



SITE INSPECTION NOTES

Project:	United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine Project (SSD 7142)
Meeting location:	United Collieries, 134 Jerrys Plains Road, Warkworth NSW 2330
Applicant attendees:	United: Gary Wills, Aislinn Farnon, Sean Pigott, Glencore: David O'Brien, Tim Walls, Nigel Charnock, Peabody: Michael Alexander, Peter Jaeger, Suzanne Cryle, Chris Chambers, Umwelt: John Merrell,
Commission attendees:	Tony Pearson (Chair), Robyn Kruk, Dr Peter Williams, Alana Jelfs (Senior Planning Officer), David Koppers (Team Leader),
Community attendees:	Beverley Smiles (Hunter Communities Network), Georgina Woods (Lock the Gate), Marg Mclean (Green Alliance Network), Caroline Graham (River SOS).

LOCATIONS & KEY FEATURES - see accompanying maps

1. *United Collieries Boardroom:* Safety presentation and key messages.
2. *Golden Highway - Jerrys Plains:* Trig station viewing point and identification of key site features from the trig station (see accompanying maps).
3. *South-East of the United Collieries site office.* The area was planted out in the mid-90s with drainage channels constructed. The applicant explained that the area comprises some endangered ecological community (**EEC**) conforming species.
4. *South-East of the United Collieries site office.* The applicant noted that the area contains mature ironbark species rated 'good' critically endangered ecological communities (**CEEC**). The area has been surveyed by the Office of Environment and Heritage (**OEH**) and the Commonwealth's Department of Environment and Energy (**DoEE**).
5. *Montrose Property.* The site inspection viewed the Project site from the Montrose Property. The applicant referred to properties within acoustic zone and the assessment undertaken to identify mitigation strategies for noise, including sealing, double glazing of windows, air conditioning and insulation. The applicant noted that the Jerrys Plains offset area is currently used for grazing.
6. *Redmanvale Road:* The site inspection travelled north-west to Jerrys Plains, stopping at Redmanvale Road. the properties within the acoustic zone were identified. The ambient noise levels were observed in this location. The applicant noted that properties within this zone were in the 'management zone' of 3-5 dB(A) above the Project Specific Noise Levels (**PSNLs**). The applicant has committed to notify residences within this zone ahead of scheduled blasts.
7. *Wambo mine:* The site inspection travelled to the Wambo mine site, to observe the open cut mine. Travelling west from the Wambo site office, the applicant pointed out areas of rehabilitated land to the north, the refurbished Wambo homestead to the south, the South Wambo Offset area, North Wambo Creek diversion and areas of remnant woodland south of the Wollemi National Park.



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8. The vehicle stopped in an area being prepared for a blast, and road closure exclusion zones were being established. From that location, the applicant pointed out the Montrose property, relative height levels, ridgelines and areas proposed to be mined.
9. *Monitoring centre:* The site inspection returned to the Wambo Site office to observe the monitoring centre. The applicant and monitoring officer explained how dust and noise levels are observed and reported to the mine manager. Monitoring data is made available to the community consultative committee.
10. *Blasting:* The Commission members were accompanied by Wambo staff to witness a series of scheduled blasts in the open cut. The Commission observed the pre-blast procedures, a series of three blasts and post-blast procedures. The Commission observed the blast plume which moved north toward an area of dense vegetation, settling within 3-5 minutes post blast. The applicant provided the Commission with video footage of the blasts. The footage has been uploaded to the Commissions website.