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## New Acland Stage 3 Expansion

### Environmental Impact Statement – Public Release and Comment Period

#### Overview

New Acland Coal Pty Ltd currently operates New Acland Coal Mine within southeast Queensland's Darling Downs region 14 km north-northwest of Oakey, 35 km northwest of Toowoomba and 177 km west of Brisbane. Currently, New Acland Coal Mine produces 4.8 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of saleable coal by open cut methods within Mining Leases 50170 and 50216 and under the approval of Environmental Authority No. MIM800317705.

New Acland Coal Mine commenced operation during 2002 as Stage 1 and achieved a production rate of 2.0 Mtpa during 2003. New Acland Coal Pty Ltd has embarked on a plan of steady growth since commencement of operations, with the completion of the Stage 2 approvals for a production rate of 4.0 Mtpa during late 2006, and the granting of an interim approval by the Department of Environment and Resource Management for the current production rate of 4.8 Mtpa during early 2008.

New Acland Coal Pty Ltd is now proposing a third expansion to take production up to 10.0 Mtpa and extend the mine life to around 2042. The Stage 3 expansion of New Acland Coal Mine is a 'Project of State Significance' requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*. Currently, the Stage 3 expansion of New Acland Coal Mine is also the subject of Mining Lease Application 50232 under the *Mineral Resource Act 1989*, an amendment application for Environmental Authority No. MIM800317705 under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, and has been deemed a 'controlled action' requiring approval under the Commonwealth's *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The EIS for the Stage 3 expansion of New Acland Coal Mine was completed and lodged with Queensland's Department of Infrastructure and Planning for review against the EIS's Terms of Reference during August 2008. The Department of Infrastructure and Planning completed its review of the EIS during September 2009. New Acland Coal Pty Ltd amended the EIS based on the review comments and re-lodged the document with the Department of Infrastructure and Planning on 15 October 2009.

Queensland's Coordinator General approved the EIS for the Stage 3 expansion of New Acland Coal Mine for Public Release and Comment on 10 November 2009. The Public Comment Period for the EIS was advertised in 'The Toowoomba Chronicle', the 'Weekend Courier Mail', and the 'Weekend Australian' on 14 November 2009.

Please note: The Public Comment Period for the EIS for the Stage 3 expansion of New Acland Coal Mine will run from 14 November 2009 until 03 February 2010. All submissions about the EIS must be made in the correct format and submitted to Queensland's Department of Infrastructure and Planning before the close of business on 03 February 2010.

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## EIS Submission Requirements

Comments on the EIS for the Stage 3 expansion of New Acland Coal Mine must be submitted to Queensland's Department of Infrastructure and Planning. For Queensland's Coordinator-General to accept your submission, it must be 'properly made'. A 'properly made' submission is one that incorporates all the following requirements.

- The submission is made in writing.
- The submission is received on or before the last day of the submission period.
- The submission is signed by each person who made the submission.
- The submission states the name and address of each person who made the submission.
- The submission states the grounds of the submission and the facts and circumstances relied on in support of the grounds.

During the advertised submission period you will be able to lodge your 'properly made' submission by:

- 1) Post:** EIS Project Manager – New Acland Coal Stage 3 Expansion Project  
The Coordinator-General  
Department of Infrastructure and Planning  
PO Box 15009  
CITY EAST QLD 4002
- 2) Fax:** (07) 3225 8282
- 3) Email:** [newaclandcoal3@dip.qld.gov.au](mailto:newaclandcoal3@dip.qld.gov.au)

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## EIS Public Information Sessions

Two public information sessions will be held during the EIS Public Comment Period to provide stakeholders with an overview of the EIS and to provide opportunity to ask questions and speak directly with representatives of New Hope Coal, State Government and SKM (consultants). Details of these information sessions are provided below:

- Jondaryan – Jondaryan Hall, Thursday 19 November 2009, 4:00pm to 8:00pm
- Oakey – RSL (76 Campbell Street), Saturday 21 November 2009, 9:00am - 3:00pm

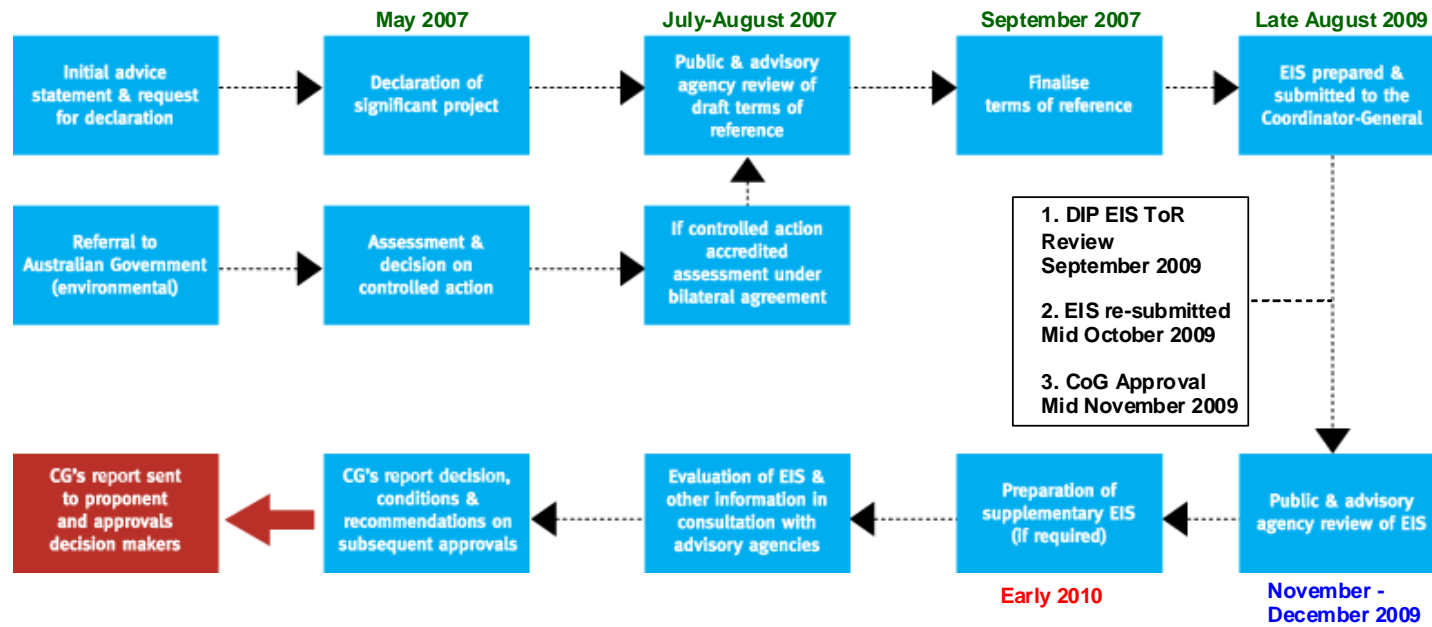
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## EIS Public Display Locations

A hard copy of the EIS will also be available for viewing at:

- Toowoomba City Library – 27 Victoria Street, Toowoomba
- Toowoomba Service Centre – 153 Herries Street, Toowoomba City
- Goombungee Service Centre – Mocatta Street, Goombungee
- Oakey Library and Service Centre – 64 Campbell Street, Oakey

New Acland Stage 3 Expansion – EIS Timeline



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