2025

Wambo 2025 Annual Review

1 JANUARY 2025 – 31 DECEMBER 2025

Name of operation	Wambo Coal Mine
Name of operator	Wambo Coal Pty Ltd
Development consent /Project Approval #	DA 305-7-2003, DA 177-8-2004, EPBC 2003/1138, EPBC 2016/7636, EPBC 2016/7816
Name of holder of development consent	Wambo Coal Pty Ltd
Title/Mining lease #	CL365, CL374, CL397, CCL743, ML1402, ML1572, ML1594, ML 1806, ML1873, A444, EL7211
Name of holder of mining lease	Wambo Coal Pty Ltd
Water licence #	As per Table 3
Name of holder of water licence	Wambo Coal Pty Ltd
Forward Program start date	9 March 2025
Forward Program end date	8 March 2028
Annual Review start date	1 January 2025
Annual Review end date	31 December 2025
I, Wayne Bower, certify that this audit report is a true and accurate record of the compliance status of Wambo Coal Mine for the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 and that I am authorised to make this statement on behalf of Wambo Coal Pty Ltd. *Note:* a) *The Annual Review is an 'environmental audit' for the purposes of section 122B(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. Section 122E provides that a person must not include false or misleading information (or provide information for inclusion in) an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an environmental audit if the person knows that the information is false or misleading in a material respect. The maximum penalty is, in the case of a corporation, $1 million and for an individual, $250,000.* b) *The Crimes Act 1900 contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 192G (Intention to defraud by false or misleading statement—maximum penalty 5 years imprisonment); sections 307A, 307B and 307C (False or misleading applications/information/documents—maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or $22,000, or both).*	
Name of authorised reporting officer	Wayne Bower
Title of authorised reporting officer	Complex Operations Manager – Wambo
Signature of authorised reporting officer	
Date	26/03/2026

Statement of Compliance

Were all conditions of the relevant approval(s) complied with?	
DA 305-7-2003	No
DA 177-8-2004	No
EPBC 2003/1138	No
EPBC 2016/7636	No
EPBC 2016/7816	No
CL365	Yes
CL374	Yes
CL397	Yes
CCL743	Yes
ML1402	Yes
ML1572	Yes
ML1594	Yes
ML1806	Yes
ML1873	Yes
A444	Yes
EL7211	Yes
EPL 529	No
Water licences (as per Table 3)	Yes

Compliance Status Key

Risk Level	Colour Code	Description
High	Non-compliant	Non-compliance with potential for significant environmental consequences, regardless of the likelihood of occurrence.
Medium	Non-compliant	Non-compliance with: • potential for serious environmental consequences, but is unlikely to occur; or • potential for moderate environmental consequences, but is likely to occur.
Low	Non-compliant	Non-compliance with: • potential for moderate environmental consequences, but is unlikely to occur; or • potential for low environmental consequences, but is likely to occur.
Administrative non-compliance	Non-compliant	Only to be applied where the non-compliance does not result in any risk of environmental harm (e.g. submitting a report to government later than required under approval conditions).

Non-Compliances

Relevant Approval	Condition #	Condition Description (summary)	Compliance Status	Comment	Where addressed in Annual Review
DA 305-7-2003	B54	Discharge Limits	Non-Compliant	Floodwaters from Wollombi Brook inundated a sediment control sump at Hales Crossing resulting in release from the Hales Crossing Sump.	Section 10.1
EPL 529	L1.1	Concentration Limits at Discharge Points			
DA 305-7-2003	B55	Requirement to Monitor Concentration of pollutants discharged	Non-Compliant	pH levels exceeded the discharge water quality impact criteria under the Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme.	Section 10.2
EPL 529	M2.1				
DA 305-7-2003	B62	Water Management Performance Measures	Non-Compliant	Ongoing exceedances of water quality performance measure at monitoring bore P315.	Section 6.2
DA 305-7-2003	B66	Water Management Plan Performance Indicators	Non-Compliant	Exceedance of groundwater level performance indicators at three locations (P16, P20 and GW15).	Section 6.2
EPBC 2016/7636	1b	Implement conditions A1 and A2 of Schedule 2 of the state development consent.	Non-Compliant	Non-compliances with Conditions B54 (Discharge Limits), B55 (Concentration of Pollutant Discharge), B62 (Water Management Performance Measures) and B66 (Performance Indicators) of DA 305-7-2003 (refer above).	Appendix I
EPBC 2016/7816	1a				
EPL 529	M2.1	Requirement to Monitor Concentration of pollutants discharged	Non-Compliant	Due to dry conditions, unsafe access or no flow, monthly water quality samples were unable to be collected at the required frequencies at several monitoring locations during the reporting period.	Section 6.1.2
EPL 529	M2.3	Water and/or Land Monitoring Requirements	Non-Compliant	Due to dry conditions, unsafe access or no flow, monthly water quality samples were unable to be collected at the required frequencies at several monitoring locations during the reporting period.	Section 6.1.2

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APPENDICES

Appendix A Approval Conditions Specifically Relating to the Annual Review

Appendix B Daily Train Movement Summary

Appendix C Annual Noise Monitoring Report

Appendix D Annual Air Quality Monitoring Report

Appendix E Annual Flora and Fauna Monitoring Report

Appendix F Surface Water Quality Monitoring Data Summary

Appendix G Annual Stream Flow Monitoring Report

Appendix H Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report

Appendix I Annual Compliance Report (EPBC 2016/7636 and EPBC 2016/7816)

1.0 Introduction

The Wambo Coal Mine (the Mine) is situated approximately 15 kilometres (km) west of Singleton, near the village of Warkworth, New South Wales (NSW) (**Figure 1**). The Mine is owned and operated by Wambo Coal Pty Limited (WCPL), a subsidiary of Peabody Energy Australia Pty Limited.

A range of open cut and underground mine operations have been conducted at the Mine since mining operations commenced in 1969. Mining under the current Development Consent (DA 305-7-2003) commenced in 2004 and previously permitted both open cut and underground operations and associated activities to be conducted. All product coal is transported from the Mine by rail.

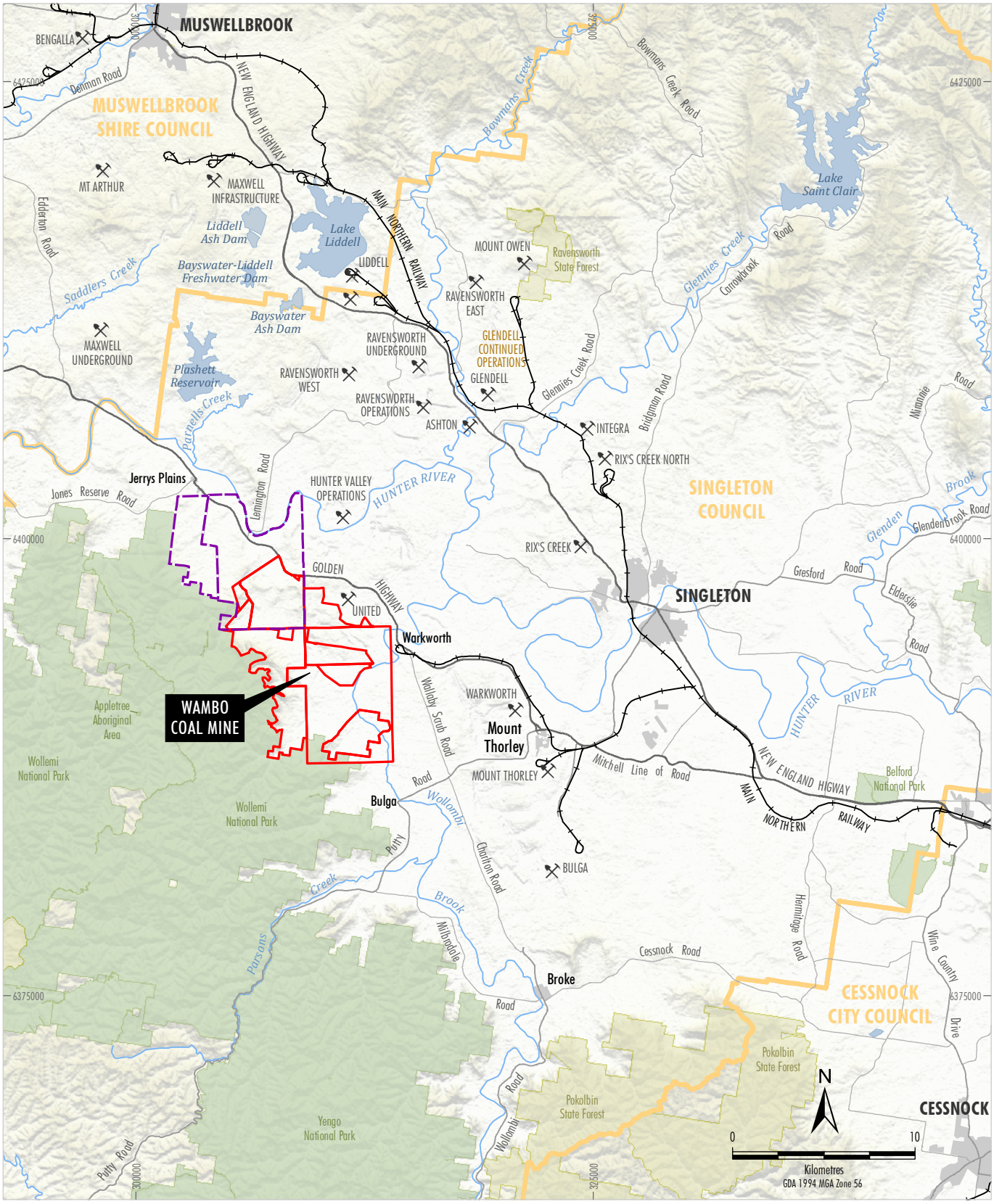
Operations at the Mine also include a rail spur and loop, coal reclaim and rail loading facility for the Wambo Coal Terminal under Development Consent (DA 177-8-2004) which was granted in 2004.

Modification (MOD) 16 to DA 305-7-2003 was approved by the Independent Planning Commission of NSW on 29 August 2019 and required development at the Mine to be undertaken in the following stages:

- Phase 1 – open cut mining operations at Wambo open cut mine, underground mining operations at Wambo underground mine and the operation of Wambo mine infrastructure (including minor upgrades to this infrastructure) under DA 305-7-2003.
- Phase 2 – underground mining operations at Wambo underground mine, the operation of Wambo mine infrastructure under DA 305-7-2003 and associated surface infrastructure.
- Phase 3 – following the cessation of underground mining operations that includes mine closure.

Phase 2 commenced on 1 December 2020, and therefore only underground mining operations and the operation of Wambo mine infrastructure and associated surface infrastructure are undertaken at the Mine under DA 305-7-2003. Operations under DA 177-8-2004 have not changed following the commencement of Phase 2. On 13 September 2025, mining was completed in the South Bates Extension Underground Mine, thereby suspending the underground mining operations at the Mine. The Mine is being maintained to enable the recommencement of production in the future.

Upon the commencement of Phase 2 under DA 305-7-2003 (MOD 16), WCPL and United Collieries Pty Limited (United) (owned 95 per cent by Abelshore Pty Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Glencore Coal Pty Limited [Glencore] and 5 per cent by the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union [CFMEU]) entered into a 50:50 Joint Venture at the open cut mine. United manages Joint Venture tenements (i.e. open cut operations), under Development Consent SSD 7142, and WCPL continues to operate underground mining operations.



WAH-09-15 AR 2025_201A

Source: NSW Spatial Services (2025)



LEGEND

- Exploration Licence Boundary (AUTH, EL)
- Mining and Coal Lease Boundary (ML, CL, CCL)
- Local Government Area
- National Park
- State Forest
- Mining Operation

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WAMBO COAL MINE

Regional Location

Figure 1

Following the approval of MOD 16, DA 305-7-2003 has been modified on three further occasions. The most recent, MOD 19 was granted on 19 January 2023 and approved the reorientation of Longwalls 24 and 25, and the addition of Longwall 26.

Figure 2 shows the approved Mine layout including mining lease boundaries, current operational disturbance footprint and Remnant Woodland Enhancement Areas (RWEAs) for Phase 2. **Figure 3** shows the approved Mine longwall layout for Phase 2.

This Annual Review details WCPL's environmental and community performance for the reporting period 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025. This Annual Review has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) *Post-approval requirements for State significant mining developments – Annual Review Guideline – October 2015* (NSW Department of Planning and Environment [DPE] 2015) and WCPL's statutory approvals (**Section 2.1**).

The Annual Review is not intended to be an exhaustive description of WCPL's operations, approvals and activities rather it is a summary of WCPL's compliance status with respect to WCPL's statutory approvals.

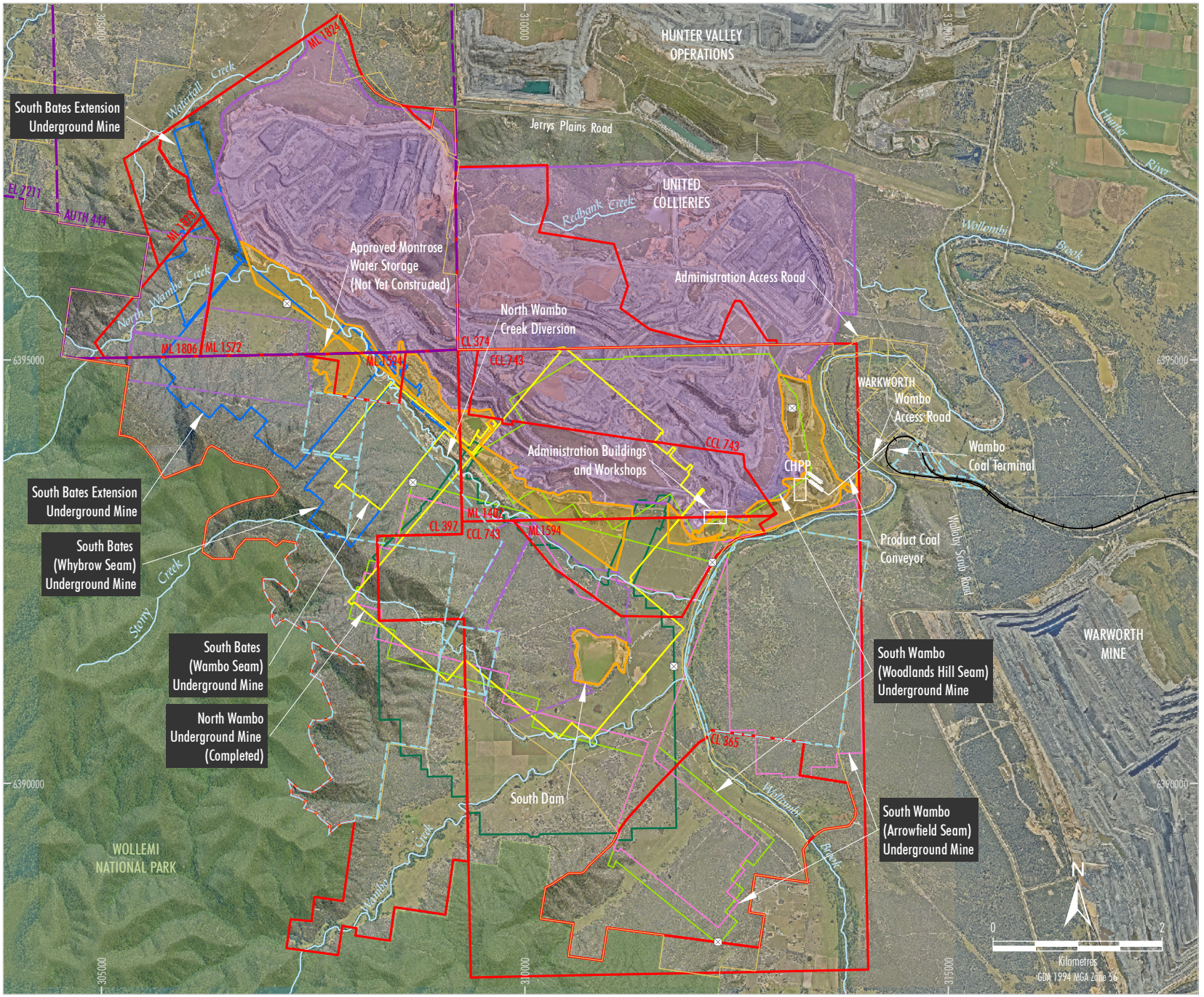
This Annual Review is distributed to a range of stakeholders including government authorities, Singleton Council and members of the Community Consultative Committee (CCC). A copy of the Annual Review will be made available on the Peabody Energy website (www.peabodyenergy.com).

1.1 Mine Contacts

The contact details of key WCPL personnel who are responsible for the environmental management of the Mine are listed in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Contact Details of Key WCPL Personnel

Name	Role	Phone No.
Micheal Alexander	Director NSW Projects	(02) 6570 2361
Wayne Bower	Complex Operations Manager	0408 430 349



LEGEND

- National Park
- SSD 7142 Operational Area #
- Biodiversity Stewardship Site under SSD 7142
- WCPL Owned Land

Wambo Coal Mine

- Exploration Licence Boundary (AUTH, EL)
- Mining and Coal Lease Boundary (ML, CL, CCL)
- Remnant Woodland Enhancement Program (RWEP) Area
- Existing/Approved Surface Development Area (Phase 2)
- Ventilation Shaft

Underground Mining Areas

- Whybrow Seam
- Wambo Seam
- Woodlands Hill
- Arrowfield Seam
- Previous Underground Workings in Whybrow Seam

Under Phase 2 of mining at Wambo Coal Mine (commenced 1 December 2020), this area is operated by United Collieries Pty Ltd under the United Wambo Joint Venture Project.

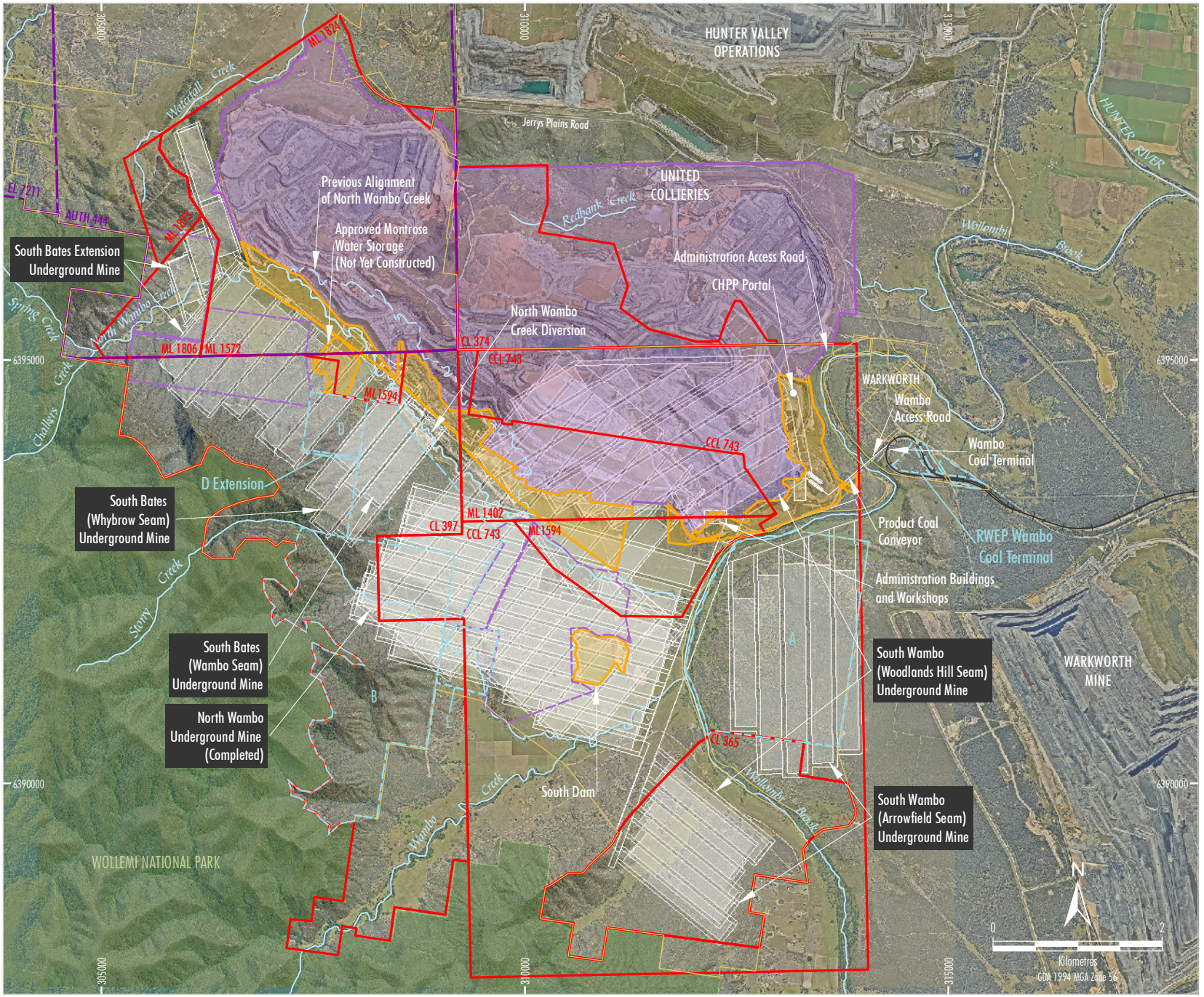
Source: WCPL (2025); NSW Spatial Services (2025)
Orthophoto Mosaic: WCPL (Nov 2024-May 2022)

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WAMBO COAL MINE

Existing/Approved Wambo Coal Mine General Arrangement

Figure 2



LEGEND

- National Park
- SSD 7142 Operational Area #
- Biodiversity Stewardship Site under SSD 7142
- WCPL Owned Land

Wambo Coal Mine

- Exploration Licence Boundary (AUTH, EL)
- Mining and Coal Lease Boundary (ML, CL, CCL)
- Remnant Woodland Enhancement Program (RWEP) Area
- Existing/Approved Wambo Coal Mine Surface Development Area
- Existing/Approved Underground Development

Under Phase 2 of mining at Wambo Coal Mine (commenced 1 December 2020), this area is operated by United Collieries Pty Ltd under the United Wambo Joint Venture Project.

