



**NEW HOPE**  
GROUP

## 1. Introduction



# **1. Introduction**

## **1.1 Revised Project Background**

New Acland Coal Pty Ltd (NAC) currently operates the existing New Acland Coal Mine (the Mine), as an approximately 5 million tonne (product coal) per annum (Mtpa) open cut coal mine on mining lease (ML) 50170 and ML 50216, adjacent to Mineral Development Licence (MDL) 244, under the approval of Environmental Authority (EA) EPML00335713.

NAC is proposing to develop the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project (the revised Project), which involves the extension of the Mine's operating life to approximately 2029 with the inclusion and progressive development of two new resource areas within mining lease application (MLA) 50232. These resource areas are identified as the Manning Vale and Willeroo resource areas. NAC submitted an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in November 2009 for the New Acland Stage 3 Coal Mine Expansion Project (the original proposal), which involved the staged expansion of the Mine up to a capacity of 10 Mtpa. The original proposal was expected to extend coal production at the Mine until approximately 2042.

Since that time, the New Hope Group (NHG) liaised with the State and Commonwealth governments and key community stakeholders in the preparation of a Supplementary Report. Prior to the finalisation of the Supplementary Report, the NHG revised the Project's scope, in direct response to comments and concerns raised by Government and other key stakeholders, including community representatives, during the EIS process. The NHG understands the importance of properly securing its social licence to operate, and as a consequence, has made significant changes to the original proposal. NHG has also strengthened its interactions with key stakeholders, particularly those in the direct vicinity of the Mine, through heightened personal interfaces and activities, as well as through its Community Information Centre in Oakey. Engagement has also been bolstered through other associated activities as part of the company's corporate affairs division and operational divisions.

The New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project Environmental Impact Statement (the draft EIS) for the revised Project was released for public comment from 20 January 2014 to 3 March 2014. The draft EIS presented a description of the revised Project and described the measures that would be undertaken to prevent or mitigate any potential impacts on the environment. The draft EIS also addressed the potential for social impacts and presents mitigation strategies to manage them.

## **1.2 Purpose of the AEIS**

This Additional Information to the EIS: New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project (AEIS) responds to particular issues raised in submissions from individuals, organisations and Advisory Agencies on the draft EIS for the revised Project. It also aims to provide updated information to that provided in the draft EIS, details of project changes and further information regarding the revised Project's development and NAC's commitments.

## **1.3 Stakeholder Consultation and Public Notification**

NAC sort comment on the draft EIS in two ways:

- general community engagement activities conducted since the public release of the draft EIS; and
- submissions made through the formal draft EIS comment period.

Both positive and negative issues were raised by stakeholders. Key issues raised through each of these processes are addressed throughout the AEIS.

### 1.3.1 General Community Engagement

NAC has increased its general community engagement since the release of the draft EIS in response to community interest in the revised Project. This also allowed community stakeholders a range of opportunities to gain information and make comment on the revised Project. Further details relating to consultation activities can be found in **Section 5.1.10** of the AEIS.

Hard copies of the draft EIS were available for viewing at the following locations:

- Queensland State Library, South Bank, Brisbane;
- National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, Canberra;
- New Hope Information Centre, Oakey; and
- Toowoomba Regional Council service centres at:
  - Goombungee Library: 89 Mocatta Street, Goombungee;
  - Oakey Service Centre: 64 Campbell Street, Oakey;
  - Oakey Library: 64 Campbell Street, Oakey; and
  - Toowoomba Library: 4 Little Street, Toowoomba.

The location of these public displays was advertised in local newspapers, on local notice boards and was also prominently displayed in the New Hope Community Information Centre in Campbell Street in the centre of Oakey.

Full printed copies of the draft EIS were also provided free of charge to near neighbours of the New Acland Mine, the Oakey Coal Action Alliance (OCAA), the Jondaryan District Residents Association, Queensland Government departments, and the Toowoomba Regional Council (TRC). Printed copies of the draft EIS were also made available on a loan basis from the New Hope Community Information Centre in Oakey. The draft EIS was also available on the company's website and NHG provided free copies of the draft EIS on DVD.

The Executive Summary of the draft EIS was prepared as a booklet and over 500 copies were distributed to neighbours of the Mine, via stakeholder meetings and briefings, through the New Hope Community Information Centre in Oakey, and at industry and community events during the public consultation period and beyond.

