



Middlemount Coal Mine

Compliance Report –


Western Extension (EPBC 2017/8130)

Reporting Period -

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

July 2024

Project Name	Middlemount Coal Mine, Western Extension, Bowen Basin, QLD
Approval Holder	Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd
ACN	122 348 412
Address	Level 17, 444 Queen Street, Brisbane City, QLD 4001
EPBC Reference	EPBC 2016/7717
Approved Action	To construct, operate and decommission the western extension of the Middlemount Coal Mine, including an open cut mine and associated infrastructure at Middlemount Coal Mine, 2.4 km west of Middlemount, Queensland
Approval Date of Action	8 October 2019
Commencement Date of Action	1 November 2019
Reporting Period	1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023
Expiry Date of Action	1 November 2049
Document Version	1.0
Declaration of Accuracy	In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.
Signature of authorised reporting officer	
Name of authorised reporting officer	Dan Radovic
Title of authorised reporting officer	Environment, Community & Approvals Manager
Date	11 July 2024
Organisation Name	Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd
Organisation ACN	122 348 412

Revision Summary		
Author	Version	Date
Environment – Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd	1.0	13 March 23

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	3
1. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	4
2. COMPLIANCE TABLE	8
Appendix 1: Letter to DotEE regarding commencement date of action	14

<i>Figure 1: Regional Location of Middlemount Coal mine</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Figure 2: General arrangement of Middlemount Coal mine</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Figure 3: General arrangement of the Middlemount Coal mine incorporating the action</i>	<i>7</i>

1. INTRODUCTION

The Middlemount Coal Mine is in the central Bowen Basin approximately 270 kilometres (km) north-west of Rockhampton and approximately 6 km south-west of Middlemount in central Queensland (Qld) (Figure 1).

On 22 December 2017, Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd (MCPL) an incorporated joint venture between Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd, and Yancoal Australia Ltd, lodged a referral with the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE) for the Western extension project for the actions include the following:

- extension of the open cut pit within Mining Lease (ML) 70379 to the north-west (Figure 3);
- placement of waste rock in existing emplacements, expanded emplacements (including an extension of the Eastern Dump to the east - Figure 3) and within the mined out void;
- progressive development of sediment dams, pipelines and other water management equipment and structures (including levees and realignment of existing diversion structures);
- progressive development of new haul roads and internal roads;
- continued development of soil stockpiles, laydown areas and borrow areas;

The Western Extension Project (the Project) provides for the continuation of open cut coal mining operations at the Middlemount Coal Mine (Figure 2 and 3).

On 8 February 2018, a delegate for the Commonwealth Minister declared the Action to be a controlled action for the purposes of the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act, 1999* (EPBC Act) due to likely impacts on listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A).

Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd was subsequently granted approval for the Middlemount Coal Western Extension Project under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act, 1999* (EPBC Act) on 8 October 2019 (Commonwealth Approval [EPBC Act (EPBC 2017/8130)]. Middlemount Coal notified DotEE on the 16 August 2017, that the referred action (Middlemount Coal Mine [North-eastern Extension]) was to commence on the 16 August 2017.

The approval is subject to seventeen (17) conditions and has effect until 1 November 2049. This compliance report is required by Condition 9 of the approval and has been prepared for Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), formally the Commonwealth of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, the Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE) & the Department of the Environment (DotE). The *Annual Compliance Report Guidelines* (DotE 2014) were referenced during the compilation of this report.

The approved action is as follows:

Approved action:

To construct, operate and decommission the western extension of the existing Middlemount Coal mine pit and associated infrastructure at Middlemount Coal Mine, 2.4 km west of Middlemount, Queensland

The EPBC Act approval decision encompasses the following controlling provisions:

Controlling Provision	Decision
Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)	Approve

This report details activities and compliance with EPBC 2017/8130 for the period 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

2. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd operates the Middlemount Coal Mine (MCM), located 6km west of Middlemount township. The MCM is an open cut coal mine producing Pulverized Coal Injection (PCI) and Coking Coal for the export market. MCM is an incorporated joint venture between Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd (50%) and Yancoal (50%).

