Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy

Title of Proposal - Grasstree Extension Project

Section 1 - Summary of your proposed action

Provide a summary of your proposed action, including any consultations undertaken.

1.1 Project Industry Type

Mining

1.2 Provide a detailed description of the proposed action, including all proposed activities.

A detailed description of the Grasstree Extension Project (the project) is provided in Section 2 of the attached EPBC Environmental Assessment Report (EAR). Below is a summary of the key aspects of the project.

Anglo Coal (Capcoal Management) Pty Ltd is proposing to develop the project, which involves extending the Grasstree Longwall Mine into a new mining area within the existing German Creek mining complex.

The northern boundary of the German Creek mining complex is located approximately 8 km south-west of Middlemount in Central Queensland (Figure 2-1). The mining complex has been operating for over 35 years. The German Creek mining complex comprises a number of historical, current and approved open cut and underground mining areas, across several mining leases (Figure 2-1). The approved Grasstree Mine is in the southern part of the German Creek mining complex (Figure 2-1).

The project involves mining in five new longwall panels (Figure 2-2). Coal from the project longwall panels will be extracted using the same mining equipment and method currently used at Grasstree Mine. Mining in the project longwall panels will commence once longwall mining in the approved Grasstree mining area has been completed. The project will extend the life of Grasstree Mine by approximately three years. The project will provide access to approximately 22 Million tonnes (Mt) of high quality coking coal. The project will not increase the peak Grasstree Mine production rate.

The project will use the existing Grasstree Mine and German Creek mining complex infrastructure, with no upgrades of any existing infrastructure required for the project. New surface infrastructure for the project will be limited to infrastructure for gas drainage activities, underground access boreholes and minor surface infrastructure associated with underground mining.

1.3 What is the extent and location of your proposed action? Use the polygon tool on the map below to mark the location of your proposed action.

Area	Point	Latitude	Longitude
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	1	-22.939519879875	148.61289457539
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	2	-22.939519879875	148.61272291401
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	3	-22.967656234657	148.62233595112
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	4	-22.971449452688	148.61529783466
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	5	-23.002897450431	148.62645582417
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	6	-23.004477558566	148.61993269184
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	7	-22.997366926277	148.6164994643
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	8	-22.998315032225	148.61358122089
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	9	-22.975242564274	148.6053414748
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	10	-22.971291404062	148.61358122089
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	11	-22.941733063597	148.600878279
Grasstree Extension Project Mining Area	12	-22.939519879875	148.61289457539

1.5 Provide a brief physical description of the property on which the proposed action will take place and the location of the proposed action (e.g. proximity to major towns, or for off-shore actions, shortest distance to mainland).

Section 2.4 of the attached EPBC Act EAR provides a detailed description of the project area and surrounding area. A summary is provided below.

The project longwall mining area is within Isaac Regional Council Local Government Area (Figure 2-5).

The northern boundary of the German Creek mining complex is located approximately 8 km south-west of Middlemount, in close proximity to a number of existing coal mines and mining projects including Lake Lindsay, Foxleigh Mine, Oaky Creek Mine, Norwich Park and Middlemount Mine (Figure 2-5).

The project longwall mining area is located within the southern portion of the German Creek mining complex mining lease (ML) 1831 and consequently coal mining and associated gas drainage is the primary land use within the vicinity of the project longwall mining area. The eastern edge of the project longwall panels are located in areas that have been disturbed by previous seismic activities. Cattle grazing is also periodically undertaken within the project longwall mining area, although the cattle will be removed prior to mining in the project area.

There is a covenant over land to the south of the project longwall mining area for the German Creek Nature Refuge (Property No. 4 on Figure 2-6). The covenant approval states that longwall mining is a permissible land use in the nature refuge and parts of the nature refuge have been previously subsided by approved longwall operations.

Topography in the vicinity of the project longwall mining area is gently undulating with a gradual rise towards a low hill in the north of the longwall mining area and a low knoll in the south of the longwall mining area. Ground surface elevations range from 155 m Australian Height Datum (AHD) in the south-western part of the longwall mining area to 185 m AHD in the north and south of the longwall mining area (Figure 2-7).