NAC conducted a number of other activities to inform and consult the community about the draft EIS, these included:

- dedicated presentation on the draft EIS and the EIS process to the New Acland Community Reference Group (CRG) by the Project Manager, New Acland Project on 10 February 2014. CRG members in attendance included local landholders, TRC, Oakey Indigenous Reconciliation Council;
- distribution of letters to about 3,569 households in the region. The newsletter outlined how to access the draft EIS, dates and locations for NAC's information sessions, and the submission and approvals process;
- distribution of letters to 291 community members, neighbours and other key stakeholders in the region outlining how to access the draft EIS, dates and locations for NAC's information sessions, and the submission and approvals process;
- distribution of letters to 545 suppliers and contractors outlining how to access the draft EIS, dates and locations for NAC's information sessions, and the submission and approvals process;
- distribution of letters to 300 NAC direct employees outlining how to access the draft EIS, dates and locations for NAC's information sessions, and the submission and approvals process;
- display of information posters in key public locations in Jondaryan, Goombungee, Acland and Oakey; Fact sheets were also available, along with the display of posters, at the New Hope Community Information Centre in Campbell Street, Oakey;
- local and regional advertising on the availability of the draft EIS, the EIS process and how to make submissions, in the Oakey Champion and Toowoomba Chronicle, and the High Country Herald;
- media releases and media interviews on the EIS process, including the Oakey Champion, the Toowoomba Chronicle, ABC Southern Queensland, WIN news Darling Downs; 4GR, the High Country Herald, and the Courier Mail;
- updated NAC project website and NHG website with the draft EIS, media statements and related EIS material;
- information and presentations provided at key local and regional events such as the Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Energy Summit and the Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise functions; and
- public site tours of the Mine continued to be held during the draft EIS public consultation period.

#### **1.3.1.1 Community Information Sessions**

As part of the consultation process for the draft EIS, EIS public display sessions were held at Jondaryan, Goombungee, Acland and Oakey in February 2014. A total of 63 people attended the public display sessions. The sessions provided an opportunity for community members to ask questions and discuss any issues related to the draft EIS for the revised Project. It is important to note that the issues raised at these sessions were in addition to the official EIS submission process. Approximately 20 technical experts and representatives from NAC and NHG attended the sessions to answer questions in relation to the revised Project and the draft EIS. Key community comments and concerns raised are included in **Table 1.3.1-A**.

Community Information Sessions were held as follows:

- Jondaryan - the Jondaryan Community Hall in Jondaryan on 5 February 2014, between 3 pm and 7 pm. 13 people attended the public display;
- Goombungee - the Goombungee Public Hall in Goombungee on 6 February 2014, between 3 pm and 7 pm. 13 people attended the public display;
- Acland - the Acland Hall in Acland on 7 February 2014, between 9 am and 12 pm. 21 people attended the public display; and
- Oakey - the Oakey RSL in Oakey on 8 February 2014, between 10 am and 2 pm. 16 people attended the public display.

#### **1.3.1.2 Advisory Agency Briefings**

The Office of the Coordinator-General coordinated three Advisory Agency briefing sessions held in Brisbane and Toowoomba during February 2014. The dates and attendees are outlined in the following sections.

##### ***Brisbane Advisory Agency Briefing***

The Brisbane Advisory Agency Briefing was held in Brisbane on 12 February 2014. The briefings outlined main project themes and impacts presented in the draft EIS and provided the agencies an opportunity to discuss key issues with NAC and staff of the Office of the Coordinator-General. The following departments and organisations attended:

- Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services;
- Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs;
- Department of the Environment;
- Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning;
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection;
- Department of Natural Resources and Mines;
- Office of the Coordinator-General;
- Queensland Treasury and Trade;
- Department of Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games;
- Office of the Coordinator-General;
- Sinclair Knight Merz; and
- NHG.

##### ***Toowoomba Regional Council Briefing***

The TRC Briefing was held in Toowoomba on 13 February 2014. The briefing provided an opportunity for TRC officers to clarify information provided in the draft EIS.

##### ***Toowoomba Advisory Agency Briefing***

The Toowoomba Advisory Agency Briefing was held in Toowoomba on 13 February 2014. The briefings outlined main project themes and impacts presented in the draft EIS and provided the agencies an opportunity to discuss key issues with NAC and staff of the Office of the Coordinator-General. The following departments and organisations attended:

- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection;
- Department of Natural Resources and Mines;
- Department of Transport and Main Roads;
- TRC;
- Queensland Police Service;
- Office of the Coordinator-General;
- Sinclair Knight Merz; and
- NHG.