The MCM is permitted to extract up to 5.7 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of run-of-mine (ROM) coal to produce approximately 4.2 Mtpa of combined PCI and Coking coal. PCI and Coking coal is used for the manufacturing of steel. MCM has contracted rail and port capacity through Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal (DBCT) and Abbot Point Port (APCT).

Three primary seams of the Rangal coal measures are targeted for mining. The Middlemount and Pisces seams both have an average thickness of between 4.5m and 5m with the Tralee seam slated for extraction when it exceeds 0.3m in thickness.

Mining operations consist primarily of excavator and truck strip mining augmented by cast and doze. Beneficiation is performed in a 700tph single stage two product coal handling and preparation plant.

Marketing of the coal is conducted by Yancoal on MCM's behalf.

The operations at MCM occur 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

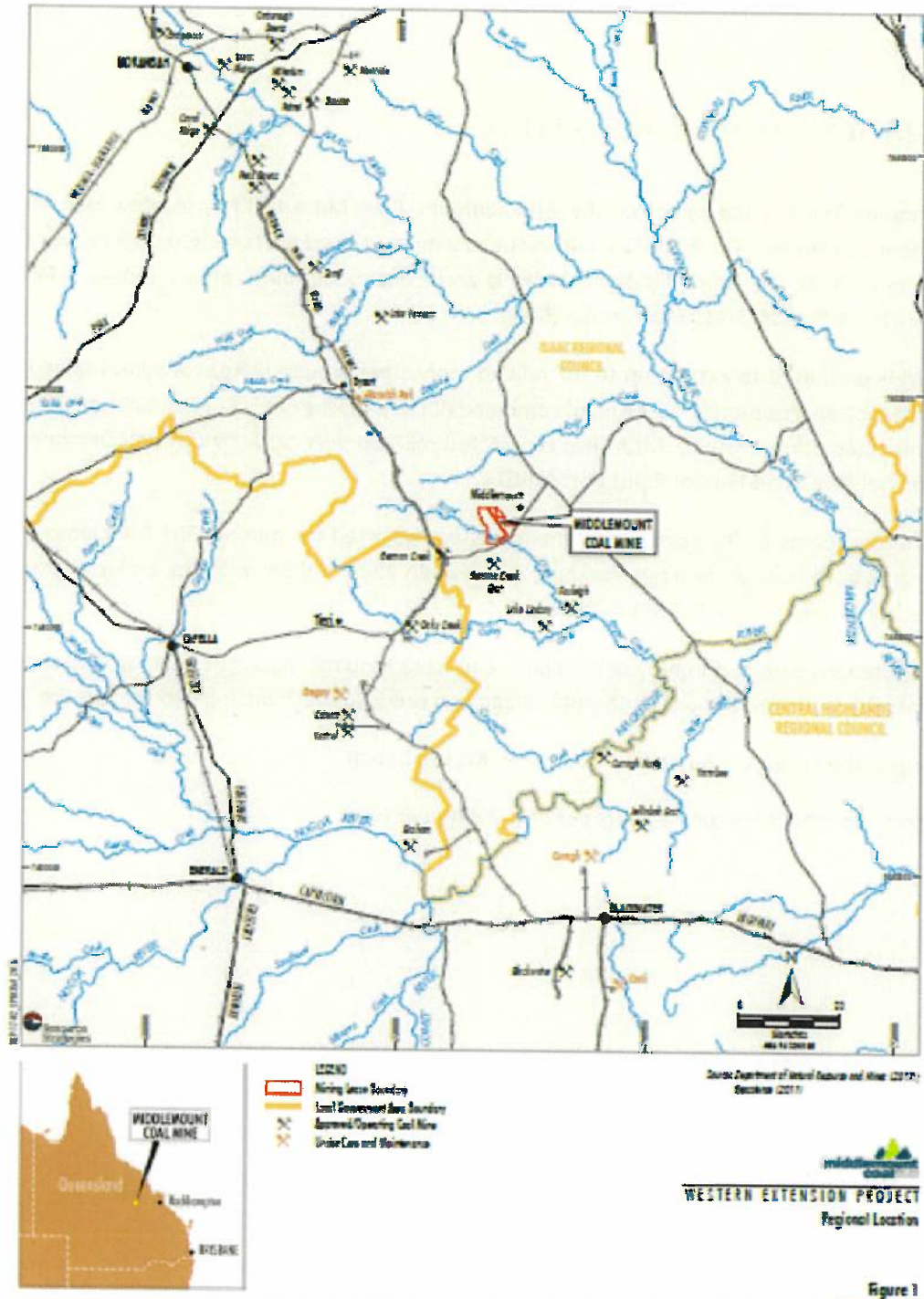
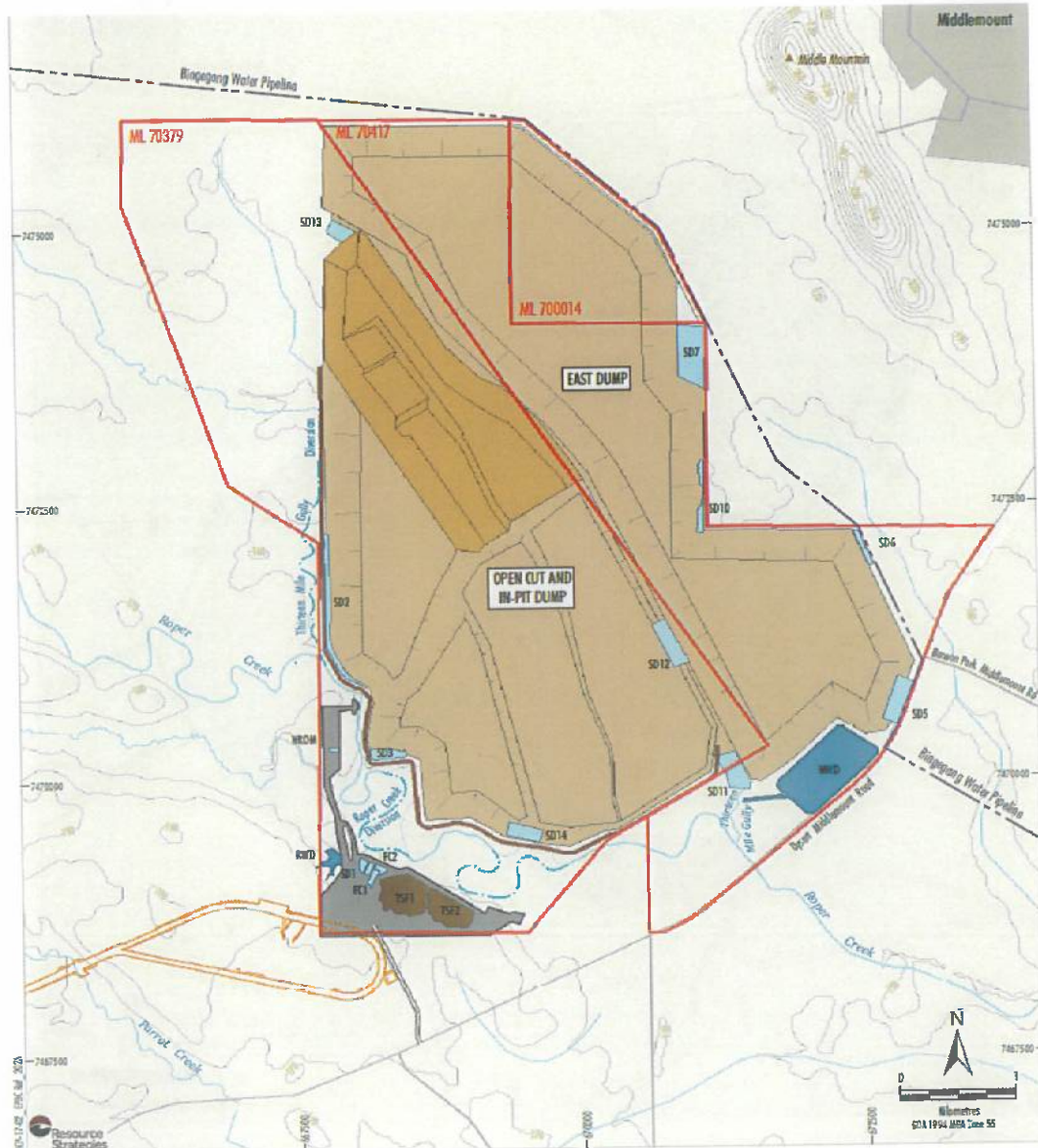


