

Project Approval

Section 75J of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

I approve the project referred to in Schedule 1, subject to the conditions set out in Schedules 2 to 5.

These conditions are required to:

- prevent, minimise, and/or offset adverse environmental impacts;
- set standards and performance measures for acceptable environmental performance;
- require regular monitoring and reporting; and
- provide for on-going environmental management of the project.

Hon Kristina Keneally MP
Minister for Planning

Sydney

2009

SCHEDULE 1

Project Application:

06_0104

Proponent:

PF Formation

Approval Authority:

Minister for Planning

Land:

See Appendix 1

Project:

Hitchcock Road Sand Project

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DEFINITIONS

AEMR	Annual Environmental Management Report
Council	The Hills Shire Council
Day	The period from 7.00am to 6.00pm on Monday to Saturday, and 8.00am to 6.00pm on Sundays and Public Holidays
DECC	Department of Environment and Climate Change
Department	Department of Planning
Director-General	Director-General of the Department of Planning, or delegate
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
DWE	Department of Water and Energy
EA	Environmental Assessment for the project titled <i>Hitchcock Road Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Project Environmental Assessment and Appendices</i> (3 volumes), dated November 2007, prepared by DFA Consultants, including the response to submissions and preferred project report
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EP&A Regulation	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i>
EPL	Environment Protection Licence issued under the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>
Evening	The period from 6.00pm to 10.00pm
Extraction Area	The land described as the extraction area in Appendix 1
Land	Land means the whole of a lot, or contiguous lots owned by the same landowner, in a current plan registered at the Land Titles Office at the date of this approval
Minister	Minister for Planning, or delegate
Night	The period from 10.00pm to 7.00am on Monday to Saturday, and 10.00pm to 8.00am on Sundays and Public Holidays
Privately owned land	Land not owned by a public agency or the Proponent or its related companies
Preferred Project Report	The Proponent's Preferred Project Report dated September 2008, prepared by DFA Consultants, as modified in the Proponent's email to the Department of 18 November 2008
Project	The development as described in the EA
Proponent	PF Formation, or its successors in title
Response to Submissions	The Proponent's response to issues raised in submissions, dated March 2008, prepared by DFA Consultants, and subsequent submissions to the Department dated 27 August 2008
RTA	Roads and Traffic Authority
SHTW	Sydney Hinterland Transition Woodland
Site	Land to which the project application applies
Statement of Commitments	The Proponent's commitments in Appendix 3
Strategy A, Strategy B	The alternative rehabilitation proposals described in the preferred project report
Vegetation Offset	The conservation and enhancement program described in the preferred project report, to occur on the land shown on the plan in Appendix 5
VENM	Virgin Excavated Natural Material, as defined in the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>

SCHEDULE 2 ADMINISTRATIVE

Obligation to Minimise Harm to the Environment

1. The Proponent shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, or rehabilitation of the project.

Terms of Approval

2. The Proponent shall carry out the project generally in accordance with the:
 - (a) EA;
 - (b) preferred project report;
 - (c) statement of commitments; and
 - (d) conditions of this approval.

Notes:

- The layout of the project is shown in the figure in Appendix 2; and
- The statement of commitments is included in Appendix 3.

3. If there is any inconsistency between the above:
 - (a) the preferred project report shall prevail over the EA;
 - (b) the conditions of this approval shall prevail generally, to the extent of the inconsistency.
4. The Proponent shall comply with any reasonable requirement/s of the Director-General arising from the Department's assessment of:
 - (a) any reports, plans, programs or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with the conditions of this approval; and
 - (b) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these reports, plans, programs or correspondence.

Existing Sand Mining Consent

5. Subject to an agreement in accordance with condition 7 below, the Proponent may accept material extracted from Lot 2 DP 555184 and Lot 1 DP 34599 in accordance with the development consent issued by the Land and Environment Court on 14 July 1998 to be transported across the site and to the slurry plant on Lot 1 DP 570966 via the slurry pipeline and processed on Lot 198 DP 752025.

Limits on Approval

6. Extraction and processing operations may take place until 30 November 2028.

Note: Under this approval, the Proponent is required to rehabilitate the site and provide offsets to the satisfaction of the Director-General. Consequently this approval will continue to apply in all other respects other than the right to conduct extraction and processing operations until the site has been rehabilitated and the offset provided to a satisfactory standard.

7. The quantity of processed material produced at the site, together with material produced on Lot 2 DP 555184 and Lot 1 DP 34599 in accordance with the development consent issued by the Land and Environment Court on 14 July 1998, shall not exceed 400,000 tonnes a year.

Prior to the commencement of any processing of extractive material (under the above consent) from activities on Lot 2 DP 555184 or Lot 1 DP 34599, the Proponent shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Director-General, that it has reached an agreement with the owners of those Lots regarding the proportion of the extraction limit as it applies to each Lot.

8. The Proponent shall restrict total laden truck movements associated with the project to:
 - (a) 200 per day, for the Proponent's combined operations at Maroota;
 - (b) 20 per day, for trucks importing VENM to the site; and
 - (c) 10 per day, for trucks entering/exiting the site between 6.00am and 7.00am.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, 200 is the maximum laden truck movement volume allowed on any one day, including the VENM and early morning truck movements.

9. The Proponent shall not undertake any extraction within 2 metres of the established wet weather groundwater level.

Note: The wet weather groundwater level shall be established in accordance with condition 3 of Schedule 3.

10. The Proponent shall not disturb any SHTW vegetation (as shown on the plan in Appendix 5) on site without the prior written approval of the Director-General. In seeking this approval the Proponent shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Director-General, that it has established at least 3.7 hectares of SHTW on the site, to a standard that meets the criteria in Appendix 6.

Note: This demonstration must include an assessment by a suitably qualified and independent ecologist.

Management Plans / Monitoring Programs

11. With the approval of the Director-General, the Proponent may submit any management plan or monitoring program required by this approval on a progressive basis.

Demolition

12. The Proponent shall ensure that all demolition work is carried out in accordance with AS 2601-2001: *The Demolition of Structures*, or its latest version.

Protection of Public Infrastructure

13. The Proponent shall:
 - (a) repair, or pay all reasonable costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the project; and
 - (b) relocate, or pay all reasonable costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the project.

Operation of Plant and Equipment

14. The Proponent shall ensure that all plant and equipment used at the site is:
 - (a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and
 - (b) operated in a proper and efficient condition.

Crown Land

15. The Proponent shall not commence any development authorised by this approval on Crown land without the prior approval of the Department of Lands.

Section 94 Contributions

16. The Proponent shall pay a monthly contribution to the Council for the upgrade and maintenance of roads in accordance with Baulkham Hills Shire Council's section 94 plan in force at the date of this approval.

SCHEDULE 3 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

GENERAL EXTRACTION AND PROCESSING PROVISIONS

Identification of Boundaries

1. Within 3 months of the date of this approval, or as otherwise agreed by the Director-General, the Proponent shall:
 - (a) engage an independent registered surveyor to survey the boundaries of the approved limit of extraction and the approved ancillary work areas;
 - (b) submit a survey plan of these boundaries to the Director-General; and
 - (c) ensure that these boundaries are clearly marked at all times in a permanent manner that allows operating staff and inspecting officers to clearly identify those limits.

Note: The limit of extraction and ancillary areas is shown conceptually on the layout plans in Appendix 2, as amended/clarified by the conditions below.

General Limits of Extraction

2. Notwithstanding the layout plans in Appendix 2, the Proponent shall not undertake extraction within:
 - (a) 30 metres of Hitchcock Road; and
 - (b) 10 metres of the property boundary of Lot 2 DP 555184, unless sand extraction has commenced on that lot, and extraction in this buffer has been agreed by the Director-General.