#### **1.3.1.3 Site Visits**

NAC hosts on a regular basis public site tours as part of their community engagement activities. The tour dates are advertised in the local media and through the New Hope Community Information Centre in Oakey. During the months of February and March 2014, a total of 17 site tours were conducted by NAC, with a total of approximately 400 people touring the Mine and the proposed revised Project location. Attendees included landholders, representatives from local community groups, industry and educational facilities, amongst others.

In addition to the public site tours, NAC also hosted two guided site tours of the Mine and the revised Project site during February and March 2014 for members from Advisory Agencies and organisations.

Those in attendance included:

- Department of the Environment;
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection;
- Department of Natural Resources and Mines;
- Department of Transport and Main Roads;
- TRC;
- Office of the Coordinator-General;
- Acland Pastoral Company;
- Sinclair Knight Merz; and
- NHG.

#### 1.3.1.4 Stakeholder Briefings

NAC also conducted individual stakeholder briefings about the draft EIS with the majority of the sensitive receptors of the revised Project, landholders and key community representatives.

#### 1.3.1.5 New Hope Group Community Information Centre - Oakey

During the draft EIS public comment period, NAC extended the operating hours of its Community Information Centre, located in the main street of Oakey, and increased staffing levels.

NHG's Executive General Manager Mining was among those from NHG who spent time in the Community Centre during this period to engage with community members. The Centre is staffed by two designated community liaison officers throughout the year.

#### 1.3.1.6 Key Topics Raised in EIS submissions and through General Community Engagement

A number of topics were raised in submissions on the EIS and throughout general community engagement activities. **Table 1.3.1-A** provides an overview of these issues and where they are addressed in the draft EIS and AEIS.

**Table 1.3.1-A Key Issues raised by members of the public**

Key Issues raised by members of the public	Refer to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>land management and rehabilitation</li> <li>Vegetation offsets and Bluegrass</li> <li>soils management</li> <li>Koalas</li> </ul>	<b>Section 5.1.1</b> of the AEIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JRLF decommissioning and management</li> <li>coal veneering</li> </ul>	<b>Section 5.1.4</b> of the AEIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>road closures</li> <li>access to Acland</li> <li>Muldu to Acland road closure</li> </ul>	<b>Section 5.1.6</b> of the AEIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>extent of surface rights</li> <li>rehabilitation and post mine land use</li> <li>final landform management</li> <li>grazing trials</li> </ul>	<b>Section 5.1.2</b> of the AEIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>groundwater impacts and management</li> <li>surface water impacts and management (flooding, existing and expansion)</li> </ul>	<b>Section 5.1.5</b> of the AEIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>air quality/ dust management</li> <li>blasting</li> <li>noise impacts</li> </ul>	<b>Section 5.1.3</b> of the AEIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>project definition – key elements</li> </ul>	<b>Chapter 3</b> of the draft EIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acland conservation management</li> <li>heritage items – No.2 Colliery</li> </ul>	<b>Section 5.1.7</b> of the AEIS

### **1.3.2 Submission Evaluation and AEIS genesis and structure**

The draft EIS attracted 1,397 submissions from individuals, organisations and Advisory Agencies. Around 480 submissions (approximately 30%) expressly requested the revised Project to be approved. Positive submissions came from local landholders, local Community members, direct and indirect stakeholders, local businesses and employees.

Submitters who supported the revised Project did so on the following grounds:

- NAC supports the community by using local contractors to supply goods and services to the Mine;
- NAC is a very important customer to a number of local and Queensland-based businesses;
- significant flow-on economic contributions to local economy from coal mining;
- local and regional growth;
- NAC support local sporting clubs and demonstrate good corporate citizenship;
- there will be a significant loss of jobs should the revised Project not proceed;
- NAC has a focus on safety, open communication & community responsibility;
- NAC invaluable to the learning and development for mining and environmental students of University of Queensland;
- mining and agriculture can co-exist;
- NAC have demonstrated good pastoral and rehabilitation expertise; and
- mine jobs allow employed local farmers to farm part-time.

About 700 submissions (around 50%) requested the revised Project not to be approved. These mostly consisted of submissions made by anti-coal activist groups (225 submissions from an on-line template and 422 submissions made as part of a petition).

The key issues raised by these submissions included impacts on air quality, greenhouse gas emissions-impacts on koalas; impacts on rural land use; economic impacts; noise and vibration and impacts on groundwater aquifers.

