Section 6

Draft Statement of Commitments

PREAMBLE

This section has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, and presents a compilation of the actions and initiatives Metromix commits to implement if the Project is approved. These commitments are designed to effectively manage, mitigate, guide and monitor the Project throughout its operational life and eventually rehabilitation of the Project Site.

The Environmental Assessment of the Project has identified a range of environmental, social and management outcomes and measures, all required to avoid or reduce the environmental and social impacts of the Project.

*All parties involved in the design and operational phases of the Project would be required to undertake their work in accordance with these commitments. The commitments are presented in tabular form (**Table 6.1**) and identify the desired outcome, action and timing of commitments.*

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Table 6.1
Draft Statement of Commitments for Site Operations and Management

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
1. Area 4 Activities and Operations			
All approved activities are undertaken in the area(s) nominated on the approved plans and figures (unless moved slightly to avoid individual trees).	1.1	Clearly mark the boundary of each area of activity, i.e. the boundary of the Southern and Northern Extensions.	Prior to the commencement of each activity in the area.
2. Operating Hours			
Management of operations in accordance with the approved operating hours.	2.1	Undertake extraction and processing activities south of Rhondda Road between 6:00am and 8:00pm on Monday to Fridays and 6:00am to 2:00pm on Saturdays.	During operations (Monday to Saturday).
	2.2	Undertake extraction and processing activities north of Rhondda Road between 7:00am and 8:00pm on Monday to Friday and 7:00am and 2:00pm on Saturdays.	During operations.
	2.3	Undertake product transportation activities 24hrs/day between 4:00am Monday to 6:00pm Saturday.	During operations.
	2.4	Restrict activities undertaken outside the hours identified is Commitments 2.1 and 2.2 to routine, low noise activities such as oil changes, minor welding and servicing of equipment.	During operations.
3. Waste Management			
Minimisation of general waste creation and maximisation of recycling, wherever possible.	3.1	Place all paper and general wastes originating from the site office, together with routine maintenance consumables from the daily servicing of equipment in garbage bins located adjacent to the site office and workshop.	Ongoing.
	3.2	Segregate waste into recyclables and non-recyclable materials for removal by a licensed contractor.	Ongoing.
Minimisation of the potential risk of environmental impact due to waste creation, storage and/or disposal.	3.3	Organise the regular collection of industrial wastes.	Monthly or as needs basis.
	3.4	Store waste oils and greases within the workshop area in either self-bunding containers or within suitably contained areas.	Ongoing.
4. Security and Safety			
All members of the public are safe when near Teralba Quarry.	4.1	Construct and maintain the perimeter fence around the Northern Extension.	Prior to commencement of clearing works.
	4.2	Maintain lockable gates at all entry/exit points. Lock gates outside of operational hours.	Ongoing.
	4.3	Erect security warning signs at strategic locations around and within the Project Site. The signs would identify the presence of earthmoving equipment, deep excavations and steep slopes.	Ongoing.
	4.4	Continue to induct employees in safe working practices and hold regular follow-up safety meetings and reviews.	Ongoing.

Table 6.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for Site Operations and Management

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
4. Security and Safety (Cont'd)			
All members of the public are safe when near Teralba Quarry. (Cont'd)	4.5	Install bunds along the margins of all internal haul roads where those roads are positioned adjacent to steep slopes, adjacent to the boundary of the extraction area and adjacent to all other steep slopes.	Ongoing.
	4.6	Ensure all trucks from the Project Site are driven in a safe and courteous manner in accordance with Metromix's Driver Code of Conduct.	Ongoing.
5. Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Offset Management			
Create a stable final landform able to support a range of final land uses focused upon ecological corridors and ongoing industrial uses.	5.1	Ensure that 118ha of retained vegetation is legally protected and managed within the property.	Title covenant completed within 12 months of the receipt of project approval.
Minimisation of long term impacts on flora and fauna within the Project Site	5.2	Retain 118ha of existing vegetation and remnant understorey vegetation as a legally protected biodiversity offset.	In perpetuity.
6. Groundwater			
Prevention of groundwater contamination.	6.1	Securely store all hydrocarbon products within designated and bunded areas.	Ongoing
	6.2	Refuel and maintain all earthmoving equipment within designated areas.	Ongoing
	6.3	Prepare a Groundwater Management Plan, including trigger levels for actions.	Ongoing
	6.4	Prepare a Spill Management Plan to address potentially significant hydrocarbon spills.	Ongoing
Continuous monitoring of groundwater throughout the life of the Project.	6.5	Develop and implement a monitoring program as part of the Soil and Water Management Plan.	Within 6 months of the receipt of project approval.
	6.6	Monitor water quality at the Mine Adit Dam for pH levels, electrical conductivity, suspended solids, and oil and grease.	Monthly (subject to review).
	6.7	Record flows/discharges from the Mine Adit Dam as well as quarry water usage.	Continuous.
	6.8	Review monitoring results to identify trends which may indicate impacts and allow mitigation measures to be implemented, if required.	Annually.
	6.9	Ensure all monitoring data is incorporated into each Annual Environment Management Report for the Teralba Quarry.	Annually.
7. Surface Water			
Maintenance of surface water quality.	7.1	Conduct site clearing activities in accordance with the Blue Book (Landcom, 2004) guidelines for erosion and sediment control.	Ongoing.
	7.2	Establish a regular monitoring program to review the effectiveness of all erosion and sediment control mitigation measures.	Prior to commencement of clearing works.

Table 6.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
7. Surface Water (Cont'd)		
Maintenance of surface water quality. (Cont'd)	7.3 Incorporate an update of the current Water Management Plan (GHD, 2007) into the Soil and Water Management Plan to take into account the proposed Southern and Northern Extensions.	Within 6 months of date of project approval.
	7.4 Ensuring any off-site discharge is monitored and reported in accordance with Environment Protection Licence 536.	As Required.
	7.5 Conduct site clearing activities in accordance with the Blue Book (Landcom, 2004) guidelines for erosion and sediment control.	Ongoing.
	7.6 Establish a regular monitoring program to review the effectiveness of all erosion and sediment control mitigation measures.	Prior to commencement of clearing works.
	7.7 Incorporate an update of the current Water Management Plan (GHD, 2007) into the Soil and Water Management Plan to take into account the proposed Southern and Northern Extensions.	Within 6 months of date of project approval.
	7.8 Ensuring any off-site discharge is monitored and reported in accordance with Environment Protection Licence 536.	As Required.
Capture of sediment-laden water flows from project-related disturbance.	7.9 Provide sufficient storage during all stages of works to prevent discharge off-site of sediment-laden water in accordance with the Blue Book (Landcom, 2004) guidelines for sediment retention dams.	Ongoing.
	7.10 Inspect all sediment dams and maintain as necessary (keep records).	Monthly of following rainfall exceeding 100mm in 2 days.
	7.11 Remove accumulated sediment from sediment dams when storage capacity reduced by 25% - document activity in maintenance records.	Following routine inspection.
Prevention of hydrocarbon contamination of water on the Project Site.	7.12 Securely store all hydrocarbon products within designated and bunded areas.	Ongoing.
	7.13 Refuel all earthmoving equipment within designated areas (with spill control).	Ongoing.
Separation of groundwater and surface water flows	7.14 Construct a drain from Dam B directly to the nearby watercourse to divert surface flows away from the Mine Adit Dam.	Within 3 months of Project Approval or following advice from NOW whichever occurs sooner.
8. Terrestrial Flora and Fauna		
Minimisation of impacts on flora and fauna within the Project Site.	8.1 Prepare and implement a Site Vegetation Management Plan.	Within 6 months of the receipt of project approval.
	8.2 Clearly define the *Tetratheca juncea* sub-populations to be retained.	For the life of the Project.
	8.3 Continue the established rehabilitation practices in appropriate areas.	Ongoing.

Table 6.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for Site Operations and Management

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
8. Terrestrial Flora and Fauna (Cont'd)			
Minimisation of impacts on flora and fauna within the Project Site. (Cont'd)	8.4	Retain the extracted topsoil and vegetation within the immediate area of *Tetratheca juncea* populations and relocate to easement locations.	During clearing.
	8.5	Transfer biomass directly from vegetation clearing operations to rehabilitation areas. If it is not possible to transfer directly, stockpile material.	Ongoing.
	8.6	Control noxious weeds at all times in accordance with a Weed Management Plan (to be incorporated into the site Vegetation Management Plan).	Ongoing.
	8.7	Install species specific nesting boxes for fauna species displaced following clearing activities.	Prior to commencement of activities in the Northern Extension.
9. Traffic and Transport			
Transport operations are undertaken with minimal impact on other road users and residents	9.1	Limit quarry-related truck movement numbers through Teralba: – 18 per hour; and – 170 per day.	Ongoing.
	9.2	Ensure that no product trucks from Teralba Quarry travel eastward through Teralba between 6:00pm and 6:00am.	
	9.3	Ensure all vehicles exiting the Project Site pass through a wheel-wash facility to remove dust generating material.	Prior to removal of product from within the extensions.
	9.4	Provide a contribution to Lake Macquarie City Council during the ongoing life of the quarry if a suitable project approval is granted.	Quarterly.
	9.5	Prepare, implement and enforce 'Drivers Code of Conduct' addressing: – times that trucks can operate, especially through Teralba – speed limits; – duty of care to other drivers and pedestrians; – complaints procedure; – covering loads; and – avoidance of exhaust brakes.	Prepare within 3 months of receipt of project approval.
	9.6	Undertake all transport activities in accordance with the project approval and Environment Protection Licence 536.	Ongoing.
	9.7	Ensure that only company owned trucks and those of accredited contractors using airbag suspension and other noise controls are used to transport products between 10:00pm and 6:00am.	
	9.8	Ensure that all project-related vehicles are regularly serviced to ensure engine efficiencies are maintained at a standard that limits truck noise.	

Table 6.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for Site Operations and Management

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
10. Noise and Vibration		
The Project is designed to minimise and/or mitigate noise emissions received at surrounding residences and other sensitive receivers.	10.1 Ensure all mobile earthmoving equipment used on site is not fitted with high-frequency reversing alarms and is regularly serviced.	Ongoing.
	10.2 Ensure all earthmoving equipment used on site (including temporary equipment) have sound power levels and frequency spectra consistent with those nominated in Section 6 of Spectrum Acoustics (2011).	When new or temporary equipment is brought to site.
All activities are undertaken in such a manner as to reduce the noise level generated and minimise impacts on surrounding landholders and/or residents.	10.3 Ensure that the eastern side of the Southern Extension is extracted in such a manner that the active extraction face is retained on the eastern face thereby providing a topographic barrier between operating earthmoving equipment and residences to the east.	Ongoing throughout the extraction operations in the Southern Extension area.
	10.4 Construct a 5m high bund on the eastern edge of the Mid Pit Extraction Area	During Mid Pit Extraction operations.
	10.5 Limit transportation noise by ensuring:	
	– all transport vehicles comply with the RTA's noise limits at all times;	Ongoing
	– only trucks fitted with airbag suspension be used to transport products from the quarry between 10:00pm and 6:00am; and	Ongoing
	– drivers comply with Code of Conduct.	Ongoing
	10.6 Commission a noise monitoring program that comprises:	Within the first 3 months of operations in the Southern and Northern Extensions
	– attended noise monitoring for the Southern and Northern Extensions; and	
	– General noise monitoring.	Biannually for the first year of operation in the Southern and Northern Extensions, and further monitoring when substantiated complaints are filed.
	10.7 Include a summary of all noise monitoring results in the AEMR.	Annually.
	10.8 Ensure all trucks departing the Project Site via the bottom gate travel at speeds <15km/hr.	Ongoing.
	10.9 Review blast designs and modify, if required.	When blasting within 700m of any residence.

Table 6.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
11. Air Quality		
Site activities are undertaken without exceeding DECCW air quality criteria or goals.	11.1 Minimise clearing ahead of extraction activities	Ongoing.
	11.2 Minimise the construction of minor roads and access tracks for soil stripping, extraction operations and rehabilitation.	Ongoing.
	11.3 Operate a water truck to manage dust suppression during periods of extended dry weather and/or high winds, or when dust nuisance has the potential to occur as a result of quarrying activities.	Ongoing.
	11.4 Shield and/or suppress dust on conveyors.	Ongoing.
	11.5 Limit internal road dust lift off by: – surfacing (and grading local) roads with appropriate materials; – enforcing a 40km/hr speed limit on all internal roads; – limiting load sizes to ensure that product does not extend over truck sidewalls; and – avoiding spillage during truck loading.	Ongoing.
	11.6 Minimise dump heights from trucks, front-end loaders and conveyors.	Ongoing.
	11.7 Schedule of blasts so that they do not occur during high wind situations.	Ongoing.
	11.8 Adopt a complaints management system where all complaints are dealt with through investigation and implementation of corrective treatments.	Ongoing.
	11.9 Minimise truck queuing, unnecessary idling of trucks and unnecessary trips through logistical planning, where possible.	Ongoing.
	11.10 Prepare and implement a Dust Management Plan for the quarry.	Ongoing.
Reduce the impact of Greenhouse Gas emissions from project related activities.	11.11 Minimise the impacts of greenhouse gases relating from diesel consumption by: – minimising the use of haul trucks through use of an overland conveyor; – reduce vehicle idling time; – maintaining optimum tyre pressures; and – the optimisation of haul routes to reduce transportation distance from extraction area.	Ongoing.
Record and monitor the local environment regarding dust impacts.	11.12 Continue to monitor dust impacts through; – the existing five deposited dust gauges; and – on-site meteorological monitoring to record relevant parameters.	Ongoing.

Table 6.1 (Cont'd)
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Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
12. Visibility		
Reduce the impact of the Project on the visual amenity of private and public vantage points.	12.1 Ensure all vegetation is maintained outside the Southern and Northern Extensions to provide long term shielding.	Ongoing.
	12.2 Sequence extraction activities in the Southern Extension to limit exposure of western faces until vegetation is well established.	Years 3 to 11 (approx).
	12.3 Progressively establish vegetation on extraction faces at 50mAHD and above in western section of the Southern Extension.	Years 3 to 11 (approx).
	12.4 Advance extraction in the eastern section of the Southern Extension in strips parallel to north-south faces.	Years 22 to 30 (approx).
13. Aboriginal Heritage		
Provide appropriate protection to existing and future identified Aboriginal artefacts.	13.1 Halt all works in the immediate area if cultural objects are found and contact a suitably qualified archaeologist and Aboriginal community representative.	Ongoing.
	13.2 Halt all works in the immediate area if human remains are found and contact NSW Police, Aboriginal community representative and OEH.	Ongoing.
	13.3 Maintain reasonable efforts to avoid impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage values at all stages of the development works	Ongoing.
	13.4 Invite representatives of Local Aboriginal stakeholders to monitor initial ground disturbance activities.	Prior to soil stripping campaigns.
	13.5 Develop an Aboriginal Culture Educational Program for the induction of all personnel and contractors involved in the construction activities on site. Records are to be kept of which staff/contractors were inducted and when for the duration of the project. The program would be developed and implemented in collaboration with the local Aboriginal community.	Prior to first soil stripping campaign and then ongoing.
14. Soils		
Prevent excessive soil deterioration during stripping and transportation	14.1 Undertake soil stripping within slightly moist condition and avoid excessively wet or dry conditions.	During soil stripping operations.
	14.2 Place stripped soil directly onto reshaped overburden or dedicated stockpile area.	During soil stripping operations.
	14.3 Remove soil through grading or pushing soil into windrows with graders or dozers for later collection for loading into rear dump trucks by front-end loaders.	During stripping and transport operations.
Retention of soil viability until use in rehabilitation.	14.4 Leave the surface of soil stockpiles in as coarsely structured a condition as possible in order to promote infiltration and minimise erosion until vegetation is established.	Immediately following stockpile construction.

Table 6.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for Site Operations and Management

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
14. Soils (Cont'd)			
Retention of soil viability until use in rehabilitation. (Cont'd)	14.5	Maintain a maximum stockpile height of 3m. Clayey soils would be stored in lower stockpiles for shorter periods of time compared to coarser textured sandy soils.	During staged Rehabilitation stages.
	14.6	Seed soil stockpiles with sterile cover crop (and limited fertiliser) as soon as possible where stockpiling is planned.	Immediately following stockpile construction.
	14.7	Maintain an inventory of available soil to ensure adequate topsoil materials are available for planned rehabilitation activities.	Ongoing.
	14.8	Assess soil stockpiles for weed infestation to determine if stockpiles require weed removal applications before being re-spread onto reshaped overburden.	During staged Rehabilitation stages.
Achieve a good soil cover for long term rehabilitation.	14.9	Spread topsoil to a minimum depth range of 0.1 m (steep slopes) to 0.2m (flatter areas). Specific topsoil respreading depths for different post mining landform elements would be specified in the Landscape Management Plan.	During staged Rehabilitation stages.
15. Bushfire Hazard			
Avoidance of any fires on site, particularly in native vegetation.	15.1	Adopt appropriate controls during re-fuelling.	Ongoing.
	15.2	Ensure fire extinguishers are fitted to all site vehicles.	Ongoing.
	15.3	Incorporate a Bushfire Management Plan in the overall Emergency Response Plan for the quarry.	Within 6 months of the receipt of project approval.
16. Documentation			
To provide site personnel with the necessary guidance on the expectations of Metromix management and the NSW Government and LMCC to achieve the required level of environmental performance.	16.1	Environmental Management Strategy.	Within 3 months of the receipt of project approval.
	16.2	Environmental Management Plan (EMP). Focus on the next 5 years.	Within 6 months of receipt of project approval.
	16.3	Soil and Water Management Plan. (Incorporating management/monitoring contingency plans for soils, surface water and groundwater).	
	16.4	Noise and Vibration Management Plan. (Incorporating a blast and noise monitoring component.)	Within 12 months of the receipt of project approval.
	16.5	Air Quality Management Plan. (Incorporating an air quality monitoring component.)	Within 6 months of receipt of project approval.
	16.6	Quarry Management Plan & Safety Management Plan. (Incorporating the Emergency Response Plan.)	Within 3 months of receipt of project approval.
	16.7	Landscape Management Plan. (Incorporating a Vegetation Management Plan for site rehabilitation and the on-site Biodiversity offset.)	Within 12 months of the receipt of project approval.

Table 6.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for Site Operations and Management

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
16. Documentation (Cont'd)		
	16.8 Annual Environmental Management Report (AEMR).	Annually (within approximately 2 months of the anniversary of the project approval) (or an agreed date with the DP&I).
	16.9 Hydrocarbon Management Plan. (Incorporating management use of fuel and spill management.)	Within 6 months of receipt of approval.
	16.10 Annual Production Statistics to the DTIRIS (Energy and Resources Division).	Annually (by 31 July).

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