Figure 1: Regional Location of Middlemount Coal Mine



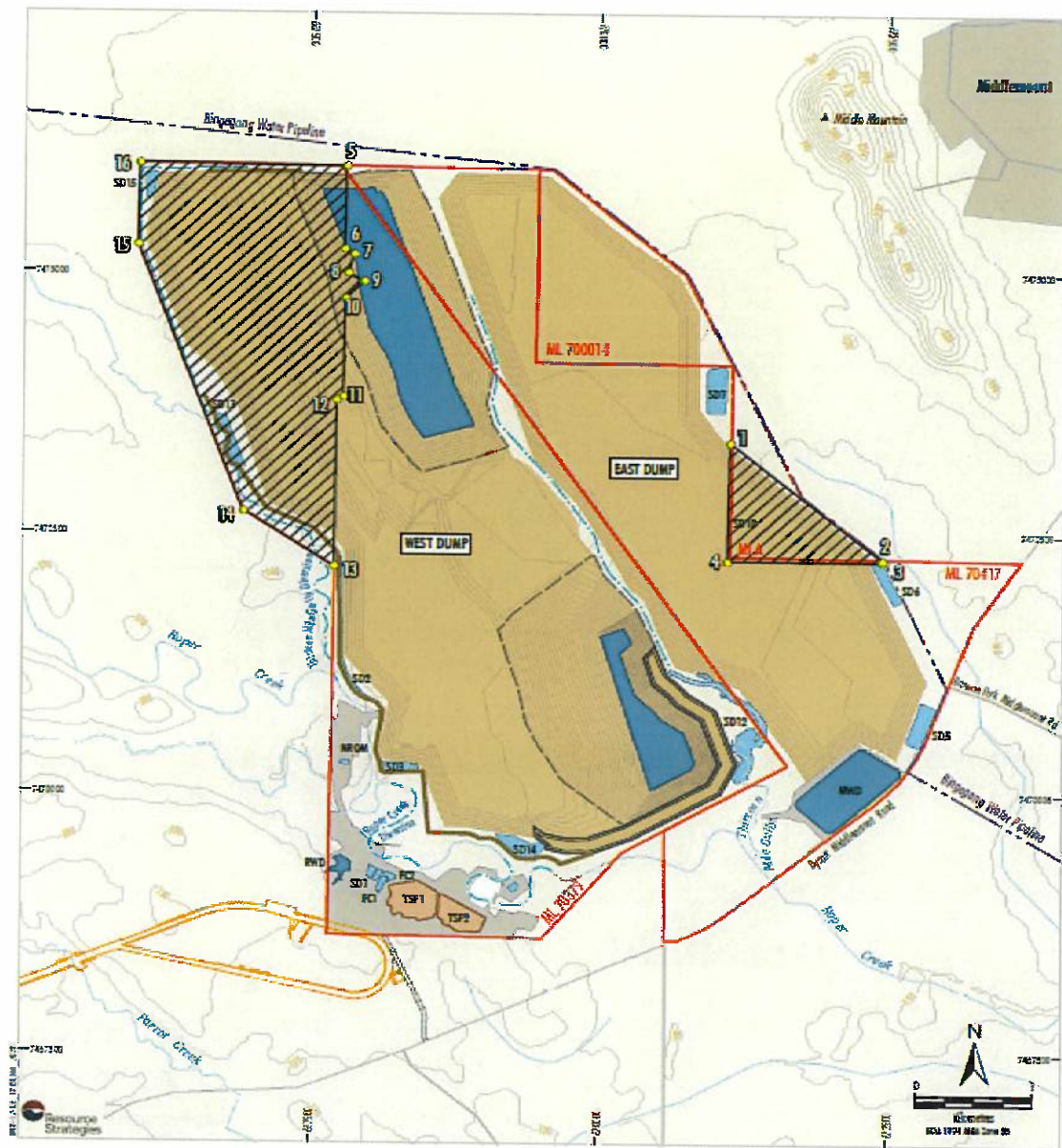
Source: MCP, (2017); Department of Natural Resources and Mines (2017);
 Environmental Authority (EPML00716913) MCP.