The local topography in the vicinity of the project mining area transitions from an elevated desiccated plateau in the north to lower lying sandy plains in the south, east and west. The elevated terrain in the north of the project mining area forms a subtle ridgeline that represents the local catchment boundary of German Creek and Little Parrot Creek. The entire project mining area and the majority of the approved Grasstree mining area are located within these two local catchments.

The project longwall mining area includes areas previously cleared for grazing and seismic activities, and areas of remnant vegetation. The remnant vegetation comprises woodland to open forest communities interspersed with areas of Brigalow shrubby woodland.

1.6 What is the size of the proposed action area development footprint (or work area) including disturbance footprint and avoidance footprint (if relevant)?

The total project disturbance footprint is approximately 212 ha which includes remnant and non-remnant vegetation.

1.7 Is the proposed action a street address or lot?

Lot

1.7.2 Describe the lot number and title. Lot 9 TT442 and Lot 2 SP184275

1.8 Primary Jurisdiction.

Queensland

1.9 Has the person proposing to take the action received any Australian Government grant funding to undertake this project?

No

1.10 Is the proposed action subject to local government planning approval?

No

1.11 Provide an estimated start and estimated end date for the proposed action.

Start date 01/2019

End date 10/2022

1.12 Provide details of the context, planning framework and State and/or Local government requirements.

As described in Section 1.2 of the attached EPBC Act EAR, the German Creek mining complex's existing EA prescribes the approved Grasstree mining area (Figure 2-2). The project mining area is beyond this approved mining area and consequently an EA amendment application has been lodged for the project with the Queensland Department of the Environment and Science (DES). Preliminary advice from the DES is that the assessment level decision for the project under Section 228 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act) will determine that a major EA amendment will be required for the project. The DES has also provided preliminary advice indicating that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required for the project.

1.13 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken, including with Indigenous stakeholders.

As part of the preliminary planning process, a pre-lodgement meeting was held with the DES in Brisbane on 13 December 2017. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of the

project and seek feedback on the likely approval process required for the project. The DES's feedback from the meeting was that the project was likely to be a major EA amendment and that an EIS was not likely to be required.

The Commonwealth *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984* provides protection for Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Commonwealth EPBC Act establishes the Commonwealth Heritage List and the National Heritage List and prescribes criteria for entry on each of these lists. Within the project area, there have been no declarations made in relation to Aboriginal heritage under Commonwealth legislation, and there are no sites listed on Commonwealth heritage lists.

The Queensland *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* (ACH Act) provides for recognition, protection and conservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Barada Kabalbara Yetimarala People are the relevant Aboriginal party for the project in accordance with the ACH Act. Anglo Capcoal Management Pty Ltd executed a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) with the Barada Kabalbara Yetimarala People on 16 October 2015 for all tenements controlled by Capcoal within their claim area, including the area covered by the project area. The CHMP was approved under Section 107 of the ACH Act by the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships on 14 December 2015. Aboriginal cultural heritage on the Grasstree Mine is managed and protected in accordance with the ACH Act, and the October 2015 CHMP.

Any Aboriginal cultural heritage issues for the project and artefacts of significance will be managed in accordance with the CHMP and in consultation with the Barada Kabalbara Yetimarala People, as required by the CHMP.

1.14 Describe any environmental impact assessments that have been or will be carried out under Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation including relevant impacts of the project.

The attached EPBC Act EAR has been prepared in support of the EPBC Act referral for the project, and focuses specifically on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES). In particular, the attached EPBC Act EAR focuses on potential impacts on water resources, threatened species and communities, and migratory species.

As stated in response to Question 1.12, an EA amendment application has been lodged for the project with the DES. The EAR prepared for the EA amendment application includes an assessment of the full range of environmental issues regulated under the EP Act, including issues such as residential amenity and waste management.

1.15 Is this action part of a staged development (or a component of a larger project)?

No

1.16 Is the proposed action related to other actions or proposals in the region?

No

Section 2 - Matters of National Environmental Significance

Describe the affected area and the likely impacts of the proposal, emphasising the relevant matters protected by the EPBC Act. Refer to relevant maps as appropriate. The interactive map tool can help determine whether matters of national environmental significance or other matters protected by the EPBC Act are likely to occur in your area of interest. Consideration of likely impacts should include both direct and indirect impacts.

