Resources Regulator
Department of Regional NSW

Friday 31 May 2024

Assessable Prospecting Operation Application Decision Briefing and Review of Environmental Factors

Tahmoor South-West Exploration Program 2024 | APO0001703

Decision Maker	Greg Kininmonth
Prepared by	Robert Faddy-Vrouwe
Title	CCL 747 (1973)
Authorised Representative	[redacted]
Project name	Tahmoor South-West Exploration Program 2024
Activity type	Non-Complying Exploration Activity

Issue

[redacted] has sought an activity approval in respect of Tahmoor South-West Exploration Program 2024, within CCL 747 (1973), at South-west of Tahmoor, NSW.

Pursuant to section 2.8 of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021*, development for the purposes of exploration (i.e. prospecting) may be carried out without development consent.

An authority issued under the *Mining Act 1992* is subject to a condition that the authority holder must not carry out an assessable prospecting operation on land over which the authority is granted unless an activity approval has been obtained for the carrying out of the assessable prospecting operation.

As assessable prospecting operations require approval by the Minister under the *Mining Act 1992*, a duty is imposed on determining authorities under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to:

- examine and take into account to the fullest extent possible all matters affecting or likely to affect the environmental by reason of the proposed activity; and
- if the activity is likely to significantly affect the environment, examine and consider an environmental impact statement in respect of the activity.

The Minister is the determining authority for all exploration activities subject to environmental assessment under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The Decision Maker, under delegation from the Minister, is required to determine whether:

- the proposed activity is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment and is not likely to significantly affect threatened species, populations or ecological communities (or their habitats) or impact biodiversity values and can be approved,
- the proposed activity is likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required,

- the proposed activity will be carried out in a declared area of outstanding biodiversity value and is likely to significantly affect threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats or impact biodiversity values, meaning a Species Impact Statement (SIS) and/or Biodiversity Development and Assessment Report (BDAR) is required, or
- there is insufficient information to make a decision.

Background

This exploration activity approval is being sought under CCL 747 (granted 23/05/1990 & expiry 06/11/2025) to undertake assessable prospecting operations.

The current security deposit held for CCL is $552,000.

Proposed exploration activity

The proposed exploration activity (including details of the site, the existing environment, impact thresholds and impact management) are described in *APPLICATION TO UNDERTAKE ASSESSABLE PROSPECTING OPERATIONS Tahmoor South-West Exploration Program 2024* report and the information provided in support of the application.

The objective of the proposed exploration activity is to carry out works on, or to remove samples from, land for the purpose of testing the resource quality and/or quantity of the land. This is consistent with the objects of the *Mining Act 1992*, including to facilitate the discovery and development of resources in NSW.

No alternatives options to the proposed activity were considered.

Security

The application triggered a review of the assessed deposit to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations if Tahmoor South-West Exploration Program 2024 is approved.

Refer to RCE Record RCE0002008

Assessment of Impacts (Non-complying exploration activity)

An assessment of the significance of environmental impacts associated with the proposed activity was undertaken in accordance with the Department of Planning and Environment's "*Guidelines for Division 5.1 assessments*". The results of this assessment are documented in the attached Review of Environmental Factors document.

The assessment has determined that the activity is not likely to significantly affect the environment, including threatened species or ecological communities (or their habitats), or declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value/critical habitat.

Additional terms (if approved)

No additional terms are required.

Summary

Based on the information provided in the *APPLICATION TO UNDERTAKE ASSESSABLE PROSPECTING OPERATIONS Tahmoor South-West Exploration Program 2024* report, and the Review of Environmental Factors document, the proposed activity has been assessed as is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore an EIS is not required.

The application has been assessed and the recommendation is to Approve the activity.

Certification

I, Robert Faddy-Vrouwe, certify that I have reviewed and endorsed the contents of the attached Review of Environmental Factors document and, to the best of my knowledge, it is in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979,* the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 and the Guidelines approved under clause 170 of the EP&A Regulation, and the information it contains is neither false nor misleading.

Recommendation

The Decision Maker, under delegation from the Minister:

- Assesses the environmental impact of Tahmoor South-West Exploration Program 2024 and determines that the activity is is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore an EIS is not required under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
- Approve the activity pursuant to the *Mining Act 1992*.

Review of Environmental Factors document

Criteria	Air Impacts: Air quality impacts (including impacts on nearby sensitive receptors).
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been positioned in areas of existing disturbance with only minor vegetation removal required. Minor and short duration dust generation from drilling activities and vehicle movements. Emissions from vehicles, plant and equipment associated with the proposed exploration activities have the potential for minor, localised impacts. The closest privately-owned residence is located approximately 280m east of drill pad BH7. With the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined, privately-owned residences are anticipated to experience minor air quality impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities. These impacts will be temporary in nature and short-term in duration. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as low adverse.

Proposed management controls	The following air quality management measures will be implemented during the exploration activities including: • access for vehicles and plant will be limited to existing, stable access tracks to reduce dust generation • appropriate vehicle speed limits will be established and enforced, which will be reviewed depending on meteorological conditions or safety requirements • slashing would be undertaken to the minimum extent required for access and drill site establishment to avoid exposed areas and vegetation removal • vehicles and drilling activities will be confined to designated work areas to minimise any dust generation • a watercart will be operated for dust suppression as required • during adverse weather conditions operations will be reviewed and modified and/or ceased if dust generation from drilling operations is unable to be managed adequately • machinery will be maintained to appropriate operating standards		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Air Impacts: Greenhouse or ozone impacts.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been positioned in areas of existing disturbance with only minor vegetation removal required. Minor and short duration dust generation from drilling activities and vehicle movements. Emissions from vehicles, plant and equipment associated with the proposed exploration activities have the potential for minor, localised impacts. The closest privately-owned residence is located approximately 280m east of drill pad BH7. With the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined, privately-owned residences are anticipated to experience minor air quality impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities. These impacts will be temporary in nature and short-term in duration. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as low adverse.		
Proposed management controls	The following air quality management measures will be implemented during the exploration activities including: • access for vehicles and plant will be limited to existing, stable access tracks to reduce dust generation • appropriate vehicle speed limits will be established and enforced, which will be reviewed depending on meteorological conditions or safety requirements • slashing would be undertaken to the minimum extent required for access and drill site establishment to avoid exposed areas and vegetation removal • vehicles and drilling activities will be confined to designated work areas to minimise any dust generation • a watercart will be operated for dust suppression as required • during adverse weather conditions operations will be reviewed and modified and/or ceased if dust generation from drilling operations is unable to be managed adequately • machinery will be maintained to appropriate operating standards		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low

Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Air Impacts: Additional impacts on areas with degraded air quality.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been positioned in areas of existing disturbance with only minor vegetation removal required. Minor and short duration dust generation from drilling activities and vehicle movements. Emissions from vehicles, plant and equipment associated with the proposed exploration activities have the potential for minor, localised impacts. The closest privately-owned residence is located approximately 280m east of drill pad BH7. With the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined, privately-owned residences are anticipated to experience minor air quality impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities. These impacts will be temporary in nature and short-term in duration. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as low adverse.		
Proposed management controls	The following air quality management measures will be implemented during the exploration activities including: • access for vehicles and plant will be limited to existing, stable access tracks to reduce dust generation • appropriate vehicle speed limits will be established and enforced, which will be reviewed depending on meteorological conditions or safety requirements • slashing would be undertaken to the minimum extent required for access and drill site establishment to avoid exposed areas and vegetation removal • vehicles and drilling activities will be confined to designated work areas to minimise any dust generation • a watercart will be operated for dust suppression as required • during adverse weather conditions operations will be reviewed and modified and/or ceased if dust generation from drilling operations is unable to be managed adequately • machinery will be maintained to appropriate operating standards		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from the use of surface or groundwater.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been intentionally positioned as far away from drainage lines as practicable, in areas accessible by existing access tracks and in areas of existing disturbance, to avoid potential erosion and sedimentation impacts. Water for the proposed exploration activities will be sourced from local water supply contractors; no water will be taken from nearby drainage lines or water sources. Above-ground sumps will be utilised during the drilling activities to contain drill cuttings and fluids. Drilling is the only surface disturbance activity proposed. With the implementation of measures outlined, runoff resulting from the proposed drilling activities is not anticipated. No quantifiable water make is anicipated as a result of the activity. The proposed exploration activities are not expected to result in impacts to surface and/or groundwater use, storage of water, changes to natural bodies, riparian areas and runoff patterns, aquatic ecology, aquifer interference including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity, changes to flooding or tidal regimes or changes in either surface or groundwater quality and quantity.		

