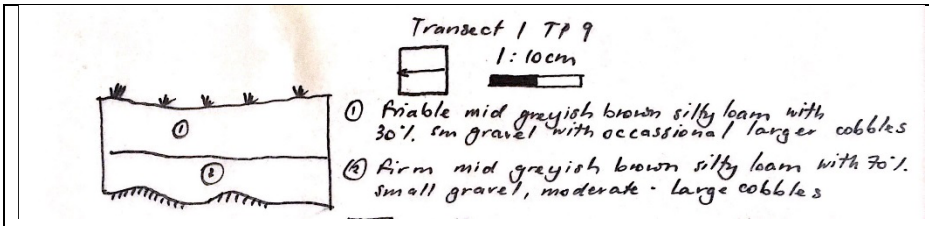


Plate 50: Section of Area 3, Test Pit 9

Plate 51: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 9

Transect 3 Test Pit 12

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown silty loam. Subangular gravel (<1cm) with small pebbles (<5cm) contained within. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 70-80% subangular gravel with occasional medium stones. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None

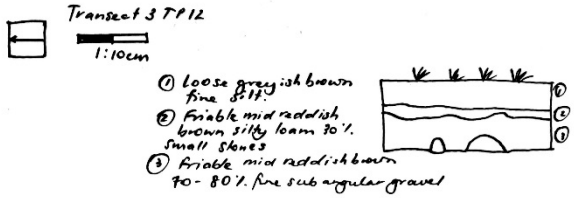


Plate 52: Section of Area 3, Test Pit 12

Plate 53: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 12 - Northern Section

Transect 2 Test Pit 13

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Loose dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots over dark brown silty loam. Subangular gravel (<1cm) with small pebbles (<5cm) contained within. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 70-80% subangular gravel with occasional medium stones. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
3	20-27cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark reddish brown over firm yellowish red clay. 60% fine small subangular gravel collected in depression in the surface of the clay Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6; 5YR 4/6 pH: 7	

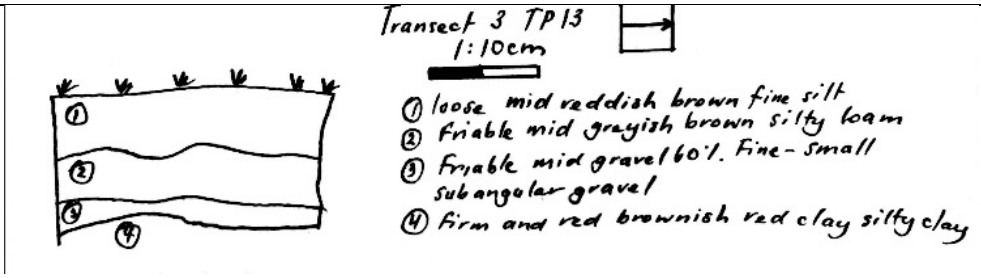


Plate 54: Section of Area 3, Test Pit 13

Plate 55: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 13 - Northern Section

Transect 2 Test Pit 14

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable dark brown silty loam. Subangular gravel (<1cm) with small pebbles (<5cm) contained within. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark brown fine silty loam with fine grass roots and 60% subangular gravel with occasional medium and large stones (<20cm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6;	None

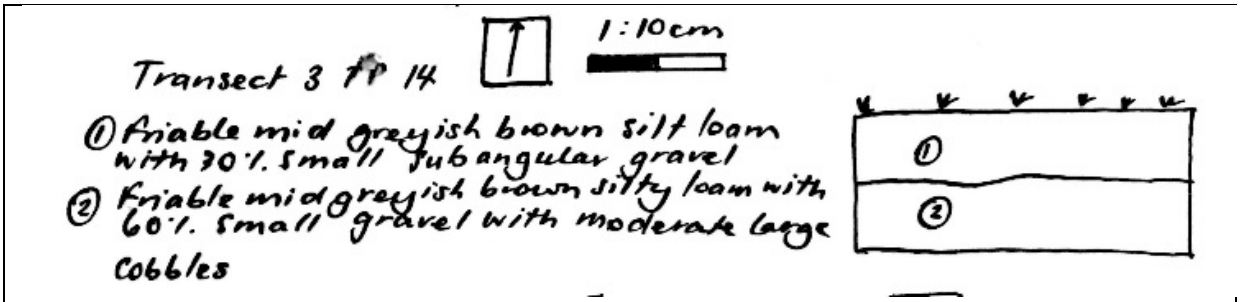


Plate 56: Section of Area 3, Test Pit 14

Plate 57: Photograph of Area 3, Test Pit 14 - Northern Section

4.4 Area 4

Transect 1 Test Pit 1

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-5cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter) Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	Q-A: Silcrete backed blade with plane platform; Silcrete proximal flake/indeterminate with faceted platform. QB: Silcrete medial flake Silcrete medial flake
2	5-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable very dark grey silty loam with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter) and modern glass fragments. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1, pH:7	QA: Silcrete proximal flake/blade with faceted platform and feather termination. QB: Mudstone proximal flake with flaked platform QC: Silcrete medial flake Mudstone distal flake with plunge termination.
3	10-15cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey silty loam with clay fragments from ploughing (20% 5-40mm), gravel inclusions (>5% 2-10mm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7	QA: Mudstone complete flake with crushed platform and feather termination QD: Silcrete complete flake with flaked platform and feathered termination
4	15-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey silty loam with clay fragments from ploughing (20% 5-40mm), gravel inclusions (>5% 2-10mm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7	QA: Quartz medial flake
5	20-25cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth gravel inclusions (>5% 2-10mm). Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7	None
6	25-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7; 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:7.5	None

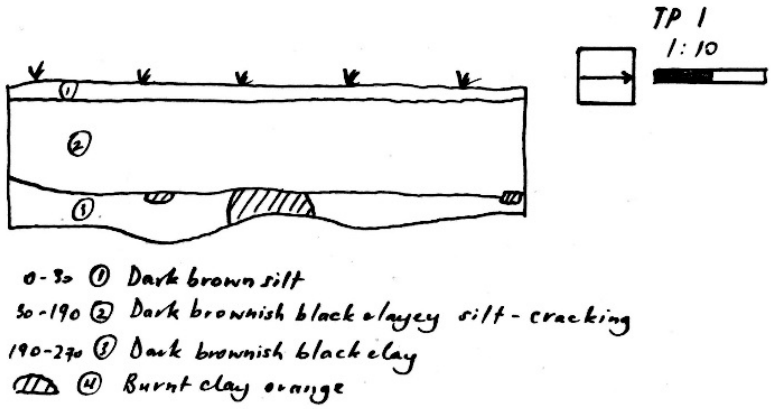


Plate 58: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 1

Plate 59: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 1 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 2

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter) Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Friable very dark grey silty loam with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter) and modern glass fragments. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1, pH:7	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7; 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:7.5	None

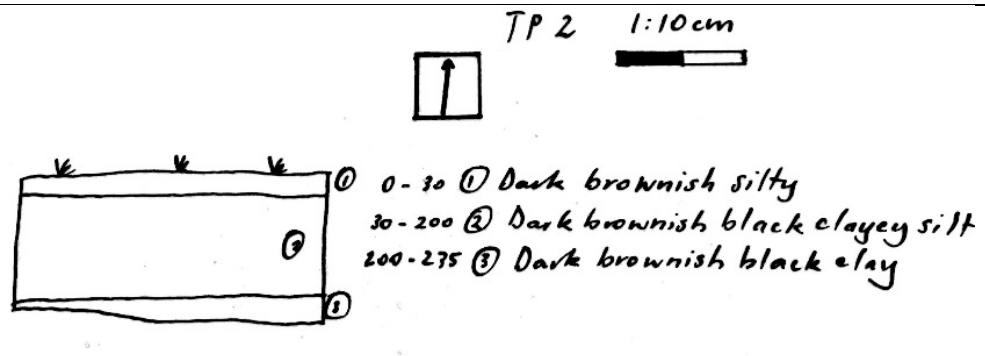


Plate 60: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 2

Plate 61: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 2 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 3

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable very dusty red silt topsoil with abundant grass roots overlaying black clayey silt which was firm and dry with a blocky fracture. Minor rootlets contained within. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/2 pH: 5.5	Silcrete medial flake
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black silty clay with same firm fry blocky fracture, minor rootlets and burnt clay fragments contained within. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1, pH:6.5	None
3	20-27cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black clayey silt with undulating lower horizon onto yellowish red compact clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:7; 5YR 5/8 pH:7.5	None

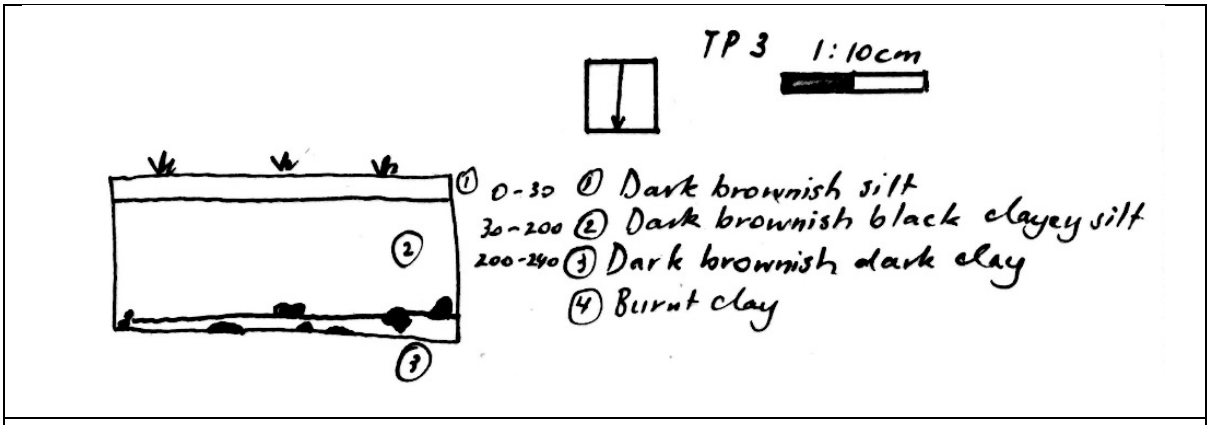


Plate 62: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 3

Plate 63: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 3 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 4

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Grass roots, gravels and ant burrows. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black silty clay with same firm fry blocky fracture, minor rootlets and burnt clay fragments contained within. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1, pH:6.5	None

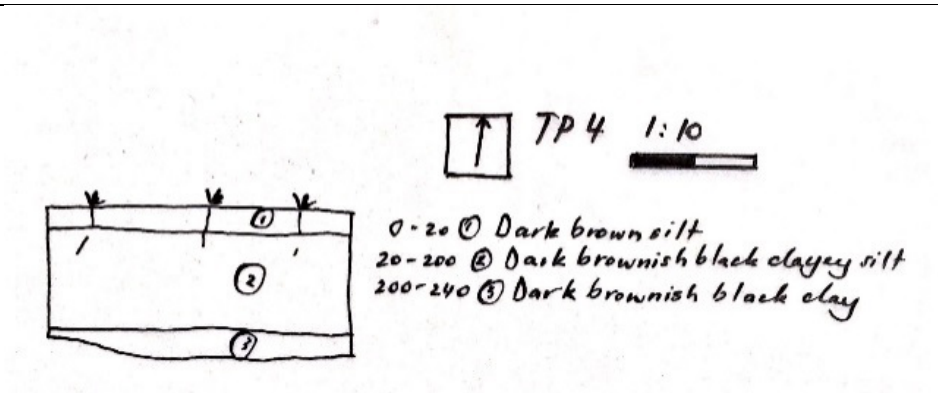


Plate 64: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 4

Plate 65: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 4 - Northern Section

Transect 1 Test Pit 5

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Grass roots, gravels and ant burrows. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black silty clay with same firm fry blocky fracture, minor rootlets and burnt clay fragments contained within. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1, pH:6.5	None
3	20-25cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7; 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:7.5	None

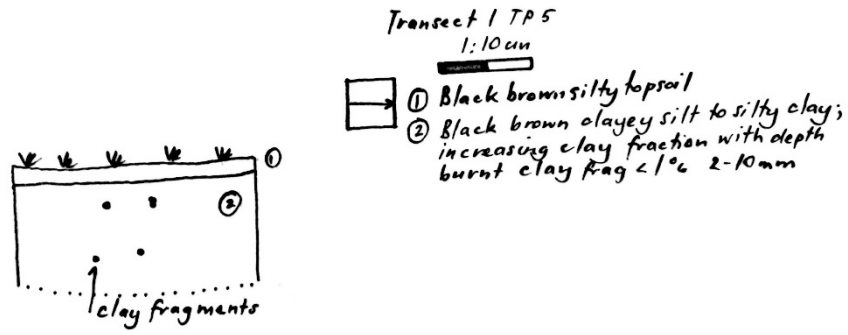


Plate 66: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 5

Plate 67: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 5

Transect 2 Test Pit 6

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Coke, slag, charcoal and small pebbles included in abundance. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm reddish black silty clay with high coal slag, charcoal and gravel inclusions. Munsell: 2.5YR 2.5/1, pH:5.5	None

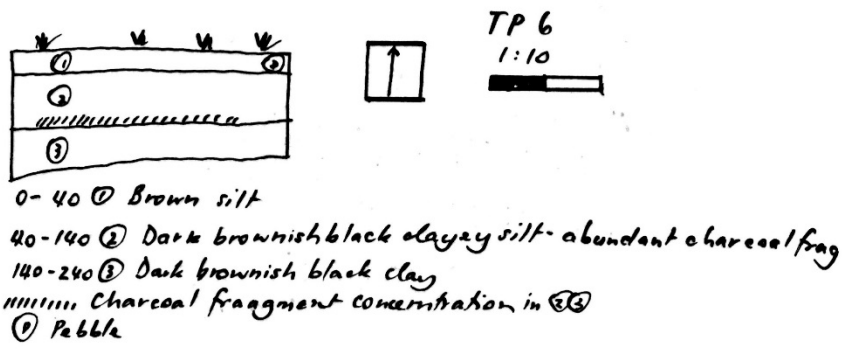


Plate 68: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 6

Plate 69: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 6

Transect 1 Test Pit 7

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Grass roots, gravels and small clay nodules. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black silty clay with same firm fry blocky fracture, minor rootlets and burnt clay fragments contained within. Compaction increasing with depth. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1, pH:6.5	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7; 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:7.5	None

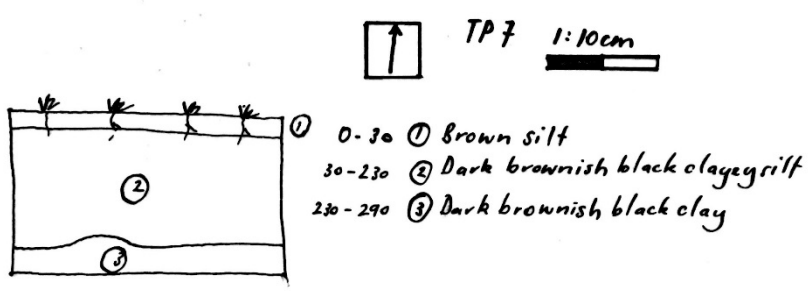


Plate 70: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 7

Plate 71: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 7

Transect 1 Test Pit 8

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Grass roots, gravels and small clay nodules. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black silty clay with same firm fry blocky fracture, minor rootlets and burnt clay fragments contained within. Compaction increasing with depth. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1, pH:6.5	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7; 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:7.5	None

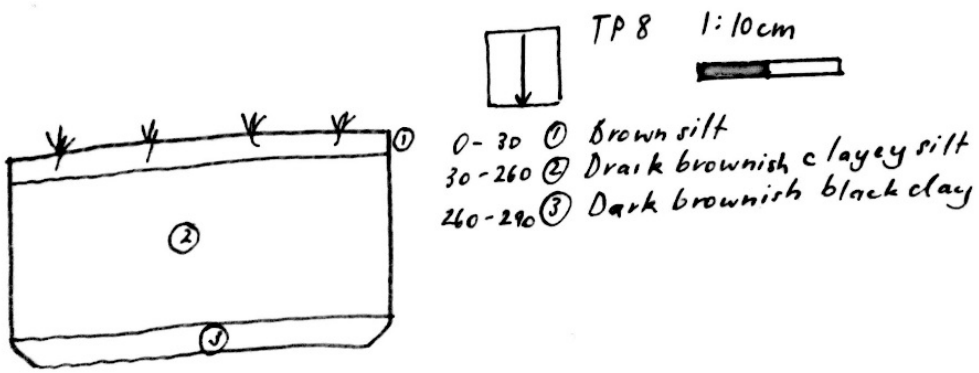


Plate 72: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 8

Plate 73: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 8 - Northern Section

Transect 3 Test Pit 9

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable black silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Overlaying dusky red clayey silt. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1 pH: 6; 2.5YR 3/2 pH:5.5	Silcrete distal flake with feather termination
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dusky red clayey silt with blocky fracture Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1, pH:6.5	Mudstone tool with scalar retouch Slate distal flake with hinge termination Silcrete complete flake with crushed platform and feather termination
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7; 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:6	Silcrete medial flake