WESTERN EXTENSION PROJECT
 Middlemount Coal Mine
 General Arrangement

Figure 2

Figure 2: General arrangement of Middlemount Coal mine



LEGEND

- Mining Lease Boundary (ML)
- Mining Lease Application Boundary (MLA)
- Mine Pit and Spoil
- Mine Infrastructure Area
- Tailings Storage Facility
- Sediment Dam
- Water Management Dam
- Final Void
- Flood Band
- Levee
- Diversion Structure
- Mine Access Road
- Middlemount Rail Spur and Loop

Western Extension Project

- Approximate Extent of Additional Surface Disturbance
- Location Point

POINT	EASTING	NORTHING
1	671120.90	7473389.45
2	672445.39	7472274.06
3	672460.09	7472247.48
4	671105.81	7472254.57
5	667790.06	7476017.73
6	667779.69	7475226.58
7	667861.98	7475176.65
8	667805.40	7474990.54
9	667945.34	7474904.44
10	667785.05	7474749.77
11	667770.48	7473800.58
12	667745.92	7473773.35
13	667698.56	7472175.29
14	666910.00	7472712.00
15	665988.00	7475257.00
16	664904.77	7474197.48

Source: MCP (2017); Department of Natural Resources and Mines (2017)


WESTERN EXTENSION PROJECT
General Arrangement
of the Western Extension Project

Figure 3

Figure 3: General arrangement of the Middlemount Coal mine incorporating the action

3. COMPLIANCE TABLE

Condition Number	Condition	Compliant/Non Compliant/Not applicable ¹	Evidence/Comments
1	<p>Project Site</p> <p>For the period for which the approval has effect, the approval holder must not disturb more than:</p> <p>a) 22 ha of the Brigalow threatened ecological community at the approved action site</p> <p>b) 15.5 ha of Ornamental Snake habitat at the approved action site</p> <p>c) 388.5 ha of Squatter Pigeon breeding habitat at the approved action site</p> <p>d) 175 ha of Greater Glider habitat at the approved action site</p> <p>e) 175 ha of Koala habitat at the approved action site</p>	Compliant	<p>The extent of approximate clearing to 31 December 2023.</p> <p>18.4 ha of Brigalow area</p> <p>15.2 ha of Ornamental Snake habitat</p> <p>249.59 ha of Squatter pigeon habitat</p> <p>110.13 ha of Greater Glider habitat</p> <p>110.13 ha of Koala habitat</p>
2	<p>Offsets</p> <p>From the date of commencement of the action the approval holder must provide the following offsets to compensate for residual significant impacts to listed threatened species, as identified in the Middlemount Coal Mine Western Extension Project (EPBC 2017/8130) EPBC Act Preliminary Assessment Documentation March 2019:</p> <p>a) Brigalow threatened ecological community-106 ha, comprised of</p> <p>i. 76 ha of Brigalow and</p> <p>ii. 30 ha of vegetation in the early stage of regrowing from past clearance.</p> <p>b) Ornamental Snake habitat: 106 ha, comprised of</p> <p>i) 76 ha of established Ornamental Snake habitat and</p> <p>ii) 30 ha of vegetation in the early stage of regrowing from past clearance.</p>	Compliant	<p>VDEC certification issued on 17October 2019.</p>