Maximum Extraction Depth Map

3. The Proponent shall:
 - (a) establish the wet weather groundwater level for the site based on all available (and at least 12 months) site specific groundwater monitoring data;
 - (b) engage a suitably qualified and experienced expert to establish the maximum extraction depths to which extraction can be undertaken on site, to comply with condition 9 of Schedule 2;
 - (c) submit a Maximum Extraction Depth Map (contour map or similar) for the project to the Director-General within 3 months of the date of this approval; and
 - (d) comply with the extraction depths specified in the map, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.
4. Within 3 months of the completion of the Independent Environmental Audit (see condition 6 of Schedule 5), the Proponent shall review and update the Maximum Extraction Depth Map for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

NOISE

Operational Noise Assessment Criteria

5. The Proponent shall ensure that the noise generated by the project does not exceed the noise impact assessment criteria in Table 1 at any residence or on more than 25 per cent of any privately-owned land.

Noise Assessment Location	Day	Night	
	L _{Aeq} (15 minute)	L _{Aeq} (15 minute)	L _{A1} (1 minute)
R1 - Hammond	41	35	45
R2 – Hitchcock	40	35	45
R5 – Pignataro	42	35	45
R6 – Camilleri	40	35	45
R7 – Maroota Public School	36(L _{Aeq} (1 Hour))	N/A	N/A
R8 – Portelli	39	35	45
R9 – Young	39	35	45
R10 - Tornatola	39	35	45

Table 1: Noise Impact Assessment Criteria

Notes:

- To determine compliance with the L_{Aeq}(15 minute) noise limits, noise from the project is to be measured at the most affected point within the residential boundary, or at the most affected point within 30 metres of the dwelling where the dwelling is more than 30 metres from the boundary. Where it can be demonstrated that direct measurement of noise from the project is impractical, alternative means of determining compliance

may be accepted (see Chapter 11 of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy). The modification factors in Section 4 of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy shall also be applied to the measured noise level where applicable.

- To determine compliance with the $L_{A1(1 \text{ minute})}$ limit, noise from the project is to be measured at 1 metre from the dwelling façade.
- The noise limits apply under meteorological conditions of:
 - wind speed up to 3m/s at 10m above ground level;
 - temperature inversion conditions of up to 3 degrees C/100m and wind speed up to 2m/s at 10m above the ground;
 where the wind velocity and temperature gradients are determined to be relevant to the project site in accordance with the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.
- The Director-General may relax the noise limits in Table 1 for any property where the Proponent has an agreement with the relevant owner/s to generate higher noise levels, and the Proponent has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.
- For more information on the noise assessment locations see Appendix 4.

Cumulative Noise Criteria

6. The Proponent shall take all reasonable and feasible measures to ensure that the noise generated by the project combined with the noise generated by other extractive industries does not exceed the following amenity criteria on any privately owned land, to the satisfaction of the Director-General:
 - $L_{Aeq(11 \text{ hour})}$ 50 dB(A) – Day;
 - $L_{Aeq(4 \text{ hour})}$ 45 dB(A) – Evening; and
 - $L_{Aeq(9 \text{ hour})}$ 40 dB(A) – Night.

Operating Hours

7. The Proponent shall comply with the operating hours in Table 2.

Activity	Day	Time
Construction work	Monday - Friday	7.00am to 6.00pm
	Saturday	8.00am to 1.00pm
	Sunday and Public Holidays	None
Quarrying and Processing, (inc. overburden removal)	Monday – Saturday	7.00am to 6.00pm
	Sunday and Public Holidays	None
Product Transportation	Monday – Saturday	6.00am to 6.00pm
	Sunday and Public Holidays	None
Maintenance	Monday – Saturday	7.00am to 6.00pm
	Sunday and Public Holidays	None

Table 2: Operating Hours

Notes:

- Product transportation prior to 7.00am is restricted as per condition 8 of Schedule 2.
- Maintenance activities may be conducted outside the hours in Table 2 provided that the activities are not audible at any residence beyond the boundary of the site.
- This condition does not apply to delivery of material if that delivery is required by police or other authorities for safety reasons, and/or the operation or personnel or equipment are endangered. In such circumstances, notification is to be provided to DECC and the affected residents as soon as possible, or within a reasonable period in the case of emergency.

Noise Management Plan

8. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Noise Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan shall:
 - (a) be submitted to the Director-General within 3 months of the date of this approval;
 - (b) be prepared in consultation with DECC;
 - (c) include details of how the noise performance of the project would be monitored, and include a noise monitoring protocol for evaluating compliance with the relevant noise limits in this approval; and
 - (d) include an investigation and assessment (including modelling) of additional reasonable and feasible noise mitigation measures that would be implemented to ensure that noise emissions at all stages of the project comply with the noise impact assessment criteria in Table 1.

Note: The EA predicted that receiver locations R5, R6, R9 and R10 would exceed the applicable noise criteria by between 2 and 5 decibels, during worst case operations.

9. If the additional noise mitigation measures identified in condition 8(d) are not able to reduce noise levels to within 2 decibels of the impact assessment criteria in Table 1 then, upon receiving a written request from the applicable landowner, the Proponent shall implement additional noise mitigation

measures such as double glazing, insulation, and/or air conditioning at any residence on the land in consultation with the landowner.

These additional mitigation measures must be reasonable and feasible.

If within 3 months of receiving this request from the landowner, the Proponent and the landowner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Director-General for resolution.

AIR QUALITY

Impact Assessment Criteria

10. The Proponent shall ensure that dust generated by the project does not cause exceedances of the criteria listed in Tables 3, 4 and 5 at any residence or on more than 25 per cent of any privately owned land.

Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion
Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	90 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
Particulate matter < 10 μm (PM ₁₀)	Annual	30 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Table 3: Long Term Impact Assessment Criteria for Particulate Matter

Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion
Particulate matter < 10 μm (PM ₁₀)	24 hour	50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Table 4: Short Term Impact Assessment Criteria for Particulate Matter

Pollutant	Averaging period	Maximum increase in deposited dust level	Maximum total deposited dust level
Deposited dust	Annual	2 $\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{month}$	4 $\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{month}$

Table 5: Long Term Impact Assessment Criteria for Deposited Dust

Note: Deposited dust is assessed as insoluble solids as defined by Standards Australia, 1991, AS 3580.10.1-1991: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air - Determination of Particulates - Deposited Matter - Gravimetric Method.

Operating Conditions

11. The Proponent shall ensure any visible air pollution generated by the project is assessed regularly, and that quarrying operations are relocated, modified, and/or stopped as required to minimise air quality impacts on privately owned land.

Air Quality Monitoring

12. The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Air Quality Monitoring Program for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This program shall:
 - (a) be submitted to the Director-General for approval within 3 months of the date of this approval;
 - (b) be prepared in consultation with DECC;
 - (c) include details of how the air quality performance of the project would be monitored, providing for additional dust deposition monitoring in the vicinity of clusters of residences to the north and west of the site; and
 - (d) include a protocol for evaluating compliance with the relevant air quality criteria in this approval.

METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING

13. The Proponent shall ensure the project has a suitable meteorological station on the site or in the immediate vicinity that complies with the requirements in the *Approved Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales* publication.

WATER

Water Supply

14. The Proponent shall ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the project, and if necessary, adjust the scale of operations to match its water supply.

Note: The Proponent is required to obtain necessary water licences for the project under the Water Act 1912 and/or Water Management Act 2000.

Discharges

15. The Proponent shall not discharge any water from the quarry or its associated operations except in accordance with an EPL.

Water Management and Monitoring

16. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Water Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan shall:
- (a) be submitted to the Director-General within 3 months of the date of this approval;
 - (b) be prepared in consultation with DWE and DECC; and
 - (c) include a:
 - Site Water Balance;
 - Erosion and Sediment Control Plan;
 - Surface Water Monitoring Program; and
 - Groundwater Monitoring Program.
17. The Site Water Balance shall:
- (a) include details of:
 - sources and security of water supply;
 - water use on site;
 - water management on site, including the location and capacity of water storages on site and the means of access;
 - off-site water transfers; and
 - reporting procedures; and
 - (b) investigate and describe measures to minimise water use by the project.
18. The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan shall:
- (a) be consistent with the requirements of *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction, Volume 1, 4th Edition, 2004* (Landcom);
 - (b) identify activities that could cause soil erosion and generate sediment;
 - (c) describe measures to minimise soil erosion and the potential for the transport of sediment to downstream waters;
 - (d) describe the location, function, and capacity of erosion and sediment control structures;
 - (e) demonstrate that the design capacity of basins intended to collect storm runoff will not be compromised by storage of operational water; and
 - (f) describe what measures would be implemented to maintain (and if necessary decommission) the structures over time.
19. The Surface Water Monitoring Program shall include:
- (a) detailed baseline data on surface water flows and quality in downstream watercourses that could be affected by the project;
 - (b) surface water quality and stream health assessment criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse surface water impacts; and
 - (c) a program to monitor:
 - surface water flows, quality, and impacts on water users;
 - stream health; and
 - channel stability.
20. The Groundwater Monitoring Program shall include:
- (a) provision of additional monitoring bores around the periphery of the site;
 - (b) detailed baseline data on groundwater levels, flows and quality in the region, and particularly any groundwater bores, springs and seeps (including spring and seep fed dams) that may be affected by operations on site;
 - (c) groundwater assessment criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse groundwater impacts;
 - (d) a program to monitor:
 - groundwater levels and quality in new and existing monitoring bores;
 - the impacts of the project on:
 - any groundwater bores, springs and seeps (including spring and seep fed farm dams) on privately-owned land; and

- any groundwater dependent ecosystems; and
- (e) a protocol for further groundwater modelling to confirm the limits to excavation depth across the site permitted in accordance with condition 9 of Schedule 2.

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

Rehabilitation

21. The Proponent shall progressively rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Director-General, in a manner that is generally consistent with the concept final landform (Strategy A or Strategy B) in the preferred project report (as reproduced in Appendix 7).

Offset Strategy

22. The Proponent shall implement the Offset Strategy described in the preferred project report, and summarised in Table 6 (shown conceptually on the plan in Appendix 5), to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Area	Minimum Size (hectares)
On-Site Revegetation Area (SHTW)	7.9
On-Site Revegetation Area (Other Woodland)	4.1
Total	12

Table 6: Offset Strategy

23. Within 3 years of the date of this approval, the Proponent shall make suitable arrangements to provide appropriate long term security for the offset areas to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Note: The Department acknowledges that the arrangements may provide for staged or delayed implementation, in accordance with the extraction in these areas.

Landscape Management Plan

24. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Landscape Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan must:
- (a) be prepared in consultation with DECC by suitably qualified expert/s whose appointment/s have been approved by the Director-General;
 - (b) be submitted to the Director-General for approval within 6 months of the date of this approval; and
 - (c) include a:
 - Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan; and
 - Quarry Closure Plan.

Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan

25. The Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan must include:
- (a) the rehabilitation objectives for the site, vegetation offsets and landscaping;
 - (b) a description of the short, medium, and long term measures that would be implemented to:
 - rehabilitate the site;
 - implement the Offset Strategy; and
 - maintain and enhance existing site vegetation outside the disturbance area;
 - (c) detailed performance and completion criteria for the site rehabilitation and implementation of the Offset Strategy;
 - (d) a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented over the next 3 years, including the procedures to be implemented for:
 - progressively rehabilitating disturbed areas;
 - implementing vegetation offsets;
 - protecting vegetation and soil outside the disturbance areas;
 - rehabilitating creeks and drainage lines on the site to ensure no net loss of stream length and aquatic habitat;
 - undertaking pre-clearance surveys;
 - managing impacts on fauna;
 - landscaping the site to minimise visual impacts;
 - conserving and reusing topsoil;
 - collecting and propagating seed for rehabilitation works;
 - salvaging and reusing material from the site for habitat enhancement;
 - controlling weeds and feral pests;

- controlling access; and
 - bushfire management;
- (e) a program to monitor the effectiveness of these measures, and progress against the performance and completion criteria;
- (f) a description of the potential risks to successful rehabilitation and/or revegetation, and a description of the contingency measures that would be implemented to mitigate these risks; and
- (g) details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing, and implementing the plan.

Quarry Closure Plan

26. The Quarry Closure Plan must:
- (a) include provision for certification from a qualified geotechnical engineer that the final proposed landform is stable;
 - (b) define the objectives and criteria for closure of the quarry;
 - (c) investigate options for the future use of the site, including any final void;
 - (d) describe the measures that would be implemented to minimise or manage the ongoing (post closure) environmental effects of the project; and
 - (e) describe how the performance of these measures would be monitored over time.

Rehabilitation and Offset Bond

27. Within 3 months of the approval of the Landscape Management Plan, the Proponent shall lodge a rehabilitation and offset bond for the project with the Director-General. The sum of the bond shall be calculated at:
- (a) \$2.50/m² for the area of disturbance in each 3 year review period, including the offset areas; and
 - (b) \$1.00/m² for the total area of land previously disturbed by the quarry, or as otherwise directed by the Director-General.

Notes:

- *If the rehabilitation and offsets are completed to the satisfaction of the Director-General, the Director-General will release the bond.*
- *If the rehabilitation and/or offsets are not completed to the satisfaction of the Director-General, the Director-General will call in all or part of the bond, and arrange for the satisfactory completion of the relevant works.*

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

28. Should the Proponent discover material suspected of being Aboriginal relics or skeletal remains, work in that area shall cease and the Proponent shall advise DECC and proceed in accordance with DECC instructions.

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

Materials Transport

29. The Proponent shall transport all excavated material between the extraction site and processing plant site, including processing residues, via slurry pipelines.

Note: When the slurry system is unusable by reason of breakdown or essential maintenance, extractive material may be transported by truck during the period of such breakdown or maintenance. The Proponent shall ensure that such periods are as brief as possible and shall advise the Council each day that truck transport is to be used.

Haulage Records

30. The Proponent shall record and maintain a log of the extraction quantities and traffic movement in and out of the site, available for inspection at the request of the Director-General or the Council.

Road Haulage

31. The Proponent shall ensure that:
- (a) all loaded vehicles entering or leaving the site are covered; and
 - (b) all loaded vehicles leaving the site are cleaned of materials that may fall on the road, before they leave the site.

VISUAL

Visual Amenity

32. The Proponent shall minimise the visual impacts of the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Lighting Emissions

33. The Proponent shall:
- (a) take all practicable measures to mitigate off-site lighting impacts from the project; and
 - (b) ensure that all external lighting associated with the project complies with *Australian Standard AS4282 (INT) 1995 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting*, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Advertising

34. The Proponent shall not erect or display any advertising structure(s) or signs on the site without the written approval of the Director-General.

Note: This does not include traffic management and safety or environmental signs.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Waste Minimisation

35. The Proponent shall:
- (a) only import VENM to the site; and
 - (b) minimise the amount of waste generated by the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

EMERGENCY AND HAZARDS MANAGEMENT

Dangerous Goods

36. The Proponent shall ensure that the storage, handling, and transport of dangerous goods are conducted in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards, particularly AS1940 and AS1596, and the *Dangerous Goods Code*.

Safety

37. The Proponent shall secure the project to ensure public safety to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Bushfire Management

38. The Proponent shall:
- (a) ensure that the project is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on-site; and
 - (b) assist the Rural Fire Service and emergency services as much as possible if there is a fire on site.

PRODUCTION DATA

39. The Proponent shall:
- (a) provide annual production data to the DPI using the standard form for that purpose; and
 - (b) include a copy of this data in the AEMR.
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SCHEDULE 4 ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS

1. If the results of monitoring required in Schedule 3 identify that impacts generated by the project are greater than the relevant impact assessment criteria, then the Proponent shall notify the Director-General and the affected landowners and/or existing or future tenants accordingly, and provide quarterly monitoring results to each of these parties until the results show that the project is complying with the relevant criteria.

INDEPENDENT REVIEW

2. If a landowner of privately owned land considers that the operations of the quarry are exceeding the impact assessment criteria in Schedule 3, then he/she may ask the Proponent in writing for an independent review of the impacts of the project on his/her land.