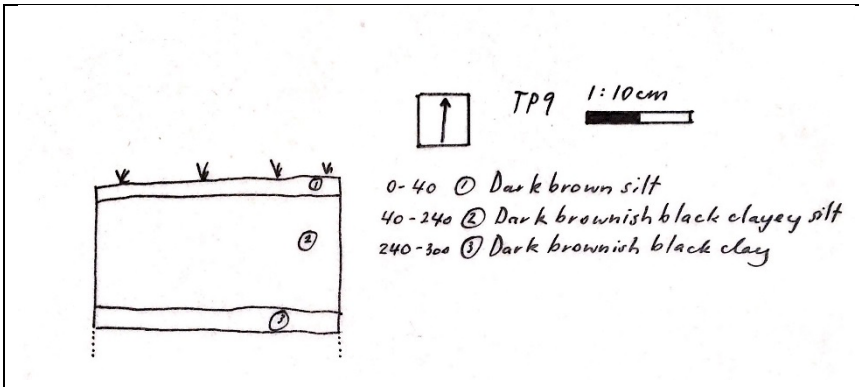


Plate 74: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 9

Plate 75: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 9

Transect 3 Test Pit 10

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable black silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Overlaying dusky red clayey silt. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1 pH: 6; 2.5YR 3/2 pH:5.5	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm dark brown clayey silt with blocky fracture Munsell: 2.5YR 3/2, pH:6	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 2.5YR 3/2, pH:6; 5YR 2.5/1 pH:7.5	None

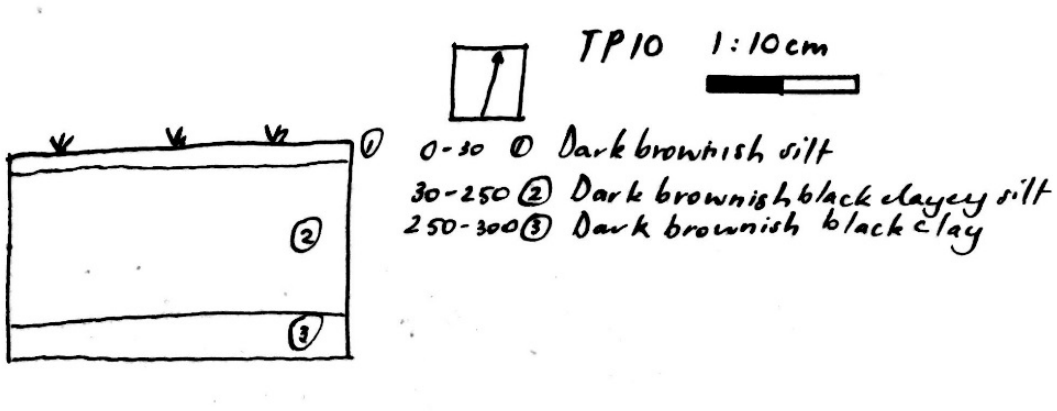


Plate 76: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 10

Plate 77: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 10 - Northern Section

Transect 2 Test Pit 11

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Grass roots, gravels and small clay nodules. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black silty clay with same firm fry blocky fracture, minor rootlets and burnt clay fragments contained within. Compaction increasing with depth. Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1, pH:6.5	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7; 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:7.5	None

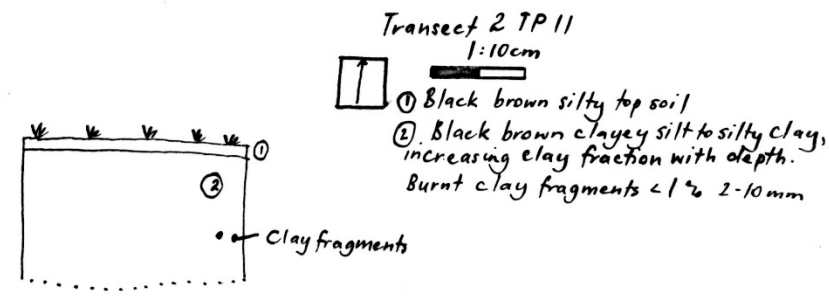


Plate 78: Section of Area 4, Test Pit 11

Plate 79: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 11

Transect 2 Test Pit 12

Spit	Depth	Unit description	Finds
1	0-10cm	**Sediment Description** Friable Dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel (>5% 2-10mm diameter). Grass roots, gravels and small clay nodules. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/2 pH: 6	None
2	10-20cm	**Sediment Description** Firm black silty clay with same firm fry blocky fracture, minor rootlets and burnt clay fragments contained within. Compaction increasing with depth. Evidence of ploughing Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1, pH:6.5	None
3	20-30cm	**Sediment Description** Firm very dark grey loam increasing compaction with depth onto a diffuse horizon of black clay. Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 pH:7; 7.5YR 2.5/1 pH:7.5	None

Plate 80: Photograph of Area 4, Test Pit 12

Appendix 5 - Artefact Catalogue – Subsurface Deposits

AHIMS ID	ID	Artefact Material	Artefact Type	Platform Surface	Termination	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Comment
33-2-0029	Area 3 TR 1 TP 1 Spit 2	Quartzite	Proximal flake	Crushed	N/A	16	N/A	N/A	76-99% cortex-cobble
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-A Spit 1	Silcrete	Complete tool/Backed blade	Plane	N/A	18	11	4	Backed blade
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-A Spit 1	Silcrete	Proximal flake/indeterminate	Faceted	N/A	10	-	-	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-A Spit 2	Silcrete	Proximal flake/blade	Faceted	Feather	20	-	-	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-A Spit 3	Mudstone	Complete flake	Crushed	Feather	9	11	2	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-A Spit 4	Quartz	Medial flake	N/A	N/A	8	N/A	N/A	N/A

AHIMS ID	ID	Artefact Material	Artefact Type	Platform Surface	Termination	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Comment
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-B Spit 1	Silcrete	Medial flake	N/A	N/A	15	N/A	N/A	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-B Spit 1	Silcrete	Medial flake	N/A	N/A	10	N/A	N/A	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-B Spit 2	Mudstone	Proximal flake	Flaked	N/A	19	N/A	N/A	
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-C Spit 2	Silcrete	Medial flake	N/A	N/A	18	N/A	N/A	Possible distal (?)
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-C Spit 2	Mudstone	Distal flake	N/A	Plunge	19	N/A	N/A	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP1 Q-D Spit 3	Silcrete	Complete flake	Flaked	Feather	17	8	2	N/A

AHIMS ID	ID	Artefact Material	Artefact Type	Platform Surface	Termination	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Comment
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 1 TP3 Spit 1	Silcrete	Medial flake	N/A	N/A	17	N/A	N/A	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 3 TP 9 Spit 1	Silcrete	Distal flake	N/A	Feather	26	N/A	N/A	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 3 TP 9 Spit 2	Mudstone	Broken tool with scalar retouch	N/A	N/A	9	8	3	Five concave retouch
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 3 TP 9 Spit 3	Silcrete	Medial flake	N/A	N/A	10	N/A	N/A	N/A
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 3 TP 9 Spit 2	Slate	Distal flake	N/A	Hinge	27	N/A	N/A	May not be Aboriginal artefact
33-2-0028	Area 4 TR 3 TP 9 Spit 2	Silcrete	Complete flake	Crushed	Feather	8	6	1	N/A

Note: Certain information and characteristics can only be measured or assessed on complete artefacts (e.g. width and thickness are not measured on median, distal or proximal flakes, these dimensions can only be recorded on complete flakes). The recording of attributes and features are in line with the industry standards.

Appendix 6 – AHIMS Search Results

AHIMS Web Services (AWS)
Search Result

Purchase Order/Reference : 3815-3

Client Service ID : 303300

Niche Environment and Heritage

PO Box 3104
Umina Beach New South Wales 2257

Attention: Clare Leevers

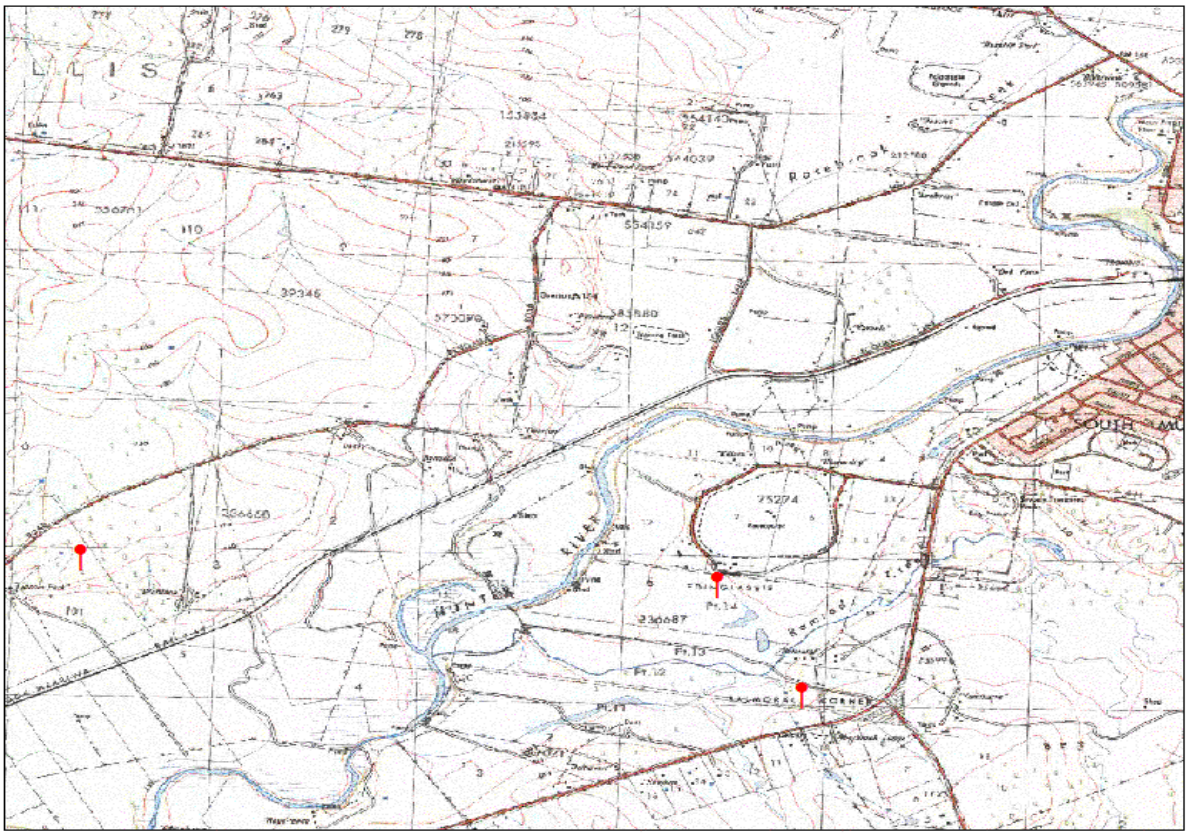
Email: cleevers@niche-eh.com

Date: 22 September 2017

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Lat, Long From : -32.2926, 150.826 - Lat, Long To : -32.2566, 150.8831 with a Buffer of 200 meters, conducted by Clare Leevers on 22 September 2017.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of the Office of the Environment and Heritage AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

67	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *

If your search shows Aboriginal sites or places what should you do?

- You must do an extensive search if AHIMS has shown that there are Aboriginal sites or places recorded in the search area.
- If you are checking AHIMS as a part of your due diligence, refer to the next steps of the Due Diligence Code of practice.
- You can get further information about Aboriginal places by looking at the gazettal notice that declared it. Aboriginal places gazetted after 2001 are available on the NSW Government Gazette (http://www.nsw.gov.au/gazette) website. Gazettal notices published prior to 2001 can be obtained from Office of Environment and Heritage's Aboriginal Heritage Information Unit upon request

Important information about your AHIMS search

- The information derived from the AHIMS search is only to be used for the purpose for which it was requested. It is not be made available to the public.
- AHIMS records information about Aboriginal sites that have been provided to Office of Environment and Heritage and Aboriginal places that have been declared by the Minister;
- Information recorded on AHIMS may vary in its accuracy and may not be up to date .Location details are recorded as grid references and it is important to note that there may be errors or omissions in these recordings,
- Some parts of New South Wales have not been investigated in detail and there may be fewer records of Aboriginal sites in those areas. These areas may contain Aboriginal sites which are not recorded on AHIMS.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 even if they are not recorded as a site on AHIMS.
- This search can form part of your due diligence and remains valid for 12 months.

3 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150
Locked Bag 5020 Parramatta NSW 2220
Tel: (02) 9585 6380 Fax: (02) 9873 8599

ABN 30 841 387 271
Email: ahims@environment.nsw.gov.au
Web: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 3815-3

Client Service ID : 303300

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
37-2-0570	B1 ;	AGD	56	296405	6428189	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765,102567
	Contact	**Recorders**	Bobbie Oakley,Ms.Laila Haglund					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0571	B2 ;	AGD	56	297105	6427689	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Bobbie Oakley,K Calley					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0572	B3 ;	AGD	56	296605	6427789	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Bobbie Oakley,K Calley					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0573	B4 ;	AGD	56	296005	6427839	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Bobbie Oakley,K Calley					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0574	B5 ;	AGD	56	295955	6427139	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Elizabeth Rich					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0575	B6 ;	AGD	56	296245	6426889	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Elizabeth Rich					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0576	B7 ;	AGD	56	296845	6426709	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Elizabeth Rich					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0577	B8 ;	AGD	56	294985	6426069	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Ms.Laila Haglund					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0601	B32 ;	AGD	56	295605	6428589	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Bobbie Oakley					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0603	B34 ;	AGD	56	294955	6428739	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Ms.Laila Haglund					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0605	B36;	AGD	56	295010	6425200	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Ms.Laila Haglund					**Permits**	851	
37-2-0606	B37;	AGD	56	295400	6425000	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681,100765
	Contact	**Recorders**	Elizabeth Rich					**Permits**		
37-2-0607	B38;	AGD	56	298250	6424950	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681
	Contact	**Recorders**	Bobbie Oakley					**Permits**		
37-2-0608	B39;	AGD	56	298500	6425000	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2687,100681

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 22/09/2017 for Clare Leevers for the following area at Lat, Long From : -32.2926, 150.826 - Lat, Long To : -32.2566, 150.8831 with a Buffer of 200 meters. Additional Info : Heritage Report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 67

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
	Contact	**Recorders**	Bobbie Oakley					**Permits**	828	
37-2-1466	C20;	AGD	56	296480	6428930	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	4105
	Contact	**Recorders**	Barry French,Ms.Jill Ruig					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-0129	Yammanie;Ramrod Creek;2;	AGD	56	300000	6425500	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	316
	Contact	**Recorders**	Len Dyall					**Permits**		
37-2-1920	AD4	AGD	56	297800	6424800	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Peter Kuskie					**Permits**		
37-2-2870	MTP-66	GDA	56	296168	6429242	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3033	MTP-452	GDA	56	298338	6429178	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3034	MTP-453	GDA	56	297686	6429274	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3035	MTP-454	GDA	56	298230	6429116	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3036	MTP-455	GDA	56	298208	6429075	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3037	MTP-456	GDA	56	297744	6429040	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3038	MTP-458	GDA	56	297796	6428926	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3039	MTP-459	GDA	56	297809	6428939	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3040	MTP-460	GDA	56	297725	6428964	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3466	MTP-888	GDA	56	296754	6429043	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**		
37-2-3467	MTP-889	GDA	56	296710	6429072	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**		
37-2-3468	MTP-890	GDA	56	296691	6429109	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**		
37-2-3469	MTP-891	GDA	56	296663	6429106	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**		
37-2-3470	MTP-892	GDA	56	296670	6429067	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 22/09/2017 for Clare Leevers for the following area at Lat, Long From : -32.2926, 150.826 - Lat, Long To : -32.2566, 150.8831 with a Buffer of 200 meters. Additional Info : Heritage Report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 67

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SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3471	MTP-893	GDA	56	296637	6429073	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3472	MTP-894	GDA	56	296620	6429121	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3473	MTP-895	GDA	56	296596	6429115	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits		
37-2-3474	MTP-896	GDA	56	296548	6429089	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3284	MTP-705	GDA	56	295732	6429159	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3285	MTP-706	GDA	56	295571	6429155	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3286	MTP-707	GDA	56	295549	6429171	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3475	MTP-897	GDA	56	296491	6429086	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3476	MTP-898	GDA	56	296469	6428986	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3477	MTP-899	GDA	56	296552	6428945	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3478	MTP-900	GDA	56	296615	6428982	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits		
37-2-3479	MTP-901	GDA	56	296764	6428926	Open site	Not a Site	Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred) : -		103689,103690
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits		
37-2-3480	MTP-902	GDA	56	296709	6429128	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3481	MTP-903	GDA	56	296890	6429268	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3484	MTP-906	GDA	56	297447	6429247	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	
37-2-3485	MTP-907	GDA	56	297573	6429096	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Mr.Lennard Roberts					Permits	4005	

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 22/09/2017 for Clare Leevers for the following area at Lat, Long From : -32.2926, 150.826 - Lat, Long To : -32.2566, 150.8831 with a Buffer of 200 meters. Additional Info : Heritage Report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 67

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SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
37-2-3486	MTP-908	GDA	56	297471	6429115	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3487	MTP-909	GDA	56	297430	6429014	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3488	MTP-910	GDA	56	297432	6429028	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3489	MTP-911	GDA	56	297488	6429030	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3490	MTP-912	GDA	56	297351	6428946	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3288	MTP-709	GDA	56	295032	6429145	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Geordie Oakes,Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**		
37-2-3491	MTP-913	GDA	56	297394	6428808	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3492	MTP-914	GDA	56	297358	6428682	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3493	MTP-915	GDA	56	297742	6428751	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3494	MTP-916	GDA	56	297728	6428825	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-2850	MTP-46	GDA	56	297418	6429033	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-2851	MTP-47	GDA	56	297428	6429018	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-2852	MTP-48	GDA	56	297291	6429202	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-2854	MTP-50	GDA	56	297272	6429211	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-2855	MTP-51	GDA	56	296942	6428777	Open site	Not a Site	Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred) : -		103653
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-3370	MTP-791	GDA	56	296690	6428750	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-2853	MTP-49	GDA	56	297235	6429248	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 22/09/2017 for Clare Leevers for the following area at Lat, Long From : -32.2926, 150.826 - Lat, Long To : -32.2566, 150.8831 with a Buffer of 200 meters. Additional Info : Heritage Report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 67

