



## Referral of proposed action

### What is a referral?

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) provides for the protection of the environment, especially matters of national environmental significance (NES). Under the EPBC Act, a person must not take an action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on any of the matters of NES without approval from the Australian Government Environment Minister or the Minister's delegate. (Further references to 'the Minister' in this form include references to the Minister's delegate.) To obtain approval from the Environment Minister, a proposed action should be referred. The purpose of a referral is to obtain a decision on whether your proposed action will need formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Your referral will be the principal basis for the Minister's decision as to whether approval is necessary and, if so, the type of assessment that will be undertaken. These decisions are made within 20 business days, provided sufficient information is provided in the referral.

### Who can make a referral?

Referrals may be made by or on behalf of a person proposing to take an action, the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency, a state or territory government, or agency, provided that the relevant government or agency has administrative responsibilities relating to the action.

### When do I need to make a referral?

A referral must be made for actions that are likely to have a significant impact on the following matters protected by Part 3 of the EPBC Act:

- World Heritage properties (sections 12 and 15A)
- National Heritage places (sections 15B and 15C)
- Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)
- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
- Protection of the environment from nuclear actions (sections 21 and 22A)
- Commonwealth marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (sections 24B and 24C)
- A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development (sections 24D and 24E)
- The environment, if the action involves Commonwealth land (sections 26 and 27A), including:
  - actions that are likely to have a significant impact on the environment of Commonwealth land (even if taken outside Commonwealth land);
  - actions taken on Commonwealth land that may have a significant impact on the environment generally;
- The environment, if the action is taken by the Commonwealth (section 28)
- Commonwealth Heritage places outside the Australian jurisdiction (sections 27B and 27C)

You may still make a referral if you believe your action is not going to have a significant impact, or if you are unsure. This will provide a greater level of certainty that Commonwealth assessment requirements have been met.

To help you decide whether or not your proposed action requires approval (and therefore, if you should make a referral), the following guidance is available from the Department's website:

- the Policy Statement titled *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance*. Additional sectoral guidelines are also available.
- the Policy Statement titled *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies*.

- the Policy Statement titled Significant Impact Guidelines: Coal seam gas and large coal mining developments—Impacts on water resources.
- the interactive map tool (enter a location to obtain a report on what matters of NES may occur in that location).

#### **Can I refer part of a larger action?**

In certain circumstances, **the Minister may not accept a referral for an action that is a component of a larger action and may request the person proposing to take the action to refer the larger action for consideration under the EPBC Act (Section 74A, EPBC Act)**. If you wish to make a referral for a staged or component referral, read 'Fact Sheet 6 Staged Developments/Split Referrals' and contact the Referrals Gateway (1800 803 772).

#### **Do I need a permit?**

Some activities may also require a permit under other sections of the EPBC Act or another law of the Commonwealth. Information is available on the Department's web site.

#### **Is your action in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?**

If your action is in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park it may require permission under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* (GBRMP Act). If a permission is required, referral of the action under the EPBC Act is deemed to be an application under the GBRMP Act (see section 37AB, GBRMP Act). This referral will be forwarded to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (the Authority) for the Authority to commence its permit processes as required under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983. If a permission is not required under the GBRMP Act, no approval under the EPBC Act is required (see section 43, EPBC Act). The Authority can provide advice on relevant permission requirements applying to activities in the Marine Park.

The Authority is responsible for assessing applications for permissions under the GBRMP Act, GBRMP Regulations and Zoning Plan. Where assessment and approval is also required under the EPBC Act, a single integrated assessment for the purposes of both Acts will apply in most cases. Further information on environmental approval requirements applying to actions in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is available from <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/> or by contacting GBRMPA's Environmental Assessment and Management Section on (07) 4750 0700.

The Authority may require a permit application assessment fee to be paid in relation to the assessment of applications for permissions required under the GBRMP Act, even if the permission is made as a referral under the EPBC Act. Further information on this is available from the Authority:

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

2-68 Flinders Street PO Box 1379

Townsville QLD 4810

AUSTRALIA

Phone: + 61 7 4750 0700

Fax: + 61 7 4772 6093

[www.gbrmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au)

#### **What information do I need to provide?**

**Completing all parts of this form will ensure that you submit the required information and will also assist the Department to process your referral efficiently. If a section of the referral document is not applicable to your proposal enter N/A.**

You can complete your referral by entering your information into this Word file.

#### **Instructions**

Instructions are provided in blue text throughout the form.

#### **Attachments/supporting information**

The referral form should contain sufficient information to provide an adequate basis for a decision on the likely impacts of the proposed action. You should also provide supporting documentation, such as environmental reports or surveys, as attachments.

Coloured maps, figures or photographs to help explain the project and its location should also be submitted with your referral. Aerial photographs, in particular, can provide a useful perspective and context. Figures should be good quality as they may be scanned and viewed electronically as black and white documents. Maps should be of a scale that clearly shows the location of the proposed action and any environmental aspects of interest.

**Please ensure any attachments are below three megabytes (3mb) as they will be published on the Department's**

website for public comment. To minimise file size, enclose maps and figures as separate files if necessary. If unsure, contact the Referrals Gateway (email address below) for advice. Attachments larger than three megabytes (3mb) may delay processing of your referral.

**Note: the Minister may decide not to publish information that the Minister is satisfied is commercial-in-confidence.**

### **How do I pay for my referral?**

From 1 October 2014 the Australian Government commenced cost recovery arrangements for environmental assessments and some strategic assessments under the EPBC Act. If an action is referred on or after 1 October 2014, then cost recovery will apply to both the referral and any assessment activities undertaken. Further information regarding cost recovery can be found on the Department's website at:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/cost-recovery-cris>

### **Payment of the referral fee can be made using one of the following methods:**

- **EFT Payments can be made to:**

BSB: 092-009

Bank Account No. 115859

Amount: \$7352

Account Name: Department of the Environment.

Bank: Reserve Bank of Australia

Bank Address: 20-22 London Circuit Canberra ACT 2601

Description: The reference number provided (see note below)

- **Cheque** - Payable to "Department of the Environment". Include the reference number provided (see note below), and if posted, address:

The Referrals Gateway  
Environment Assessment Branch  
Department of the Environment  
GPO Box 787  
Canberra ACT 2601

- **Credit Card**

Please contact the Collector of Public Money (CPM) directly (call (02) 6274 2930 or 6274 20260 and provide the reference number (see note below).

Note: in order to receive a reference number, submit your referral and the Referrals Gateway will email you the reference number.

### **How do I submit a referral?**

Referrals may be submitted by mail or email.

#### **Mail to:**

Referrals Gateway  
Environment Assessment Branch  
Department of Environment  
GPO Box 787  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

- If submitting via mail, electronic copies of documentation (on CD/DVD or by email) are required.

#### **Email to: [epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au](mailto:epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au)**

- Clearly mark the email as a 'Referral under the EPBC Act'.
- Attach the referral as a Microsoft Word file and, if possible, a PDF file.
- **Follow up with a mailed hardcopy including copies of any attachments or supporting reports.**

## What happens next?

Following receipt of a valid referral (containing all required information) you will be advised of the next steps in the process, and the referral and attachments will be published on the Department's web site for public comment.

The Department will write to you within 20 business days to advise you of the outcome of your referral and whether or not formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act is required. There are a number of possible decisions regarding your referral:

### **The proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have a significant impact and does NOT NEED approval**

No further consideration is required under the environmental assessment provisions of the EPBC Act and the action can proceed (subject to any other Commonwealth, state or local government requirements).

### **The proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have a significant impact IF undertaken in a particular manner**

The action can proceed if undertaken in a particular manner (subject to any other Commonwealth, state or local government requirements). The particular manner in which you must carry out the action will be identified as part of the final decision. You must report your compliance with the particular manner to the Department.

### **The proposed action is LIKELY to have a significant impact and does NEED approval**

If the action is likely to have a significant impact a decision will be made that it is a *controlled action*. The particular matters upon which the action may have a significant impact (such as World Heritage values or threatened species) are known as the *controlling provisions*.

The controlled action is subject to a public assessment process before a final decision can be made about whether to approve it. The assessment approach will usually be decided at the same time as the controlled action decision. (Further information about the levels of assessment and basis for deciding the approach are available on the Department's web site.)

### **The proposed action would have UNACCEPTABLE impacts and CANNOT proceed**

The Minister may decide, on the basis of the information in the referral, that a referred action would have clearly unacceptable impacts on a protected matter and cannot proceed.

### **Compliance audits**

If a decision is made to approve a project, the Department may audit it at any time to ensure that it is completed in accordance with the approval decision or the information provided in the referral. If the project changes, such that the likelihood of significant impacts could vary, you should write to the Department to advise of the changes. If your project is in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and a decision is made to approve it, the Authority may also audit it. (See "*Is your action in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park*," p.2, for more details).

## **For more information**

- call the Department of the Environment Community Information Unit on 1800 803 772 or
- visit the web site <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc>

All the information you need to make a referral, including documents referenced in this form, can be accessed from the above web site.

# Referral of proposed action

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**Project title:** South Burnett Coal Project

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## 1 Summary of proposed action

**NOTE:** You must also attach a map/plan(s) and associated geographic information system (GIS) vector (shapefile) dataset showing the location and approximate boundaries of the area in which the project is to occur. Maps in A4 size are preferred. You must also attach a map(s)/plan(s) showing the location and boundaries of the project area in respect to any features identified in 3.1 & 3.2, as well as the extent of any freehold, leasehold or other tenure identified in 3.3(i).

MRV Tarong Basin PTY LTD (the Proponent) is a fully own subsidiary of Moreton Resources Limited (MRV), an ASX listed aspiring operator within the Australian resource sector. The proponent proposes development of the South Burnett Coal Project (the Project); an open cut coal mine (the mine site) with associated infrastructure, including transport infrastructure corridor options. The Proponent has engaged with project partners; Wave International, Macmahon, Initiative Capital and Beyond Billabong to provide technical support for the delivery of the Project.

## 1.1 Short description

The Project has a stated Joint Ore Reserve Committee (JORC) resource of 912 million tonnes (Mt). A pre-feasibility Study has been undertaken converting approximately 290 Mt of the JORC resource to a reserve that is proposed to be mined at up to 10 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) targeting domestic and export markets. The final market will be determined through economic modelling, any off-take agreements developed during pre-and post-construction stages, and on current market conditions at the time of operations. Economic modelling will continue throughout the life of the Project to determine the best market for the coal produced.

The Proponent is yet to submit Mining Lease Application (MLA). It is expected this will be lodged after the Initial Advice Statement process, which will be lodged with the Department of State Development in Queensland in the coming weeks so as to complement this Commonwealth application, seeking to have the Bi-lateral assessment process undertaken between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland. The Mining Lease Application will follow several months after, provided the project is declared a "Significant Project" by the Queensland Coordinator General.

The Project will involve the mining of up to 13.5Mtpa of run of mine (ROM) coal to produce 10Mtpa of product coal from a number of open pits. The mine will have an expected mine life of over 30 years (subject to further resource definition work currently being undertaken). The mine will be an open cut strip mining operation, using a mixed fleet of large and small hydraulic excavators and haul trucks.

