

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

NEWCASTLE COAL INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP  
COAL EXPORT TERMINAL

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	INTRODUCTION	1-1	
1.1	PROJECT OVERVIEW	1-1	
1.1.1	Purpose of this Report	1-1	
1.1.2	Background	1-1	
1.1.3	Project Summary	1-1	
1.1.4	Site Location, Tenure and Past Land Use	1-5	
1.1.5	Project Snapshot	1-5	
1.1.6	Proponent	1-5	
1.2	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS	1-5	
1.3	DOCUMENT STRUCTURE	1-9	
1.4	PROJECT CONSULTANTS	1-9	
2	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	2-1	
2.1	PROJECT GENERAL ARRANGEMENT	2-1	
2.2	PROJECT OPERATION	2-1	
2.2.1	Train Unloading	2-1	
2.2.2	Coal Handling/Stockpiling	2-4	
2.2.3	Shiploading	2-4	
2.3	PROJECT CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE	2-4	
2.4	RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE	2-4	
2.4.1	Rail Spurs, Rail Sidings and Rail Loops	2-4	
2.4.2	Train Unloading Stations	2-6	
2.4.3	Rail Overpass	2-8	
2.5	COAL STORAGE AREA	2-8	
2.5.1	Preloading and Construction of Coal Stockpile Pads and Berms	2-8	
2.5.2	Coal Stockpiles and Combined Stacker/Reclaimers	2-10	
2.5.3	Earth Bund	2-10	
2.6	COAL HANDLING INFRASTRUCTURE	2-10	
2.6.1	Coal Conveyors and Transfer Points	2-10	
2.6.2	Buffer Bins	2-10	
2.6.3	Sampling Stations	2-10	
2.7	WHARF FACILITIES AND SHIPLOADERS	2-11	
2.7.1	Berths and Wharf Structure	2-11	
2.7.2	Shiploaders	2-11	
2.7.3	Navigational Aids	2-11	
2.8	WATER MANAGEMENT	2-11	
2.8.1	Water Management System	2-11	
2.8.2	Site Water Supply	2-15	
2.8.3	Site Water Balance	2-16	
2.9	INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES	2-16	
2.9.1	Administration and Workshop Buildings	2-16	
2.9.2	Access Roads and Internal Roads	2-16	
2.9.3	Electricity Supply and Distribution	2-17	
2.9.4	Potable Water	2-17	
2.9.5	Site Security	2-17	
2.9.6	Communications	2-17	
2.10	MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS AND WASTES	2-18	
2.10.1	Dangerous Goods	2-18	
2.10.2	Liquid and Non-Liquid Wastes	2-18	
2.10.3	Downgraded Coal	2-19	
2.10.4	Recyclable and Non-Recyclable Domestic Waste	2-19	
2.10.5	Sewage	2-19	
2.11	WORKFORCE	2-19	
2.11.1	Construction	2-19	
2.11.2	Operation	2-19	
3	PLANNING FRAMEWORK AND PROJECT JUSTIFICATION	3-1	
3.1	MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS	3-1	
3.1.1	Application of other Provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979	3-1	
3.1.2	Other Approvals	3-1	
3.2	PERMISSIBLE DEVELOPMENT	3-2	
3.3	ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING INSTRUMENTS	3-2	
3.3.1	Hunter Regional Environmental Plan, 1989	3-2	
3.3.2	Newcastle Local Environmental Plan, 2003	3-5	
3.3.3	State Environmental Planning Policies	3-9	
3.3.4	Newcastle Development Control Plan	3-12	
3.3.5	Section 94 Contribution Plans	3-17	
3.4	OTHER APPLICABLE STATUTORY APPROVALS	3-17	
3.5	ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT, 1999	3-18	
3.6	INTERACTION WITH OTHER ACTIVITIES	3-18	
3.6.1	Dredging of the South Arm of the Hunter River	3-18	
3.6.2	Remediation of Contaminated Sediments in the South Arm of the Hunter River	3-19	
3.6.3	Closure and Capping of Landfill Areas on Kooragang Island	3-20	
3.6.4	ARTC Rail Upgrades to Improve Efficiency and Capacity	3-20	
3.6.5	ARTC Rail Noise Performance	3-21	
3.7	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION	3-21	
3.7.1	Government Agencies	3-22	
3.7.2	Public Consultation	3-25	
3.8	ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ANALYSIS	3-27	

**TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)**

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>	<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
3.9	PROJECT JUSTIFICATION	3-28	4.8	FLORA	4-72
3.9.1	Requirement for the Project	3-28	4.8.1	Existing Environment	4-72
3.9.2	Scale and Development Profile of the Project	3-29	4.8.2	Potential Impacts	4-74
3.9.3	Consideration of Project Alternatives	3-30	4.8.3	Mitigation Measures and Management	4-77
3.9.4	Ecologically Sustainable Development Considerations	3-32	4.8.4	Compensatory Measures and Other Ecological Initiatives	4-77
3.9.5	Summary Consideration of the Potential Impacts and Benefits of the Proposal	3-36	4.9	FAUNA	4-77
4	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	4-1	4.9.1	Existing Environment	4-77
4.1	LAND RESOURCES	4-1	4.9.2	Potential Impacts	4-80
4.1.1	Existing Environment	4-1	4.9.3	Mitigation Measures, Management and Monitoring	4-84
4.1.2	Potential Impacts	4-6	4.9.4	Compensatory Measures	4-86
4.1.3	Mitigation Measures, Management and Monitoring	4-6	4.9.5	Other Ecological Initiatives	4-87
4.2	METEOROLOGY	4-7	4.10	HERITAGE	4-88
4.2.1	Existing Environment	4-7	4.10.1	Existing Environment	4-88
4.2.2	Monitoring	4-11	4.10.2	Potential Impacts	4-91
4.3	NOISE	4-11	4.10.3	Mitigation Measures and Management	4-91
4.3.1	Existing Environment	4-11	4.11	TRANSPORT	4-92
4.3.2	Potential Impacts	4-14	4.11.1	Existing Environment	4-92
4.3.3	Mitigation Measures, Management and Monitoring	4-23	4.11.2	Potential Impacts	4-93
4.4	AIR QUALITY	4-26	4.11.3	Mitigation Measures, Management and Monitoring	4-97
4.4.1	Existing Environment	4-26	4.12	THE REGIONAL ECONOMY	4-98
4.4.2	Potential Impacts	4-27	4.12.1	Existing Environment	4-98
4.4.3	Mitigation Measures, Management and Monitoring	4-35	4.12.2	Potential Impacts	4-99
4.5	VISUAL CHARACTER	4-37	4.13	SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS	4-100
4.5.1	Existing Environment	4-37	4.13.1	Existing Environment	4-100
4.5.2	Potential Impacts	4-39	4.13.2	Potential Impacts	4-101
4.5.3	Mitigation Measures and Management	4-42	4.13.3	Mitigation Measures and Management	4-105
4.6	SURFACE WATER	4-42	4.14	HAZARD AND RISK	4-105
4.6.1	Existing Environment	4-42	4.14.1	Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment	4-106
4.6.2	Potential Impacts	4-47	4.14.2	Mitigation Measures and Management	4-106
4.6.3	Mitigation Measures, Management and Monitoring	4-50	5	DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS	SOC-1
4.7	LAND CONTAMINATION AND GROUNDWATER	4-52	6	REFERENCES	6-1
4.7.1	Existing Environment	4-52	7	ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS AND GLOSSARY	7-1
4.7.2	Potential Impacts, Mitigation Measures, Management and Monitoring	4-65	7.1	ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	7-1
			7.2	GLOSSARY	7-4

**TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)****LIST OF TABLES**

Table 1-1	Land Tenure Summary
Table 1-2	Project Snapshot
Table 1-3	Director-General's Environmental Assessment Requirements – Reference Summary
Table 2-1	Site Water Balance
Table 3-1	Key Potential Environmental Issues Identified in the Environmental Risk Analysis
Table 4-1	Project Site Soil Characterisation
Table 4-2	Bureau of Meteorology Monitoring Station Locations and Recording Periods
Table 4-3	Meteorological Data Summary Bureau of Meteorology
Table 4-4	Relative Scale of Various Noise Sources
Table 4-5	Noise Environment for Project Assessment Purposes (dBA re 20 µPa)
Table 4-6	Project-Specific Noise Assessment Criteria (dBA re 20 µPa)
Table 4-7	Relative Calm and INP Noise Enhancing Meteorological Modelling Parameters
Table 4-8	Description of Approved Developments Included in the Cumulative Noise and Air Quality Assessments
Table 4-9	Night-time Cumulative Noise Assessment (dBA re 20 µPa)
Table 4-10	NSW Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise
Table 4-11	Predicted Traffic Flows
Table 4-12	Vibration Velocity Damage and Annoyance Risk Criteria
Table 4-13	Required Buffer Distance from Impact Piling
Table 4-14	Air Quality Standards/Assessment Criteria for Particulate Matter Concentrations
Table 4-15	Average Dust Deposition Rates (g/m <sup>2</sup> /month)
Table 4-16	Monthly PM <sub>10</sub> Rates (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Table 4-17	Visual Impact Matrix
Table 4-18	Visual Impact Assessment Summary
Table 4-19	ANZECC (2000) Surface Water Quality Default Trigger Values for the Protection of Aquatic Ecosystems (Physical and Chemical Stressors)
Table 4-20	ANZECC (2000) Surface Water Quality Default Trigger Values for the Protection of Aquatic Ecosystems (Toxicants)
Table 4-21	Metal Concentrations in the Hunter River – DEC Water Quality Results (Ceased 1992)
Table 4-22	Surface Water Quality Summary – Kooragang Island Waste Emplacement Facility
Table 4-23	Surface Water Quality Summary – Background Surface Water Monitoring Location (KS12/6)
Table 4-24	Potential Surface Water Quality Impacts

**LIST OF TABLES (Continued)**

Table 4-25	Summary of Land Contamination Investigation
Table 4-26	Summary of Soil Sampling
Table 4-27	Summary of Soil Sampling Recorded Exceedances
Table 4-28	Summary of Groundwater Quality
Table 4-29	Threatened Fauna Recorded within the Project Site
Table 4-30	Major Findings of Previous Aboriginal Heritage Assessments
Table 4-31	Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) Flows
Table 4-32	Relevant Intersection Performance
Table 4-33	Predicted Project Traffic Flows – Project Construction and Operations
Table 4-34	Predicted Peak Period Daily Traffic Flows on the Local Road Network
Table 4-35	Cormorant Road Intersection Performance
Table 4-36	Contributions to Gross Regional Product, Employment and Output by Industry Sector – Newcastle SSD and NSW (2001)
Table 4-37	Newcastle SSD and NSW Population and Population Growth Rate
Table 4-38	Distribution of the Newcastle SSD Population by Age Group
Table 4-39	Unemployment in the Newcastle SSD
Table 4-40	Housing in the Newcastle SSD
Table 4-41	Hotels, Motels and Serviced Apartments in the Newcastle SSD, 2003-04 (establishments with 15 or more rooms)
Table 4-42	DET Infants, Primary and Secondary Schools and Enrolments
Table SOC-1	Overview of the Proposed Environmental Monitoring Programme

**LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 1-1	Regional Location
Figure 1-2	Project Location
Figure 1-3	Aerial Photograph Showing Project General Arrangement
Figure 1-4	Newcastle Local Environmental Plan Zoning
Figure 2-1	Project General Arrangement
Figure 2-2	Schematic Flow Diagram
Figure 2-3	Proposed Construction Schedule
Figure 2-4	Train Unloading Stations
Figure 2-5	Coal Storage Area
Figure 2-6	Project Water Management System
Figure 2-7	Provisional Site Drainage Layout
Figure 4-1	Historical Development of Kooragang Island
Figure 4-2	Historical Aerial Photographs of Kooragang Island

**TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)****LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)**

Figure 4-3	Land Topography
Figure 4-4	Location of Monitoring Sites
Figure 4-5	Annual and Seasonal Steel River Wind Roses (2000-2005)
Figure 4-6	Predicted Project Night-Time $L_{Aeq(15minute)}$ Intrusive Noise Contours – Combined East and West Scenarios
Figure 4-7	Predicted Project Night-Time $L_{Aeq(9hour)}$ Amenity Noise Contours – Combined East and West Scenarios
Figure 4-8	Predicted Annual Average Dust Deposition Concentrations ( $g/m^2/month$ ) from the Project
Figure 4-9	Predicted Maximum 24-hour Average $PM_{10}$ Concentrations ( $\mu g/m^3$ ) from the Project
Figure 4-10	Visual Settings and Viewpoints
Figure 4-11	Surface and Groundwater Monitoring Sites
Figure 4-12	Estimation of Fill Materials in the Project Disturbance Area and Borehole Locations
Figure 4-13	Hunter Water Management Area (Stockton and Tomago Groundwater Source) and IBRA Bioregions
Figure 4-14	Fill Aquifer Groundwater Flow Regime
Figure 4-15	Estuarine Aquifer Groundwater Flow Regime
Figure 4-16	Conceptual Typical Cross Section of the Rail Infrastructure Corridor
Figure 4-17	Project Site and Ponds
Figure 4-18	Records of the Green and Golden Bell Frog in the Vicinity of the Project
Figure 4-19	Registered Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Heritage Sites
Figure SOC-1	Proposed Environmental Monitoring Locations

**LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1	Director-General's Environmental Assessment Requirements
Attachment 2	Record of Aboriginal Consultation
Attachment 3	Peer Review Letters

**LIST OF APPENDICES**

Appendix A	Construction, Operation and Road Transport Noise Impact Assessment
Appendix B	Air Quality Impact Assessment
Appendix C	Road Transport Assessment
Appendix D	Land Contamination and Groundwater Assessment
Appendix E	Flora Assessment
Appendix F	Fauna Assessment
Appendix G	Socio-Economic Assessment
Appendix H	Visual Assessment
Appendix I	Preliminary Hazard Analysis
Appendix J	Environmental Risk Analysis