

## Appendix 9

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### FLORA & FAUNA

(a) Fauna Survey

(b) Flora Monitoring Report



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## Werris Creek Coal Mine: Pre-start Fauna Survey Later Summer 2007

A further pre-start clearing fauna survey for the further next 12 months mining operations was conducted at the mine site on the property of Narrawolga, near Werris Creek on 19 and 20 February 2007.

The subject area in strips S08 and S10 and included the southern section of the vegetated rocky ridge, isolated trees in cleared paddocks and 2 small isolated native vegetation patches.

Much of surface of the cleared areas have recently been disturbed and the vegetation patch on top of the knoll had already been cleared prior to the current survey.

The pre-start survey involved searching and sampling the abovementioned areas.

The sampling included dusk and dawn observations and listening watches, spotlighting, ground and tree searches, call back broadcasts and the recording of bat calls. Listed threatened species that have been identified in the EIS and are relevant to this mine site were targeted.

Except for some recent rain, the Werris Creek area continues to experience drought conditions and all the grasses in the subject area have seeded.

### Results:

Tree Hollows and Stags - Nil

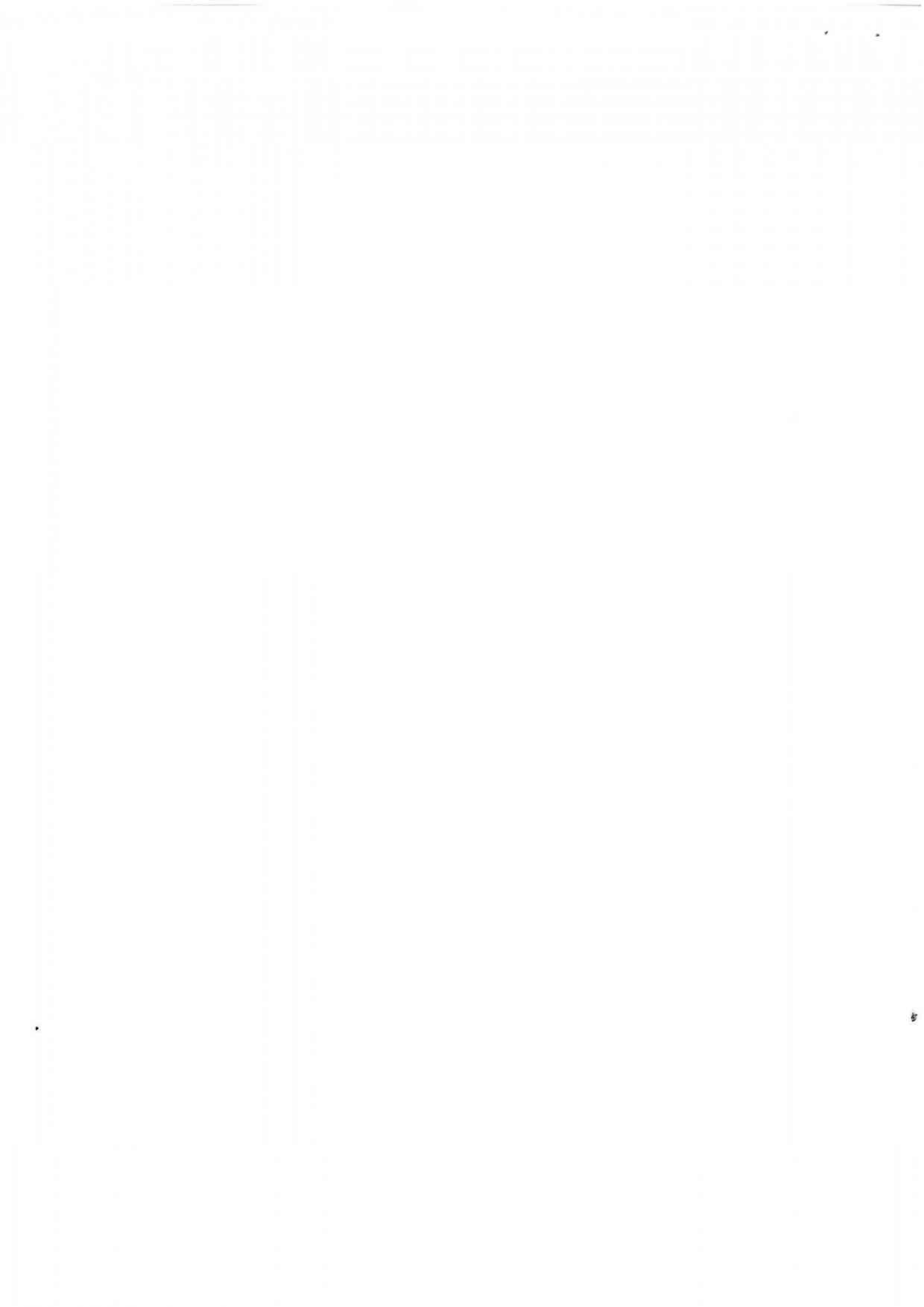
Birds - No active breeding birds in nests or roosting tree hollows were located within the subject area or in the environs within sight and sound distance of the proposed mine pit limits.