ROM coal will be hauled on internal haul roads to a facility where it will be crushed and either bypassed to product (via the Coal Handling Plant (CHP)), or beneficiated potentially using dry separation technology (via the Coal Separation Plant (CSP)). Product coal will be transported to domestic customers either directly via overland conveyor, slurry pipe or rail, and for potential export customers by slurry pipeline, slurry pipe or again rail facilities through to one of Queensland's existing Ports at either Gladstone, or Brisbane, with the possibility of supporting a potential Port of Bundaberg option.

Infrastructure requirements for the Project include a potential overland conveyor (or alternative slurry pipeline), potential rail loop and spur line, power transmission lines, water pipelines and potential road realignments. The project has an estimated construction workforce of 300-500 personnel and an operational workforce of approximately 500-600 personnel. Accommodation for construction and operations personnel is envisaged to be in surrounding local townships such as Kingaroy, Nanango and Maidenwell. Studies into the accommodation requirements of the project are ongoing and will be further defined through feasibility study works and included in the EIS process.

The following outlines the area of the Mining Lease Application with respect to existing tenures MDL385 and EPC882, held by the proponent, however the transport corridors and outcomes will also be developed through this approvals process.

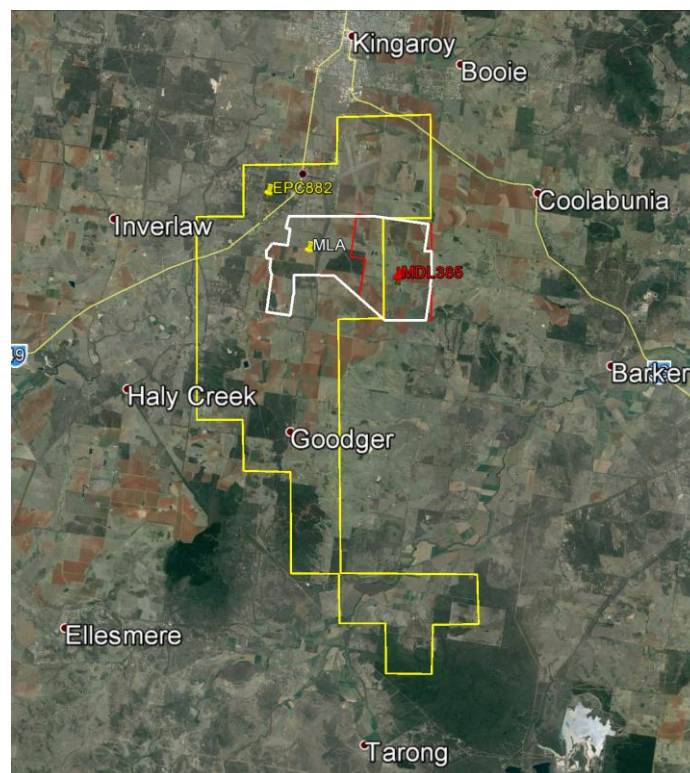


Figure 1: MLA application area with respect to MDL385 and EPC882



## 1.2 Latitude and longitude

Point	GDA94 lat long	
1	S26°36'25.642"	E151°48'38.908"
2	S26°36'28.160"	E151°48'58.730"
3	S26°36'09.190"	E151°49'01.784"
4	S26°36'08.433"	E151°48'56.296"
5	S26°35'54.333"	E151°49'00.382"
6	S26°35'54.333"	E151°50'47.916"
7	S26°36'03.596"	E151°51'59.906"
8	S26°36'35.292"	E151°51'54.781"
9	S26°36'34.500"	E151°52'03.577"
10	S26°37'04.524"	E151°52'03.667"
11	S26°37'14.336"	E151°52'02.105"
12	S26°37'15.093"	E151°52'02.779"
13	S26°37'54.469"	E151°51'56.459"
14	S26°37'54.538"	E151°51'03.931"
15	S26°37'02.771"	E151°49'58.212"
16	S26°37'02.140"	E151°49'06.687"
17	S26°37'24.806"	E151°49'06.470"
18	S26°37'24.721"	E151°49'05.815"
19	S26°37'48.787"	E151°49'01.997"
20	S26°37'44.866"	E151°48'31.379"
21	S26°37'01.372"	E151°48'38.131"
22	S26°36'58.671"	E151°48'36.674"
23	S26°36'53.866"	E151°48'35.589"
24	S26°36'43.560"	E151°48'37.258"
25	S26°36'42.846"	E151°48'31.612"
26	S26°36'33.640"	E151°48'30.897"
27	S26°36'32.782"	E151°48'33.030"
28	S26°36'30.828"	E151°48'35.268"

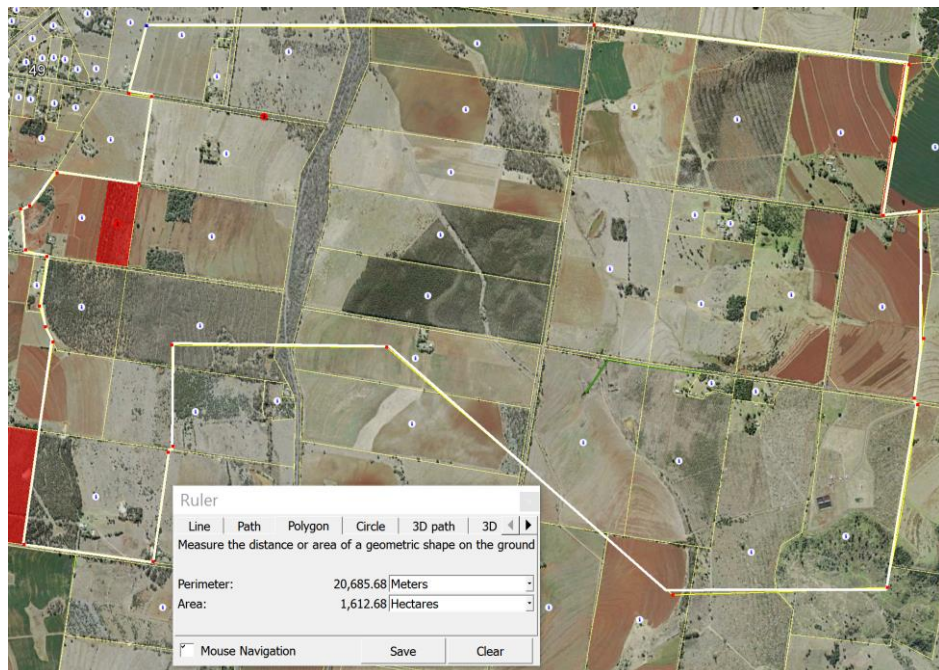


Figure 2: Project area

### 1.3 Locality and property description

Located within the South Burnett Regional Council area the mine site is approximately 6 km south of Kingaroy, 17 km north-west of Nanango, 18-20 km north of Meandu mine and Tarong power station, and 230 km north-east by road from Brisbane. The mine site is generally bordered by Murray's Road to the north and the Bunya Highway to the West. Site location is shown in Figure 3 and in Figure 4, including the proposed alignments for the infrastructure corridors.

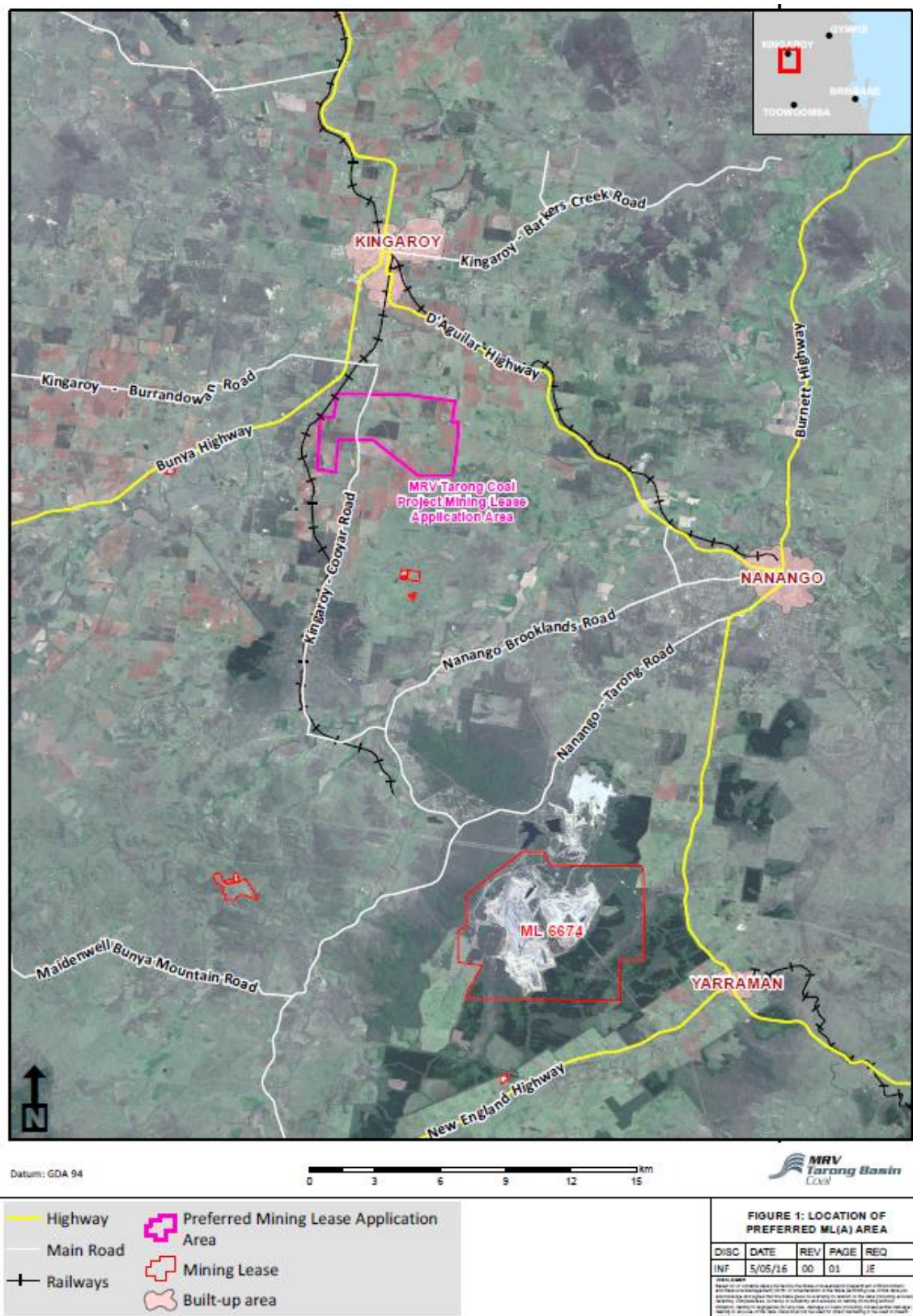


Figure 3: Site location



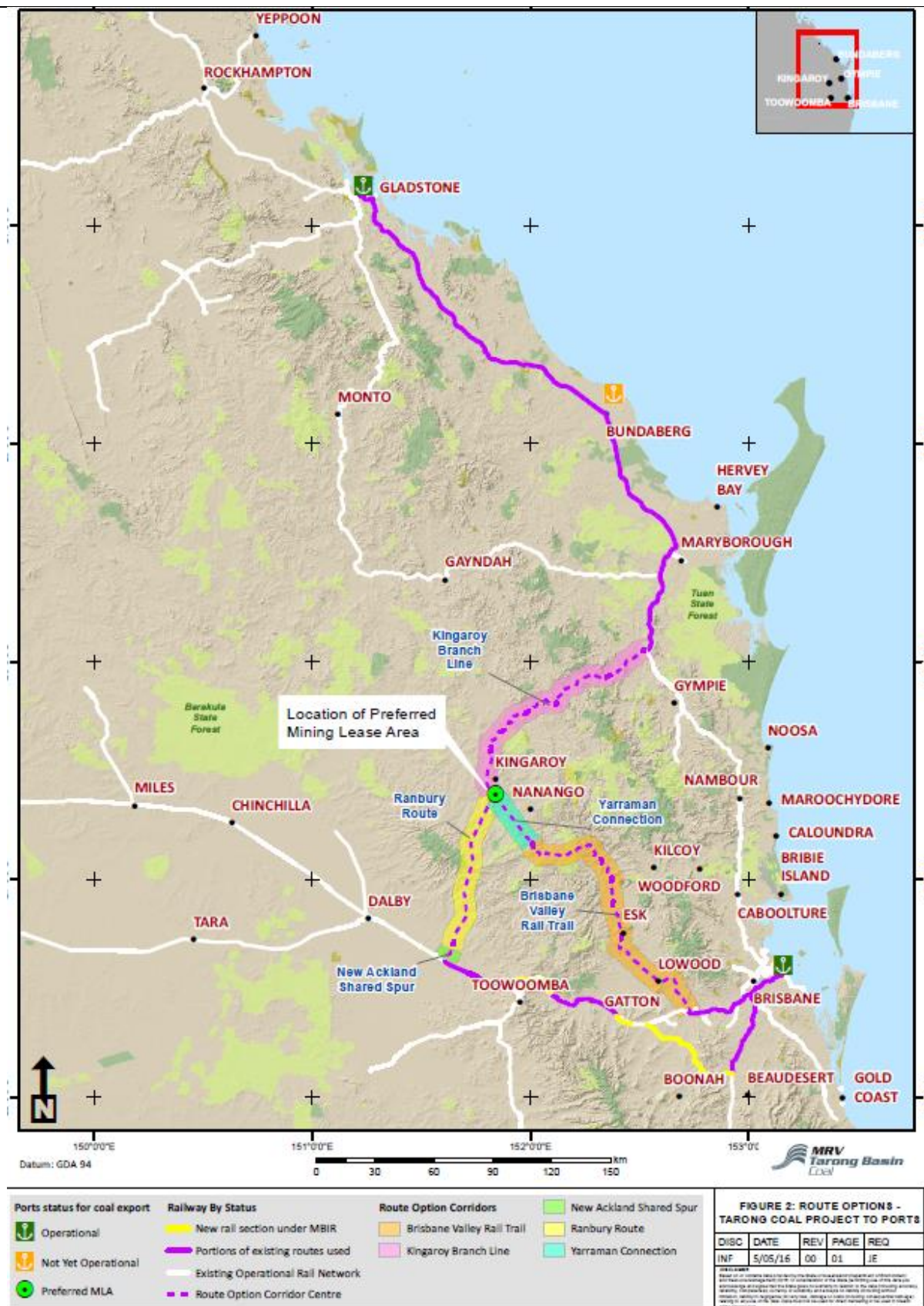


Figure 4: Project location and infrastructure

#### 1.4 Size of the development footprint or work area (hectares)

The project area size is approximately 1,612ha as indicated in Figure 1.

1.5 **Street address of the site** The address would be classed as 577 Bellbird Road Coolabunia, Queensland 4610, which forms the administrative area for the current site activities.

1.6 **Lot description**

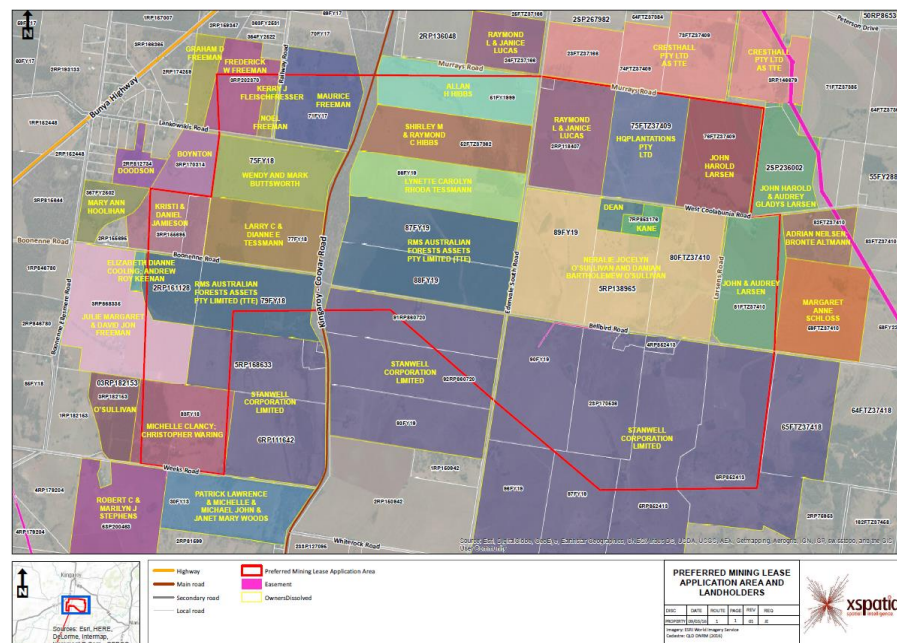


Figure 5 Lots description

#	Lot_number	Plan_num	#	Lot_num	Plan_num	#	Lot_num	Plan_num	#	Lot_num	Plan_num
1	51	FY1999	10	75	FTZ37409	19	7	RP853176	28	6	RP852413
2	81	FTZ37410	11	2	RP118407	20	52	FTZ37362	29	4	RP852413
3	83	FY18	12	76	FTZ37409	21	88	FY19	30	92	RP860720
4	80	FTZ37410	13	1	RP202370	22	87	FY19	31	91	RP860720
5	89	FY19	14	77	FY18	23	79	FY18	32	2	SP170536
6	5	RP138965	15	86	FY19	24	2	RP161128	33	1	SP170536
7	3	RP155695	16	75	FY18	25	97	FY19	34	5	RP168633
8	3	RP202370	17	71	FY17	26	90	FY19	35	6	RP868335
9	6	RP853176	18	2	RP202370	27	5	RP852413			

Table 2: Lots on Plan numbers

1.7 **Local Government Area and Council contact (if known)**

The South Burnett Regional Council has been made aware and several meetings have been undertaken

1.8 **Time frame**

The below highlights the project advancement and we are seeking to achieve on site production by late 2019 or early 2020.

- 2016 - Completion of technical data collection and start of environment/social and approvals process
- 2017 - Completion of technical studies and continuation with social and environment approvals process
- 2018 - Completion of environment and social approvals process and infrastructure build commencing
- 2019 - Construction and mine establishment, commencing mine production in late 2019
- 2020 - Production
- 2050 - Mine Closure

1.9 <b>Alternatives to proposed action</b> Were any feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action (including not taking the action) considered but are not proposed?	X	No
		Yes, you must also complete section 2.2

1.10	<b>Alternative time frames etc</b> Does the proposed action include alternative time frames, locations or activities?	X	No
			Yes, you must also complete Section 2.3. For each alternative, location, time frame, or activity identified, you must also complete details in Sections 1.2-1.9, 2.4-2.7 and 3.3 (where relevant).
1.11	<b>State assessment</b> Is the action subject to a state or territory environmental impact assessment?		No
		X	Yes, you must also complete Section 2.5
1.12	<b>Component of larger action</b> Is the proposed action a component of a larger action?	X	No
			Yes, you must also complete Section 2.7
1.13	<b>Related actions/proposals</b> Is the proposed action related to other actions or proposals in the region (if known)?	X	No
			Yes, provide details:
1.14	<b>Australian Government funding</b> Has the person proposing to take the action received any Australian Government grant funding to undertake this project?	X	No
			Yes, provide details:
1.15	<b>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park</b> Is the proposed action inside the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?	X	No
			Yes, you must also complete Section 3.1 (h), 3.2 (e)

## 2 Detailed description of proposed action

**NOTE:** It is important that the description is complete and includes all components and activities associated with the action. If certain related components are not intended to be included within the scope of the referral, this should be clearly explained in section 2.7.

### 2.1 Description of proposed action

This should be a detailed description outlining all activities and aspects of the proposed action and should reference figures and/or attachments, as appropriate.

The proposed Project is based on developing of approximately 8-10Mtpa thermal coal mining operation. This project is targeted at both domestic (preferred) and export options and the Life of Mine is expected to be approx. 25-30 years in duration. The desired product Coal from this operation is sort to achieve the required product qualities of a domestic product with the opportunity to selectively mine areas, in which an export product specification could be achieved, through numerous potential transportation corridors.

The project is proposed to consist of an open cut coal mining pit, a potential in pit processing area, conveyer corridor/slurry pipe line or rail corridor to the local domestic supply point, or international export markets. A considerable length of civil infrastructure such as local roads, rail corridors, drainage and coastal port facilities will be thought to be upgraded, where required, to allow exit of such quantity of coal to the existing shipping facilities.

The key project activities to be assessed within the scope of EIS will include stages of development and construction, production and operation, progressive rehabilitation, final decommissioning and rehabilitation of all Coal Mining operations and its supporting infrastructure both on and off the mining facilities including;

- Mining Production areas within the lease (Including infrastructure)
- Coal processing areas within the lease (Including infrastructure)
- Water management systems and processes within and off lease
- Power lines, small substation, pits, quarries, stockpiles, accesses roads and communication infrastructure
- Support infrastructure such as storage areas, laydown, maintenance, warehousing and administration facilities
- Major transport corridors from Tarong Basin to Export Facilities along the Qld Coast

There may be potential for the Project to use historic corridors, existing infrastructure and/or seek to develop common infrastructure needs through third parties and thereby allowing for infrastructure sharing, which will be investigated within the EIS stage of the project. The proponent will also assess, at the investment decision stage, the most adequate infrastructure outcome, not only for the direct benefit of the project, but also for the benefits to the region and broader State needs.

The following mine infrastructure will be required on the mine site:

1. Site water management structures including raw water collection dams, mine affected water dams, sediment control ponds and drainage / flood mitigation structures;
2. Pit dewatering systems including bores and pipelines;
3. CHP and CSP civil works, including ROM pad and retaining wall;
4. CHP including materials handling equipment, sizing equipment and ancillary fixed plant;
5. CSP including internal process equipment;
6. Mine Infrastructure Area (MIA) including administration building, ablutions, workshops, stores, vehicle wash down bays, fuel / lube facilities and emergency services;
7. Mining contractor facilities including magazine / explosives store;
8. Internal haul roads for product haulage;
9. Internal access roads to water management structures;
10. Domestic product supply infrastructure; and
11. Train loadout facility, rail loop and spur line/Slurry pipe or OLC (Over land conveyer).