If the Director-General is satisfied that an independent review is warranted, the Proponent shall within 3 months of the Director-General advising that an independent review is warranted:

- (a) consult with the landowner to determine his/her concerns;
 - (b) commission a suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, whose appointment has been approved by the Director-General, to conduct monitoring on the land, to determine whether the project is complying with the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, and identify the source(s) and scale of any impact on the land, and the project's contribution to this impact; and
 - (c) give the Director-General and landowner a copy of the independent review.
3. If the independent review determines that the quarrying operations are complying with the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, then the Proponent may discontinue the independent review with the approval of the Director-General.
 4. If the independent review determines that the quarrying operations are not complying with the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, and that the quarry is primarily responsible for this non-compliance, then the Proponent shall:
 - (a) implement all reasonable and feasible measures, in consultation with the landowner, to ensure that the project complies with the relevant criteria; and
 - (b) conduct further monitoring to determine whether these measures ensure compliance; or
 - (c) secure a written agreement with the landowner to allow exceedances of the relevant criteria in Schedule 3,to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

If the additional monitoring referred to above subsequently determines that the quarrying operations are complying with the relevant criteria in Schedule 3, then the Proponent may discontinue the independent review with the approval of the Director-General.

If the Proponent is unable to finalise an agreement with the landowner, then the Proponent or landowner may refer the matter to the Director-General for resolution.

If the matter cannot be resolved within 21 days, the Director-General shall refer the matter to an Independent Dispute Resolution Process (see Appendix 8).

5. If the landowner disputes the results of the independent review, either the Proponent or the landowner may refer the matter to the Director-General for resolution.

If the matter cannot be resolved within 21 days, the Director-General shall refer the matter to an Independent Dispute Resolution Process (see Appendix 8).

SCHEDULE 5

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, MONITORING, REPORTING & AUDITING

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

1. The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Environmental Management Strategy for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This strategy shall be submitted to the Director-General within 3 months of the date of this approval, and;
 - (a) provide the strategic context for environmental management of the project;
 - (b) identify the statutory requirements that apply to the project;
 - (c) describe in general how the environmental performance of the project would be monitored and managed;
 - (d) describe the procedures that would be implemented to:
 - keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the construction, operation and environmental performance of the project;
 - receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints;
 - resolve any disputes that may arise during the life of the project;
 - respond to any non-compliance;
 - manage cumulative impacts; and
 - respond to emergencies; and
 - (e) describe the role, responsibility, authority, and accountability of the key personnel involved in the environmental management of the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM

2. The Proponent shall prepare an Environmental Monitoring Program for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This program shall be submitted to the Director-General concurrently with the submission of the various monitoring programs and consolidate the various monitoring requirements in Schedule 3 of this approval into a single document.

REPORTING

Incident Reporting

3. Within 24 hours of detecting an exceedance of the limits/performance criteria in this approval or the occurrence of an incident that causes (or may cause) harm to the environment, the Proponent shall notify the Department and other relevant agencies of the exceedance/incident.
4. Within 6 days of notifying the Department and other relevant agencies of an exceedance/incident, the Proponent shall provide the Department and these agencies with a written report that:
 - (a) describes the date, time, and nature of the exceedance/incident;
 - (b) identifies the cause (or likely cause) of the exceedance/incident;
 - (c) describes what action has been taken to date; and
 - (d) describes the proposed measures to address the exceedance/incident.

Annual Reporting

5. Within 12 months of the date of this approval, and annually thereafter, the Proponent shall submit an AEMR to the Director-General, relevant agencies and CCC. This report shall:
 - (a) identify the standards and performance measures that apply to the project;
 - (b) describe the works that will be carried out in the next 12 months;
 - (c) include a summary of the complaints received during the past year, and compare this to the complaints received in previous years;
 - (d) include a summary of the monitoring results for the project during the past year;
 - (e) include an analysis of these monitoring results against the relevant:
 - impact assessment criteria/limits;
 - monitoring results from previous years; and
 - predictions in the EA;
 - (f) identify any trends in the monitoring results over the life of the project;
 - (g) identify any non-compliance during the previous year; and
 - (h) describe what actions were, or are being, taken to ensure compliance.

INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

6. Within 12 months of the date of this approval, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Director-General directs otherwise, the Proponent shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the project. This audit shall:
 - (a) be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced, and independent person(s) whose appointment has been approved by the Director-General;
 - (b) include consultation with the relevant agencies;

- (c) assess the environmental performance of the project, and its effects on the surrounding environment;
- (d) assess whether the project is complying with the relevant standards, performance measures and statutory requirements; and
- (e) review the adequacy of any strategy/plan/program required under this approval, and, if necessary, recommend measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the project, and/or any strategy/plan/program required under this approval.

Note: The person(s) conducting the audit should have expertise in flora and fauna assessment, hydrogeology and quarry rehabilitation.

- 7. Within 6 weeks of completion of each Independent Environmental Audit, the Proponent shall submit a copy of the audit report to the Director-General, with a response to any of the recommendations in the audit report.
- 8. Within 3 months of submitting a copy of the audit report to the Director-General, the Proponent shall review and if necessary revise:
 - (a) each of the environmental management and monitoring strategies/plans/programs in Schedules 3 and 5; and
 - (b) the sum of the Vegetation Offset Bond (see Schedule 3). This review shall consider:
 - the effects of inflation;
 - any changes to the total area of disturbance; and
 - the performance of the vegetation offsets against the completion criteria of the Rehabilitation and Vegetation Offset Management Plan,
 to the satisfaction of the Director-General

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

- 9. The Proponent shall establish a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General, in general accordance with the Department's *Guideline for Establishing and Operating Community Consultative Committees for Mining Projects*.

Note: The Proponent may continue the operation of the Liaison and Review Committee established under condition 6.7 of the development consent issued by the Land and Environment Court on 14 July 1998 to fulfil this condition.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- 10. Within 1 month of the approval of any plan/strategy/program required under this approval (or any subsequent revision of these plans/strategies/programs), or the completion of the audits or AEMR required under this approval, the Proponent shall:
 - (a) provide a copy of the relevant document/s to the relevant agencies and to members of the general public upon request; and
 - (b) ensure that a copy of the relevant document/s is made publicly available on its website and at the Proponent's office.
- 11. During the project, the Proponent shall:
 - (a) make a summary of monitoring results required under this approval publicly available on its website and at the site office; and
 - (b) update these results on a regular basis.

**APPENDIX 1
SCHEDULE OF LAND**

Extraction Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lots 1 & 2 DP 570966• Lots 1 & 2 DP 1063296• Lot 1 DP 1013943• Lot 2 DP 233818• Lot 1 DP 1091018• Lot 1 DP 223323
Processing Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lots 167 & 214 DP 752039• Lot 198 DP 752025

APPENDIX 2 GENERAL LAYOUT OF PROJECT



- Area already extracted and partially rehabilitated
- Area for future extraction
- Clean water dam
- Existing internal haul road
- Land included in the application