Source: WCPL (2024); MSEC (2024); NSW Spatial Services (2024)
Orthophoto Mosaic: WCPL (Nov 2024-May 2022)

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WAMBO COAL MINE

Existing/Approved Wambo Coal Mine Layout

Figure 3

2.0 Approvals

2.1 Current Approvals

WCPL has a number of statutory approvals, leases and licences that regulate activities at the Mine (**Table 2 and Table 3**). Conditions from WCPL's approvals that specifically relate to this Annual Review are detailed in **Appendix A.**

Table 2: WCPL's Statutory Approvals

Type	Description	Issued By[1]	Issue Date	Expiry Date
Development Consent	DA 305-7-2003[2]	DPHI	4/02/2004	31/12/2042
Development Consent	DA 177-8-2004[3]	DPHI	16/12/2004	31/08/2042
EPBC Approval[4]	EPBC 2003/1138	DCCEEW	23/11/2004	31/12/2029
EPBC Approval[4]	EPBC 2016/7636	DCCEEW	30/4/2017	1/3/2037
EPBC Approval[4]	EPBC 2016/7816	DCCEEW	4/5/2018	31/12/2039
Mining Lease	ML 1402	NSW Resources	23/09/1996	25/07/2035
Mining Lease	ML 1572	NSW Resources	21/12/2005	20/12/2026
Mining Lease	ML 1594	NSW Resources	1/05/2007	30/04/2028
Mining Lease	ML 1806	NSW Resources	11/08/2020	11/08/2041
Mining Lease	ML 1824	NSW Resources	29/11/2021	29/11/2035
Mining Lease	ML 1873	NSW Resources	29/01/2024	29/01/2045
Consolidated Coal Lease	CCL 743	NSW Resources	9/03/1990	14/08/2043
Coal Lease	CL 365	NSW Resources	19/09/1990	19/09/2032
Coal Lease	CL 374	NSW Resources	6/12/1991	6/12/2046
Coal Lease	CL 397	NSW Resources	4/06/1992	4/06/2034
Exploration Licence	A 444[5, 6]	NSW Resources	4/10/2007	16/05/2027
Exploration Licence	EL 7211[7]	NSW Resources	29/09/2008	29/09/2026
Environment Protection Licence	EPL 529	EPA	4/02/2021	-
S101 Approval[8]	Approval to discontinue use of the North East Tailings Dam (NETD)	MEG	3/09/2009	-

1. DCCEEW = Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, MEG = Mining, Exploration and Geosciences, EPA = NSW Environment Protection Authority, DPHI = Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.
2. DA 305-7-2003 has been modified 18 times since the original approval was granted in 2004. One modification application was withdrawn subsequent to WCPL submitting the application. The latest modification (MOD 19), for the South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 24 to 26 was granted approval in January 2023.
3. DA 177-8-2004 has been modified three times since the original approval was granted in 2004. The last modification (MOD 3), for the United Wambo Joint Venture (UWJV), was granted approval in August 2019.
4. EPBC = *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.*
5. A444 is an Authority to Prospect granted under the *Coal Mining Act 1973* and is deemed to be an Exploration Licence for the purposes of the *Mining Act 1992*.
6. A444 is managed by United.
7. EL 7211 is managed by United.
8. Section 101 of the *Coal Mine Health and Safety Act 2002.*

Table 3: WCPL's Water Licences

Licence Number[1]	Description	Expiry Date	Entitlement	Category	Access Licence	Nominated Water Supply Work Approval	Expiry Date
Hunter Regulated River Water Source							
WAL718 (20SL060212)	Hunter River Pump	Perpetuity	1,000 unit shares (high security)	Regulated River (high security)	20AL200631	20WA200632	30/06/2027
WAL8599 (20SL061206)	Hunter River Pump	Perpetuity	6 unit shares (high security)	Regulated River (high security)	20AL201457	20CA201459	25/09/2028
WAL8600 (20SL061206)	Hunter River Pump	Perpetuity	868 unit shares (general security)	Regulated River (general security)	20AL201458	20CA201459	25/09/2028
WAL43299	TBC (extraction via Hunter River pump)	Perpetuity	80 unit shares (general security)	Regulated River (general security)	20AL220689	-	-
WAL8604 (20BL061206)	Hunter River Pump	Perpetuity	240 unit shares (supplementary water)	Supplementary Water	20AL203044	20CA201459	25/09/2028
Hunter Regulated River Water Source – Shared with United Colliery							
WAL929 (20SL050661)	Other Pump	Perpetuity	3 unit shares	Domestic and Stock	20AL201147 (NOW Reference Number)	20WA201148	06/12/2027
WAL1369 (20SL060416)	80 mm CP	Perpetuity	15 unit shares (supplementary water)	Supplementary Water	20AL203071 20AL204246 20AL204247	20CA201654	30/11/2028

Licence Number[1]	Description	Expiry Date	Entitlement	Category	Access Licence	Nominated Water Supply Work Approval	Expiry Date
WAL15459 (20SL204246)	80 mm CP	Perpetuity	21 unit shares (general security)	Regulated River (general security)	20AL204246	20CA201654	30/11/2028
WAL1164	100 mm CP	Perpetuity	180 unit shares	Regulated River (general security)	20AL201738	20CA201739	30/11/2027
WAL902	38 mm CP	-	8 unit shares	Regulated River	20AL201097	20WA201098	30/06/2027
Hunter Regulated River Water Source – United Colliery							
WAL10541	-	-	300 unit shares	Unregulated River	20AL200927	20WA200928	30/06/2027
Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources (Lower Wollombi Brook Water Source)							
WAL18437 (20SL033872)	Wollombi Brook Pump	Perpetuity	366.9 unit shares	Unregulated River	20AL208641	20WA208642	31/07/2032
WAL23897 (20BL167737)	Well No. 2	Perpetuity	70 unit shares	Aquifer	20AL211371	20WA211372	31/07/2032
Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources (Lower Wollombi Brook Water Source) – United Colliery							
WAL18445	Bywash Dam	-	200 unit shares	Unregulated River	20AL208713	20WA208714	13/03/2033
WAL18549	Other Pump	-	100 unit shares	Unregulated River	20AL208705	20WA208706	18/11/2032
North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources (Sydney Basin – North Coast Groundwater Source)							
WAL42373[2]	-	Perpetuity	1,549 unit shares	Aquifer	20AL219997	20MW065010	-
WAL41532 (20BL172156)	Dewatering	Perpetuity	98 unit shares	Aquifer	20AL218994	20MW065010	-

Licence Number[1]	Description	Expiry Date	Entitlement	Category	Access Licence	Nominated Water Supply Work Approval	Expiry Date
North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources (Sydney Basin – North Coast Groundwater Source) – United Colliery							
WAL41510	Dewatering	-	300 unit shares	Aquifer	20AL217075	20MW065011	-
North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources (Sydney Basin – North Coast Groundwater Source) – Groundwater Bores							
20BL168997	Piezometer	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL168998	Piezometer	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL168999	Piezometer	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL169000	Piezometer	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL170638	Piezometer	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL172237	Monitoring Bore (GW14, GW18, GW21)	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL172238	Monitoring Bore (GW12)	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL172240	Monitoring Bore (GW15)	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL172242	Monitoring Bore (GW16, GW17)	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-

Licence Number[1]	Description	Expiry Date	Entitlement	Category	Access Licence	Nominated Water Supply Work Approval	Expiry Date
20BL172244	Monitoring Bore (GW20)	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL172255	Monitoring Bore (GW22)	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL172256	Monitoring Bore (GW13)	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL172257	Monitoring Bore (GW19)	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL172332	Piezometer	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL173290	Monitoring Bore	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL173291	Monitoring Bore	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL173292	Monitoring Bore	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL173293	Monitoring Bore	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-
20BL173946	Monitoring	Perpetuity	Groundwater monitoring	NA	-	-	-

WAL = water access licence; mm = millimetres.

1. 20BL prefix bore licences with allocations have been replaced with WALs.
2. WAL42373 was issued in 2019 to consolidate six of WCPL's previous WALs under the North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock groundwater Sources (Sydney Basin – North Coast Groundwater Source) including WAL39735, WAL 39738, WAL39803, WAL41494, WAL41528 and WAL41520.
3. DCCEEW-Water Group previously confirmed that licenses are not required for groundwater bores less than 40 metres (m) deep.

2.2 Changes to Approvals

During the reporting period, the following change was made to WCPL's approvals:

- An application to renew CL374 was lodged with NSW Resources in March 2025 and was renewed on 25 June 2025. The renewal came into effect on 22 March 2026 and expires 6 December 2046.

2.3 Environmental Management System

WCPL operates an Environmental Management System to manage compliance and advance continual improvement across the Mine. A summary of the status of required management plans is presented in **Table 4**.

In accordance with Condition D15(a), Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003, copies of these management plans have been made available to the public on the Peabody Energy website (https://www.peabodyenergy.com/Operations/Australia-Mining/New-South-Wales-Mining/Wambo-Approvals,-Plans-Reports).

In accordance with Condition D6, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003, WCPL will review the strategies, plans and programs required under DA 305-7-2003 within three months of the submission of this Annual Review to relevant government regulators. If necessary, the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be revised, and submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within six weeks of the review in accordance with Condition D7, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003.

Table 4: Status of WCPL's Environmental Management Plans

Management Plan	Status	Approved Version[1]
North Wambo Underground Extraction Plan for Longwalls 8 to 10A (and associated component plans)	Approved – 2015	April 2015
South Bates Underground Mine Extraction Plan for Longwalls 11 to 16 (and associated component plans)	Approved – 2017	July 2017[2]
South Bates Extension Underground Mine Extraction Plan for Longwalls 17 to 20 (and associated component plans)	Approved – 2020	Revision D (May 2020)[3]
South Bates Extension Underground Mine Extraction Plan for Longwalls 21 to 24 (and associated component plans)	Approved – 2022	Revision E (December 2022)
South Bates Extension Underground Mine Extraction Plan for Longwalls 24 to 26 (and associated component plans)	Approved – 2024	Revision D (December 2024)
Forward Program	Resources Regulator Assessment	Forward Program (May 2025)
Environmental Management Strategy	Approved – 2020	Version 7 (November 2020)
Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan[4]	Approved – 2020	Version 8 (November 2020)
Noise Management Plan	Approved – 2025	Version 13 (December 2025)
Water Management Plan	Approved – 2023	Version 4 (November 2023)
Groundwater Management Plan	Approved – 2023	Version 6 (November 2023)
Surface Water Management Plan	Approved – 2023	Version 3 (November 2023)
United Wambo and Wambo Site Water Balance	Approved – 2020	Version 2 (August 2020)
United Wambo and Wambo Water Monitoring Plan	Approved – 2023	Version 6 (November 2023)
Erosion and Sediment Control Plan	Approved – 2023	Version 4 (November 2021)
Traffic Management Plan	Approved – 2025	Version 2 (December 2025)
Biodiversity Management Plan (previously the Flora and Fauna Management Plan)	Approved – 2024	Version 6 (November 2024)
Heritage Management Plan	Approved – 2023	Version 2 (June 2023)
Wambo Homestead Complex Conservation Management Plan	Approved – 2019	Version 6 (May 2019)
Pollution Incident Response Management Plan	Approval not required	Version 10 (December 2025)
Rehabilitation Management Plan	Approved – 2023	Version 3 (November 2023)

1. Approved version as at the end of the reporting period.
2. On 16 May 2017, DPE approved the South Bates Underground Mine Longwalls 11 to 16 Extraction Plan with the exception of the Site Water Management Plan (and associated component plans), which were unable to be approved until they were updated in consultation with Department of Primary Industries – Water (DPI-Water) (now NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water [NSW DCCEEW]). On 11 October 2017, the South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 11 to 16 Extraction Plan (including the Site Water Management Plan, which had been updated in consultation with DPI-Water) was approved by DPHI.
3. On 4 September 2018, WCPL provided DPE with correspondence explaining that geological structures had been encountered that may require changes to the main headings and finishing ends of Longwalls 18, 19 and 20. Accordingly, WCPL requested that DPHI approve the Extraction Plan for Longwalls 17 to 20 for extraction of Longwall 17 only. On 7 September 2018, DPHI approved the extraction of Longwall 17 only, on the basis that WCPL would prepare an amended Extraction Plan for Longwalls 18, 19 and 20. On 1 March 2019, WCPL submitted an amended Extraction Plan for Longwalls 17 to 20. DPHI approved the amended Extraction Plan on 4 June 2019.
4. An updated Air Quality Management Plan (version 9) was submitted to the DPHI in July 2023. WCPL is currently addressing comments from the EPA and DPHI.

3.0 Operations Summary

3.1 2025 Mining Operations

During the reporting period, the following mining operations were undertaken at the South Bates Extension Underground Mine:

- Longwall 25 (completed 20 April 2025); and
- Longwall 26 (commenced 23 May 2025 and completed 13 September 2025).

These mining operations were undertaken seven days a week, 24 hours a day on a rotating shift basis. There have been no unplanned shutdowns during the reporting period.

On 13 September 2025, WCPL completed mining activities in the South Bates Underground Extension Mine, thereby suspending the underground mining program at the Mine. WCPL, under DA 305-7-2003 (as modified), will continue to operate the coal handling and preparation plant (CHPP) and train loading operations. The Mine will continue to be maintained, with provision for underground coal production to recommence in the future.

Table 5 shows the production summary for 2025, compared to the production for 2024 and the forecast production for 2025 and 2026.

Following the commencement of Phase 2 operations on 1 December 2020, production material (including waste rock/overburden, run-of-mine (ROM) coal/ore, coarse/fine reject and saleable product) from open-cut operations is covered under SSD 7142.

Table 5: Production Summary

Material	Unit	Approved limit	2024 reporting period (actual)[1]	2025 reporting period (forecast)[1]	2025 reporting period (actual)[1]	2026 reporting period (forecast)[1]
Wambo Coal Mine						
Waste Rock/ Overburden	bcm	-	0	0	0	0
Underground ROM Coal/ Ore	Mt	9.75[2]	1.90	1.20	1.20	0.00
ROM Coal – Complex	Mt	14.7[3]	11.66	10.4	10.77	9.16
Coarse Reject	Mt	-	3.70	2.80	3.15	2.72
Fine Reject (Tailings)	Mt	-	0.77	0.89	0.85	0.64
Wambo Coal Terminal						
Railed Product	Mt	15[4]	6.9	-	7.01	5.8

Note: bcm = bank cubic metres, Mt = million tonnes.

1 Under Phase 2 of the UWJV, open cut operations are undertaken by United.

2 Condition A12, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003.

3 Condition A16, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003. A maximum of 14.7 Mt of ROM coal from the Mine and United may be processed at the CHPP in any calendar year.

4 Condition A8, Schedule 1 of DA 177-8-2004. Refers to product coal transported off-site.

During the reporting period, the ROM coal production at the Mine (1.20 Mt) was equal to the forecast ROM coal production (1.20 Mt).

No overburden production occurred at the Mine as forecast.

During the reporting period, a total of 7.01 Mt of product coal was transported off-site via rail (no coal was hauled off-site by trucks). A summary of 2025 daily train movements, required by Condition B29(b), Schedule 2 of DA 177-8-2004 is provided in **Appendix B**.

The maximum daily train movements on any one day was six or less in accordance with Condition A9, Schedule 2 of DA 177-8-2004 (**Appendix B**).

Figure 4 shows the amount of saleable product coal transported off-site on a weekly basis.

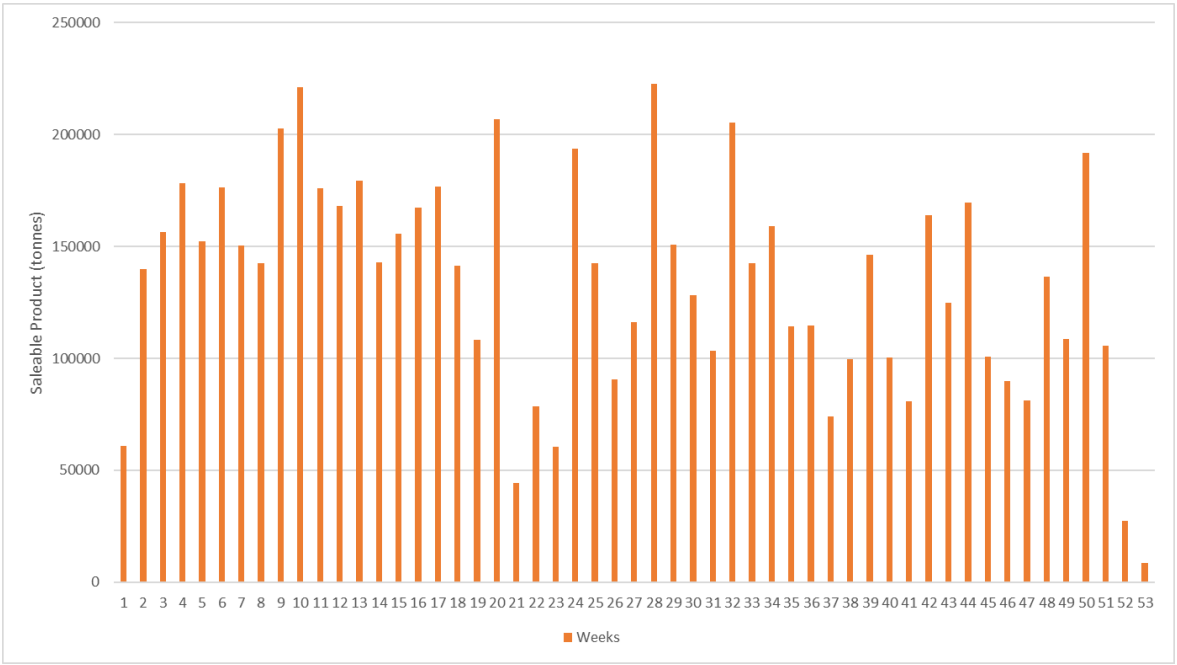


Figure 4: Coal Transported Off-Site During the Reporting Period

A total of 800 trains were loaded during the reporting period with 25 trains loaded on Friday evening (between 6 pm to 9 pm) and Sunday morning (between 9 am to 12 am). In accordance with Condition A12, Schedule 2 of DA 177-8-2004, WCPL took all reasonable steps to minimise train movements within these hours.

3.2 Next Reporting Period

As discussed in Section 3.1, WCPL will continue to operate the CHPP and train loading operations. The Mine will continue to be maintained, with provision for underground coal production to recommence in the future.

4.0 Actions Required from Previous Annual Review

A number of actions and improvements were identified in the *Wambo Coal Mine 2024 Annual Review* (WCPL 2025). Actions and improvements recommended in the *Wambo Coal Mine 2024 Annual Review* (WCPL 2025) and their current status are summarised in **Table 6.** In addition, further information/actions requested by DPHI in relation to the 2025 Annual Review are also addressed in **Table 6**.

Table 6: Actions from Previous Annual Review

Action/Improvement required from previous Annual Review[1]	Requested by	Action taken by the Operator	Where Discussed in Annual Review
Consider revising groundwater level triggers at P16 to incorporate model predictions which capture the observed mining effect.	SLR	Model updates were completed in 2025 and included recent climate and operational mining data. In 2026, the results from the model updates will used to revise trigger levels at P16 to reflect the influence of both approved impacts and climatic conditions.	Appendix H
Provide update of groundwater and surface water monitoring data at Stony Creek to DPHI in November 2025.	DPHI	Complete. The Stony Creek monitoring data update report was provided to DPHI on 28 November 2025.	Section 6.1.2
Redevelopment and purging of GW13. Sites P329a and P330a could also be considered for purging following review of comments in field sheets.	SLR	Complete. Groundwater sites 329a and 329b were purged on 4 March 2025. GW13 was purged on 25 March 2025.	Appendix H
Continuation of subsidence repair trials.	WCPL	Ongoing.	Section 5.9.3
Update the Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) in consideration of the findings of EPBC Approval 2003/1138 Five-Yearly Audit.	WCPL	Complete.	Section 2.3
Sealing of South Bates Extension Underground Mine.	WCPL	Sealing of the South Bates Extension Underground Mine was completed in December 2025.	Section 3.2
Repair subsidence damage to tracks.	WCPL	Complete.	Section 5.9.3

SLR = SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd.

[1] Refer to Section 12.0 of the *Wambo Coal Mine 2024 Annual Review* (WCPL 2025).

5.0 Environmental Performance

5.1 Noise

Noise Impact Assessment Criteria for the Mine are defined in Table 4 of DA 305-7-2003 (Condition B13 and B14, Schedule 2) and in EPL529 (Condition L5). Additional noise conditions relating to land acquisition, operating hours, rail noise, noise monitoring and the WCPL Noise Management Plan (NMP) are also detailed in these approval documents.

EMM Consulting Pty Ltd (EMM) (2026) prepared an annual noise monitoring report for the Mine and is presented in **Appendix C**.

5.1.1 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

A summary of the relevant approval criteria for noise in relation to sensitive receivers is included in **Table 7**.

Table 7: Impact Assessment Criteria for Noise DA 305-7-2003 (Phase 2 Operations)

Noise Assessment Area	Receiver	Applicable Noise Impact Assessment Criteria			
		Day $L_{Aeq,15minute}$ (dB)	Evening/Night $L_{Aeq,15minute}$ (dB)	Night $L_{Aeq,15minute}$ (dB)	Night $L_{A1,1minute}$ (dB)
Area 1 – North Bulga	R007	37	37	37	47
	All other privately-owned residences	35	35	35	45
Area 2 – South Wambo	R025	39	39	39	49
	All other privately-owned residences	35	35	35	45
Area 3 – Warkworth Village	All other privately-owned residences	44	44	43	53
All other areas	All other privately-owned residences	35	35	35	45

Source: Condition B13 and B14, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003.

Note: L_{Aeq} = A-weighted equivalent continuous sound pressure level, dB= decibels

The noise impact assessment criteria in DA 305-7-2003 do not apply under meteorological conditions of:

1. *The noise criteria in condition B12 are to apply under all meteorological conditions except the following:*
   - a. *where 3°C/100 metres (m) lapse rates have been assessed, then:*
     - i. *wind speeds greater than 3 metres per second (m/s) measured at 10 m above ground level;*
     - ii. *temperature inversion conditions between 1.5°C/100 m and 3°C/100 m and wind speeds greater than 2m/s measured at 10 m above ground level; or*
     - iii. *temperature inversion conditions greater than 3°C/100 m.*
   - b. *where Pasquill Stability Classes have been assessed, then:*
     - i. *wind speeds greater than 3m/s at 10m above ground level;*

ii. *stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2m/s at 10m above ground level;*

iii. *stability category G temperature inversion conditions.*

Condition L5.1 of EPL529 includes similar noise criterion to those identified in DA 305-7-2003 for Phase 1 operations. Conditions L5.3 of EPL529 specify that the noise emission limits identified in Condition L5.1 do not apply under meteorological conditions of:

- wind speeds greater than 3 metres per second (m/s) at 10 m above the ground level;
- stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2 m/s at 10 m above ground level; or
- stability category G temperature inversion conditions.

The noise criteria in DA 305-7-2003 are more conservative than those in EPL529, and therefore have been used to assess compliance in 2025.

As lapse rates were not measured directly, meteorological conditions have been assessed against the Pasquill Stability Classes detailed in Condition 1(b), Appendix 5 of DA 305-7-2003.

In addition to the statutory requirements detailed in DA 305-7-2003, WCPL is also required to meet additional requirements detailed within the WCPL NMP. These requirements include reporting of monthly attended monitoring results on WCPL's website or when there is an exceedance of criteria.

5.1.2 Performance during the Reporting Period

The noise monitoring network during the reporting period consisted of five attended noise monitoring locations (two of which were coincident with real time noise monitors). During 2025, attended noise monitoring was undertaken monthly at N01, N16, N20A, N21 and N26. For further detail, refer to the WCPL Annual Noise Monitoring Report (**Appendix C**).

Noise levels from the Mine were generally inaudible at all receivers and WCPL complied with relevant noise criteria during all monitoring conducted during the reporting period (**Appendix C**). More detail is provided in **Appendix C**.

Results of monitoring were published on the WCPL website, in accordance with the WCPL NMP.

In addition, WCPL complied with all operational requirements detailed in the WCPL NMP.

No complaints were received relating to noise during the reporting period (**Section 8.3**).

Based on the performance of the noise management system outlined above, it is considered that the noise management system is effective.

5.1.2.1 Comparison with UWJV EIS Predictions

Phase 2 operations commenced on 1 December 2020, the Mine now only includes underground mining operations, the operation of the Mine infrastructure and associated surface infrastructure under DA 305-7-2003. Open cut operations are now managed by United under SSD 7142.

Subsequently, comparison of measured Mine noise levels against the UWJV Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) noise model predictions (which includes open cut operations) is not relevant (**Appendix C**).