Your assessment of likely impacts should consider whether a bioregional plan is relevant to your proposal. The following resources can assist you in your assessment of likely impacts:

• Profiles of relevant species/communities (where available), that will assist in the identification of whether there is likely to be a significant impact on them if the proposal proceeds;

• Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance;

• Significant Impact Guideline 1.2 – Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land and Actions by Commonwealth Agencies.

2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have ANY direct or indirect impact on the values of any World Heritage properties?

No

2.2 Is the proposed action likely to have ANY direct or indirect impact on the values of any National Heritage places?

No

2.3 Is the proposed action likely to have ANY direct or indirect impact on the ecological character of a Ramsar wetland?

No

2.4 Is the proposed action likely to have ANY direct or indirect impact on the members of any listed species or any threatened ecological community, or their habitat?

Yes

2.4.1 Impact table

Species	Impact
Brigalow Threatened Ecological Community	Clearing of 8 ha of Brigalow TEC. Not a

Species	Impact
(TEC)	significant impact (Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report of the attached EPBC Act EAR).
Koala habitat	Clearing of 164 ha of Koala habitat. Significant Impact (Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report of the attached EPBC Act EAR).
Greater Glider habitat	Clearing of 2.7 ha of Greater Glider habitat. Not a significant impact (Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report of the attached EPBC Act EAR).
Grey-headed Flying-fox habitat	Cleraing of 2.7 ha of Grey-headed Flying-fox habitat. Not a significant impact (Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report of the attached EPBC Act EAR).
Squatter Pigeon (Southern) habitat	Clearing of 2.1 ha of Squatter Pigeon (Southern) habitat. Not a significant impact (Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report of the attached EPBC Act EAR).

2.4.2 Do you consider this impact to be significant?

Yes

2.5 Is the proposed action likely to have ANY direct or indirect impact on the members of any listed migratory species, or their habitat?

Yes

2.5.1 Impact table

Species	Impact
White-throated Needletail	Clearing of 169 ha. Not a significant impact (Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report of the attached EPBC Act EAR).
Fork-tailed Swift	Clearing of 169 ha. Not a significant impact (Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report of the attached EPBC Act EAR).

2.5.2 Do you consider this impact to be significant?

No

2.6 Is the proposed action to be undertaken in a marine environment (outside Commonwealth marine areas)?

No

2.7 Is the proposed action to be taken on or near Commonwealth land?

No

2.8 Is the proposed action taking place in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?

No

2.9 Is the proposed action likely to have ANY direct or indirect impact on a water resource related to coal/gas/mining?

No

2.10 Is the proposed action a nuclear action?

No

2.11 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth agency?

No

2.12 Is the proposed action to be undertaken in a Commonwealth Heritage Place Overseas?

No

2.13 Is the proposed action likely to have ANY direct or indirect impact on a water resource related to coal/gas/mining?

No

Section 3 - Description of the project area

Provide a description of the project area and the affected area, including information about the following features (where relevant to the project area and/or affected area, and to the extent not otherwise addressed in Section 2).

3.1 Describe the flora and fauna relevant to the project area.

The flora and fauna relevant to the project area are described in detail in Section 7 – MNES Ecology, Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report and Appendix F – Aquatic Ecology Report of the EPBC Act EAR attached in response to question 2.14. A summary of the key flora and fauna relevant to the project area are described below.

The terrestrical ecology survey area can be divided into six broad vegetation types comprising Bull Oak woodlands, Brigalow woodland, lateritic jump up communities, riparian vegetation, Micromyrtus shrubland, and Eucalypt woodlands (Figure 7-3). The survey area also contains areas that have been entirely cleared of vegetation, and which do not provide any significant habitat values. Overall, the fauna habitat throughout the terrestiral ecology survey area is typically in moderate condition. The aerial photograph in Figure 7-1 shows the extent of existing disturbance within the survey area. The survey area is not considered to be of particular importance for values such as high biodiversity, important feeding areas, high endemism, unusual fauna assemblages, or unique habitat types or assemblages.