Around 180 submissions (approximately 12%) were submissions from Federal, State and Local government departments and other Private Submitters.

After evaluating the draft EIS and the submissions made on the draft EIS, the Coordinator-General has requested NAC to provide additional information to the draft EIS (AEIS) by providing a “submissions analysis register” for the proponent to complete with clear reference to where additional information to the draft EIS report has addressed each request for information.

The “submissions analysis register” provides specific advice on additional information needed to satisfy the state, local and federal agency requirements and issues raised by private submitters that need to be addressed.

The Submission Analysis Register located in **Appendix A1** details where issues raised in submissions were required by the Coordinator-General to be responded to in the AEIS.

For privacy purposes, the names of private submitters are not included in **Appendix A1**. Private submitters have been advised by the office of the Coordinator-General as to which submission number accords with their comments.

While the majority of private submitters' issues will be addressed via additional information required to satisfy agency submissions, others will require a collective response and others a specific response. The Coordinator-General has requested the following further information in addition to that requested in the "submissions analysis register":

- Project Approvals;
- Project changes; and
- Key issues requiring further information.

The following categories, detailed below in no particular order form the basis of the key issues of the AEIS.

- Nature Conservation: including impacts on koala population;
- Land: RPI Act, SCL Act, discrepancy between commitments of reducing footprint and area of MLA;
- Air quality, noise and vibration;
- Jondaryan rail load-out facility: use, decommissioning and rehabilitation of Jondaryan Rail Load-Out Facility (JRLF);
- Water resources: Flooding impacts, water tanks impacts, bore impacts and groundwater impacts;
- Transport, traffic and roads: road closures;
- Acland Township;
- Health impacts: concerns regarding coal and health;
- Complaints and dispute resolution: clarification around NACs complaint and dispute resolution process; and

Consultation: past, present and future consultation and engagement activities. The AEIS structure has been designed to provide some background on the purpose and scope of the AEIS and to provide responses to the additional information requested in the following order:

- **Sections 5.1.1-5.1.11** of the AEIS provides further information on these key issues of interest to submitters, as requested by the Coordinator-General.
- **Section 5.2** of the AEIS provides information requested to satisfy the Advisory Agencies submissions;
- **Section 5.3** of the AEIS responds to specific issues raised in some submissions made by members of the public on the EIS, as required by the Coordinator-General.

Where corrections, updates or additional information have been provided, Appendices have been amended or added to the AEIS. More detailed information on the structure can be found in **Chapter 2** of the AEIS.

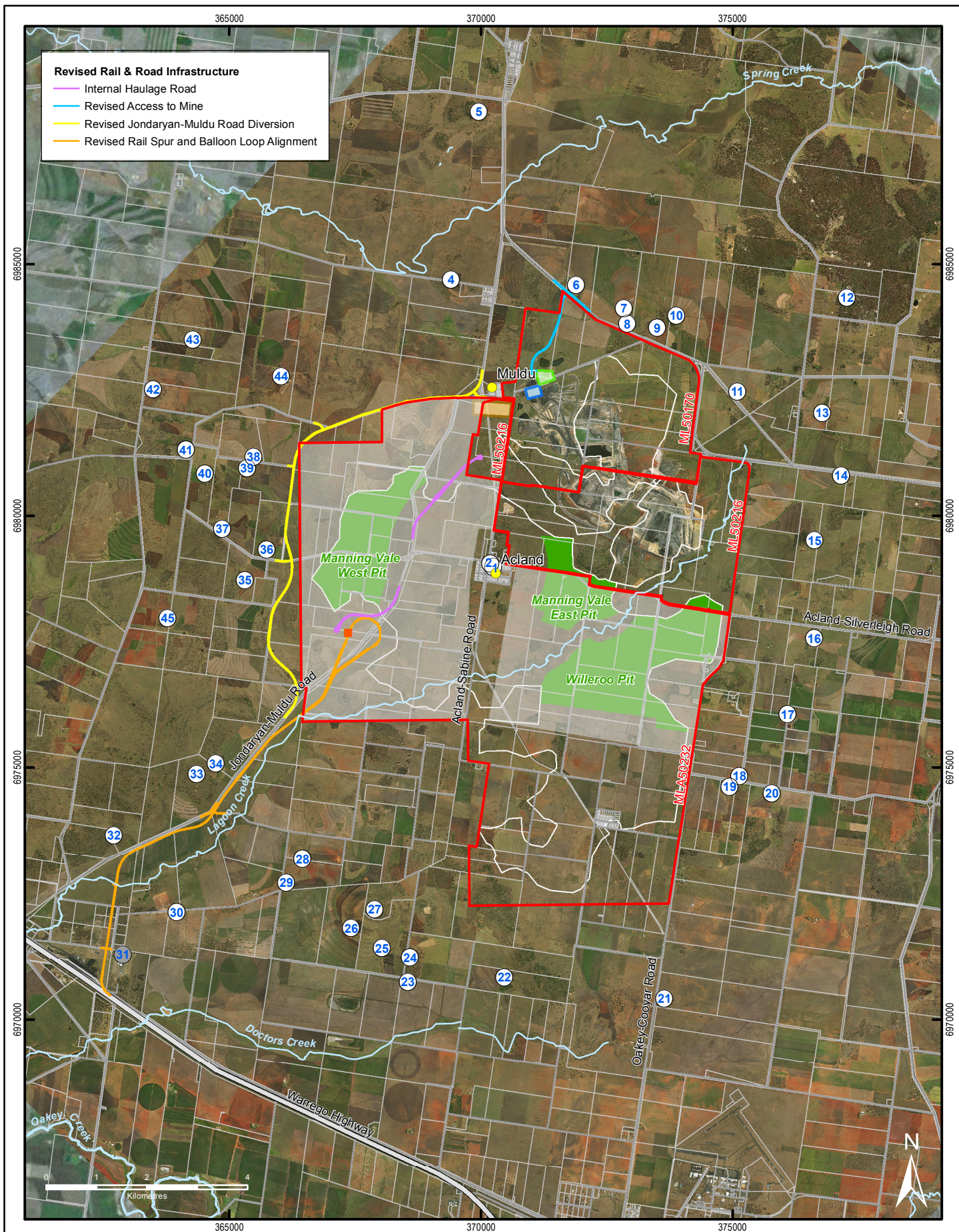
## **1.4 Key Revised Project Amendments since the release of the draft EIS**