5.1.3 Trends and Key Management Implications

EMM (2026) concluded that noise levels from the Mine were generally inaudible at all receivers during 2025 noise monitoring (**Appendix C**). This conclusion is consistent with noise monitoring in the 2024 reporting period (EMM, 2025). No modifying factors were applicable to operations at the Mine. The Mine complied with relevant noise criteria during all measurements during 2025 noise monitoring.

WCPL will continue to implement the WCPL NMP next reporting period.

5.1.4 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

WCPL will continue to implement the noise management measures detailed in the WCPL NMP, including documenting the timing and scale of any operational changes made in response to adverse conditions or noise alarms from monitoring units.

5.2 Blasting

Since the commencement of Phase 2, no blasting associated with open cut operations is allowed at the Mine in accordance with Condition B21, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003. Blasting activities associated with the UWJV open cut operations are managed by United under SSD 7142.

5.2.1 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

Condition B21, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003 requires that:

> *No blasting associated with open cut operations is allowed on the site during Phase 2.*

5.2.2 Performance during the Reporting Period

No blasting associated with open cut operations was undertaken by the Mine during 2025.

5.2.3 Trends and Key Management Implications

No blast-related trends were identified during the reporting period.

5.2.4 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

At this stage, no blast-related management actions are currently scheduled in the next reporting period.

5.3 Air Quality

Air quality criteria for the Mine are defined in Table 6 of DA 305-7-2003 (Condition B42, Schedule 2) and EPL529 (Condition M2.2). Additional conditions relating to air quality, odour, land acquisition, operating conditions and the WCPL Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan (AQGGMP) are also detailed in these approval documents.

Airen Consulting (Airen) (2026) prepared an annual air quality monitoring report for the Mine and is presented in **Appendix D**.

5.3.1 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

A summary of the approval criteria for air quality applicable during the reporting period is included in **Table 8.**

Table 8: Approval Criteria for Air Quality

Pollutant	Averaging Period	Criterion
Particulate Matter <10 µm (PM_{10})	Annual	[a,c] 25µg/m^3
	24 hour	[b] 50 µg/m^3
Particulate Matter < 2.5 µm ($PM_{2.5}$)	Annual	[a,c] 8 µg/m^3
	24 hour	[b] 25 µg/m^3
TSP matter	Annual	[a,c] 90 µg/m^3

Source: Condition B42, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003.

Note: TSP = total suspended particles, PM_{10} = particulate matter with a diameter less than 10 micrometers, $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter with a diameter less than 2.5 micrometers, µg/m^3 = micrograms per cubic metre, µm = micrometers.

a. Total impact (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the development plus background concentrations due to all other sources).

b. Incremental impact (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the development on its own).

c. Excludes extraordinary events such as bushfires, prescribed burning, dust storms, fire incidents or any other activity agreed by the Planning Secretary.

Following the determination of the UWJV, the appropriate EIS documentation to refer to is the UWJV EIS (Umwelt, 2016) in regard to air quality predictions.

A summary of the UWJV EIS predictions for air quality is included in **Section 5.3.2.1**, along with WCPL's performance against these predictions during the reporting period. For more information on the UWJV EIS predictions, refer to the UWJV EIS (Umwelt, 2016).

In addition to the statutory requirements detailed in **Table 8**, WCPL is also required to meet additional requirements outlined in the WCPL AQGGMP. These requirements include reporting of greenhouse gas monitoring data in the Annual Review (**Section 5.4**).

5.3.2 Performance during the Reporting Period

Air quality monitoring was undertaken during the reporting period, in accordance with the WCPL AQGGMP.

WCPL complied with all operational air quality requirements detailed in the WCPL AQGGMP.

Airen (2026) concluded that WCPL complied with its relevant DA 305-7-2007 air quality criterion at relevant monitoring sites for data collected in 2025.

Noted in DA 305-7-2003, determination of compliance against the impact assessment criteria "excludes extraordinary events such as bushfires, prescribed burning, dust storms, fire incidents or any other activity agreed by the Planning Secretary". Therefore, the results have been calculated without extraordinary events (noting one extraordinary event occurred in 2025).

A widespread dust storm was observed on 27 May 2025 (Airen, 2026). This event originated in eastern South Australia and caused exceedances of the EPA's assessment criterion (50 µg/m^3) at 33 of 46 stations in metropolitan and regional centres around NSW (Airen, 2026). This day was considered to be the only extraordinary event within 2025 for the purposes of determining compliance with DA 305-7-2003 criteria.

No complaints were received regarding air quality or odour from the Mine during the reporting period (**Section 8.3**).

There were no other incidents relating to air quality or odour during the reporting period.

Based on the performance of the air quality management system outlined above, it is considered that the air quality management system is effective.

5.3.2.1 Comparison with UWJV EIS Predictions

The UWJV EIS (Umwelt 2016) included predicted cumulative TSP, PM_{10} and dust deposition levels for four operational scenarios (Years 2, 6, 11 and 16). These years approximately translate to 2022, 2026, 2031 and 2036.

A summary of the predicted cumulative annual average TSP, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ levels for the Year 2 and Year 6 scenarios at the WCPL air quality monitoring sites assessed in the UWJV EIS (Umwelt 2016) air quality assessment, is provided in **Table 9**. The annual average TSP, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ levels recorded during the reporting period are also provided in **Table 9**.

Table 9: Comparison of UWJV EIS Predictions and 2025 Monitoring Data – Air Quality

Parameter	UWJV EIS Predictions		2025 Monitoring
	Site	Year 6 (2026)	
Annual Average TSP (µg/m^3)[1]	AQ05 (D5 Kelly formerly AQ01)	63	61
	AQ02 (D2 Caban)	51	45
	AQ03 (D4 Thelander)	51	33
	AQ04 (D1 Muller)	54	57
Annual Average PM_{10} (µg/m^3)	AQ05 (D5 Kelly formerly AQ01)	33	20.2
	AQ02 (D2 Caban)	16	15.0
	AQ03 (D4 Thelander)	16	11.0
	AQ04 (D1 Muller)	21	18.7
Annual Average $PM_{2.5}$ (µg/m^3)	AQ03 (D4 Thelander)	7	5.1
	AQ05 (D5 Kelly formerly AQ01)	3	5.9

Source: After Umwelt (2016) and Airen (2026).

1. TSP is estimated from PM_{10} monitoring data based on the relationship that 33% of TSP is PM_{10}.

The annual average $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10} and TSP concentrations were below the relevant predicted cumulative annual average concentrations for the Year 6 scenario at all monitoring locations during 2025, except at Site D5 Kelly, which recorded higher PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations than the predicted cumulative annual average, and Site D1 Muller, which recorded higher PM_{10} concentrations than the predicted cumulative annual average. Notwithstanding the above, all monitoring locations were still in compliance with the air quality criterion provided in Table 6 of DA 305-7-2003.

5.3.3 Trends and Key Management Implications

There were no air quality or odour management implications arising from WCPL's operations for the reporting period.

5.3.3.1 TSP

A study on co-located TSP and PM_{10} monitors conducted in the Hunter Valley by the NSW Minerals Council (2010) indicated that dust generated from predominately coal mining sources has long-term average PM_{10} concentrations that are approximately 40% of the corresponding TSP concentration (or equivalently, TSP concentrations are approximately 2.5 times PM_{10} concentrations). This ratio was found to be reasonably accurate for long-term averages (e.g. annual averages).

The long-term average ratio of PM_{10} to TSP over the four co-located monitoring sites at the Mine over a six year period was 33% (or equivalently, TSP concentrations are approximately three times PM_{10} concentrations). Using this ratio, TSP levels from 2011 to 2025 are shown in **Table 10** and **Figure 5**. The data shows there was a general increase in recorded TSP levels from 2012 to 2014, with a dip in 2015 and 2016, before increasing again in 2017 and 2018 and then decreasing again in 2019 to 2022. Dry weather throughout 2023 resulted in TSP concentrations increasing across the four monitors. The TSP concentration was observed to reduce during 2024 and has generally remained the same from the previous year during the reporting period.

Table 10: TSP Annual Averages (µg/m^3) (2011-2025)

HVAS	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
HV01	56.7	64.8	61.0	66.0	54.8	47.8	68.8	77.1	60.0	46.3	62.1	41.9	71.8	68.0	61.0
HV02	48.8	61.4	62.0	58.0	51.5	47.7	61.6	70.8	62.5	46.0	37.9	31.6	50.2	44.0	45.0
HV03	49.0	38.9	41.0	48.0	40.6	39.5	50.0	55.8	45.0	40.5	25.5	23.8	38.8	34.0	33.0
HV04	41.0	58.6	49.0	63.0	60.6	56.6	64.1	75.3	62.5	46.8	40.0	36.3	59.0	57.0	57.0

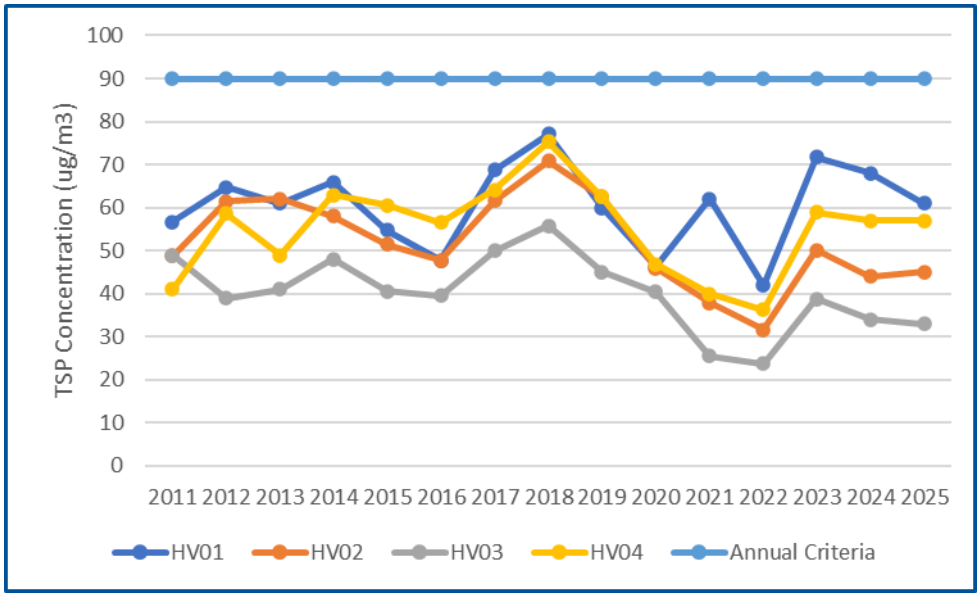


Figure 5: TSP Annual Averages (2011-2025)

5.3.3.2 PM_{10}

PM_{10} concentrations recorded by WCPL's four Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance Analyser (TEOMs) from 2011 to 2025 are shown in **Table 11** and Figure 6.

The data shows that PM_{10} concentrations remained relatively consistent from 2011 to 2017, with the highest concentrations recorded to date observed in 2018. This is considered to be due to open cut mining moving to a more exposed location in the Montrose Open Cut Pit during 2018. The PM_{10} concentrations then generally reduced during 2019 to 2022, before returning to long-term trend levels in 2023 and 2024, and during the reporting period.

Table 11: PM_{10} Monitoring Results (2011-2025)

TEOM	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018[1]	2019	2020[2]	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
[3]Annual Average in µg/m³															
AQ05 (formerly AQ01)	16.8	21.0	19.3	18.0	15.7	15.6	20.6	25.7	24.1	21.6	20.5	13.8	23.7	22.5	20.2
AQ02 (PM02)	17.2	21.1	22.3	19.0	16.0	17.5	19.1	23.6	18.8	19.2	12.5	10.4	16.6	14.4	15.0
AQ03 (PM03)	16.7	16.6	16.5	15.3	12.9	14.1	14.6	18.6	25.1	14.7	8.4	7.9	12.8	11.4	11.0
AQ04 (PM04)	16.2	18.3	16.8	17.7	16.5	16.3	17.2	25.1	25.1	19.8	13.2	12.0	19.5	18.8	18.7
[4]Maximum 24-hour Average in µg/m³															
AQ05 (formerly AQ01)	49	47	65	55	52	49	66	151.9[1]	59	106.1	66	44.8	97.4	72.6	87.3
AQ02 (PM02)	83	76	97	70	55	49	52	163.5[1]	54	132.5	35	34	53.1	42.2	42.8
AQ03 (PM03)	43	47	71	51	43	39	39	143.8[1]	64	137.8	36	27.6	37.8	35.9	42.3
AQ04 (PM04)	43	45	65	56	71	44	49	125.0[1]	73	131.4	99	32.3	55.4	52.2	56.9
Number of Days Above 24-hour Average Criteria															
AQ05 (formerly AQ01)	0	0	4	2	1	0	5	15	9	13	0	0	9	0	0
AQ02 (PM02)	2	7	20	2	3	0	2	9	1	13	0	0	1	0	0
AQ03 (PM03)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	6	9	9	0	0	0	0	0
AQ04 (PM04)	0	0	3	1	2	0	0	12	6	9	0	0	3	0	0

1. If the results on 22 and 23 November 2018 are discounted as they were the result of a state-wide dust storm, the maximum 24-hour averages are: 80.6 µg/m³ at AQ01, 66.0 µg/m³ at AQ02, 58.70 µg/m³ at AQ03 and 70.9 µg/m³ at AQ04.
2. Results shown are inclusive of “extraordinary days”.
3. Results shown for "Number of Days Above 24-hour Average Criteria" are inclusive of all sources (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the development plus background concentrations due to all other sources).
4. Results shown for "Maximum 24-hour Average" are inclusive of all sources (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the development plus background concentrations due to all other sources).

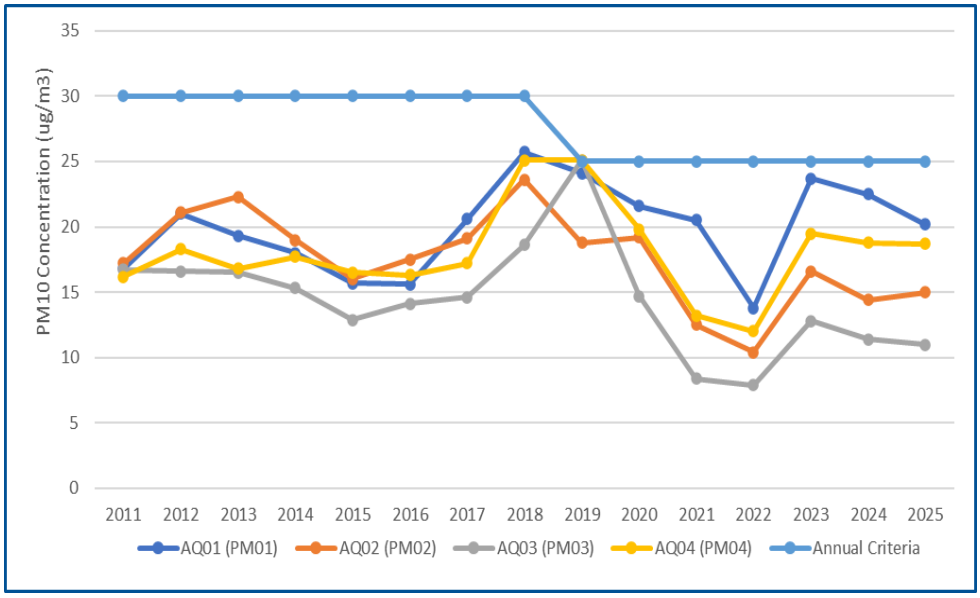


Figure 6: PM_{10} Annual Averages (2011-2025)

5.3.3.3 $PM_{2.5}$

On-site $PM_{2.5}$ data was available from late June 2020 onwards, following installation of the monitors. Results of monitoring during the reporting period are presented in **Table 12.** The data shows that $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations remained relatively consistent between 2020 and 2022, presented a slight increase in 2023 and remained relatively consistent between in 2024 and the 2025 reporting year.

Table 12: PM2.5 Monitoring Results (2020-2025)

TEOM	2020[1, 2]	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
[3]Annual Average in µg/m³						
AQ05 (PM06)	5.2	5.5	4.7	7.0	7.3	5.9
AQ03 (PM07)	4.2	3.9	3.6	5.4	5.4	5.1
[4]Maximum 24-hour Average in µg/m³						
AQ05 (PM06)	15	14.9	15.3	22	26.8	27.1
AQ03 (PM07)	17	28.9	15.4	26.5	16.1	20.6
Number of Days Above 24-hour Average Criteria						
AQ01 (PM06)	0	0	0	0	0	0
AQ03 (PM07)	0	0	0	1	0	0

1. Results available from June 2020 onwards.
2. Results shown are exclusive of “extraordinary days”.
3. Results shown for "Annual Average" are inclusive of all sources (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the development plus background concentrations due to all other sources).
4. Results shown for "Maximum 24 hour Average" are inclusive of all sources (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the development plus background concentrations due to all other sources).

5.3.4 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

WCPL will continue to implement the WCPL AQGGMP during the next reporting period.

5.4 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

There are no approval criteria for greenhouse gas emissions in WCPL's statutory approvals. In accordance with Condition B49, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003, for the life of the development, WCPL is required to:

(a) monitor the greenhouse gas emissions generated by the development;

(b) investigate ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions generated by the development; and

(c) report on greenhouse gas monitoring and abatement measures in the Annual Review,

to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.

5.4.1 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

A summary of the EIS predictions for carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions is included in **Section 5.4.2**, along with WCPL's performance against these predictions from 2025. For more information on the EIS predictions refer to the EIS (Resource Strategies, 2003).

WCPL is required to report greenhouse gas monitoring data in the Annual Review, in accordance with the WCPL AQGGMP.

5.4.2 Performance during the Reporting Period

WCPL calculates and reports on greenhouse gas emissions at the end of every financial year, hence, the summary data provided in **Table 13** is for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. Data for the second half of the 2025 reporting period will be included in the 2026 Annual Review.

A total of 33,558 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2-e) was emitted by the South Bates Underground Extension Mine's ventilation systems in 2025. This value is lower than predicted ventilation emissions from the South Bates Extension Mine in 2025 (i.e. 140,000 tonnes of CO_2-e) (Todoroski Air Sciences, 2022).

It is also noted that ventilation emissions have been gradually decreasing over the years due to the change from methane rich coal seam gas to CO_2 rich coal seam gas, as the Mine has progressed from the North Wambo Underground Mine to the South Bates (Whybrow and Wambo Seam) Underground Mine. This change is part of a regional gas change that happens to occur across the Mine.

A total of 154,635 tonnes of CO2-e was emitted from the other operations (fuel and electricity consumption). This is comparatively greater than the predicted emissions for the South Bates Extension Underground Mine (Todoroski Air Sciences, 2022). It is noted however, that Todoroski Air Sciences' (2022) predictions did not account for the emissions from the decommissioned North Wambo Underground Mine, which contributed and additional 96,453 tonnes of CO_2-e in 2025.

Table 13: Comparison of EIS Predictions and Monitoring Data – Greenhouse Gas

Parameter	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Frequency	Emissions Calculated	Calculated CO_2-e tonnes for 2023-2024	Calculated CO_2-e tonnes for 2024-2025	EIS predicted CO_2-e tonnes for 2026[1]
Ventilation Systems						
Methane (CH_4)	Main Ventilation Shaft	Real-time continuous	Emission factor to convert from tonnes of CH_4 to tonnes of CO_2-e	19,000	20,889	**1,939,303**
Carbon Dioxide (CO_2)	Main Ventilation Shaft	Real-time continuous	Tonnes of CO_2-e	15,173	12,669	
Sub-Total				**34,173**	**33,558**	
Other (Fuel, Electrical Power and Other Fugitive Emissions)						
Diesel Use	Calculated from invoices	Annually	Emission factor to convert from kL use to tonnes of CO_2-e	9,848	9,241	**98,375**
Oil Use	Calculated from invoices	Annually	Emission factor to convert from kL use to tonnes of CO_2-e	122	59	
Grease Use	Calculated from invoices	Annually	Emission factor to convert from kL use to tonnes of CO_2-e	2	1	
Electricity Use	Calculated from invoices	Annually	Emission factor to convert from kWh use to tonnes of CO_2-e	49,608	48,877	
ROM Coal Production	Calculated from weight meter and survey	Monthly	Fugitive emissions factor based on ROM production[3]	151,051 (closed mine calculation U/G fugitives)	96,451	
Gas Drainage[4]	-	Annually	Tonnes of CO_2-e	0	0	
Sub-Total				**210,631**	**154,629**	
Total				**244,804**	**188,187**	**2,037,678**

Note: kL = kilolitres, OC = Open Cut, UG = Underground, kWh = kilowatt hours.

1. Refer to Year 20 in Tables 16 and 17 of Appendix B of the WCPL EIS (Resource Strategies 2003).
2. Anomalous results recorded during 2014 for non-combustible grease and oil use are believed to be due to human error in internal accounting procedures.
3. Wambo Open Cut uses Method 2 in situ measured emissions calculations for fugitive emissions. This involves the application of a gas model to as-mined pit shells for the year to generate the measured emissions number.
4. Financial Year 17/18 was the first time that a gas drainage plant was used. The plant was used intermittently.

The 2024-2025 financial year was the seventh National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) year that the Mine had emissions from a decommissioned mine due to North Wambo Underground Mine closing in April 2016. The total emissions emitted from the Mine during the reporting period (188,187 tonnes CO_2-e) is less than in previous reporting periods and the predicted emissions in the EIS (**Table 13**).

5.4.3 Trends and Key Management Implications

Levels of total CO_2 emissions monitored from the main ventilation shafts in 2014 to mid-2016 were indicative of the active mining at the North Wambo Underground Mine.

Following the closing of the North Wambo Underground Mine in 2016, a significant proportion of the CH_4 emissions previously recorded at the main ventilation shaft shifted to being presented under a 'closed mine calculation'. The overall annual emissions from the Mine during the last seven reporting periods have remained relatively consistent.

During the reporting period, annual emissions from diesel and other sources (9,241 tonnes CO_2-e) for production related electrical generation was consistent with the emissions in the 2024 reporting period (9,848 tonnes CO_2-e). Electricity use during the reporting period remained consistent with the previous years.

5.4.4 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

WCPL did not undertake any targeted energy saving projects during 2025, however, energy efficiency is considered during mine planning.

5.5 Meteorology

WCPL is required to maintain a meteorological monitoring station at the Mine and monitor the parameters specified in Condition B50, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003 and EPL529 (Condition M4), using the specified units of measure, averaging period, frequency and sampling method described in the tables.

WCPL maintains the meteorological monitoring station in accordance with AS 2923-1987. The following parameters are monitored by the meteorological monitoring station, in accordance with WCPL's statutory conditions:

- temperature (at 2 m and 10 m);
- rainfall;
- lapse rate;
- wind speed (at 10 m);
- wind direction (at 10 m);
- solar radiation (at 10 m);
- humidity; and
- sigma theta.

Table 14 summarises the annual rainfall, temperature and wind direction data for 2025, compared to previous reporting periods.