For the proposed production rate of up to 10Mtpa of product, a nominal minimum CHP capacity of 2,000tph will be required. The CHP will comprise of a ROM hopper, apron feeder and primary sizer (or potential feeder breaker), raw coal screen and secondary sizer, raw coal stockpile and reclaim system. The reclaim system will either deliver product to the product streams (domestic or export) or to the CSP.

The CSP is proposed to be a dry beneficiation plant, using fluidisation air to produce product, middlings and reject streams. The middlings stream is recycled through the CSP. The rejects stream is collected in a rejects bin for disposal on site. The reject product is dry and proposed to be returned to the pit void. Dry beneficiation does not require water as part of processing and therefore does not need a tailings dam for waste water storage. However, all options will be considered in determining the best outcome product, available from current coal handling and processing technologies. The product stream is directed to the product stockpiles. The intended or preferred



CHP / CSP requires no process water, with water requirements being for dust and fire suppression only.

The following supporting infrastructure will be required by the project:

1. Power supply:
  - a. The site will utilise power from the local grid;
  - b. High Voltage (HV) overhead power lines are available within close proximity to the site;
  - c. A tie in point will be established and a main HV substation established;
  - d. Some limited on site diesel generation will be utilised during construction and as backup generation;
2. Water supply:
  - a. A water catchment and supply dam will be established on site;
  - b. This water supply dam will collect water from runoff and pit dewatering activities to supply the mine;
  - c. Water demand will be modest given dry coal separation techniques being used;
3. Rail infrastructure:
  - a. Potential balloon loop and rail spur to service export product;
4. Conveyor infrastructure:
  - a. Potential overland conveyor (or alternative pipeline) to service domestic/international product;
5. Accommodation:
  - a. Accommodation will be sourced locally (off site), with detailed surveys of requirements and local capacity still to be undertaken.

The Proponent is seeking to develop the Project to service potential domestic and international markets. Each market has its own drivers and supporting justification for the Project.

Whilst the renewables debate continues and the world shifts its focus to increased alternatives, the first and most confounding step in that challenge is to provide cleaner, cost effective coal globally, which Australian high quality natural resources has the capability and opportunity to do so. Therefore, be it a domestic opportunity or international, the proponent sees this project as having a significant positive impact upon reduction of CO2 emissions potentially locally and globally, with a cleaner, more energy rich, fuel supply available.

Well recorded and documented international supply also is apparent, with the International Energy Agency's WEO report 2015 showing an ever increasing supply / demand gap for thermal coal in India forecasting a 256 Million tonne coal equivalent (Mtce) gap by 2020. The Proponent understands that supply for this gap has not yet been identified and will rely heavily on seaborne supply, with a focus on higher quality coal and emissions control.

Justifications for the project include:

- Provision of a reliable, quality thermal coal supply to domestic and international markets;
- Provide a viable, economic alternative to low quality thermal coal currently being utilised internationally;
- Potentially provide a viable, economic supply for domestic consumption as a higher energy value alternative (reducing volume consumption);
- To allow both at National Levels and State Levels, Government to show that should a local domestic option be an outcome, this is an immediate commitment to reduction in CO2 and other emissions targets;
- To support the State and Federal Governments commitment to sustainable, and regulated mining and Coal mining activities for the greater good of the State and Commonwealth; and
- To provide significant capital investment into the South Burnett region, with ongoing economic benefit for the life of the mine.
- A feasible project that will also lend to other major infrastructure projects that are being considered and advanced by the State and Federal Governments.

The progression of this significant project will not only meet the demands and objectives as outlined above, but also within this critical phase for the Queensland and National economy, allow for the potential alignment of multiple projects that would benefit from the synergies created in an export market scenario. The potential rail infrastructure, ports access and upgrades could assist several other project considerations at a State and Federal level, to which MRV Tarong Basin Coal Pty Ltd, will work toward over the coming 12-18 months of this process.

The key objectives of this project, which align with both State and Federal agendas are:

- Enable the proponent to extract and realise the energy potential of a considerable natural coal asset for the benefit of the State and Commonwealth;
- Facilitate the viable commercial development of a domestic and export potential Coal operation within the region that will have additional potential benefits and alignment prospects with other major Capital advancements within the State;

- Facilitate the appropriate land access, transport corridor access and also infrastructure upgrade outcome for the proposal to go ahead; and
- Provide Australian and Local employment and economic advancement opportunities through the construction, operation and rehabilitation process of the Project.

Alternatives to such a project within the Wide Bay and South Burnett region are limited or non-existent, and should the project not go ahead, a valuable and vital natural resource will be forgone to the detriment of the State and Commonwealth.

## 2.2 Alternatives to taking the proposed action

This should be a detailed description outlining any feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action (including not taking the action) that were considered but are not proposed (note, this is distinct from any proposed alternatives relating to location, time frames, or activities – see section 2.3).

No alternate feasible alternatives were investigated or exist as this deposit is uniquely situated in the South Burnett at this location.

## 2.3 Alternative locations, time frames or activities that form part of the referred action

NA

## 2.4 Context, planning framework and state/local government requirements

Explain the context in which the action is proposed, including any relevant planning framework at the state and/or local government level (e.g. within scope of a management plan, planning initiative or policy framework). Describe any Commonwealth or state legislation or policies under which approvals are required or will be considered against.

The project will call for a large number of statutory planning and environmental approvals, which are expected to include planning and approvals at the Commonwealth and State Levels. Hence the proponent has prepared a detailed list of considerations presented in Table 2.4 below that must be taken into account.

**Table 2.4:** Potential regulatory and administrative approvals for the Project

Commonwealth Legislation	Administering Authority	Approval Trigger	Approval Type	Relevance to Project
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities	Action which has, or is likely to have, a significant impact on a Matter of National Environmental Significance.	Referral to DSEWPC for determination of “controlled action” status	Potential impacts on MNES must be dealt with in EIS
Native Title Act 1993	The Attorney-General’s Department and Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	Project falls on land where Native Title has not been extinguished potentially in a minor area, but must be considered	Agreements and/or cultural heritage management plans in place with respective claimant groups	Covered by one native Title Claimant Group
Energy Efficiency Opportunities Act 2006	Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism	Assess energy reduction opportunities & minimise energy use	Annual report required once project approved	Requirements of the Act need to be addressed

State Legislation	Administering Authority	Approval Trigger	Approval Type	Relevance to Project
Minerals Act 1989	Department of Natural Resources and Mines	Lodgement of Lease application for mining and mining related activities	Granting of Mining Licence	Mining cannot commence until ML is granted
<i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (SDPWO Act)</i>	General, Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDIP)	Proponents of a project which meets the significant project criteria.	Significant project declaration	The proponent believes the Project meets the requirements to have the project declared a significant project, for example, employment opportunities during construction and operation, capital investment, interaction with multiple agencies and potential economic benefit to the regional.

Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act)	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.	The Project involves Mineral Development Activities which require an environmental authority to be issued prior to any activity commencing. Section 310S allows for the amendment of an existing environmental authority.	Environmental Authority (Chapter 5A activity)	Chapter 5A activities for the Project will require either a new or amended environmental authority (Chapter 5A activity)
<i>Regional Planning Interests Act 2014</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines	Any resource activities that will have a permanent or temporary impact on Strategic Cropping Land or potential Strategic Cropping Land must be assessed under the Act.	Identifies areas of Queensland that are of regional interest because they contribute, or are likely to contribute, to Queensland's economic, social and environmental prosperity.	Strategic Cropping Land is mapped throughout the Project area. Where the impact is temporary in nature and relatively low risk of adversely impacting on Strategic Cropping Land approval is required.
Sustainable Planning Act 2009 (SP Act)	DSDIP  Relevant local government authority  Relevant referral and advice agencies (such as DEHP, DNRM, etc)	Development approvals may be required for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material change of use</li> <li>• Operational works</li> <li>• Building works</li> <li>• Plumbing and drainage works</li> </ul> Reconfiguring a lot	A development approval is required if a development is considered to be assessable development under the SP Act.	Development approvals may be required for certain Project activities, located on or off mining tenements, which constitute assessable development under the SP Act. Any ancillary development not occurring off tenement will require assessment against the relevant planning scheme (e.g. sewage treatment plant, power/communications, utilities off tenement, beneficial use infrastructure, and transport corridors).
Water Act 2000	Department of Natural Resources and Mines	Required to take or interfere with water.	Water licence	<p>A water licence is an authority granted under the <i>Water Act 2000</i> to take or interfere with water. It does not allow the physical construction of works such as dams, pumps, weirs and bores to take or interfere with water. These works are authorised by development permits issued under the <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i>.</p> <p>To apply for a water licence, an applicant must be an owner of land or an entity as defined under the Act.</p> <p>Generally, a water licence is attached to land and the water taken or interfered with may be used only on the land to which the licence is attached.</p> <p>A water licence that is not attached to land may be granted to an entity such as a local government or a water authority.</p>
<i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines	Vegetation Clearing	Development permit	All mining related clearing on a mining tenement are exempt. Triggers for provision of offsets may occur
<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines	Activity that has potential to harm Aboriginal Cultural Heritage	Cultural Heritage Management Plan	Duty of Care must be undertaken at all time and to operate and mine under an agreed frame work to protect Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

<i>Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines	Mining activities	Regulatory and operational framework for mining activities	Mining activities must comply with Act
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## 2.5 Environmental impact assessments under Commonwealth, state or territory legislation

If you have identified that the proposed action will be or has been subject to a state or territory environmental impact statement (in section 1.11) you must complete this section. Describe any environmental assessment of the relevant impacts of the project that has been, is being, or will be carried out under state or territory legislation. Specify the type and nature of the assessment, the relevant legislation and the current status of any assessments or approvals. Where possible, provide contact details for the state/territory assessment contact officer.

Describe or summarise any public consultation undertaken, or to be undertaken, during the assessment. Attach copies of relevant assessment documentation and outcomes of public consultations (if available).

The first step in the approval process is to prepare a 'referral' of the project to the Federal Minister of the Environment seeking a determination as to whether an approval is required (that is, the project is a 'controlled action') and the process to be followed in preparation and submission of assessment documentation (that is, the 'assessment method'). A number of assessment method options are available:

- Accredited assessment
- Assessment on referral information (assessment done solely on the information provided in the referral form)
- Assessment on preliminary documentation (referral form and any other relevant material identified by the minister as being necessary to adequately assess a proposed action)
- Assessment by environmental impact statement (EIS) or public environment report
- Assessment by public inquiry.

Queensland coal projects that are controlled actions can be assessed under Queensland impact assessment processes that have been accredited under a bilateral agreement with the Federal government. Typically, this is the preferred option, as it removes duplication of the assessment and approval process.

Two options are available:

- Assessment under the accredited EIS process set out in the Queensland State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1972.
- Assessment under the accredited EIS process set out in the Queensland Environmental Protection Act 1994.

In both options, a single EIS process is completed, and the Queensland government prepares an assessment report for consideration by the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage and the Federal Minister of the Environment.

Following a decision by the Queensland government, the Federal Minister may approve the project, with or without conditions.