Proposed management controls	The following measures will be implemented during the exploration activities where required: • the need for erosion and sediment control measures will be assessed on a pad-by-pad basis, and may include sediment fencing, clean water diversion bunds etc. These structures will be installed prior to commencement of disturbance works, on the downslope of exploration activities. • sediment and erosion control structures required will be installed in accordance with the publication Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and construction - Volume 1 (the 'blue book') • the Site Supervisor will check erosion and sediment control measures prior to leaving the active sites each day • drill cuttings and fluids would be contained in above-ground tanks and disposed of at a licensed waste disposal facility • exploration areas would be rehabilitated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure and possible subsequent sedimentation of waters in accordance with the ROCC • upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from storage of water		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been intentionally positioned as far away from drainage lines as practicable, in areas accessible by existing access tracks and in areas of existing disturbance, to avoid potential erosion and sedimentation impacts. Water for the proposed exploration activities will be sourced from local water supply contractors; no water will be taken from nearby drainage lines or water sources. Above-ground sumps will be utilised during the drilling activities to contain drill cuttings and fluids. Drilling is the only surface disturbance activity proposed. With the implementation of measures outlined, runoff resulting from the proposed drilling activities is not anticipated. No quantifiable water make is anicipated as a result of the activity. The proposed exploration activities are not expected to result in impacts to surface and/or groundwater use, storage of water, changes to natural bodies, riparian areas and runoff patterns, aquatic ecology, aquifer interference including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity, changes to flooding or tidal regimes or changes in either surface or groundwater quality and quantity.		
Proposed management controls	The following measures will be implemented during the exploration activities where required: • the need for erosion and sediment control measures will be assessed on a pad-by-pad basis, and may include sediment fencing, clean water diversion bunds etc. These structures will be installed prior to commencement of disturbance works, on the downslope of exploration activities. • sediment and erosion control structures required will be installed in accordance with the publication Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and construction - Volume 1 (the 'blue book') • the Site Supervisor will check erosion and sediment control measures prior to leaving the active sites each day • drill cuttings and fluids would be contained in above-ground tanks and disposed of at a licensed waste disposal facility • exploration areas would be rehabilitated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure and possible subsequent sedimentation of waters in accordance with the ROCC • upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low

Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from changes to natural water bodies, wetlands or runoff patterns.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been intentionally positioned as far away from drainage lines as practicable, in areas accessible by existing access tracks and in areas of existing disturbance, to avoid potential erosion and sedimentation impacts. Water for the proposed exploration activities will be sourced from local water supply contractors; no water will be taken from nearby drainage lines or water sources. Above-ground sumps will be utilised during the drilling activities to contain drill cuttings and fluids. Drilling is the only surface disturbance activity proposed. With the implementation of measures outlined, runoff resulting from the proposed drilling activities is not anticipated. No quantifiable water make is anicipated as a result of the activity. The proposed exploration activities are not expected to result in impacts to surface and/or groundwater use, storage of water, changes to natural bodies, riparian areas and runoff patterns, aquatic ecology, aquifer interference including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity, changes to flooding or tidal regimes or changes in either surface or groundwater quality and quantity.		
Proposed management controls	The following measures will be implemented during the exploration activities where required: • the need for erosion and sediment control measures will be assessed on a pad-by-pad basis, and may include sediment fencing, clean water diversion bunds etc. These structures will be installed prior to commencement of disturbance works, on the downslope of exploration activities. • sediment and erosion control structures required will be installed in accordance with the publication Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and construction - Volume 1 (the 'blue book') • the Site Supervisor will check erosion and sediment control measures prior to leaving the active sites each day • drill cuttings and fluids would be contained in above-ground tanks and disposed of at a licensed waste disposal facility • exploration areas would be rehabilitated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure and possible subsequent sedimentation of waters in accordance with the ROCC • upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from aquifer interference, including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been intentionally positioned as far away from drainage lines as practicable, in areas accessible by existing access tracks and in areas of existing disturbance, to avoid potential erosion and sedimentation impacts. Water for the proposed exploration activities will be sourced from local water supply contractors; no water will be taken from nearby drainage lines or water sources. Above-ground sumps will be utilised during the drilling activities to contain drill cuttings and fluids. Drilling is the only surface disturbance activity proposed. With the implementation of measures outlined, runoff resulting from the proposed drilling activities is not anticipated. No quantifiable water make is anicipated as a result of the activity. The proposed exploration activities are not expected to result in impacts to surface and/or groundwater use, storage of water, changes to natural bodies, riparian areas and runoff patterns, aquatic ecology, aquifer interference including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity, changes to flooding or tidal regimes or changes in either surface or groundwater quality and quantity.		

Proposed management controls	The following measures will be implemented during the exploration activities where required: • the need for erosion and sediment control measures will be assessed on a pad-by-pad basis, and may include sediment fencing, clean water diversion bunds etc. These structures will be installed prior to commencement of disturbance works, on the downslope of exploration activities. • sediment and erosion control structures required will be installed in accordance with the publication Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and construction - Volume 1 (the 'blue book') • the Site Supervisor will check erosion and sediment control measures prior to leaving the active sites each day • drill cuttings and fluids would be contained in above-ground tanks and disposed of at a licensed waste disposal facility • exploration areas would be rehabilitated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure and possible subsequent sedimentation of waters in accordance with the ROCC • upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from changes to flooding or tidal regimes.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been intentionally positioned as far away from drainage lines as practicable, in areas accessible by existing access tracks and in areas of existing disturbance, to avoid potential erosion and sedimentation impacts. Water for the proposed exploration activities will be sourced from local water supply contractors; no water will be taken from nearby drainage lines or water sources. Above-ground sumps will be utilised during the drilling activities to contain drill cuttings and fluids. Drilling is the only surface disturbance activity proposed. With the implementation of measures outlined, runoff resulting from the proposed drilling activities is not anticipated. No quantifiable water make is anicipated as a result of the activity. The proposed exploration activities are not expected to result in impacts to surface and/or groundwater use, storage of water, changes to natural bodies, riparian areas and runoff patterns, aquatic ecology, aquifer interference including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity, changes to flooding or tidal regimes or changes in either surface or groundwater quality and quantity.		
Proposed management controls	The following measures will be implemented during the exploration activities where required: • the need for erosion and sediment control measures will be assessed on a pad-by-pad basis, and may include sediment fencing, clean water diversion bunds etc. These structures will be installed prior to commencement of disturbance works, on the downslope of exploration activities. • sediment and erosion control structures required will be installed in accordance with the publication Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and construction - Volume 1 (the 'blue book') • the Site Supervisor will check erosion and sediment control measures prior to leaving the active sites each day • drill cuttings and fluids would be contained in above-ground tanks and disposed of at a licensed waste disposal facility • exploration areas would be rehabilitated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure and possible subsequent sedimentation of waters in accordance with the ROCC • upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low

Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from changes in surface or groundwater quality and quantity.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been intentionally positioned as far away from drainage lines as practicable, in areas accessible by existing access tracks and in areas of existing disturbance, to avoid potential erosion and sedimentation impacts. Water for the proposed exploration activities will be sourced from local water supply contractors; no water will be taken from nearby drainage lines or water sources. Above-ground sumps will be utilised during the drilling activities to contain drill cuttings and fluids. Drilling is the only surface disturbance activity proposed. With the implementation of measures outlined, runoff resulting from the proposed drilling activities is not anticipated. No quantifiable water make is anicipated as a result of the activity. The proposed exploration activities are not expected to result in impacts to surface and/or groundwater use, storage of water, changes to natural bodies, riparian areas and runoff patterns, aquatic ecology, aquifer interference including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity, changes to flooding or tidal regimes or changes in either surface or groundwater quality and quantity.		
Proposed management controls	The following measures will be implemented during the exploration activities where required: • the need for erosion and sediment control measures will be assessed on a pad-by-pad basis, and may include sediment fencing, clean water diversion bunds etc. These structures will be installed prior to commencement of disturbance works, on the downslope of exploration activities. • sediment and erosion control structures required will be installed in accordance with the publication Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and construction - Volume 1 (the 'blue book') • the Site Supervisor will check erosion and sediment control measures prior to leaving the active sites each day • drill cuttings and fluids would be contained in above-ground tanks and disposed of at a licensed waste disposal facility • exploration areas would be rehabilitated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure and possible subsequent sedimentation of waters in accordance with the ROCC • upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Degradation of soil quality (including contamination, salinisation or acidification).		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been positioned in areas of existing disturbance with only minor vegetation removal required to minimise the amount of soil disturbance required, and to minimise the potential for ground instability. Approximately 0.125 ha of degraded vegetation will be slashed at BH4 and BH7, and only minimal soil removal is required for the drill hole and installation of sediment and erosion controls (as required). Gravel and/or dura-mats may be utilised to assist with access if required to ensure minimal surface disturbance. Water will be contained in above ground tanks. No excavations are proposed, as in-ground sumps will not be required. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as negligible.		

Proposed management controls	• Drill pads and access tracks have largely been positioned in areas of existing disturbance and vegetation clearing. • Vegetation removal will be via slasher to minimise soil disturbance. In the small areas where soil disturbance is required, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for use in rehabilitation. • Erosion and sediment controls will be installed as required. • Chemicals and/or other hazardous substances will be managed to minimise the risk of soil contamination. • Upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended in accordance with indsutry Guidelines. • Exploration areas would be rehabilitated and revegetated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure in accordance with the ROCC. • Rehabilitated sites will be inspected to ensure rehabilitation and drill hole sealing has been effective.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Impacts on land with high agricultural capability.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been positioned in areas of existing disturbance with only minor vegetation removal required to minimise the amount of soil disturbance required, and to minimise the potential for ground instability. Approximately 0.125 ha of degraded vegetation will be slashed at BH4 and BH7, and only minimal soil removal is required for the drill hole and installation of sediment and erosion controls (as required). Gravel and/or dura-mats may be utilised to assist with access if required to ensure minimal surface disturbance. Water will be contained in above ground tanks. No excavations are proposed, as in-ground sumps will not be required. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	• Drill pads and access tracks have largely been positioned in areas of existing disturbance and vegetation clearing. • Vegetation removal will be via slasher to minimise soil disturbance. In the small areas where soil disturbance is required, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for use in rehabilitation. • Erosion and sediment controls will be installed as required. • Chemicals and/or other hazardous substances will be managed to minimise the risk of soil contamination. • Upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended in accordance with indsutry Guidelines. • Exploration areas would be rehabilitated and revegetated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure in accordance with the ROCC. • Rehabilitated sites will be inspected to ensure rehabilitation and drill hole sealing has been effective.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Loss of soil from wind or water erosion.		

Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been positioned in areas of existing disturbance with only minor vegetation removal required to minimise the amount of soil disturbance required, and to minimise the potential for ground instability. Approximately 0.125 ha of degraded vegetation will be slashed at BH4 and BH7, and only minimal soil removal is required for the drill hole and installation of sediment and erosion controls (as required). Gravel and/or dura-mats may be utilised to assist with access if required to ensure minimal surface disturbance. Water will be contained in above ground tanks. No excavations are proposed, as in-ground sumps will not be required. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	• Drill pads and access tracks have largely been positioned in areas of existing disturbance and vegetation clearing. • Vegetation removal will be via slasher to minimise soil disturbance. In the small areas where soil disturbance is required, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for use in rehabilitation. • Erosion and sediment controls will be installed as required. • Chemicals and/or other hazardous substances will be managed to minimise the risk of soil contamination. • Upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended in accordance with indsutry Guidelines. • Exploration areas would be rehabilitated and revegetated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure in accordance with the ROCC. • Rehabilitated sites will be inspected to ensure rehabilitation and drill hole sealing has been effective.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Loss of structural integrity of the soil.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been positioned in areas of existing disturbance with only minor vegetation removal required to minimise the amount of soil disturbance required, and to minimise the potential for ground instability. Approximately 0.125 ha of degraded vegetation will be slashed at BH4 and BH7, and only minimal soil removal is required for the drill hole and installation of sediment and erosion controls (as required). Gravel and/or dura-mats may be utilised to assist with access if required to ensure minimal surface disturbance. Water will be contained in above ground tanks. No excavations are proposed, as in-ground sumps will not be required. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	• Drill pads and access tracks have largely been positioned in areas of existing disturbance and vegetation clearing. • Vegetation removal will be via slasher to minimise soil disturbance. In the small areas where soil disturbance is required, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for use in rehabilitation. • Erosion and sediment controls will be installed as required. • Chemicals and/or other hazardous substances will be managed to minimise the risk of soil contamination. • Upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended in accordance with indsutry Guidelines. • Exploration areas would be rehabilitated and revegetated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure in accordance with the ROCC. • Rehabilitated sites will be inspected to ensure rehabilitation and drill hole sealing has been effective.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Increased land instability with high risks from land slides or subsidence.		
Potential impacts	Drill pads and access tracks have been positioned in areas of existing disturbance with only minor vegetation removal required to minimise the amount of soil disturbance required, and to minimise the potential for ground instability. Approximately 0.125 ha of degraded vegetation will be slashed at BH4 and BH7, and only minimal soil removal is required for the drill hole and installation of sediment and erosion controls (as required). Gravel and/or dura-mats may be utilised to assist with access if required to ensure minimal surface disturbance. Water will be contained in above ground tanks. No excavations are proposed, as in-ground sumps will not be required. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	• Drill pads and access tracks have largely been positioned in areas of existing disturbance and vegetation clearing. • Vegetation removal will be via slasher to minimise soil disturbance. In the small areas where soil disturbance is required, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for use in rehabilitation. • Erosion and sediment controls will be installed as required. • Chemicals and/or other hazardous substances will be managed to minimise the risk of soil contamination. • Upon completion of exploration activities, boreholes will be sealed/suspended in accordance with indsutry Guidelines. • Exploration areas would be rehabilitated and revegetated as soon as practically possible to limit areas of surface exposure in accordance with the ROCC. • Rehabilitated sites will be inspected to ensure rehabilitation and drill hole sealing has been effective.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Noise & Vibration Impacts: Results in increased noise or vibration.		
Potential impacts	Minor and short duration noise levels are anticipated from drilling activities. Exploration activities will only take place during between 7:00am and 6:00pm, in accordance with the Interim Construction Noise Guidelines (ICNG 2009). No activities will be undertaken on weekends or public holidays. Consultation will take place between Tahmoor Coal and affected landholders, which will outline notification procedures. The closest privately-owned residence is located approximately 280m east of BH7. Privately-owned residences are are anticipated to experience minor noise impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities. These impacts will be temporary in nature and short-term in duration. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as low adverse.		