Table 14: Environmental Performance – Meteorology (2017-2025)

Parameter	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Rainfall (mm)	442.50	536.2	387.4	966.6	1,188.6	1192.6	477.8	720.8	792.2
Maximum Temperature (°C)[1]	46.8 (Feb)	43.8 (Jan)	44 (Jan)	45 (Jan)	38.4 (Jan)	36.5 (Feb)	42.9 (Dec)	41.8 (Feb)	42.1 (Dec)
Minimum Temperature (°C)[1]	-3.5 (July)	-5.5 (July)	-2.9 (Aug)	-1.5 (July)	-2.7 (July)	-1.3 (June)	-3.5 (July)	-1.6 (June)	-2.1 (June/ July)
Mean Temperature (°C)[1]	18.5	18.7	19.2	17.9	17.1	16.7	18.2	18.4	18.3
Predominant Wind Direction	S/SE (summer) W/SW (winter)	S/SE/E (summer) NW (winter)	E/SE (summer) WNW/ NW (winter)	SE (summer) NW (winter)	SE (summer) NW (winter	SE (summer) NW (winter)	SE/ESE (summer) NW/ WNW (winter)	SE/ESE (summer) NW/ WNW (winter)	S/SSE/E (summer) NW/ WNW (winter)

Note: °C = degrees Celsius, E = East, SE = South-east, W = West, NW = North-west, S = South, SW = South-west, mm = millimetres.

1. Measured at 2 m above ground.

5.6 Biodiversity

WCPL implemented the BMP during the reporting period.

The BMP applies to all activities undertaken within WCPL's mining authorisations and approved mining areas that may impact on biodiversity, as well as biodiversity in WCPL's RWEAs and Open Cut Revegetation Areas. The BMP has been developed to:

- identify lands to be managed in accordance with this BMP;
- provide a framework for the management of biodiversity in the RWEAs and North Wambo Creek Diversion (NWCD);
- provide a clear, concise set of management actions and a schedule for the coordinated and effective delivery of biodiversity enhancement;
- define realistic Completion Criteria for RWEAs that can be quantitatively evaluated through a seasonally based monitoring program;
- define a seasonally based monitoring program suitable for determining management success (or otherwise);
- provide suitable contingency measures and associated Trigger Action Response Plans (TARPs) that adequately address any deviation from the Completion Criteria; and
- define the responsibilities for implementing, reviewing and reporting on the BMP.

The BMP also meets the requirement for a Biodiversity Management Plan under Condition B7(f)(ii), Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003 in support of the Extraction Plan for the South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 24 to 26.

It also addresses the requirements within the Voluntary Conservation Agreements (VCA) prepared under Condition B74(g), Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003, and the requirements of the EPBC Act approvals (EPBC 2003/1138, EPBC 2016/7636 and EPBC 2016/7816).

5.6.1 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

Performance measures for subsidence impacts on biodiversity are detailed in Condition B1, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003 (**Section 5.9.2**). In addition, performance measures for aquatic ecosystems are detailed in Condition B62, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003 (**Section 6.0**).

WCPL is required to monitor and report on biodiversity in accordance with the conditions of DA 305-7-2003, DA 177-8-2004, EPBC 2003/1138, EPBC 2016/7636, EPBC 2016/7816 and the approved BMP.

The BMP includes biometric monitoring methodology. In September 2021 the BMP was modified to remove Landscape Function Analysis (LFA) as a monitoring method following recommendations from the NSW Biodiversity and Conservation Division (now NSW DCCEEW – Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation branch [CPHR]). The floristic performance criteria are provided in **Table 15**.

Table 15: Floristic Performance Criteria for Plant Community Types in RWEAs and Performance Targets for Older Woodland Areas and Rehabilitation Sites

	Attribute[1, 2]									
	NPS	NOS	NMS	NGCG	NGCS	NGCO	EPC	OR	HBT	FL
Rehabilitation										
Older Woodland Areas with a canopy of Sugar Gum	>15	15-40	5-40	5-15	5-10	5-15	<20	1	-	5
Areas of Narrow-leaved Ironbark – Bull Oak – Grey Box open forest	>20	10-40	5-10	15-50	5-10	5-40	<20	1	-	-
RWEAs										
PCT42[3]	>20	10-50	10-50	20-60	1-5	5-30	<10	1	-	-
PCT1658[3]	>20	10-40	10-50	4-20	5-30	5-35	<10	1	-	-
PCT1603[3]	>25	10-40	5-10	15-50	5-10	5-40	<5	1	-	-
PCT1604[3]	>35	15-40	5-20	30-50	5-15	5-40	<5	1	-	-
PCT1176[3]	>21	15-40	5-30	5-30	0-25	2-10	<5	1	-	-
PCT1584[3]	>45	15-45	5-40	5-40	10-20	5-20	0	1	-	-

1. Refer to Table 14 of the BMP for further information on the measurement parameters of each attribute.
2. NPS = the number of native plant species (native to NSW), NOS (%) (including *E. cladocalyx*) = projected native foliage cover of canopy, NMS (%) (including *A. saligna*) = projected native mid-storey cover, NGCG (%) = native groundcover of grasses, NGCS (%) = native groundcover of shrubs, NGCO (%) = native groundcover of other plant types (sedges, herbs etc.), EPC (%) = exotic plant cover, OR = proportion of native overstorey regeneration over the whole vegetation zone, HBT = hollow bearing trees, FL (m) = length of fallen logs >10 centimetre diameter within the vegetation plot, PCT = plant community type.
3. PCT42: River Red Gum/River Oak riparian woodland wetland in the Hunter Valley.
   PCT1658: Rough-barked Apple – Narrow-leaved Ironbark – Blakely's Red Gum – Bull Oak – Coast Banksia woodland on sands of the Warkworth area.
   PCT1603: Narrow-leaved Ironbark – Bull Oak – Grey Box shrub – grass open forest of the central and lower Hunter.
   PCT1604: Narrow-leaved Ironbark – Grey Box – Spotted Gum shrub – grass woodland of the central and lower Hunter.
   PCT1176: Slaty Box – Grey Gum shrubby woodland on footslopes of the upper Hunter Valley, Sydney Basin Bioregion.
   PCT1584: White Mahogany – Spotted Gum – Grey Myrtle semi-mesic shrubby open forest of the central and lower Hunter Valley.

5.6.2 Performance during the Reporting Period

During the reporting period, WCPL commissioned Eco Logical Australia to undertake the annual flora and fauna monitoring program across the RWEAs, rehabilitation areas and associated waterways. Floristic and fauna habitat surveys, bird surveys, riparian condition assessments, vegetation establishment and floristic monitoring within the NWCD, groundwater dependent ecosystem (GDE) monitoring, and flora and fauna monitoring within the South Bates Extension Underground Mine area, were all conducted during Spring 2025. A copy of the Annual Flora and Fauna Monitoring Report Volume 1 and 2 prepared by Eco Logical Australia (2026) is included in **Appendix E**.

Results from the 2025 surveys indicate that remnant woodland sites within RWEAs are generally performing well. Overall, native flora species diversity and native groundcover remains high with seasonal variation influenced by seasonal conditions (**Appendix E**).

High exotic cover was recorded in RWEA A and RWEA Rail Loop within the Rough-barked Apple - Narrow-leaved Ironbark - Blakely's Red Gum - Bull Oak - Coast Banksia woodland on sands of the Warkworth area community and in the River Red Gum/River Oak riparian woodland community. The recorded levels failed to meet the performance criteria and Voluntary Conservation Area (VCA) targets at several sites. Key exotic species in these zones are *Melinis repens*, *Bryophyllum* sp., *Eragrostis curvula*, and *Ehrharta erecta* (**Appendix E**).

Bird survey results from remnant woodland sites within the RWEA areas reflected the good condition of these woodland areas continuing to support a large diversity of birds including several threatened species. Bird diversity and communities were largely consistent with the data available from previous monitoring years and the monitoring data does not indicate any major declines in local bird communities (**Appendix E**).

Floristic monitoring in the NWCD recorded acceptable native species diversity and native groundcover. Cover of shrubs and canopy were low, however, this is expected during the establishment phase. Significant growth in Eucalypt and Acacia trees and shrubs was observed, including several areas where trees have naturally established along the creek channel. Vegetation within the NWCD remains in the early stages of re-establishment, with high grass cover (mostly exotic grass species) and young shrubs and trees. Vegetation condition within the NWCD is expected to improve as vegetation matures. An increased number of floristic sites is proposed to monitor this area (**Appendix E**).

The average total riparian condition scores for Stony Creek, North Wambo Creek and South Wambo Creek were broadly consistent with 2023 and 2024. North Wambo Creek and South Wambo Creek recorded an increase in the average total score compared to 2023. Most sub-indices were stable compared with 2024, with the exception of ‘habitat’ at North Wambo Creek, and ‘cover’ at South Wambo Creek which both increased by comparison to 2024.

Riparian condition scores for North Wambo Creek, Wambo Creek and Stony Creek were broadly consistent with 2023 and 2024, reflecting the ongoing wetter conditions in 2020 to 2025 following previous drought years from 2017 to 2019 and in response to the reduction/exclusion of grazing. Understorey vegetation cover remains high following higher rainfall in 2020 to 2023, although a high proportion of groundcover contribution is from exotic species.

Exclusion of cattle from riparian areas has been recommended in previous monitoring reports and no evidence of cattle grazing was recorded in 2025. Cattle should continue to be excluded from riparian areas to encourage tree regeneration and prevent erosion. Evidence of feral pigs has previously been recorded at the South Wambo Creek monitoring sites. No evidence of feral pigs was recorded at the North Wambo Creek monitoring sites in the 2025 surveys. Pig activity in the creek lines may reduce tree regeneration, promote erosion and spread exotic plant species. There is an active pig control program at the Mine, and it was recommended that WCPL continue to implement this program with follow up monitoring to assess effectiveness. Planting native trees in over-cleared areas to facilitate more rapid regeneration is also recommended and will commence in 2026 (**Appendix E**).

The *Melaleuca decora* low forest GDE community was recorded to be in good condition with scores for most attributes increasing since 2019. This community was undermined during 2019 and 2020, and data collected to date may serve as suitable baseline for this community noting that 2019 was a dry year followed by wetter conditions in 2020, 2021 and 2022 and returning to drier conditions in 2023. The BioMetric results from the *Melaleuca decora* forest has shown minor fluctuations but remain stable with levels consistent to 2019-2020 results (**Appendix E**).

The River Oak riparian tall woodland GDE recorded tree growth and similar canopy extent, suggesting the health of the trees is mostly stable. Variation in results between the drier years in 2019 and 2023 and wetter years in 2020, 2021 and 2022 is likely to be useful to understand the natural changes which occur in the community when attempting to determine whether any future changes observed are the result of mining impacts or natural variation. The extent of the community remains unchanged since originally mapped in 2019, however, the wetter years in 2020, 2021 and 2022 may have provided suitable conditions for the spread and germination of canopy and mid-storey species which in the coming years may result in an increase in the extent of the community (**Appendix E**).

Floristic and bird monitoring sites established in 2020 in the South Bates Extension Underground Mine area, including reference sites outside of the mining area continued to be monitored during the reporting period. Vegetation and bird communities were recorded in good condition. Compared to 2024, an overall decrease in the number of bird individuals was recorded, however, an increase in bird species richness was observed at sites within areas impacted by undermining to date (**Appendix E**).

Subsidence cracks were noted near flora site V11-B1 as per recent years. In 2025, the cracking appeared to have stabilised, and the cracking was not having any observable significant impacts on vegetation at the current time, with the adjacent trees and shrubs showing no visible signs of stress or damage (**Appendix E**).

5.6.3 Trends and Key Management Implications

The majority of RWEAs remain in good condition with high numbers of native species, few exotic species present and with low cover and abundance. No major issues were identified that require urgent management (**Appendix E**).

The number of native species generally remained the same from the previous year and was relatively high in several PCTs. The 2025 results appear to confirm that some lower scores for native species diversity recorded in recent years were a result of the dry conditions, with the increase in 2021 and 2022 in response to higher rainfall (**Appendix E**).

However, as reported in previous years, exotic species cover remains relatively high in RWEA A and continues to exceed performance criteria and VCA targets in certain locations. Continued weed management will be required to achieve performance criteria in these riparian and floodplain areas. In other areas within RWEA A, *Eragrostis curvula*, *Melinis repens* and *Bryophyllum* sp. continue to persist despite ongoing management efforts, and continuation of follow-up treatment is required.

In previous years the Rough-barked Apple - Narrow-leaved Ironbark - Blakely's Red Gum - Bull Oak - Coast Banksia woodland (PCT 1658) in RWEA A was recorded to be suffering from *Banksia integrifolia* die-off in the mid-storey, first observed in 2019. Low cover of Banksia integrifolia was recorded in 2023 in RWEA A monitoring plots V5B1 and V5B2. This observation suggested Banksia individuals may be recovering, or new plants may have germinated. In March 2024, *Banksia integrifolia* in RWEA A appeared to have successfully resprouted since dying back. New growth appeared healthy, and young flowers were present at the time of the site inspection when soil samples were collected. Ongoing monitoring within these plots will provide additional data on the recovery or ongoing decline of this species locally. This community recorded a lower than average exotic covers compared to higher exotic covers recorded in 2022. This community occurs on sandy soils, and it is possible the soils suffered more significant drying during the recent dry years than other areas and the rainfall to date has not been sufficient to recharge the soil.

The Rough-barked Apple - Narrow-leaved Ironbark - Blakely's Red Gum - Bull Oak - Coast Banksia woodland (PCT 1658) is performing acceptably overall. Floristic monitoring, walk-over surveys and ongoing weed control should continue, given the conservation status of this community (**Appendix E**). Future monitoring will continue to record the condition of this community and increased weed control will be applied.

The average number of bird species per site was consistent with 2024 (lower than the levels recorded in previous years [i.e. 2015-2022]). It is recommended to continue monitoring this statistic. However, average individual birds per survey decreased, but remained within the range recorded, in previous years (**Appendix E**).

As vegetation and habitat attributes in RWEA areas have remained relatively stable over time, variability in diversity and abundance between years is likely explained by a combination of factors such as varying numbers of nomadic and migratory bird species, weather and climate, sampling methods, differences in the skill of observers, the timing of surveys and surveys coinciding with the flowering of trees and also broader landscape scale and seasonal changes across the Hunter Valley. The total number of bird species detected each year has varied over time and the 77 species recorded during 2025 is within the range of previous years.

Threatened species appear to be persisting within the RWEAs, with Grey-crowned Babbler, Brown Treecreeper and Varied Sittella recorded in similar or greater numbers than the previous year (**Appendix E**).

5.6.4 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

In 2018, 50 nest boxes were installed in five clusters within RWEAs B, C and D. Three nest boxes had fallen to the ground and were replaced in March 2023. The third round of nest box monitoring was undertaken in September 2024, with fourteen nest boxes showing evidence of use and four occupied at the time of survey. Most nest boxes were noted to be in good condition. Nest box monitoring is undertaken bi-annually and was not undertaken as part of the 2025 annual flora and fauna monitoring program.

WCPL will continue to give priority to managing weed species listed under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* that have the potential to become problematic in the wider region (e.g. *Olea europaea* subsp. *cuspidata* [African Olive]). A targeted weed survey and updated Annual Weed Treatment Plan were created in 2024, which recorded weed issues, incorporating the results of this monitoring program, and outlined proposed strategy for weed treatment in 2024/2025 in detail. A targeted weed survey and update to the Annual Weed Treatment Plan is scheduled for 2026 (**Appendix E**).

5.7 Heritage

WCPL manages Aboriginal heritage on-site in accordance with the relevant conditions of DA 305-7-2003 and the conditions of Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits (AHIPs) #2222, #C0001474, #C0002000, #C0003213 and #5158. These AHIPs allow for the disturbance and/or salvage of all known and unknown Aboriginal objects within the extent of the relevant AHIP boundaries. Any Aboriginal objects salvaged under these permits are managed in accordance with a Care Agreement.

In June 2023, WCPL updated the Heritage Management Plan (HMP) for the Mine, to assist in the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage on-site. The updated HMP was approved in December 2023.

Open artefact sites were salvaged from the surface in the South Wambo Dam discharge pipeline corridor in July 2024, under AHIP #2222 and #C0002000. This included a partial salvage of Wambo Site 473. A variation to the existing AHIP #C0002000 (AHIP #C0002000 Variation #2) was approved by Heritage NSW on 13 December 2024 for the discharge outlet and the eastern end of the pipeline corridor (including a portion of Wambo Site 473). Additional salvage works of Wambo Site 473 within AHIP #C0002000 Variation #2 area was undertaken on 20 January 2025. Copies of the salvage report were provided to Heritage NSW and the Registered Aboriginal Parties.

5.8 Non-Aboriginal Heritage

WCPL is required to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the Wambo Homestead Complex (WHC) in accordance with Condition B89, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003. The current CMP (Version 6) was approved in May 2019. An updated CMP (Version 7) has been submitted for approval.

Maintenance work that continued during the reporting period was guided by the Preventative and Cyclic Maintenance Program outlined in Tables 14 and 15 of the CMP. Maintenance activities conducted at the WHC during the reporting period included general clean-up of the site, additional engineered propping, roofing of the servant wing, weed and pest control, completion of the installation of termite new baiting system and protection coating pressed tin on the new house veranda.

Section 57 Standard Exemption 19 works to repair and secure the Kitchen Wing commenced in 2022 and is ongoing. The major focus area was the start of cellar stone repairs in 2025, the works will continue in 2026.

DPHI conducted a European Heritage Campaign inspection of the WHC on 14 April 2025. Delegates viewed the Wambo induction material regarding policies around heritage items and examples of vibration monitoring results from recent blasting events at the neighbouring open cut mine and the blasting associated with construction for the South Wambo Underground Mine. There were no actions arising from the inspection.

Ten members of the Singleton Historical Society toured the WHC on 18 June 2025 to view the conservation efforts being made to sustain the Homestead.

An annual photographic record of the elevations of all structures at the WHC was completed in April 2025 and lodged with the Heritage Branch, Singleton Council and DPHI on 12 January 2026, in accordance with Condition B91, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003. During the reporting period, WCPL undertook no blasting that was within 2 km of the WHC.

In an effort to improve access to studies, reports, plans and surveys that have been prepared for the Wambo Homestead, WCPL created a platform on the Peabody website, specific to the WHC. Content includes '*Wambo Homestead-an artist's impression'* by Vivian Dwyer 2007, an outline of the history of the WHC, a drone fly-over video and black and white archive photographs. The website can be accessed at:
Peabody - Peabody - All About Peabody

5.9 Subsidence

During the reporting period, underground mining occurred at Longwalls 25 and 26 of the South Bates Extension Underground Mine. Longwall 24B was complete in October 2024, Longwall 25 was completed in April 2025, Longwall 26 was completed in September 2025. Subsidence monitoring was undertaken in the reporting period for Longwalls 24B, 25 and 26.

5.9.1 Relevant Extraction Plans

Longwall mining during the reporting periods was undertaken in accordance with the relevant Extraction Plans, in accordance with Condition B9, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003. A summary of the Extraction Plan reporting requirements related to subsidence is provided in the subsection below.

5.9.1.1 Extraction Plan for South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 24 to 26

The following reporting is required to be undertaken as part of the Extraction Plan for South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 24 to 26:

- Incident Report – to be prepared as required and submitted (by email) to DPHI (Manager, Mining Projects), NSW Resources Regulator (Subsidence Executive Officer), Subsidence Advisory NSW (District Manager) and other regulators as specified in management plans.
- Subsidence Management Status Reports – to be updated fortnightly and submitted (by email) if new impacts are identified or upon request, to DPHI (Manager, Mining Projects) and NSW Resources Regulator (Subsidence Executive Officer).
- Six Monthly Report – to be updated annually for the period 1 January to 30 June and submitted (by email) to DPHI (Manager, Mining Projects) and NSW Resources Regulator (Subsidence Executive Officer).

- Annual Review – to be updated annually for the period 1 January to 31 December and submitted (by email and/or post) to DPHI (Manager, Mining Projects), NSW Resources Regulator (Subsidence Executive Officer), NSW Resources Regulator (Manager Environmental Sustainability), Subsidence Advisory NSW (District Manager), CPHR/EPA (General Contact), NSW DCCEEW (Water Regulation), Singleton Council (General Manager) and CCC Members.

5.9.2 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

In accordance with Conditions B1 and B4, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003, WCPL must ensure that there are no exceedances of the Subsidence Impact Performance Measures detailed in Tables 1 and 2 of the Development Consent (**Table 16**).

Table 16: Subsidence Impact Performance Measures[1]

Aspect	Performance Measures[2]
Water – Wollombi Brook	Negligible subsidence impacts and environmental consequences. Release of water from the site only in accordance with EPL requirements.
Land – Low level cliffs within the South Bates Extension Area	Minor environmental consequences (that is occasional rockfalls, displacement or dislodgement of boulders or slabs, or fracturing that in total do not impact more than 5% of the total face area of such features).
Biodiversity – Wollemi National Park	Negligible subsidence impacts and environmental consequence.
Biodiversity – Warkworth Sands Woodland Community	Minor cracking and ponding of the land surface or other subsidence impacts. Negligible environmental consequences.
Biodiversity – White Box, Yellow Box, Blakely's Red Gum Woodland/ Grassy White Box Woodland Community	Minor cracking and ponding of the land surface or other subsidence impacts. Negligible environmental consequences.
Biodiversity – Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt Forest and Woodland Ecological Community	Minor cracking and ponding of the land surface or other subsidence impacts. Negligible environmental consequences.
Biodiversity – Conservation Areas (including the proposed Wambo offset area under SSD 7142)	Negligible reduction to previously identified biodiversity credits.
Biodiversity – Threatened Species and Communities	Minor cracking and ponding of the land surface or other subsidence impacts. Negligible Environmental consequences.
Heritage – Wambo Homestead Complex	Negligible impact on heritage values, unless approval has been granted by the Heritage NSW and/or the Minister.
All Built Features (including public infrastructure and all structures on privately-owned land)	Always safe. Serviceability should be maintained wherever practicable. Loss of serviceability must be fully compensated. Damage must be fully repairable, and must be fully repaired or else replaced or fully compensate.
Public Safety	Negligible additional risk.

1. Note, the Subsidence Impact Performance Measures listed in Table 16 have been modified following the approval of MOD 19 in January 2023.
2. Note, the requirements of this condition only apply to the impacts and consequences of mining operations undertaken following the date of approval of MOD 9.

Underground mining was undertaken at South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 25 and 26 during the reporting period. Inspections of Longwall 24B, 25 and 26 were completed in the reporting period.

No longwall panels encroached upon the Wollombi Brook, Warkworth Sands Woodland Community or the White Box, Yellow Box, Blakely's Red Gum Woodland/Grassy White Box Woodland Community.

The southern extent of Longwalls 25 and 26 undermined North Wambo Creek. Weekly inspections were conducted of North Wambo Creek whilst mining occurred within 100 m of the creek.

Longwalls 24B, 25 and 26 are offset from the base of the Wollemi National Park escarpment by a minimum 26.5 degree angle of draw. No impacts to the escarpment attributable to mining were observed during the reporting period (**Section 5.9.3**).

WCPL does not have approval for undermining of the WHC and as such no evidence of subsidence related impacts were identified during the reporting period. No impacts to non-Mine built features or threats to public safety resulting from the discussed mining activities were identified during the reporting period.

5.9.3 Performance during the Reporting Period

5.9.3.1 Subsidence Surveys

During the reporting period, WCPL undertook longwall mining in the South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 25 and 26 (**Section 3.1**). Subsidence monitoring was undertaken in accordance with the South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 24 to 26 Extraction Plan. Subsidence monitoring was undertaken for Longwalls 24B, 25 and 26 (within 10 months of the longwalls being competed).

Table 17 summarises the actual versus predicted subsidence results for Longwalls 24B to 26 at the South Bates Extension Underground Mine. The monitoring shows that the actual maximum subsidence recorded across Longwalls 24B to 26 are generally similar but less than the predicted values (Mine Subsidence Engineering Consultants [MSEC], 2026).