The EIS process involves the following main steps:

- Lodgement of the application for an environmental authority
- Preparation and publication of draft terms of reference.
- Receipt of (public and agency) comments and revision and finalisation of the terms of reference.
- Preparation of the EIS.
- Lodgement of the EIS and review for adequacy by Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP).
- Publication of the EIS.
- Receipt of submissions, and preparation of documentation addressing submissions.
- Assessment of the EIS, submissions, and other documentation by DEHP.
- Negotiation of conditions and issue of a draft environmental authority.
- Issue of final environmental authority, typically following grant of the mining lease.

The following studies and assessments will be undertaken as part of EIS:

- Topographic Features
- Protected areas
- Soils characteristics and limitations
- Flora and fauna assessment
- Terrestrial flora
- Terrestrial fauna
- Aquatic Ecology
- Surface water



- Ground water
- Stygofauna
- Potential constraints and material issues
- Sensitive receptors,
- Surface water environmental values and water quality objectives
- Project and surface water interactions
- air,
- noise,
- vibration,
- blast overpressure,
- landscape and visual
- Social assessment
- Corporate social responsibility and commitments
- Economic assumptions
- Socio-economic baseline data
- Social impact assessment
- Cultural heritage
- Community engagement and consultation
- Costs, timing and risks
- Risk assessment
- Roads
- Railway (intentional)
- Traffic

## 2.6 Public consultation (including with Indigenous stakeholders)

Your referral must include a description of any public consultation that has been, or is being, undertaken. Where Indigenous stakeholders are likely to be affected by your proposed action, your referral should describe any consultations undertaken with Indigenous stakeholders. Identify the relevant stakeholders and the status of consultations at the time of the referral. Where appropriate include copies of documents recording the outcomes of any consultations.

The proponent's commitments to Community and Stakeholders has been well established since late 2013, which is as follows:

'To work within communities and whilst striving to leave a zero harm impact, ensure we contribute, promote and participate in healthy, proactive relationships and community capacity building.'

- MRV Tarong Basin Limited (MRV) is committed to building a reputation within the community and public eye, as an ethical and trusted operator.
- We are committed to operating in a sustainable and socially responsible manner.
- MRV seeks to establish and maintain enduring and mutually beneficial relationships with communities.
- MRV will be open, transparent and timely about information that may have a major effect on the community.
- Where possible we will seek to promote mutually beneficial partnerships by investing in organisations, events and local activities.
- MRV will seek to create a framework and environment that encourages the participation of employees in community related activities.

Should the project progress to mining operations, the Company has stated their commitment to provide local jobs and prioritise local service providers in awarding contracts, where equivalent cost and quality is provided. Progression to commissioned mining operations is reliant upon legislative processes and community support.

However, the proponent has commenced engagement upon this project in mid-2014, and as such has engaged with government, community and industry stakeholders. Whilst this engagement continues it has been undertaken through presentations to established community and industry forums.

A Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been developed for the Project, which is designed to:

- Inform stakeholders about the Project;
- Enable stakeholders to provide feedback; and
- Facilitate contact with government stakeholders.

Government, community, special interest and business stakeholders have been identified and they are grouped by:

- Their proximity to the proposed mining operations;
- Their involvement with the mining operations, including potential transport corridors, and
- Their level of interest in a particular aspect of the Project

The following Public Consultations have been carried out:

- Community Groups
  - Chamber of Commerce - Kingaroy Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc (KCCI)
  - South Burnett TAFE - Queensland South West TAFE
  - Fortnightly Information meetings with South Burnett residents
  - MRV has established a community information office in Kingaroy
  - Radio information sessions across South Burnett region
  - Public forums and presentation displays in shopping centres
  - General community was provided with information flyers via postal services
- Indigenous Groups
  - Wakka Wakka Claimants No 5, have been consulted as to the project
  - Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council
- Local Government
  - Mayor, South Burnett Regional Council
  - CEO
  - General Manager Infrastructure
  - General Manager Finance, Property & IT
  - General Manager Planning
- State Government
  - Premier and Minister for the Arts
  - Treasurer, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations
  - Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
  - Deputy Premier/Transport, Infrastructure
  - Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade
  - Mines, Resources, State Development
  - Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
  - Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef
  - Small Business; Minister for Education and Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games Training; Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills
  - Roads/Energy/Water; Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply
- Opposition - State Government
  - Opposition Leader
  - Deputy Leader & Treasury
  - Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Planning, Small Business Employment and Trade
  - Shadow Minister for Natural Resources and Mines,
  - State Development and Northern Development
  - Shadow Minister for Environment, Heritage
- Federal Government
  - Prime Minister's office- Prime Minister of Australia
  - Deputy Prime Minister Office Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development
  - Treasurer
  - Minister of Trade and Investment
  - Minister for Small Business
  - Minister for Employment
  - Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service
  - Minister of Education and Training
  - Energy Minister for Resources, Energy and Northern Australia
- Media
  - South Burnett Online
  - South Burnett Times
  - Courier Mail
  - AFR - The Financial Review Group
  - The Australian
  - Toowoomba Chronicle
  - Regional 7 Toowoomba
  - Regional 9 Toowoomba
  - Local Radio 1071AM

- ABC Radio
- Stake Holders
  - EDI Downer
  - Stanwell Corporation
- Community Groups
  - Kingaroy Concerned Citizens Group
  - Business Owners Groups
  - General Stakeholders

Also the results of a recent Galaxy Survey undertaken in April of 2016 are included, which indicate support for the project.

#### **2.7 A staged development or component of a larger project**

NA





### 3.1 (b) National Heritage Places

The Australian Government's Department of the Environment's Protected Matters Search Tool have not identified any National Heritage Properties within area of the proposed activities.

#### Description

N/A

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

[Address any impacts on the National Heritage values of any National Heritage place.](#)

N/A

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### 3.1 (c) Wetlands of International Importance (declared Ramsar wetlands)

The Australian Government's Department of the Environment's Protected Matters Search Tool have not identified any Wetlands of the International Importance within area of the proposed activities.

#### Description

N/A

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

[Address any impacts on the ecological character of any Ramsar wetlands.](#)

N/A

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### 3.1 (d) Listed threatened species and ecological communities

The Australian Government's Department of the Environment's Protected Matters Search Tool have identified two Listed Threatened Ecological Communities that may occur within the area of proposed activities.

#### Description

The two listed threatened communities that may occur within the area are:

1. Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia - Critically Endangered
2. White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland - Critically Endangered

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

[Address any impacts on the members of any listed threatened species \(except a conservation dependent species\) or any threatened ecological community, or their habitat.](#)

While it is unlikely that the two listed communities will be found within the proposed project area due to the prior extensive land clearing activities by the existing agricultural community, a more detailed field study will be conducted during the EIS stage of the project, so that the appropriate practical measures in mitigating any possible impact on the listed communities will be identified and the appropriate measures applied, should the project move into a pre-construction phase.

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### 3.1 (e) Listed migratory species

The Australian Government's Department of the Environment's Protected Matters Search Tool have returned 13 Listed Migratory Species that known, may or likely to occur within the area of proposed activities.

## Description

Name	Threatened	Type of Presence
<b>Migratory Marine Birds</b>		
Apus pacificus - Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<b>Migratory Terrestrial Species</b>		
Cuculus optatus - Oriental Cuckoo, Horsfield's Cuckoo [86651]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Hirundapus caudacutus - White-throated Needletail [682]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Merops ornatus - Rainbow Bee-eater [670]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Monarcha melanopsis- Black-faced Monarch [609]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Monarcha trivirgatus - Spectacled Monarch [610]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Motacilla flava - Yellow Wagtail [644]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Myiagra cyanoleuca - Satin Flycatcher [612]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Rhipidura rufifrons - Rufous Fantail [592]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<b>Migratory Wetlands Species</b>		
Ardea alba - Great Egret, White Egret [59541]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Ardea ibis - Cattle Egret [59542]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Gallinago hardwickii - Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pandion haliaetus - Osprey [952]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

There are 22 threatened species or species habitat may occur within area.

Name	Status	Type of Presence
<b>Birds</b>		
Anthochaera phrygia Regent Honeyeater [82338]	Critically Endangered	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour may occur within area
Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni Coxen's Fig-Parrot [59714]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Erythrotriorchis radiates Red Goshawk [942]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Geophaps scripta scripta Squatter Pigeon (southern) [64440]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Grantiella picta Painted Honeyeater [470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Lathamus discolor Swift Parrot [744]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Rostratula australis Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Turnix melanogaster Black-breasted Button-quail [923]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<b>Mammals</b>		
Chalinolobus dwyeri Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat [183]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Dasyurus hallucatus Northern Quoll [331]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Nyctophilus corbeni Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat [83395]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT) Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) [85104]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Pteropus poliocephalus Grey-headed Flying-fox [186]	Vulnerable	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour known to occur within area
<b>Plants</b>		
Bertya opposens [13792]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Denhamia parvifolia Small-leaved Denhamia [18106]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Haloragis exalata subsp. Velutina Tall Velvet Sea-berry [16839]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phebalium distans Mt Berryman Phebalium [81869]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Polianthion minutiflorum [82772]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Thesium australe Austral Toadflax, Toadflax [15202]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<b>Reptiles</b>		
Delma torquata Collared Delma [1656]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Egernia rugosa Yakka Skink [1420]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Furina dunmali Dunmall's Snake [59254]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

[Address any impacts on the members of any listed migratory species, or their habitat.](#)

It is recognised that, in spite of the recommended management and mitigation measures, and the active rehabilitation of disturbed areas that will occur through the mine's operational life, it is anticipated impact may occur, however superior outcomes and offsets can and will be on-taken.

Active, targeted management of habitats adjacent to the clearing footprint can improve their quality for migratory species. Establishing alternative habitats adjacent to the Project through active management prior to clearing migratory species habitats will encourage individuals to disperse from proposed clearing areas (or attract them to adjacent areas). This may include but not be limited to improving forage and nesting resources, increasing access to watering locations, and management of pest and weed species, to enhance the value of adjacent areas. This action will seek to minimise habitat loss (through replacement) and will also act to minimise potential for mortality by providing threatened species with habitat refuge within the operational mine landscape. The details for such management approaches and actions will consider the staged nature of operations, will be informed by onsite research, and will be detailed within Project Species Specific Management Plans (under the overarching Project Land Management (Flora and Fauna) Plan).

A detailed assessment of the potential impact on individual listed species will be provided as part of the EIS once habitats and resources have been identified in field surveys. The Ornamental Snake and the Squatter Pigeon has been previously recorded in the project area, mainly occurring in areas of previously cleared vegetation. It is anticipated that the project will cause localised impacts on some of the listed species. Regional Ecosystems consistent with EPBC threatened ecological communities may occur within the Project Area. Impacts on any Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) will be assessed in the EIS. This information will be provided in the EIS, once key resources and habitats for flora and fauna have been identified in field surveys.

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#### 3.1 (f) Commonwealth marine area

(If the action is in the Commonwealth marine area, complete 3.2(c) instead. This section is for actions taken outside the Commonwealth marine area that may have impacts on that area.)

The Australian Government's Department of the Environment's Protected Matters Search Tool have not identified any Commonwealth Marine Area within the area of proposed activities.

#### Description

N/A

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

[Address any impacts on any part of the environment in the Commonwealth marine area.](#)

N/A

#### 3.1 (g) Commonwealth land

(If the action is on Commonwealth land, complete 3.2(d) instead. This section is for actions taken outside Commonwealth land that may have impacts on that land.)

**Description**

If the action will affect Commonwealth land also describe the more general environment. The Policy Statement titled *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies* provides further details on the type of information needed. If applicable, identify any potential impacts from actions taken outside the Australian jurisdiction on the environment in a Commonwealth Heritage Place overseas.

The proposed action is not suggested to be taken within nor expected to impact the Commonwealth land.

**Nature and extent of likely impact**

Address any impacts on any part of the environment in the Commonwealth land. Your assessment of impacts should refer to the *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies* and specifically address impacts on:

- ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities;
- natural and physical resources;
- the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas;
- the heritage values of places; and
- the social, economic and cultural aspects of the above things.

N/A

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**3.1 (h) The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park****Nature and extent of likely impact**

The proposed action is not suggested to be taken within or in vicinity of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

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**3.1 (i) A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development**

The project is highly likely to meet the definition of a large coal mining development that will have, or is likely to have an impact on a water resource. The definition is broad in terms of impacts on a water resource, and the project, by way of the potential effects on groundwater and mine-affected water discharges, would meet the definition.

The proponent is proposing to develop a new coal mine, which will likely include an open-cut mine, a holding dam for water generated through mine de-watering, coal dust and fire suppression facilities, a rail line and some office buildings. At this stage a coal wash facilities are not proposed as a dry coal process method is preferred.

In assessing whether the water trigger applies to the action, the proponent will consider the impacts on water from the mine void, the holding dam and the coal facility.

If a referral is made, incorporating all aspects of the operations, and the action is determined to be a controlled action, the Department will assess the impacts on water resources of the whole of the action, including the rail line and office buildings.



## Description

If the action is a coal seam gas development or large coal mining development that has, or is likely to have, a significant impact on water resources, the draft *Policy Statement Significant Impact Guidelines: Coal seam gas and large coal mining developments—Impacts on water resources* provides further details on the type of information needed.

The coal separation plant is proposed to be consisting of a dry separation plant, middlings recycle conveyor, rejects conveyor, and product conveyor. Dry coal separation is not common in Australian coal mining operations, but is used widely in international coal operations where water use is restricted. It does not use a water-based medium for separation, and is designed to remove high ash material from raw coal to upgrade the coal quality. Dry coal separation operates on a table riffing principle, with air and fine coal particles acting as a separation medium. Reject coal is transferred to a bin, where it will be emptied into haul trucks for hauling to the waste dump, with no wet tailings facility required.

The major advantages of the dry coal separation plant over traditional CHPP's using wet separation techniques are low water requirements, low power consumption, simple operation requiring little oversight, low capital cost, and smaller footprint.

Project water requirements will be potentially significantly less using dry coal separation (averages approximately 10 litres per tonne of feed) than for an equivalent wet separation process (approximately 130–150 litres per tonne of feed).

## Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on water resources. Your assessment of impacts should refer to the draft *Significant Impact Guidelines: Coal seam gas and large coal mining developments—Impacts on water resources*.

Based on the proposed method of dry coal separation it is expected that the likely impact on the water resources would be minimal or neutral. Mine water demand will depend significantly on the coal processing technology to be used. However, mine water management will be based on the following concepts:

- Diversion of clean surface water runoff around disturbed areas to natural drainage lines.
- Drainage, storage and reuse of sediment-laden, but not mine-affected surface water runoff.
- Collection, storage and reuse of mine-affected surface water runoff.
- Collection, storage and reuse of mine-pit groundwater inflows.
- Water use (or reuse) in processing, dust suppression, and other mine activities.
- Discharge of excess water to the Stuart River; treated, stored and released so as to meet water quality and flow requirements.

## Surface water:

- The project is located at the top of the catchment, however, there is likely to be on-tenement access to the Stuart River to potentially dilute / accommodate treated water discharges of mine-affected water.
- The project lies within the Gordonbrook Dam storage catchment, which is understood to be a drinking water storage. This implies a potential emotive issue for the community.

## Groundwater:

- There will be some level of groundwater interference, particularly in the coal measures.
- There may be some groundwater connectivity between the coal measures and upper aquifers that are used for water supply (stock watering, irrigation etc).
- The existing model will need to be upgraded and expanded to assess the effects of the project.

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## 3.2 Nuclear actions, actions taken by the Commonwealth (or Commonwealth agency), actions taken in a Commonwealth marine area, actions taken on Commonwealth land, or actions taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

<b>3.2 (a)</b>	Is the proposed action a nuclear action?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment			
<b>3.2 (b)</b>	Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment			
<b>3.2 (c)</b>	Is the proposed action to be taken in a Commonwealth marine area?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(f))			
<b>3.2 (d)</b>	Is the proposed action to be taken on Commonwealth land?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(g))			
<b>3.2 (e)</b>	Is the proposed action to be taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(h))			

### 3.3 Other important features of the environment

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 above). If at Section 2.3 you identified any alternative locations, time frames or activities for your proposed action, you must complete each of the details below (where relevant) for each alternative identified.

#### 3.3 (a) Flora and fauna Terrestrial flora

The project area has been extensively cleared as a result of previous agricultural activities and practices. Regional ecosystem mapping (biodiversity status) is of relevance to resources projects. The mapping provides an excellent starting point for assessing vegetation communities. The mapped areas are typically field-verified as part of EIS studies. The regional ecosystem mapping for the project area is shown in Figure 6.

The mapping system presents regional ecosystems at three levels of status/class relating to the percentage of the original, pre-clearing, extent that remains (amongst other criteria). These are:

- Endangered (less than 10%)
- Of concern (10% – 30%)
- No concern at present / least concern (greater than 30%).

The mapping shows that the vast majority of the project area has been cleared for agricultural, residential and infrastructure purposes. The remaining islands of the natural vegetation are consisting of a small number of regional ecosystems of concern and high value regrowth.

### **Terrestrial fauna**

A search of the Queensland Museum database was carried out for the Kunioon project (immediately to the south) and returned records for two threatened species, *Furina dunmalli* (Dunmall's snake), listed as Vulnerable under both the Queensland Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulation 1994 and the Commonwealth EPBC Act, and *Hoplocephalus stephensii* (Stephens' banded snake), listed as Rare under the Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulation 1994.

A search of the DEW Protected Matters on-line database search tool identified 19 threatened fauna species as potentially occurring within the search area. These species comprised 10 birds, five mammals and four reptile species. An additional 11 migratory bird species were identified.

Clearing of regrowth and sparse remnant native vegetation will be necessary for the mine, associated infrastructure, and the transport corridor study area. At the end of mine life there will be an increased number of permanent water bodies on the mining lease. Rehabilitated mine spoil areas and final voids will possibly be fenced to exclude access.

A flora and fauna assessment will need to be undertaken as part of the EIS. The assessment will need to provide detailed site surveys to determine the ecological values of the study area, to identify habitat types for native plants and animals that may occur and to list plant and animal species identified during the surveys. The results of the surveys will be utilised during the mine design process to avoid or minimise impacts on areas of high ecological value.

At this point, fauna habitats can very generally be associated with mapped regional ecosystems within the project area.



data collected is presented in Table 3.3(b).

Table 3.3(b) Climatic data

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Mean Daily Max Temp (deg °C)												
29.6	28.8	27.5	25.1	21.6	18.9	18.5	20.1	23.3	26.0	28.1	29.6	24.7
Mean Daily Min Temp (deg °C)												
17.4	17.5	15.8	12.1	8.6	5.4	4.0	4.8	7.9	11.7	14.4	16.5	11.3
Mean Rainfall (mm)												
114.3	96.0	77.9	46.8	41.3	42.6	40.8	28.6	37.7	64.7	78.4	110.7	779.9
Mean Daily Evaporation (mm)												
6.4	5.7	4.9	3.8	2.7	2.1	2.2	3.0	4.3	5.5	6.2	6.7	4.4
Mean 3pm Wind Speed (km/hr)												
13.3	13.9	13.9	13.7	13.0	13.0	14.0	14.5	15.0	13.7	14.1	13.6	13.8

#### Existing surface water environment

The area is drained by first, second, and third order streams flowing from the twin peaks on the western boundary of the MDL-385 tenement. These streams are all highly modified by agricultural activities including impoundments (farm dams), grading, and diversion. The northern half of EPC 882 is drained by the north-flowing Kingaroy Creek which flows through the centre of the tenement, together with the Stuart River which is mostly located outside the western boundary of the tenement. These parts of the project area drain to the Gordonbrook Dam, which is a raw water source for potable water supplies to Kingaroy and other areas.

All streams in the project area appear to be ephemeral.

Environmental Values and Water Quality Objectives are not scheduled under the Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009 for the Burnett River. The Burnett-Baffle Water Quality Improvement Plan identifies the following environmental values:

- Aquatic ecosystems
- Irrigation
- Farm supply
- Stock watering
- Human consumption
- Primary recreation and secondary recreation
- Visual appreciation
- Drinking water

Industrial use, Cultural and spiritual values (non-Indigenous), Cultural and spiritual values (Indigenous) and aquaculture, were not identified as environmental values for the Stuart River (upstream of Gordonbrook Dam). Water quality objectives were not specified in the Burnett-Baffle Water Quality Improvement Plan.

#### Groundwater

An assessment of existing groundwater resource characteristics was carried out by consultants Golder Associates in 2010. The study included a review of existing information, including a groundwater bore census within the area of proposed actions and found that groundwater use was not intensive, but that there was some groundwater abstraction for stock watering and irrigation, particularly from the Barkly Creek alluvial aquifers, to the east of the proposed site.

The study summarises the conceptual groundwater model (from deepest to shallowest) as follows:

- The Tarong Beds, which comprise the Tarong Coal Measure sequence, consist of a variety of sedimentary units predominantly sandstone, siltstone and mudstone units with interbedded coal seams; all affected by an overprint of variably spaced joint sets, fractures and, more rarely, faults, and the coal units.
- An Intermediate Unit, classified as aquitard, and comprising largely clayey material of different moisture content and consistency. However, other sedimentary inter-beds and bands, such as weathered sandstones, siltstones and gravels may be present, as are basalt material within the upper reaches of the unit.
- The Upper Basalt Unit which can be subdivided into up to four distinct basalt flows. The flow boundaries may be abrupt, the bands may pinch out and can generally be assumed to be of variable thickness and follow the contours of the paleo-surface and earlier flows.
- The surficial laterite/soil layer which consists of deeply weathered basalt derived soils of largely clayey nature, with lenses or layers of sandy or gravelly material and occasional organic material.

- While two apparently different groundwater levels were being identified at the site, the degree of hydraulic connectivity between the upper and lower aquifer is likely to be variable, depending on the composition and thickness of the Intermediate Unit aquitard.

This study and subsequent extensive monitoring of the piezometric pressure in the upper aquifer (basalt aquifer) above the clay layer aquitard, is largely unaffected by the groundwater abstraction from underlying the coal measures.

### **3.3 (c) Soil and Vegetation characteristics**

The soils of the region were surveyed in 2001 and the mapping indicates that soils, within the project area, include ferrosol, vertosol, sodosol, chromosol, kurosol and kandosol (DNRM, 2001; QLD Government, 2016b). The MLA consists predominately of red ferrosol on mid-upper and mid-lower hill slopes, of firm red clay loam or light clay surfaces on hills or rises over deeply weathered basaltic material. This occurs on undulating rises to rolling hills on deeply weathered basaltic material. The north-eastern section contains more vertosol soils, of dark or brown light to medium clay surfaces on hills or rises over basalt. Along eastern side, the soil types include chromosol, sodosol, kurosol and kandosol, which are more sandy loam to sandy clay loam surfaces. The kandosol occurs on a hill crest or hill slope on older higher lying alluvium and tertiary sediments, whereas the other three soil types occur on low lying hills on granite.

The data available (QLD Government, 2016b) did not indicate that acid-sulphate soils were present in the area.



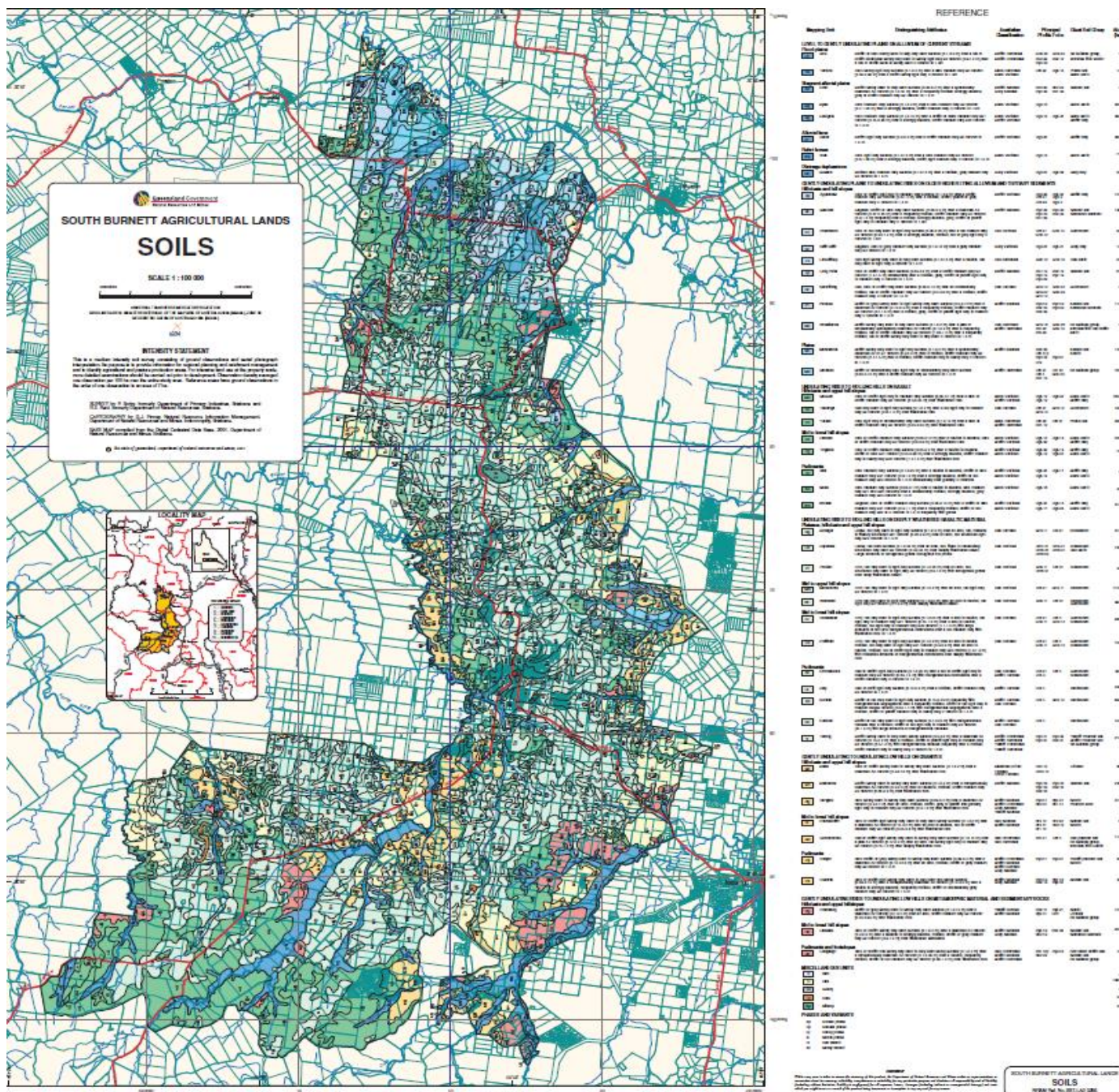


Figure 9: South Burnett Soils Clasification

### 3.3 (d) Outstanding natural features

Preliminary desktop searches of the project area have identified no outstanding natural features

### 3.3 (e) Remnant native vegetation

As addressed above

### 3.3 (f) Gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area)

NA

### **3.3 (g) Current state of the environment**

Include information about the extent of erosion, whether the area is infested with weeds or feral animals and whether the area is covered by native vegetation or crops.

Prior statements on land cover

### **3.3 (h) Commonwealth Heritage Places or other places recognised as having heritage values**

There are no Commonwealth Heritage Places have been identified in the project area.

### **3.3 (i) Indigenous heritage values**

There are no indigenes heritage values have been identified within the project area.

### **3.3 (j) Other important or unique values of the environment**

Describe any other key features of the environment affected by, or in proximity to the proposed action (for example, any national parks, conservation reserves, wetlands of national significance etc).

No National Parks, conservation reserves or wetlands of national significance are located within or near the project areas that will be affected by the proposed action.

### **3.3 (k) Tenure of the action area (eg freehold, leasehold)**

The proposed mining lease application area encompasses mineral development license (MDL) 385 (granted in 2009) and a small part of exploration for coal permit (EPC) 882, which was acquired from Cockatoo Coal Limited (CCL) in September 2015. It is located within the Tarong Coal Basin of the South Burnett region of Queensland, and is approximately 210 km by road to the north-west of the state capital in Brisbane and 5 km south of the major regional centre of Kingaroy. Kingaroy is located in on the top of the Great Dividing Range, with the major local land use being agricultural (mixed cropping and grazing). More detailed description of the tenure action area is presented in sections 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3.

### **3.3 (l) Existing land/marine uses of area**

The project area is zoned as rural. The planning scheme identifies the Mining Tenure associated with the Kunioon project (MDL 201) and also identifies the Coal Resources located to the north of MDL 201.

The Project area includes areas mapped as Strategic Cropping Land (SCL) trigger areas. The Company has carried out a slope analysis of the MDL 385 area and surrounds, to determine whether the trigger areas meet the SCL criteria of less than five degrees slope, in this zone. The analysis indicates that some areas, mapped as SCL trigger areas, exceed the five percent criteria, and therefore do not meet the definition for classification as SCL. These matters will be considered at the stage of detailed project design.

The real property title of land within the project area comprises privately held freehold land, and road reserves held by South Burnett Regional Council on behalf of the Crown.

### **3.3 (m) Any proposed land/marine uses of area**

There are no other new proposed land users for the mine site.



## 4 Measures to avoid or reduce impacts

**Note:** If you have identified alternatives in relation to location, time frames or activities for the proposed action at Section 2.3 you will need to complete this section in relation to each of the alternatives identified.

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.

For any measures intended to avoid or mitigate significant impacts on matters protected under the EPBC Act, specify:

- what the measure is,
- how the measure is expected to be effective, and
- the time frame or workplan for the measure.

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.

Provide information about the level of commitment by the person proposing to take the action to achieve the proposed environmental outcomes and implement the proposed mitigation measures. For example, if the measures are preliminary suggestions only that have not been fully researched, or are dependent on a third party's agreement (e.g. council or landowner), you should state that, that is the case.

Note, the Australian Government Environment Minister may decide that a proposed action is not likely to have significant impacts on a protected matter, as long as the action is taken in a particular manner (section 77A of the EPBC Act). The particular manner of taking the action may avoid or reduce certain impacts, in such a way that those impacts will not be 'significant'. More detail is provided on the Department's web site.

For the Minister to make such a decision (under section 77A), the proposed measures to avoid or reduce impacts must:

- clearly form part of the referred action (eg be identified in the referral and fall within the responsibility of the person proposing to take the action),
- be must be clear, unambiguous, and provide certainty in relation to reducing or avoiding impacts on the matters protected, and
- must be realistic and practical in terms of reporting, auditing and enforcement.

More general commitments (eg preparation of management plans or monitoring) and measures aimed at providing environmental offsets, compensation or off-site benefits CANNOT be taken into account in making the initial decision about whether the proposal is likely to have a significant impact on a matter protected under the EPBC Act. (But those commitments may be relevant at the later assessment and approval stages, including the appropriate level of assessment, if your proposal proceeds to these stages).

An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be developed and will detail the environmental values and the impacts of the project.

The aims of an EMP are to provide:

1. auditable commitments to practical and achievable strategies and design standards (performance specifications)
2. for the management of a proposal to ensure that environmental requirements are specified and complied with;
3. an integrated plan for comprehensive monitoring and control of impacts;
4. local, State and Commonwealth authorities, stakeholders and MRV Tarong Coal Ltd with a common focus for approvals conditions and compliance with policies and conditions;
5. the community with evidence that the environmental management of a project is acceptable.

Specifically the EMP will propose environmental control and proposed conditions that will address:

- Air quality and dust management;
- Community values and social impacts
- Flora, fauna communities, protecting threatened species and limiting impacts on species diversity;
- Groundwater quality and protection from contamination;
- Land management and rehabilitation objectives;
- Noise and Vibration,
- Surface water quality and protection
- Waste management, reuse and minimisation.

## 5 Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

Identify whether or not you believe the action is a controlled action (ie. whether you think that significant impacts on the matters protected under Part 3 of the EPBC Act are likely) and the reasons why.

### 5.1 Do you THINK your proposed action is a controlled action?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No, complete section 5.2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes, complete section 5.3

Whilst the project may proceed having minor impact upon Water values within the region, it is preferred for clarity of the approvals process and the project that the project be classified as being a "Controlled Action"

### 5.2 Proposed action IS NOT a controlled action.

Specify the key reasons why you think the proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have significant impacts on a matter protected under the EPBC Act.

### 5.3 Proposed action IS a controlled action

Type 'x' in the box for the matter(s) protected under the EPBC Act that you think are likely to be significantly impacted. (The 'sections' identified below are the relevant sections of the EPBC Act.)

#### Matters likely to be impacted

<input type="checkbox"/>	World Heritage values (sections 12 and 15A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Heritage places (sections 15B and 15C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protection of the environment from nuclear actions (sections 21 and 22A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commonwealth marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (sections 24B and 24C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development (sections 24D and 24E)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land (sections 26 and 27A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions (section 28)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commonwealth Heritage places overseas (sections 27B and 27C)

It remains unclear whether the proposed project will produce a significant impact on the matters protected by the EPBC act. However due to nature and scale of the proposed activities, there is a remote possibility that some impact may occur. Given this proposed project is considered as a "Controlled Action" the proponent will seek approval through the pending EIS process.

Specify the key reasons why you think the proposed action is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the matters identified above.

## 6 Environmental record of the responsible party

**NOTE:** If a decision is made that a proposal needs approval under the EPBC Act, the Environment Minister will also decide the assessment approach. The EPBC Regulations provide for the environmental history of the party proposing to take the action to be taken into account when deciding the assessment approach.

	Yes	No
<p><b>6.1</b> Does the party taking the action have a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management?</p> <p>Provide details</p>	X	
<p><b>6.2</b> Has either (a) the party proposing to take the action, or (b) if a permit has been applied for in relation to the action, the person making the application - ever been subject to any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources?</p> <p>If yes, provide details</p>		X
<p><b>6.3</b> If the party taking the action is a corporation, will the action be taken in accordance with the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework?</p> <p>If yes, provide details of environmental policy and planning framework MRV Tarong Basin Coal Ltd will develop a project specific policy in accordance with the company framework for environmental and community stewardship.</p>	X	
<p><b>6.4</b> Has the party taking the action previously referred an action under the EPBC Act, or been responsible for undertaking an action referred under the EPBC Act?</p> <p>Provide name of proposal and EPBC reference number (if known)</p>		X

## 7 Information sources and attachments

(For the information provided above)

### 7.1 References

- List the references used in preparing the referral.
- Highlight documents that are available to the public, including web references if relevant.

Australian Government's Department of the Environment's Protected Matters Search Tool. Report Created 22/04/16.  
Burnett Mary Regional Group (2009), Burnett-Baffle Water Quality Improvement Plan.  
Cottrell Cameron & Steen Surveys Pty Ltd (2015), Terrain Slope Analysis – Kingaroy Area Report Prepared for Moreton Resources Ltd.  
2009 Geotechnical Laboratory Test Report, L762, Strata Control Technology  
2010 Wellcad clearing interpretation, Kingaroy project, Strata Control Technology  
Geological Data Design (2014), Moreton Resources MDL385 – Kingaroy Resource Estimation Report  
Golder Associates (2010), Groundwater Assessment and Impact Study.  
Hoek, Evert, Practical Rock Engineering – An Ongoing Set of Notes, available on the Rocscience website, [www.rocscience.com](http://www.rocscience.com)  
Jell, P.A. (ed.) (2012) Geology of Queensland, Geological Survey of Queensland  
Kingaroy Shire Council (2006), Planning Scheme for the Shire of Kingaroy.  
Land Resource Assessment and Management (2015), Stage 1 Pre-feasibility assessment SCL and ALC issues.  
MRV Tarong Basin Coal (2014) MDL385 – Kingaroy Resource Estimation Report, GDD.  
MRV Tarong Basin Coal (2015) Geological Model Information & JORC Coal Resource Estimate, Tarong Basin Coal Project  
Parsons Brinckerhoff (2007), Kunioon Coal Project Initial Advice Statement.  
Pegrem, B, 1995, Tarong Basin in Geology of Australian Coal Basins, Geological Society of Australia, Special Publication No 1.  
Pegrem, B.J. (1995) Tarong Basin. In Ward, C.R., Harrington, H.J., Mallett, C.W. and Beeston, J.W. eds., Geology of Australian Coal Basins, Geological Society of Australia Coal Geology Group Special Publication 1, 465-470.  
Sorby & Reid (2001), Soils and Agricultural Suitability of the South Burnett Agricultural Lands, Queensland.

### 7.2 Reliability and date of information

For information in section 3 specify:

- source of the information;
- how recent the information is;
- how the reliability of the information was tested; and
- any uncertainties in the information.

All reference material and dates are listed above. Those sources are considered to be reliable.

### 7.3 Attachments

Fig1\_MLA – Proposed Mining Lease Application Area  
Fig8\_VegStatus – Current Vegetation Mapping Status  
ImageBase – Regional Overview of proposed project  
20160419 Report Galaxy Outcomes – Community Consultation  
Fig2\_PitToPort – Overview of potential corridors in question  
Fig9\_VegStatusBiodiversity – Bio Diversity Map  
DATSIP Letter – State Governments Approvals of the Cultural Heritage Management Plan



		✓ attached	Title of attachment(s)
<b>You must attach</b>	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the project locality (section 1)	X	Included in body of application document
	GIS file delineating the boundary of the referral area (section 1)	x	
	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the location of the project in respect to any matters of national environmental significance or important features of the environments (section 3)		
<b>If relevant, attach</b>	copies of any state or local government approvals and consent conditions (section 2.5)		
	copies of any completed assessments to meet state or local government approvals and outcomes of public consultations, if available (section 2.6)		
	copies of any flora and fauna investigations and surveys (section 3)		
	technical reports relevant to the assessment of impacts on protected matters that support the arguments and conclusions in the referral (section 3 and 4)		
	report(s) on any public consultations undertaken, including with Indigenous stakeholders (section 3)	x	Cultural Heritage Registration Galaxy Poll

## 8 Contacts, signatures and declarations

**NOTE:** Providing false or misleading information is an offence punishable on conviction by imprisonment and fine (s 489, EPBC Act).

Under the EPBC Act a referral can only be made by:

- the person proposing to take the action (which can include a person acting on their behalf); or
- a Commonwealth, state or territory government, or agency that is aware of a proposal by a person to take an action, and that has administrative responsibilities relating to the action<sup>1</sup>.

### Project title:

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#### 8.1 Person proposing to take action

This is the individual, government agency or company that will be principally responsible for, or who will carry out, the proposed action.

If the proposed action will be taken under a contract or other arrangement, this is:

- the person for whose benefit the action will be taken; or
- the person who procured the contract or other arrangement and who will have principal control and responsibility for the taking of the proposed action.

If the proposed action requires a permit under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act<sup>2</sup>, this is the person requiring the grant of a GBRMP permission.

The Minister may also request relevant additional information from this person.

If further assessment and approval for the action is required, any approval which may be granted will be issued to the person proposing to take the action. This person will be responsible for complying with any conditions attached to the approval.

If the Minister decides that further assessment and approval is required, the Minister must designate a person as a proponent of the action. The proponent is responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process. The proponent will generally be the person proposing to take the action<sup>3</sup>.

1. Name and Title:

Jason Elks – Managing Director

2. Organisation (if applicable):

MRV Tarong Basin Coal Pty Ltd

3. EPBC Referral Number (if known):

4: ACN / ABN (if applicable): ACN 160 645 607

5. Postal address PO Box 10684, Brisbane QLD 4000

6. Telephone: 07 3831 6088

7. Email: Jason.elks@moretonresources.com.au

8. Name of proposed proponent (if not the same person at item 1 above and if applicable):

9. ACN/ABN of proposed proponent (if not the same person named at item 1

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<sup>1</sup> If the proposed action is to be taken by a Commonwealth, state or territory government or agency, section 8.1 of this form should be completed. However, if the government or agency is aware of, and has administrative responsibilities relating to, a proposed action that is to be taken by another person which has not otherwise been referred, please contact the Referrals Gateway (1800 803 772) to obtain an alternative contacts, signatures and declarations page.

<sup>2</sup> If your referred action, or a component of it, is to be taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park the Minister is required to provide a copy of your referral to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) (see section 73A, EPBC Act). For information about how the GBRMPA may use your information, see [http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/privacy/privacy\\_notice\\_for\\_permits](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/privacy/privacy_notice_for_permits).

above):

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU QUALIFY FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE FEE(S) THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE PAYABLE**

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

- ☐ an individual; OR
- ☐ a small business entity (within the meaning given by section 328-110 (other than subsection 328-119(4)) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*); OR
- ☐ not applicable.

If you are small business entity you must provide the Date/Income Year that you became a small business entity:

Since the Companies inception in approx. 1994 it has traded as a small business having little or no normal incoming producing or turn over events. It was operated as a explorer and researcher-Developer of Technologies until more recently when it embarked upon the attached project. However at no stage has the Company had any normal income or revenues for assessment as anything other than a small business. Dates as a small business approx. 1994 – 2016 inclusive

Note: You must advise the Department within 10 business days if you cease to be a small business entity. Failure to notify the Secretary of this is an offence punishable on conviction by a fine (regulation 5.23B(3) *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000 (Cth)*).

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO APPLY FOR A WAIVER**

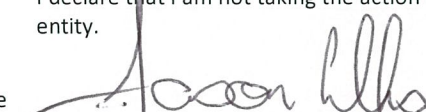
I would like to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under Schedule 1, 5.21A of the [EPBC Regulations](#). Under sub regulation 5.21A(5), you must include information about the applicant (if not you) the grounds on which the waiver is sought and the reasons why it should be made:

- ☐ not applicable.

Declaration

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

Signature



Date 10 May 2016

**8.2 Person preparing the referral information (if different from 8.1)**

[Individual or organisation who has prepared the information contained in this referral form.](#)

Name

Title

Organisation

ACN / ABN (if applicable)

Postal address

Telephone

Email

Organisation name should match entity identified in ABN/ACN search

Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.

I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

Signature

Date

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## REFERRAL CHECKLIST

NOTE: This checklist is to help ensure that all the relevant referral information has been provided. It is not a part of the referral form and does not need to be sent to the Department.

### HAVE YOU:

- ☒ Completed all required sections of the referral form?
- ☒ Included accurate coordinates (to allow the location of the proposed action to be mapped)?
- ☒ Provided a map showing the location and approximate boundaries of the project area?
- ☒ Provided a map/plan showing the location of the action in relation to any matters of NES?
- ☒ Provided a digital file (preferably ArcGIS shapefile, refer to guidelines at [Attachment A](#)) delineating the boundaries of the referral area?
- ☒ Provided complete contact details and signed the form?
- ☒ Provided copies of any documents referenced in the referral form?
- ☒ Ensured that all attachments are less than three megabytes (3mb)?
- ☒ Sent the referral to the Department (electronic and hard copy preferred)?

## Geographic Information System (GIS) data supply guidelines

If the area is less than 5 hectares, provide the location as a point layer. If the area greater than 5 hectares, please provide as a polygon layer. If the proposed action is linear (eg. a road or pipeline) please provide a polyline layer.

GIS data needs to be provided to the Department in the following manner:

- Point, Line or Polygon data types: ESRI file geodatabase feature class (preferred) or as an ESRI shapefile (.shp) zipped and attached with appropriate title
- Raster data types: Raw satellite imagery should be supplied in the vendor specific format.
- Projection as GDA94 coordinate system.

Processed products should be provided as follows:

- For data, uncompressed or lossless compressed formats is required - GeoTIFF or Imagine IMG is the first preference, then JPEG2000 lossless and other simple binary+header formats (ERS, ENVI or BIL).
- For natural/false/pseudo colour RGB imagery:
  - If the imagery is already mosaiced and is ready for display then lossy compression is suitable (JPEG2000 lossy/ECW/MrSID). Prefer 10% compression, up to 20% is acceptable.
  - If the imagery requires any sort of processing prior to display (i.e. mosaicing/colour balancing/etc) then an uncompressed or lossless compressed format is required.

Metadata or 'information about data' will be produced for all spatial data and will be compliant with ANZLIC Metadata Profile. ([http://www.anzlic.org.au/policies\\_guidelines#guidelines](http://www.anzlic.org.au/policies_guidelines#guidelines)).

The Department's preferred method is using ANZMet Lite, however the Department's Service Provider may use any compliant system to generate metadata.

All data will be provide under a Creative Commons license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/>)