Dual season field surveys confirmed the Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla* dominant and co-dominant) TEC (listed as Endangered) occurs within the survey area. Figure 7-4 shows the distribution of the Brigalow TEC in the survey area.

The field surveys did not record any threatened EPBC Act listed flora species in the survey area.

The field surveys recorded the Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) (listed as Vulnerable) and Greater Glider (*Petauroides volans*) (listed as Vulnerable) within the survey area. Koala habitat and Greater Glider habitat are shown on Figure 7-5 and figure 7-6, respectively.

An assessment was undertaken of the likelihood of other EPBC Act listed flora and fauna species to occur within the survey area. The assessment was based on the species' known ranges and habitat preferences, which were evaluated against the survey area characteristics. The assessment concluded that the following three additional threatened species had a high or moderate potential of occurring within the survey area:

- Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) (listed as Vulnerable);

- Squatter Pigeon (Southern) (*Geophaps scripta scripta*) (listed as Vulnerable); and

- Ornamental Snake (*Denisonia maculata*) (listed as Vulnerable).

Habitat maps for these species are shown in Figure 7-6, Figure 7-7 and Figure 7-8, respectively.

3.2 Describe the hydrology relevant to the project area (including water flows).

Regional Catchment Setting

The project longwall mining area is located in the Mackenzie River sub-basin, a sub-catchment of the Fitzroy Basin (Figure 6-1). The Mackenzie River sub-basin covers an area of approximately 22,000 km2. The dominant land uses within the Mackenzie River sub-basin include cattle grazing and coal mining. Coal mines in proximity to the project longwall mining area are shown on Figure 2-5 and include the approved Grasstree mining area adjoining the project longwall mining area to the west, the German Creek mining complex, Oaky Creek Mine, Norwich Park Mine, Middlemount Mine, Lake Lindsay Mine and Foxleigh Mine.

The Mackenzie River is a regionally significant watercourse located approximately 55 km downstream of the project longwall mining area (Figure 6-1). The Mackenzie River (and its tributaries) exhibit highly ephemeral, short duration, surface water flows that are typically restricted to the wet season (i.e. November to April). Surface water flows in the catchment exhibit naturally elevated suspended sediment loads resulting in extensive sediment deposition.

Local Catchment and Drainage Setting

The local topography in the vicinity of the project mining area transitions from an elevated desiccated plateau in the north to lower lying sandy plains in the south, east and west. The elevated terrain in the north of the project mining area forms a subtle ridgeline that represents the local catchment boundary of German Creek and Little Parrot Creek (Figure 6-2). The entire

project mining area and the majority of the approved Grasstree mining area are located within these two local catchments (Figure 6-2).

The German Creek and Little Parrot Creek catchments extend approximately 30 km and 10 km upstream of the project mining area, respectively (Figure 6-2). The combined area of these sub-catchments to the downstream limit of the project mining area constitutes approximately 0.5% of the Mackenzie River sub-basin catchment area. The predominant land uses within the German Creek and Little Parrot Creek catchments are cattle grazing and coal mining. German Creek has previously been diverted within the German Creek mining complex to accommodate approved open cut mining. Water infrastructure including Bundoora Dam (Figure 6-2) and various mine water storages are located within the German Creek catchment upstream of the project mining area.

The elevated terrain in the north of the project mining area is characterised by relatively incised valleys that transition to broad gently sloping valleys in the lower lying terrain. Undulations in the terrain and an isolated rocky hill in the south form the local catchment boundaries of the minor drainage features that traverse the project mining area (Figure 6-3).

The geomorphological and drainage characteristics of German Creek and the minor drainage features traversing the project mining area are discussed in the following sections. Little Parrot Creek is located approximately 2 km north of the project longwall mining area and will not be affected by the project.

German Creek

German Creek traverses the approved Grasstree mining area to the west of the project mining area (Figure 6-2). The creek drains to the south-east, approximately 300 m south of the project mining area (Figure 6-3). The creek is moderately sinuous and gently sloping in the vicinity of the project site. The channel of German Creek is asymmetrical. The outer banks are near vertical, exposing deeply weathered geology. Colluvial pediments comprising unconsolidated sands and gravels were observed within the channel at the base of the outer banks and on the channel bed. The inner banks comprise sandy deposits of limited depth. The channel bed comprises exposed extremely to moderately weathered sandstone and siltstone. Thin, localised deposits of colluvium and fluvial sands are also present between the exposed rock. The bed sands are mobilised and redeposited within the channel during flow events, resulting in extensive bank erosion on the outer meanders and smothering of any bed features in the channel. The condition of the channel and riparian zone have been further degraded by cattle grazing.

Minor Drainage Features

The landscape is an undulating sandy plain characterised by thin sandy to gravelly soils and deeply weathered bedrock. Clearing for cattle grazing and mining activities has resulted in extensive sheet erosion of the in-situ sands and gravels, exposing the underlying deeply weathered Tertiary and Permian age bedrock. These sands have been transported by gravity and sheet flow to low lying areas and minor drainage features where they have been deposited as a thin blanket on creek beds or discrete unconsolidated deposits. These sediments are then remobilised under ephemeral flow conditions and transported downstream, via these drainage features.

The drainage features have relatively small catchment areas and observations indicate that they do not sustain any flows or show evidence of overbank flooding except in extreme rainfall events. These drainage features lack riverine characteristics.

Observations and excavations indicate that minor drainage features are sand smothered with sandy banks on both sides. Weathered sandstone was exposed in the bank profiles of these drainage features which suggests that they are incised into the weathered rock profile with only a very thin sandy/loamy soil cover. Excavations within the bed sands typically encountered weathered bedrock at depths of less than 1 m. No groundwater table was observed within the bed sands of these minor drainage features.

3.3 Describe the soil and vegetation characteristics relevant to the project area.

The soil characteristics relevant to the project area are described in detail in Section 4.3 – Soils and Land Suitability of the EPBC Act EAR attached in response to question 2.14. The vegetation characteristics relevant to the project area are described in detail in Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendix E – Terrestrial Ecology Report of the EPBC Act EAR attached in response to question 2.14.

3.4 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values relevant to the project area.

The project area is not considered to have any outstanding natural features or any other unique values.

3.5 Describe the status of native vegetation relevant to the project area.

The status of native vegetation within the ecology survey area is described in detail in Section 7 – MNES Ecology and Appendx E – Terrestrial Ecology of the EPBC Act EAR attached in response to question 2.14. A summary is provided below.

A total of 13 different remnant vegetation communities, classified as Queensland Regional Ecosystems (REs), were identified. The distribution of remnant vegetation in the survey area is shown in Fgiure 7-2. The survey area includes approximately:

- 1,181 ha of remnant vegetation, comprising mostly Eucalyptus and Bull Oak woodland species; and

- 338 ha of non-remnant vegetation, which includes cleared and disturbed areas.

Fragmentation of the remnant vegetation is prominent in the north of the survey area due to the existing infrastructure corridors (overland conveyor, haul roads and powerlines) and vegetation communities in the southern and western portions of the survey area are moderately fragmented due to disturbance from previous seismic surveys (Figure 7-1).

The survey area can be divided into six broad vegetation types comprising Bull Oak woodlands, Brigalow woodland, lateritic jump up communities, riparian vegetation, Micromyrtus shrubland, and Eucalypt woodlands (Figure 7-3). The survey area also contains areas that have been entirely cleared of vegetation, and which do not provide any significant habitat values. Overall, the fauna habitat throughout the survey area is typically in moderate condition. The aerial photograph in Figure 7-1 shows the extent of existing disturbance within the survey area. The survey area is not considered to be of particular importance for values such as high biodiversity, important feeding areas, high endemism, unusual fauna assemblages, or unique habitat types or assemblages.

3.6 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

Topography in the vicinity of the project longwall mining area is gently undulating with a gradual rise towards a low hill in the north of the longwall mining area and a low knoll in the south of the longwall mining area. Ground surface elevations range from 155 m Australian Height Datum (AHD) in the south-western part of the longwall mining area to 185 m AHD in the north and south of the longwall mining area (Figure 2-7).

3.7 Describe the current condition of the environment relevant to the project area.

The survey area is typically in moderate condition. The aerial photograph in Figure 7-1 shows the extent of existing disturbance within the survey area. The survey area is not considered to be of particular importance for values such as high biodiversity, important feeding areas, high endemism, unusual fauna assemblages, or unique habitat types or assemblages.