Table 17: Subsidence Monitoring – Actual versus Predicted for South Bates Underground Mine Longwalls 24B to 26 (10XL-Line)

Parameter	Predicted[1]	Actual[1]	Consistent with Predicted Range
Maximum Vertical Subsidence (mm)	1900	1562	Y
Maximum Tilt (mm/m)	60	44	Y
Maximum Hogging Curvature (km^{-1})	3.0	2.0	Y
Maximum Sagging Curvature (km^{-1})	3.0	2.0	Y

1. Source: MSEC (2026).

5.9.3.2 LiDAR Surveys

The changes in surface level due to mining at the South Bates Extension Underground Mine have been measured using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) surveys. The changes in surface level due to the mining of Longwalls 24B to 26 have been determined by taking the differences between the surface levels measured in the LiDAR surveys carried out on 1 May 2017 (before the commencement of Longwall 24A), 20 May 2023 (nearing the completion of Longwall 24A), on 25 May 2025 (after the completion of Longwall 25) and 24 January 2026 (after the completion of mining at Longwall 26).

It should be noted that LiDAR surveys have an accuracy in the order of ±50 to ±150 mm. The accuracy of the observed changes in surface levels (i.e. the difference between the four surveys), therefore is in the order of ±200 to ±600 mm.

LiDAR survey results for Longwalls 24A to 26 are as follows (MSEC, 2026):

- Apparent changes in surface level greater than predicted are observed adjacent to the commencing ends of Longwalls 25 and 26. These apparent movements are attributed to horizontal ground movements of steep slopes towards the mining area and represent LiDAR artefacts rather than true vertical subsidence exceedances.
- Variability in measured LiDAR profiles along Longwalls 24B to 26 is consistent with the influence of horizontal movements of the steep slopes above and towards the mining area.
- It is considered that the ground movements measured using the LiDAR surveys are consistent with the subsidence predictions provided in the South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 24 to 26 Extraction Plan.
- The subsidence model appears to be providing conservative predictions based on the single-seam mining conditions.
- No changes to the subsidence model are recommended based on the measured subsidence effects from the LiDAR survey.

5.9.3.3 Visual Inspections

Visual inspections were carried out by WCPL during and after the extraction of each of the longwalls at the South Bates Extension Underground Mine (MSEC 2026). The surface cracks were mapped and added to the WCPL's subsidence impacts register.

Surface cracking predominately occurred around the perimeters of Longwalls 24B, 25, and 26. However, observations were limited in some areas due to heavy vegetation, steep terrain and inaccessible areas (MSEC, 2026).

The recorded surface crack widths above Longwalls 17 to 23 and Longwalls 24A to 26 were typically less than 50 mm (i.e. 86 % of cases) and the majority of the recorded crack widths are less than 200 mm (i.e. 99 % of cases). However, potholing was identified in several locations where the overall widths of the deformations were up to approximately 700 mm due to weathering and erosion (MSEC, 2026).

It is considered that the recorded surface deformations above Longwalls 24A to 26 are typically within the range assessed. While surface cracking greater than 300 mm occurred in isolated locations, these impacts were affected by weathering and erosion and they represent less than 1% of the total length of mapped surface cracking above the mining area (MSEC, 2026).

5.9.3.4 Bi-annual Audits of Subsidence Impacts

Bi-annual audits (April and September) of subsidence impacts were undertaken during the reporting period to identify new subsidence impacts over the South Bates Extension Underground Mine and to determine the status of known subsidence impacts (e.g. have they self-repaired, are they stable but pose a risk to long-term sustainable land use, or are they deteriorating in condition).

During the reporting period, subsidence monitoring and remediation focused on the South Bates Extension Underground Mine in the vicinity of Longwalls 24B to 26.

The remediation of sites on and adjacent to access roads occurred throughout the year and consisted primarily of reactive subsidence remediation. The sites ranged from small potholes to cracks several metres in length. Due to a high volume of ground vegetation above Longwalls 24B, 25 and 26, limited subsidence impacts were observed. This resulted in no targeted subsidence remediation campaign in the South Bates Extension area occurring in 2025.

The methodology used continues to be fine-tuned with remediation of sites primarily including:

- Excavate the subsided area using an excavator. Store topsoil and subsoil in separate piles for later use.
- Excavate site until no subsurface void is identified or to the limit of the excavator.
- Insert geofabric to line the floor of the excavated pit.
- Backfill the pit using the excavated material mixed with gypsum at 2%.
- Compact the excavated material in layers using the back of the excavator bucket up to surface level.
- Topsoil and seed the disturbed area.

Bi-annual detailed subsidence monitoring will continue to monitor further subsidence, vegetation coverage and weeds in the next reporting period. Maintenance works conducted during targeted maintenance and remediation campaigns included remediation of 25 sites in June 2025 and 31 sites in October 2025.

5.9.3.5 Remediation of Subsidence Impacts to 'Kharlibe'

In 2018, a Subsidence Remediation Plan (SRP) was developed for the 'Kharlibe' property located in Bulga, approximately 20 km west-southwest of Singleton in the Upper Hunter Valley of NSW.

Between 1991 and 2000, the property was undermined by the former Homestead Mine (owned by WCPL, now a subsidiary of Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd). The mining occurred within CL 397 and CCL 743 held by WCPL. The longwall mining resulted in the surface of the ground being lowered, and the formation of subsidence cracks – some of which took time to migrate through the alluvium to reach the surface.

Historical subsidence remediation works have been undertaken across the property by various contractors and consultants since the late 1990's. The success of these works was mixed and, in some instances, require remedial works.

In February 2018, the Resources Regulator issued a Notice under Section 240 (1)(b) and (c) of the *Mining Act 1992* (Mining Act) that required WCPL to prepare a SRP for Kharlibe. SLR and SCT Operations Pty Ltd (SCT) were approved as suitably qualified experts to prepare the SRP in consultation with the landholder and the Resources Regulator.

A second Section 240 Notice was issued by the Resources Regulator on 19 September 2019, requiring WCPL to:

- implement subsidence remediation works and associated works in accordance with the Subsidence Remediation Plan (with timing of works and associated monitoring bound by the Project Gantt Chart); and
- to provide quarterly Subsidence Remediation Reports including field observations, remediation works methodologies and results of any monitoring.

Initial (Phase 1) remediation works were undertaken at two sites on 21 and 22 May 2019. These features included an isolated sinkhole, a close spaced row of sink holes and five small depressions. The purpose of this initial remediation works was to identify constraints and opportunities to guide future remediation works.

The Phase 2 remediation works were undertaken from 17 – 21 June 2019 as they were considered high priority works. These works included the remediation of 20 sites.

Phase 3 remediation works were undertaken from 15 July – 20 December 2019 and included landform design and remediation works. Phase 3 works in 2019 included the remediation of 51 sites, with 33 completed in October to December 2019.

Phase 4 remediation works were undertaken across the Kharlibe property within Stony Creek (Site 99) between 3 – 24 March 2020. Further Phase 4 remediation works were undertaken throughout each quarter of 2020 with both newly treated areas and maintenance works on previously remediated sites occurring.

Throughout the reporting period ongoing maintenance works and monitoring was conducted across previously rehabilitated sites.

5.9.3.6 Visual Inspections of Wollemi Escarpment (via Drone)

Baseline cliff top mapping of the Wollemi National Park escarpment in the vicinity of the South Bates Underground Mine was undertaken during 2015 utilising an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Microdrone MD4-1000) and a high-resolution camera along a designated route. Photos were taken of the cliff top at designated intervals and stitched to form a high-resolution panoramic image which can be used to assess subsidence. The route has been recorded and programmed to be repeatable from year to year.

The cliffs associated with the Wollemi escarpment were visually inspected using drones since 2018. During the reporting period, drone surveys were conducted in January 2025 (during Longwall 25), and February 2026 (after extraction of Longwall 26). There were no cliff instabilities identified from the drone surveys along the section of escarpment adjacent to Longwalls 24B to 26.

One rockfall was visible during the February 2026 drone survey, however this rockfall was previously identified on 23 March 2022 after the completion of Longwall 21 and prior to the commencement of Longwall 22, when mining activities were located more than 1 km from the identified rockfall. This rockfall is considered to be due to natural processes and not due to mining (MSEC, 2026).

It is noted that a boulder and train was previously observed along this section of escarpment, however the baseline arial photographs show that this occurred before May 2017, and, therefore before the commencement of mining at the South Bates Extension Underground Mine (WCPL, 2021).

Two rockfalls have been identified along sections of the escarpment located well away from the active longwalls at the South Bates Extension Underground Mine. The starting point of the site is approximately 1.9 km north-west from the maingate of Longwall 21.

5.9.4 Trends and Key Management Implications

It is considered by MSEC (2026) that the observed ground movements for South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 24B to 26 were consistent with predictions. It is also considered that the impacts on the natural and built environment are similar to those assessed and predicted.

The Mine will continue to be maintained in the next reporting period, with provision for underground coal production to recommence in the future.

5.9.5 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

The Mine will continue to be maintained in the next reporting period, with provision for underground coal production to recommence in the future. WCPL will continue to implement the monitoring methods within the approved Extraction Plans for South Bates Extension Underground Mine Longwalls 24 to 26.

WCPL will also continue with the program of works for the remediation of the subsidence impacts identified by the bi-annual subsidence audits in areas away from active subsidence (**Section 5.9.3**).

5.10 Exploration

During the reporting period, no exploration activities were conducted in WCPL's exploration licence and mining lease areas.

5.11 Waste

Waste management at WCPL is undertaken by a licensed waste management company under the basic principles of the Total Waste Management System (TWMS). Significant benefits of the TWMS include:

- segregation of waste at the source;
- expansion of recycling capabilities;
- reduction in the risk of contaminating non-hazardous waste;
- comprehensive monthly reports detailing volumes, recycling, disposal and transportation of waste; and
- improved data capture to increase the efficiency and accuracy when reporting.

During the reporting period, a total of 1,119,261 kilograms (kg) of waste was generated by the Mine. Of this, 377,765 kg was taken off-site for recycling. Of the total waste generated by site, 56.66% was recycled.

The total waste sent off-site by the Mine in 2025 (666,761 kg) was less than the amount of waste sent off-site in 2024 (1,393,912 kg), however, the recycling rate for 2025 (56.66%) was less than 2024 (64.3%) (
Figure 7).

It is considered that the waste minimisation program at the Mine has been effective during the reporting period.

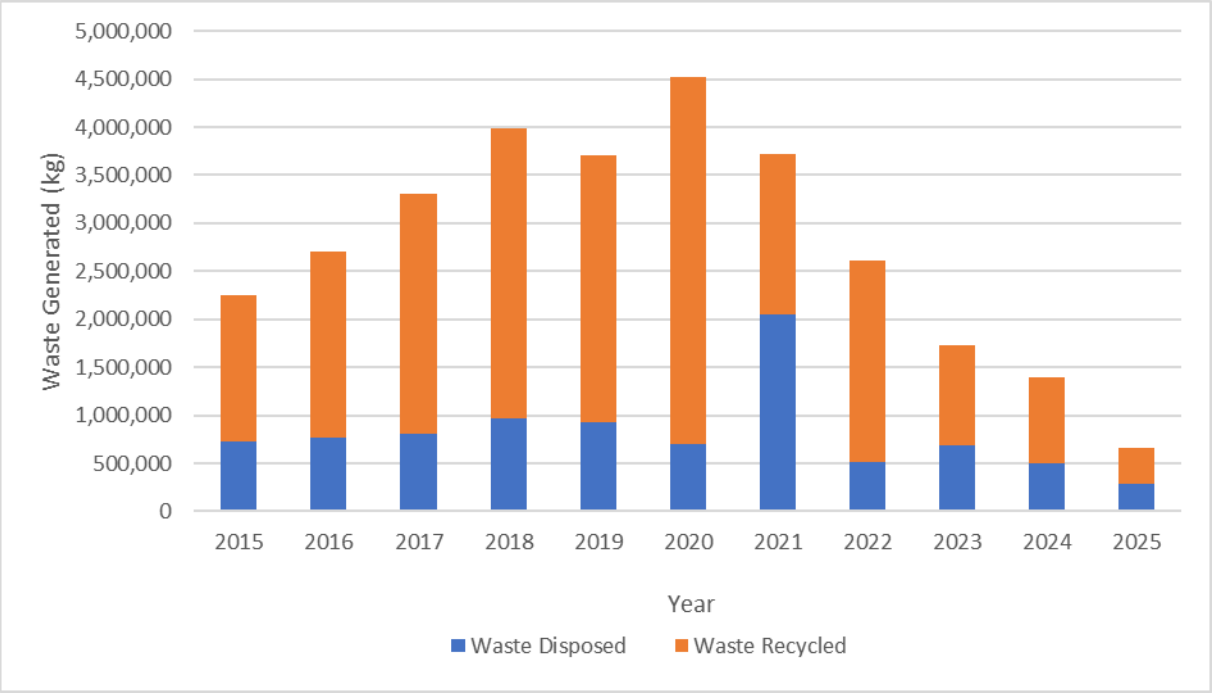


Figure 7: Waste Volumes (2014-2025)

5.12 Visual Amenity and Lighting

All mobile lighting plants are strategically positioned to avoid light being directed towards WCPL's neighbours and other identified potential sensitive receptors.

There were no complaints received during the reporting period relating to lighting impacts from WCPL's mining operations (**Section 8.3**).

5.13 Contaminated Land

No contaminated land event, that posed a threat of potential or material harm to the environment, occurred during the reporting period. Where possible, any contaminated material is managed on-site.

5.14 Topsoil Management

During Phase 2 operations at the Mine (i.e. from 1 December 2020), WCPL will no longer undertake topsoil management for open-cut disturbance areas. It will be managed by United as a component of the UWJV. During projects conducted for underground and complex infrastructure, where salvageable quantities of topsoil are generated, these will be managed and stockpiled per the Wambo Topsoil Management Procedure.

5.15 Weed and Pest Management

WCPL commissioned Enright Land Management Pty Ltd (ELM) to undertake management and control of weed species within the operational and offset areas at the Mine during 2025. Weed management techniques included spraying and manual removal (cut and paint) (ELM, 2025a; 2026).

Weed management was undertaken in RWEA A, rail loop area and designated offset areas. A summary of the total areas of specific weeds treated by ELM (2025a; 2026) is provided in **Table 18** and shown in **Figures 8a, 8b, and 8c**.

During the reporting period, WCPL undertook a vertebrate pest management program as part of the Hunter Local Land Services Pest Species Management program, along with other mines in the area, in Autumn (May) and Spring (October), targeting wild dogs and foxes. A combination of ground and ejector baiting was used (ELM, 2025b; 2025c).

The results of the baiting program were considered to be positive due to the high rate of baits being taken by the target species. A total of 60 bait locations were set up with a baiting efficiency of 7% for both Spring and Autumn. The baiting efficiency decreased slightly in both Spring and Autumn compared to the previous year.

By comparison to the preceding two baiting programs, fox takes decreased from 10% in Spring 2024 to 4% in Spring 2025, and decreased from 11% in Autumn 2024 to 5% in Autumn 2025.

Feral pig trapping was also successfully conducted at the Mine throughout 2025. Trapping was conducted through the free feeding of traps to bring in the target species. Once the target species had been identified utilising the traps, more feed was placed, and traps were set (ELM 2025a; 2026). The Mine also worked with National Parks and Wildlife Services during an aerial shooting campaign conducted in April 2025. A total of 92 feral pigs were dispatched in 2025.

During the next reporting period, WCPL intends to continue to work with Local Land Services, National Parks and Wildlife Services, neighbouring landowners and participate in coordinated pest control programs.

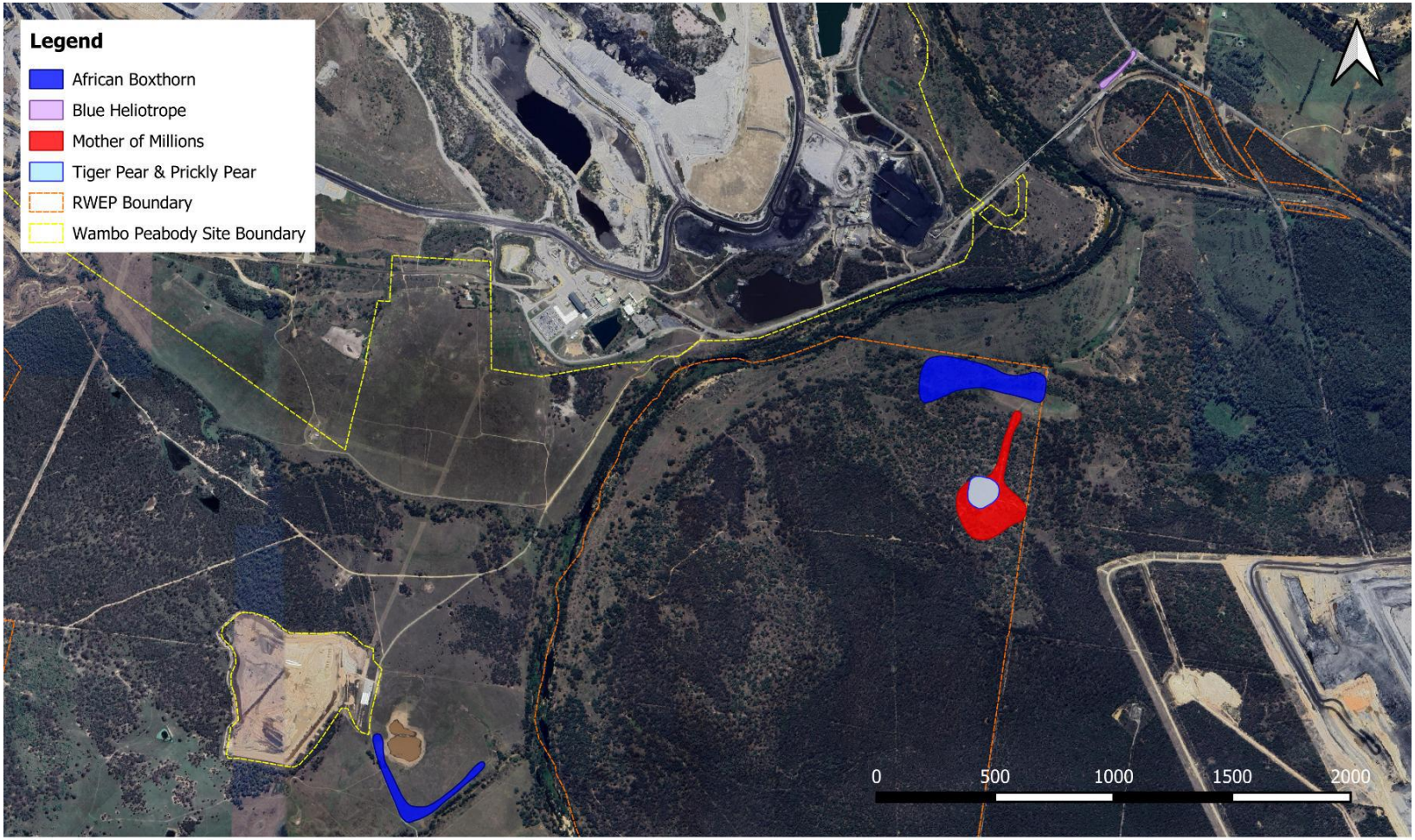
Table 18: Approximate Area of Weeds Treated at the Mine during 2025

Weeds Treated	Area (ha)	
	Jan to June	July to Dec
Blue Heliotrope (sparse to medium)*	0.4	*
Paterson's Curse (dense)	*	*
Silverleaf Nightshade, Fireweed, thistles, galenia and saligna (medium)	*	*
Mother of millions	15.9	27.6
Prickly pear (medium)*	1.6	88.8
Tiger Pear*	Isolated Infestations	
African Boxthorn	10.7	Isolated Infestations*
Galenia[1]	–	8.6
Lantana	7.9	9.6
General woody weeds (incl. Bathurst Burr, Blue Heliotrope, Cotton Bush, Fireweed, Fleabane, Galenia, Green Cestrum, Nightshade (species), Paterson's Curse, Pear Species, Thistle Species, Verbena)*	48.1	51.4
Total Average	**84.6**	**186**

Note: ha = hectares.