Proposed management controls	• exploration activities will be strictly limited to the hours of 7.00 am and 6.00 pm Monday to Friday. Site access for personnel and light vehicles will occur no earlier than 6:30am • no exploration activities will take place on Sundays or public holidays • minimise the use of light vehicles and other noise producing plant when drilling is taking place • minimise the use of other plant and vehicles when backhoes or water carts are operational • turn off plant that is not being used • ensure plant is regularly maintained • locate and orientate noisy plant away from potentially noise-affected residences • potentially noise-affected residences will be contacted at the earliest possible time before any site work begins • contact details will be provided on a site board at the front of the project area, and a complaints register suited to the scale of works will be kept.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Noise & Vibration Impacts: Affects sensitive receptors.		
Potential impacts	Minor and short duration noise levels are anticipated from drilling activities. Exploration activities will only take place during between 7:00am and 6:00pm, in accordance with the Interim Construction Noise Guidelines (ICNG 2009). No activities will be undertaken on weekends or public holidays. Consultation will take place between Tahmoor Coal and affected landholders, which will outline notification procedures. The closest privately-owned residence is located approximately 280m east of BH7. Privately-owned residences are are anticipated to experience minor noise impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities. These impacts will be temporary in nature and short-term in duration. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as low adverse.		
Proposed management controls	• exploration activities will be strictly limited to the hours of 7.00 am and 6.00 pm Monday to Friday. Site access for personnel and light vehicles will occur no earlier than 6:30am • no exploration activities will take place on Sundays or public holidays • minimise the use of light vehicles and other noise producing plant when drilling is taking place • minimise the use of other plant and vehicles when backhoes or water carts are operational • turn off plant that is not being used • ensure plant is regularly maintained • locate and orientate noisy plant away from potentially noise-affected residences • potentially noise-affected residences will be contacted at the earliest possible time before any site work begins • contact details will be provided on a site board at the front of the project area, and a complaints register suited to the scale of works will be kept.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		

Criteria	Coastal Location & Processes: Affects coastal processes and coastal hazards, including those under projected climate change conditions.		
Potential impacts	There are no coastal environments, coastal processes or coastal hazards in the study area.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Hazardous substances or chemicals: Impacts associated with the use, generation, storage or transport of hazardous substances or chemicals.		
Potential impacts	Chemicals, hydrocarbons and hazardous substances which may be utilised during the exploration activities include drill cuttings and fluids from the drilling process, hydrocarbons for minor maintenance of plant and equipment including fuels, oils and lubricants and chemicals required for the drilling and sealing of boreholes, such as bentonite. Following completion of drilling, drill holes will be geophysically logged, utilizing radioactive sources. No radioactive materials will be used during any stage of the proposed exploration program. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	• All exploration workers undertake an induction prior to commencing work which includes chemical and hazardous substance and spill management. • Drill cuttings and fluids would be contained in above-ground tanks. • Hydrocarbons should be stored in accordance with the Australian Standard: The Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids (AS 1940 – 2004). The Standard requires all hydrocarbon storage containers to be bunded, with the volume of the bund equal to 110% of the volume of the largest tank. • Emergency spill kits must be stocked and readily accessible at each drill pad. • All exploration workers are responsible for reporting and containing and cleaning up of any spills. • When the radioactive source is not in use, it must be placed at least 3 m from the logging vehicle and demarcated. • Any radioactive source that is not being used must be securely locked into source containers, the source containers must be fixed or locked onto the vehicle and the vehicle must have appropriate radiation signage.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts to the environment resulting from the generation or disposal of wastes.		

Potential impacts	Due to the short-term and temporary nature of the proposed exploration activities, minor quantities of following have the potential to be generated: • General waste - domestic refuse (litter) generated by onsite personnel. • Human waste - mobile site toilets (sewage). • Maintenance waste - waste generated from site plant and minor vehicle maintenance eg oils, fuels, lubricants and wash down wastewater. • Drilling waste - drill cuttings and fluids generated from the drilling operations. These would be contained in above ground tanks which would be lined sufficiently to prevent leakage. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	• All waste would be classified according to the Waste Classification Guidelines. • Any general inert and solid waste generated should be stored in waste containers located at designated points, and isolated from surface water drains. • At regular intervals, waste to be disposed of offsite will be taken to a waste facility that is licensed under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1995 (POEO Act) to receive waste of that type. • Exploration waste tracking will be undertaken including: solid and inert waste materials; provision of a description of the waste types, physical nature of wastes, proposed treatment, dates of movement, transporters and waste desalination details. • Waste would be managed according to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 and by adopting the Resource Management Hierarchy principles of avoidance, resource recovery and disposal.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on drinking water catchments, wetlands, natural water bodies, riparian zones or flood prone areas.		
Potential impacts	Areas sensitive to waste and emissions impacts are not located in the study area.		
Proposed management controls	• All waste would be classified according to the Waste Classification Guidelines. • Any general inert and solid waste generated should be stored in waste containers located at designated points, and isolated from surface water drains. • At regular intervals, waste to be disposed of offsite will be taken to a waste facility that is licensed under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1995 (POEO Act) to receive waste of that type. • Exploration waste tracking will be undertaken including: solid and inert waste materials; provision of a description of the waste types, physical nature of wastes, proposed treatment, dates of movement, transporters and waste desalination details. • Waste would be managed according to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 and by adopting the Resource Management Hierarchy principles of avoidance, resource recovery and disposal.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on groundwater recharge areas or areas with high water table.		
Potential impacts	Areas sensitive to waste and emissions impacts are not located in the study area.		

Proposed management controls	• All waste would be classified according to the Waste Classification Guidelines. • Any general inert and solid waste generated should be stored in waste containers located at designated points, and isolated from surface water drains. • At regular intervals, waste to be disposed of offsite will be taken to a waste facility that is licensed under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1995 (POEO Act) to receive waste of that type. • Exploration waste tracking will be undertaken including: solid and inert waste materials; provision of a description of the waste types, physical nature of wastes, proposed treatment, dates of movement, transporters and waste desalination details. • Waste would be managed according to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 and by adopting the Resource Management Hierarchy principles of avoidance, resource recovery and disposal.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes and Emissions: Impacts on coastlines or dunes, alpine areas, karst features or other unique landforms.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on erosion prone areas, areas with slopes of greater than 18 degrees.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on subsidence or slip areas.		
Potential impacts	Areas sensitive to waste and emissions impacts are not located in the study area.		