3.8 Describe any Commonwealth Heritage Places or other places recognised as having heritage values relevant to the project area.

There are no Commonwealth Heritage Places or other places recognised as having heritage values relevant to the project area.

3.9 Describe any Indigenous heritage values relevant to the project area.

There are no Indigenous heritage values relevant to the project area.

3.10 Describe the tenure of the action area (e.g. freehold, leasehold) relevant to the project area.

The tenure of the project area is described in detailed in Section 2.4 – Project Setting of the EPBC Act EAR attached in response to question 2.14. In summary, the project is located on freehold land owned by subsidiaries fo Anglo American. There are no easements within the project longwall mining area. The project longwall mining area is located within an existing German Creek mining complex ML (ML 1831). There are no petroleum tenements over the project longwall mining area.

3.11 Describe any existing or any proposed uses relevant to the project area.

The project longwall mining area is located within a German Creek mining complex ML and consequently coal mining and associated gas drainage is the primary land use within the vicinity of the project longwall mining area. The eastern edge of the project longwall panels are located in areas that have been disturbed by previous seismic activities. Cattle grazing is also periodically undertaken within the project longwall mining area, although the cattle will be removed prior to mining in the project area.

Section 4 - Measures to avoid or reduce impacts

Provide a description of measures that will be implemented to avoid, reduce, manage or offset any relevant impacts of the action. Include, if appropriate, any relevant reports or technical advice relating to the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed measures.

Examples of relevant measures to avoid or reduce impacts may include the timing of works, avoidance of important habitat, specific design measures, or adoption of specific work practices.

4.1 Describe the measures you will undertake to avoid or reduce impact from your proposed action.

Measures to avoid or reduce impacts are discussed in the relevant sections of the EPBC Act EAR attached in response to question 2.14 including:

-Section 4.2 – Rehabilitation;

-Section 4.3 – Soils and Land Suitability;

-Section 4.4 – Measures to Prevent Land Contamination;

-Section 5.5 – Monitoring;

-Section 5.6 – Grounddwater Licensing and Reporting;

-Section 6.3 – Surface Water Impacts and Management Measures; and

-Section 7.4.6 – Mitigation and Management Measures.

4.2 For matters protected by the EPBC Act that may be affected by the proposed action, describe the proposed environmental outcomes to be achieved.

The only MNES predicted to have a significant residual impact as a result of the project is approximately 164 ha of Koala habitat. Offsets are proposed for the impacts to the Koala. A Biodiversity Offsets Strategy has been prepared and is provided in Appendix G of the attached EPBC Act EAR in response to question 2.14.

Offsets are actions undertaken to counterbalance significant, residual impacts and are used as a last resort in instances where an action will give rise to significant, residual impacts, even after the application of management measures. The offsets proposed for the project's significant

impact to Koala habitat is consistent with *the EPBC Act Offsets Policy* and will deliver an overall conservation outcome to protect or maintain the viability of Koala habitat. The offset will provide additional areas of Koala habitat, with the offset area to be managed for conservation purposes in the long term.

Section 5 – Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

A checkbox tick identifies each of the matters of National Environmental Significance you identified in section 2 of this application as likely to be a significant impact.

Review the matters you have identified below. If a matter ticked below has been incorrectly identified you will need to return to Section 2 to edit.

5.1.1 World Heritage Properties

No

5.1.2 National Heritage Places

No

5.1.3 Wetlands of International Importance (declared Ramsar Wetlands)

No

5.1.4 Listed threatened species or any threatened ecological community

Listed threatened species and communities - Yes

5.1.5 Listed migratory species

No

5.1.6 Commonwealth marine environment

No

5.1.7 Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land

No

5.1.8 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

No

5.1.9 A water resource, in relation to coal/gas/mining

No

5.1.10 Protection of the environment from nuclear actions

No

5.1.11 Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions

No

5.1.12 Commonwealth Heritage places overseas

No

5.2 If no significant matters are identified, provide the key reasons why you think the proposed action is not likely to have a significant impact on a matter protected under the EPBC Act and therefore not a controlled action.