[1] Treated at the North Wambo Creek Diversion

* included in General Woody weeds



Wambo Peabody Underground Mine
Works Completed 2025
1st January - 30th June

Compiled by ENRIGHT LAND MANAGEMENT 30/06/2025

Figure 8a: Weed Control Overview for the Mine 1 January 2025 – 30 June 2025 (ELM, 2025a)

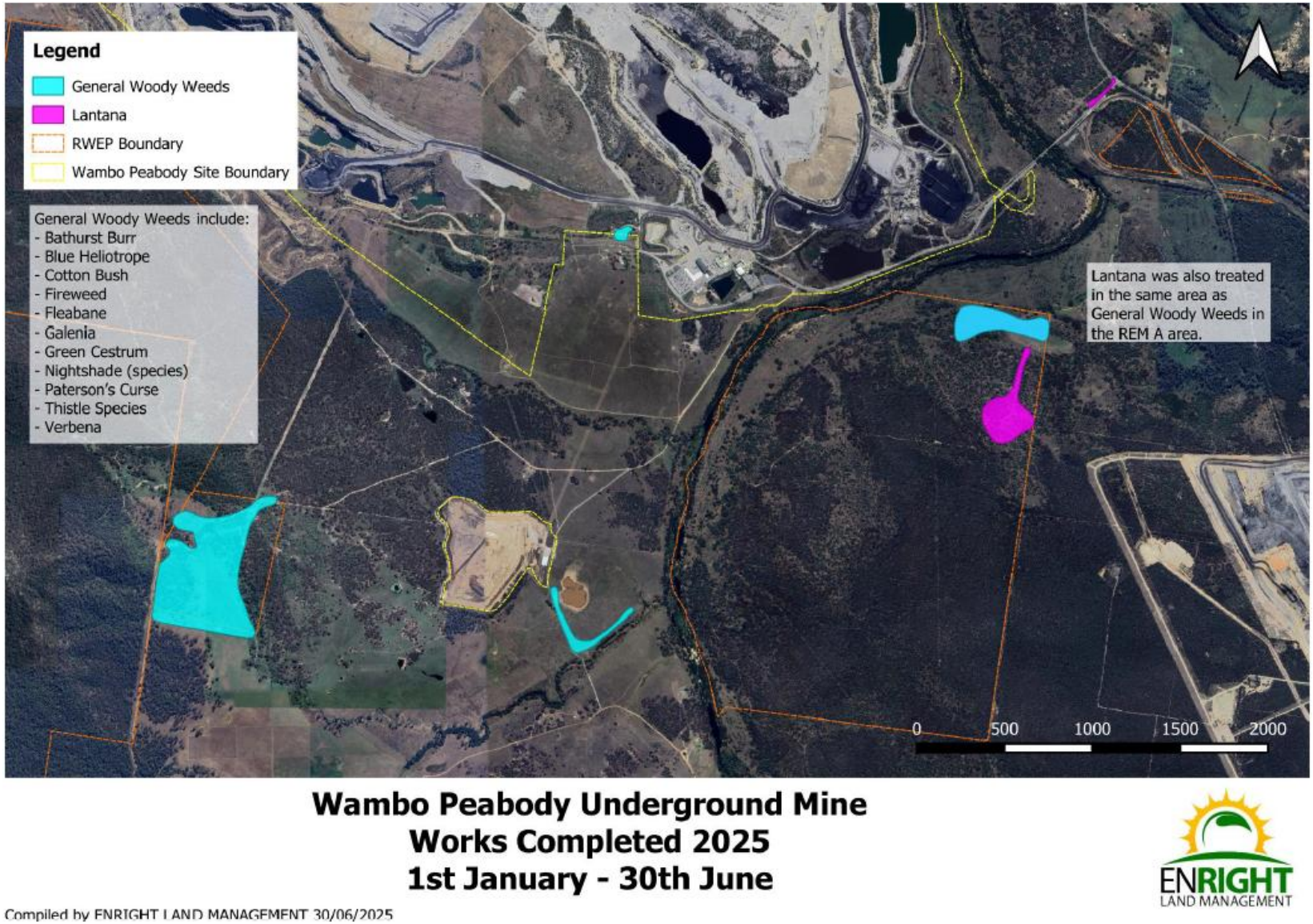
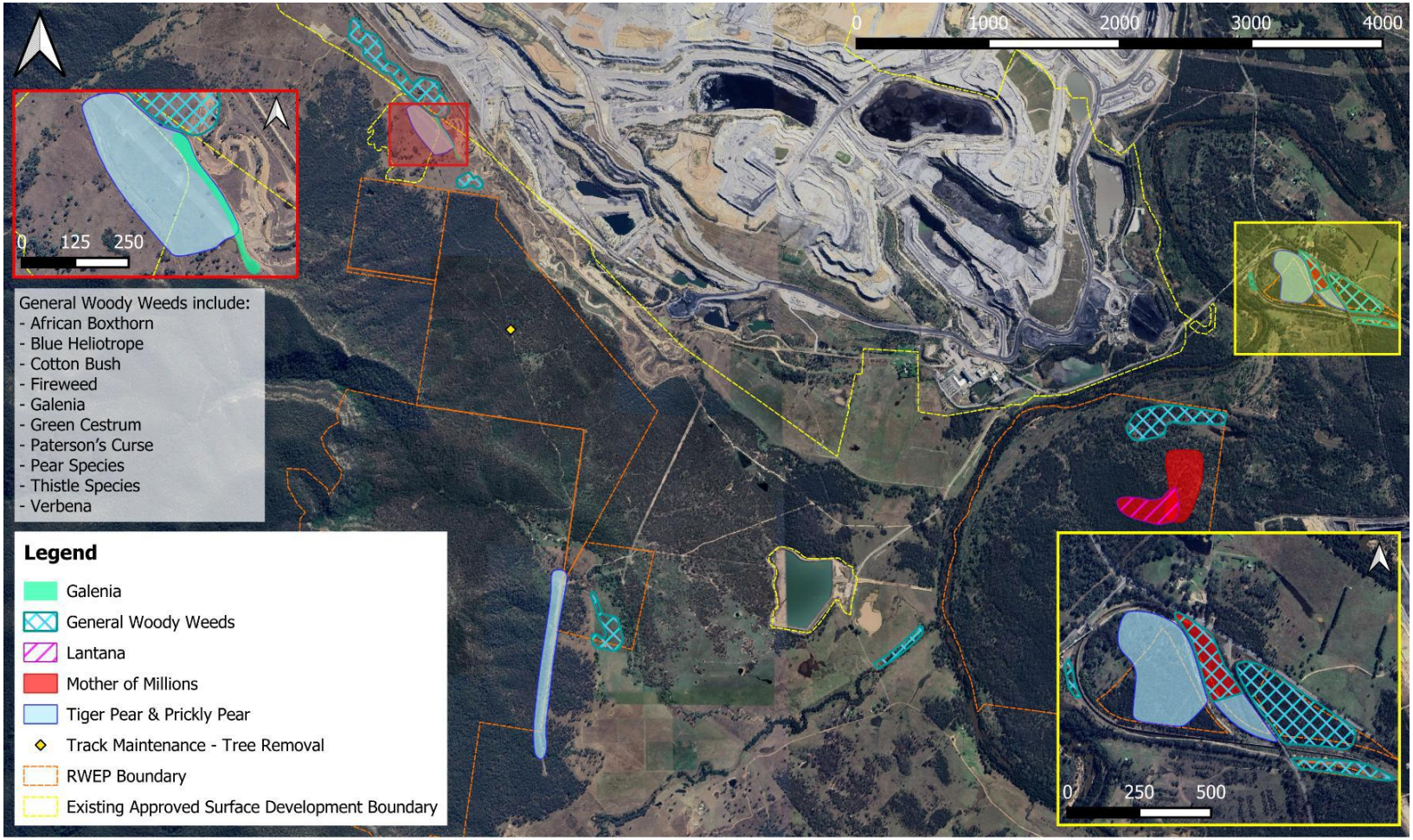


Figure 8b: Weed Control Overview for the Mine 1 January 2025 – 30 June 2025 (ELM, 2025a)



Wambo Peabody Underground Mine
Works Completed 2025
1st July - 31st December

Compiled by ENRIGHT LAND MANAGEMENT 31/12/2025

Figure 8c: Weed Control Overview for the Mine 1 July 2025 – 31 December 2025 (ELM, 2026)

WCPL prepared an Annual Weed Treatment Plan in 2025 which guided weed management activities in 2025 and will continue to do so into the future. Pest and weed management will continue as required on-site and on agistment managed properties throughout the next reporting period.

5.16 Bushfire Management

There were no grassfires or bushfires reported within the mining boundaries during the reporting year.

Although DA 305-7-2003 and DA 177-8-2004 no longer require a Bushfire Management Plan, hazard reduction and maintenance of fire trails will continue to be conducted as required.

During the next reporting period, WCPL intends to conduct a hazard reduction/environmental burning into the management of the RWEAs.

5.17 Spontaneous Combustion Management

Inspections for spontaneous combustion form part of daily WCPL inspections across the two main operating areas (i.e. Underground and CHPP).

No spontaneous combustion events were identified by WCPL during the reporting period.

6.0 Water Management

Water management performance measures for the Mine are defined in Table 8 of Condition B62, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003 and Condition L2 of EPL529. Additional conditions relating to water supply, water and salt balances, discharge volume, effluent application to land, monitoring and recording requirements (including for the Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme [HRSTS]), the NWCD, Glen Munro Dam, South Wambo Dam, WCPL's Water Management Plan and independent water audits are also detailed in these documents.

WCPL must also operate in accordance with the conditions of various water licences issued under the *Water Management Act 2000* as well as conditions of DA 177-8-2004.

6.1 Surface Water Monitoring

WCPL undertakes surface water monitoring at the Mine in accordance with the approved Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP), which is a component of the WCPL Water Management Plan. The SWMP has been developed to ensure WCPL complies with its statutory conditions relating to surface water monitoring at the Mine.

6.1.1 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

WCPL's EPL529 details the criteria for off-site water discharges (**Section 6.3.1**). WCPL has developed impact assessment criteria for surface water quality and stream flow as part of the SWMP.

For the surface water quality criteria (**Table 19**), where actual site-specific water quality monitoring data is available, the criteria have been set based on the 20th and 80th percentile for the available dataset. Where insufficient data is available, WCPL has adopted the applicable Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC) default guidelines values for slightly to moderately disturbed ecosystems (ANZECC 2000) or the Water Quality Objectives for the Hunter River.

Triggers for the local ephemeral creeks in the SWMP are based on the unexpected absence of flow in climatic situations when flows would be expected. The triggers would be met if there was no flow recorded at the flow monitoring site either on the day or the day after the recorded rainfall was equal to or greater than the nominated amount. Applicable criteria for stream flow are included in **Table 20.**

Table 19: Surface Water Quality Impact Criteria[1,2]

Sampling Site	Parameter[3]	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
SW02 – Wollombi Brook	pH	7.4	8.1
	EC (µS/cm)	599	1,947
	TSS (mg/L)	17 (low flow) to 308 (high flow)[4]	
SW05 – North Wambo Creek	pH	7.3	8.0
	EC (µS/cm)	1,155	2,350
	TSS (mg/L)	53 (low flow) to 1,110 (high flow)[4]	
SW07 – Wambo Creek	pH	7.4	7.9
	EC (µS/cm)	360	724
	TSS (mg/L)	29 (low flow) to 331 (high flow)[4]	
SW08 – Stony Creek	pH	6.8	7.4
	EC (µS/cm)	288	416
	TSS (mg/L)	5 (low flow) to 15 (high flow)[4]	
SW39 – Waterfall Creek	pH	7.3	7.8
	EC (µS/cm)	159	429
	TSS (mg/L)	582 (low flow) to 1,922 (high flow)[4]	

1. From Table 15 of the SWMP.
2. An exceedance occurs when water quality results exceed the impact criteria on three consecutive sampling events.
3. EC = electrical conductivity, TSS = total suspended solids, µS/cm = microSiemens per centimetre, mg/L = milligrams per litre.
4. Low flow condition based on 80th percentile of recorded concentrations and high flow criteria based on maximum recorded concentrations.

Table 20: Surface Water Flow Impact Assessment Condition

Watercourse and Flow Monitoring Site	Daily Rainfall when Flow Commenced on 80% of Recorded Occasions[1]
North Wambo Creek (FM1A)	100 mm[2]
Stony Creek (FM13)	20 mm
South Wambo Creek (FM15)	20 mm

1. From Table 14 of the SWMP.
2. Streamflow measurements in North Wambo Creek daily rainfall data from stations adjacent to the catchment have been analysed and indicated a total depth of continuous rainfall depth of approximately 100 mm (can occur over more than one day) is required to generate surface flow in North Wambo Creek upstream of the diversion.

Condition B62 of DA 305-7-2003 and Condition B9 of DA 177-8-2004 require WCPL to comply with general water management performance measures. Performance indicators relevant to surface water are outlined in **Table 21**.

In addition, WCPL is also required to meet additional requirements, in accordance with the SWMP. These requirements include annual reporting on performance against the performance indicators detailed within the SWMP (**Table 22**).

Table 21: Surface Water Performance Measures

Aspect	Performance measure	Performance Indicator/Trigger
Downstream Surface Water Quality	Negligible change in surface water quality (compared to predicted impacts	• Surface water quality monitored is outside of the adopted trigger values for at least one parameter for more than two monitoring rounds.
Channel Stability	No increase in areas of instability within watercourses	• Channel stability monitoring indicates one or more areas of decreasing stability in watercourses.
Downstream Flooding Impacts	Negligible change in downstream flood access (compared to predicted impacts)	• No change to flood inundation of downstream properties in major flood events.
Stream and Riparian Health	Riparian Health	• No evidence of significant weed growth or death of vegetation
	Condition of channel	• No evidence of significant rill erosion, undercutting or slumping
	Deposition of sediment and debris	• No evidence of significant accumulation or deposition, large blockages in channel
	General conditions	• No evidence of significant hazards presented to the public, poor aesthetics or feral animals, or geomorphic instability
Surface Water User Supplies	Negligible impact to downstream surface water users (compared to predicted impacts)	• Mining extents / disturbance areas lie within approved boundaries. • Surface water take associated with baseflow impacts is licensed. • No complaints from downstream water users regarding loss of surface water (quality and/or quantity).
Post-mining Water Pollution from Rehabilitated Areas of the Site	Water discharged from the site is suitable for receiving waters and fit for aquatic ecology and riparian vegetation	• Runoff water quality from rehabilitation areas is within the range of water quality data recorded from analogue sites and/or baseline data and does not pose a threat to downstream water quality. • Drainage structures (including drainage lines established in the final landform) are stable and there is no evidence of overtopping or significant scouring as a result of runoff

Table 22: Surface Water Performance Indicators

Performance Indicator
Number of complaints received relating to surface water.
Number of non-compliances relating to surface water.
Number of exceedances of surface water impact assessment criteria[1].
Number of reportable environmental incidents relating to surface water.

1. An exceedance occurs when water quality results exceed the surface water impact assessment criteria (**Table 19**) for three consecutive sampling events.

6.1.2 Performance during the Reporting Period

6.1.2.1 Surface Water Quality

An exceedance of the surface water quality triggers is considered to have occurred when water quality results exceed the impact criteria (**Table 23**) for three consecutive sampling events.

WCPL recorded exceedances of the surface water quality impact criteria during the reporting period, at SW02 and SW07 (for pH) and SW08 for (pH and EC).

Table 23: Summary of Exceedances of the Surface Water Quality Impact Criteria

Site	pH	EC
SW02	April – July (below low trigger)	–
SW07	June – Oct (below low trigger)	–
SW08[1]	April – October (above high trigger)	Ongoing (above high trigger)

[1] Exceedances at SW08 have been recorded since April 2021 and are part of an ongoing investigation. Exceedances at SW02 and SW07 are now included in this investigation.

The exceedances at SW02, SW07 and SW08 are continuations of exceedances identified in previous reporting periods. The lowest recorded pH was in November at SW02 (pH 7.0), August at SW07 (pH 6.7) and the highest recorded pH at SW08 was 8.0 in July. The highest EC recorded at SW08 was 2390 µS/cm in April. Investigations associated with these exceedances are further described in **Section 6.1.3**.

WCPL reported to the EPA that, due to dry conditions, unsafe access or no flow, monthly water quality samples were unable to be collected at the required frequencies at several monitoring locations during the reporting period. This resulted in a non-compliance with Condition M2.1 and M2.3 of EPL529. No known adverse impacts resulted due to the non-compliance.

No complaints relating to surface water quality were received during the reporting period.

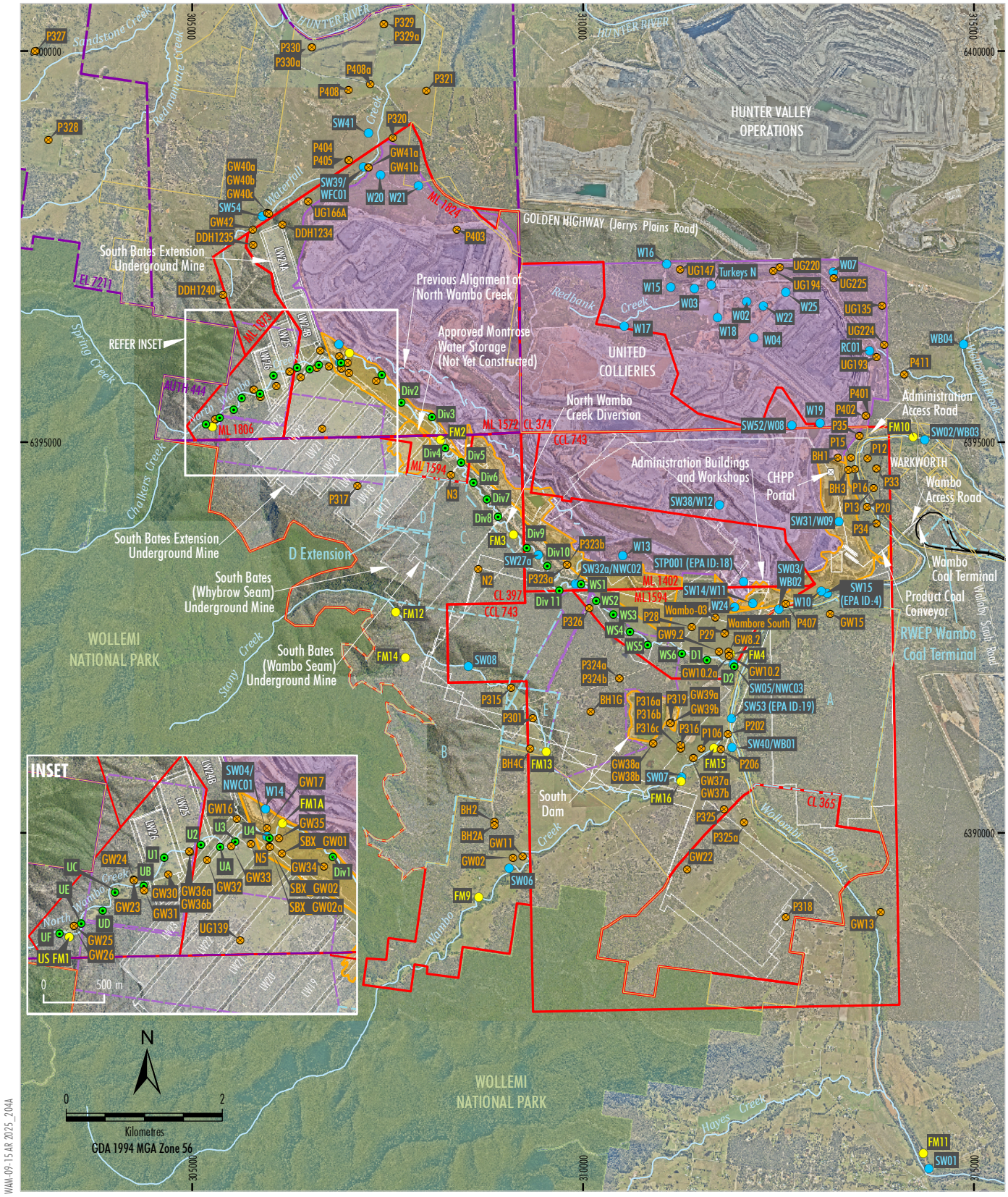
A summary of the surface water quality monitoring data is included in **Appendix F.**

6.1.2.2 *Surface Water Flows*

AECOM (2026) prepared an annual stream flow monitoring report for the Mine and is presented in **Appendix G**.

The WCPL stream flow monitoring system consists of (**Figure 9**):

- five monitoring stations on North Wambo Creek (USFM1, FM1A, FM2, FM3 and FM4);
- three monitoring stations on South Wambo Creek (FM9, FM15 and FM16);
- two Water NSW operated flow gauging stations monitoring stations on Wollombi Brook (FM10 and FM11);
- two monitoring stations on Stony Creek (FM12 and FM13); and
- one monitoring station on a major tributary to Stony Creek (FM14).



Source: WCPL (2025); MSEC (2025); NSW Spatial Services (2025)
Orthophoto Mosaic: WCPL (Nov 2024-May 2022)

LEGEND

- National Park
- SSD 7142 Operational Area #
- Biodiversity Stewardship Site under SSD 7142
- WCPL Owned Land

Wambo Coal Mine

- Exploration Licence Boundary (AUTH, EL)
- Mining and Coal Lease Boundary (ML, CL, CCL)
- Remnant Woodland Enhancement Program (RWEP) Area
- Existing/Approved Wambo Coal Mine Surface Development Area
- Existing/Approved Underground Development

Monitoring Sites

- Groundwater Monitoring Sites
- Surface Water Flow Monitoring Site
- Surface Water Quality Monitoring Site
- Diversion and Subsidence Monitoring Site

Under Phase 2 of mining at Wambo Coal Mine (commenced 1 December 2020), this area is operated by United Collieries Pty Ltd under the United Wambo Joint Venture Project.

Peabody

WAMBO COAL MINE

Location of Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Sites

Figure 9

WAM-09-15 AR 2025_204A

Table 24 presents a summary of flow events observed at the relevant streamflow monitoring stations on the days during the reporting period when 20 mm or greater rainfall was recorded at the WCPL meteorological station (refer **Table 19**).

There were 10 days during the reporting period that recorded 20 mm or greater of rainfall. FM13 recorded zero flow events throughout the year, whilst FM15 recorded two flow events throughout the reporting period.

Table 24: Surface Water Flow Results

Date	24 hour rainfall (mm)	Site FM15	Site FM13
12/1/2025	27.8	No flow event recorded	No flow event recorded
20/3/2025	34.0	No flow event recorded	No flow event recorded
28/3/2025	59.2	No flow event recorded	No flow event recorded
27/4/2025	30.4	No flow event recorded	No flow event recorded
19/5/2025	29.6	No flow event recorded	No flow event recorded
21/5/2025	30.8	Flow event recorded starting 21/5/025	No flow event recorded
2/8/2025	73.6	Flow event recorded starting 2/8/2025	No flow event recorded
3/8/2025	21.6	Continuation of previous flow event	Flow event recorded starting 4/8/2025
9/9/2025	20.6	Continuation of previous flow event	Continuation of previous flow event
10/9/2025	35.6	Continuation of previous flow event	No flow event recorded

6.1.3 Trends and Key Management Implications

WCPL recorded exceedances of the surface water quality impact criteria during the reporting period at SW02 and SW07 (for pH) and SW08 for (pH and EC) (**Table 23**).

SW08 on Stony Creek remains the subject of an ongoing investigation with update reports provided to DPHI in March and November 2023, November 2024 and November 2025. Exceedances observed at SW02 (Wollombi Brook downstream) and SW07 (South Wambo/ Stony Creek) are now included in the Stony Creek investigation reports. Investigations have concluded that the large magnitude recharge event in March 2021 may have resulted in sufficient recharge to the shallow groundwater system to enable the migration of surface and shallow groundwater through fractures in bedrock or dilated bedding planes within the Newcastle Coal Measures underlying the creek. Higher salinity was attributed to oxidation of freshly fractured rock and leaching of oxidation products during the period of sustained rainfall following several years of drought. It is noted that conditions are currently dry in Stony Creek. The next update will be provided in November 2026.

6.1.4 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

During the next reporting period, WCPL will continue to implement the SWMP. If management actions are required as a result of the required preliminary investigations, WCPL will implement the actions accordingly.

6.2 Groundwater Monitoring

WCPL undertakes groundwater monitoring at the Mine in accordance with the approved Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP), which is a component of the WCPL Water Management Plan. The GWMP has been developed to ensure WCPL complies with its statutory conditions relating to groundwater monitoring at the Mine.

In 2022, the Wambo groundwater model was updated to accommodate the Longwalls 24 to 26 Modification (DA 305-7-2003, MOD 19). It was identified in 2024 that there were differences between simulated and actual/ planned mining progression in the UWJV (open cut) so the model was updated to include a more accurate representation of mining in the open cut mine. No other changes were made to the model. The model is currently ongoing independent peer review.

6.2.1 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

The GWMP includes triggers for groundwater levels and quality in shallow bores. These triggers have been developed using statistical analysis of baseline monitoring data and data acquired to 2014 (from a number of monitoring bores on and around the Mine) and the predicted effects presented in the EIS (Resource Strategies 2003) and subsequent Environmental Assessments.

The trigger values are not assessment criteria but are used to initiate investigations into the groundwater levels or groundwater quality as reported by the groundwater monitoring program. A summary of the groundwater triggers for shallow bores, as detailed in WCPL's approved GWMP is included in **Table 25**. In order to avoid false triggering, as a trigger would be initiated 20% of the time due to natural causes, triggers for groundwater level are defined to occur when two consecutive bi-monthly observations (over a 2-month interval) exceed or fall below the specified depth to groundwater. Triggers for groundwater quality are defined to occur when three consecutive bi-monthly observations (over a 2-month interval) exceed or fall below the specified pH or EC values.

In addition to the groundwater monitoring triggers detailed in **Table 25**, WCPL is also required to meet additional requirements, in accordance with the GWMP and approved Extraction Plans. These requirements include annual reporting on performance against the performance indicators detailed within the GWMP (**Table 25**).

Groundwater monitoring data from the Permian monitoring bores is assessed and reviewed as part of the Annual Review. Data is also used to validate the groundwater model.