The purpose of this Section is to outline the key amendments to the revised Project since the release of the draft EIS in January 2014.

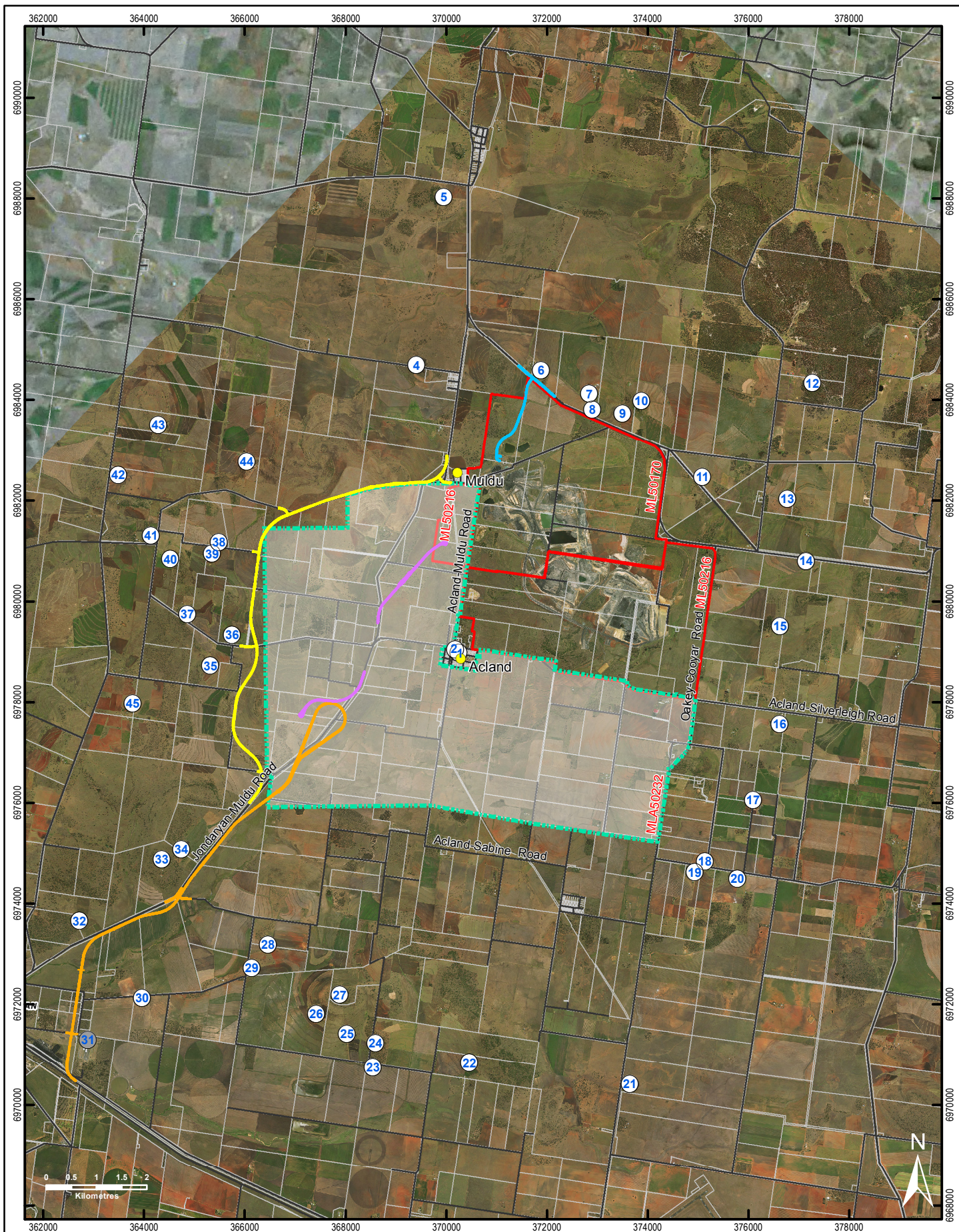
### **1.4.1 Mining Lease Application Amendment**