Not applicable.

Section 6 – Environmental record of the person proposing to take the action

Provide details of any proceedings under Commonwealth, State or Territory law against the person proposing to take the action that pertain to the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

6.1 Does the person taking the action have a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management? Please explain in further detail.

Anglo America (Anglo) is a leading global mining company with established environmental management systems such as the Anglo Safety Health and Environment (SHE) Way. The Anglo SHE Way contains environmental management system standards and environmental performance standards. These internal procedures are consistent with international standards and Anglo mines are operated in accordance with these procedures. The procedures provide a comprehensive framework of environmental policies, standards and principles that relate to the company's operation as a whole. The documents are designed to ensure the company upholds the corporate commitments to environmental management.

Anglo is an experienced coal mine operator with four operating coal mines in Queensland (German Creek mining complex, Dawson Mine, Grosvenor Mine and Moranbah North Mine). Each of these Anglo mines has a sound environmental record.

6.2 Provide details of any past or present proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against either (a) the person proposing to take the action or, (b) if a permit has been applied for in relation to the action – the person making the application.

None.

6.3 If it is a corporation undertaking the action will the action be taken in accordance with the corporation's environmental policy and framework?

Yes

6.3.1 If the person taking the action is a corporation, please provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework.

The proponent has a comprehensive framework of environmental policies, standards and

principles in place that relate to the company's operations as a whole. The documents are desgiend to ensure the company upholds the corporate commitments to the environment and made to stakeholders. The documents are available for download from the following web address: http://www.angloamerican.com/sustainability/approach-and-policies.

6.4 Has the person taking the action previously referred an action under the EPBC Act, or been responsible for undertaking an action referred under the EPBC Act?

Yes

6.4.1 EPBC Act No and/or Name of Proposal.

The following referrals have been made in relation to the German Creek mining complex:

- Oak Park (EPBC 2003/1005); and

- Surface Area 7 (EPBC 2004/1547).

Section 7 – Information sources

You are required to provide the references used in preparing the referral including the reliability of the source.

7.1 List references used in preparing the referral (please provide the reference source reliability and any uncertainties of source).

Reference Source	Reliability	Uncertainties
References are provided in Section 10 – References of the EPBC Act EAR attached in response to question 2.14.	All references provided in Section 10 – References of the EPBC Act EAR are reliable sources.	Any uncertainties with the sources provided in Section 10 – References, are described in the body of the EPBC Act EAR, where the source information is described.

Section 8 – Proposed alternatives

You are required to complete this section if you have any feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action (including not taking the action) that were considered but not proposed.

8.0 Provide a description of the feasible alternative?

Not applicable. There are no feasible alternatives for the project. The project location and activities are determined by the location of the existing approved Grasstree mining area and the location and quality of the project coal resource. The project location and activities are therefore not able to be changed. The timing of the project cannot be delayed. The project will commence once longwall mining in the approved Grasstree mining area has been completed, thus extending the life of Grasstree Mine by three years. Any delay in the commencement of the project will likely result in the shut down of Grasstree Mine and the possible retrenchment of the approximately 590 Grasstree Mine employees.

8.1 Select the relevant alternatives related to your proposed action.

8.27 Do you have another alternative?

Section 9 – Contacts, signatures and declarations

Where applicable, you must provide the contact details of each of the following entities: Person Proposing the Action; Proposed Designated Proponent and; Person Preparing the Referral. You will also be required to provide signed declarations from each of the identified entities.

9.0 Is the person proposing to take the action an Organisation or an Individual?

Organisation

9.2 Organisation

9.2.1 Job Title

Company Director

9.2.2 First Name

Elizabeth

9.2.3 Last Name

Hansen

9.2.4 E-mail

liz.hansen@angloamerican.com

9.2.5 Postal Address

201 Charlotte Street
Brisbane City QLD 4000
Australia

9.2.6 ABN/ACN

ABN

73010037564 - ANGLO COAL (CAPCOAL MANAGEMENT) PTY LIMITED

9.2.7 Organisation Telephone

07 3834 1333

Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy

9.2.8 Organisation E-mail

liz.hansen@angloamerican.com

9.2.9 I qualify for exemption from fees under section 520(4C)(e)(v) of the EPBC Act because I am:

Not applicable

Small Business Declaration

I have read the Department of the Environment and Energy's guidance in the online form concerning the definition of a small a business entity and confirm that I qualify for a small business exemption.