Proposed management controls	• All waste would be classified according to the Waste Classification Guidelines. • Any general inert and solid waste generated should be stored in waste containers located at designated points, and isolated from surface water drains. • At regular intervals, waste to be disposed of offsite will be taken to a waste facility that is licensed under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1995 (POEO Act) to receive waste of that type. • Exploration waste tracking will be undertaken including: solid and inert waste materials; provision of a description of the waste types, physical nature of wastes, proposed treatment, dates of movement, transporters and waste desalination details. • Waste would be managed according to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 and by adopting the Resource Management Hierarchy principles of avoidance, resource recovery and disposal.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on areas with acid sulphate, sodic or highly permeable soils.		
Potential impacts			
Proposed management controls			
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking			
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on areas with salinity or potential salinity problems.		
Potential impacts	Areas sensitive to waste and emissions impacts are not located in the study area.		
Proposed management controls	• All waste would be classified according to the Waste Classification Guidelines. • Any general inert and solid waste generated should be stored in waste containers located at designated points, and isolated from surface water drains. • At regular intervals, waste to be disposed of offsite will be taken to a waste facility that is licensed under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1995 (POEO Act) to receive waste of that type. • Exploration waste tracking will be undertaken including: solid and inert waste materials; provision of a description of the waste types, physical nature of wastes, proposed treatment, dates of movement, transporters and waste desalination details. • Waste would be managed according to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 and by adopting the Resource Management Hierarchy principles of avoidance, resource recovery and disposal.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on areas with degraded or contaminated land.		
Potential impacts	Areas sensitive to waste and emissions impacts are not located in the study area.		
Proposed management controls	• All waste would be classified according to the Waste Classification Guidelines. • Any general inert and solid waste generated should be stored in waste containers located at designated points, and isolated from surface water drains. • At regular intervals, waste to be disposed of offsite will be taken to a waste facility that is licensed under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1995 (POEO Act) to receive waste of that type. • Exploration waste tracking will be undertaken including: solid and inert waste materials; provision of a description of the waste types, physical nature of wastes, proposed treatment, dates of movement, transporters and waste desalination details. • Waste would be managed according to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 and by adopting the Resource Management Hierarchy principles of avoidance, resource recovery and disposal.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on areas with degraded or contaminated water (ground or surface).		
Potential impacts	Areas sensitive to waste and emissions impacts are not located in the study area.		
Proposed management controls	• All waste would be classified according to the Waste Classification Guidelines. • Any general inert and solid waste generated should be stored in waste containers located at designated points, and isolated from surface water drains. • At regular intervals, waste to be disposed of offsite will be taken to a waste facility that is licensed under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1995 (POEO Act) to receive waste of that type. • Exploration waste tracking will be undertaken including: solid and inert waste materials; provision of a description of the waste types, physical nature of wastes, proposed treatment, dates of movement, transporters and waste desalination details. • Waste would be managed according to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 and by adopting the Resource Management Hierarchy principles of avoidance, resource recovery and disposal.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Vegetation: Any clearing or modification of vegetation (including impacts on wildlife corridors, remnant vegetation & habitat for species of conservation significance).		

Potential impacts	A FFIA has been completed for the proposed activity and is provided in attached. Drill pads and access tracks will be slashed of vegetation to ensure safe access and use of the drill pads. Approximately 0.125 ha of vegetation clearing is proposed, associated with BH4 and BH7. No removal of tree canopy, hollow-bearing trees, bushrock or fallen timber is proposed. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined, the impact level of the activity has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	• No clearing of native vegetation is to occur beyond 0.125 ha at BH4 and BH7 • Clear vegetation to the minimum extent necessary and define clearing limits (e.g. with pegs). • Soil disturbance for the borehole sites should be minimised and soil that is disturbed should be replaced according to the natural profile of the soil (i.e. topsoil reinstated) to expedite rehabilitation. • Ensure works vehicles and machinery are clean prior to commencing the work to mitigate against the introduction of weeds. • Ensure all workers and contractors are aware of ecologically sensitive areas and the need to avoid impacts. This includes adjacent native vegetation. Bushfire: • consideration will be given to local fire danger conditions as advised by the RFS. • RFS contact details will be provided to the drilling contractor and Tahmoor supervising staff. • access tracks are currently used as fire trails and maintained by the RFS for fire-fighting activities. Tahmoor Coal will maintain communications with the RFS in the event of a bushfire which requires use of the fire trails. Work would cease in the event of a bushfire. • no fires will be lit by the drilling contractors or supervisory staff. • during the fire season daily safety briefings will have consideration of the bushfire danger (existing or potential) and works will be undertaken accordingly.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Threatened Fauna Species: Any adverse effect on the life cycle of any threatened species such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.		
Potential impacts	A Five Part Test of significance (BC Act) has been conducted for one flora species; the Mittagong Geebung (Persooonia glaucescens), listed as Endangered under the BC Act. The assessment found that the local occurrence of P. glaucescens is unlikely to be significantly affected by the Project as: • No P. glaucescens individuals will be directly or indirectly affected • No trail maintenance or upgrades are required • No important habitat will be affected. The impact level has therefore been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	See FFIA attached; no management / mitigation controls specific to the Mittagong Geebung are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Threatened Flora Species: Any adverse effect on the life cycle of any threatened species such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.		

Potential impacts	A Five Part Test of significance (BC Act) has been conducted for one flora species; the Mittagong Geebung (Persooonia glaucescens), listed as Endangered under the BC Act. The assessment found that the local occurrence of P. glaucescens is unlikely to be significantly affected by the Project as: • No P. glaucescens individuals will be directly or indirectly affected • No trail maintenance or upgrades are required • No important habitat will be affected. The impact level has therefore been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	See FFIA attached; no management / mitigation controls specific to the Mittagong Geebung are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Areas of outstanding biodiversity value/Critical habitat: This includes: a. declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 b. areas declared critical habitat under the Fisheries Management Act 1994.		
Potential impacts	There are no declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value (BC Act 2016), or areas declared as critical habitat (Fisheries Management Act 1994) in the vicinity of the proposed exploration activities. The proposed exploration activities will therefore not result in a direct or indirect impact to areas of biodiversity value, or areas of critical habitat therefore the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community: Whether the activity: □ is likely to have an adverse effect on the extent of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction, or □ is likely to substantially and adversely modify the composition of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.		
Potential impacts	Assessment of significance (EPBC Act) has been conducted for Critically Endangered and Endangered flora, Vulnerable flora, and Threatened fauna. The assessments found that the activity is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the extent of the ecological communities, and unlikely to substantially and adversely modify the composition of the ecological communities. The impact level has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Habitat of a threatened species or ecological community		
Potential impacts	No threatened species or ecological communities were identified at the exploration drill pad sites. The FFIA concluded that the exploration activities are unlikely to have a significant impact to threatened species listed under the BC Act or EPBC Act. The impact level has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Habitat of protected aquatic species or those with conservation status.		
Potential impacts	No threatened species or ecological communities were identified at the exploration drill pad sites. The FFIA concluded that the exploration activities are unlikely to have a significant impact to threatened species listed under the BC Act or EPBC Act. The impact level has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Key Threatening Processes: As outlined in Schedule 4 of Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. Includes: a. alteration, removal, clearly or degradation of habitat and native vegetation b. loss of hollow bearing trees c. removal of dead wood and dead trees d. invasion and establishment of exotic species.		
Potential impacts	The FFIA found that the activity does not have the potential to endanger, displace or disturb fauna, or creat a barrier to their movement.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Barriers to movement of fauna: Any potential to endanger, displace or disturb fauna (including fauna of conservation significance) or create a barrier to their movement.		
Potential impacts	The FFIA found that the activity does not have the potential to endanger, displace or disturb fauna, or creat a barrier to their movement.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Ecological & Biosecurity Impacts: Any threat to the biological diversity or ecological integrity of an ecological community.		
Potential impacts	The FFIA found that the small amount of vegetation clearing (0.125 ha) is in a moderate to degraded condition, and the drill pads will be rehabilitated. Therefore there is no anticipated impact to flora from the clearing of vegetation. The activity would avoid all possible invasive processes to flora by the cleaning of plant and machinery prior to entry to the exploration areas. The exploration activities will not include removal of bushrock, hollow-bearing trees or dead wood and trees which could be used for fauna habitat. No disturbances would result in a permanent impact on habitat. The impact level has therefore been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Ecological & Biosecurity Impacts: Creates a biosecurity risk or introduces genetically modified organisms into an area. Includes impacts from the introduction of: a. mobilisation of pollutants b. animal pests, c. plant pests and diseases, d. animal diseases, e. noxious weeds, or f. genetically modified organisms.		