Condition Number	Condition	Compliant/Non Compliant/Not applicable ¹	Evidence/Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Squatter Pigeon habitat: 1,155 ha, comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 749.5 ha of established known Squatter Pigeon habitat and ii) 405.5 ha of vegetation in the early stage of regrowing from past clearance d) Greater Glider habitat: 975 ha, comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 575 ha of established known Greater Glider habitat and ii) 400 ha of vegetation in the early stage of regrowing from past clearance e) Koala habitat: 1,064.5 ha, comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 664.5 ha of established, known Koala habitat and ii) 400 ha of vegetation in the early stage of regrowing from past clearance. 		
3	The approval holder must implement the Middlemount Coal Mine Offset Management Plan/ Vegetation Management Plan (dated March 2019) for the offsets in Condition 2.	Compliant	Provisions of the Offset Management Plan 2019 are being implemented as required
4	<p>The approval holder must legally secure the offset area in Condition 2 within 12 months of the commencement of the action.</p> <p>a) The legal security must include the approved offset completion criteria for the offset area.</p>	Compliant	VDEC certification issued on 17 October 2019.
5	<p>Notification of date of commencement of the action</p> <p>The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement of the action within 10 business days after the date of commencement of the action.</p>	Compliant	<p>No non-compliant matters have occurred.</p> <p>Notification emailed on 5/11/2019</p>

**EPBC APPROVAL 2017/8130 - ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT
MIDDLEMOUNT COAL PROJECT - (WESTERN EXTENSION)**

Condition Number	Condition	Compliant/Non Compliant/Not applicable ¹	Evidence/Comments
6	Compliance records The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records.	Compliant	Noted
7	If the Department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the Department within the timeframe specified in the request.	Compliant	Noted
8	Preparation and publication of plans The approval holder must: a) publish the plan referred to in these conditions on the website within 20 business days of the date of approval of the action or of the date a revised plan is approved by the Minister, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister; b) exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on the website or provided to a member of the public; and c) keep the plan referred to in these conditions published on the website until the end date of this approval.	Compliant	Western Extension Project- EPBC – Offset Management Plan – March 2019
9	Annual compliance reporting The approval holder must prepare an annual compliance report for each 12 month period. Submission of the annual compliance report may align with the submission of the annual compliance reporting for Middlemount projects, or as otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister. The approval holder must: a) publish each compliance report on the website within 60 business days following the relevant 12 month period; b) notify the Department by email that a compliance report has been published on the website within five business days of the date of	Non-Compliant	2023 report submitted on 11/7/2024. Published on the Middlemount Coal website on 19/7/2024. DCCEEW notified on 11/7/2024.