Signature:..... Date: .....

9.2.9.2 I would like to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under Schedule 1, 5.21A of the EPBC Regulations

No

9.2.9.3 Under sub regulation 5.21A(5), you must include information about the applicant (if not you) the grounds on which the waiver is sought and the reasons why it should be made

Person proposing the action - Declaration

I, ELIZABETH HANSEN, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf of or for the benefit of any other person or entity.

Signature:..... Date: 02-03-18.....

I, ELIZABETH HANSEN, the person proposing the action, consent to the designation of ANGLO COAL (CAPCOAL MANAGEMENT) PTY LIMITED as the proponent of the purposes of the action describe in this EPBC Act Referral.

Signature:..... Date: 02-03-18.....

9.3 Is the Proposed Designated Proponent an Organisation or Individual?

Organisation

9.5 Organisation

9.5.1 Job Title

Company Director

9.5.2 First Name

Elizabeth

9.5.3 Last Name

Hansen

9.5.4 E-mail

liz.hansen@angloamerican.com

9.5.5 Postal Address

201 Charlotte Street
Brisbane City QLD 4000
Australia

9.5.6 ABN/ACN

ABN

73010037564 - ANGLO COAL (CAPCOAL MANAGEMENT) PTY LIMITED

9.5.7 Organisation Telephone

07 3834 1333

9.5.8 Organisation E-mail

liz.hansen@angloamerican.com

Proposed designated proponent - Declaration

I, ELIZABETH HANSEN, the proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral.

Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy

Signature:..... Date: 02-03-18.....

9.6 Is the Referring Party an Organisation or Individual?

Organisation

9.8 Organisation

9.8.1 Job Title

Senior Environmental Scientist

9.8.2 First Name

Rebecca

9.8.3 Last Name

Miller

9.8.4 E-mail

rmiller@hansenbailey.com.au

9.8.5 Postal Address

GPO Box 3285
Brisbane QLD 4001
Australia

9.8.6 ABN/ACN

ABN

17093597810 - HANSEN BAILEY PTY LTD

9.8.7 Organisation Telephone

07 3226 0900

9.8.8 Organisation E-mail

bmills@hansenbailey.com.au

Referring Party - Declaration

I, Rebecca Miller, I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

Signature: ..... Date: 2/3/2018

Appendix A - Attachments

The following attachments have been supplied with this EPBC Act Referral:

1. 0_-_toc.pdf
2. 1_-_introduction.pdf
3. 2_-_project_description.pdf
4. 3_-_subsidence.pdf
5. 4_-_rehabilitation.pdf
6. 5_-_groundwater.pdf
7. 6_-_surface_water.pdf
8. 7_-_mnes_ecology.pdf
9. 8_-_glossary.pdf
10. 9_-_abbreviations.pdf
11. 10_-_references.pdf
12. 11_-_ear_study_team.pdf
13. 20180301_-_gtex_-_epbc_ecology_gis_files.zip
14. 20180301_-_gtex_-_epbc_ecology_gis_files_-_extra.zip
15. app_a_-_subsidence_report.pdf
16. app_b_-_groundwater_report-_part_d.pdf
17. app_b_-_groundwater_report-part_a.pdf
18. app_b_-_groundwater_report_-_part_a_-a.pdf
19. app_b_-_groundwater_report_-part_b.pdf
20. app_b_-_groundwater_report_-part_c.pdf
21. app_c_-_flood_modelling_report.pdf
22. app_d_-_iesc_guidelines_table.pdf
23. app_e_-_terrestrial_ecology_-_part_a.pdf
24. app_e_-_terrestrial_ecology_-_part_b.pdf
25. app_f_-_aquatic_ecology.pdf
26. app_g_-_biodiversity_offset_strategy.pdf
27. chapter_7_figures.pdf
28. german_creek_mine_ea_epml00732613_7_feb_2018.pdf