Table 25: Water Quality and Level Trigger Values – Shallow Bores

Bore	Depth to Groundwater (mBTOC[1])		Conductivity (µS/cm)	pH	
	Min (10th percentile)	Max (90th percentile)	Maximum (Three Consecutive Bi-Monthly Exceedances)	Minimum (Two Consecutive Bi-Monthly Exceedances)	Maximum (Two Consecutive Bi-Monthly Exceedances)
P109[2]	4.6	6.7	695	6.5	7.6
P301	NA[5]	NA[5]	9,200	6.1	7.2
P315[2]	NA[5]	NA[5]	552	6.0	7.4
GW08.2[3]	ND[4]	ND[4]	NA[5]	NA[5]	NA[5]
GW09.2[3]	ND[4]	ND[4]	NA[5]	NA[5]	NA[5]
GW10.2[3]	ND[4]	ND[4]	NA[5]	NA[5]	NA[5]
GW15	10.4	11.1	730	6.7	7.2
P16	7.1	7.8	10,832	7.0	7.7
P20	7.1	8.2	10,625	7.0	7.6

1 mBTOC = metres below top of casing.

2 P315 was dry prior to North Wambo Underground mining activity. Therefore, a specific depth to water trigger is not appropriate to indicate Wambo mining impacts. Data will be reviewed as part of the Annual Review to determine whether there are changes in groundwater level that can be attributed to Wambo mining activity.

3. GW08.2, GW09.2 and GW10.2 have been installed within unconsolidated strata near North Wambo Creek to serve as replacement bores to GW08 and GW09. Trigger levels for these bores will be established following the collection of baseline data and based on predicted drawdown from the revised groundwater model.

4. ND – Insufficient baseline data to develop meaningful trigger level.

5. NA – trigger level not appropriate for assessing Wambo mining impact at this location.

Table 26: Groundwater Performance Indicators

Performance Indicator	
Groundwater Management Performance Indicators	
Alluvial aquifers (including Wollombi Brook alluvium and excluding the North Wambo Creek alluvium)	The performance indicators will be considered to have been exceeded if impacts exceed those predicted in the documents listed in Condition A2(c), Schedule 2 of DA305-7-2003, including: • a greater than negligible change in groundwater levels; • a greater than negligible change in groundwater quality; and • a greater than negligible impact to other groundwater users.
Groundwater dependent ecosystems	The performance indicators will be considered to have been exceeded if impacts exceed those predicted in the documents listed in Condition A2(c), Schedule 2 of DA305-7-2003, including: • greater than negligible environmental consequences, beyond those predicted in the documents listed in Condition A2(c), Schedule 2 of DA305-7-2003; and • channel stability is not maintained or improved.
North Wambo Underground Subsidence Performance Indicators	
• The performance indicators will be considered to have been exceeded if monitoring data suggests significant divergences away from the modelled groundwater	
South Bates and South Bates Extension Subsidence Performance Indicators	
• The performance indicators will be considered to have been exceeded if the groundwater levels in alluvial bores exceed the groundwater level criteria in the GWMP (Table 11 of the GWMP). • The performance indicators will be considered to have been exceeded if the groundwater quality in alluvial bores exceeds the groundwater quality criteria in the GWMP (Table 13 of the GWMP). • The performance indicators will be considered to have been exceeded if the impacts observed on riparian, aquatic or groundwater dependent ecosystems are beyond negligible.	

6.2.2 Performance during the Reporting Period

Monitoring of groundwater levels and quality in alluvial and Permian bores was undertaken in accordance with the GWMP.

SLR (2026) prepared an annual groundwater monitoring report for the Mine and is presented in **Appendix H**. Above average rainfall conditions occurred at the Mine during the reporting period, above average rainfall from January to September, with a brief near average interval in June and July, followed by below average rainfall from September to December. Groundwater level within the Wambo Creek, North Wambo Creek and a number of Wollombi Brook alluvial bores responded to periods of above and below average rainfall consistent with previous years' observations.

The following GWMP trigger value exceedances were recorded during the reporting period (**Appendix H**):

- P315 (Stony Creek Alluvium) – ongoing exceedance of EC trigger level (first reported in 2021).
- GW15 (Wollombi Brook Alluvium) – maximum groundwater level trigger breach (first reported in 2021).
- P16 (Wollombi Brook Alluvium) – minimum groundwater level trigger breach (first reported in 2021).
- P20 (Wollombi Brook Alluvium) – maximum groundwater level trigger breach (first reported in 2025).

Consistent with the GWMP, an investigation was commenced into the exceedances listed above (**Section 6.2.3** and **Appendix H**). No bores exceeded the pH trigger guidelines in 2025.

No complaints from groundwater users were received during the reporting period.

Observed groundwater levels during the reporting period are generally good matches with historical observations made during previous reporting periods (**Appendix H**).

SLR (2025) reviewed groundwater monitoring results against the groundwater performance indicators (**Table 25**) and concluded that WCPL was compliant with the exception of the performance indicators for P315, GW15, P16 and P20. P315 remains the subject of an ongoing investigation with a report provided to DPHI in November 2025. The exceedances of the minimum groundwater elevation trigger level at P16 is likely related to below average rainfall conditions in 2024, an ongoing Glen Munro Pit mining effect, and potentially some effect from United. The results from the updated model may help revise trigger levels at P16 to reflect the influence of both approved impacts and climatic conditions (**Section 6.2.3**). GW15 and P20 breached the maximum groundwater elevation trigger level in 2025, however it was concluded these were not related to WCPL's mining activity and requires no further investigation (SLR, 2026).

6.2.3 Trends and Key Management Implications

Groundwater monitoring data collected during the reporting period has been reviewed and assessed against the triggers in the approved GWMP (**Table 25**) by SLR (2026).

During the reporting period exceedances of the EC trigger level were recorded at P315 (Stony Creek Alluvium). EC was above the trigger level of 552 µS/cm for the first four observations of 2025, before a minimum EC of 532 µS/cm was observed in August 2025. The following observations in October and December were also above the trigger level (552 µS/cm). A maximum EC of 1,130 µS/cm was recorded in the reporting period. This is considered an ongoing exceedance that was first identified in 2021 and is the subject of ongoing investigations. As outlined in **Section 6.1.3**, investigations have concluded that high rainfall from 2020 to 2022 may have resulted in sufficient recharge to enable "flushing" of groundwater through fractures in bedrock caused by undermining in the Newcastle Coal Measures (which is historically observed to have saline groundwater), which may flow laterally in to the Stony Creek alluvium, leading to the observed increase in EC. Data recorded in 2025 shows a decrease in EC compared to the peaks observed in 2023.

Groundwater levels at P16 (Wollombi Brook Alluvium) have continued to be below the minimum groundwater elevation trigger level (49.7 metres Australian Height Datum) in all 2025 observations, with the exception for the August 2025 observation. The minimum observation in 2025 occurred in February, following the period of below average rainfall that occurred in late 2024, before groundwater elevations increase in response to above average rainfall in March 2025. Groundwater levels at P16 were previously below the groundwater elevation trigger from 2017 to 2021 and were associated with below average rainfall conditions and a mining effect from the excavation of the Glen Munro Pit that appears to have caused additional drawdown in the order of 1.2 m (SLR, 2026). The groundwater elevations below the trigger observed in 2025 are likely a continuation of this combined drier climate and an ongoing Glen Munro Pit mining effect, and potentially some effect from United. SLR (2026) recommends the results from the contemporary groundwater model be used to revise trigger levels at P16 to reflect the influence of both approved impacts and climatic conditions.

GW15 and P20 breached the maximum groundwater elevation trigger level in 2025 which were determined to be not related to WCPL mining activity and requires no further investigation (**Appendix H**).

SLR (2026) has undertaken periodic reviews of the WCPL vibrating wire piezometer (VWP) monitoring network, both on-site and of the downloaded data. Key findings from the data quality assessment include (**Appendix H**):

- Unreliable data at VWP sites where sensors are within shallow overburden, Whybrow or Wambo seams. Sensors are dry or near-dry, likely associated with WCPL or regional mining activity. It is worth continuing to download these while at least one of the sensors is collecting reliable data, and where recovery/re-saturation is possible.
- As recommended in previous reviews, older sites and unlabelled sites, which are no longer collecting reliable data are being removed from the monitoring network.
- Data was not collected/ downloaded for the following sites in 2025: EX06 (P321) due to an issue with access, and P328 (ELA5). These sites will be scheduled for download and data Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) in 2026.

6.2.4 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

SLR (2026) recommended:

- VWP locations identified with persistent poor-quality data should be considered for assessment and removed from the monitoring network if they are not deemed essential (see Appendix C of **Appendix H**). These sites include:
    - N3 – EX06 (P321) due to an issue with access, and P328 (ELA5)). These sites will be scheduled for download and data QA/QC in 2026.
    - P317 – assess the value of continued monitoring of the Overburden and Regolith at this location. If deemed non-essential, consider the site for decommissioning.
- It is noted that GW02 and GW11 are former landholder wells with pumping equipment installed/nearby. Replacement monitoring-only sites are recommended prior to commencement of the South Wambo Underground Mine.

- The following standpipe monitoring bores are recommended for maintenance/ investigation in 2026:
    - GW33 – Can't be accessed and some indication on field sheets it should be considered for redevelopment.
- Provide update of groundwater and surface water monitoring data at Stony Creek to DPHI in November 2026 as per SLR (2025).
- The review of groundwater sampling field sheets and VWP data should continue throughout 2026 to enable as-needed repair of monitoring infrastructure and the continued collection of monitoring data. This should include a review of monitoring wells that are being sampled with HydraSleeves near Wambo Creek.
- The results from the contemporary groundwater model, updated in 2025, be used to revise trigger levels at P16 to reflect the influence of both approved impacts and climatic conditions.
- The interim trigger levels presented in the GWMP be reviewed after additional monitoring data are collected in 2026 to evaluate their reliability and performance, and to determine whether any adjustments are required.

6.3 HRSTS Discharges

WCPL is permitted to discharge water to the Hunter River in accordance with the conditions of EPL529 and the HRSTS guidelines. These guidelines include the following conditions:

- notification from NSW DCCEEW of discharge opportunity must be received;
- flow of water in Wollombi Brook at the NSW DCCEEW Bulga Gauging Station (FM11) needs to be more than 500 megalitres per day (ML/day);
- pH will be measured continuously throughout the discharge with an inline instrument;
- EC will be measured continuously in µS/cm throughout the discharge with an instrument designed to measure between 0 and 10,000 µS/cm; and
- TSS will be measured once a day during discharge.

A representative sample will be collected every day during discharge and sent to the lab for analysis.

During the reporting period WCPL held 75 credits under the HRSTS.

6.3.1 Approval Criteria/EIS Predictions and Management Plan Requirements

A summary of the approval criteria for off-site discharges (from EPL529) is included in **Table 27** in accordance with the Condition B55, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-003.

Table 27: EPL529 Approval Criteria for Off-site Discharge

Parameter	Criteria[1]
pH	6.5-9.5[2]
TSS	120 mg/L[2]
EC	N/A
Volume	250 ML/day

1. Criteria as per EPL529 and DA 305-7-2003.
2. 100th percentile concentration limit.

6.3.2 Performance during the Reporting Period

During the reporting period, the Mine discharged on seven events to the Wollombi Brook as permitted by conditions of EPL529 and the HRSTS guidelines.

WCPL recorded two exceedances of the discharge water quality impact criteria (pH) under the HRSTS during the reporting period.

During discharge events on 23 August 2025 and 26 August 2025, WCPL recorded pH results exceeding 9.5 for approximately 2 hours on both occasions.

In accordance with Condition D9, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003, within seven days of becoming aware of the non-compliance WCPL reported the exceedances with DPHI and the EPA on 29 August 2025.

6.3.3 Trends and Key Management Implications

An overview of HRSTS releases over time is provided in **Table 28**.

Table 28: Summary of HRSTS Releases

Year	Number of Releases	Release Volume (ML)
2014	1	9.6
2015	6	140.1
2016	11	416
2017	0	0
2018	0	0
2019	0	0
2020	0	0
2021	4	75.1
2022	90	2838.5
2023	0	0
2024	3	37.6
2025	7	147.6

6.3.4 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

A written report of the activities undertaken by WCPL under the HRSTS (for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025) was submitted to the EPA on 29 August 2025 in accordance with Condition R5.1 of EPL529.

During the next reporting period, WCPL forecasts compliance with the HRSTS requirements, and predicts that, if the opportunity arises, it will use all of its HRSTS credits, as dictated by River Register releases.

6.4 North Wambo Creek Diversion Discharge Flows

During the reporting period, WCPL monitored flow within the North Wambo Creek at five locations:

- US-FM1, approximately 1 km upstream of FM1A (installed in December 2017);
- FM1A, upstream of the NWCD;
- FM2, middle of the NWCD, downstream of FM1A;
- FM3, middle of the NWCD, downstream of FM2; and
- FM4, downstream of the NWCD.

Its in noted that FM4 experienced data loss during the reporting period and a new data logger (FM4BU) was installed at the end of July 2025.

A review of the flow events at each monitoring site during the reporting period was undertaken by AECOM (2026) (**Appendix G**) and a summary is provided in **Table 29**. Flow monitoring data is included in the AECOM report (**Appendix G**).

Table 29: NWCD Discharge Flow Monitoring – 2025

Flow Monitoring Station	No. of Flow Events Recorded	Maximum Stream Height Recorded (m)	Maximum Theoretical Flow Rate Recorded (ML/day)
US-FM1	5	0.49	180
FM1A	2	0.21	64
FM2	5	0.13	10
FM3	13	0.31	64
FM4BU[1]	2	0.53	290

1. FM4 experienced data loss during the reporting period and a new data logger was installed at the end of July 2025. Flow monitoring data is provided from the back up sensor - FM4BU.

6.5 Water Take

The Wambo Complex (Wambo Underground and the United Wambo Open Cut (UWOC)) maintains a variety of WALs under the *Water Management Act 2000* which consist of High, General and Supplementary securities, as detailed in **Table 30**.

Table 30 shows the predicted annual groundwater volumes required to be licensed the Wambo Complex for both alluvial and porous/fractured rock groundwater sources. These values are from the groundwater model updated to incorporate as-mined and proposed future UWOC mining (SLR, 2025). Predicted take from the Lower Wollombi Brook Water Source (aquifer) in the updated model does not exceed 70 ML (provided in WAL23897) until after 2028.

Table 30: Complex Groundwater Licensing Summary

Water Sharing Plan	Management Zone/ Groundwater Source	Licensed Entitlement (ML/ year)	Predicted annual groundwater inflow volumes requiring Licensing (ML/year)
Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources Water Sharing Plan 2009	Lower Wollombi Brook Water Source	736.9[1]	Av. 135 Max. 209 2025. 48[3]
	Jerrys Water Source	-	0
North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources ^^	Porous Rock	1,947[2]	Av. 714 Max. 1,110 2025. 572[4]

^^ Porous Rock is the Sydney Basin - North Coast Groundwater Source, as defined in the *WSP for the North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources*, released 1 July 2016.

[1] Licence No. WAL23897, WAL18437, WAL18455, WAL18549.

[2] Licence No. WAL42373, WAL41532, WAL41510.

[3] It is noted that predicted take from the Lower Wollombi Brook Water Source in the updated model does not exceed 70 ML (provided in WAL23897) until after 2028.

[4] Value derived from the Wambo Complex Numerical Groundwater Model (SLR 2022), Complex modelled groundwater inflow for 2025.

During the 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 water year, WCPL extracted a total 660 ML of water from the Hunter River (under WAL718), 0 ML of water from Wollombi Brook (under WAL18437), 0 ML of groundwater from Wollombi Brook alluvium (under WAL23897), and 714 ML from porous rock groundwater sources (under WAL42373). As shown in **Table 31**, all water take during the 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 water year was less than the allowable limits under the relevant WALs.

No water was used for irrigation purposes between 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 (from licence 20WA200632).

6.6 Compensatory Water

WCPL did not provide any compensatory water to any water users during the reporting period.

Table 31: Environmental Performance – Water Take (1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025)

Licence Number[1]	Description	Expiry Date	Entitlement	Category	Passive take/ inflows (ML)	Active pumping (ML)	Total (ML)
Hunter Regulated River Water Source							
WAL718 (20SL060212)	Hunter River Pump	Perpetuity	1,000 unit shares (high security)	Regulated River (high security)	0	660	660
WAL8599 (20SL061206)	Hunter River Pump	Perpetuity	6 unit shares (high security)	Regulated River (high security)	0	0	0
WAL8600 (20SL061206)	Hunter River Pump	Perpetuity	868 unit shares (general security)	Regulated River (general security)	0	0	0
WAL8604 (20BL061206)	Hunter River Pump	Perpetuity	240 unit shares (supplementary water)	Supplementary Water	0	0	0
Hunter Regulated River Water Source – Shared with United Colliery							
WAL929 (20SL050661)	Other Pump	Perpetuity	3 unit shares	Domestic and Stock	0	0	0
WAL1369 (20SL060416)	80 mm CP	Perpetuity	15 unit shares (supplementary water)	Supplementary Water	0	0	0
WAL15459 (20SL204246)	80 mm CP	Perpetuity	21 unit shares (general security)	Regulated River (general security)	0	0	0
Hunter Regulated River Water Source –United Colliery							
WAL10541 (20AL200927)	-	-	300 unit shares	Regulated River	0	0	0
Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources (Lower Wollombi Brook Water Source)							
WAL18437 (20SL033872)	Wollombi Brook Pump	Perpetuity	366.9 unit shares	Unregulated River	0	0	0
WAL23897 (20BL167737)	Well No. 2	Perpetuity	70 unit shares	Aquifer	0	0	0
Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources (Lower Wollombi Brook Water Source) – United Colliery							
WAL18445	Bywash Dam	-	200 unit shares	Unregulated River	0	0	0
WAL18549	Other pump	-	100 unit shares	Unregulated River	0	0	0

Licence Number[1]	Description	Expiry Date	Entitlement	Category	Passive take/ inflows (ML)	Active pumping (ML)	Total (ML)
North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources (Sydney Basin - North Coast Groundwater Source)							
WAL42373[2]	-	Perpetuity	1,549 unit shares	Aquifer	573 (307 OC + 266 UG)[3]	0	573 (307 OC + 266 UG)[3]
WAL41532 (20BL172156)	Dewatering	Perpetuity	98 unit shares	Aquifer	0	0	0
North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources (Sydney Basin - North Coast Groundwater Source) – United Collieries							
WAL41510	Dewatering	-	300 unit shares	Aquifer	0	0	0

1. 20BL prefix bore licences with allocations have been replaced with WALs.
2. WAL42373 was issued in 2019 to consolidate six of WCPL's previous WALs under the North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock groundwater Sources (Sydney Basin – North Coast Groundwater Source) including WAL39735, WAL39738, WAL39803, WAL41494, WAL41528 and WAL41520.

3 2025 calendar year - complex modelled groundwater inflow. OC = open cut, UG = underground

6.7 Site Water Balance

WCPL reviewed the Site Water Balance at the end of the reporting period, in accordance with the requirements of the Water Management Plan. A summary of the WCPL site water balance for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025 is provided in **Table 32.**

Table 32: Site Water Balance (1 January to 31 December 2025)

Water Sources	Volume (ML)
Hunter River	572
Wollombi Brook	0
United Collieries	1,804
Rainfall/Runoff	1,486
Underground Seepage	340
Dewatering Bores 2A and 4C	0
Total Water Inputs	**4,202**
Water Usage	**Volume (ML)**
Dust Suppression	179
CHPP Consumption	148
Underground (net)	430
United Collieries	690
CHPP/UG Potable Water	8
Domestic Usage	0
Total Water Usage	**1,454**
Water Loss	**Volume (ML)**
Evaporation – Mine Water & Tailings Dam	491
HRSTS Discharge	175
Reinjection	0
Seepage	0
CHPP Process (washdown)	55
Total Losses	**721**
Change in storages	**Volume (ML)**
Initial (1 January 2025)	1,266
Final (31 December 2025)	2,146
Change in Storage	**880**
Water Balance (ML)	**1,147**

A total of 572 ML was extracted from the Hunter River and no water was extracted from the Wollombi Brook during the reporting period. This total is above the EIS forecast annual average extraction volume of 106 ML (Resource Strategies 2003).

As 1,804 ML of water was transferred from the United Collieries during the reporting period, this brings the total volume of water imported to approximately 43% of the total water input. This is considerably higher than the EIS forecast of an average of 2.6% (Resource Strategies 2003).

A total of 1,486 ML of runoff from rainfall was intercepted during the reporting period, 175 ML less than intercepted during 2024 (1,661 ML).

Underground seepage represented 8.1% of total supply compared to the 2003 forecast of 13.8% (Resource Strategies 2003), this is slightly lower than seepage in 2024. The contemporary numerical groundwater model predicts that 266 ML of seepage will have reported to the combined sources of the South Bates Underground Mine and South Bates Extension Underground Mine in 2025. This value has been used to evaluate compliance with relevant groundwater licences.

No water was exported off-site during the reporting period. During the reporting period, there were seven discharges into the Wollombi Brook, as permitted by conditions of EPL529 and the HRSTS guidelines (**Section 6.3**).

6.7.1 Salt Balance

WCPL reviewed the Salt Balance at the end of the reporting period, in accordance with the requirements of the Water Management Plan. A summary of the WCPL salt balance for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025 is provided in **Table 33.**

Table 33: Salt Balance (1 January to 31 December 2025)

Inputs	Salt (t)
Raw water- Hunter	233
Raw water- Wollombi	0
Runoff	2,761
Groundwater (ROM coal)	247
Groundwater (Bores)	0
Groundwater (Seepage)	3,713
Transfer from UWJV	3,908
Total	**10,862**
Outputs	**Salt (t)**
Product Coal	497
Dust suppression	694
Release to HRSTS	629
Transfer to UWJV	1,638
Total	**3,458**
Balance	**7,404**

6.8 Erosion and Sediment Control

WCPL has developed an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) to address the relevant consent conditions and regulatory requirements.

6.8.1 Performance during the Reporting Period

During the reporting period, WCPL complied with all requirements ESCP under DA 305-7-2003 from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

No complaints were received relating to erosion and sediment control.

6.8.2 Trends and Key Management Implications

No trends or key management implications for erosion and sediment control were identified during the reporting period.

6.8.3 Implemented or Proposed Management Actions

During the next reporting period, WCPL will continue to implement the approved ESCP.

7.0 Rehabilitation

7.1 Rehabilitation Performance during the Reporting Period

In August 2022, a Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP) was prepared by WCPL in accordance with the new standard rehabilitation conditions on mining leases imposed through an amendment to the *Mining Regulation 2016*, under the *Mining Act 1992*. The RMP is available on the Peabody Website and addresses the rehabilitation requirements prescribed in the mining leases and Condition B107, Schedule 2 of DA 305-7-2003.

Version 3 of the RMP was approved in November 2023 to incorporate changes associated with the approval of MOD 19 to DA 305-7-2003.

Rehabilitation Activities at the Mine are conducted in accordance with the RMP.

In accordance with clauses 9 and 13 of Schedule 8A of the *Mining Regulation 2016* and Part 1 of the *Form and Way – Annual Rehabilitation Report and Forward Program for Large Mines* (NSW Resources Regulator, 2025), WCPL will prepare and submit an Annual Rehabilitation Report which describes the rehabilitation activities undertaken throughout the 2025 reporting period.

7.1.1 Status of Disturbance and Rehabilitation

WCPL is responsible for rehabilitating the remaining surface area and activities related to the Mine's approved underground activities. Due to the nature of this disturbance, there will be minimal progressive rehabilitation reported by WCPL over the coming years (i.e. as the disturbed surface area will be required for the life of the underground mine).

A summary of the proposed and actual rehabilitation activities undertaken in 2025 is provided in **Table 34**.

Table 34: Actual versus Proposed Rehabilitation Activities (2025)

	2025 Proposed	2025 Actual (at 31 December)	2026 Proposed
Total Disturbance (ha)	0.9	2.33	0
Total Rehabilitation (ha)	0.9	0	2.33
Cumulative Rehabilitation (ha)	120.2	118.16	120.49

During the reporting period, subsidence remediation focused on maintenance of historical subsidence on the Kharlibe property and minor repairs to access roads as required. During the reporting period, subsidence monitoring of trenches that were remediated with geofabric and those without geofabric showed little difference with no further subsidence in either area.

7.1.2 Status of North Wambo Creek Diversion Remediation

In 2019, WCPL commissioned Soil Conservation Services (SCS) to commence a five year program of remediation works which built on the NWCD Rehabilitation and Maintenance Plan produced by Alluvium Consulting. Rehabilitation and maintenance was completed in four stages, with Stage 1 completed in 2020, Stage 2 in 2021 and the final Stages, 3 and 4 completed in 2023.

No further North Wambo Creek remediation works were conducted in 2025 and maintenance works were limited to feral animal management and weed spraying for the duration of the reporting period.

7.1.3 Agreed Post Rehabilitation Land Use

The agreed post rehabilitation land use for the Mine is detailed in WCPL's EIS (Resource Strategies 2003), DA 305-7-2003 and the RMP. The final landform for WCPL proposes a balanced rehabilitation outcome which recognises the alternative land uses that exist in the region, and therefore aims to establish the potential for both sustainable agriculture and endemic woodland habitat. The proposed design of final landforms and the revegetation strategy are described in the RMP and in United's RMP.

All rehabilitation activities completed at the Mine are undertaken with consideration to the agreed post rehabilitation land use goals.

7.1.4 Key Rehabilitation Performance Indicators

Table 35 summarises WCPL's rehabilitation status at the end of the reporting period, compared to the previous reporting period.

As outlined above, WCPL is responsible for rehabilitating the remaining surface area and activities related to the Mine's approved underground activities. As such, there will be minimal progressive rehabilitation reported by WCPL over the coming years.

7.1.5 Renovation or Removal of Buildings

No buildings were renovated or removed during the reporting period.

7.1.6 Other Rehabilitation Activities

In consultation with NSW Resources Regulator, an extensive audit of historical exploration works commenced during 2015. The scope of the audit was to identify all historical exploration sites, rehabilitate as required and relinquish the sites to the NSW Resources Regulator's satisfaction.

In 2016, the scope of the audit was finalised and a total of 222 sites associated with historical exploration were identified in A444 and 17 in EL7211. The sites were identified as requiring inspection, possible rehabilitation and eventual relinquishment.

Both the EL7211 and A444 audits were completed during 2017. Copies of these reports were provided to the NSW Division of Resource and Geoscience (DRG) (now NSW Resources Regulator) on 17 April 2017. In December 2017, DRG (now NSW Resources Regulator) requested an ESF2 Form (Rehabilitation Completion and/or Review of Rehabilitation Cost Estimate) be completed to accompany the Audit Reports. The ESF2 form was submitted to DRG (now NSW Resources Regulator) on 14 December 2017. EL7211 and A444 are managed by United. Rehabilitation of exploration sites and eventual relinquishment will be managed by United.

Table 35: 2025 Rehabilitation Status and Forecast

Annual Reporting Period	2025 (Forecast) (ha)	2025 Actual (at 31 December) (ha)	2026 (Forecast) (ha)
A. Total Disturbance Footprint – Surface Disturbance[1]	325.24	326.80	326.80
B. Total active disturbance[2]	201.31	202.28	202.28
C. Rehabilitation – Land Preparation[3]	0	0	2.33
D. Ecosystem and Land Use Establishment[4]	121.9	80.69	80.69
E. Ecosystem and Land Use Development[5]	0	37.47	37.47
F. Rehabilitation Completion[6]	0	0	0

1. All areas within a mining lease that either have at some point in time or continue to pose a rehabilitation liability due to surface disturbance activities. The total disturbance footprint is the sum of the total active disturbance, decommissioning, landform establishment, growth medium development, ecosystem and land use establishment, ecosystem and land use development and rehabilitation completion (see definitions below). Underground mining operations should not include the footprint of underground mining areas/subsidence management areas in the total disturbance footprint.
2. Includes on-lease exploration areas, stripped areas ahead of mining, infrastructure areas, water management infrastructure, sewage treatment facilities, topsoil stockpile areas, access tracks and haul roads, active mining areas, waste rock emplacements (active/unshaped/in or out-of-pit), tailings dams (active/unshaped/uncapped) and temporary stabilised areas (e.g. areas sown with temporary cover crops for dust mitigation and temporary rehabilitation).
3. Includes the sum of all disturbed land within a mining lease that has commenced any, or all, of the following phases of rehabilitation – decommissioning, landform establishment and growth medium development.
4. Includes the area which has been seeded/planted with the target vegetation species for the intended final land use. However, vegetation has not matured to a stage where it can be demonstrated that it will be sustainable for the long-term and/ or require only a maintenance regime consistent with target reference/analogue sites. Typically, rehabilitation areas would be in this phase for at least two years (and usually more) before rehabilitation can be classified as being in the ecosystem and land use development phase. This phase does not apply to infrastructure areas that are being retained as part of final land use for the site.
5. Rehabilitation has matured to a level where target revegetation outcomes are on a trajectory towards meeting the approved rehabilitation objectives and rehabilitation completion criteria (as verified by monitoring). This phase includes infrastructure areas that are to be retained for an approved final land use, following completion of all necessary measures to render the infrastructure fit for this purpose (for example structural integrity).
6. The NSW Resources Regulator has determined in writing that the mining area has achieved the approved rehabilitation objectives and approved rehabilitation completion criteria and final landform and rehabilitation plan following the submission of the relevant application by the lease holder.

7.1.7 Trials, Research Projects and Other Initiatives

There were no new trials, research projects or other initiatives undertaken during the reporting period. However, WCPL is currently preparing a works program for a revegetation plan aiming to target areas not currently meeting weeds management targets.

7.1.8 Variations in Activities Proposed in the RMP

During the reporting period, rehabilitation was undertaken in accordance with the activities proposed in the WCPL's approved RMP and approved Forward Program (March 2025 – March 2028).

7.1.9 Key Issues That May Impact Successful Rehabilitation

WCPL is responsible for rehabilitating the remaining surface area and activities related to the Mine's approved underground activities.

Due to the nature of this disturbance, there will be minimal progressive rehabilitation reported by WCPL over the coming years (i.e. as the disturbed surface area will be required for the life of the underground mine).

7.2 Actions for the Next Reporting Period

7.2.1 Rehabilitation Trials, Research Projects and Other Initiatives

The following rehabilitation trials, research projects and other initiatives are proposed over the next reporting period:

- Continuation of subsidence repairs.
- Continuation of maintenance to the NWCD.

7.2.2 Proposed Rehabilitation in the Next Reporting Period

Following the commencement of Phase 2 of the UWJV, rehabilitation activities for open cut operations is managed by United. Rehabilitation work for the Mine proposed during the next reporting period is limited to continued subsidence remediation works as triggered by subsidence monitoring.

8.0 Community

WCPL operates a 24 hour Community Enquiry Line (02 6570 2245), and a dedicated community email account (wambocommunity@peabodyenergy.com), to enable community members to make enquiries or lodge complaints regarding the operation of the Mine.

8.1 Community Engagement Activities and Initiatives

8.1.1 Community Consultative Committee

The CCC is made up of residents from the surrounding district, a representative of Singleton Council and WCPL management. The CCC representatives act as the point of contact between WCPL and the community. The CCC is chaired by an independent chairperson.

During the reporting period WCPL held four CCC meetings:

- Tuesday 25 February 2025;
- Tuesday 6 May 2025;
- Tuesday 5 August 2025; and
- Tuesday 11 November 2025.

Minutes of these meetings are available on the Peabody Energy website; https://www.peabodyenergy.com/Operations/Australia-Mining/New-South-Wales-Mining/Wambo-Approvals,-Plans-Reports.

8.1.2 Newsletters

No community Newsletters were published during the reporting period.

8.1.3 Other Community Engagement Activities

WCPL attended the United Wambo Joint Venture Community Information Session which was held on 10 December 2025. The United Wambo Joint Venture Community Information Session in December 2025 included operational updates and a formal open forum.

8.2 Community Contributions

During the reporting period, WCPL contributed to the community through the following:

- Cystic Fibrosis Race Day;
- Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame; and
- Beyond Blue.

8.3 Community Complaints

WCPL received no community complaints during the reporting period (**Figure 10**). This continues the trend of no complaints since after 2020. The reduction in complaints associated with the Mine is due to the commencement of Phase 2 operations which do not include open cut mining operations.

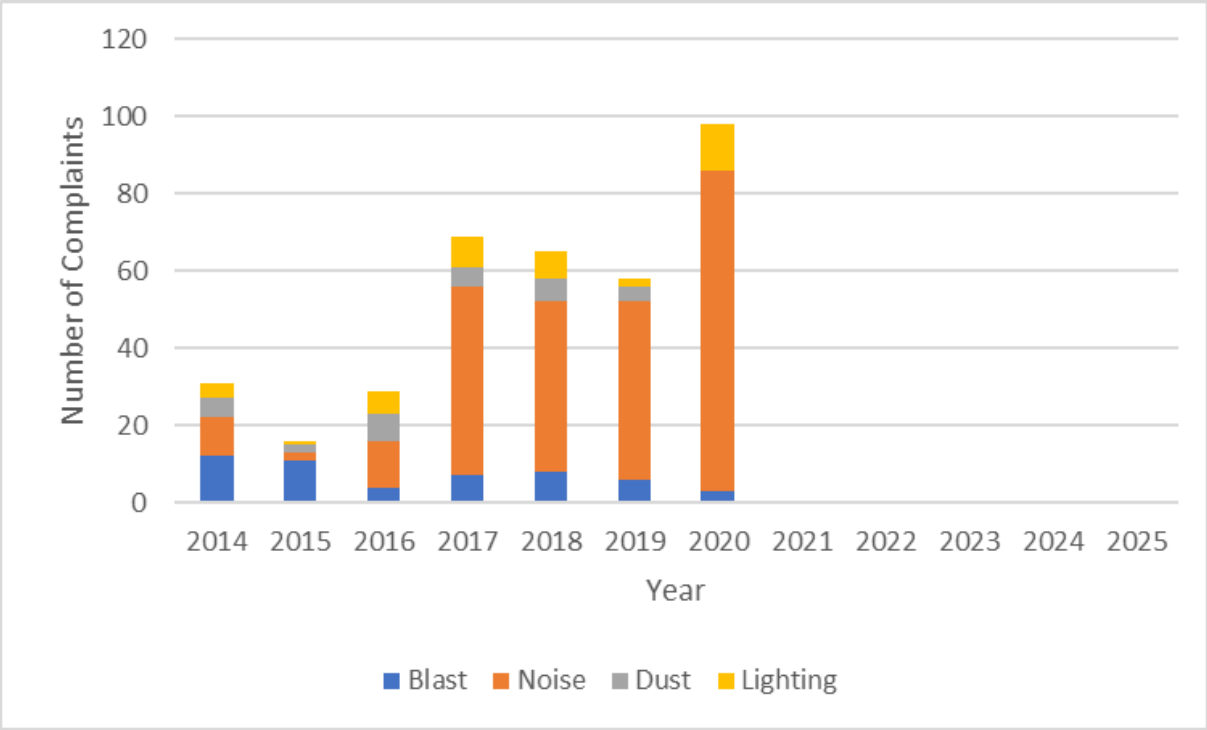


Figure 10: Community Complaints (2014-2025)

9.0 Independent Audits

Audits completed by WCPL with residual actions are summarised below.

- 2023 Independent Environmental Audit (IEA), undertaken by Onward Consulting. Thirteen (13) non-compliances were identified, including four (4) low-risk non-compliances and nine (9) administrative non-compliances. The status of these non-compliances are further described in **Section 9.1** and **Table 35.**
- 2024 EPBC Approval 2003/1138 five-yearly audit, undertaken by Australian Ecology Solutions Pty Ltd (AES). The audit identified non-compliances in three conditions of the approval, predominantly relating to the incorrect implementation of the BMP. Several recommendations for improvements to the BMP were made following the audit, which WCPL will consider and implement, as required. The findings of this five-yearly audit are further described in **Section 9.2**.

A copy of the audit reports is available on the Peabody Energy website; https://www.peabodyenergy.com/Operations/Australia-Mining/New-South-Wales-Mining/Wambo-Approvals,-Plans-Reports
under the Environmental Audits tab. Audits completed more recently are outlined in the sections below.

In addition to the above, NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) conducted site visits and inspections of the Wambo offset areas subject to Conservation Agreements in May 2021 and June 2023. NSW Biodiversity Conservation and Science conducted a site visit on 12 August 2024. A number of recommendations were made after all visits, generally pertaining to weed and pest management and fencing requirements. These recommendations are being addressed by WCPL.

9.1 2023 Independent Environmental Audit

An IEA was undertaken in October 2023 by Onward Consulting to assess compliance against DA 305-7-2003 and DA 177-8-2004 and other relevant environmental approvals and licences. The audit was conducted for the period 21 November 2020 to 30 October 2023.

Thirteen (13) non-compliances were identified, including four (4) low-risk non-compliances and nine (9) administrative non-compliances. The report also included corrective actions and recommendations for improvements, the status of which is described in **Table 36**.

Table 36: Corrective Actions and Recommendations Identified in the 2023 IEA

Consent / licence / lease	Condition	Corrective Action ID	Corrective Action Requirement	Status
DA 305-7-2003	D9	01	Develop a formal process for reporting non-compliances within seven days of becoming aware, where non-compliance occurs due to consecutive/multiple triggers under TARPs (e.g. multiple exceedances which result in a non-compliance) resulting in exceedance of performance criteria in relevant conditions of consent. *Note: should the 2026 IEA determine compliance with the requirements of Condition D9 of DA 305-7-2003, CA01 can be considered closed.*	Complete
DA 177-8-2004 EPL 529	B6 L1.1	02	Consult with the EPA to understand their expectations in relation to flooding events of the Hales Crossing Sump and whether this location should be made a licensed discharge point via an EPL variation.	Ongoing
DA 305-7-2003 DA 177-8-2004 EPL 529	B54 B6 L1.1	01	Consult with the DPHI appointed surface water expert to determine if additional analytes should be tested in upstream monitoring sites (e.g. SW3, SW5, and SW40) to support ambient water quality monitoring at the discharge point on Wollombi Brook (e.g. SW15) and understand whether other water quality parameters are present in discharge water. The outcomes of this consultation should be provided to DPHI.	In progress
DA 305-7-2003	B66	02	Review the WMP document to confirm currency of some documents referenced (e.g. strategy), as some documents have been superseded.	Ongoing
		03	Provide additional detail in the ESCP: – to confirm the type of each water storage (i.e. sediment capture or mine water management); and – covering flood conditions from Wollombi Brook within the context of potential impacts to the Hales Crossing Sump located at the train loading facility adjacent to the watercourse.	In progress – To be included in the next update to ESCP.
		04	Review and revise elements of the surface water management system, as it relates to the monitoring of flow rates over mined areas, and incorporate into a calibrated hydrology model approach that is reviewed on a six monthly to annual basis for those watercourses where there is a risk of flow diversion/flow loss due to mining.	Mining is complete in the South Bates Underground Extension Mine.
		05	Update Table 2 of the SWMP to include performance criteria associated with aquatic, riparian and groundwater dependent ecosystems.	To be considered in the next update of the SWMP.
		06	Remove the commitment to include bi-monthly updates of the groundwater monitoring data on the WCPL website from the GWMP.	Complete

Consent / licence / lease	Condition	Corrective Action ID	Corrective Action Requirement	Status
N/A	N/A	07	Provide an update in the 2023 Annual Review on the progress of actions identified in the *Offset Conservation Site Audit Report for CA461 – Wambo Remnant Woodland Enhancement Areas CA* and *Offset Conservation Site Audit Report for CA464 – Wambo Coal Terminal RWEP* completed by BCT.	Section 9.1 of the 2023 Wambo Coal Mine Annual Review.

9.2 EPBC 2003/1138 5-yearly Audit

AES was engaged by WCPL, to assist in undertaking the 5-yearly audit against the conditions of EPBC Approval 2003/1138, in accordance with Condition 4 of EPBC Approval 2003/1138. The five-yearly audit covers the period from January 2020 to December 2024.

AES identified three non-compliances related to discrepancies between the management and monitoring undertaken, and the commitments made within the BMP (e.g. actions not being conducted at the specified frequency, and some actions appear to not have been undertaken).

Some of the non-compliances were due to factors outside the control of WCPL, including staffing challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as environmental circumstances including major rainfall and flooding.

The auditor noted several recommendations for improvements to the BMP for WCPL to consider and implement, as required. These recommendations, which have since been addressed, are summarised below:

- The BMP should be updated to contain a simple figure showing the location of fences, tracks, gates, and signs for the RWEAs.
- Management of feral goats onsite should be included in the annual monitoring plan, to ensure numbers are both quantified and managed appropriately.
- Revise the BMP commitment table with updated section references.

10.0 Incidents and Non-compliances during the Reporting Period

The following incidents and non-compliances were identified during the reporting period (refer **Statement of Compliance** at the front of this document):

- Exceedances of water quality criteria (pH) during discharge of water under the HRSTS (**Sections 6.3** and **10.1**).
- Pollution of waters, caused by the inundation of the Hales Crossing Sump (**Sections 10.2**).

10.1 HRSTS Discharge Water Quality Exceedance

Condition B55(b) of DA 305-7-2003 requires WCPL to ensure that the discharges from licensed discharge point/s comply with the limits specified within Table 7 of DA 305-7-2003 (**Table 37**).

Table 37: Discharge Limits (as per DA 305-7-2003)

Pollutant	Units of measure	100 percentile concentration limit
pH	pH	6.5 to 9.5
Total suspended solids	mg/litre	120

Source: DA 305-7-2003

WCPL recorded pH results exceeding 9.5 on 23 August 2025 for block 2025-236(2) and 26 August 2025 for block 2025-239(2), the result of which was above the 100th percentile concentration limit of 9.5 for Table 7 of DA 305-7-2003. The pH exceedance was recorded for approximately 2 hours on both occasions.

WCPL notified DPHI and the EPA following this exceedance on 29 August 2025. DPHI responded on 16 September 2025 stating '*The Department will record the breach in relation to exceeding discharge limits for pH on 23rd and 26th August 2025, noting that EPA has been notified of the non-compliance.*

10.2 Hales Crossing Sump Inundation

On 24 May 2025, after significant rainfall in the Wollombi Brook catchment, rising floodwater caused the inundation of a sediment control sump. The 'Hales Crossing Sump' (the Sump) catches runoff from the Wambo Rail Load Out Facility and is managed by permanent pumping infrastructure that maintains water levels at the Sump.

Pumping infrastructure was removed from the Sump at 7:42 am on 23 May 2025. At the time the pump was removed, the Sump had been dewatered to its minimum level. There was no rain recorded between the time the pump was removed and the inundation of the Sump by the rising floodwater at approximately 4:50 am on 24 May 2025.

Floodwaters continued to rise a further 0.44 m above the height of the Sump until peaking at approximately 5:15 pm on 24 May 2025. The volume of the Sump when at capacity is approximately 0.315 ML, and was last fully desilted on 20 May 2025. The Sump did not overtop or spill but was inundated by floodwaters.

Pumping infrastructure was reinstalled at 3:55 pm on 25 May 2025 and the Sump containing floodwater was pumped out into the mine water system. There was no rainfall during the period from when the pumping infrastructure was removed and when it was reinstated. No mine impacted water reported to the sump whilst pumping infrastructure was not in place.

WCPL notified DPHI and the EPA following this exceedance on 29 May 2025. The EPA responded on 5 June 2025 stating '*The EPA have considered this matter and note that the incident relates to a severe wet weather event, declared a Natural Disaster. The EPA do not propose taking further action.'*

11.0 Regulator Requests for Information

During the reporting period, the DPHI and EPA each made a request for information relating to WCPL operations.

An overview of the information requested is provided in **Table 37**.

Table 38: Regulator Requests for Information

Date of Request	Relevant Agency	Comment
9 January 2025	DPHI	DPHI made a request for WCPL to prepare and submit an annual monitoring report by 30 November each year, that reports on the Stony Creek and Wambo Creek water quality monitoring, and includes the outcome of any investigations, and future recommendations. The November 2025 report was submitted 28 November 2025.
21 August 2025	EPA	EPA made a request for information following a complaint received by the EPA regarding an excessive vibration from blast 21 August 2025 at approximately 1:20 pm. WCPL responded on 21 August 2025 to advise Wambo does not conduct open cut blasting and did not conduct any blasting activities on that date.
29 October 2025	DPHI	DPHI made a request for information to provide updated bond calculations, annual monitoring reports, outstanding site actions and fenceline audit status, with regards to WCPL's claim for the return of the Year 6 (2023) and Yeas 7 (2024) offsets bond being held for the Conservation Areas. The RFI was provided by WCPL 17 December 2025.

12.0 Activities to be Reported in the next Reporting Period

The following activities will be undertaken and reported on by WCPL during the next reporting period:

- Consider revising groundwater level triggers at P16 to incorporate model predictions which capture the observed mining effect;
- Provide update of groundwater and surface water monitoring data at Stony Creek to DPHI in November 2025;
- Planting native trees in over-cleared RWEA areas to facilitate more rapid regeneration;
- Hazard reduction/environmental burning in the RWEAs;
- Continuation of subsidence repair trials; and
- Repair subsidence damage to tracks.

Where required, updated management plans and strategies will be submitted to relevant government authorities for approval and uploaded to the WCPL website.

13.0 References

- AECOM Australia Pty Ltd, 2026. *Report on stream flow events along North Wambo, South Wambo and Stoney Creeks for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025.* 23 February 2026.
- Airen Consulting, 2026. *Review of 2025 Air Quality Monitoring Data.* 17 February 2026
- Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council, 2000. *Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality.* Canberra.
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- Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd, 2026. *Wambo Coal Annual Flora and Fauna Monitoring Report – Volumes 1 and 2*. 19 March 2026.
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- New South Wales Minerals Council, 2010. *Technical Paper Particulate Matter and Mining Interim Report.*
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- Umwelt, 2016. *United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine Project Environmental Impact Statement*. August 2016.
- Umwelt, In preparation. *Stream Flow and Water Quality Impact Assessment Criteria Exceedance Investigation. Wambo Coal Mine.* March 2022.
- Wambo Coal Pty Ltd, 2021. *South bates Extension Underground Mine Extraction Plan Longwalls 21 to 24*.
- Wambo Coal Pty Ltd, 2024. *Extraction Plan Report for South Bates Extension Longwalls 24 to 26: 1 January 2024 - 30 June 2024*.
- Wambo Coal Pty Ltd, 2025. *Wambo Coal Mine 2024 Annual Review*

APPENDICES

APPENDICES A TO I ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST (AS LISTED BELOW):

Appendix A	Approval Conditions Specifically Relating to the Annual Review
Appendix B	Daily Train Movement Summary
Appendix C	Annual Noise Monitoring Report
Appendix D	Annual Air Quality Monitoring Report
Appendix E	Annual Flora and Fauna Monitoring Report
Appendix F	Surface Water Quality Monitoring Data Summary
Appendix G	Annual Stream Flow Monitoring Report
Appendix H	Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report
Appendix I	Annual Compliance Report (EPBC 2016/7636 and EPBC 2016/7816)