Potential impacts	The FFIA found that the small amount of vegetation clearing (0.125 ha) is in a moderate to degraded condition, and the drill pads will be rehabilitated. Therefore there is no anticipated impact to flora from the clearing of vegetation. The activity would avoid all possible invasive processes to flora by the cleaning of plant and machinery prior to entry to the exploration areas. The exploration activities will not include removal of bushrock, hollow-bearing trees or dead wood and trees which could be used for fauna habitat. No disturbances would result in a permanent impact on habitat. The impact level has therefore been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Ecological & Biosecurity Impacts: Likely to cause a significant bushfire risk.		
Potential impacts	The FFIA found that the small amount of vegetation clearing (0.125 ha) is in a moderate to degraded condition, and the drill pads will be rehabilitated. Therefore there is no anticipated impact to flora from the clearing of vegetation. The activity would avoid all possible invasive processes to flora by the cleaning of plant and machinery prior to entry to the exploration areas. The exploration activities will not include removal of bushrock, hollow-bearing trees or dead wood and trees which could be used for fauna habitat. No disturbances would result in a permanent impact on habitat. The impact level has therefore been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Community Resources: Any degradation of infrastructure or significant increase in the demand for services and infrastructure resources.		
Potential impacts	Due to the temporary nature and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities, the impact to services and infrastructure resources has been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls			
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		

What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Community Resources: Any diversion of resources to the detriment of other communities or natural systems.		
Potential impacts	Due to the temporary nature and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities, the diversion of resources has been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Mitigation measures for air quality, water, and soils have been outlined in this REF and are included in the Level 1 Agricultural Impact Statement attached to this application. Upon completion of exploration activities, the drill sites will be cleaned with all foreign material including waste removed. Rehabilitation activities will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC including the re-spread of temporarily stockpiled vegetation and soil. The sites will be rehabilitated to their previous land capability classes and inspected at 6 and 12-monthly intervals.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking			
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Natural Resources: Any disruption, depletion or destruction of natural resources.		
Potential impacts	Due to the temporary nature and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities and the proposed rehabilitation of land upon completion of exploration, with the implementation of the mitigation measures proposed, the disruption from the activity to natural resources has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	Mitigation measures for air quality, water, and soils have been outlined in this REF and are included in the Level 1 Agricultural Impact Statement attached to this application. Upon completion of exploration activities, the drill sites will be cleaned with all foreign material including waste removed. Rehabilitation activities will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC including the re-spread of temporarily stockpiled vegetation and soil. The sites will be rehabilitated to their previous land capability classes and inspected at 6 and 12-monthly intervals.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Natural Resources: Any disruption of existing activities which rely on natural resources, including forestry, farming or extractive industries (or reduction of options for future activities).		

Potential impacts	A level 1 AIS has been completed and is attached to this application. The AIS found there would be no impact to farming industries in the vicinity of the activities, and the land is not suitable for farming enterprise. There will be no impact to forestry or extractive industries as a result of the proposed activities. Due to the temporary and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities, the potential to disrupt existing activities, or reduce options for future activities has been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Mitigation measures for air quality, water, and soils have been outlined in this REF and are included in the Level 1 Agricultural Impact Statement attached to this application. Upon completion of exploration activities, the drill sites will be cleaned with all foreign material including waste removed. Rehabilitation activities will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC including the re-spread of temporarily stockpiled vegetation and soil. The sites will be rehabilitated to their previous land capability classes and inspected at 6 and 12-monthly intervals.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Natural Resources: Any use which results in the degradation of any area reserved for conservation purposes.		
Potential impacts	Lot 100//DP751271 is zoned C2, Environmental Conservation under the Wingecarribee LEP. Exploration activities on this parcel of land are limited to a portion of Seismic Line E. As no ground disturbance is required to facilitate this activity, no impact is proposed and there will be no degradation of the land parcel. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Mitigation measures for air quality, water, and soils have been outlined in this REF and are included in the Level 1 Agricultural Impact Statement attached to this application. Upon completion of exploration activities, the drill sites will be cleaned with all foreign material including waste removed. Rehabilitation activities will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC including the re-spread of temporarily stockpiled vegetation and soil. The sites will be rehabilitated to their previous land capability classes and inspected at 6 and 12-monthly intervals.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on National parks and other areas reserved or dedicated or acquired under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Land subject to a 'conservation agreement' under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and/or the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. This includes: a. Biobanking agreement (established under the now repealed Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995) or a Biodiversity Stewardship agreement established under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. b. Wildlife Refuge agreement established under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. c. Existing conservation agreements that continue to have effect even where legislation has been repealed: Trust agreements under the now repealed Nature Conservation Trust Act 2001 Property vegetation plans made under the now-repealed Native Vegetation Act 2003 Registered property agreements under the repealed Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on aquatic reserves or marine parks declared under the Marine Estate Management Act 2014. Impacts on Coastal Zone as defined in the Coastal Management Act 2016.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Fishing grounds and commercial fish breeding or nursery areas.		
Potential impacts	Lot 100//DP751271 is zoned C2, Environmental Conservation under the Wingecarribee LEP. Exploration activities on this parcel of land are limited to a portion of Seismic Line E. As no ground disturbance is required to facilitate this activity, no impact is proposed and there will be no degradation of the land parcel. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Mitigation measures for air quality, water, and soils have been outlined in this REF and are included in the Level 1 Agricultural Impact Statement attached to this application. Upon completion of exploration activities, the drill sites will be cleaned with all foreign material including waste removed. Rehabilitation activities will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC including the re-spread of temporarily stockpiled vegetation and soil. The sites will be rehabilitated to their previous land capability classes and inspected at 6 and 12-monthly intervals.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		

Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on other sensitive lands including: a. Land within a state forest set aside under the Forestry Act 2012 for conservation values. This includes flora reserves and special management (and other) zones. b. Drinking water catchment protection areas - land declared to be a 'controlled area' or a 'special area' under the Water NSW Act 2014, or a 'special area' under the Water Management Act 2000 or Hunter Water Act 1991. c. Waterfront land as defined under the Water Management Act 2000.		
Potential impacts	Lot 100//DP751271 is zoned C2, Environmental Conservation under the Wingecarribee LEP. Exploration activities on this parcel of land are limited to a portion of Seismic Line E. As no ground disturbance is required to facilitate this activity, no impact is proposed and there will be no degradation of the land parcel. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Mitigation measures for air quality, water, and soils have been outlined in this REF and are included in the Level 1 Agricultural Impact Statement attached to this application. Upon completion of exploration activities, the drill sites will be cleaned with all foreign material including waste removed. Rehabilitation activities will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC including the re-spread of temporarily stockpiled vegetation and soil. The sites will be rehabilitated to their previous land capability classes and inspected at 6 and 12-monthly intervals.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on land reserved or dedicated within the meaning of the Crown Lands Act 1989/Crown Lands Management Act 2016 for preservation of the environment or other environmental protection purposes.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		

Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on land identified as wilderness or declared a wilderness area under the Wilderness Act 1987.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Lands: Impacts on wetlands of international significance designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and those designated as a nationally important wetland in the Directory of Important Wetlands of Australia.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on land identified in an environmental planning instrument as being of biodiversity / conservation significance or zoned for environmental conservation, protection and/or management. Includes Coastal Wetlands and Littoral rainforests under State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on Aboriginal heritage protection areas: a. Aboriginal places and objects under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 b. Areas of Aboriginal cultural significance identified in an environmental planning instrument.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		

Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on heritage protection areas (historic or natural): a. Nationally and internationally recognised heritage sites or areas (World Heritage List, National Heritage List of Commonwealth Heritage List) b. Items listed on State Heritage c. Heritage items and conservation areas identified in an environmental planning instrument		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on community land classified under the Local Government Act 1993 (for which a plan of management has been prepared).		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on bushfire prone areas.		
Potential impacts	Lot 100//DP751271 is zoned C2, Environmental Conservation under the Wingecarribee LEP. Exploration activities on this parcel of land are limited to a portion of Seismic Line E. As no ground disturbance is required to facilitate this activity, no impact is proposed and there will be no degradation of the land parcel. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Mitigation measures for air quality, water, and soils have been outlined in this REF and are included in the Level 1 Agricultural Impact Statement attached to this application. Upon completion of exploration activities, the drill sites will be cleaned with all foreign material including waste removed. Rehabilitation activities will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC including the re-spread of temporarily stockpiled vegetation and soil. The sites will be rehabilitated to their previous land capability classes and inspected at 6 and 12-monthly intervals.		

Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Any impacts which result in a change in the demographic structure of the community, including changes to workforce or industry structure of the area/region. Including change in demand for community resources (eg community facilities, community services and labour force).		
Potential impacts	The activity is not likely to cause a change to the demographic structure of the community. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Air quality, noise and vibration mitigation measures, including consultation with sensitive receivers, is outlined in this REF. No mitigation measures in addition to those already stated are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Any environmental impact that may cause substantial change or disruption to the community (including loss of facilities or loss of community identity).		
Potential impacts	The activity is not likely to have an environmental impact that may cause substantial change or disruption to the community. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Air quality, noise and vibration mitigation measures, including consultation with sensitive receivers, is outlined in this REF. No mitigation measures in addition to those already stated are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Any impacts which result in some individuals or communities being significantly disadvantaged (e.g. change to community facilities, services or labour force).		
Potential impacts	Due to the temporary nature and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities the activity is not likely to change demand for community resources, and will not result in individuals or communities being significantly disadvantaged. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		

Proposed management controls	Air quality, noise and vibration mitigation measures, including consultation with sensitive receivers, is outlined in this REF. No mitigation measures in addition to those already stated are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Any impacts on the health, safety, privacy or welfare of individuals or communities caused by factors such as pollution, odour, noise, vibration, lighting, visual impacts, etc).		
Potential impacts	The activity is not likely to result in any significant impacts to the health, safety, privacy or welfare of individuals or communities. With the implementation of mitigation measures outlined in this REF, any temporary and short-term minor impacts to air quality, noise and vibration will minimised such that they will not impact the health, safety, privacy or welfare of individuals or communities. The impact has therefore been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	Air quality, noise and vibration mitigation measures, including consultation with sensitive receivers, is outlined in this REF. No mitigation measures in addition to those already stated are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Effect on a locality, place or building having aesthetic, anthropological, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific or social significance or other special value for present or future generations?		
Potential impacts	The activity is not likely to cause impacts on localities, places or buildings having aesthetic, anthropological, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific or social significance or other special value for present or future generations. There are no known places or items of these values located within the vicinity of the exploration activities. The impact level has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Air quality, noise and vibration mitigation measures, including consultation with sensitive receivers, is outlined in this REF. No mitigation measures in addition to those already stated are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	

Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Impacts on communities with strong sense of identity.		
Potential impacts	The activity is not likely to have an environmental impact that may cause substantial change or disruption to the community. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Air quality, noise and vibration mitigation measures, including consultation with sensitive receivers, is outlined in this REF. No mitigation measures in addition to those already stated are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Impacts on disadvantaged communities.		
Potential impacts	The activity is not likely to have an environmental impact that may cause substantial change or disruption to the community. The impact has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	Air quality, noise and vibration mitigation measures, including consultation with sensitive receivers, is outlined in this REF. No mitigation measures in addition to those already stated are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Economic Impacts: Any impacts which may affect economic activity (positive or negative), including a decrease to net economic welfare.		
Potential impacts	The activity is likely to provide a minor and short-term positive stimulus to the local economy. Contractors will supply labour for the drilling program for the duration of the works. Due to the small scale of works, there is no anticipated decrease in the economic stability of the community, or any change to public sector revenue or expenditure base. The impact level has therefore been assessed as positive.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as positive.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking			
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	

Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Economic Impacts: Any impacts that result in a decrease in the economic stability of the community.		
Potential impacts	The activity is likely to provide a minor and short-term positive stimulus to the local economy. Contractors will supply labour for the drilling program for the duration of the works. Due to the small scale of works, there is no anticipated decrease in the economic stability of the community, or any change to public sector revenue or expenditure base. The impact level has therefore been assessed as positive.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as positive.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking			
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Economic Impacts: Any impacts which result in a change to the public sector revenue or expenditure base.		
Potential impacts	The activity is likely to provide a minor and short-term positive stimulus to the local economy. Contractors will supply labour for the drilling program for the duration of the works. Due to the small scale of works, there is no anticipated decrease in the economic stability of the community, or any change to public sector revenue or expenditure base. The impact level has therefore been assessed as positive.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as positive.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking			
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Heritage Impacts: Any impacts on a locality, place, landscape, building or archaeological relic of heritage significance.		
Potential impacts	The activity is not likely to cause impacts on localities, places, landscapes, buildings or archaeological relics of heritage significance. There are no known places heritage places or items (Aboriginal or historic) located within the vicinity of the exploration activities (see AHDDA attached). The impact level has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low

Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Aesthetic Impacts: Any impacts on the visual or scenic landscape, including lighting, venting or flaring of gas.		
Potential impacts	No venting or flaring of gas is proposed as part of the exploration activities. The proposed activities are located in rugged bushland which naturally screen the activities. Due to the temporary and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities, natural visual screening, and rehabilitation of all drill pads following completion of drilling activities, the aesthetic impact to the local landscape has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	Rehabilitation of the drill pads will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC and inspected at 6 and 12 monthly intervals, following the completion of exploration activities.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Aesthetic Impacts: Areas or items of high aesthetic or scenic value.		
Potential impacts	No venting or flaring of gas is proposed as part of the exploration activities. The proposed activities are located in rugged bushland which naturally screen the activities. Due to the temporary and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities, natural visual screening, and rehabilitation of all drill pads following completion of drilling activities, the aesthetic impact to the local landscape has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	Rehabilitation of the drill pads will be conducted in accordance with the ROCC and inspected at 6 and 12 monthly intervals, following the completion of exploration activities.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Any disturbance of the ground surface or any culturally modified trees (e.g. a scar tree).		
Potential impacts	The Aboriginal heritage due diligence assessment (AHDDA, attached) concluded that the proposed works will have a minor impact on the ground surface, however no Aboriginal objects, including culturally modified trees or intact archaeological deposits will be harmed by the activities.		
Proposed management controls	The mitigation measures outlined in the AHDDA will be adopted for the proposed exploration activity. • All ground disturbance activities must be confined to within the assessed area. • In the event that unexpected Aboriginal objects, sites or places (or potential Aboriginal objects, site or places) are discovered during exploration activities, all works in the vicinity must cease and the proponent should determine the subsequent course of action in consultation with a heritage professional and/or the relevant State government agency as appropriate.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		