**EPBC APPROVAL 2017/8130 - ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT
MIDDLEMOUNT COAL PROJECT- (WESTERN EXTENSION)**

Condition Number	Condition	Compliant/Non Compliant/Not applicable ¹	Evidence/Comments	
	<p>publication-the notification email should contain a copy of the compliance report and a link to where it has been published online;</p> <p>c) keep all compliance reports publicly available on the website until this approval expires;</p> <p>d) exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website; and</p> <p>e) where any sensitive ecological data has been excluded from the version published, submit the full compliance report to the Department within 5 business days of publication.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	
10	<p>Reporting non-compliance</p> <p>The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any: incident; or non-compliance with the conditions; or non-compliance with the commitments made in plans. The notification must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than two business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance. The notification must specify:</p> <p>a) the condition which is or may be in breach;</p> <p>b) a short description of the incident and/or non-compliance; and</p> <p>c) the location (including co-ordinates), date and time, to the extent that these can be determined, of the incident and/or non-compliance.</p>		<p>Noted</p>	
11	<p>The approval holder must provide to the Department the details of any incident or non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as soon as practicable and no later than 10 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance, specifying:</p> <p>a) any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future;</p> <p>b) the potential impacts of the incident or non-compliance; and</p>	<p>Compliant</p>	<p>Noted</p>	

EPBC APPROVAL 2017/8130 - ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT
 MIDDLEMOUNT COAL PROJECT - (WESTERN EXTENSION)

Condition Number	Condition	Compliant/Non Compliant/Not applicable ¹	Evidence/Comments
	c) the method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.		
12	Independent audit The approval holder must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the conditions are as requested in writing by the Minister.		Noted
13	For each independent audit, the approval holder must: a) provide the name and qualifications of the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the Department; b) only commence the independent audit once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the Department; and c) submit an audit report to the Department within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria.		Noted
14	The approval holder must publish the audit report on the website within 10 business days of receiving the Department's approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on the website until the end date of this approval		Noted
15	Revision of plans If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species, the Minister may request the approval holder make specified revisions to the plan required by these conditions and submit the revised plan for the Minister's written approval. The approval holder must comply with any such request. The approved plan must be implemented. Until the Minister has approved a revised plan, the approval holder must continue to implement the previously approved plan, as specified in these conditions.		Noted

Condition Number	Condition	Compliant/Non Compliant/Not applicable ¹	Evidence/Comments
16	If the approval holder wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the plan specified in these conditions, the approval holder must submit to the Department for the Minister's written approval, a revised version of that plan. The varied activity must not commence until the Minister has approved the varied plan in writing. The Minister will not approve a varied plan unless the revised plan would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome for listed threatened species over time. If the Minister approves the revised plan, that plan must be implemented in place of the plan originally approved.		Noted
17	Completion of the action Within 30 days after the completion of the action, the approval holder must notify the Department in writing and provide completion data.		Noted

¹ Definitions

Compliant 'Compliance' is achieved when all the requirements of a condition have been met, including the implementation of management plans or other measures required by those conditions.

Non-compliant Requirements of a condition or elements of a condition, including the implementation of management plans and other measures have not been met.

Not applicable requirements of a condition or elements of a condition fall outside of the scope of the current reporting period. For example a condition which applies to an activity that has not yet commenced.

Appendix 1: Letter to DotE regarding commencement date of action

Level 17, 444 Queen Street,
BRISBANE CITY, QLD 4000
GPO Box 241
BRISBANE, QLD 4001
P : (617) 3179 2000
E: info@middlemountcoal.com.au
W: www.middlemountcoal.com.au



5 November 2019

Department of Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

PostApproval@environment.gov.au

To whom it may concern,

Re: Middlemount Coal North-eastern Extension (EPBC 2017/8130) Commencement Notification

The EPBC Act approval for the Western Extension (2017/8130) requires notification to the Department following commencement of the action. Condition 5 states:

5) Within 30 days after the commencement of the action, the approval holder must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement of the action.

Accordingly, please note that the Western Extension action commenced on the Wednesday 30/10/2019.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned 0448 367 359.

Yours faithfully

Digitally signed by Daniel Jones
DN: cn=Daniel Jones, o, ou,
email=djones@middlemountcoal.com.au, c=AU
Date: 2019.11.05 13:43:21
+1000
Daniel Jones
Environmental Superintendent