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AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 3815-3

Client Service ID : 303300

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Lennard Roberts					**Permits**	4005	
37-2-4416	MWB SEW 001	GDA	56	300131	6425577	Open site	Partially Destroyed	Artefact : 1		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Neville Baker					**Permits**	3612	
37-2-4418	MWB	GDA	56	300131	6425577	Open site	Deleted	Artefact : 1		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Neville Baker					**Permits**		
37-2-4574	MWB Pipeline 009	GDA	56	300552	6424951	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Ryan Desic,Mr.Ryan Desic					**Permits**		

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 22/09/2017 for Clare Leevers for the following area at Lat, Long From : -32.2926, 150.826 - Lat, Long To : -32.2566, 150.8831 with a Buffer of 200 meters. Additional Info : Heritage Report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 67

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Appendix 7 – Site Cards for Newly Recorded Sites

Aboriginal Site Recording Form

AHIMS Registrar
PO Box 1967, Hurstville 2220 NSW

AHIMS site ID: 33-2-0025 **Date recorded:** 31-10-2017

Site Location Information

Site name: MPO 2017/3

Easting: 298826 **Northing:** 6428879 **Coordinates must be in GDA (MGA)**

Horizontal Accuracy (m): 5

Zone: 55 **Location method:** Non-Differential GPS

Recorder Information

(The person responsible for the completion and submission of this form)

Title	Surname	First name
Mr.	Hansel	Balazs

Organisation: Niche Environment and Heritage

Address: 19 Sorrell Street, north Parramatta NSW 1750

Phone: 0488224300 **E-mail:** bhansel@niche-eh.com

Site Context Information

Land Form Pattern: Floodplain **Land Use:** Farming Intensive

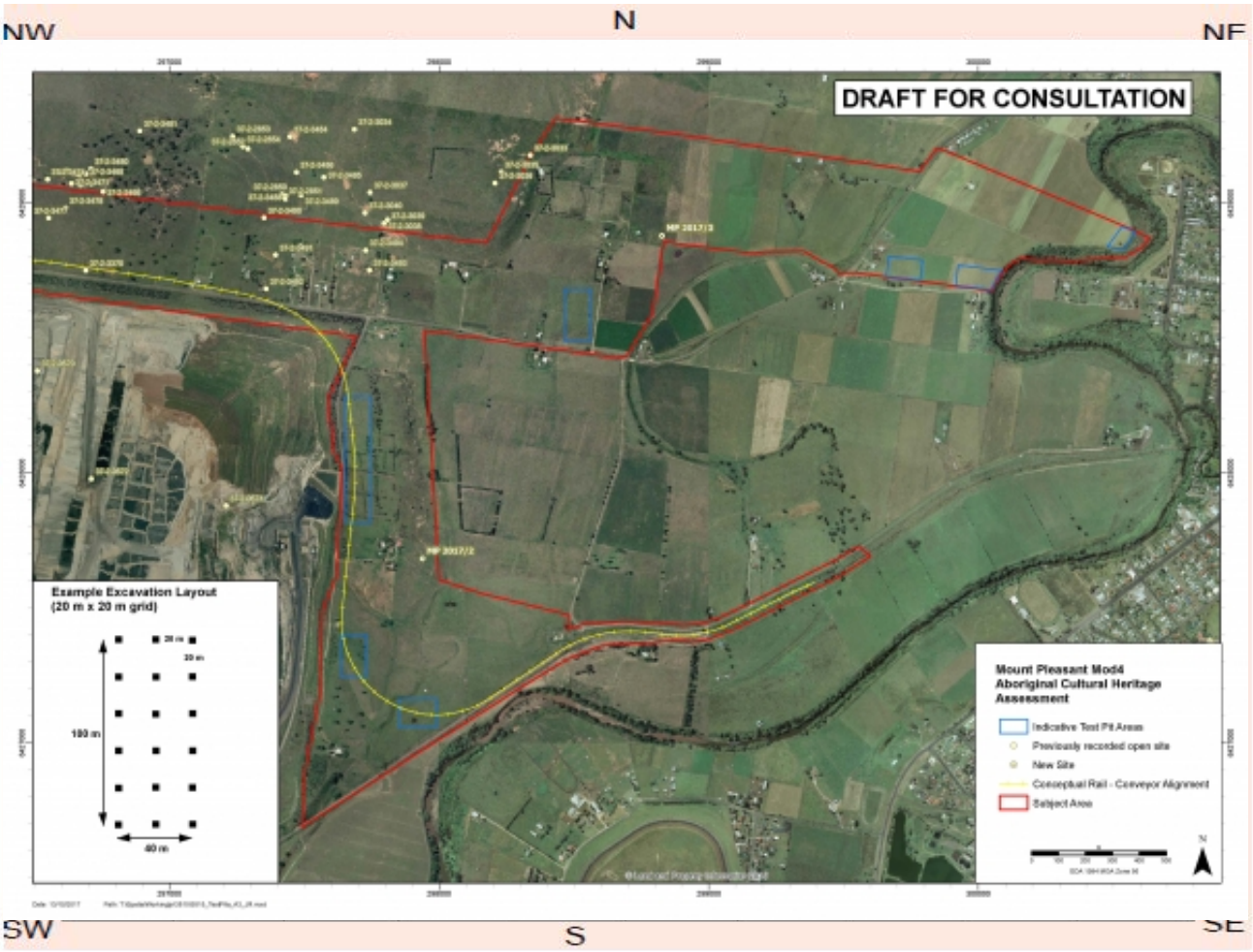
Land Form Unit: Terrace **Vegetation:** Cleared

Distance to Water (m): 200 **Primary Report:** MT Pleasant Operations MOD4 ACHA

How to get to the site: Drive on Kayuga Rd to W from Muswellbrook.Turn on Wybong Rd and drive twds W. After crossing Rosebrook Creek drive 140 m and turn right onto farm track leading to farm house,follow the track approx.480m and the site is located 130m twds west on track

Other site information: Soils in the vicinity of the site are fairly stable apart form the erosion caused by the vehicle track

Site location map



Site contents information

open/closed site: Open

Site condition: Disturbed

Features:

		Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
1.	Artefact	1	5	5				

Description:

Isolated Find located on the flood plains of the Hunter River and Rosebrook Creek . Environment is cleared, heavily used agricultural land with high level of erosion.

Features:

		Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
2.								

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
3.							

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
4.							

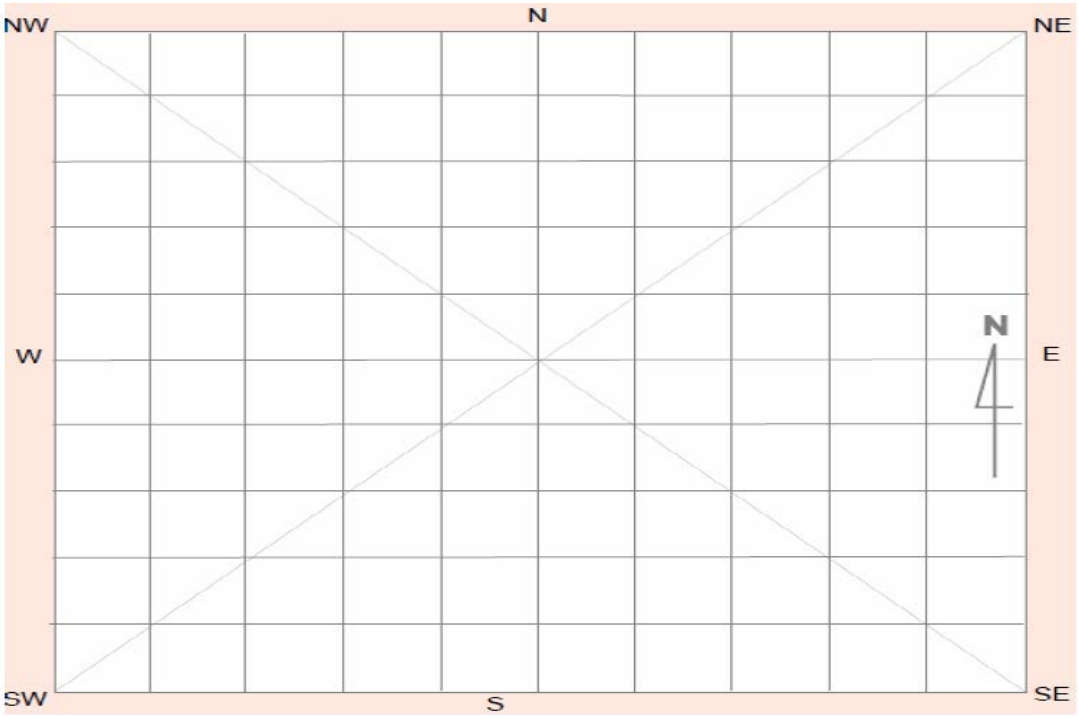
Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
5.							

Description:

Other Site Info: Soils in the vicinity of the site are fairly stable apart form the erosion caused by the vehicle track

Site plan



Site photographs

Description: Artefact of MPO 2017/3

Description: Artefact of MPO 2017/3

Description: Location of site MPO 2017/3 photo facing S

Description: Location of MPO 2017/3 photo facing E

Site restrictions

Do you want to Restrict this site?: ☐

Restriction type: Gender ☐ General ☐ Location ☐

Why is this site restricted?:

Further information contact

Title	Surname	First name

Organisation:

Address:

Phone: **E-mail:**

Aboriginal Site Recording Form

AHIMS Registrar
PO Box 1967, Hurstville 2220 NSW

AHIMS site ID: 33-2-0026 **Date recorded:** 31-10-2017

Site Location Information

Site name: MPO 2017/2

Easting: 297938 **Northing:** 6427683 **Coordinates must be in GDA (MGA)**

Horizontal Accuracy (m): 5

Zone: 55 **Location method:** Non-Differential GPS

Recorder Information

(The person responsible for the completion and submission of this form)

Title	Surname	First name
Mr.	Hansel	Balazs

Organisation: Niche Environment and Heritage

Address: 19 Sorrell Street, north Parramatta NSW 1750

Phone: 0488224300 **E-mail:** bhansel@niche-eh.com

Site Context Information

Land Form Pattern: Rolling Hills **Land Use:** Farming Intensive

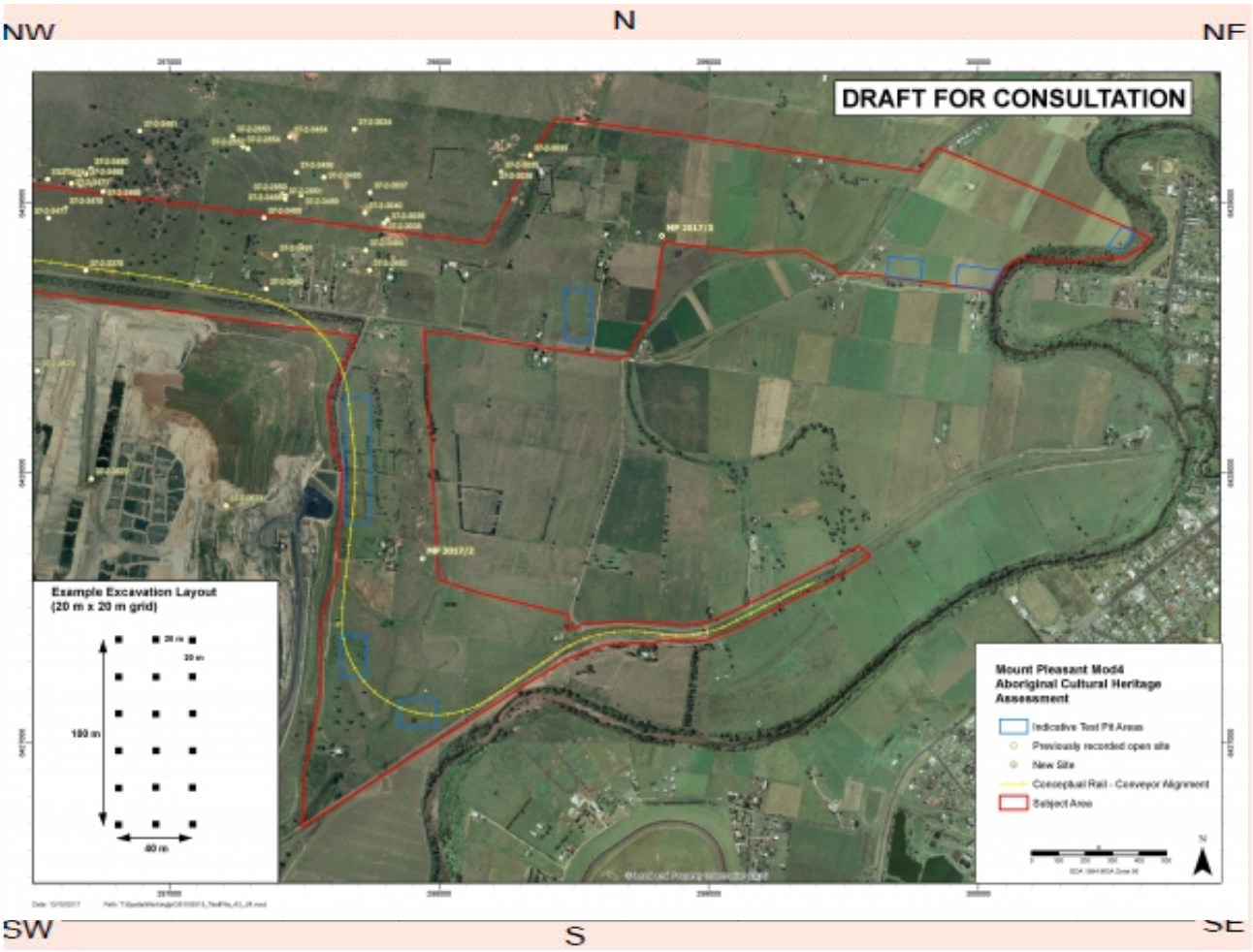
Land Form Unit: Slope **Vegetation:** Cleared

Distance to Water (m): 130 **Primary Report:** MT Pleasant Operations MOD4 ACHA

How to get to the site: Drive on Kayuga Rd to W from Muswellbrook.Turn on Wybong Rd and drive twds W. After approx 3km turn left on Overton Rd and drive 900m twds S. The site is located approx. 300 m twds E at the bottom of the hill.

Other site information: Soils in the vicinity of the site are fairly stable apart form the erosion caused by the vehicle track

Site location map



Site contents information

open/closed site: Open

Site condition: Disturbed

Features:

		Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
1.	Artefact	1	5	5				

Description:

Isolated Find located on the lower/steep slope of a south-north high ridge above the flood plains of the Hunter River. Environment is cleared, heavily used agricultural land with high level of erosion.

Features:

		Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
2.								

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
3.							

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
4.							

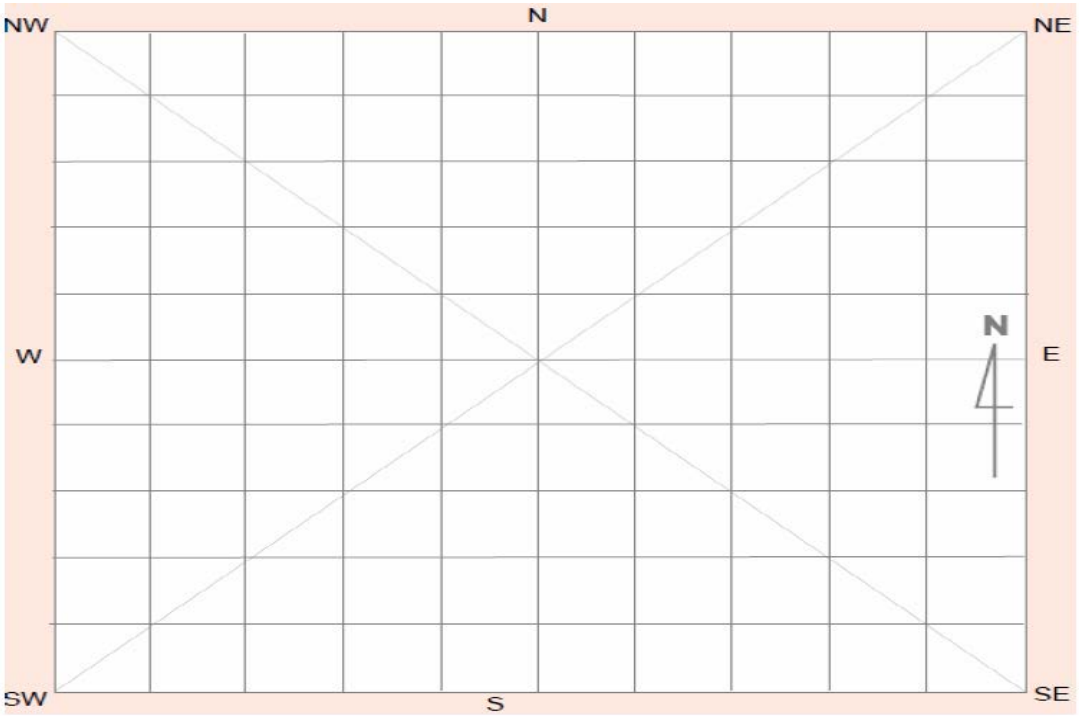
Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
5.							

