



Australian Government

Department of the Environment

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON COAL SEAM GAS AND LARGE COAL MINING DEVELOPMENT

Clause 21 Report

This report has been jointly prepared by the Parties to the National Partnership Agreement on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development (the Agreement).

The Agreement between the Commonwealth and Queensland, New South Wales, South Australian and Victorian Governments was established in 2012. The Agreement aims to strengthen the regulation of coal seam gas and large coal mining development by ensuring that decisions are informed by substantially improved science and independent expert advice.

The Commonwealth established the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development (the IESC) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) in November 2012. The Agreement provides for the Commonwealth and signatory states to the Agreement to seek advice from the IESC at appropriate stages of the approvals process for coal seam gas or large coal mining development proposals that are likely to have a significant impact on water resources, and on which the Party is intending to make a regulatory decision.

Clause 21 of the Agreement requires the Parties to:

...report to the Standing Council on Environment and Water by 30 April 2014 on their performance in referring applications to the IESC between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014

As the Standing Council on Environment and Water was discontinued in December 2013, the Parties have agreed to satisfy Clause 21 by providing this report on their performance.

Table 1 below identifies the number of project applications referred to the IESC for advice by each Party for the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

Table 1. Number of project applications referred by each Party to the IESC.

Jurisdiction	No. of applications referred to IESC between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014
Commonwealth	13
Joint Commonwealth & Queensland	6
Queensland	4
New South Wales	2
Victoria	0
South Australia	0
TOTAL	25

Table 2 below identifies the project applications referred to the IESC by the Parties for period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

Table 2. Details of project applications referred to the IESC for advice.

#	Project Title	Location	Requesting regulator	Stage referred	IESC advice provided to regulator
1.	Cobbora Coal Project	NSW	CWLTH	EIA (supp)	18 Apr 2013
2.	The Range Project	QLD	CWLTH	EIA (supp)	18 Apr 2013
3.	Foxleigh Coal Mine Project	QLD	CWLTH	EIA (supp)	18 Apr 2013
4.	Bengalla Mine Extension	NSW	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	24 May 2013
5.	Wallerah 2 Underground Coal Mine	NSW	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	24 May 2013
6.	Watermark Coal Project	NSW	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	27 May 2013
7.	Bowen Gas Project	QLD	QLD	EIA (draft)	24 May 2013
8.	Galilee Coal (Northern Export Facility)	QLD	QLD	EIA (supp)	24 May 2013
9.	Coalpac Consolidation Project	NSW	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	27 Jun 2013
10.	Byerwen Coal Mine	QLD	QLD & CWLTH	EIA (draft)	26 Aug 2013
11.	Arrow Surat Gas Project	QLD	QLD & CWLTH	EIA (supp)	22 Aug 2013
12.	Galilee Coal (Northern Export Facility)	QLD	CWLTH	EIA (supp)	14 Nov 2013
13.	Duchess Paradise Project	WA	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	12 Dec 2013
14.	Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project	QLD	QLD & CWLTH	EIA (supp)	16 Dec 2013
15.	Springsure Creek Coal Project	QLD	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	12 Dec 2013
16.	Meteor Downs South Coal Project	QLD	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	12 Dec 2013
17.	Moranbah South Project	QLD	QLD & CWLTH	EIA (supp)	10 Feb 2014
18.	Bulga Coal Optimisation Project	NSW	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	10 Feb 2014
19.	Spur Hill Underground Coal Project	NSW	NSW	Gateway	10 Feb 2014
20.	Bylong Coal Project	NSW	NSW	Gateway	14 Mar 2014
21.	Teresa Coal Project	QLD	QLD & CWLTH	EIA (draft)	14 Mar 2014
22.	North Surat Development	QLD	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	due by end April 2014
23.	Liddell Coal Operations	NSW	CWLTH	EIA (draft)	due by end April 2014
24.	Red Hill Mining Lease	QLD	QLD & CWLTH	EIA (draft)	due by end April 2014
25.	New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3	QLD	QLD & CWLTH	EIA (draft)	due by end April 2014