

## EPBC 2011/5949

# Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Monitoring and Management Plan LW 415 to 417

## **Annual Compliance Report**

**Springvale Mine** 

14 June 2018

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#### **Declaration of Accuracy**

In making this declaration, I am aware that Section 490 and 491 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

Signed\_

Full name (please print) PRIAN ANDRED MICHOUS

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

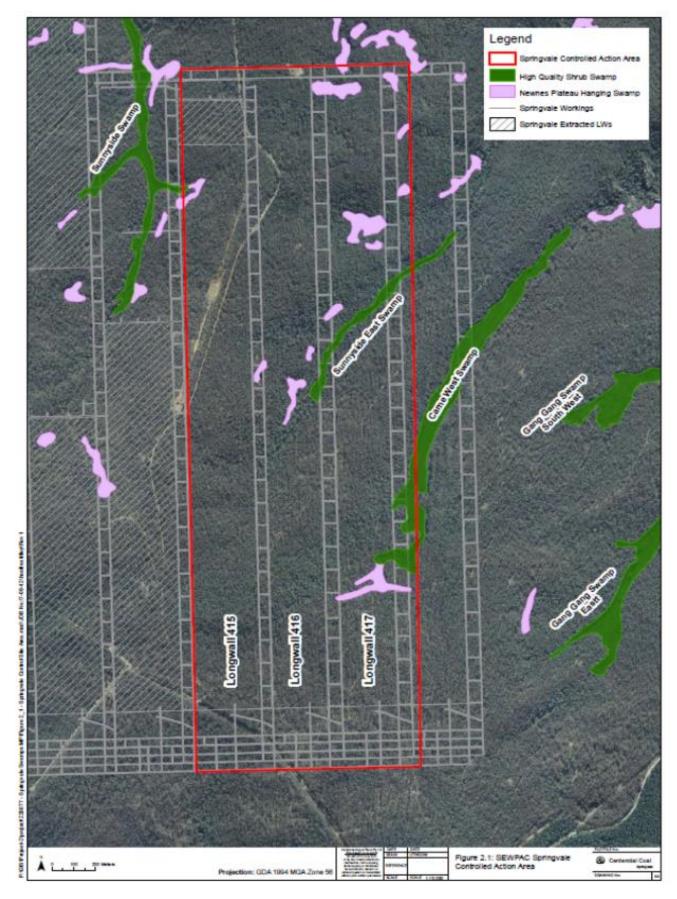
Springvale Coal Pty Ltd (Springvale) is an underground longwall mine located 12km North West of Lithgow in NSW and 3 km south of the Centennial Angus Place Mine. The mine is a joint venture owned in equal share by Centennial Springvale Pty Ltd (a wholly owned subsidiary of Banpu Minerals Ltd) and Springvale SK Kores Pty Limited.

Approval 2011/5949 was issued to Springvale by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPAC) on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2012. Approval 2011/5949 is related to a controlled action area of the Springvale mine for mining of longwall panels (LW) 415 – 417 as shown in Figure 1.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines (Department of Environment, 2014) to address the requirement of EPBC 2011/5949 Condition 29, which states that:

Within three months of every 12 month anniversary of the commencement the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any management plans, report, strategy etc. as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the department at the same time as the compliance report is published. The person taking the action must also notify any non-compliance with this approval to the department in writing within two days of becoming aware of the non-compliance.

The reporting period for this Annual Compliance Report is from the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 to the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2018.





## 2. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

An overview of EPBC 2011/5949 project details, as per Annual Compliance Report Guidelines (Department of Environment, 2014) is outlined in Table 1.

EPBC Number	EPBC 2011 / 5949	
Project Name	Mining of Longwalls 415, 416 and 417 at Springvale Colliery, NSW	
Approval Holder	Springvale Coal Pty Ltd	
	ACBN 052 096 769	
Approved Action	Coal extraction using longwall mining techniques of three longwall panels at the existing Springvale Mine, including longwalls 415-417	
Location of the Project	Springvale Mine, 8km north-east of Lithgow. Refer Figure 1 for controlled action area.	
Reporting Period	15 <sup>th</sup> of March 2017 to 14 <sup>th</sup> of March 2018	
Date of Report	14 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	

Table 1.EPBC 2011/5949 Project Details

### 2.1. Approvals

Springvale operates under NSW Development Consent SSD\_5594, two EPBC Approvals and EPL3607. Details of these are provided in Table 2. Two modifications to SSD\_5594 were approved during the reporting period. Details of these are outlined in Table 3.