Description:

Other Site Info: Soils in the vicinity of the site are fairly stable apart form the erosion caused by the vehicle track

Site plan



Site photographs

Description: Artefact of MPO 2017/2

Description: Artefact of MPO 2017/2

Description: Location of site MPO 2017/2 looking E

Description: Location of site MPO 2017/2 looking S

Site restrictions

Do you want to Restrict this site?: ☐

Restriction type: Gender ☐ General ☐ Location ☐

Why is this site restricted?:

Further information contact

Title	Surname	First name

Organisation:

Address:

Phone: **E-mail:**

Aboriginal Site Recording Form

AHIMS Registrar
PO Box 1967, Hurstville 2220 NSW

AHIMS site ID: 33-2-0027 **Date recorded:** 31-10-2017

Site Location Information

Site name: MPO 2017/1

Easting: 296973 **Northing:** 6425781 **Coordinates must be in GDA (MGA)**

Horizontal Accuracy (m): 5

Zone: 55 **Location method:** Non-Differential GPS

Recorder Information

(The person responsible for the completion and submission of this form)

Title	Surname	First name
Mr.	Hansel	Balazs

Organisation: Niche Environment and Heritage

Address: 19 Sorrell Street, north Parramatta NSW 1750

Phone: 0488224300 **E-mail:** bhansel@niche-eh.com

Site Context Information

Land Form Pattern: Floodplain **Land Use:** Farming Intensive

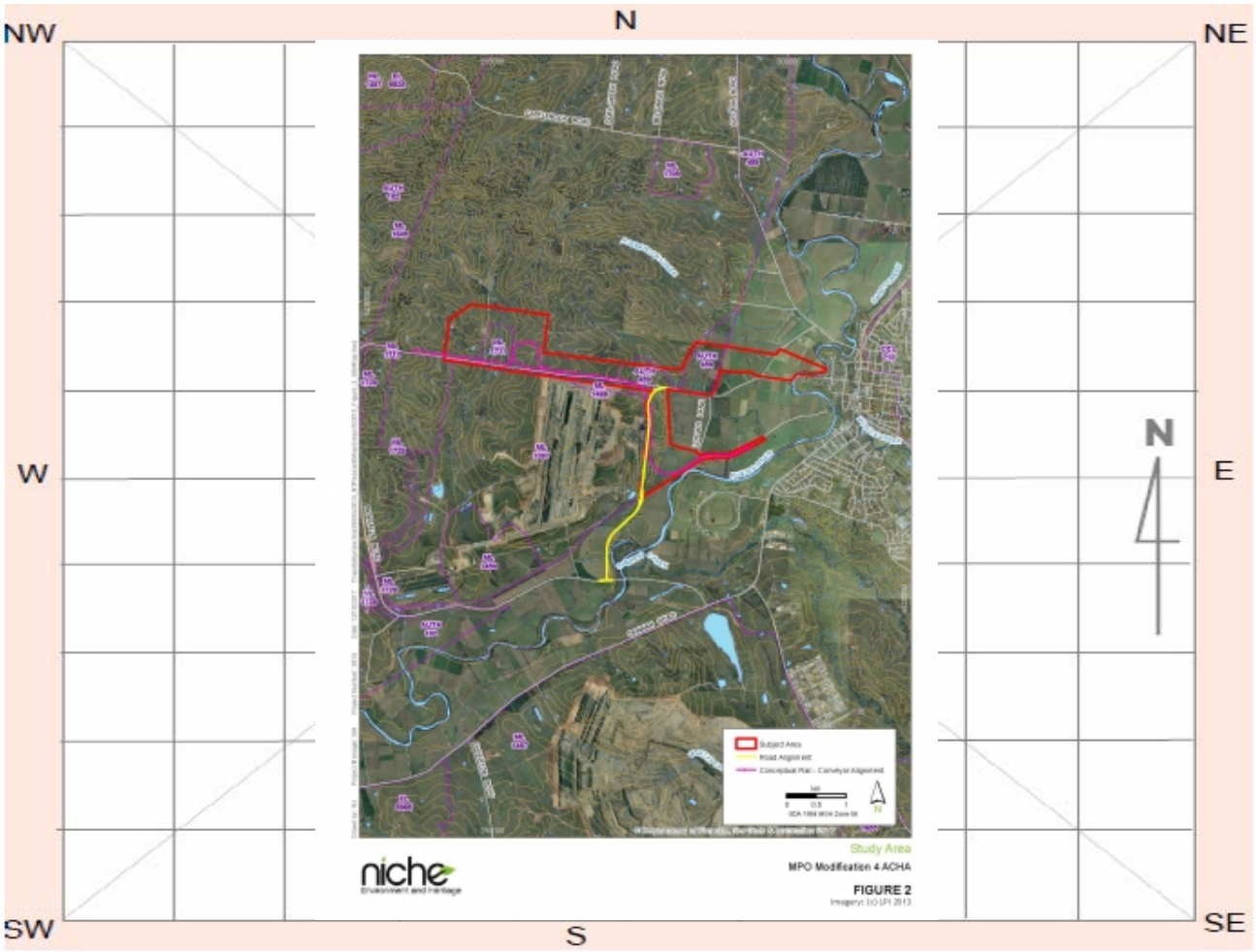
Land Form Unit: Terrace **Vegetation:** Cleared

Distance to Water (m): 10 **Primary Report:** MT Pleasant Operations MOD4 ACHA

How to get to the site: Drive on Denman Rd to S from Muswellbrook.Turn on Bengalla Rd and after crossing the Hunter River follow the right/western bank twds N. The site is located approx. 460 m on the edge of the trees.

Other site information: Soils in the vicinity of the site are fairly stable apart form the erosion caused by the vehicle track

Site location map



Site contents information

open/closed site: Open **Site condition:** Disturbed

Features:

		Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
1.	Artefact	1	5	5				

Description:

Isolated Find located on an unformed vehicle track situated on the right/west bank of the Hunter River

Features:

		Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
2.								

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
3.							

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
4.							

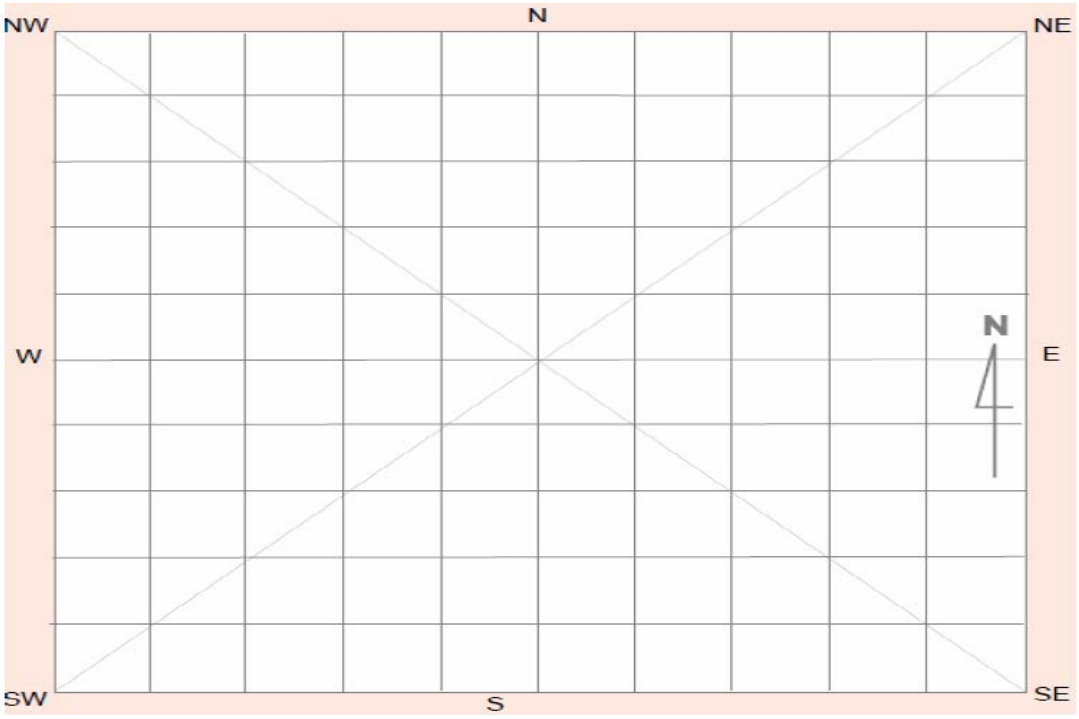
Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
5.							

Description:

Other Site Info: Soils in the vicinity of the site are fairly stable apart form the erosion caused by the vehicle track

Site plan



Site photographs

Description: Artefact of MPO 2017/1

Description: Location of site MPO 2017/1 photo facing East

Description:

Description:

Site restrictions

Do you want to Restrict this site?:

Restriction type: Gender General Location

Why is this site restricted?:

Further information contact

Title **Surname** **First name**

Organisation:

Address:

Phone: **E-mail:**

Aboriginal Site Recording Form

AHIMS Registrar
PO Box 1967, Hurstville 2220 NSW

AHIMS site ID: 33-2-0028 **Date recorded:** 01-11-2017

Site Location Information

Site name: MPO 2017/4

Easting: 297881 **Northing:** 6427124 **Coordinates must be in GDA (MGA)**

Horizontal Accuracy (m): 5

Zone: 55 **Location method:** Non-Differential GPS

Recorder Information

(The person responsible for the completion and submission of this form)

Title	Surname	First name
Mr.	Hansel	Balazs

Organisation: Niche Environment and Heritage

Address: 19 Sorrell Street, north Parramatta NSW 1750

Phone: 0488224300 **E-mail:** bhansel@niche-eh.com

Site Context Information

Land Form Pattern: Floodplain **Land Use:** Farming Intensive

Land Form Unit: Terrace **Vegetation:** Cleared

Distance to Water (m): 50 **Primary Report:** MT Pleasant Operations MOD4 ACHA

How to get to the site: Drive on Kayuga Rd west from Muswellbrook,turn left on Wybong Rd and after 2.2km turn left on Louges Ln.Drive until the road bends left just before the rail and turn here right through a gate into a paddock.THe site is approx. 600m twds SW along rail

Other site information: Site is located on the southern edge of old channel of Hunter River. Soils are black, silty, clayey loam with high level of disturbance caused by farming activities. signs of multiple flood events are also visible

Site location map

Site contents information

open/closed site: Open **Site condition:** Disturbed

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
1. Artefact	17	40	20				

Description:

Artefact scatter identified by test excavation in TP 1,3 and 9. low density background scatter within highly disturbed context and with low integrity.

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
2.							

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
3.							

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
4.							

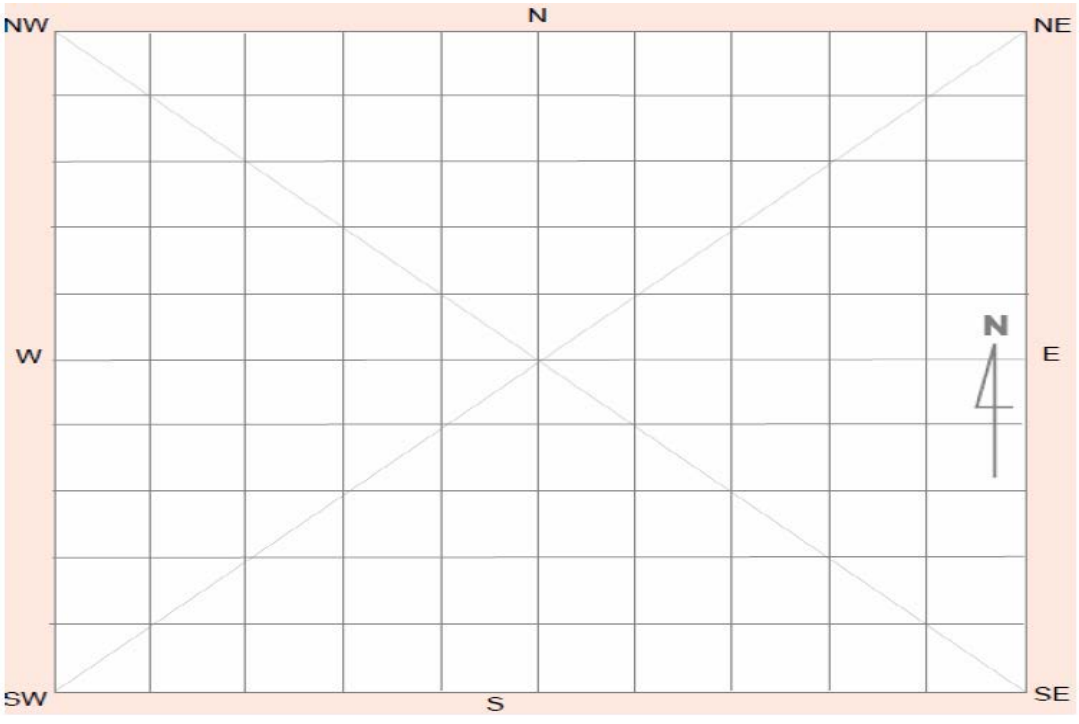
Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
5.							

Description:

Other Site Info: Site is located on the southern edge of old channel of Hunter River. Soils are black, silty, clayey loam with high level of disturbance caused by farming activities. signs of multiple flood events are also visible

Site plan



Site photographs

Description: Location of site MPO 2017/4. TR1/TP1 is under the gazebo.

Description:

Description:

Description:

Site restrictions

Do you want to Restrict this site?:

Restriction type: Gender General Location

Why is this site restricted?:

Further information contact

Title **Surname** **First name**

Organisation:

Address:

Phone: **E-mail:**

Aboriginal Site Recording Form

AHIMS Registrar
PO Box 1967, Hurstville 2220 NSW

AHIMS site ID: 33-2-0029 **Date recorded:** 01-11-2017

Site Location Information

Site name: MPO 2017/5

Easting: 297638 **Northing:** 6427371 **Coordinates must be in GDA (MGA)**

Horizontal Accuracy (m): 5

Zone: 55 **Location method:** Non-Differential GPS

Recorder Information

(The person responsible for the completion and submission of this form)

Title Mr. **Surname** Hansel **First name** Balazs

Organisation: Niche Environment and Heritage

Address: 19 Sorrell Street, north Parramatta NSW 1750

Phone: 0488224300 **E-mail:** bhansel@niche-eh.com

Site Context Information

Land Form Pattern: Rolling Hills **Land Use:** Farming Intensive

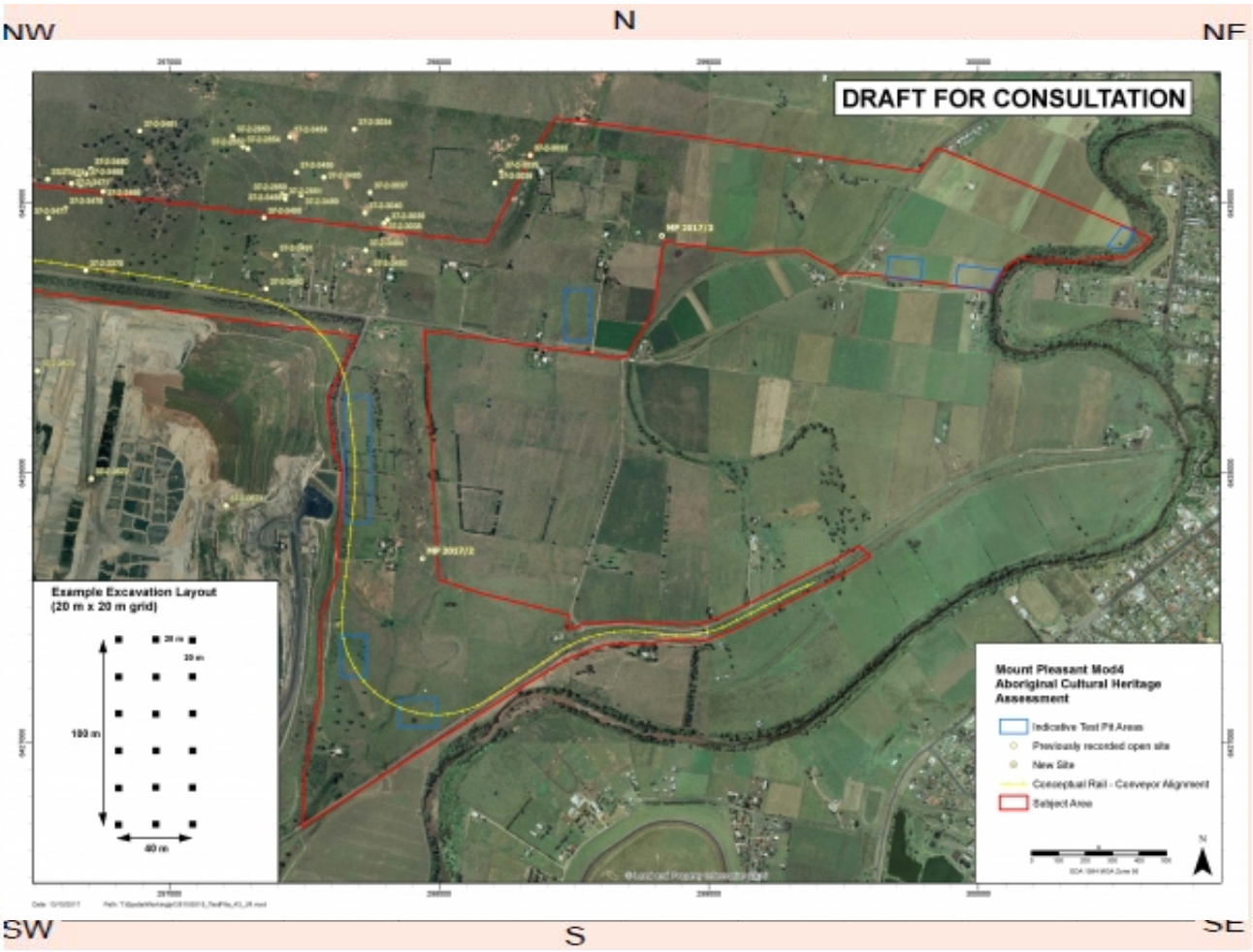
Land Form Unit: Ridge **Vegetation:** Cleared

Distance to Water (m): 300 **Primary Report:** MT Pleasant Operations MOD4 ACHA

How to get to the site: Drive on Kayuga Rd west from Muswellbrook,turn left on Wybong Rd and after 3km turn left on Overton Rd.Drive twds S 900m.THe site is approx. 50m twds E on the E side of the tree line

Other site information: Site is located on a small hill just above the flood plains of the Hunter river. Soils are red, gravely, clayey hard silty. Large amounts of gravel and colluvial rock

Site location map



Site contents information

open/closed site: Open

Site condition: Disturbed

Features:

		Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
1.	Artefact	1	5	5				

Description:

Isolated find recovered from Area 3 TR 1/TP1 during test excavation. Area 3 is the small blue square on attached figure located on the top of low hill NW of rail line

Features:

		Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Regrowth (cm)	Scarred Trees: Scar shape	Scarred Trees: Tree Species
2.								

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
3.							

Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
4.							

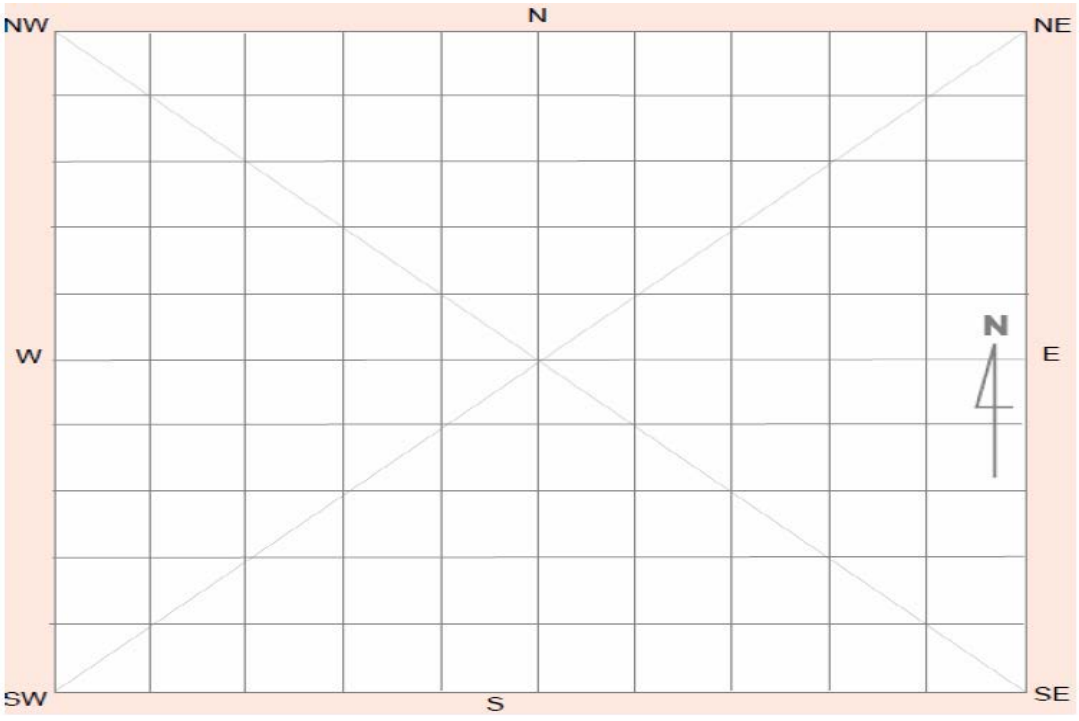
Description:

Features:	Number of features	Length of feature(s) extent (m)	Width of feature (s) extent (m)	Scarred Trees: Scar Depth (cm)	Regrowth (cm)	Scar shape	Tree Species
5.							

Description:

Other Site Info: Site is located on a small hill just above the flood plains of the Hunter river. Soils are red, gravely, clayey hard silty. Large amounts of gravel and colluvial rock

Site plan



Site photographs

Description: MPO 2017/5 at TR1/TP1 photo facing N

Description: General location of MPO 2017/5 photo facing W

Description:

Description:

Site restrictions

Do you want to Restrict this site?:

Restriction type: Gender General Location

Why is this site restricted?:

Further information contact

Title **Surname** **First name**

Organisation:

Address:

Phone: **E-mail:**

Appendix 8 – List of Registered Aboriginal Parties

Table A8-1
List of Registered Aboriginal Parties for the Modification

FULL NAME	CORPORATION
Adam Sampson	AGA Services
Aliera French	Aliera French Trading
Alison Howlett	Buda Mada Koori Womens Aboriginal Corporation
Allen Paget	Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation
Amanda Hickey	Amanda Hickey Cultural Services
Anne Hickey	Gidawaa Walang Cultural Heritage Consultancy
Arthur Fletcher	Wonnarua Elders Council Inc.
Arthur Fletcher	Kauwul (Wonn 1)
Barry & Colleen Stair	-
Barry Anderson	Lower Wonnarua Tribal Consultancy Pty Ltd
Barry McTaggart	Yarrawalk Enterprises
Ben Cameron	BJC Cultural Management
Brian Horton	Muswellbrook Culture Consultants
Chantae Griffiths	-
Christine Archbold	Hunter Valley Cultural Consultants
Clifford Johnson	-
Clifford Matthews	Mingga Consultants
Darrel Matthews	Upper Hunter Heritage Consultants
David Ahoy	Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated
David French	Upper Hunter Natural and Cultural Resources Management
David Horton	Gomery Cultural Consultants
Deidre Perkins	Divine Diggers Aboriginal Cultural Consultants
Derrick Vale Sr	DFTV Enterprises
Des Hickey	Wattaka Wonnarua Cultural Consultants Service
Des Hickey	Wonnarua Traditional Custodians
Deslee Matthews	Deslee Talbot Consultant
Elizabeth Howard	Waabi Gabinya Cultural Consultancy
Esther Tighe	-
Fiona Draper	-
George Sampson	Cacatua General Services
Gina Field	-
Gordon Griffiths	Wonnarua Culture Heritage
Greg Griffiths	Gomeroi Murri Ganuurr Yuuray Wadi Palinka
Hazel Collins	-
Helen Faulkner	DRM Cultural Management
Ivy Jaeger	I & E Aboriginal Culture and Heritage
Jeff Matthews	Crimson-Rosie
Jenny-Lee Chambers	JLC Cultural Services
Jill Green	Lower Hunter Aboriginal Corporation
John & Margaret Matthews	Aboriginal Native Title Consultants

FULL NAME	CORPORATION
Justin Matthews	Carrawonga
Karen Matthews	Galamaay Consultant
Kathleen Steward-Kinchela	Yinarr Cultural Services
Kerren Boyd	HECMO Consultants
Kevin Sampson	Bawurra Consultants
Kristen Kerr	Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation
Krystal Saunders	KL.KG Saunders Trading Services
Larry van Vliet	Valley Culture
Laurie Perry	Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation
Les Atkinson	Jarban & Mugrebea
Les Field	L.J Culture Management
Luke Cameron	Luke Cameron Cultural Management
Luke Hickey	Hunter Valley Cultural Surveying
Maree Waugh	Wallangan Cultural Services
Maria Stocks	Wanaruah Aboriginal Custodians Corporation
Marie-Ellen Griffiths	ME Griffiths Cultural Management
Mark Hickey	Kayaway Eco-Cultural and Heritage Services
Marvonia Welsh	-
Michele Stair	-
Norm Archibald	Jumbunna Traffic Management Group Pty Ltd
Paulette Ryan	HTO Environmental Management Services
Rebecca Lester	Wonnarua Culture and Heritage
Rhoda Perry	Upper Hunter Wonnarua Council Incorporated
Rhonda Griffiths	Hunter Valley Aboriginal Corporation
Rhonda Ward	Ungooroo Cultural & Community Services Inc
Rick Coles	Hunter Valley Traditional Owner Environmental Management Services
Robert Smith	Murrawan Cultural Consultants
Rod Hickey	Kawul Cultural Services
Rodney Matthews	Giwiirr Consultants
Roger Noel Matthews	Roger Noel Matthews
Scott Franks	Tocomwall Pty Ltd
Scott Franks & Robert Lester	Plains Clans of the Wonnarua People Registered Native Title Claim
Stephen Talbott	Gomeroi Namoi Traditional Owners
Steven Hickey	Widescope Indigenous Group Pty Ltd
Susan Cutmore	Moreeites
Suzie Worth & Noel Downs	Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council
Tammy Knox	Bunda Counsultants
Terry Matthews	Breeza Plains Culture and Heritage Consultants
Timothy Smith	Smith Dhagaans Cultural Group
Tom Miller	Lower Hunter Wonnarua Council Inc.
Tony Griffiths	T & G Culture Consultants
Tracey Skene	Culturally Aware

FULL NAME	CORPORATION
Warren Schillings	My Land Cultural Heritage
Warren Taggart	-
Wayne Griffiths	Bigundi Biame Traditional People
Des Hickey	Valley ELM Corp
Amanda Howard	-
Carolyn Hickey	A1 Indigenous Services

Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification

Technical Study Report

Geomorphological Assessment of Sub-surface Archaeological Potential

Dr Christopher J Gippel

Final

December 2017

FLUVIAL SYSTEMS

Mount Pleasant Operation

Geomorphological Assessment of Sub-surface Archaeological Potential

Prepared for:

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd

Prepared by:

Fluvial Systems Pty Ltd

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Email: fluvialsystems@fastmail.net

ABN: 71 085 579 095

December 2017

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Document History and Status

Document	Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification, Geomorphological Assessment of Sub-surface Archaeological Potential
Ref	
Date	18-12-2017
Prepared by	Christopher Gippel

Revision History

Revision	Revision Date	Details	Authorised	
			Name/Position	Signature
A	31-10-2017	Draft for Review	Chris Gippel Geomorphologist	
B	06-11-2017	Final for review 1	Chris Gippel Geomorphologist	
C	09-11-2017	Final for review 2	Chris Gippel Geomorphologist	
D	18-12-2017	Final	Chris Gippel Geomorphologist	

Table of Contents

Executive Summary i
1.0 Introduction 1
1.1 Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification 1
1.2 Purpose of the Report 1
2.0 Landform Elements with Greatest Potential to Contain Archaeological Materials 1
3.0 Methodology 3
3.1 Study Area 3
3.1.1 Primary Data 3
3.1.2 Spatial Data 3
3.1.3 Geology Data 3
3.1.4 Soils Data 3
3.2 Terrain Analysis 3
3.2.1 Topography (Digital Elevation) Definition 4
3.2.2 Landform Classification 4
3.2.3 Relative Floodplain Height 6
3.2.4 Slope 6
4.0 Results 7
4.1 Geology 7
4.2 Soils 7
4.3 Terrain Analysis 9
4.3.1 MRVBF 9
4.3.2 Relative Floodplain Height 10
4.3.3 Slope 11
4.4 Soil Excavation Test Pits 12
5.0 Conclusion 13
6.0 References 14

Executive Summary

This report documented the geomorphological character of the Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification (the proposed Modification) Study Area (the focus Study Area) in the vicinity of water pump and pipeline and rail spur zones using repeatable desktop methods and a visual inspection.

The scope of work for this Technical Report included:

- assessment of recent (< approx. 50,000 years) landscape formation history in the vicinity of the proposed Modification.
- identification of areas in the vicinity of the proposed Modification with potential for finding preserved sub-surface evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

The methodology used a well established approach to make use of digital topographic and aerial photographic data to analyse the characteristics of the terrain. Detailed Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data was available to represent elevation of the terrain surrounding the area of interest. The terrain indicators Multiresolution Index of Valley Bottom Flatness (MRVBF), relative floodplain height and slope were used together with existing soil data and evidence from the literature concerning comparable sites, to interpret landform history and identify areas with potential for finding preserved sub-surface evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

On the basis of a published theory of the formation of duplex soils found on the hillslopes of the Mount Pleasant area, it was concluded that the likelihood of finding preserved sub-surface evidence of late-Pleistocene Aboriginal occupation was low. Most of the A horizon sedimentary material on the slopes is estimated to be less than 3,000 years old. Floodplain alluvium also holds low potential for archaeological material due to disturbance by reworking of sediments by floods. Areas with the highest likelihood of finding preserved sub-surface evidence of Aboriginal occupation would be on the western side, near the interface of the floodplain and colluvial hillslope, and adjacent to an accessible water source.

The results of terrain analysis, and inspection of excavation test pits were consistent with the theory of soil formation and potential to contain archaeological materials outlined by Hughes. According to that theory, the likelihood of finding preserved sub-surface evidence of late-Pleistocene Aboriginal occupation anywhere in the focus Study Area is very low. It would be possible to find material of a more recent age, although they would most likely be small fragments broken during the process of dispersal from their original location through washing downslope or being transported by floods.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification

The Mount Pleasant Operation Development Consent DA 92/97 was granted on 22 December 1999. The Mount Pleasant Operation was also approved under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* in 2012 (EPBC 2011/5795).

MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd (MACH Energy) acquired the Mount Pleasant Operation from Coal & Allied Operations Pty Ltd on 4 August 2016. MACH Energy commenced construction activities at the Mount Pleasant Operation in November 2016 and commenced mining operations in October 2017, in accordance with Development Consent DA 92/97 and EPBC 2011/5795.

The approved Mount Pleasant Operation includes the construction and operation of an open cut coal mine and associated rail spur and product coal loading infrastructure located approximately three kilometres north-west of Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW) (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

The mine is approved to produce up to 10.5 million tonnes per annum of run-of-mine coal. Up to approximately nine trains per day of thermal coal products from the Mount Pleasant Operation will be transported by rail to the port of Newcastle for export or to domestic customers for use in electricity generation.

The ultimate extent of the approved Bengalla Mine open cut intersects the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail spur.

While the intersection of the Bengalla Mine open cut with the approved Mount Pleasant Operation rail infrastructure is still some years away, MACH Energy is proposing a Rail Modification (the proposed Modification) to obtain approval for future rail and/or conveyor product transport facilities to manage this future interaction.

The proposed Modification would primarily comprise (Figure 2):

- duplication of the approved rail spur, rail loop and associated conveyor and rail load-out facility;
- duplication of the Hunter River water supply pump station and associated water pipeline that currently follows the rail spur alignment; and
- demolition and removal of the redundant approved infrastructure within the extent of the Bengalla Mine, once the new rail, product loading and water supply infrastructure has been commissioned and is fully operational.

The proposed Modification would not alter the number of approved train movements on the rail network or operational workforce of the Mount Pleasant Operation.

1.2 Purpose of the Report

This Geomorphological Assessment of Sub-surface Archaeological Potential is mainly concerned with describing the geomorphological character of the area associated with the proposed Modification.

The scope of work for this Technical Report included:

- assessment of recent (< approx. 50,000 years before present [BP]) landscape formation history in the vicinity of the proposed Modification.
- identify areas in the vicinity of the proposed Modification with potential for finding preserved sub-surface evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

In geological age, the oldest expected material would belong to the late-Pleistocene epoch (11,700 – approx. 50,000 years BP), and more recent material would belong to the Holocene epoch (<11,700 years BP). This report makes no distinction between the cultural value of late-Pleistocene and Holocene archaeological material, but it is noted that material of recent age is more commonly found, while late-Pleistocene material could inform the timeline of occupation of the area.

Figure 1. Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification Regional Location. Source: Resource Strategies.

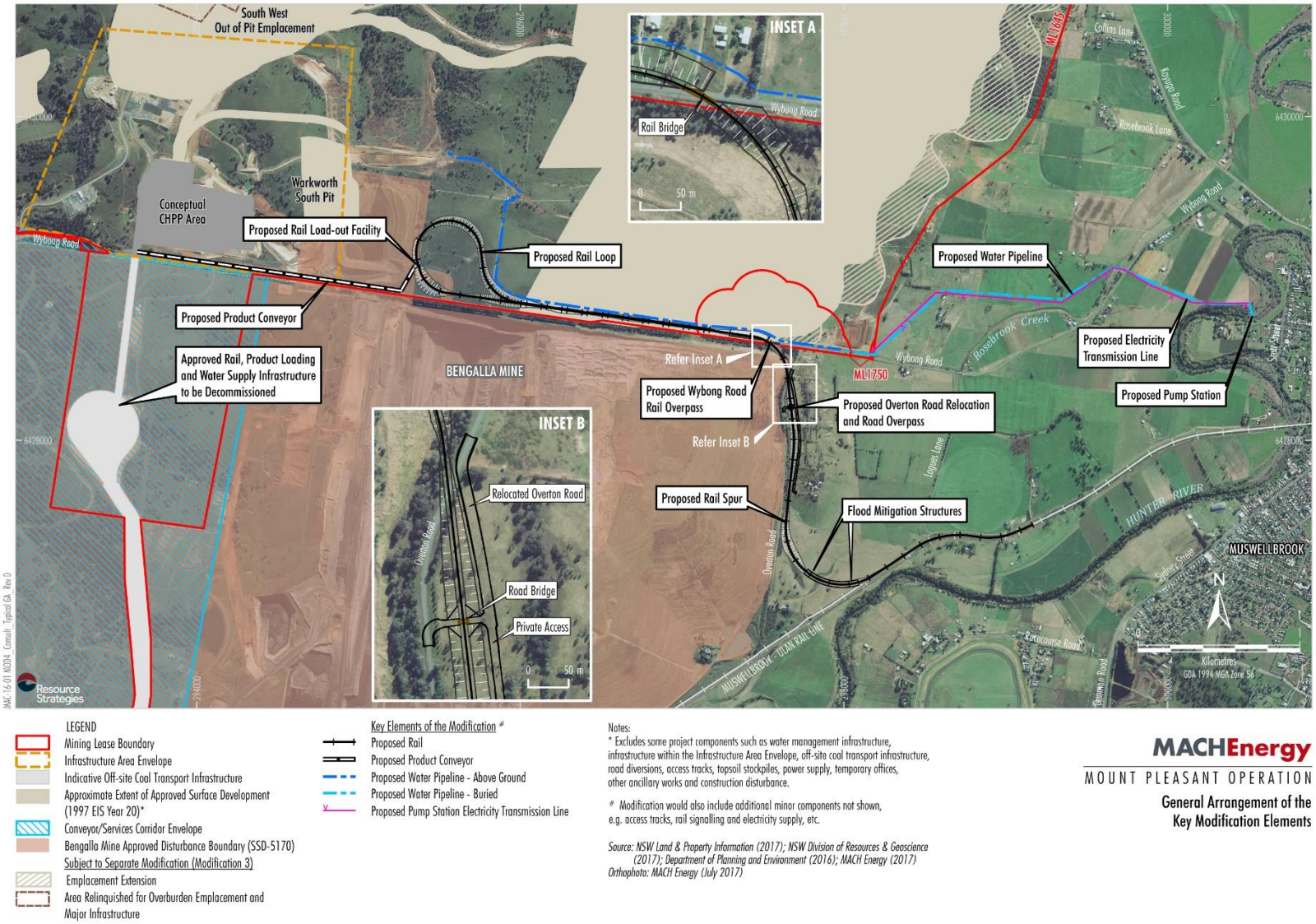

Figure 2. Mount Pleasant Operation Rail Modification General Arrangement of the Mount Pleasant Operation and the Key Elements of the Modification. Source: Resource Strategies

2.0 Landform Elements with Greatest Potential to Contain Archaeological Materials

Hughes et al. (2014) reported that the numerous archaeological investigations conducted in the Hunter Valley since the 1970s, many associated with coal mining developments, have found thousands of archaeological sites containing stone artefacts in open contexts. A range of evidence indicates that almost all of the stone artefacts in these sites are of Holocene age (<11,700 years BP), and most are probably from the late-Holocene (3,000 – 5,000 years BP) (Hughes et al., 2014). The paucity of archaeological sites older than mid- to late-Holocene does not appear to be explained by lack of survey effort, and from the perspective of climate and resources the area would have been attractive for occupation from the time of first occupation ~50,000 years ago and up to the Last Glacial Maximum (Hughes et al., 2014), which occurred about 21,000 years BP.

Hughes (1999), Hughes (2000), Hughes (2003) and Hughes et al. (2014) summarised the hypothesis of Dean Jones and Mitchell (1993, pages 40-46) on the genesis of texture contrast, also known as duplex, soils and their implications for archaeology. This hypothesis challenged the conventional idea that the A and B horizons in duplex soils developed in situ over long time periods and were of the same age. From the early 1980s, Hughes and colleagues began describing these soils in sedimentological rather than pedological terms as Unit A being modern to Holocene sediments unconformably overlying Unit B deposits of Pleistocene age. Dean-Jones and Mitchell (1993) proposed that in the Hunter region, duplex soils are the result of superposition of two unlike materials through the action of contemporary lateral movement of sediments down the slope (Hughes, 2000). Rainsplash acting together with rapid shallow bioturbation are the mechanisms of downslope transport of fine material, effectively coarsening the A horizon at the expense of the B horizon and commonly leading to the presence of a stone layer between these horizons.

If the described theory is correct, the implications for archaeology are, according to Dean-Jones and Mitchell (1993), and listed by Hughes (2000): (i) the A horizons of duplex soils are between 200 and 3,000 years old, rather than 20,000 to 30,000 years old; (ii) duplex soils are not stratified chronologically; (iii) stone artefacts will behave in the same way as natural stones on a hillslope and will be subjected to surface dispersion, downslope movement and differential burial or exposure by bioturbation; and (iv) intact or relatively undisturbed hearths provide the best prospects for dating open sites in these contexts.

Considering the work of Dean-Jones and Mitchell (1993), Hughes (2000) suggested that A horizons would need to be at least 300 millimetres (mm) thick before considering the possibility that older basal archaeological materials can be distinguished from overlying younger materials. Hughes (2000) also referred to the work of Nanson and Young (1988) on the lower Nepean River which suggested a period of major hillslope sediment stripping (the ‘Cranebrook Pluvial’) began more than 100,000 years ago and may have completed by 50,000 years ago. The suggestion here is that the last glacial maximum (about 20,000 to 18,000 years BP) was typified by low level fluvial activity. If episodes of major hillslope stripping occurred during the late-Pleistocene, then it was probably before about 50,000 years ago. The processes of rainwash erosion and bioturbation acting continuously through time would have repeatedly reworked the A horizon material such that at any given time over the past 50,000 years, the A horizon sediment would never have been older than about 3,000 years. The B horizon would have been little affected by this reworking process. Hughes (2000) agreed with Dean-Jones and Mitchell (1993) that any stone artefacts contained in the evolving A horizons would have been dispersed vertically and laterally, such that most duplex soils have no or negligible potential for Pleistocene archaeological material. The colluvial B horizon material is likely to have developed prior to human occupation of the Hunter region, so Hughes (2000) argued that B horizons of these duplex soils also have negligible potential to contain Pleistocene archaeological materials. Consistent with this, Hughes et al. (2014) reported that numerous excavations have recovered many thousands of artefacts in the A horizon of these texture contrast soils (especially the lower A2 horizon), but, with a few exceptions, not in the B horizon.

On Widden Brook, a low-sinuosity, terrace- and bedrock-confined, sand-bed stream in the upper Hunter Valley, NSW, Cheetham et al. (2010) found that inset, step-terrace sequences had progressively younger terrace deposits towards the channel. Colluvial deposits on top of older terraces generally yielded younger ages than fluvially deposited sediments on subsequent or younger terraces. Cheetham et al. (2010) noted that this observation was consistent with the general understanding that hillslope instability would maintain sediment supply to colluvial deposits after terrace formation (Williams, 1978).

Hughes and Hiscock (2000) investigated the potential for Pleistocene archaeological materials in alluvial soils associated with the Hunter River floodplain at Carrington Mine site. They concluded that colluvial deposits draped onto the floodplain have good potential. In comparison, the alluvial deposits themselves, being subject to natural episodic fluvial deposition and erosion, plus cultivation, means that stratified archaeological deposits would be less likely to form and be preserved. The largest historical flood in the Hunter Valley occurred in 1949, but this was greatly exceeded by palaeofloods that occurred during the late-Holocene (Erskine, 1994; Erskine and Peacock, 2002). Large floods are often associated with extensive geomorphic change, including floodplain stripping, channel migration, scour and deposition. Nanson and Erskine (1988) showed that channels and floodplains of coastal rivers in southeastern Australia had morphology that reflected a condition of cyclic equilibrium, alternating between short periods of catastrophic floods when channel and floodplain sediments erode by vertical and lateral stripping, and intervening periods of lower intensity events when the channels and floodplains slowly accrete (Nanson and Croke, 1992).

Below a depth of about 0.5 metres (m) there could be potential to find stratified deposits on floodplain soils containing archaeological materials. Sites with the highest potential would be those having a protective sediment layer. As well as areas on floodplain margins with colluvial drapes, the other situation with potential would be underneath natural levees associated with cut-off channels on elevated terraces (higher elevation suggests greater antiquity, possibly late-Pleistocene). Areas in proximity of the active river channel banks, on the side from which the river channel has migrated, are likely to be disturbed by erosion and deposition over the past few hundred years, so would have low potential for Pleistocene archaeological materials.

Hughes et al. (2014) concluded that in the central lowlands of the Hunter Valley, most open archaeological materials older than ~10,000 years have either been completely removed or have been widely dispersed across the landscape and are no longer recognisable as discrete Pleistocene-aged assemblages. Where artefacts are found in the A horizons of the duplex soils of the valleys, older artefacts will be very difficult to distinguish from the associated younger artefacts (Hughes et al.,2014).

Dean-Jones and Mitchell (1993, pages 39, 63 - 64) identified four geomorphic situations favouring the preservation of older open sites in the central lowlands of the Hunter Valley, listed by Hughes (2000) as:

1. Buried sites near the apices (tip or top) of low angle alluvial fans.
2. Overlapping fluvial terraces (no examples of which have yet been recorded from the Hunter region). Most terrace sequences are inset terraces, which are less likely to preserve older sites.
3. Where alluvial fans of tributary streams impinge on terraces and floodplains of the main stream.
4. Within dunes or on older surfaces buried by advancing dunes and sand sheets.

This report was prepared to inform archaeological investigations of the focus Study Area. Methods of terrain analysis were used to characterise the landforms with the objective of identifying if and where the above geomorphic situations, thought to favour the preservation of older open archaeological sites, might occur.

3.0 Methodology

3.1 Study Area

The focus Study Area boundary considered for this Technical Report was in the proximity of the proposed Modification, but also included consideration of the immediate surrounds. The focus Study Area was also considered within the context of the geomorphological character of the wider Mount Pleasant area.

3.1.1 Primary Data

A field inspection of the focus Study Area was undertaken by Dr Christopher Gippel of Fluvial Systems Pty Ltd on 28 September 2017, and again on 24 – 25 October 2017, when some archaeological test excavation pits were inspected.

3.1.2 Spatial Data

The investigation relied heavily on detailed topographic data and aerial photography. Airborne Laser Scanning (ALS), also known as Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), data were acquired from a fixed wing aircraft on 9 and 12 August 2016. The data were supplied by MACH Energy as point data clouds covering the entire Mount Pleasant area and focus Study Area. Vertical accuracy was ±0.1 m Standard Error (68% confidence interval) and horizontal accuracy was ±0.27 m Standard Error (68% confidence interval).

Digital aerial photography at 0.25 m × 0.25 m pixel resolution flown in August 2016 at the same time as the LiDAR survey was available for the entire Mount Pleasant area and focus Study Area. A second set of aerial imagery was available at 0.5 m × 0.5 m pixel resolution dated 16 July 2017.

3.1.3 Geology Data

Geology of the focus Study Area was mapped by Department of Mineral Resources, Sydney in 1983 as Muswellbrook 1:25 000 Geological Map 9033-II-N (Summerhayes, 1983). A scanned digital copy of this map version was obtained from Resources & Energy NSW, Department of Planning & Environment (https://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/miners-and-explorers/geoscience-information/products-and-data/maps/coalfield/muswellbrook-125-000-geological-map).

3.1.4 Soils Data

The characteristics of the soils of the focus Study Area were mapped at 1:250,000 scale in hard copy by Kovac and Lawrie (1991). This map provides general information at a regional level. A compilation of all 39 published soil landscape maps that cover central and eastern NSW, based on standard 1:100,000 and 1:250,000 topographic sheets, are available online from Office of Environment & Heritage Data Portal/Datasets/Soil Landscapes of Central and Eastern NSW (http://data.environment.nsw.gov.au/dataset/published-soil-landscapes-of-central-and-eastern-nsw37d37). Soil landscape units are individualised by unique combinations of soil type, topography, geology, geomorphic process containing variations in vegetation, land use, existing erosion/land degradation and constraints to development. The land and soil attributes in this product were predominately assessed using field observations, remote sensing interpretation (satellite, radiometric and ADS40) and limited laboratory analysis where available.

3.2 Terrain Analysis

Geomorphology is concerned with both physical form and process. Process involves the dimension of time, so tends to be more difficult to measure and model than form. For this reason, geomorphologic assessments often interpret process on the basis of an analysis of physical form. Terrain analysis is concerned with the automated analysis of landforms using digital elevation data sets. The analysis involves application of algorithms within a Geographic Information System (GIS) at detailed scales over wide areas to map characteristics of interest (e.g. Gardner et al., 1990; Wilson and Gallant, 1998; Wilson and Gallant, 2000; Lindsay, 2005; Drăguţ and Blaschke, 2006; MacMillan and Shary, 2009). Using an example from the Southern Coalfield, Palamara et al. (2006) illustrated the application of terrain analysis to underground coal mine impact assessment. Similar methods were used in this Technical Report.

The purpose of undertaking terrain analysis for this investigation was to distinguish the geomorphic forms of alluvial floodplain, colluvial slope and hillslopes of residual soil. Residual soil is formed from the weathering of the bedrock below. Colluvial soil is formed from the weathering of bedrock which then moves downslope by gravity.

Alluvial soil is formed from sediment deposited by flowing streams. Mapping of the three forms can provide clues to landform formation.

Terrain analysis was undertaken using two different GIS applications: Global Mapper™ V15.2.5 25 June 2014 Build (Blue Marble Geographics), and SAGA (System for Automated Geoscientific Analyses) GIS (http://www.saga-gis.org; Institute of Geography, Section for Physical Geography, Klimacampus and University of Hamburg, Germany) (Cimmery, 2007-2010; Böhner et al., 2006; Böhner et al., 2008).

3.2.1 Topography (Digital Elevation) Definition

The topography of the wider Study Area was defined by a 2016 LiDAR derived Digital Elevation Model (DEM), with the supplied thinned ground strike point cloud data converted to a 2 m× 2 m elevation grid. This grid was resampled to produce a 25 m × 25 m DEM that was suitable for classification of broad-scale landform features. For example, the slope and slope direction of broad landforms are better characterised at a 25 m grid than a 2 m grid, with a 2 m grid being more suitable for characterising local-scale surface variation. The resolution of the 2 m × 2 m LiDAR grid was not improved by the resampling.

3.2.2 Landform Classification

A number of different methods have been proposed for classifying landforms based on topographic data (e.g. Schmidt and Hewitt, 2004; Iwahashi and Pike, 2007; Niculiță and Niculiță, 2011). Landform classification can provide objective assistance to stream type classification, and to delineate hydrologic and geomorphic units such as valley bottoms (also known as floodplains, or alluvium) (Gallant and Dowling, 2003). The objectivity of automatic identification of floodplain extent is an advantage over subjective methods, although manual methods that combine hydraulic, slope and soils data can produce a rational and defendable result and might be preferred in cases where high quality and high resolution data are available.

In this report three methods of landform classification, all implemented in SAGA GIS, were investigated:

- Topographic Position Index (TPI).
- Terrain Surface Classification (TSC).
- Multiresolution Index of Valley Bottom Flatness (MRVBF).

After considerable effort applying these three classification systems to the wider Study Area, for the reasons explained below, TPI and TSC were not used, while MRVBF was utilised.

Topographic Position Index

The TPI was proposed by Guisan et al. (1999) and elaborated by Weiss (2001). An example application of TPI to landform classification in the Carpathian Mountains, Slovakia can be found in Barka et al. (2011). The TPI algorithm compares the elevation of each cell in a DEM to the mean elevation of a specified neighbourhood around that cell. Positive TPI values represent locations that are higher than the average of their surroundings, as defined by the neighbourhood (ridges). Negative TPI values represent locations that are lower than their surroundings (valleys). TPI values near zero are either flat areas (where the slope is near zero) or areas of constant slope (where the slope of the point is significantly greater than zero). The default SAGA radius settings are inner radius 100 m and outer radius 1000 m. Experimentation with data from the wider Study Area using different radius combinations made little difference to the result.

The TPI algorithm in SAGA divides the terrain into 10 landform classes:

- High ridges.
- Midslope ridges.
- Local ridges.
- Upper slopes.
- Open slopes.
- Plains.
- Valleys.
- Upland drainages.
- Midslope drainages.
- Streams.

These 10 classes can represent all landforms across the world, so a particular region will not necessarily have all of these classes present. On a global scale the wider Study Area has relatively subtle topography, and application of the TPI algorithms produced only two landform classes: open slopes and plains. A binary classification was too simplistic to be useful for aiding landform definition, so the TPI index was not used.

Terrain Surface Classification

The TSC was proposed by Iwahashi and Pike (2007). This unsupervised classification method divides an area into landform classes using three taxonomic criteria: slope gradient, local convexity, and surface texture. To subdivide increasingly subtle topography, grid cells sloping at less than the mean gradient of the input DEM are classified by designating mean values of successively lower-sloping subsets of the area being investigated (nested means) as taxonomic thresholds, thereby increasing the number of output categories from the minimum 8 to 12 or 16 (Table 1). According to Iwahashi and Pike (2007), the classifications reflect physiographic regions, geological structure, and landform as well as slope materials and processes; fine-textured terrain categories tend to correlate with erosional topography or older surfaces, coarse-textured classes with areas of little dissection. Iwahashi and Pike (2007) found that in Japan the resulting classes approximate landform types mapped from airphoto analysis, while in the Americas they create map patterns resembling Hammond's terrain types or surface-form classes; SRTM30 output for the United States compares favourably with Fenneman's physical divisions.

Experimentation with the TSC algorithm revealed that selecting a possible total of 8 classes produced only 2 classes in the wider Study Area, which is too broad to be useful. Thus, the algorithm was run with a possible 16 classes, which produced 4 classes of landform. These four classes were 4, 8, 12, and 16, which all belong to terrain series IV, coarse texture and low convexity (Table 1). Thus, the four landform classes identified by TSC in the wider Study Area were distinguished only by slope. As this result can be readily achieved by measuring slope alone, the TSC index was not used.

Table 1. The 16 landform classes of the terrain surface classification algorithm of Iwahashi and Pike (2007).

		Surface geometry	Terrain classes			
Terrain series	I	fine texture, high convexivity	1	5	9	13
	III	fine texture, low convexivity	3	7	11	15
	II	coarse texture, high convexivity	2	6	10	14
	IV	coarse texture, low convexivity	4	8	12	16

Multiresolution Index of Valley Bottom Flatness

The MRVBF was proposed by Gallant and Dowling (2003) mainly as a tool to assist in the objective separation of floodplains from their surrounding hillslopes. The algorithm uses the two terrain attributes slope and elevation percentile. Slope is computed as a percentage or 100 times the tangent of the slope angle. Elevation percentile is a ranking of the elevation of a grid point with respect to the surrounding cells in a circular region of user-specified radius. It is calculated as the ratio of the number of points of lower elevation to the total number of points in the surrounding region. Low values indicate the point is low in the local landscape since most of the surrounding points are higher. The MRVBF algorithm was developed using 25 m resolution DEMs. Although Gallant and Dowling (2003) claimed that it can be applied at any resolution provided appropriate adjustments are made they noted that use of the algorithm at fine resolution DEMs is still under investigation. For the wider Study Area, the original DEM was converted to a 25 m × 25 m grid and the MRVBF algorithm was implemented in SAGA GIS which allowed use of the original parameter settings and way of interpreting the MRVBF value to define a valley bottom. According to Gallant and Dowling (2003), values of MRVBF less than 0.5 are not valley bottom areas; values from 0.5 to 1.5 are considered to be the steepest and smallest resolvable valley bottoms for 25 m DEMs; and flatter and larger valley bottoms are represented by values from 1.5 to 2.5, 2.5 to 3.5, and so on. Thus, there is no absolute threshold of MRVBF that unequivocally identifies a valley bottom, or floodplain, for all situations.

3.2.3 Relative Floodplain Height

In profile, a floodplain has a down valley gradient, and in cross-section it can be relatively flat. If terraces are present, the floodplain will have a number of relatively flat surfaces at different elevations. Aeolian features (sand dunes) would also be distinguishable by their distinctive morphology and higher elevation relative to the surrounding floodplain. Lowland rivers like the Hunter River often have levees, where the crest of the levee is elevated relative to the rest of the floodplain. In this situation, in cross-section the floodplain slopes down from the levee crest towards the valley side slopes.

The gradient of a river means that, along a reach, absolute elevation is not an ideal attribute for mapping the downstream continuity of floodplain surfaces, finding sand dunes or for matching terraces on either side of the river. Cross-sectional relative floodplain height is the elevation of the floodplain surface relative to the elevation of the adjacent channel. Relative floodplain height of the wider Study Area was modelled by removing the down valley gradient. The down valley gradient of the floodplain was measured at 0.0175 metres per metre. A plane surface of this gradient was artificially generated in GIS and overlaid on the floodplain. Subtracting the sloping plane from the floodplain DEM and expressing elevation relative to the lowest elevation gave a de-trended DEM for the floodplain of the wider Study Area.

3.2.4 Slope

Low slope is indicative of alluvial landforms. Burton et al. (1994) suggested that floodplains on the Liverpool Plains could be delineated by land with a slope less than 2%, but this was suggested as a planning tool only. Děd (2013) suggested a more universal upper slope threshold of 4%, because rivers with gradient above 4% usually do not form floodplains. While slope could be a useful criterion for delineating floodplains, the threshold would be site specific and require local calibration.

4.0 Results

4.1 Geology

The majority of the focus Study Area is on the Hunter River Floodplain Quaternary Period *Qha* geology, comprising silty sand, sand and stream sediment (Figure 3). Part of the proposed rail loop alignment passes through Palaeozoic Era, Late Permian Period, Singleton Supergroup, Wittingham Coal Measures, Vane Subgroup, *Pswv* geology (Figure 3). This material is of fluvial origin, and comprises a rich coal bearing sequence interlensed with wedges of sandstone and siltstone (Summerhayes, 1983).

Test pits in Area 1 (Figure 3) revealed the presence of an unconsolidated very coarse gravel and cobble-sized sub-angular material underlying a thin regolith. The coarse material could have been of colluvial origin, or *in situ* weathered conglomerate. Although *Pswv* was not described as having conglomerate present, the immediately overlying (younger) Archerfield sandstone, *Psws*, was described as a 'Massive coarse-grained' blanket braidplain deposit, and above that, the widespread Jerrys Plains Subgroup, *Pswj*, included conglomerate wedges (Summerhayes, 1983).

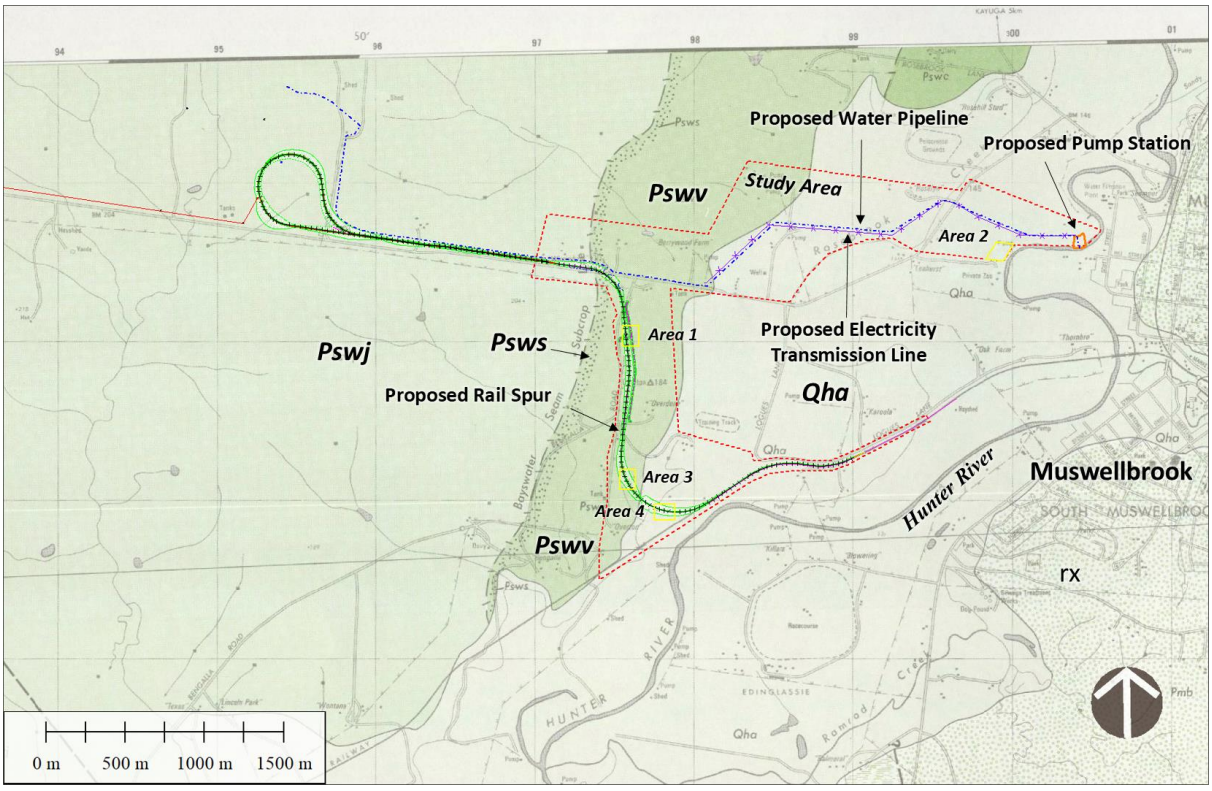

Figure 3. Geological mapping of Summerhayes (1983) in the vicinity of the focus Study Area. Areas 1 – 4 indicate locations of archaeological soil test pits (this study).

4.2 Soils

The majority of the focus Study Area is on the Hunter soil landscape (Hunter River floodplain) composed of alluvium (Figure 4, Table 2). Part of the proposed rail loop alignment passes through the Bayswater soil landscape, which contains texture contrast (duplex) soils (Figure 4, Table 2). The focus Study Area also passes through a small portion of the Roxburgh soil landscape (Figure 4, Table 2).

The location of the alluvium boundary mapped at 1:250,000 scale (Figure 4) is approximate, and inaccuracies of 10s or 100s of metres should be expected at specific locations.

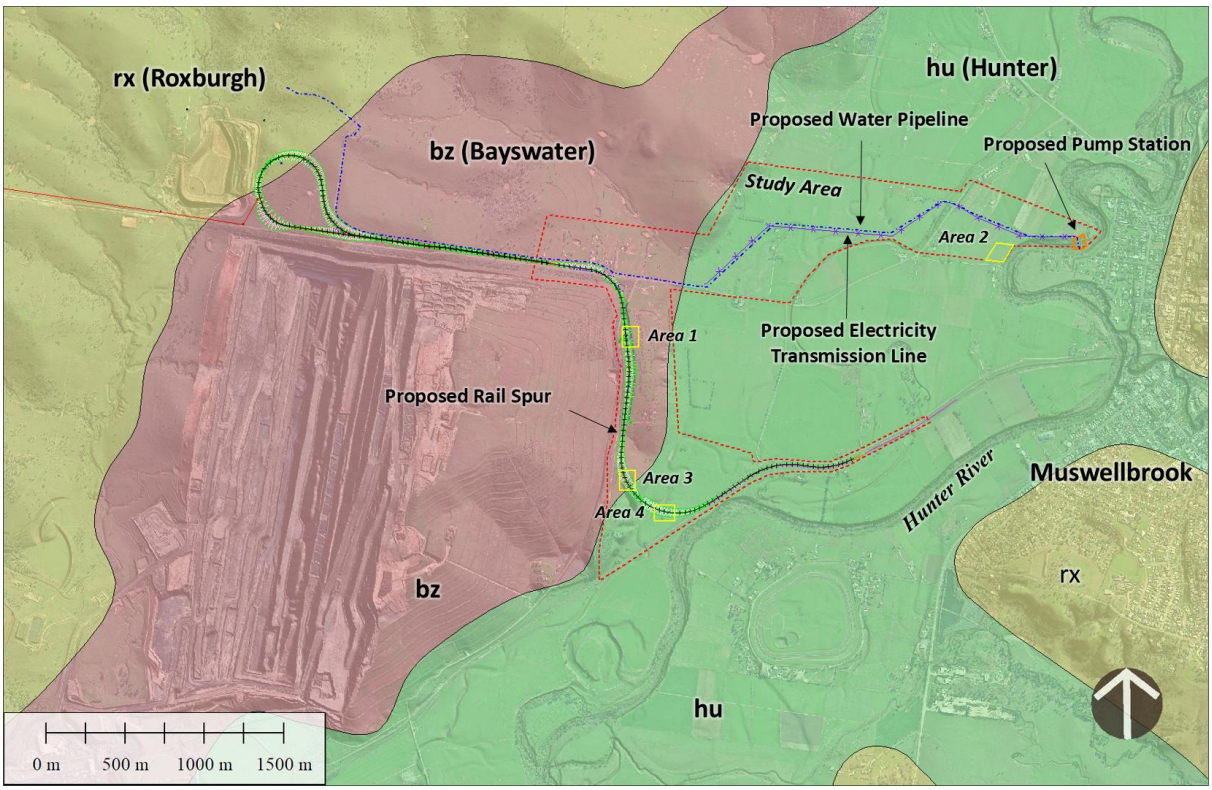

Figure 4. Soil mapping of Kovac and Lawrie (1991) in the vicinity of the focus Study Area. Areas 1 – 4 indicate locations of archaeological soil test pits (this study).

Table 2. Description of soil landscapes found in the focus Study Area.

Soil landscape	Australian Soil Classification Order	Geology	Topography	Soils
Hunter (hu)	Tenosol (Alluvial)	Quaternary	Alluvial plains and terraces of the Hunter River and its tributaries, relief to 10 m, slopes to 3%.	Brown Clays and Black Earths on prior stream channels and on tributary flats. Chernozems on prior stream channels adjacent to Dartbrook and Brays Hill soil landscapes. Alluvial Soils on levees and flats adjacent to the present river bed. Red Podzolic Soils and Lateritic Podzolic Soils on old terraces. Non-calcic Brown Soils on terraces with Yellow Solodic Soils in drainage lines.
Bayswater (bz)	Sodosols (texture contrast between A and sodic B horizons which are not strongly acid)	Permian sandstone, shale, mudstone, conglomerate, and coal.	Undulating low hills, relief 40 – 60 m, slopes 3 – 10%.	Yellow Solodic Soils on slopes, with Alluvial Soils in drainage lines. Yellow Solodic Soil-Rd-brown Earth intergrades also occur. Brown and Yellow Earths and Prairie Soils in some drainage lines. Red and Yellow Podzoilc Soils and Brown Podzolic Soils on slopes.
Roxburgh (rx)	Podosols	Sandstone, shales, mudstone, conglomerate and coal.	Undulating low hills and undulating hills with elevations of 80 m – 370 m.	Yellow Podzolic Soils on upper- to mid-slopes with Red Solodic Soils on more rounded hills. Lithosols occur on crests. Brown Podzolic Soils occur on slopes of conglomerate associated with flat pavements. Yellow Soloths have been recorded in some gullies.

Source: Kovac and Lawrie (1991)

4.3 Terrain Analysis

4.3.1 MRVBF

The MRVBF distinguished the floodplain from the slopes, with a value of around 2.0 – 3.0 separating alluvial floodplain landforms from bordering hillslopes. The MRVBF 2.0 isoline corresponds reasonably well with the mapped Hunter soil landscape (Figure 4). Soils on steeper sloping land with MRVBF values lower than 1.0 are likely to be residual (formed in situ). Side slopes with values of MRVBF greater than 1.0 and less than 3.0 could correspond with colluvium. The landform of the Bayswater soil landscape could be described as hills of residual soils divided by colluvial material. The proposed rail loop alignment passes through hillslopes and colluvial material, before crossing the Hunter River alluvium (Figure 5).

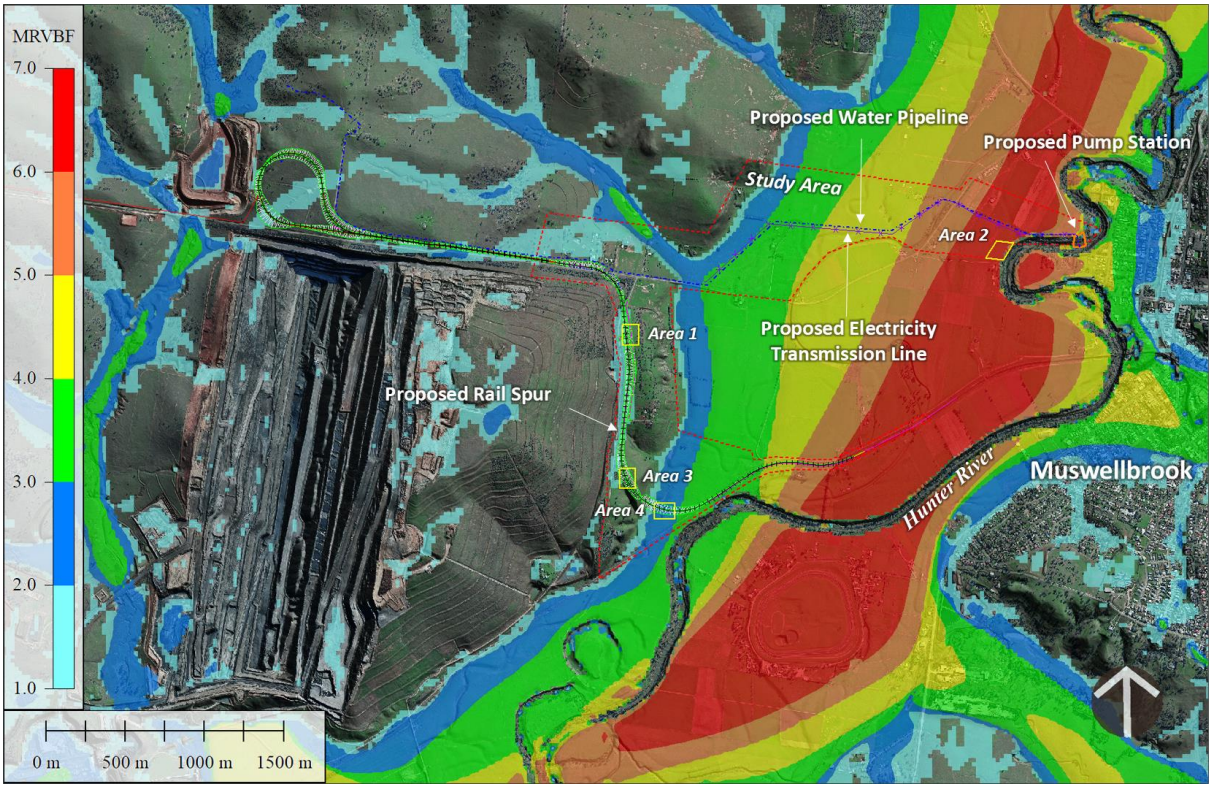

Figure 5. MRVBF (Multiresolution Index of Valley Bottom Flatness) exceeding 1.0 in the vicinity of the focus Study Area. MRVBF index value calculated from 25 m grid from LiDAR elevation data. Areas 1 – 4 indicate locations of archaeological soil test pits (this study).

4.3.2 Relative Floodplain Height

Relative floodplain height revealed an active floodplain migrating within a zone up to around 10 m – 12 m from the river bed (Figure 6). The rate of change in channel alignment is slow, with no changes apparent since 2009, the oldest photograph available on Google Earth.

Isolated lengths of former river channels on the floodplain are characterised by a subtle levee, with the crest about 0.5 m higher than the general floodplain level (Figure 6). The currently active channel generally does not have a pronounced levee. The interface of the floodplain and the right (western side) valley wall is generally well defined (Figure 6). There are no pronounced alluvial fan tributary deposits draped over the floodplain margin, nor are there obvious Aeolian features (sand dunes).

Areas with the highest potential for late-Pleistocene archaeological material would appear to be close to the interface of the hillslopes and the floodplain, where quantities of colluvial material might have occasionally washed off the slope during extreme rainfall events and buried archaeological material with sediment too coarse to be rapidly removed by floodwaters. Any archaeological material, if present, would be associated with sediment buried beneath a layer of more recent sediment. Note that while the sediment beneath these deposits would have remained undisturbed in historical times, it could have previously been disturbed by floods.

Also note that flood plain areas have been mapped based on landform. A separate flooding analysis is being undertaken for final design purposes.

