

RECORD OF SITE INSPECTION

SITE INSPECTION NOTES		
Project:	Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project (SSD 10418)	
Meeting Location:	The Project Site and surrounding area	
Date:	Tuesday, 12 July 2022	
Time:	11:00am	
ATTENDEES		
Commissioner:	Prof Chris Fell AO	
Office of the IPC:	Brad James Phoebe Jarvis	Principal Case Manager Senior Planner
Applicant:	Chris Lauritzen Paul O'Loughlin Peter York Stirling Bartlam	GM Resource Development Manager Technical Services Environment & Community Superintendent – Thiess Resource Strategies
Community Group Representatives:	Tony O'Driscoll Wendy Wales	Newgate Operations Pty Ltd Denman Aberdeen Muswellbrook Scone Healthy Environment Group

SITE INSPECTION LOCATIONS AND KEY OBSERVATIONS

1) Mine Infrastructure Area

The Site Inspection commenced with an opening statement from Prof Fell. The Commission viewed the existing Mine Infrastructure Area. Bengalla waste emplacement area was visible to the south from this location. The train loadout area was also visible.

2) Northern Mining Area

The Commission viewed the eastern emplacement area from the Northern Mining area. Blasting operations had been undertaken since the previous site inspection. The Commission observed coal seams in the western pit face.

3) Eastern Emplacement Area - North East

The Commission observed areas under rehabilitation at the eastern emplacement. Muswellbrook was visible to the east and the Commission observed the Hunter River flats to the east. The Applicant reiterated that the landform had been designed using geofluvial principles and had undergone testing via SIBERIA Software. The Applicant also reiterated that it was committed to resolving any radio and broadcast issues caused by the eastern emplacement works.

4) Fines Emplacement Area

The Commission observed the Fines Emplacement Area in the west of the Project Site. The Commission observed the secondary flocculation plant. The Tiger Orchid was visible on the southern side of the access road to the Fines Emplacement Area.

5) Eastern Emplacement, Kayuga and Castlerock Road

For safety reasons, the Commission was not able to access Location 4 visited by the Panel at the Site Inspection on 23 June 2022 due to the recent wet weather. The Commission viewed the Eastern Emplacement Area from the south east along Wybong Road. Rail infrastructure was visible to the north along Wybong Road.

The Commission viewed the Hunter River Floodplains to the east of the Project Site. The Commission viewed the EPA monitoring station, the location of Rosebrook Heritage Item, the Northern Link Road options, the proposed relinquishment area, remnant houses in Kayuga. The Commission observed the Cowtime Dairy property and the interface with the Project Site. The Site Inspection concluded at the Mine Infrastructure Area.



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LOCALITY TOUR LOCATIONS AND KEY OBSERVATIONS

After the Site Inspection the Commission undertook a separate Locality Tour. Locations and key observations are set out below.

6) Aberdeen

The Commission observed the Project Site from Graeme Street, Aberdeen. The Commission referred to Figures 6.2 – 6.5 in the Applicant's Visual and Landscape Assessment (Appendix M). These figures set out the existing view from this location and provided photomontages of the landform at year 2034, 2041 and the Final Landform at the end of mine life.

7) Muswellbrook - Hill Street

The Commission observed the Project Site from Hill Street, Muswellbrook. The Commission referred to Figures 6.22 – 6.25 in the Applicant's Visual and Landscape Assessment.

8) Muswellbrook - St Heliers Street and Sowerby Street

The Commission observed the Project Site from the St Heliers Street and Sowerby Street intersection, Muswellbrook. The Commission referred to Figures 6.14 - 6.17 in the Applicant's Visual and Landscape Assessment.

SITE INSPECTION AND LOCALITY TOUR MAP