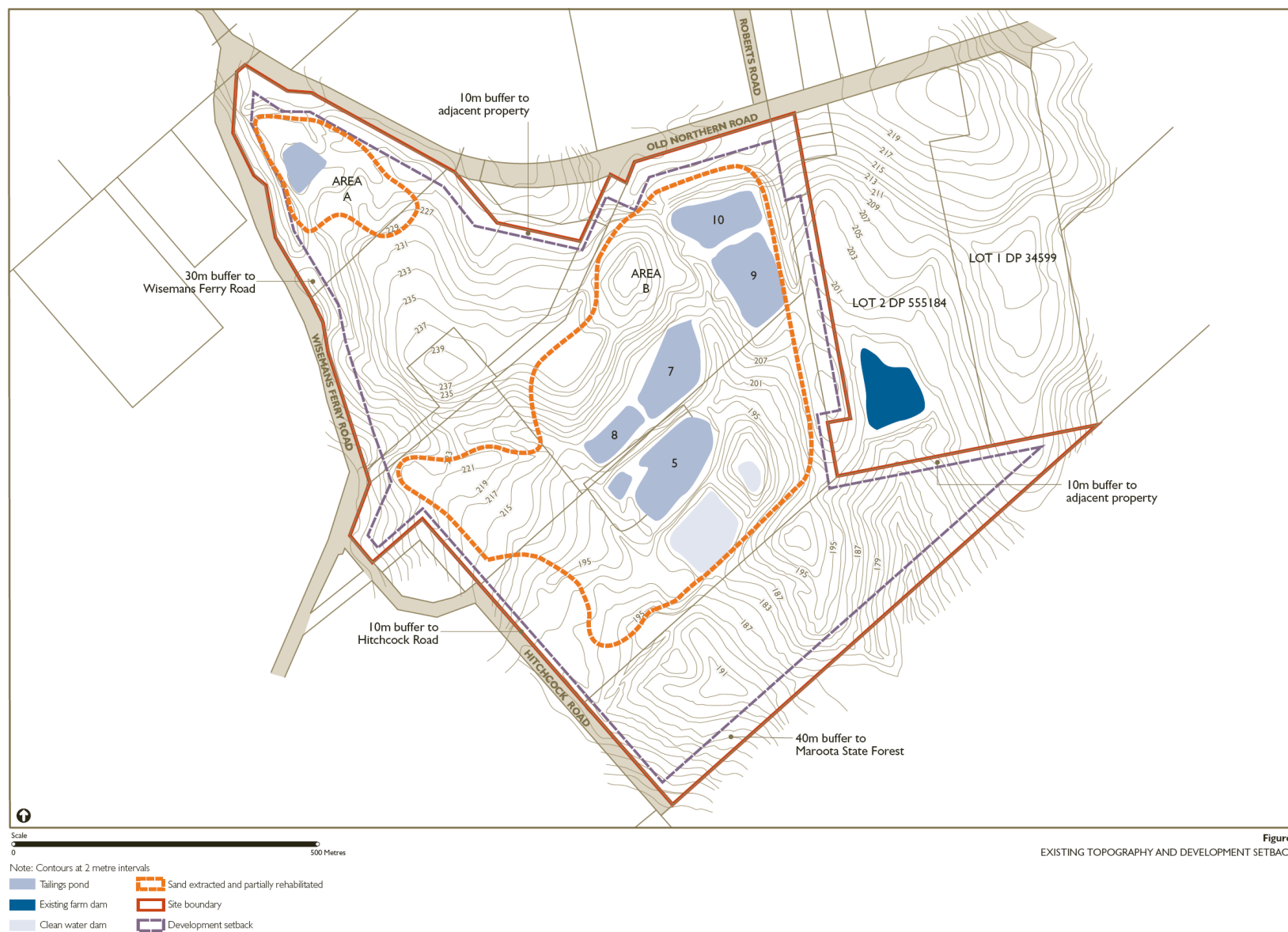


Figure 4
EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY AND DEVELOPMENT SETBACKS

APPENDIX 3 STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS

Noise and Vibration

- Site activities will be managed so that any necessary high noise and vibration levels occur at times of least impact.
- All site activities will be undertaken incorporating noise attenuation measures such as restricting working hours for certain works required in the proximity of sensitive receptors.
- All equipment used on site will be certified in relation to noise performance.
- Panels and covers of silenced plant will be kept shut and plant and equipment switched off when not in use.
- All mechanical equipment will be silenced by the best practical means using current technology, prior to use. Noise suppression devices will be fitted according to manufacturer's instructions. Noise control kits will be fitted to noisy mobile equipment and shrouds provided around stationary equipment where necessary.
- All plant and equipment will be inspected regularly to ensure that it is well maintained to minimise noise emissions.
- The L_{10} noise level at the boundary of adjacent receivers where baseline data has been obtained will not normally exceed the background level by more than 5 dB(A).
- Compliance monitoring of noise levels will be undertaken and appropriate records of measurements kept.
- The local community will be informed of the level and duration of noise to be expected during specific activities and phases of development when necessary. Communication of concerns to the Environmental Manager will be invited.

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Ambient air quality monitoring will be conducted at identified sites.
- Dust suppression equipment will be fitted to all processing plant on the site. This will be regularly inspected and maintained in good working order at all times.
- Trafficable areas will be defined to prevent unnecessary vehicle movement into other parts of the site.
- All unsealed trafficable areas and working areas will be kept damp by spraying regularly with a water cart, water sprays or sprinklers to minimise dust emissions. Frequency of spraying to be determined based on weather conditions, soil erodibility and the observation of any visible dust.
- Speed controls will be applied to all unsealed areas (maximum speed of 20 km/h) and signposted accordingly.
- All semi-permanent stockpiles will be vegetated with suitable groundcover and regularly watered until the vegetation is well established.
- Work on any extraction activity producing dust will cease due to high winds if control cannot be achieved by watering or other means. Work will not resume until the wind velocity decreases and any dust generation can be controlled by normal means.
- All loaded trucks leaving the central processing plant on Lot 198 DP 752025 will have their payloads fully covered by a suitable material to prevent spillage.
- No fires will be permitted on-site without a permit.
- A mechanical road sweeping unit and water cart will be maintained for use as required to keep all roads including the intersection of the haul road and Wisemans Ferry Road free from deposited material.
- Exhausts from all vehicles and plant/equipment will be inspected to ensure that they are maintained at an acceptable level.
- All vehicles will be regularly serviced to ensure that exhaust emissions comply with the regulations. Appropriate service records will be maintained.

- Any opportunities to minimise machinery use and ensure that all equipment used on the site is energy efficient will be identified.

Access and Traffic

- If the sand slurry plant and transport system is unusable due to breakdown or during maintenance periods, trucks will be used for the transport of extractive material on a temporary basis. This will cease once the system is operating satisfactorily.
- The number of laden vehicle movements will not exceed a combined total of two hundred per day via the intersection of the haulage road and Wisemans Ferry Road. This is the total of laden vehicle movements allowed for PF Formation's combined extractive industry operations in Baulkham Hills Shire.
- Operations involving the transportation of material on the site will only be undertaken between 07.00 and 18.00 hours, Monday to Saturday, except a maximum of 10 laden vehicles will be allowed to enter and leave the site between 06.00 and 07.00 hours, Monday to Saturday only. Vehicles will not be allowed to arrive at the site prior to 05.45 hours on any day.

Erosion and Sediment Control

- Soil and Water Management Plan will be reviewed and revised, if required.
- Temporary erosion and sedimentation control structures such as detention basins and catch drains will be constructed as appropriate to collect runoff from cleared land including extraction areas and access roads.
- Silt traps and erosion control fencing will be erected as appropriate along extraction area boundaries and drainage lines.
- Sediment basins with a minimum storage capacity of 400 m³ per hectare of catchment will be constructed. Spillway capacity and stability will be designed as follows:
 - life of less than 5 years, adopt the 20 year tc event;
 - life between 5 and 10 years, adopt the 50 year tc event; and
 - life greater than 10 years, adopt the 100 year tc event.
- Stormwater control measures will be assessed and routine inspections conducted to ensure that compliance with best practice guidelines and relevant legislation is achieved.
- Locations for topsoil and material stockpiles will be selected on level ground and away from drainage lines. Diversion drains and sediment filter fences will be installed up slope as appropriate.
- Training will be provided to operational personnel on the importance of erosion control measures and drivers informed of the damage that can be caused to the environment by heavy vehicles.
- Areas of exposed land will be kept to a minimum compatible with operational requirements.
- Exposed areas not in use will be stabilized with an appropriate cover crop and watered until well established.
- Erosion and sediment controls will be monitored regularly and immediately following a rainfall event. Monitoring will take place initially on a weekly basis, then monthly once operating correctly. Sediment will be cleared when the traps have collected 60% of the capacity of the basin or where sediment build-up is less than 300 mm below the spillway crest. Sediment will be removed to a location where further pollution to downslope lands and waterways will not occur.
- Maintenance of erosion and sediment controls will be undertaken when any deterioration is identified or when replacement is necessary.
- Stored stormwater will be reused for dust control and the watering of site vegetation.
- Soil stockpiles will be seeded where these are to remain unused for a period in excess of four weeks. The area will be watered until the vegetation is well established.