Only an Australian Magpie, a pair of Black-faced Cuckoo-strike and a pair of Australian (Nanking) Kestrels were observed in the subject area during the survey.

Mammals - A small group of Grey Kangaroos and a Hare was observed in the subject area during the sampling.

No arboreal mammal was recorded during this survey.

Among the listed threatened bats, there was no call sequence of the Large Bentwing Bat and only four widely spread Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail bat calls recorded on the ridge in an all-night recording session.



Amphibians and Reptiles - No amphibian and only one tree skink was found under the bark of a *Callitris* on the sandstone ridge in the subject area.

Action Required:

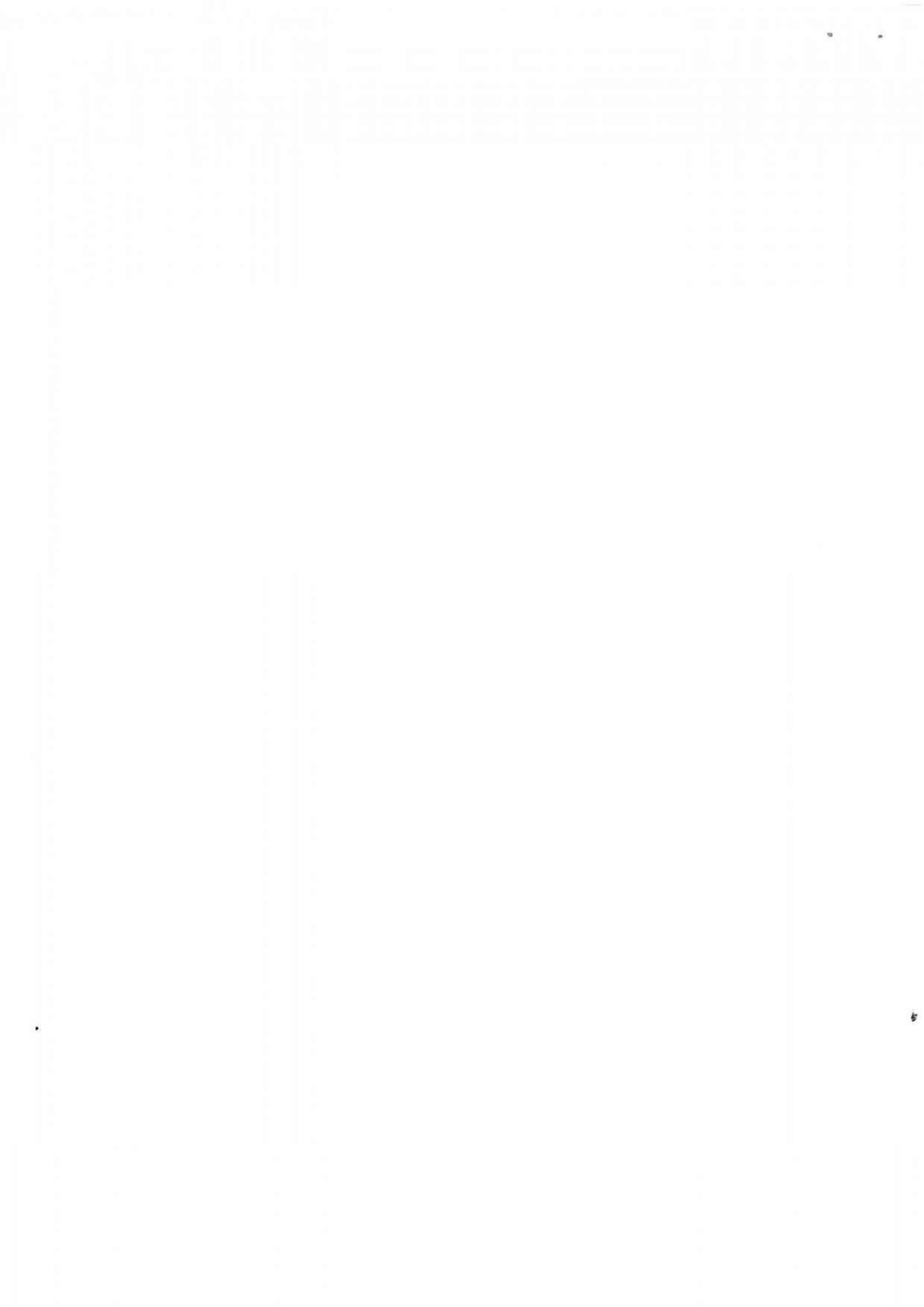
Clearing of native trees should take place as soon as practicable, in any case no later than April before the amphibians and reptiles start to shut down for winter and the bats start to roost and hibernate during the colder months, the winter migrants start to arrive and winter breeding birds become active.

No further action is warranted to ameliorate or minimize the impact of this mining operation upon the local fauna other than that required by the FFMP and the abovementioned.

Dr Leong Lim

Principal Ecologist,  
Countrywide Ecological Service

27 February 2007



# **FLORA MONITORING REPORT**

## **WERRIS CREEK COAL MINE –**

**2007**

**Prepared for**

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**May, 2007**