In order to increase the distance between the revised Project and the township of Oakey, NAC has given notice in writing to the Chief Executive under Section 307 of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (MR Act) to partially abandon Mining Lease Application (MLA) 50232. In line with previous commitments, the Acland area is excluded from the partial abandoned MLA. The partial abandonment of Acland and the southern area is for both surface and sub-surface rights and has taken effect from 30 June 2014. For further information regarding this matter refer to **Section 5.1.2.3** of the AEIS.

**Figure 1.4.1-A** illustrates MLA 50232 prior to partial abandonment and sensitive receptors. **Figure 1.4.1-B** illustrates the MLA after partial abandonment and sensitive receptors.



<b>LEGEND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Towns and Localities</li> <li>Train Loadout Facility (TLO)</li> <li>Sensitive Receptor - Residential</li> <li>Sensitive Receptor - Commercial</li> <li>Highway</li> <li>Roads</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creeks</li> <li>Cadastre</li> <li>Mining Tenements</li> <li>Stage 3 Pit Areas</li> <li>Coal Resource Area</li> <li>Proposed Extent of Surface Rights Area</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CHPP Precinct</li> <li>Material Handling Facility</li> <li>Mine Industrial Area</li> </ul>		  	<b>NEW ACLAND COAL MINE STAGE 3 PROJECT</b>  <b>Figure 1.4.1-A - MLA 50232 prior to partial abandonment</b>  Scale 1:100,000 on A4 Projection: Australian Geodetic Datum – Zone 56 (AGD84)
--	--	---	--	---	--	----------	---



#### LEGEND

- Towns and Localities
- Sensitive Receptor - Residential
- Sensitive Receptor - Commercial
- Roads
- Cadastre
- Amended Mine Lease Boundary Application
- Mining Tenements
- Revised Rail & Road Infrastructure**
- Internal Haulage Road
- Revised Access to Mine
- Revised Jondaryan-Muldu Road Diversion
- Revised Rail Spur and Balloon Loop Alignment

**NEW HOPE GROUP**

**SKM**

#### NEW ACLAND COAL MINE STAGE 3 PROJECT

**Figure 1.4.1-B - MLA after partial  
abandonment**

Scale 1:100,000 on A4  
Projection: Australian Geodetic Datum – Zone 56 (AGD84)

#### **1.4.2 Mining Lease (Infrastructure) – Rail Spur and Balloon Loop**

Since the release of the draft EIS, NAC wishes to confirm that the development of the rail spur and balloon loop will proceed by way of an application for an Infrastructure ML under the MR Act. An Infrastructure ML is commonly granted for the purpose of locating infrastructure to support mining operations on an adjacent or nearby mining lease, where no mining is actually proposed for the area of the Infrastructure ML. For further information regarding this matter refer to **Section 4.1.3.1** of the AEIS.

