



Whitehaven Coal Mining Pty Ltd

ABN: 65 086 426 253



Environmental Assessment of the Belmont Coal Project via Gunnedah

October 2007

Prepared by:



R.W. CORKERY & CO. PTY. LIMITED

Cover Page: A view to the northeast across the proposed Belmont Coal Mine with the Kelvin Range in the far distance within Community Conservation Area Zone 2 – Kelvin and the proposed biodiversity offset area on the lower slopes in the middle distance (Ref: E584-B004).

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Ref No. 584/01 (Text)
584/02 (Figures)



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Author's Certification

for the submission of an Environmental Assessment prepared in accordance with the
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (Part 3A – Section 75).

(a) **EA prepared by:**

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qualifications: M.Appl.Sc, B.Appl.Sc(Hons)
address: 75 Kite Street
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(b) **Planning Approval application by:**

applicant name: Whitehaven Coal Mining Pty Ltd
applicant address: PO Box 600
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

(c) **Application Number:** 05-0102

(d) **Address/land details**

properties to be developed/
(ie. surface area only)

"Belmont", "Glenroc", "Roseberry", "Brentry" and "Stratford" properties

land description:

Lots 1 and 2, DP 787417;
Lot 30, DP 754950;
Lots 23 and 28, DP 754929; and
Council roads and road reserve all within the Parish of Tulcumba

(e) **Project Outline:**

The Belmont Coal Project involves the development and operation of an open cut coal mine approximately 25km north of Gunnedah. The Project would include: mining by open cut (involving blasting) and potentially augering methods; placement of overburden within the excavated mine void and two out-of-pit emplacements; crushing and screening of run-of-mine coal; ancillary activities to the former activities; transportation of the crushed coal to the Whitehaven Coal Handling and Preparation Plant and Rail Loading Facility; and rehabilitation of areas disturbed by the Project. The Project also provides for a biodiversity offset of approximately 42ha of remnant native vegetation on the "Glenroc" property and habitat corridors between the Vickery State Forest and currently isolated patches of remnant vegetation.

(f) **Assessment of
Environmental Impact:**

The assessment of environmental impacts of this project includes the matters referred to in Director-General's Requirements provided to the Proponent on 20 November 2006 under Section 75F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

(g) **Declaration:**

I, Robert William Corkery, hereby declare that I have overseen the preparation of the contents of this assessment and to the best of my knowledge:

- it has addressed the Director-General's Requirements as provided by the Department on 20 November 2006;
- the assessment contains all available information that is relevant to the environmental assessment of the project; and
- the information contained in the statement is neither false nor misleading.

Signature: _____

Name: Robert W. Corkery Date: 10 October 2007



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