Water Management

- Maximum depth of extraction will be restricted to not less than two metres above the wet weather high groundwater level. (nominally 181 m AHD).

- The groundwater will not be breached or contaminated. In the event that either should occur, operations will cease in the affected area and the Department of Environment and Climate Change consulted to determine the basis on which extraction may recommence.
- Retention basins will be designed to accommodate the 100-year tc event. The minimum basin capacities are:
 - Northern catchment 10,000 m³
 - Southern catchment 38,000 m³

The volume of these basins can be varied depending on the extent of the area exposed for extraction within each catchment.

- All retention basins will be regularly inspected and an annual report prepared on their effectiveness.
- A minimum of two groundwater monitoring bores will be installed. One will be located within or near the extraction area and another at some location within the site beyond the area of any direct extraction influence. The location of these bores will meet the requirements of the Department of Environment and Conservation and Baulkham Hills Shire Council.

Flora and Fauna

- All areas which are not to be disturbed will be clearly marked.
- Topsoil will be separated and stored or use in rehabilitation works.
- An area of not less than 12 hectares will be identified, and indicated on the site survey. This will be identified as a revegetation area and access controlled.
- Seed will be collected from the existing woodland communities (Sydney Hinterland Transition Woodland), stored under controlled conditions, made available for future broadcasting and a suitable proportion propagated to provide tubestock for revegetation.
- Stored topsoil and that derived from suitable areas adjacent to the woodland communities will be spread over the defined revegetation area and seed broadcast over the site to augment the soil-borne native seed bank. Tube stock suitably protected against animal predation will also be used in appropriate locations.
- Access to bushland will be restricted to minimise the potential for damage. These areas will be marked and signs erected to ensure that this prohibition is made clear. The boundary of the site will be fenced to prevent external access.

Rehabilitation

- The Rehabilitation Plan will be reviewed and amended as necessary to reflect changing operational conditions. This will include a revised phasing plan and implementation programme.
- Setbacks to all roads and adjacent properties will be defined taking account of existing trees and other features. Programmes of mound construction and screen planting will be undertaken as required in the Rehabilitation Plan. All plant material used will reflect the species mix existing in the area.
- A staged seeding and planting programme will be undertaken as areas become available following completion of extraction and capping of sediment basins. This will be aimed at producing a dense plantation on the steeper slopes derived from the flora resources already established. The aim is to replicate as far as possible the mix and density of planting which is currently present.
- All suitable plant material will be used on the site as a seed and planting medium. Topsoil will be stored in appropriately marked low stockpiles for reuse in locations as close as possible to their source. Care will be taken to ensure that this does not become contaminated with the seeds of exotic species and weeds.
- The site will be rehabilitated in stages leaving areas exposed for as short a time as possible. This will be undertaken in conformity with the approved Rehabilitation Plan with maximum final batter grades of 4(H):1(V) on north and west facing slopes and 3(H):1(V) on those facing south and east. Final slopes will be as gentle as possible depending on the availability of fill material.
- All soil stockpiles and exposed areas will be seeded with an appropriate vegetation cover where no activity is to take place for more than four weeks.
- Revegetation of the site will be undertaken on the following basis:
 - as far as possible re-establish the Sydney Hinterland Transitional Woodland using seed and mulch collected from the area ;

- rehabilitate other areas to native species with a light sowing of cereal and allowing natural regeneration;
 - rehabilitate the soil to achieve a full profile;
 - lime, fertilise and sow areas where improved grass cover is required; and
 - suitably turf surfaces expected to experience high surface flows leaving the site.
- A maintenance programme aimed at promoting and protecting the growth of the rehabilitated areas will be established.

Social Impact Management

- Material concerning activities at the site will be prepared and published on the company's website which will allow the community and others to be informed about current news on the site.
- Regular bi-annual meetings of community representatives will be established to discuss issues in relation to sand extraction on the site.
- A Complaints Register will be established incorporating date and time, type of communication, contact details of the complainant, nature of the complaint and response taken.

Heritage

- All work will cease in the area if an archaeological or heritage item is identified during extraction operations and the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Deerubbin Aboriginal Land Council or the Heritage Office consulted to determine any appropriate course of action prior to recommencement of the work.
- Any additional survey work required for submittal of application to destroy artefact scatters located in the later stages of the development will be undertaken. Reasonable requirements of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (DECC), the Deerubbin Aboriginal Land Council and the Heritage Office arising out of any additional studies will be implemented.

Visual Amenity

- Peripheral bunds will be constructed within the established setbacks where necessary to screen extraction activities. These will be a minimum of three metres high with slopes ranging from 3(H):1(V) to 6(H):1(V) depending on the location using overburden stripped from the site.
- Screen planting works will be undertaken in the peripheral areas to an agreed specification using mulch to allow for native plant regeneration. This species mix will be reinforced using appropriate plantings at specified intervals.
- A tree planting programme will be undertaken within the ten metre buffer zones and in other defined parts of the site to establish a dense plantation using an appropriate mix of species reflecting that of the existing community.
- The final rehabilitated landform will be established in conformity with the Rehabilitation Plan.
- All temporary fencing will be removed when no longer required.
- Vegetation in areas suitable for agricultural/horticultural uses will be re-established.
- All site infrastructure including the slurry plant and its associated pipelines will be removed. Those areas affected by the plant will be restored and rehabilitated.
- All waste materials will be removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner.
- The final Rehabilitation Plan will be reviewed and proposals for future use of the site prepared.

Waste Management

- Waste handling areas will be clearly delineated.
- Specific areas for the collection of materials for reuse and recycling will be defined and clearly labelled.
- Cleared vegetation will be used within the landscape programme.
- All topsoil will be stored in stockpiles for later use in site rehabilitation.

- Bins or skips will be provided for the collection and storage of recyclable material and waste. General construction waste will be stored in a skip located at the workshop on Lot 198 DP752025. Waste food will be removed and stored in a vermin proof bin for collection by a waste contractor. Paper waste generated from site offices, plastics and glass will be collected separately for recycling.
- Hazardous wastes (including empty drums, rags, soil contaminated with oil) will be separated from nonhazardous wastes and managed in accordance with the relevant legislation.
- Liquid wastes (chemicals, oils and greases) will be temporarily stored in an appropriately bunded area and disposed of via a licensed contractor. Wash down water will be directed to an appropriate settlement basin if quality is acceptable.
- Copies of current licences of all waste removal contractors on site will be retained.
- All documentation relating to waste removal and disposal will be retained on file at the site. This documentation will include dockets for the removal and disposal of waste at a licensed facility.
- Waste material will be progressively separated and stockpiled in designated areas for collection. Adequately secure waste disposal areas to prevent access by wildlife.
- All waste licences will be reviewed and terms and conditions for compliance monitored.
- Any materials and waste remaining on the site following completion of extraction operations will be recycled or sent for disposal. This will be either recycled or disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Emergency Response

- All personnel on site during operations will be trained in appropriate procedures including site induction, materials handling and response procedures.
- Emergency response procedures will be developed and put in place. Appropriate individuals will be appointed as emergency services liaison officers.
- An emergency response table listing contact details of all relevant parties required in an environmental emergency will be prepared.
- A Register of Environmentally Hazardous Materials to be stored and used on site will be established.
- Appropriate safety and spill response equipment will be made available on site.
- All materials to be used and stored on site will be clearly labelled.
- Emergency response procedures will be reviewed and updated bi-annually.
- Appropriate safety and response equipment will be available at all times.

Hazard, Risk and Safety

- A licence to keep dangerous goods will be obtained from WorkCover NSW for all materials stored on site which require licensing.
- A Register of Hazardous Materials setting out details of quantities, storage and specific handling requirements for all relevant materials stored on site will be established.
- Material Safety Data Sheets for all hazardous materials stored on site will be obtained.
- Appropriate storage and secondary containment facilities for all hazardous materials stored on site will be provided. All bunded areas will be designed to contain at least 110% of the volume of materials stored within the area.
- A Safety Officer will be appointed for the development.
- All flammable material storage areas will be located at least ten metres from possible ignition sources.
- Contents of all above ground storage areas will be clearly labelled.
- All hazardous and dangerous goods storage areas will be secured and appropriate signage displayed. All incompatible material will be segregated.