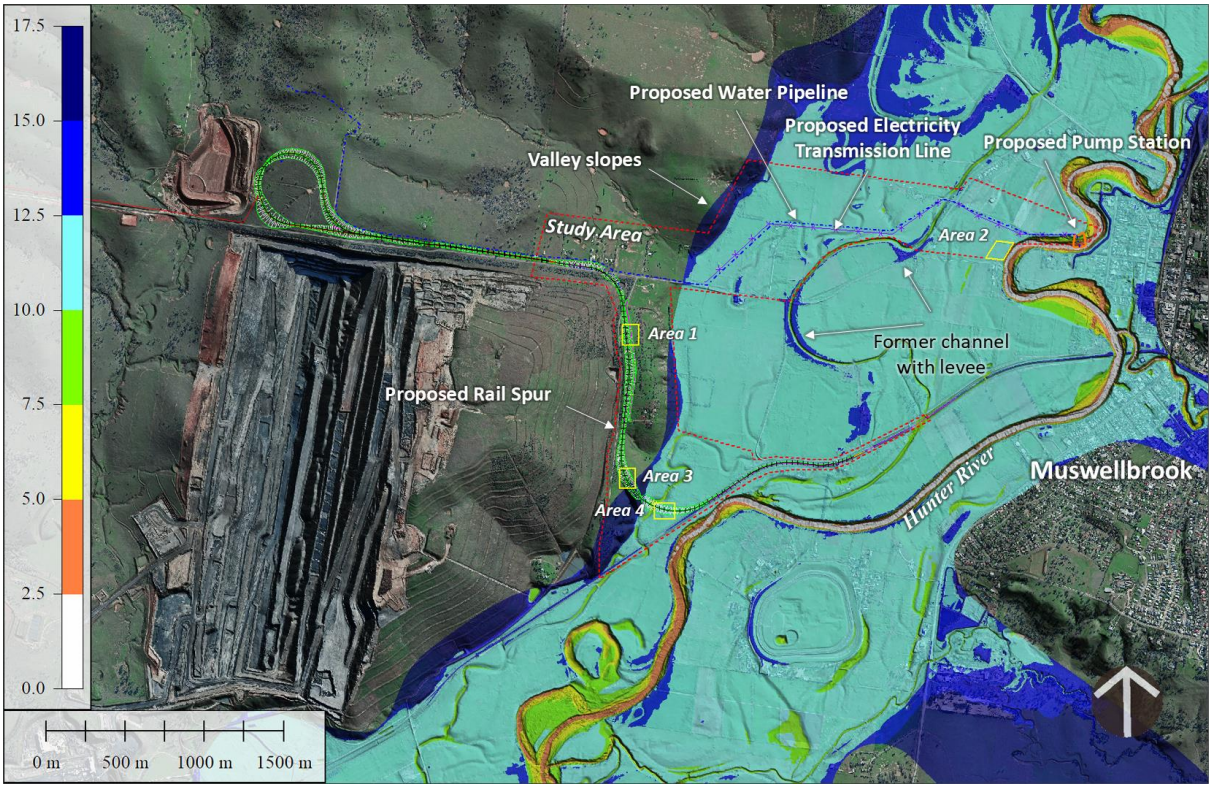

Figure 6. Relative floodplain height (on 2 m grid) of the Hunter River for the Hunter soil landscape polygon in the vicinity of the focus Study Area. Height is relative to the lowest elevation of the channel, with down valley slope de-trended from the elevation data. Maximum relative height exceeded 17.5 m on some valley slopes within the depicted area. Areas 1 – 4 indicate locations of archaeological soil test pits (this study).

4.3.3 Slope

The Hunter River floodplain in the vicinity of the focus Study Area has a slope less than 4%, which clearly distinguishes this landform element from the adjacent steeper hillslopes (Figure 7).

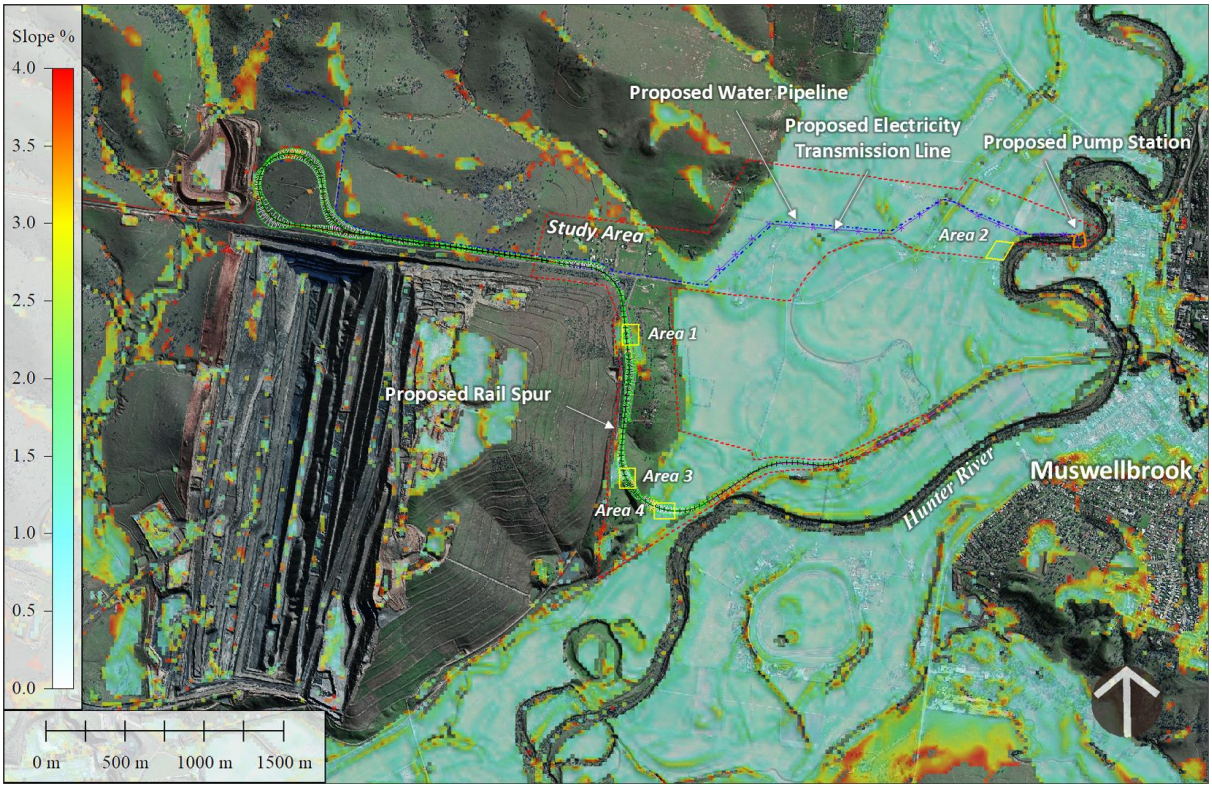

Figure 7. Slope of land less than 4% (on 25 m grid) of the Hunter River in the vicinity of the focus Study Area. Areas 1 – 4 indicate locations of archaeological soil test pits (this study).

4.4 Soil Excavation Test Pits

The four geomorphic situations identified by Dean-Jones and Mitchell (1993, pages 39, 63 - 64) favouring the preservation of older open sites in the central lowlands of the Hunter Valley were not present in the focus Study Area. The majority of the focus Study Area was on floodplain alluvium which would have been extensively reworked over the Holocene, so it has low potential for finding in situ archaeological material. It would be possible to find recent-Holocene age material within the upper horizon of floodplain alluvial deposits that are located in relatively hydraulically protected areas not recently reworked by floods and close to conveniently accessible water sources, such as active or recently active shallow former channels. The margin of the floodplain has some potential for colluvial material to have washed down from side slopes and buried and then preserved Pleistocene archaeological material. Another situation that could favour the preservation of older open sites would be natural levees on older areas of the floodplain, indicated by terraces. However, the former channels in the focus Study Area were not on elevated terraces. There was no evidence of features of Aeolian origin on the floodplain.

Test excavation pits were located at four locations within the focus Study Area. Figure 4, Figure 5, Figure 6 and Figure 7 show the locations of the test pits relative to soils and landforms. Each of the four locations had multiple pits. The sites and representative pits were inspected during the excavation process.

Area 2 was located on alluvial landform close to the Hunter River (Figure 4 and Figure 5). There was a very subtle levee adjacent to the river, but otherwise it was relatively featureless.

Areas 1 and 3 (Figure 8) were located on an area identified using terrain analysis as the top of a low hill with the soil possibly residual weathered conglomerate, or a thin soil overlying very old colluvial material.

Area 4 (Figure 8) was immediately downslope of the adjacent valley side, close to the Hunter River, and also adjacent to a former channel. On the basis of geomorphological analysis, the sites within Area 4 were judged to have the highest potential for archaeological material, as there was potential for burial by coarser material sourced from the nearby hillslope, and the sites were close to conveniently accessible water.

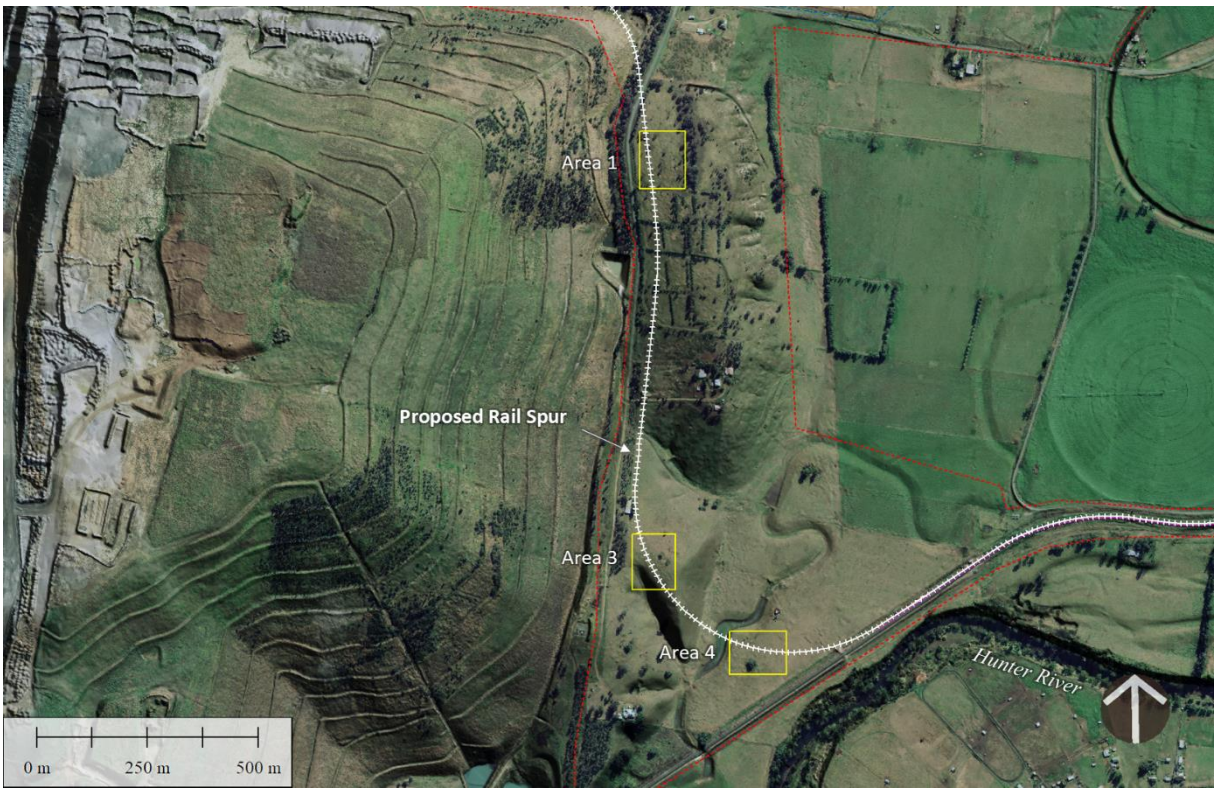

Figure 8. Locations of the three areas of test excavation pits on the western side of the focus Study Area.

5.0 Conclusion

A review of literature, analysis of terrain data and field inspection was undertaken with the objective of providing an opinion on: (i) the recent (< 50,000 years) landscape formation history in the vicinity of the proposed Modification, and (ii) areas in the vicinity of the proposed Modification that offer potential for finding preserved sub-surface evidence of Aboriginal occupation. On the basis of a published theory of the formation of duplex soils found on the hillslopes of this area, it is concluded that the likelihood of finding preserved sub-surface evidence of late-Pleistocene Aboriginal occupation on hillslope site is low. Most of the A horizon sedimentary material on the slopes is probably less than 3,000 years old. It might be possible to find Holocene-age material but it is likely to have been dispersed from its original location. The floodplain close to the Hunter River, near the proposed site of the Hunter River water pumping station would have low potential for sub-surface evidence of Aboriginal occupation due to a long history of sediment reworking. The river channel itself would have very low potential for archaeological material due to the high frequency of disturbance due to high flow events.

Areas with the highest likelihood of finding preserved sub-surface evidence of Aboriginal occupation would be on the western side, near the interface of the floodplain and colluvial hillslope, and adjacent to an accessible water source.

The results of terrain analysis, and inspection of test excavation pits were consistent with the theory of soil formation and potential to contain archaeological materials outlined by Hughes (1999), Hughes (2000), Hughes (2003) and Hughes et al. (2014). According to that theory, the likelihood of finding preserved sub-surface evidence of late-Pleistocene Aboriginal occupation anywhere in the focus Study Area is very low. It would be possible to find material of a more recent age although it would most likely be small fragments broken during the process of dispersal from their original location through washing downslope or being transported by floods.

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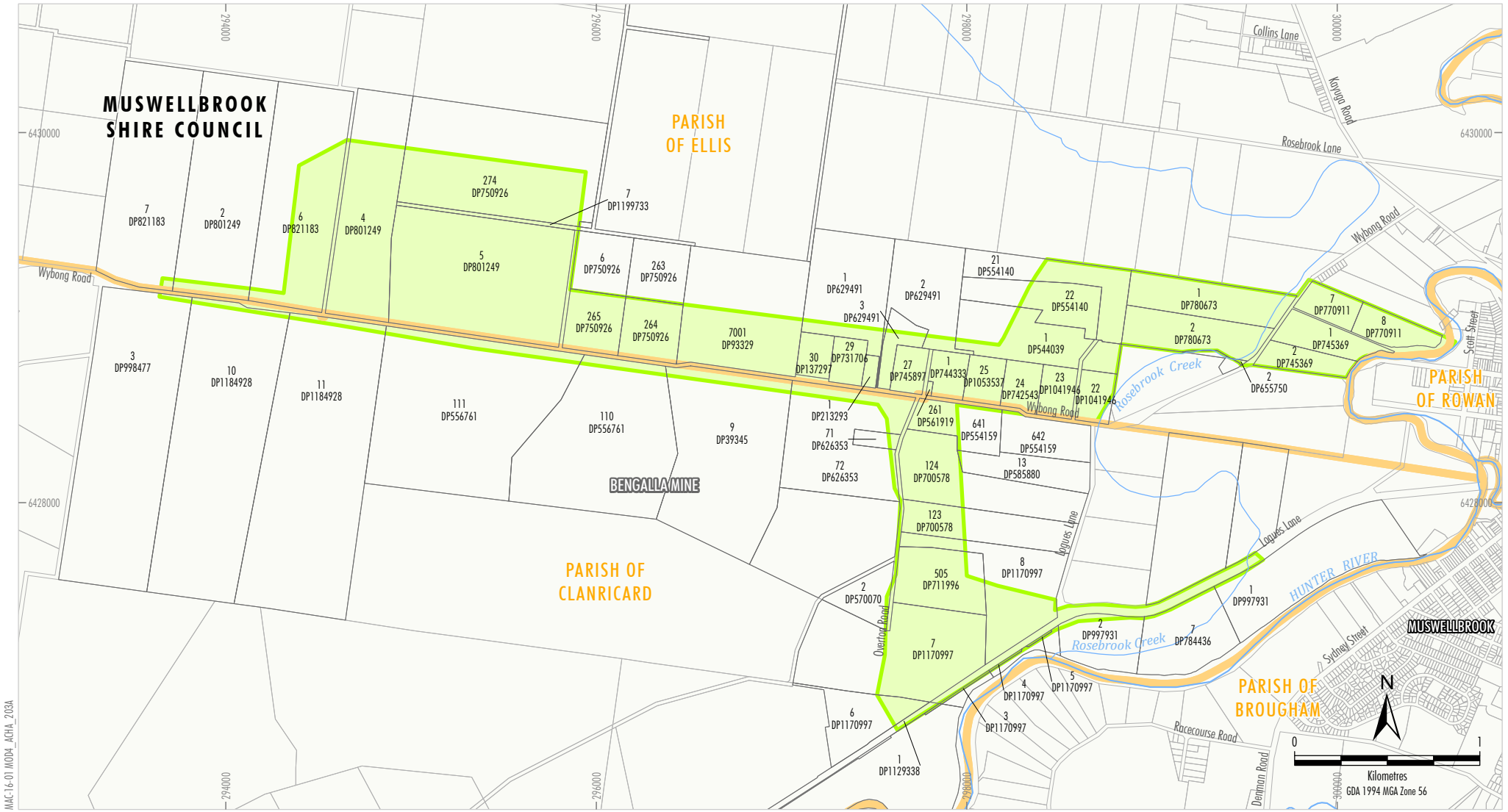
Appendix 10 – Cadastral Information



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LEGEND
Indicative Study Area
Parish Boundary

Source: MACH Energy (2017); NSW Land & Property Information (2017)
Orthophoto: MACH Energy (July 2017)

MACHEnergy
MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION

Indicative Study Area
Lot and DP Details

Figure A10-1

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