

Illawarra Coal - Carbon Steel Materials



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M Fisher
District Inspector of Coal Mines
Department of Primary Industries
PO Box 344
Hunter Regional Mail Centre NSW 2310

Dear Mr Fisher

West Cliff Longwalls 34-36 Public Safety Management Plan

It is a requirement under Condition 15 of the Subsidence Management Plan Approval for West Cliff Area 5 Longwalls 34-36 that BHPB Illawarra Coal must prepare and implement a public safety management plan to ensure public safety in any surface areas that may be affected by subsidence. The plan needs to be to the satisfaction of the District Inspector of Coal Mines.

West Cliff Longwalls 34 – 36 mine in an area overlain by private landholdings (mostly rural), and part of the Dharawal State Conservation Area lies to the east of the Longwalls. The Area is traversed by the Appin Road and the Georges River as well as several items of major infrastructure. Plan 2 of the Subsidence Management Plan identifies the surface features associated with the study area.

Public Safety is addressed in:

1. The original SMP application,
2. Infrastructure management plans,
3. Property Subsidence Management Plans and
4. Cliff and Steep Slope Management Plan.

The relevant sections of such documents are outlined in the table below:

Management Plan	Purpose / Inclusions
Subsidence Management Plan (SMP)	Relevant sections are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 22.2 / Table 22.2 Summary of Impacts and Remediation Measures: Addresses cliff line and steep slope impact avoidance and mitigation measures, as well as contingent measures if impacts are observed and exceed predicted impacts.• Section 23.1, 23.2 Contingency Plan and Emergency Response: Further outlines contingency and emergency response options available if public safety impacts are demonstrated to be greater

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	<p>than predicted. Such addresses signage, communication means, stakeholder engagement and reporting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 16 Infrastructure Subsidence Monitoring and Management: Addresses the infrastructure residing within the SMP Area and the management measures in place which will ensure safe operation. • Section 16 also refers to the Property Subsidence Management Plans in place for landowners and occupiers within the SMP Area. • Section 24 Stakeholder Consultation Process: Outlines the key stakeholder communication methods utilised by the Company for community, government agencies and infrastructure owners/operators. • As part of the SMP Application, a risk assessment was undertaken, which covers aspects relevant to public safety, including cliffs and/or steep slopes, private properties and infrastructure. This risk assessment is included in Appendix G of the SMP.
<p>Infrastructure Management Plans</p>	<p>Management Plans have been developed in consultation with each infrastructure owner to ensure safety and serviceability during the subsidence period. The management plans developed for Longwalls 34 -36 are effectively extensions of existing plans as all of this infrastructure has been managed during the extraction of Longwalls 29 – 33.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transgrid 330kV Transmission Line • Integral Local distribution transmission lines • Alinta & Gorodok Gas Pipelines • Macarthur Water Pipeline • Appin Road (part of the Public Road Management Plan) • Telstra Telecommunications Network • SCA Upper Canal <p>Mitigation works have been undertaken prior to extraction for the Transgrid Transmission towers and the gas and water pipelines.</p> <p>Monitoring activities are defined in the Management plans and duplicated in the subsidence monitoring programme.</p> <p>Remediation activities are initiated based on monitoring results.</p>
<p>Property Subsidence Management Plans (PSMPs)</p>	<p>PSMP are prepared for landholders within the Longwall 34 - 36 mining area. Each plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies features that could potentially be affected by subsidence (home, outbuildings, pools, tanks, dams etc). • Engineering assessment of built features.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assesses the potential effects of subsidence and outlines management and mitigation measures. • Outlines consultation with relevant stakeholders. <p>The PSMP have been developed in consultation with the owner to ensure that all issues for their property are addressed and that the owner understands the responsibilities of the MSB and Illawarra Coal.</p>
Cliff and Steep Slopes Safety Management Plan	<p>The cliffs and steep slopes are primarily associated with the Georges River Valley. There is less than 200m of cliffline present in the SMP Area as shown in Plan 2 of the SMP. The management plan is a requirement of Condition 22 of the SMP Approval and outlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential hazards associated with cliffs and steep slopes. • Monitoring undertaken for cliff stability. • Control measures and response actions. • Reporting and communications. • Responsible roles for actions within the plan.

Due to the comprehensive nature of these reports and, in an effort to reduce complication of the management process by duplicating reports, BHPB Illawarra Coal seeks approval of the above plans as the Public Safety Management Plan required under Condition 15 of the SMP Approval.

Should you have any questions, or need additional information, do not hesitate to contact me via the details above.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Walsh
Manager Approvals

Attach:

Subsidence Management Plan Approval West Cliff Colliery Longwalls 34 – 36, dated 13 May 2009 and variation to shorten Longwall 34, Approved 26 May 2009.

Subsidence Management Plan, Plan 2 – Surface Features (AS-2203), dated 8 January 2008