- All personnel will be trained in the handling and safety procedures required for the hazardous materials stored and used on site.
- An Emergency Response Plan will be developed and put in place.
- A mobile spill control kit containing appropriate absorbent materials, neutralising chemicals and other spill containment equipment will be provided.
- Personal protective equipment will be provided and personnel instructed in its use.
- Any spills beyond the bunded area will be cleaned up immediately and the contaminated material disposed of in an appropriate manner.
- The relevant authorities will be contacted in the event of a leak or spill and any instructions followed. Any contamination will be remediated to the satisfaction of the regulatory authorities.
- Any spills or hazardous wastes that cannot be recycled will be collected and disposal by a licensed waste contractor arranged. All records of waste removal on site will be retained.

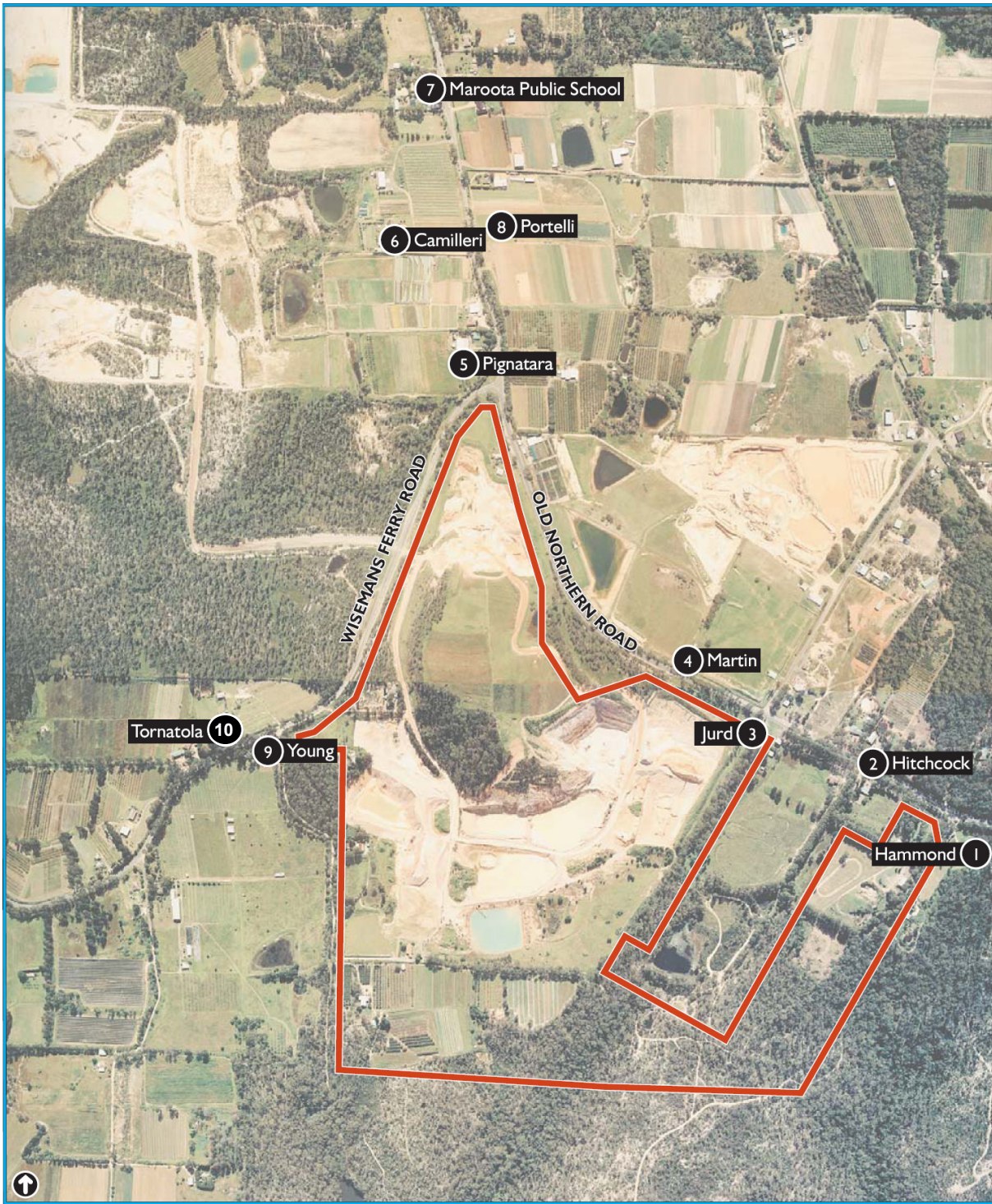


Figure 4.7

NOISE MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT LOCATIONS

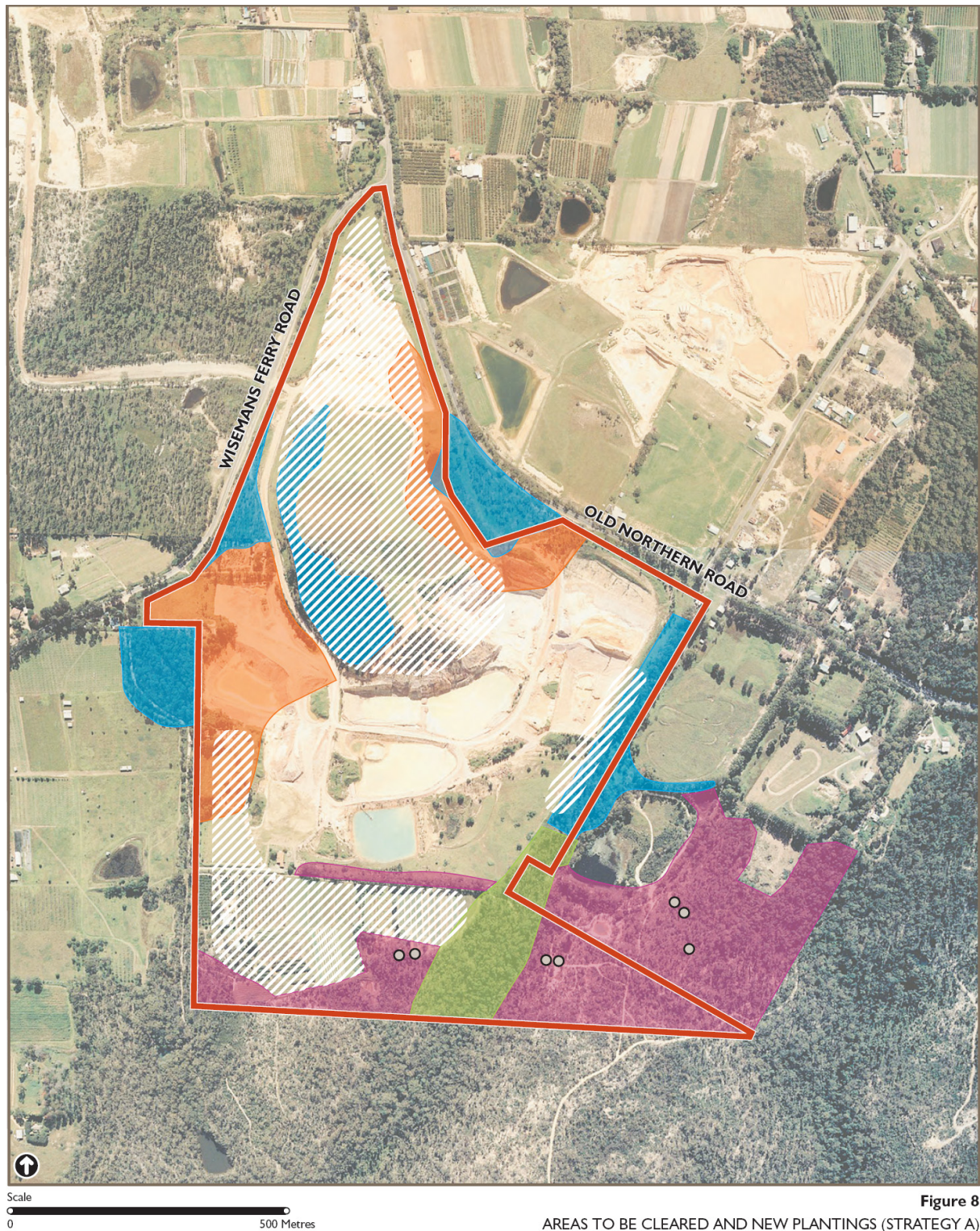
Scale
0 500 Metres

— Hitchcock Road site boundary

● Monitoring locations

APPENDIX 4 NOISE ASSESSMENT LOCATIONS

APPENDIX 5 VEGETATION OFFSET PLAN



- Hitchcock Road site
- Areas for new plantings
- Tetratheca glandulosa*
- Sydney Sandstone Gully Forest
- Sydney Sandstone Ridgetop Woodland
- Sydney Hinterland Transition Woodland
- Area to be cleared