What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Any impacts on known Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places.		
Potential impacts	An AHDDA (attached) was completed for the exploration activities and a field survey conducted. No Aboriginal objects were identified in the survey and no AHIMs sites are registered proximate to the exploration activities. The AHDDA concluded that the activity will not harm any known Aboriginal places. With the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined, the impact has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	The mitigation measures outlined in the AHDDA will be adopted for the proposed exploration activity. • All ground disturbance activities must be confined to within the assessed area. • In the event that unexpected Aboriginal objects, sites or places (or potential Aboriginal objects, site or places) are discovered during exploration activities, all works in the vicinity must cease and the proponent should determine the subsequent course of action in consultation with a heritage professional and/or the relevant State government agency as appropriate.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Affects areas where the landscape features indicate the likely presence of Aboriginal objects.		
Potential impacts	Landscape features which may indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects include water courses, areas of outcropping bedrock and ridgelines. Whilst these landscape features are present proximate to the study area, the field survey did not identify any Aboriginal objects within the proposed drill pads. With the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined, the impact has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	The mitigation measures outlined in the AHDDA will be adopted for the proposed exploration activity. • All ground disturbance activities must be confined to within the assessed area. • In the event that unexpected Aboriginal objects, sites or places (or potential Aboriginal objects, site or places) are discovered during exploration activities, all works in the vicinity must cease and the proponent should determine the subsequent course of action in consultation with a heritage professional and/or the relevant State government agency as appropriate.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	

Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Affects areas subject to native title claims, indigenous land use agreements or joint management arrangements.		
Potential impacts	The activity is not located on areas subject to native title claims, indigenous land use agreements or joint management agreements. The impact level has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	The mitigation measures outlined in the AHDDA will be adopted for the proposed exploration activity. • All ground disturbance activities must be confined to within the assessed area. • In the event that unexpected Aboriginal objects, sites or places (or potential Aboriginal objects, site or places) are discovered during exploration activities, all works in the vicinity must cease and the proponent should determine the subsequent course of action in consultation with a heritage professional and/or the relevant State government agency as appropriate.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Impacts on Aboriginal communities or areas subject to land rights claims.		
Potential impacts	An AHDDA (attached) was completed for the exploration activities and a field survey conducted. No Aboriginal objects were identified in the survey and no AHIMs sites are registered proximate to the exploration activities. The AHDDA concluded that the activity will not harm any known Aboriginal places. With the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined, the impact has been assessed as negligible.		
Proposed management controls	The mitigation measures outlined in the AHDDA will be adopted for the proposed exploration activity. • All ground disturbance activities must be confined to within the assessed area. • In the event that unexpected Aboriginal objects, sites or places (or potential Aboriginal objects, site or places) are discovered during exploration activities, all works in the vicinity must cease and the proponent should determine the subsequent course of action in consultation with a heritage professional and/or the relevant State government agency as appropriate.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Impacts on areas or items of high anthropological, archaeological, architectural, cultural, heritage, historical, recreational or scientific value.		
Potential impacts	The Aboriginal heritage due diligence assessment (AHDDA, attached) concluded that the proposed works will have a minor impact on the ground surface, however no Aboriginal objects, including culturally modified trees or intact archaeological deposits will be harmed by the activities.		
Proposed management controls	The mitigation measures outlined in the AHDDA will be adopted for the proposed exploration activity. • All ground disturbance activities must be confined to within the assessed area. • In the event that unexpected Aboriginal objects, sites or places (or potential Aboriginal objects, site or places) are discovered during exploration activities, all works in the vicinity must cease and the proponent should determine the subsequent course of action in consultation with a heritage professional and/or the relevant State government agency as appropriate.		

Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Land Use Impacts: Any major changes in land use, including curtailment of other beneficial land uses.		
Potential impacts	There are no major changes to existing land uses including any curtailment of other beneficial land use proposed as a result of the proposed exploration activities. The land is not suitable for other beneficial land uses. The impact level has therefore been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Transportation Impacts: Substantial impacts on existing transportation systems (road, rail, pedestrian) which alter present patterns of circulation or movement.		
Potential impacts	Due to the temporary nature and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities, and the minimal additional vehicle movements required to support the program, there are no significant impacts to transportation predicted, therefore the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Transportation Impacts: Impacts associated with direct or indirect additional traffic.		
Potential impacts	Due to the temporary nature and short-term duration of the proposed exploration drilling activities, and the minimal additional vehicle movements required to support the program, there are no significant impacts to transportation predicted, therefore the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		

Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Consistency with applicable local strategic planning statements, regional strategic plans or district strategic plans.		
Potential impacts	Strategic Statement on Coal Exploration and Mining In June 2020, the NSW Government released the Strategic Statement on Coal Exploration and Mining in NSW (Strategic Statement). The key objective of the Strategic Statement is to provide greater certainty to explorers, investors, industry stakeholders and communities about the future of coal mining in the state to 2050. The statement recognises the significance of coal to NSW, indicating that the industry provides over 22,000 direct jobs and around 89,000 indirect jobs. In 2018–2019, royalties from coal generated around $2 billion in government revenue. The proposed activity will enable Tahmoor Coal to determine suitably of coal resource for potential future expansions of the coal mine and support ongoing employment in the region. Illawarra-Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041 The Illawarra-Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041 (Regional Plan) applies to the Wollongong, Kiama, Shellharbour and Shoalhaven LGAs. The Regional Plan 2041 provides the strategic directions for planning and growth of the region. The Project is located within the area covered by the Regional Plan. The Regional Plan recognises that mining is a key contributor to the economy of the region, stating that the region lies partly within the Southern Coalfield that provides the only hard coking coal in NSW and is in high demand for steel production around the world. Further, it states that as the region grows, the continued extraction of resource lands should remain a priority. The Regional Plan makes it clear that the NSW Government considers the important role the coal industry continues to play in the region and supports its continuation. The proposed activity aligns with the strategic direction of the Regional Plan. Wollondilly 2040 Wollondilly 2040 is Wollondilly Council's local strategic planning statement (LSPS). It details the land use planning vision for Wollondilly LGA over the next 20 years. It recognises that there are significant mineral resources in the LGA and that primary industries are essential to the area's economy. The LSPS states that "Bargo is constrained by the need to protect State significant mineral resources and is unsuitable for expansion and further intensification until mining activity is complete". The proposed activity does not impact the growth and future expansion within the Wollondilly LGA.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as positive.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Matters of National Environmental Significance: Impacts on MNES under the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999:		

Potential impacts	A Flora and Fauna Impact Assessment was completed for the proposed exploration program (attached to this APO application), which found the activities will not impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES). The FFIA considered the MNES; 'listed threatened species and communities' and found no mapped or existing Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) listed under the EPBC Act within the exploration area.		
Proposed management controls	See FFIA attached; no management / mitigation controls specific to the Mittagong Geebung are required.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cumulative Impacts: Cumulative environmental effects with other existing or likely future activities.		
Potential impacts	There are no activities or projects from the past, present or proposed activities or projects located in the vicinity of the proposed exploration drilling activities, and therefore no cumulative environmental effects associated with the activity. Therefore the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Proposed management controls	No management/mitigation controls are proposed as the impact level has been assessed as not applicable.		
Duration	The proposed exploration activities are anticipated to take approximately 8 to 12 months to complete (29 to 52 weeks), dependent on weather and geological conditions.		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		

FORM: Brief NonCEA (v3.4)