#### **1.4.3 Mine Tonnage Rate**

NAC currently has approval to mine up to a maximum of 5.2 Mtpa at the Mine, which is also the capacity of the current CHPP. NAC was operating the mine at 4.8 Million MTpa of product coal, however due to favourable mining conditions (including declining strip ratio, improved average coal yield and increased equipment productivity) NAC has had the capacity to increase the product coal delivered from the mine to 5.2 Mtpa without adding equipment and staying within the same footprint. NAC has obtained the current approval by amending its 2014 Plan of Operations under s289 of the EP Act. NAC commits not to increase throughput at the existing rail-load out facility at Jondaryan above 5.2 Mtpa. For further information regarding this matter refer to **Section 5.1.4** of the AEIS.

#### **1.4.4 Groundwater Resource Assessment**

The groundwater assessment presented in the draft EIS has been updated as a result of the project becoming subject to assessment of impacts on water resources in June 2013. The following provides a summary of the changes that have occurred to the groundwater assessment since the release of the draft EIS in January 2014.

The groundwater model reported in the draft EIS is classified as a 'Class 2' numerical model (SKM 2012). The use of the 'Class 2' numerical model in determining the potential impacts on groundwater resources was considered appropriate for the purpose of meeting the ToR for the revised Project. In addition, a State level preliminary assessment of the 'Class 2' numerical model was considered fit-for-purpose by the DNRM. Therefore, the 'Class 2' model was used for the assessment of potential groundwater impacts from the revised Project and as such was reported in the revised Project's draft EIS (SKM, 2013). The data inputs to the 'Class 2' numerical model used for the draft EIS included groundwater information available at the time of the development of the 'Class 2' numerical model, such as existing groundwater monitoring data from the Mine, bore logs and the then DERM (now DEHP) database.

Given the additional reporting requirements as a result of the introduction of the Commonwealth Water Trigger under the EPBC Act in June 2013 and the formation of the Independent Expert Scientific Committee (IESC) in November 2012 the NHG commissioned Jacobs (formerly SKM) to update the 'Class 2' numerical model used for the groundwater impact assessment for the revised Project's draft EIS based on additional information received since the release of the draft EIS. The additional information used to update the 'Class 2' numerical model included:

- Additional groundwater monitoring data and bore logs;
- Additional baseline study results and specialist studies such as:

- Landholder bore baseline surveys; and
- Input review of faults and their effects on groundwater flow;
- Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) survey data;
- Final Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA) groundwater modelling report; and
- Updated DNRM bore database.

This additional information has now been incorporated into the 'Class 2' numerical model which has increased the confidence in the results generated by the 'Class 2' numerical model. The objective of the additional modelling was to update the revised Project's 'Class 2' numerical model with the latest data available (listed above) and in doing so, conduct a 'sensitivity and uncertainty' analysis, as required for the Commonwealth Water Trigger review. The purpose of the 'sensitivity and uncertainty' analysis was to further assist in the quantification of the potential impacts of the revised Project on the groundwater regime, and to further clarify mitigation and contingency measures, where applicable.

For further information regarding this matter refer to **Section 5.1.5.3, Section 5.2.9, Appendices F, G, H and N** of the AEIS.

#### **1.4.5 Land Resources – Post Mine Land Suitability**

The post-mine land suitability (grazing) for the disturbed mining areas has been amended based on the further reviews (i.e., updated groundwater modelling) undertaken for the AEIS. In summary the key changes include:

- Depressed landforms are considered to be Class 5 (grazing) land suitability as the depressed landforms will become lakes.
- The Manning Vale West elevated landform is considered to become Class 3 (grazing) land suitability for plateaued areas and Class 4 (grazing) land suitability on the slopes, on the basis that the landforms will support a grazing land use in the long-term.
- The Manning Vale East elevated landform is considered to be Class 4 (grazing) land suitability.
- With the exception of road diversions, other land disturbed by mining activities excluding the above is returned as Class 3 (grazing) land suitability.
- As presented in the EIS it has been assumed that road and rail diversions will be Class 5 (grazing) land suitability.

The primary changes to the proposed post-mining land suitability in the AEIS are the increase in land to be returned to Class 2, 4 and 5 (grazing) land suitability, and a decrease in land to be returned to Class 3 (grazing) land suitability.

**Table 1.4.5-A** provides a summary of the pre and post-mining land suitability for the mining areas as presented in **Table 4-24** of the draft EIS.