Table 2.Springvale Major Approvals

Approval	Details	Date of Issue	Expiry	
SSD_5594	Springvale Mine Extension Project	21 September 2015	31 December 2028	
EPBC 2011/5949	Mining of Longwalls 415 – 417.	14 March 2012	19 March 2032	
EPBC 2013/6881	Mining associated with the Springvale Mine Extension Project.	15 October 2015	8 October 2035	
EPL3607	Environmental Protection License for Springvale Coal Pty Limited	17 May 2000	Renewed Annually	

Modification No.	Details of Modification	Date of Application /Exhibition Period	Status
	<ul> <li>Increase of the approved workforce (including contractors) from 310 full time equivalent (FTE) to 450;</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Increase in ROM coal production from the approved 4.5 Mtpa to 5.5 Mtpa; and</li> </ul>	23/07/2016 /	
Mod 1	<ul> <li>Increase in the existing stockpile capacity at the Springvale pit top from 85,000 tonnes to 200,000 tonnes capacity and an increase in the coal stockpile footprint by 0.3ha northeast of the stockpile area.</li> </ul>	02/08/2016 – 23/08/2016	Approved 19 April 2017
Mod 2	<ul> <li>To remove the requirement to Meet limits for salinity of 700 (50th percentile), 900 (90<sup>th</sup> percentile)and 1000 (100<sup>th</sup> percentile) uS/cm by 30 June 2017; and</li> </ul>		
	• To defer to 30 June 2019 the requirement to Eliminate acute and chronic toxicity from LDP009 discharges to aquatic species by 30 June 2017, with acute toxicity defined as >10% effect relative to the control group and chronic toxicity defined as >20% effect relative to the control group.	22/12/2016 / 24/01/2017 – 28/02/2017	Approved 19 June 2017

 Table 3.
 SSD\_5594 Modifications during the Reporting Period

## 2.2. Operational Summary

The approval of SSD\_5594 (including modifications 1 and 2) allow Springvale to continue underground coal mining operations within the Lithgow Seam until 31 December 2028, with subsequent rehabilitation and closure works. In summary the project includes:

- continued longwall mining operations to extract up to 5.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of run-ofmine (ROM) coal from the Lithgow Seam;
- continued operation of the mine's pit top area, support facilities and utilities;
- extension and continued use of the Springvale Delta Water Transfer Scheme, bore dewatering facilities and ventilation infrastructure;
- continued processing (sizing and screening) of ROM coal at the pit top area;
- continued stockpiling of ROM coal (200,000 tonnes (t) capacity);
- continued transportation of processed coal by overland conveyor to Centennial's Western Coal Services site (WCSS) for further processing or to the Mt Piper Power Station;
- continued transportation of processed coal by road haulage to other local domestic customers (limited to 50,000 tpa); and
- rehabilitation of the pit top area and Newnes Plateau surface infrastructure sites.

The main components of Springvale Mine's operations are an underground longwall mine, accessed via the Springvale pit top, and supporting surface infrastructure within the pit top area and on Newnes Plateau within the Newnes State Forest.

During the reporting period, extraction of longwalls 419, 420 and 421 were undertaken.

Extraction of longwall 419 was completed on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 with a total chainage of 2340m. Extraction of longwall 420 commenced on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2017 and was completed on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2017 with a total chainage of 2086m. Extraction of longwall 421 started on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 and chainage at 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2018 was 940m.

## 3. DETAILS OF COMPLIANCE WITH APPROVAL CONDITIONS

Springvale's compliance status with EPBC 2011/5949 is outlined in Table 4.

During 2016, a three yearly Independent Environmental Audit was undertaken by MCW Environmental, per Schedule 6, Condition 13 of SSD\_5594. EPBC 2011/5949 was assessed as part of this Audit and where relevant, the audit findings have been referenced in assessing compliance.

Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Project Status	Compliance	Evidence / Comments
1	Unless agreed by the minister in writing, longwall mining is not to be undertaken in areas directly below known high quality sites of temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone or within approved buffer zones (as per condition 2). If at any time the person taking the action seeks the minister's agreement to vary this condition the person taking the action must demonstrate in writing that a proven technology or engineering methodology will be used for the proposed longwall mining that prevents severe impacts of subsidence on temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone, or that would allow any severe impacts on temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone to be successfully remediated.	Compliant		An application was made on the 27 <sup>th</sup> of March 2013 with attached supporting documentation seeking agreement from the Minister to vary condition 1 of the approval (EPBC 2011/5949). Additional information was provided on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> of September 2013 as requested by the department. As evidenced by correspondence dated the 21 <sup>st</sup> of October 2013 from the Department of Environment, the request under Condition 1 of the approval was approved to allow for mining of longwalls 415, 416 and 417 under THPSSEC.
2	Within three months of the date of this approval, the person taking the action must submit details of proposed buffer zones around high quality temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone for the minister's approval. The buffer zones must be approved by the minister before mining of longwalls 416 and 417 can commence.	Compliant		On the 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2012, a letter was submitted to the department containing details of proposed buffer zones around known high quality sites of Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone in the Controlled Action Area. This was within 3 months of the date of issue of 2011/5949 EPBC (14 March 2012) and was compliant with the requirements of Condition 2 of the EPBC 2011/5949 approval. The proposed buffer zones were approved on the 14 <sup>th</sup> of June 2013. Longwall extraction of 416 and 417 commenced on the 24 <sup>th</sup> of September 2013 and on the 11 <sup>th</sup>

#### Table 4. EPBC 2011/5949 - Condition Compliance Status

			of October 2014 respectively.
3	The person taking the action must monitor subsidence resulting from the proposed longwall mining in accordance with the Springvale Colliery Subsidence Management Plan: Proposed Subsidence Monitoring and Reporting program LW415 to 417 to monitor subsidence effects on the endangered temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community.	Compliant	<ul> <li>Monitoring of subsidence has been conducted in accordance with the Springvale Colliery Subsidence Management Plan: Proposed Subsidence Monitoring and Reporting Program LW415 to 417 and records maintained for analysis, reporting and audit purposes.</li> <li>Subsidence results are reviewed monthly by the Mine Subsidence Surveyor and records maintained on-site. No anomalous results have been recorded.</li> <li>MCW Environmental (October 2016) reported the following in assessment of Condition 3:</li> <li>Audits of compliance against EPBC 2011/5949 conditions in 2013 and 2015 were sighted. The audits reported that monitoring had been undertaken in accordance with the approved monitoring program and document control references for monitoring records for CoA 3 were available.</li> </ul>
4	<ul> <li>If anomalous subsidence is detected within 200 metres of an area of temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community using the method defined in condition 3, the person taking the action must submit to the department a report detailing:</li> <li>a) the extent and level of subsidence recorded</li> <li>b) likely reasons for the anomalous subsidence</li> <li>c) potential impacts on the temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community resulting from the anomalous subsidence.</li> </ul>	Not Applicable	There has been no anomalous subsidence detected within 200m of any areas of Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Ecological Communities. As no reporting under Condition 4 of the EPBC 2011/5949 approval has been required, this condition has been assessed as not triggered.
5	The report in condition 4 must be submitted to the department within 10 business days of detecting the anomalous subsidence.	Not Applicable	There has been no anomalous subsidence detected. The requirement to submit a report within 10 business days has therefore not been triggered.

6	Within six months of the date of this approval, the person taking the action must submit a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Monitoring and Management Plan ('Monitoring and Management Plan') for the minister's approval, to define clear, quantifiable and measurable criteria for monitoring the impact of longwall mining on temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone.	Compliant	Condition 6 requires the development of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Monitoring and Management Plan (THPSS MMP) within six months of approval (14 March 2012). The THPSS MMP was received by the department on 14 September 2012, satisfying the requirements of this condition. The letter approving the THPSS MMP (dated 21/09/2012) references receipt of the THPSSMMP by the department on 11/09/2012, which is less than six months from EPBC 2011/5949 approval (14/03/2012).
7	The Monitoring and Management Plan must include prevention, monitoring, mitigation and management actions for all potential impacts on the temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community arising from the action. The Monitoring and Management Plan must be a stand-alone document and include but not be limited to: a) monitoring must take into account the geological and hydrological context in which the swamps sit, i.e. monitoring must include methods to detect potential geological and hydrological impacts upstream of temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone b) monitoring must focus on surface and groundwater hydrology (including at least one piezometer per swamp), surface and groundwater quality, vegetation community structure and diversity, and biological indicator species c) monitoring must include at least one sample per season (four samples per year) at each sampling location for each parameter measured, though more frequent sampling must continue for a period of at least 1 O years. Monitoring frequency may be reduced once three years of post-mining swamp monitoring has been undertaken if swamp condition has not degraded as a result of mining activity e) monitoring must include all temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone (including but not limited to both Newnes Plateau Shrub	Compliant	The requirements of CoA 7 are addressed in the THPSSMMP 2013 and 2015 as follows (section reference in brackets): a) monitoring must take into account the geological and hydrological context in which the swamps sit (sections 3 and 5) b) monitoring must focus on surface and groundwater hydrology (section 7.1) c) monitoring must include at least one sample per season (four samples per year) at each sampling location for each parameter measured (table 8.1) d) monitoring post-mining must continue for a period of at least 10 years (sections 6.1, 7.1.2 and 7.2.1) e) monitoring must include all temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone (section 7) f) details of the parameters monitored, methods, timing, frequency and location of baseline monitoring within the temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community (section 7 and Appendices) g) definition and description of baseline conditions of individual temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone

Swamps and Newnes Plateau Hanging Swamps) potentially affected by the proposed action (impact sites) as well as reference sites. Reference sites must include temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone that have never been subjected to, or are not predicted to be impacted by, subsidence impacts	(including both impact and reference sites), including biological processes, condition, threats and the range of natural variability observed in parameters monitored (sections 3.6 and 6 and Appendices (baseline))
f) details of the parameters monitored, methods, timing, frequency and location of baseline monitoring within the temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community	h) trigger levels sufficient to detect potential impacts of subsidence on the temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community (section 6)
g) definition and description of baseline conditions of individual temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone (including both impact and reference sites), including biological processes, condition, threats and the range of	<ul> <li>i) details of the parameters monitored, methods, timing, frequency and location of reference site monitoring (section 7)</li> </ul>
<ul><li>h) trigger levels sufficient to detect potential impacts of subsidence on the</li></ul>	j) allowance and methods for trigger levels to be refined as more monitoring data is collected (section 7 and table 11.2.1)
temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community, including information on how the triggers were derived using baseline monitoring and desktop study data. Triggers should be specific and measureable	k) details of the parameters monitored, methods, timing, frequency and location of impact site (section 7)
<ul> <li>i) details of the parameters monitored, methods, timing, frequency and location of reference site monitoring within the temperate highland peat</li> </ul>	<ul><li>I) corrective actions to be taken should the defined trigger levels be exceeded (sections 9 and 10)</li><li>m) details of how data collected by the proposed</li></ul>
swamps on sandstone ecological community j) allowance and methods for trigger levels to be refined as more monitoring	n) description of how potential impacts arising from the
data is collected k) details of the parameters monitored, methods, timing, frequency and location of impact site monitoring within the temperate highland peat	monitoring and mitigation measures themselves will be minimised or avoided (section 7)
swamps on sandstone ecological community, sufficient to detect changes in the defined trigger levels	<ul> <li>o) maps illustrating the location of the longwall mining activity, past mining activities, expected subsidence limits, location of temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone within a 5 kilometre radius of the longwall mining activity,</li> </ul>
I) corrective actions to be taken should the defined trigger levels (as at condition 7h) be exceeded. These should be clear, measurable, auditable and include specific timing (e.g. within 6 months of impact detection).	and past and proposed monitoring locations for all parameters
Implementation of a Response Strategy (as required at condition 1) should be included as a corrective action should severe impacts be detected. m) details of how data collected by the proposed monitoring methods will	<ul><li>p) description of record keeping and reporting procedures (section 11)</li><li>q) the plan must clearly state the person responsible,</li></ul>
be analysed. This must include a method to analyse data sets in an holistic	including their position or status (section 1.3)

	<ul> <li>manner to produce an overall indication of swamp health</li> <li>n) description of how potential impacts arising from the monitoring and mitigation measures themselves will be minimised or avoided</li> <li>o) maps illustrating the location of the longwall mining activity, past mining activities, expected subsidence limits, location of temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone within a 5 kilometre radius of the longwall mining activity, and past and proposed monitoring locations for all parameters</li> <li>p) description of record keeping and reporting procedures</li> <li>q) the plan must clearly state the person responsible, including their position or status</li> <li>r) the plan must include a timeline for review, and provision for revisions to be approved by the department prior to their implementation</li> </ul>		r) the plan must include a timeline for review, and provision for revisions to be approved by the department prior to their implementation (section 11) The 2012 THPSSMMP was revised in 2013 for LW 415- 417, and again in 2015 for LW 418.
8	The Monitoring and Management Plan must be reviewed by two independent reviewers approved by the department prior to the submission to the department for approval.	Compliant	The THPSS MMP was reviewed by two independent reviewers prior to submission to the department for approval as required under Condition 8. DoE approval of the independent reviewer was provided on 22/06/2012. The independent reviewers provided correspondence to DoE on 24/09/2014 stating that peer review of the THPSS MMP had been completed.
9	If the minister approves the Monitoring and Management Plan then the approved Monitoring and Management Plan must be implemented.	Compliant	<ul> <li>On the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013 DoE approved the Springvale THPSS MMP. The plan has been fully implemented as required under Condition 9.</li> <li>MCW Environmental reported the following in assessment of Condition 9:</li> <li>Evidence of implementation of the THPSSMMP included:</li> <li>The 2014 LW 415 to 417 Annual THPSSMMP report includes subsidence, flora, surface water and groundwater monitoring results.</li> <li>Annual monitoring reports have been submitted to the DoE (2013 – 2016).</li> </ul>

	The THPSSMP Annual Compliance Report (03/2016)
	dentifies that the following notification and
	nvestigations were conducted in accordance with
	TARP and notification processes defined in LW 415-
4	417 and LW 418 THPSSMMPs:
0	SSE1 and SPR1101: Notification of the defined
	groundwater monitoring trigger was received by
	CC from RPS on 24/03/2014. This was reported
	to DoE on 28/03/2014 (i.e. within five business
	days) with subsequent provision of an
	investigation report within eight weeks
	(19/05/2014) with additional investigation details
	provided on 19/01/2016.
0	SSE2 and SSE3: Notification of the groundwater
	monitoring trigger was received by CC from RPS
	on 27/03/2015. This was reported to the DoE on
	30/03/2015 (i.e. within five business days) with
	subsequent provision of an investigation report
	within eight weeks (22/05/2015).
0	Stolen Piezometers: The 2015 Audit spreadsheet
	identified that piezometers were stolen on 5/5 and
	that notification was provided to the DoE on 5/5
	(assumed to be 2015) which is within five
	business days. The spreadsheet also provides a
	Doc One reference link to the notification,
	APP128649.
0	CW3 and CW4: Notification of the defined
	groundwater monitoring trigger was received by
	CC from RPS on 29/07/2015. This was reported
	to DoE on 05/08/2015 i.e. within five business
	days. A preliminary investigation report was
	provided on 22/09/2015 (within eight weeks).
0	
	decline groundwater levels was received by CC
	from RPS on 29/07/2015. This was reported to
	the DoE on 05/08/2015 (within five business days)
	and a preliminary findings report submitted to the
	DoE on 22/09/2015.
0	CW1 and CW2: Notification of an historical trend
	of declining groundwater levels was received by
	CC from RPS on 18/12/2015. This was reported to the DoE on 22/12/2015 (i.e. within five business
	days) with subsequent provision of a preliminary

10	A report detailing the results of actions carried out under the Monitoring and Management Plan must be prepared and provided to the department annually on the anniversary of the date of this approval. The minister may request that the report be reviewed by an independent reviewer approved	Compliant	<ul> <li>investigation report on 12/02/2016. This report summarised monitoring data related to the impact, provided an explanation of the expected cause and that further data analysis was required to determine if the changes to water levels in Carne West Swamp are related to mine subsidence or the decline observed in the regional groundwater table aquifer.</li> <li>The Audit includes links to the following documents verifying monitoring has been undertaken in accordance with THPSSMMP requirements: <ul> <li>Groundwater reports from October 2013;</li> <li>Flora reports from October 2013;</li> <li>Subsidence monitoring; and</li> <li>Water quality reports from October 2013.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Evidence compiled as part of the 2016 Audit demonstrated the implementation of the THPSS MMP through compliance monitoring and reporting. Monitoring and reporting has continued and results are included in the Subsidence Management Status Reports (four-monthly) and Annual Review (annual) reports completed. This condition has been assessed as compliant.</li> </ul>
	by the department.		faith by Centennial based on the draft THPSS MMP on the 14 <sup>th</sup> of June 2013. On 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2014, 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2015, 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2016, 14 <sup>th</sup> of March 2017 and 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2018, an Annual Monitoring Report was submitted to the Department as required under Condition 10.
11	The person taking the action must, when first becoming aware of an impact to temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone:	Compliant	One reporting requirement under this condition was trigged during the reporting period.
	a) when the impact is a defined trigger level (as defined in condition 7h) being exceeded, report the impact to the Department within five business		As the trigger fell under both the THPSS MMP for longwalls

	<ul> <li>days b) when the impact is a defined trigger level (as defined in condition 7h) being exceeded, report the implementation of the corrective action (as defined at condition 71) within such time as is reasonable in the circumstances, unless required to report outcomes within a time frame specified in writing by the department</li> <li>c) when exceedence of a trigger level is not detected, but an impact is apparent. report the impact to the department within 20 business days with details of proposed corrective actions</li> <li>d) in all of the above cases (conditions 11 a to 11 c inclusive), provide the results of monitoring data relating to the impact and an explanation of the expected cause of the impact.</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>415 - 417 and THPSS MMP for longwall 418, notification was provided under both EPBC Approvals (EPBC 2011/5949 and EPBC 2013/6881).</li> <li>In accordance with relevant approval requirements, Centennial notified the Department of Environment and Energy and has undertaken investigations into the trigger. Section 4 of this report summarises the actions undertaken in relation to each trigger.</li> <li>The trigger was reported to Centennial on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2017 and notification provided to the Department on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2017. An Investigative Trigger Report was subsequently provided to the Department on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2017.</li> </ul>
12	If at any time the minister determines that data provided in the report at condition 10 or 11 indicates that the action has had a severe impact on the temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community and/or any associated threatened species, the minister will inform the person taking the action in writing ('the severe impact notification letter'), particularising all severe impacts. Once the person taking the action receives the severe impact notification letter, conditions 13 to 18 (inclusive) will apply.	Not Applicable	No severe impacts to THPSS EC have been detected or reported and no severe impact notification letters have been issued by the department under Condition 12. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
13	When the person taking the action receives a severe impact notification letter, the person taking the action must prepare and submit a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy (the 'Response Strategy') for the minister's approval within three months of the date of the letter.	Not Applicable	No severe impact notification letters have been received and no Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 13. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
14	The Response Strategy must include measures for remediating or offsetting all severe impacts particularised by the Minister on the temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone ecological community arising from the action. The Response Strategy must be a stand-alone document and include but not be limited to: a) a description of the severe impact including extent, duration, and expected cause. This should include a description of how the impact may	Not Applicable	No Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 14. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.

affect temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone		
b) the objectives of the Response Strategy		
c) the proposed response actions to be taken and how the proposed actions will be implemented		
d) a description of how the strategy will deliver an overall conservation outcome that improves or maintains the viability of temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone and associated threatened species		
e) the estimated cost of all proposed response actions		
f) the strategy must clearly state the person responsible for implementing remediation actions, including their position or status and contact details		
g) description of record keeping and reporting procedures		
The Response Strategy must be reviewed by two independent reviewers approved by the department prior to the submission to the department.	Not Applicable	No peer review of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 15.
		This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
If the minister approves the Response Strategy then the approved Response Strategy must be implemented.	Not Applicable	No Ministerial approval or implementation of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 16.
		This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
A report detailing the results of actions carried out under the Response Strategy must be prepared and provided to the department at a time agreed to in writing by the department upon receiving the Response Strategy. The report must be reviewed by an independent reviewer within a timeframe determined in agreement with the department prior to being provided to the department	Not Applicable	No reporting of the results of actions carried out under a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 17. This condition has therefore been assessed as not
	<ul> <li>b) the objectives of the Response Strategy</li> <li>c) the proposed response actions to be taken and how the proposed actions will be implemented</li> <li>d) a description of how the strategy will deliver an overall conservation outcome that improves or maintains the viability of temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone and associated threatened species</li> <li>e) the estimated cost of all proposed response actions</li> <li>f) the strategy must clearly state the person responsible for implementing remediation actions, including their position or status and contact details</li> <li>g) description of record keeping and reporting procedures</li> <li>The Response Strategy must be reviewed by two independent reviewers approved by the department prior to the submission to the department.</li> <li>If the minister approves the Response Strategy then the approved Response Strategy must be implemented.</li> </ul>	b) the objectives of the Response Strategy         c) the proposed response actions to be taken and how the proposed actions will be implemented         d) a description of how the strategy will deliver an overall conservation outcome that improves or maintains the viability of temperate highland peat swamps on sandstone and associated threatened species         e) the estimated cost of all proposed response actions         f) the strategy must clearly state the person responsible for implementing remediation actions, including their position or status and contact details         g) description of record keeping and reporting procedures         The Response Strategy must be reviewed by two independent reviewers approved by the department prior to the submission to the department.       Not Applicable         If the minister approves the Response Strategy then the approved Response Strategy must be implemented.       Not Applicable         A report detailing the results of actions carried out under the Response Strategy must be prepared and provided to the department at a time agreed to in writing by the department upon receiving the Response Strategy must be reviewed by an independent reviewer within a timeframe determined in agreement with the department prior to being       Not Applicable

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18	The person taking the action must, if required in writing by the minister, stop all work associated with the proposed action within sixty days of the date of the letter referred to in condition 12. Work may be resumed if indicated in writing by the minister.	Not Applicable	No stopping of work has been directed by the Minister under Condition 18. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
19	If at any time the minister determines in writing that s/he is not satisfied that adequate financial arrangements are in place to ensure that a Response Strategy (as required under condition 13) could be implemented, the minister may require the person taking the action to provide an arrangement (in the form of a bond, financial guarantee or similar arrangement (in these conditions 'a bond')), as directed by the minister.	Not Applicable	No financial arrangement (bond) related to implementation of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been directed by the Minister under Condition 19. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
20	The value of a bond that may be required by the minister under condition 19 is the amount determined by the minister as required to implement of a Response Strategy.	Not Applicable	No financial arrangement (bond) related to implementation of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 20. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
21	The minister may increase or decrease the bond amount required where the person taking the action has increased or decreased, respectively, the liability.	Not Applicable	No financial arrangement (bond) related to implementation of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 21. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
22	In providing for or varying a bond amount in accordance with these conditions, the minister may request the person taking the action to obtain written quotes for the cost of potential actions under the Response Strategy from a third party approved by the minister within a timeframe determined in agreement with the department.	Not Applicable	No financial arrangement (bond) related to implementation of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 22. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
23	The bond is to remain in force until the minister is satisfied that no claim is likely to be made on the assurance.	Not Applicable	No financial arrangement (bond) related to implementation of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone

			Response Strategy has been required under Condition 23.
			This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
24	The person taking the action must meet all the charges and costs in obtaining and maintaining the bond.	Not Applicable	No financial arrangement (bond) related to implementation of a Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone Response Strategy has been required under Condition 24.
			This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
25	The person taking the action must meet all the charges and costs associated with independent review of documents required under these conditions.	Not Applicable	Centennial Coal has met all historic costs related to independent review of documentation required under Condition 25 of the of the EPBC 2011/5949 approval.
			During the reporting period, no independent review was required regarding EPBC 2011/5949 documents.
			This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
26	The person taking the action must publish all documents required under these conditions on their website, except where agreed in writing with the department on grounds of potentially sensitive commercial information.	Compliant	During the reporting period the following documents were uploaded to the website in accordance with Condition 26:
			<ul> <li>EPBC 2011/5949 – 2017 Annual Compliance Report (published 15/06/2017), per Condition 29.</li> <li>EPBC 2011/5949 – Revised 2017 Annual Compliance Report (published 19/07/2017), per Condition 29, following a Department of Environment and Energy request.</li> <li>EPBC 2011/5949 – Condition 10 2018 Annual Report (published 14/03/2018).</li> </ul>
27	Within 30 days after the commencement of the action, the person taking the action must advise the department in writing of the actual date of commencement.	Compliant	The action was commenced on 15 March 2012 and advice was provided to DoE in writing of commencement of the action on 29 March 2012, satisfying the requirements of Condition 27.

28	The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the management plans, report, strategy, etc. required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the department. Such records may be subject to audit by the department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the department's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.	Compliant	Records have been kept of all activities related to the conditions of approval as required under Condition 28. MCW Environmental reported the following in assessment of Condition 28: <i>Monitoring records were available for subsidence, flora, surface water and groundwater monitoring, and when THPSSMMP triggers were reached, notifications and investigations.</i> <i>A sample of these references were sighted during the Audit.</i> <i>No audits by the DoE have been undertaken.</i> Monitoring results, reports and other documentation relevant to EPBC 2011/5949 have continued to be maintained on-site and published to the website in accordance with various approval requirements.
29	Within three months of every 12 month anniversary of the commencement the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any management plans, report, strategy etc. as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the department at the same time as the compliance report is published. The person taking the action must also notify any non-compliance with this approval to the department in writing within two business days of becoming aware of the non-compliance.	Compliant	Throughout 2013 there was extensive consultation with the DoE, (formerly SEWPaC), regarding compliance with all conditions of EPBC 2011/5949. A report was provided to SEWPaC to address the requirements of Condition 10 and 29 of EPBC 2011/5949 on the 14 <sup>th</sup> of June 2013. In 2014 a Compliance Report was submitted on the 11 <sup>th</sup> of March 2014. In 2015 a Compliance Report was submitted on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of June 2015. In 2016 a Compliance Report was submitted on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of June 2015. In 2016 a Compliance Report was submitted on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of June 2017. Following a request from the Department of Environment and Energy, a revised Annual Compliance Report was submitted on the 19 <sup>th</sup> of July 2017.

30	Upon the direction of the minister, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the minister. The independent auditor must be approved by the minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the minister.	Not Applicable	There has been no request from the minister to conduct an independent audit against the conditions of EPBC approval 2011/5949. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
31	If the person taking the action wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the management plans report, strategy etc, as specified in the conditions, the person taking the action must submit to the department for the minister's written approval a revised version of that management plan, report, strategy etc. The varied activity shall not commence until the minister has approved the varied management plan, report, strategy etc in writing. The minister will not approve a varied management plan, report, strategy etc unless the revised management plan, report, strategy etc would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over time. If the minister approves the revised management plan, report, strategy etc that management plan, report, strategy etc must be implemented in place of the management plan, report, strategy etc originally approved.	Not Applicable	All activities related to the action have been conducted in accordance with the conditions of the EPBC 2011/5949 approval and associated reports, management plans and strategies. No approvals of revised reports, management plans or strategies have been required under Condition 31. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
32	If the minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of threatened species and communities to do so, the minister may request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to the management plan, report, strategy etc specified in the conditions and submit the revised management plan, report, strategy etc for the minister's written approval. The person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised approved management plan, report, strategy etc must be implemented. Unless the minister has approved the revised management plan, report, strategy etc. then the person taking the action must continue to implement the management plan, report, strategy etc. originally approved, as specified in the conditions.	Not Applicable	There have not been any Ministerial requests for revisions to reports, management plans or strategies under Condition 32. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.
33	If, at any time after two years from the date of this approval, the person taking the action has not substantially commenced the action, then the person taking the action must not substantially commence the action without the written agreement of the minister.	Not Applicable	The action was commenced immediately after the issue of the EPBC 2011/5949 approval. This condition has therefore been assessed as not triggered.

34	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minister, the person taking the action must publish all management plan, report, strategy etc referred to in these conditions of approval on their website. Each management plan, report, strategy etc must be published on the website within one month of being approved.	Compliant	<ul> <li>During the reporting period the following documents were uploaded to the website in accordance with Condition 26:</li> <li>EPBC 2011/5949 – 2017 Annual Compliance Report (published 15/06/2017), per Condition 29.</li> <li>EPBC 2011/5949 – Revised 2017 Annual Compliance Report (published 19/07/2017), per Condition 29, following the Department of Environment and Energy request.</li> <li>EPBC 2011/5949 – Condition 10 2018 Annual Report (published 14/03/2018).</li> </ul>
			The documents were made available on the website the day the report was submitted to the Department. The document date stated on the website indicates the date the document was uploaded to the website. This condition has been assessed as compliant.

## 4. TRIGGER NOTIFICATIONS

Per Condition 11 of EPBC 2011/5949, one trigger event occurred during the reporting period. Information was provided to the Department of Environment and Energy, however has been summarised below.

### 4.1. WC01, WC02 & LGG01

#### **Initial Notification**

Notification of an exceedance of flora performance indicator triggers at monitoring locations WC01, WC02 (Carne West Swamp) and LGG01 (Lower Gang Gang Swamp) was received by Centennial from RPS on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2017. Notification of the triggers was provided to the Department of Environment on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2017, as required under the response protocol in the Longwall 415 – 417 THPSSMP TARP.

#### **Investigative Report**

A Trigger Investigation Report was submitted to the Department on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2017. The Report outlined a series of checks to discern non-mining impacts from mining related impacts and a proposed action plan.

#### **Response Strategy**

The following actions were recommended for consideration and are currently being undertaken/investigated by Centennial:

#### WC01 and WC02

- Continue to perform monitoring activities in accordance with the THPSS MMP for LW418;
- Transition to lower impact monitoring practices as soon as possible to reduce any exacerbating deleterious impacts on the swamp (i.e. Brownstein et al 2014 and RAM (Goldney et al 2009) as specified under SMP for LW419);
- Consider options for reducing the amount of entry into Carne West Swamp for monitoring purposes and/ or consider alternate access options (e.g. installation of raised boardwalk to piezometer sites); and
- Consider construction of a barrier along the swamp margin to disperse fauna movements thus potentially reduce trampling impacts.

#### LGG01

- Continue to perform monitoring activities in accordance with the THPSS MMP for LW418; and
- Transition to lower impact monitoring practices as soon as possible to reduce any exacerbating deleterious impacts on the swamp (i.e. Brownstein et al 2014 and RAM (Goldney et al 2009) as specified under SMP for LW419).

#### **Investigative Outcomes**

#### WC01 and WC02

Centennial (2016) indicates the recent hydrological regime of Carne West Swamp shifted in 2014 from a groundwater fed system to one predominantly reliant on rainfall events. Under this regime it is considered that abnormal weather conditions are likely exacerbate any change in the bioavailability of groundwater resources, particularly along the eastern swamp margin for the following reasons:

- Reduced water saturation of upper peat layers in the central parts of the swamp (i.e. groundwater related) is likely to have reduced water availability at the swamp margins (i.e. drawdown of rainfall related contributions to the central parts of the swamp); and
- High evapotranspiration stress in the 2016 summer autumn period with the most pronounced effect being on west facing aspects.

#### LGG01

LGG01 was incorrectly reported as a trigger notification. Site LGG01 was considered as an impact site, however is a reference site in the context of the monitoring program. Under the monitoring program, trigger indicators do not apply to reference sites.