Note: Sydney Hinterland Transition Woodland shown at time of photograph (2005)
Parts of this area can be cleared under the current consent

APPENDIX 6 CRITERIA TO MONITOR SUCCESS OF REVEGETATION



Methodology to assess success of revegetation
within Hitchcock Road site

Table 3-1 Criteria to monitor success of revegetation

Category	Criteria	5 years	Target 10 years	15 years	Existing condition of vegetation to be removed
Native species	Native species diversity (average number per 400m ² quadrat)	20	35	40	46
	Average number of characteristic species for the site occurring within 400m ²	15	20	27	34.5 (+/- 1.5)
	Native species cover (% of vegetation cover in 400m ² quadrat)	>50	>85	>95	99
Weeds	Weed abundance (% of vegetation cover in 400m ² quadrat)	<50	<15	<5	<1
	Invasive or Noxious weed species (e.g. Lantana, Blackberry, exotic vines)	Controlled	Controlled	Controlled	Restricted
Vegetation structure	Vegetation structure	Canopy, shrublayer and groundcover species present. However, structure limited, generally consisting of low canopy and ground cover.	Canopy, shrublayer and groundcover species present. Structure beginning to develop.	Well structured and includes canopy, mid- storey and ground cover units	Well structured and includes canopy, mid- storey and ground cover units
Canopy ^a	Average canopy height (m)	4	8	12	12-16
	Native canopy cover (minimum % cover) [modified braun blanquet scale] ^b	5 [3]	5 [3]	5 [3]	5 [3]
Shrub layer ^a	Native shrub cover (minimum % cover) [modified braun blanquet scale] ^b	10 [3]	15 [3]	25 [4]	32.5 (+/-7.5) [4]
	Average shrub layer height (m)	0.5	1	1	1.25
Ground cover	Native ground cover (minimum % cover) [modified braun blanquet scale] ^b	5 [3]	10 [3]	10 [3]	15 (+/-5) [3]

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Category	Criteria	Target			Existing condition of vegetation to be removed
		5 years	10 years	15 years	
Ecosystem function	Habitat values	Vegetation structure beginning to develop.	Woodland birds recorded. Habitat structure beginning to develop, including groundcover such as leaf litter and fallen timber.	Woodland birds recorded. Habitat structure beginning to develop, including groundcover such as leaf litter and fallen timber.	Provides minimal habitat for fauna, however, many woodland birds present. Well structured habitat, includes moderate levels of leaf litter and fallen timber.
	Natural regeneration indicating dispersal of seed into site and/or presence of soil seed bank	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Notes: a) cover of canopy species and shrubs may be higher initially due to successional changes with dense growth potentially occurring initially particularly due to the presence of colonising species. Natural thinning is expected as colonising species senesce and canopy species mature, however, some thinning of vegetation may be required after 10 years if too dense.

b) Modified braun blanquet scale:

1. <5%-- rare or few individuals
2. <5% common
3. 5-25%
4. 25-50%
5. 50-75%
6. 75-100%

APPENDIX 7 FINAL LANDFORM PLANS



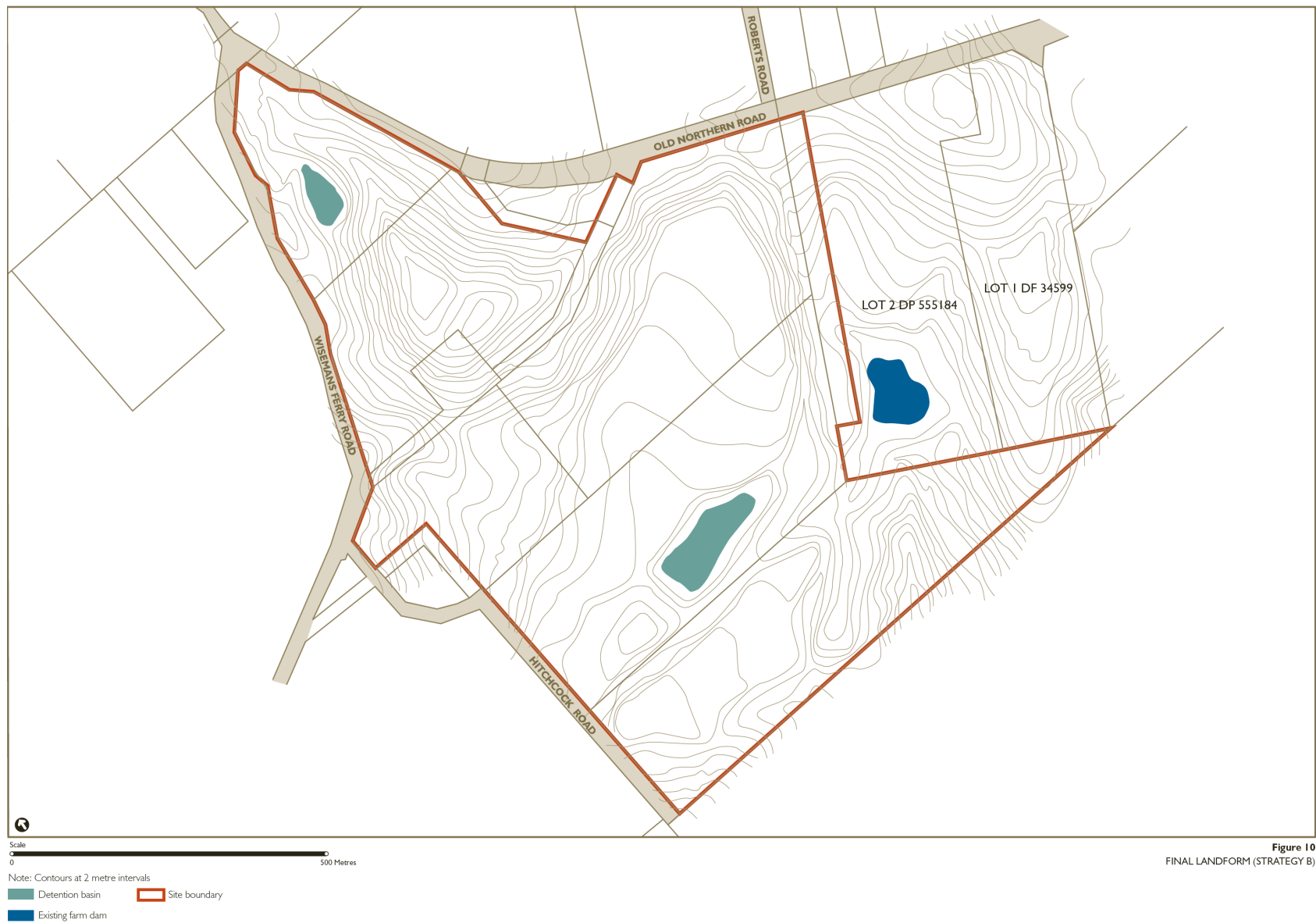


Figure 10
FINAL LANDFORM (STRATEGY B)

**APPENDIX 8
INDEPENDENT DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS**