**Table 1.4.5-A Pre and Post Mine Land Suitability – Grazing (Mining Areas)**

Land Suitability Class	Area within Disturbance Footprint (ha)*		% of Total Disturbance Area	
	Pre-mining	Post-Mining	Pre-mining	Post-Mining
1	239	0	16%	0%
2	1,176	0	77%	0%
3	74	881	5%	57%
4	47	630	3%	41%
5	0	26	0%	2%
Total	1,537	1,537	-	-

Notes:

1. \*The disturbance footprint comprises the mining and infrastructure areas within the revised Project site.
2. For the purpose of reporting pre and post mine land suitability it has been assumed that the road diversions are Class 5 post-mining.
3. Adapted from Table 4-24 of the draft EIS.

**Table 1.4.5-B** provides a summary of the pre and post-mining land suitability for the mining areas, based on the changes to the proposed post-mining land suitability.

**Table 1.4.5-B Pre and Post Mine Land Suitability – Grazing (Mining Areas)**

Land Suitability Class	Area within Disturbance Footprint (ha)*		% of Disturbance Area	
	Pre-mining	Post- Mining	Pre-mining	Post- Mining
Class 1	236	0	16%	0%
Class 2	1,112	576	77%	40%
Class 3	45	171	3%	12%
Class 4	45	79	3%	6%
Class 5	0	611	0%	42%
Total	1,438	1,438	-	-

Note: \* The areas presented in Table 1.4.5-B exclude the rail and road corridors which were presented in Chapter 4 of the draft EIS.

With the exception of the depressed landforms, the return of disturbance areas to a post-mining land use of grazing is considered achievable and has been successfully demonstrated through grazing trials and rehabilitation monitoring undertaken for the Stage 2 Mine by NAC (refer to **Section 5.1.2** of the AEIS). Water from the Manning Vale East depressed landform is expected to support grazing (e.g. stock watering) in the long term. For further information regarding this matter refer to **Section 5.2.9.12** of the AEIS.

## 1.4.6 Traffic and Transport Assessment

Cherry's Road is a former public road within ML50170 and is closed for public use. NAC have revised the northern access arrangement and propose to construct a new road called the Northern Mine

Industrial Area (MIA) Access Road off the Peachey-Maclagan Road which will enter into the new MIA. The new road will be designed to the appropriate standards to transport light vehicles into the revised Project site.

The original alignment to the Jondaryan-Muldu Road will be slightly changed at the intersection of Cooke-McGovern Road and the Jondaryan-Muldu Road to minimise property impacts and accommodate natural drainage channels. The alignment will be moved to the east by approximately 200 m. In addition, the alignment near Muldu will join the Muldu-Plainview Road north of the revised Project site.

The layout of the rail spur and balloon and location of the new TLF has changed as to that presented in the draft EIS based on the FEED phase. The amendment to the original alignment will now result in the new TLF being on the western side of the balloon loop as opposed to the eastern side. There will also be a slight adjustment to the alignment at the intersection of the Jondaryan-Muldu Road and Childs Road to meet rail design requirements. For further information regarding these matters refer to **Chapter 3** of the AEIS.

#### **1.4.7 Economics**

Further detail has been provided to clarify the basis of the economic impact modelling assessment utilised to determine the economic impact of the revised Project. For further information regarding this matter refer to **Section 5.1.11.1** of the AEIS.

The economic impact modelling (output, value added, employment and household income estimates) was updated to remove 'induced impacts'. In addition, the regional distribution of impacts was updated to account for the changes to the impact modelling. For further information regarding this matter refer to **Section 5.1.11.2** and **Section 5.1.11.3** of the AEIS, respectively. **Section 5.1.11.5** of the AEIS, estimate of agricultural impacts, has been updated to include the impact of change in land use and voided landed (depressed landforms) after the revised Projects decommissioning.

#### **1.4.8 Koala Species Management Plan**

A number of topics were raised in submissions on the EIS and throughout general community engagement activities as discussed in **Section 1.3.1.6** of the AEIS. One of the main concerns raised was that of the management of the local Koala population.

In light of this, an independent consultancy specialised in fauna protection has been engaged to prepare a Koala Species Management Plan (KSMP). This plan is located in **Appendix B** of the AEIS. The KSMP is to be implemented by NAC together with the Lagoon Creek Conservation Zone Management Plan (CZMP) which is presented in **Appendix J.6** of the draft EIS. The intent of the KSMP is to ensure the long-term existence of the local Koala population by mitigating and managing potential impacts on the conservation of the Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) across the Study area. For further information regarding this matter refer to **Section 5.1.1** of the AEIS.

**THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK**